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SCHOOLCRAFT CONNECTION

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Planning for the Future

M-CAP program provides middle school students hands on career exploration



Photo by Armando Saucedo

A Clarenceville Middle School student learns how to properly put out a fire using a fire extinguisher under the supervision of a Schoolcraft Fire Academy student on Nov. 5, 2021 at the Public Safety Training Center.

BEN BOLSTRUM
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Maneuvering through college life can be a difficult endeavor for any student no matter the situation, but being unprepared for what to expect and all the responsibilities that come with college only serves to worsen expectations.

This is why Schoolcraft has partnered with Clarenceville Middle School to create the Middle School Career Awareness Program (M-CAP Program.) The goal of such an initiative is to help expose and prepare middle school students in the eighth grade for Schoolcraft as well as the occupational programming offered. All this in the hopes that the students involved are able to find career paths that suit not only their skills, but their personalities as well to keep them interested in pursuing their goals. This program also serves to educate parents on how to best help their children pursue these goals.

The program kicked off Oct. 8 with a presentation from Schoolcraft College President Dr.

Glenn Cerny and Chuck Dardas from Alpha USA at Clarenceville Middle School. Schoolcraft will be hosting these events on campus monthly until March 2022 so students can get an idea of what such a setting can entail. As a result, participants will be able to select and attend two program sessions of their choice that promise active learning that is dynamic and engaging.

From Nov. 2021 until March 2022, each of the following academic programming areas will be specially highlighted: Public Safety (Nov.), Health Care (Dec.), Manufacturing & Technology (Jan.), Business & Technology (Feb.) and Culinary Arts (March).

Upon completion of the program in April, a banquet will be held for all program participants, including parents and staff. This will serve as a celebration and a reflection for students to consider their experiences while at Schoolcraft.

“We want to connect students with careers that match with their

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NEWS

Cold as Ice and Hard as Steel

Schoolcraft hockey recruiting for 2022-2023 season

ALEX HAWTHORNE
STAFF WRITER

Get ready to lace up your skates and grab your hockey sticks, ocelots, because the Schoolcraft Athletics department is recruiting new players for the 2022-2023 hockey season, featuring a series of open skates at The Modano Ice Arena in Westland.

With winter fast approaching and a new season in less than a year, the team is looking to put together a group of all-star players to take home more wins and bring glory to the Schoolcraft Athletics department.

The program will be returning after a two-year hiatus and will have to start from the ground up. Though for Schoolcraft Athletics clerk Patrick Yelsik, this won't be much of a challenge. According to Yelsik, "We started the open skates not just as a way to gauge interest in the program from the current student population, but to also give them an opportunity to get on the ice and stay sharp."

During these open skates, many drills will be planned in order to gauge skill levels of each participant. While this event is geared toward future Ocelots, any current Schoolcraft student can come and participate.

In order to be considered for the team, commitment and attendance is required.

In addition to showing promise

on their feet, anyone showing up should make sure that they are a superstar in the classroom.

"Like any of our student-athletes, the hockey team members will first-and-foremost need to excel in the classroom before they can excel on the playing surface. They're going to have to carry a rigorous credit load and will need to show that they can handle that responsibility before the pucks are dropped. The Athletic department staff will be there to help and support them in the classroom, on the ice and everywhere in between," said Yelsik.

For those who are interested and can commit to the open skate, keep up the academics and put their heart out on the ice, don't miss the opportunity to be a part of Schoolcraft history by stepping into the rink.

"We're really looking forward to adding hockey to our family of sports and what it can offer by way of enhancing the student experience and lifelong lessons that it teaches," said Yelsik.

Open skates are held at The Modano Ice Arena at 6210 N. Wildwood St. in Westland, MI on Tuesdays and Thursdays between Oct. 12-Dec. 16 (with an exemption to Nov. 25) from 1:30-2:50 p.m.

For more information, contact the Schoolcraft Athletics Department at 734-462-4804.

Page 1 teaser photo by Aidan Tripp

"M-CAP" cont'd from page 1

interests, skills and personalities," said Stacy Whiddon, Chief Academic Officer and leader of the M-CAP initiative for the Academics. "It will be a lot of fun and interesting! Students will have a chance to see different career aspects live in demonstrations by experts. They will be able to participate in different activities in a safe environment while learning about occupational programs, careers and opportunities at Schoolcraft College."

As a result, approximately 85 out of 170 Clarenceville students will be attending the M-CAP program. With this in mind, establishing early relationships with these students while promoting Schoolcraft's academic programs is an easily accessible way for potential future Schoolcraft community members to thrive.

These events have been meticulously planned and attendees can expect several hours of activities related to the college experience as a result.

"The role of the Academic Division in these events is to make sure that we have created an agenda of hands-on stations that expose students to some of the skills related to our Occupational Programs," said Whiddon. "Additionally the stations allow for interaction between the middle school students and our faculty, staff and current students."

There is something for everyone at these events according to Whiddon. Whether a student likes helping the community, solving mysteries, physical health, how the body works, troubleshooting broken things, robotics, electronics, computers, inventors, creators, leadership or cooking,

the M-CAP program aims to help students find their dream career.

During the most recent programming held at the Public Safety Training Center Nov 5 students had a chance to talk with the faculty and students in the public safety programs. At one station called "Turnout Gear," students got to actually feel what it was like to put on all the firefighter gear and to move around in it.

Students can expect these programs to last just over three hours, entailing a facility tour, various exercises detailing different programs and careers that are available, hands-on activities and a boxed lunch for attendees.

The 85 students along with their instructors will split into six different groups to follow a tour and visit six different areas that highlight the different programs and careers.

"Schoolcraft College is very pleased to work on this project with Chuck Dardas, president and CEO of AlphaUSA, a Livonia based company," said Whiddon. "Mr. Dardas and AlphaUSA are very supportive of the Clarenceville School District and Schoolcraft College. Dardas is a proponent of education, occupational programs, and innovation; empowering skilled workers by providing a worthwhile career and a balanced life."

With M-CAP in full effect, the students of Clarenceville will be able to receive a head start on their college experience thanks to Schoolcraft and AlphaUSA.



THE SCHOOLCRAFT
STUDENT ACTIVITIES
OFFICE & CAMPUS RECREATION
PRESENTS

TURKEY BOWL 2021

**TUESDAY
NOVEMBER 23**

11:30 A.M. TO 2:30 P.M

**INSIDE THE ST. JOE'S
SPORTS DOME**

**MEET AT THE DOME
AT 11 A.M. TO SELECT
TEAMS**

Pizza and refreshments
will be served after the
game in the Student
Activities Center. Lower
Level, VisTaTech Center

For more information or to
signup in advance, contact
the Student Activities Office
at 734-462-4422.



SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE
CAMPUS RECREATION



Schoolcraft
College®

CAMPUS LIFE

Photo courtesy of Claire Smith

Ethan Prater (Epraylove) hopes to fulfill his dreams of being a top-selling musical artist and bringing a positive image to the music industry.



For many, music is a fun distraction. Maybe on a long car trip or during a run to kill some time, but for Ethan Prater, music is life.

As an 18-year-old student at Schoolcraft, Prater is majoring in sound recording to learn new techniques and music appreciation. Outside of Schoolcraft, the aspiring artist has big plans for the future, and accomplishing any less is not an option for him.

Prater started his official musical journey in 2019, when he created his alias; epraylove, but his passion stems much earlier.

He started writing songs and creating beats on GarageBand in 2019 with the help of his cousin, Austin White, also known by his music name ReidRZL, who produces some of his music. The two work closely together, ensuring that the music being created is something to be proud of.

"I had a realization like, wow, I can make wonderful music that can have an impact, but I had no proof to show," said Prater. "I had no songs out, so it was really just a dream at that point. I pushed it for a year and in winter 2020 I dropped the EP ("Make it Come to Life") with six songs."

Prater soon began to start dropping singles every few months, experimenting with his style and emotions. As a result of this evolution of his music, Prater chose to remove the EP. He still respects the work it took to create such a project, but grew out of that style.

With enough practice, his next EP titled "Something Greater" dropped in 2021. With this and several singles released, Prater finally entered the scene with the goal of his songs being a force for good.

As a result, his music takes a unique approach and avoids

more mature references that other artists may use. This EP delivers a hopeful message with songs such as "You Stay, I'll Change" which explores themes of love, and the title track "Something Greater" which covers fame and legacy.

For every great artist, there is an even greater support system. White is far from the only member of Prater's team as well, and they don't plan on quitting anytime soon. With such passionate goals, Prater knows he needs an equally passionate team.

"The future is the wave, the vibes and positivity, and we- not me, but me and my team, we're going to take off with this music stuff."

Andrew Rice produces under the name Ay3ar3 for Prater, but they have also become good friends through their shared vision.

Matthias Heinrich is another friend of Prater. He is going to school for business and has recently joined the team. His knowledge of business means that when it comes to promotion,

BEN BOLSTRUM
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

"I'm trying to create a fan base here of people who are just here for the vibes, here for a good purpose and here because they want to be together,"

-Ethan Prater

Schoolcraft Student

advertisement and merchandise, they can rely on him to know the numbers.

With his team covering the details, Prater can focus on his love of music.

"I basically go through life for months at a time, then I'll just sit down and write a song about whatever

has happened in the last couple of months," said Prater. "How I am feeling mentally, and I just feel the beat first or whatever it be, and then just kind of pour out what I'm feeling at that time onto that beat. I'm trying to mix those emotions."

The values that Prater holds are just as important to his music as they are to him.

As a Christian, he inserts his faith into his message. From sad heartbreak songs, to happy feel good ones, Prater wants people to know how he's feeling by uniting them. He wants his listeners to feel seen and be able to relate to his own struggles. This intent is broadcasted through every song he has written.

As a musician, Prater listens to music just as much as he writes it. He has many inspirations such as

Juice WRLD, Lil Peep, Blink 182 and Linkin Park. Beyond that, it's the fame that drives Prater toward success.

"I'm trying to create a fan base here of people who are just here for the vibes, here for a good purpose and here because they want to be together," Prater explained. "Just hop on a wave and my music would be the rally point for that."

The artist has a lot to offer for those willing to listen and is in the process of remastering some of his old content to better reflect his current standards.

As someone who has seen Prater grow throughout his whole journey, White has much to say about their success.

"In the past year we've had exponential growth," he said. "I didn't even think I could get past 10 songs without running out of ideas then quitting. It took a lot of faith to just try new ideas and listen to what your spirit is saying to you and that's how I started cranking out songs. It was my therapy to be honest. I would go to the studio and record what's on my mind."

Their hopes for fame don't stem from narcissism, however. Instead, Prater wants to help the youth.

"You see people walk around here every day [and] I wonder what that person's going through, but music can help them and if you can feel like you relate to me through one of my songs, then we're friends."

Prater has no plans to quit making music. He aims to continue making music that his followers can enjoy.

In the meantime, his listeners can find his music on all social media including Spotify, SoundCloud, Apple Music, Amazon Music, Facebook and Twitter under the name epraylove.

Rising Star

Student musician Ethan Prater aims to connect listeners with his epraylove brand

CAMPUS & CLUB EVENTS

(All events are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted)

Study Strategies Workshop

Nov. 15, 2021

3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Bradner Library, Room 110 or
Live on Zoom-Meeting ID#
382-992-2327 Passcode: 123

Join this workshop to learn valuable academic skills. You will learn the importance of goal-setting in an academic setting, how to create SMARTER Goals and how to balance work, life and school.

Western Michigan University on campus

Nov. 16, 2021

10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Liberal Arts Building Lobby

Lawrence Technological University on campus

Nov. 16, 2021

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Biomedical Technological Center Lobby

Virtual Book Discussion-Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End by Atul Gawande

Nov. 16, 2021

1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Blackboard Collaborate
PIN: 261 549 3157

Through eye-opening research and gripping stories of his own patients and family, Gawande reveals the suffering this dynamic has produced. Nursing homes,

devoted above all to safety, battle with residents over the food they are allowed to eat and the choices they are allowed to make.

In his bestselling books, Atul Gawande, a practicing surgeon, has fearlessly revealed the struggles of his profession. Here he examines its ultimate limitations and failures in his own practices as well as others as life draws to a close. Riveting, honest and humane.

Hockey Open Skates

Nov. 16, 2021

1:30 to 2:50 p.m.

Tuesdays & Thursdays
from Oct. 12 – Dec. 16 (no skate Nov. 25)

Modano Ice Arena (6210 N. Wildwood St. Westland, MI 48185)

Schoolcraft Athletics is holding open skates for those interested in joining the Schoolcraft Ice Hockey Team for the 2022-23 season. Both men and women are welcome to join. Must be a current Schoolcraft student and must complete a liability form on-site before skating.

For more information contact Patrick Yelsik at 734-462-7696 or email pyeksik@schoolcraft.edu.

Indiana Wesleyan University on campus

Nov. 17

10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Applied Sciences

Advising with U of M

Dearborn

Nov. 17 & 29 and Dec. 8 & 16

12:30 to 5 p.m.

Are you planning to transfer to University of Michigan Dearborn? Advisors will be able to meet with students individually to discuss specific information about programs and transfer options. Simply sign in at the Advising office, in the McDowell Center, room 105. This walk-in advising service is available to any current Schoolcraft student. Students will be seen on a first-come first-seen basis. If you have any questions call 734-462-4429.

Grand Valley State University on campus

Nov. 18

10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Liberal Arts Lobby

Oakland University on campus

Nov. 18

11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Henry's inside the VisTaTech Center, Waterman Wing

Advising with Wayne State University

Nov. 18 / Dec. 9 / Dec. 16

noon to 3 p.m.

Are you planning to transfer to Wayne State University? Advisors will be able to meet with students individually to discuss specific information about programs and transfer options. Simply sign in at the Advising office, in the McDowell Center,

room 105. This walk-in advising service is available to any current Schoolcraft student. Students will be seen on a first-come first-seen basis.

If you have any questions call 734-462-4429.

SCII Focus Series: Breathing Rights

Nov. 19

1:00 to 2 p.m.

Virtual Zoom

This presentation highlights air pollution as a human rights issue. Global and local examples will be used to demonstrate the impact of low air quality on the health and well-being of people. This is free, virtual and open to the public.

Turkey Bowl Flag Football

Nov. 23

11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

St. Joe's Sports Dome

Come join the Student Activities Office and Campus Recreation for a fun afternoon of flag football. pizza and drinks will be served after the game in the Student Activities Center, Lower Level, VisTaTech Center. For more information or to sign up call 734-462-4422.

Walsh College Troy Campus Tour

Nov. 23

6 to 7 p.m.

The Schoolcraft Business Club and Walsh College invite you to join them for a campus tour of Walsh

College in Troy. Visit one of the top business schools in Michigan featuring the Walsh College of Accountancy and Business Administration. Interested students should meet at the Student Activities Office at 4:45 p.m. to car-pool. Approximate arrival back to campus is 7:45 p.m. Advance sign-up required. Signup in the Student Activities Office or call 734-462-4422.

Advising with U of M: College of LSA Nov. 30 and Dec. 8 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Are you planning to transfer to University of Michigan: College of LSA after Schoolcraft? Advisors will be able to meet with students individually to discuss specific information about programs and transfer options. Simply sign in at the Advising office, in the McDowell Center, room 105. This walk-in advising service is available to any current Schoolcraft student. Students will be seen on a first-come first-seen basis. If you

have any questions call 734-462-4429.

Empty Bowl Luncheon Dec. 1 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Proceeds to benefit the Schoolcraft Food Pantry. Wilson Room inside of Henry's VisTaTech Center. Purchase a hand crafted bowl created and donated by Schoolcraft ceramic students. Enjoy a bowl of hearty soup and fresh baked bread donated by Schoolcraft Culinary Operations

University Virtual Event - Wayne State University Dec. 6 3 to 5 p.m. Virtual

Join Wayne State University's Admissions Counselor (Smriti Panda) for a drop-in Zoom meeting or a scheduled virtual appointment. For quick questions or general information about transferring to Wayne state University, join the

meeting.

Share the Warmth Now to Dec. 6

Please donate new or gently used warm clothing items to help families in need now through Nov. 22, 2021. Hats, gloves, scarves, socks, boots and other warm clothing items. Please bring clean items to the Student Activities Office in the lower level of the VisTaTech Center

Project Hope Now to Dec. 6

Help prepare high school foster care students for a Reality Ready college experience. Donate school supplies from now through Nov. 22. Please bring donations to the Student Activities Office in the lower level of the VisTaTech Center.

Personal Hygiene Drive Now to Dec. 6

All items will be donated to local Foster Care students in need. Our goal is to increase awareness of

the needs of students at risk foster care students and their families. Drop off items to the Student Activities Office in the lower level of the VisTaTech Center.

University Virtual Event - Oakland University

Dec. 15
noon – 3 p.m.
Zoom Meeting ID: 954 6252
7274, Passcode: Gold

Representatives from Oakland University will be available to meet with Schoolcraft students virtually to answer general questions about transfer options.

Share Joy Dec. 15

The Wayne County Family Center, a shelter in Westland is currently "home" to several families, including 63 children. As the temperatures drop, this number will grow. We once again invite you, your class, your department, or your group of friends to support the Center this holiday season with gift bags for the homeless children and teens. Contact Anna Maheshwari at 248-345-5313 (Amaheshw@schoolcraft.edu) to find out the recipient's age and gender.



 **Schoolcraft**
College



HELP US ERASE HUNGER **EMPTY** **BOWL LUNCHEON**

Proceeds to benefit the Schoolcraft Food Pantry

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2021
11:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

**WILSON ROOM INSIDE OF
HENRY'S, VISTATECH CENTER**

Purchase a hand crafted bowl created and donated by Schoolcraft ceramic students.

Enjoy a bowl of hearty soup and fresh baked bread donated by Schoolcraft Culinary Operations

For more information, contact the Student Activities Office at 734-462-4422.

**Do you have an
upcoming event you
would like listed in our
Campus & Club Events?**

**Please email
sceditor@schoolcraft.edu
or call 734-462-4422**

From East To West

Otaku Anime Club promotes the appreciation and enjoyment of Anime

ALEX HAWTHORNE
STAFF WRITER

There is an old Japanese proverb that says “Tomodachi to wa, anata ni kanzen’na jiyū o ataete kureru hitodesu.” This means that a friend is someone who gives you total freedom to be yourself. Luckily, at the Otaku Anime Club, this freedom to be oneself is alive and well.

For over 24 years, the Otaku Anime Club at Schoolcraft College has been running strong with a healthy dose of anime, manga, cosplay and events. Ever since the late 1990s, Japanese animation (AKA anime) has been growing in popularity within western culture. When the club first started, however, it was difficult to find translated material as most anime weren’t dubbed in English, had no subtitles and were not broadcast within the U.S.

Anime clubs first were started as a way for those to share whatever access to anime they had with other like-minded people, creating a dedicated following of watchers and a growing community of fans. Nowadays, anime is more freely available to populations around the world with many websites offering free downloads, and other groups willing to provide subtitles or dubs. Because of this, fans all over the world have been brought together to share their love of anime.

At the Otaku Anime Club, members do far more than just watch anime. They socialize, participate in special themed events and expose themselves to a different world of entertainment from a whole new culture.

According to Otaku Anime Club

Public Relations Officer Tom Arthur, he has been able to enjoy everything the club has on offer simply by “being able to have a safe haven to express myself to the fullest extent without fear or



“not only will you find good anime here, but you will find a bond so strong with your fellow members and events so enjoyable that you may feel as if you found a second family within this club.”

-Meg Kelly

President Schoolcraft
Anime Club

Neverland,” “Hunter X Hunter,” and many more. Many meetings are created around a variety of themes that cater toward a specific topic such as a birthday of a club member, anniversary of a series or future events.

Julianne Sersen, the club’s social media manager, says that a few goals of the club are to “be able to form a comfortable environment for people in person in order to have great events and to share that same love through our social media.”

Despite the challenges of Covid-19, Club President Meg Kelly has made it her mission to “keep a steady schedule and continue to uphold this amazing group in person.” To ensure that the group will be stronger together. Throughout the pandemic, meetings and watchathons were scheduled over Discord. Now that events are allowed to be in person again, this club hopes more

judgment.” Some of the anime the group has watched in the past includes, “Mobile Suit Gundam,” “One Piece,” “DragonBall Z,” “Death Note,” “Sailor Moon,” “The Promised

see **“From East To West”** Page 9 >

"FROM EAST TO WEST"

cont'd from page 8

members will join.

Cosplay contests and special events the club participates in include going to conventions such as Motor City Comic Con or Youmacon. Whether they're there as attendees or panel hosts, above all else, they're there to have a good time.

Another goal they hope to accomplish in the future is to post more anime reviews on their social media and in newspapers to spread the wholesome content that they want to be associated with.

For a club with this big of a reputation, and a large amount of membership, it is not uncommon to find many members well into their late 20s and early 30s,

making for a loyal and dedicated group.

For this amount of dedication, Kelly wants others to know that "not only will you find good anime here, but you will find a bond so strong with your fellow members and events so enjoyable that you may feel as if you found a second family within this club."

With so many years of experience, in-depth knowledge of anime, fun events for all, content creation, leadership opportunities and a whole community of peers backing them, it's hard to see why one would want to be anywhere else if the goal is to watch anime.

After all, according to member Colin Hickson, "There is no other place you would want to be on a Saturday night than at Anime Club." Though no matter where a member of the Otaku Anime Club is, they can always know that they will have a home within the walls

of this welcoming group.

Those interested in joining the club can attend meetings twice a month on Saturday evenings from 5 to 10 p.m. down in the Lower Waterman of the VisTaTech Center. Food is often provided, but it is recommended that one pitches in a few dollars to have the club continue running operations.

Page 8 photo courtesy of Alex Hawthorne and Julianne Sersen. Anime Cosplayers: left: Professor Franken stein (Soul Eater) top middle: Saburo (Android Kikaidar), bottom middle: Neo (Matrix) and Tanjiro Komado (Demon Slayer).

The Next Upcoming Otaku Anime Club events/meeting date is...

11/27/21

Meetings are hosted every other week on Saturday from 5:00 to 10:00 pm down in the Lower Waterman.

Want the latest news regarding the Otaku Anime Club, go follow them on Instagram@ scraft_oa, Discord, Facebook@ OtakuAnimeSC, and Twitter@Scraft_OA.



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FIXED SCHEDULE, FREE MEALS, PAID SICK LEAVE

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HELP US ERASE HUNGER

EMPTY BOWL LUNCHEON

Proceeds to benefit the Schoolcraft Food Pantry

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2021
11:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

WILSON ROOM INSIDE OF HENRY'S, VISTATECH CENTER

Purchase a hand crafted bowl created and donated by Schoolcraft ceramic students.

Enjoy a bowl of hearty soup and fresh baked bread donated by Schoolcraft Culinary Operations

For more information, contact the Student Activities Office at 734-462-4422.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Photos by Claire Smith
and iFLY

This flyer extends his
hands out in joy for his
amazing flight in iFLY's
wind tunnel.



COME FLY WITH ME

iFly Detroit makes the dream of flight a reality to visitors with indoor skydiving

MATT KARBOWNIK
LAYOUT AND DESIGN EDITOR

Thrill seekers around the world may dream about being able to fly like Superman or skydive like Ethan Hunt from “Mission Impossible,” but iFLY Detroit aims to turn that dream into a reality.

Located in Novi off of I-96 and Novi Road, this facility is a recently installed franchise of its parent company iFLY. The building boasts an advanced ninth generation wind tunnel, features glide in the sky jump suits that scream something out of “Mission Impossible,” has world class skydiving instructors while ensuring and enforcing top tier safety guidelines.

iFLY’s main goal is to give people the opportunity to experience flight while allowing them to creatively express themselves, as well as advanced flight experience for pros.

If this sounds dangerous, don’t worry. Safety is guaranteed at iFLY through rigorous training which consists of re-learning how to walk, three weeks of practice in wind related conditions, a week

outside the wind tunnel preparing and training for that environment. A classroom training session and an instructor is always at the door of the tunnel watching the participants to ensure that things are being done safely. Additionally, participants also fly one-on-one with the instructor for the first flight in the wind tunnel.

It’s best to wear athletic clothes while flying without any jewelry. Assuming all goes well, the instructors will allow participants more freedom in the tunnel with the ultimate goal of being able to fly in the tunnel without them. Participants cannot fly in the tunnel if they don’t meet the required weight limit. People with shoulder dislocations are advised not to fly.

For people with breathing issues, the wind tunnel is actually very breathable and accommodating to these conditions.

Visitors who fly at iFLY should be aware of pricing. The cost to participate will cost some pocket



The sport of flight can bring the best out of people and bring them together as in the case with this instructor and flyer.

change for first time flyers. Two minutes of flight in the wind tunnel will cost around \$80,

which includes everything that goes with the first-time training. After this however, discounted packages will become available and the more a

person flies, the cheaper it will be.

iFLY also allows great opportunity in the world of media as well. The facility can be used in entertainment franchises, as an aerospace and research facility or a military solution, the tunnel systems can help develop and deliver solutions in these cases. They have experienced major success off their wind tunnel systems and products. As a result, they are the world’s largest wind tunnel manufacturer and operator. The company has achieved this through its operations in 19 different countries along with its 89 commissioned tunnels and 324 spinning fans. It’s also worth noting that iFLY also provides its amazing indoor skydiving experience on cruise ships like those for Royal Caribbean International along with a variety of other countries like Brazil and

the United Kingdom.

Instructors and other staff have also been involved in training celebrities such as Tom Cruise and Bruce Greenwood along with NBA star Shaquille O’Neal.

The company also holds the record of constructing the world’s tallest wind tunnel for CLYMB out in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. The tunnel is 32 feet in diameter and has a flyable height over 104 feet, all while “recreating the sky.”

Overall, iFLY Detroit is something to check off the dreams bucket list of stuff and will fulfill dreams of what it’s like to experience flight.

For more information on iFLY, please visit <https://www.iflyworld.com/>.



An instructor aides a flyer while flying in the company’s advanced wind tunnel.

iFLY Detroit
26975 Adell Center Drive
Novi, MI 48375

(313) 730-4359

Two minutes of flight in the wind tunnel will cost you around \$80.

Spacy-Jazzy Vibes for a Good ol'Time

Vanishing Twins' "Ookii Gekkou" provides celestial, laid-back trip through the cosmos.



Group portrait of Vanishing Twin. From top to bottom, left to right: Susumu Mukai, Elliott Arndt, Cathy Lucas, Phil M.F.U., and Valentina Magaletti.

VAE O'NEIL | ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Rating: 8/10

Vanishing Twin is an unusual group from the UK; the band has a cosmopolitan membership, with several artists of whom belonging to different musical groups and different corners of the world. The band members are Cathy Lucas on vocals, Valentina Magaletti on drums, Susumu Mukai on bass, Phil M.F.U. (Man From Uranus) on what are called "strange sounds" and filmmaker/visual artist Elliott Arndt on percussion and flute.

When lead singer Lucas was young, she discovered that she was supposed to have had a twin sister, though during the course of her mother's pregnancy the twin embryo was absorbed into Lucas' own; such a phenomenon is commonly called vanishing twin syndrome. Lucas' subsequent thoughts and emotions since then have guided her creative endeavors, particularly the name of the band and it's guiding aesthetic; comforting nostalgia punctuated with haunting unease, like feeling the warmth of a supportive hand on a shoulder before noticing that the hand is sopping wet.

Vanishing Twins' latest release, "Ookii Gekkou," stands true to that aesthetic; the whole album is full of psychedelic pop-jazziness, with more than a few moments of intentional unease. Some songs begin with the pluck of a bass and a tap of a cymbal, while others start out with droning electronic blasts, polyrhythmic percussions and other fancy words that are far above this writer's paygrade to understand. What ties the mood all together though, is the vocals; they're a ghostly

chorus backing up the eerie voice of Lucas as well as her vague and abstract diction.

The album's lead song, "Big Moonlight (Ookii Gekkou)," tells the age-old tale of the birth of the moon; it opens with that string-and-cymbal intro mentioned before, with a lonely flute wandering in and out from time to time. Then comes Lucas, serenading the audience with the moment a mass of the earth was torn away to become the moon: "Torn from the earth and out into near space by the sun / Movements in phases, tides so high that the rocks rose, came undone / Everything quivering, swilling and spun / Leaving a hole where she lay for so long for the ocean."

The second half of the lyrics tell how the moon became the way she is now, with everything cooling down and falling into place: "A gradual cooling and rendering of space /

Rain came and lay claim to empty rock face / Patterns now forming and orbits according in place / Circles chase spirals, elliptical cycles / Bright path on the tide, a smile on the sky" with this poetic diction and overall dreamy vibe, the song more or less takes listeners on an astral adventure of their own.

Vanishing Twin's "Ookii Gekkou" is an enchanting listen for any with an ear for the jazzy and weird; it can be found pretty much anywhere music can be found for sale and streaming.

For more on the band go to <http://vanishingtwin.co.uk/>.

Group Photo courtesy of Elliott Arndt. Retrieved from FireRecords.com

Cover Art for Vanishing Twins' Ookii Gekkou. Photo courtesy of qobuz.com.

MATTHEW KERN
MANAGING EDITOR

Ratings: 8/10

Heart Attack Man exists at a comfortable level between hardcore and pop-punk. Their new EP, “Thoughtz & Prayerz,” dropped Nov. 5 and was their first release since 2019’s “Fake Blood,” which was released to much acclaim. The Cleveland-based group brings the same signature blend of angst and irony to their newest release that they brought to “Fake Blood,” and it is just as intoxicating.

Track 1, “Puke,” is full of spit and blood. This is the perfect anthem for fighting a guy in a Denny’s parking lot. Listening to this track will remind anyone - in one word - of why this band is worth listening to. That word is: riffs.

“Puke” is such a fun blend of hardcore punk riffs and catchy Midwest hooks, and with vocalist Eric Egan doing his best Code Orange impression, it’s impossible to listen to this song and not want to move until the title is accomplished.

It’s not easy to be clever and topical. Too specific and a song becomes corny, too vague and the audience is lost. The title track, “Thoughtz & Prayerz” hits a sweet spot between these two extremes. “T&P” speaks to millennial nihilism. In a society that feels evermore indifferent to the plight of its progeny, few sources of media fully encompass the vague malaise of adolescence in the 21st century as this song. “Thoughts and prayers, no one cares.” No. They really don’t, do they?

Don’t Have a Heart Attack, Man!

Heart Attack Man’s new EP, “Thoughtz and Prayerz” delivers palpitations to listeners



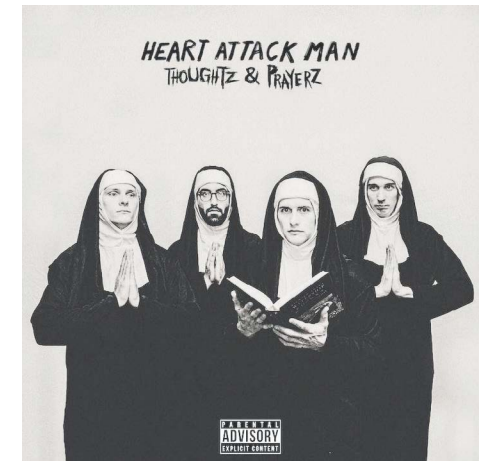
Photos courtesy of clevescene.com

Heart Attack Members (left-to-right): Ty Sickels (guitar), Eric Egan (vocals, guitar), Logan McNeal (bass), Adam Paduch (drums)

The same compliments could be given to Track 3, “Cool 2 Me.” Where “Thoughtz & Prayerz” is an expression of frustration at the world’s indifference, “Cool 2 Me” strikes out at its hypocrisy. This is a song for those who have had a friend turn out to be less than cool behind closed doors. Always a touchy subject, particularly in the punk-alternative scene today, where grooming and abuse are a pervasive issue. This track takes

a stance. It holds a mirror to the audience and says, “Is this you? I hope not.”

The final track, “Leap Year,” speaks deeply to listeners. “I didn’t think I’d make it to 23. I’m happy to be here.” Many can relate to lines like this. Listening to this



Heart Attack Man “Thoughtz & Prayerz” album cover.

side of punk-alternative can be a struggle, as it always seems to stir up those memories that are better left to rest. That said, it is nice to hear something positive for a change.

When teenage years are spent struggling, the grown-ups always say it gets better, but they never really seem to know when. It just kind of happens. “Leap Year” is the feeling when it actually has happened. It’s that electric feeling when looking up and realizing that the sky isn’t its usual shade of gray. Nobody knows how or why, but suddenly the realization strikes that all the time spent on wishing to go back was worth the sacrifice to have gotten to today.

It’s rare that a band follows-up an album as good as “Fake Blood,” this well, but “Thoughtz & Prayerz” has solidified a hot streak for Heart Attack Man. And while that’s thrilling now that means that now begins the long wait for Heart Attack Man’s next full album.

However long it may be, this EP proves the wait will be worth it.



Check out our additional content on our YouTube channel by searching Schoolcraft Connection!

Power Up

My Game Room gaming lounge opens in Livonia

ALEX HAWTHORNE
STAFF WRITER

“As a business you can do much more than play games, but rather use gaming as the force to build bridges between people.”

-Cecil Clark Jr

Owner of My Game Room

Plug in those controllers, gamers, because a new high paced gaming business has come to Livonia for all to enjoy.

Located at 29114 Five Mile road in Livonia, My Game Room has all the latest consoles, events, gaming tournaments and community opportunities. With a collection of Xbox Series Xs and PS5s filling the backroom along with many novelty amusement style games, My Game Room has something for everyone.

The location is open from 2-9 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays, but appointments and times may be flexible for those who call ahead. A single person can pay \$14.99 for an hour, \$26.99 for two hours and \$39.99 for three hours of play time with a \$10 increase for every additional hour. Private events may also be purchased at \$350 for two hours or \$550 for four hours. Finally, Squad Play is also offered at discounted rates.

Cecil Clark Jr, the owner of the new video game lounge, is

an experienced entrepreneur with over 25 years of experience. Throughout this time his goal has been to bring people together. Ever since Aug. 2019, when he opened his first My Game Room location in Detroit, he has been able to accomplish this goal through the art of gaming.

“I want to bring back socialising,” Clark said. “Kids playing with each other, meeting with one another, parents meeting other adults which makes us different from an arcade since we have so much more to offer.”

In addition to their gaming related content, My Game Room offers other experiences too such as coding and entrepreneurship classes as well as special needs meetups. Much of these serve not only to bridge the gap between those in the community, but also serves as a multi-entertainment venue for everyone who enters the walls of the establishment. Though with these ambitious dreams, Clark doesn’t plan to stop there; he wants to expand more.

With locations in Detroit, Livonia, Lansing, Richton, Chicago and Mesa, he has a goal to “Be able to open 1,000 locations all over the world” and with the amount of stores he has opened so far, it looks like he is making excellent progress.

According to Clark, by the year 2025 the gaming industry will be one of the biggest industries in the world bringing in over hundreds of

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Photos by Alex Hawthorne

Cloudy multicolored lights surrounding the game room with over 20 different consoles and tv's.



Store front of My Game Room. My Game Room is located in Livonia, Michigan at 29114 Five Mile Road.

“POWER UP” cont'd from page 14

billions of dollars every year and he wants My Gaming Room to be a part of that. With the business growing fast and quickly becoming the talk of the town, there is no doubt that at some point when one thinks of gaming they will also think of My Game Room.

With Clark's emphasis on community building, he is very open to more ideas from others to find more diverse avenues for outreach and to add more attractions that he can have for the

company.

“When people come, they can add to it making for more of a memorable experience for those wishing to come inside and play,” said Clark. He is also offering many positions for volunteering and employment, so that way it also serves as a way for those interested to gain experience in a nice work environment.

Aside from the other opportunities present here, the place serves very nicely for many

tournaments for games such as “Mortal Kombat,” “Magic The Gathering,” “Call Of Duty,” “Fortnite,” “Overwatch” and a variety of others. There is an opportunity to play a wide variety of games on the consoles available, but visitors are also allowed to bring their own copies, making for a more personalized experience over a fast wifi connection.

According to Clark, “As a business you can do much more than play games, but rather use gaming as the force to build bridges between people.”

With the rise in popularity of gaming as a whole and the recovery of in person activity after the peak of the pandemic, a place like this steps up to the plate in order to bring some more unity between people. Clark wants to create this place to serve as the Olympics for gaming; he has many companies contacting him to not only just

host tournaments, but to host parties for launches of games and support his company.

This unity between community members, parents, kids and businesses creates the perfect harmony for Clark to bring his dreams to life and continues to achieve them, coming out of the pandemic stronger than when he entered.

From the games, to the events, to the people who support this amazing place, My Game Room is more than just an arcade to pass by on a Sunday drive. It is a living and vibrant business being held up by people's love of gaming and the sense of community that Clark gives all who traverse the property.

Overall, My Game Room is the place to be for gamers and spectators alike, and those who walk through the doors will not be disappointed.

For tournament information or any updates, follow them on instagram @my_game_room1 or on Facebook @ MyGameRoom2019.

MY GAME ROOM

29114 Five Mile

Livonia, Michigan

313-428-7619

Hours of Operation:

2-9pm Mondays-Saturdays

For tournament
information,

email at

mygameroomlivonia@gmail.com

Follow on

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IN OUR OPINION

Enjoying the Break in Holiday Spirit



Photo courtesy of pixabay.com

The Schoolcraft Connection wishes everyone a happy winter holiday break.

It's that time of year when the school semester begins to wind down and we find ourselves dealing with higher stakes like never before in an effort to pass our classes and achieve our academic/career goals. But thankfully the holiday season is fast approaching and will help in relieving our worries and anxieties the college life presents us with. While on the break, take this opportunity to spend as much time as possible with friends and family, go see a movie or two of your liking, work on a fun personal project, and most importantly, enjoy the holidays with a fresh dose of holiday spirit.

It's easy to forget the things you have. From the people around you, to the growth you've made. The stress of life can make any improvement feel small and insignificant, but they never are. Take this holiday season and be proud of not only your growth, but the growth you see in other people as well.

Furthermore, keep in mind that you need not participate in the consumerism rampant in nearly every corner of the holiday season, with that of the pandemic

see **"Enjoying the Break"**

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The Schoolcraft Connection is the award-winning, student-run newspaper published six times a year and online as an educational experience by the students of Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia, Michigan, 48152-2696. The editorial offices of The Schoolcraft Connection are located in the Student Activities Office on the lower level of the Waterman Campus Center.

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The Schoolcraft Connection corrects all errors of fact. If you have discovered an error, please contact the Editor in Chief, 734-462-4422, or sceditor@schoolcraft.edu.



I never should have graduated high school.

At least, not when I did.

By the time I was a senior, I only needed two credits for my diploma: Math and English. The English I didn't mind, but at that time you'd have been hard-pressed to find me in second-hour pre-calculus. I had always done well in school, until circumstances led me to begin missing math classes in junior year, and by that time a malaise nihilism had glossed over any desire I had to catch up.

I failed the fall semester of pre-calculus, meaning I'd have to take auto-shop to make up for it. I did, then went ahead and failed the winter semester as well, so it wouldn't be too easy. Despite it all, my guidance counselor, a saint of a woman who refused to deny me

The Case for Coming Back

graduation over one half-credit of failed math, managed to get me through. I received a "G" grade for my math credit, high enough to pass, too low to count toward my GPA.

After high school I went to a university for a year. At the end of fall semester, I spent finals week in the hospital due, again, to circumstances beyond my control. The school never let me make up those tests. Four months later, I was academically dismissed, having never made up my grades from the fall, and never going to class in the winter.

At the time, I didn't care. I won't detail the circumstances which led to my ennui, but I had become too callused by disappointment for this to affect me. I didn't mourn my dreams of science and art, I merely cursed them.

"Good riddance."

Fast forward to today, I have a 3.9 GPA. I was on the dean's list twice last year. I am a member of Phi Theta Kappa and I work here at The Connection. I'm looking at transferring to schools I only ever

dreamed of my first go-round.

I'm studying science and art, pushing my passions and curiosity further every day. The change I needed happened through the Covid pandemic. Free time during the pandemic became time for introspection, and provided me with a new perspective.

I needed a total shift of the mind.

Therapy, medication, graduated sobriety; after beginning to address the daily issues, I could begin to re-align my life trajectory. Imagining my life after the pandemic, I didn't want to go back to wasting away, working behind a bar. The only way I could think to get out was through school.

School, to me, represents opportunity. It represents the ability to gain skills, to build a resume and to show the world, "Hey! Look what I can do."

That has been exactly my experience. The more time I spend here, the wiser I feel.

A classmate of mine recently asked me, "How do you know what you're doing here?" I didn't know

how to answer. How could I even begin to describe the journey I'd been on with academic apathy? Could I properly convey how deeply I understood his question?

I told him to look for the things he enjoys. "Listen to yourself, pay attention to the homework you don't hate."

I hope that was good advice. It's what I needed to hear when I was younger.

If I could fully translate my experience with school, I would tell anyone that school isn't worth the time or the money if you don't care. It doesn't matter about what, getting rich, being fulfilled, learning for learning's sake; without a goal - even a vague one - the effort of school is wasted. Education is a tool, it should help you to reach your ideal self, not prevent you from becoming it.

I encourage everyone to look at the parts you enjoy. Use every class as an opportunity to define yourself. Find the classes you love, the classes you hate, the skills and knowledge you want to hang on to. This is the mindset I approach every new semester with, and it lightens the burden.

Appreciate this time. The real world is waiting and it is nowhere near as forgiving. Take this time to grow, you'll miss it when it ends.

How About we Make Sure Rich People Pay Taxes Huh

The Pandora Papers uncover key vulnerabilities in today's financial world

We'd all like to believe that the powerful folk and celebrities we admire play by the rules and pay their fair share of taxes and whatnot - I mean, we know Bezos and others don't, but we're talking about the rich people that are admired; celebrities like

Shakira, Elton John and Ringo Starr. Unfortunately, this is just a fool's hope; these three were among countless other celebrities, politicians and other people of power that were exposed for creating offshore companies and trusts, often used for secrecy or tax

evasion, in the recently released Pandora Papers.

The Pandora Papers themselves come from the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ), and is the largest leak in the organization's history; it consists of nearly three terabytes of confidential information from 14 offshore service providers. The project was released Oct. 3, and was a collaboration between more than 600 Journalists from 150 news outlets, and has exposed the offshore dealings of 35 current and former world leaders and hundreds of other past and current public



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"PANDORA PAPERS"

cont'd from page 17

officials and politicians around the world. Most importantly, the Papers offer a glimpse of how many of the world's rich and/or powerful take advantage of semi-legal offshore service providers, and how they negatively affect ordinary citizens by doing so.

Take Shakira for example again - this isn't the only time she'd been caught in some dodgy tax behavior; it was ruled in 2018 that from 2012 to 2014, the pop star failed to pay \$16.4 million in taxes. From that point on she underwent a tax investigation, during which she had filed applications for three different offshore companies; Shakira and her representatives said that those companies were in the process of being dissolved, even though the applications she used are typically used for the creation of brand-new entities. Nevertheless, \$16.4 million is quite the bill to almost get away with ignoring; and in the event that she, or anyone, successfully dodges that much money in taxes, the burden of paying it would be left to the more average citizens, leaving them - us - to bear the price of infrastructure and social services.

Popstars aren't the only ones doing this; there are politicians and government officials as well. Several leaders of nations all

over the world are featured in the Pandora Papers, with names popping up such as Abdullah II, King of Jordan, several former presidents of Panama, two former Chief Executives of Hong Kong, Uhuru Kenyatta, president of Kenya, members of Vladimir Putin's inner circle, former British Prime Minister Tony Blair, Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelenskyy and many, many more.

With all of this in mind I propose a revolutionary solution: just, don't give the rich and powerful the opportunity to hide their wealth and hoard their laurels in the first place, by closing these legal loopholes in tax law, pretty please?

Sarcasm aside, this is not a simple problem to fix; this isn't an American problem, it's a global one.

In order to end this, the whole world would have to agree to amend things internationally (I think, for I am not a particularly learned lemur), and that would be a difficult task indeed, seeing that so many leaders are a part of the problem they would be trying to solve.

All of the findings of the ICIJ in the Pandora Papers can be found at <https://www.icij.org/investigations/pandora-papers/>.

"ENJOYING THE BREAK"

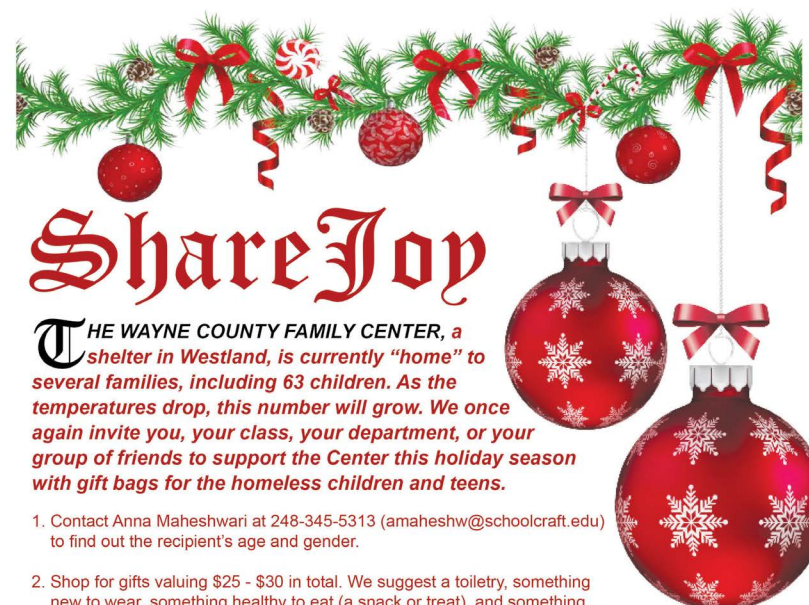
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years seeming to be no different. You don't need to buy your family members, friends or partners the newest extravagant thing off a list; what truly matters is that through some gesture or another, you communicate your love for them, be that a phone call, a store bought or handmade gift, or a plate of treats and a few heartfelt words.

This doesn't have to be exclusive to your loved ones, any and every human needs love and support throughout the holiday season. You can support foster families by adopting a family at just \$30 at fosterfamilies.org. You can buy

things on the Methodist Children's Home's wish list at mchsmi.org. If you want to go more on campus, the Schoolcraft toy drive is occurring now through Dec. 15.

This holiday season, it's time to say enough. Enough of the shame and hiding. It's time to tell the world you still believe in Santa. No more sliding your Christmas list under the nearest takeout menu when your roommate walks in. No more conflicted yearning at the mall when you pass the line to sit on Santa's lap. It's time to speak out and be heard about Santa-shaming.



Share Joy
THE WAYNE COUNTY FAMILY CENTER, a
shelter in Westland, is currently "home" to
several families, including 63 children. As the
temperatures drop, this number will grow. We once
again invite you, your class, your department, or your
group of friends to support the Center this holiday season
with gift bags for the homeless children and teens.

1. Contact Anna Maheshwari at 248-345-5313 (amaheshw@schoolcraft.edu) to find out the recipient's age and gender.
2. Shop for gifts valuing \$25 - \$30 in total. We suggest a toiletry, something new to wear, something healthy to eat (a snack or treat), and something fun. Please include batteries if a toy needs them.
3. Place the gifts in a bag and attach a tag so we know the gender and age of the recipient, e.g., "13-year-old girl."
4. Drop off the bag between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. at the Student Activities Office in the lower level of the VisTaTech Center.

Please drop off items by
December 15, 2021

Any questions about drop off, please call Student Activities at 734-462-4422.

In this life we cannot do great things.
We can only do small things with great love.
 — Mother Teresa

Be the change you want to see in the world.
 — Mahatma Mohandas Gandhi

For more information, contact
 • Anna Maheshwari, amaheshw@schoolcraft.edu
 • Mary Rader, mrader@schoolcraft.edu

Supported by the Liberal Arts Division,
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Any extra gift items will be shared with Wayne
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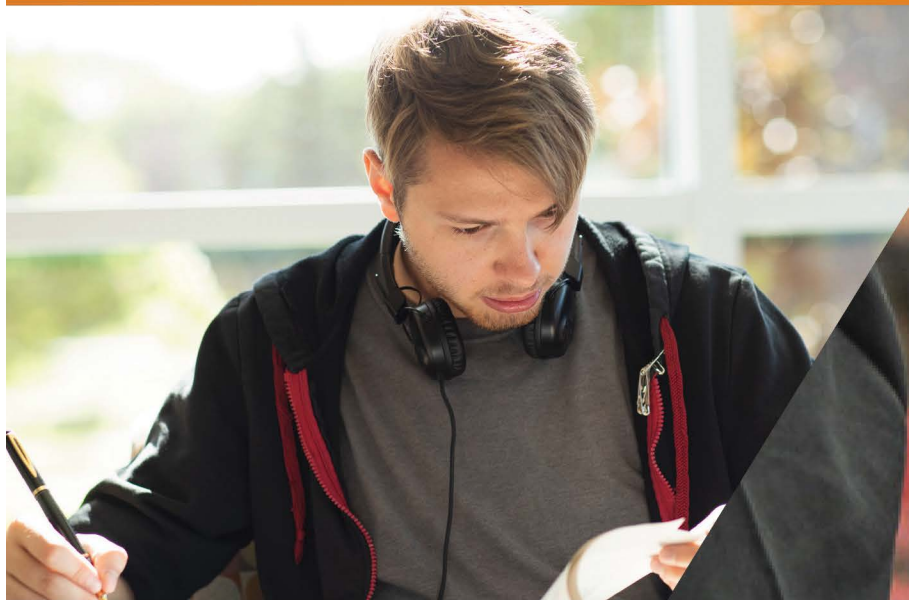
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