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UWT celebrates 20 years of OSCARS honors

The Outstanding Student Ceremony for Awards and Recognition is May 19, 2023.



The 2022 UWT OSCARS awards ceremony photos.

PHOTO BY UW TACOMA

By **KATIE SCOTT**
NEWS REPORTER

The UWT OSCARS, an annual celebration that promotes student, staff, faculty and RSO achievement through a public awards ceremony, will be hosted by the UWT Office for Student Involvement on Friday, May 19, 2023.

The ceremony began in 2003 to celebrate student achievement, staff and faculty honors and acknowledge the accomplishments of registered student organizations. A play on the nationally recognized awards show, the UWT OSCARS name stands for “Outstanding Student Ceremony for Awards and Recognition”.

Conor Leary, Interim Director of Student Involvement & Leadership at UWT, says involvement, engagement and student leadership are categories that the nominations are based on. Of the 27 award categories, students, staff and faculty nominate individuals for seven of the awards. These awards include Outstanding Student, Outstanding Faculty, Outstanding Staff and Campus Impact.

Leary says a committee of staff members determines the winners for the remaining three categories, which

are RSO of the Year, RSO Advisor of the Year, and Top Dawg. Leary explains the Top Dawg award is a student-centered honor that celebrates a UWT student who has exhibited a demonstrated and sustained connection to campus through leadership, involvement, and service.

Voting for these categories opened on April 24, and will run until May 5.

“We honor the Huskies who make it a part of their experience at UW Tacoma to go beyond the classroom, to practice the skills they are learning in the classroom and to provide more information about what they’re learning to a greater community. We also celebrate the means by which students learn to manage and balance priorities outside their academics, such as organizations, leadership programs, student employment positions and more. Our nominees emphasize the recognition that their learning experience at UW Tacoma extends beyond their academic curriculum,” Leary said.

Historically the UWT OSCARS have celebrated student, staff and faculty leaders from all over campus who have been nominated by their peers and other UWT community members. Nomina-

tions are submitted online, and the voting takes place approximately three weeks prior to the live event. Once voting has closed, the votes are tallied and the winners determined. Nominees of each category are invited to attend the ceremony in person, though the winners are not announced until the live event in May.

The UWT OSCARS is an event of pomp and circumstance, held in high regard to honor the hard work and leadership of the UWT community. Attendees are welcome to dress as they are comfortable, though many attendees come dressed to impress in semi-formal and formal attire. Speeches of the night are made prior to each category being announced. Though they do not present acceptance speeches, award winners often enjoy showing off their best dressed outfits when accepting their award.

“It is an exceptional program where our campus gets to honor the amazing achievements of our students, staff, faculty and events from so many different departments and services. It is truly a wonderful way to wrap up another year of successful initiatives and celebrate how UW Tacoma has grown into an exciting community to be a part of,” Leary said.

The UWT OSCARS will take place on Friday, May 19 at the University YMCA in rooms 303 and 304. For those who are not able to attend in person, the event will be live streamed on the UW Tacoma Extended YouTube Channel. After the live event has commenced, a recording of the ceremony will be posted on the website for the Center for Student Involvement.

The 2023 ceremony will provide light refreshments and two photo booths, one being a 360 degree camera, for attendees to enjoy.

AWARDS & PAST WINNERS

Visit: <https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/involvement/oscars>

VOTE HERE

<https://forms.office.com/r/mJ4v9EiDxw>



Take part in this year's Day of Caring

Students can volunteer May 5 for the Day of Caring.

By DESTINY VALENCIA
NEWS EDITOR

Come and participate in this year's Day of Caring with the Center for Service and Leadership (CSL), May 5. This year, students, faculty and staff will be able to serve and help their community by volunteering with six local organizations.

Students will have their choice to volunteer with Eloise's Cooking Pot, The Rainbow Center, Tacoma Rescue Mission, The Giving Garden, Pierce Conservation District or the YMCA. This year marks a special occasion for this yearly event as it will be the first Day of Caring the CSL has been allowed to put on in three years due to the pandemic.

"I think it's a great opportunity to bring community back, you know and kind of rebuild because I think a lot of people are new on campus, myself included... So I think it's a great opportunity to bridge some gaps in connection that we've been missing," said Gabriela Romero, chair for the CSL.

Students will meet at 12:30 p.m. at Milgard 110 where they will receive a Panera lunch. Afterwards, Associate Professor Tanya Velasquez will give a talk on the importance of service work and community involvement. Students will leave the campus at 1:30 p.m. to their chosen organization to volunteer. Students will then volunteer for the next 2-3 hours and be returned to campus where they will enjoy ice cream sandwiches after their hard work.

Planning for the Day of Caring has been in the works since January, with a committee of about 10 people; students and other individuals part of the community who have been researching and reaching out to non-profits.

"We tried to make this committee as inclusive as possible by including a lot of students from different student organizations and governments," said Naia Elizarraraz, a Volunteer Coordinator.

A lot of the work students will participate in at these organizations will involve outside work such as weeding and gardening. Other organizations will have the

students partaking in organizational work such as sorting clothing donations or putting together informational packets.

Students who participate will also receive special merch such as a tote bag and a Day of Caring t-shirt.

Both Elizarraraz and Romero hope that not only will students choose to participate in the activities, but so will faculty and staff.

"We would love for this to be an opportunity where staff and faculty can get to know the students they help outside of the classroom. We hope that faculty and staff will be involved as well," Romero said.

As for what students will gain from participating in the Day of Caring, Elizarraraz and Romero believe participation will be beneficial for those who would like to get to know their community a bit better.

"Hopefully (students will gain) connections with the organizations that they'll be volunteering with and just a relationship in general," Elizarraraz said.

"I think it's a great opportunity for students to build community with each other and share a common goal of, you know, doing some service work with many of the non-profits," Romero said.

If you would like to volunteer for the Day of Caring, you can fill out this form:



For more information you can follow the Center for Service and Leadership on Instagram @uwtcsl



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY GABRIELA ROMERO

Students who volunteered at the Tacoma Rescue Mission and those who prepared meal kits.



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Freedom of choice versus the public good: the case of the tuberculosis woman of Tacoma

Someone has been walking around with an active tuberculosis case for more than a year. No, that is not a joke.

By **RUTH OGDEN**
OPINION WRITER

The decades-old debate over the right to privacy in healthcare is ongoing with heated arguments from both sides. On one hand, there is an argument that specific health issues should be a matter of public record, while the other side hotly disagrees with any potential infringement on individual civil liberties. Both sides have reasonable arguments.

If you had asked me last year what side of the debate I was on, I would have wholeheartedly argued that everyone has a right to privacy when it comes to what type of illnesses they are dealing

with and how they choose to treat them (and before you ask, yes, I am militantly pro-vaccine). However, the case of the tuberculosis woman of Tacoma has prompted me to reconsider my stance on healthcare privacy when it comes to certain issues that threaten the public as a whole, like freaking tuberculosis.

You should know that there is a woman who lives in Tacoma who has an active case of tuberculosis (TB). TB is a highly contagious bacterial disease that affects the lungs and is spread through breathing, coughing, sneezing and talking. It's an extremely serious disease and is fatal if left untreated. It used to be known as

'consumption' and has killed tens of millions over the course of history. It is especially dangerous for individuals who have lung complications such as vaping or smoking habits, COPD, cystic fibrosis or long COVID-19 symptoms. TB rates in the United States have steadily decreased since the '90s, with only 8,300 cases reported in 2022. Unfortunately for us, the tuberculosis woman of Tacoma is one of those cases.

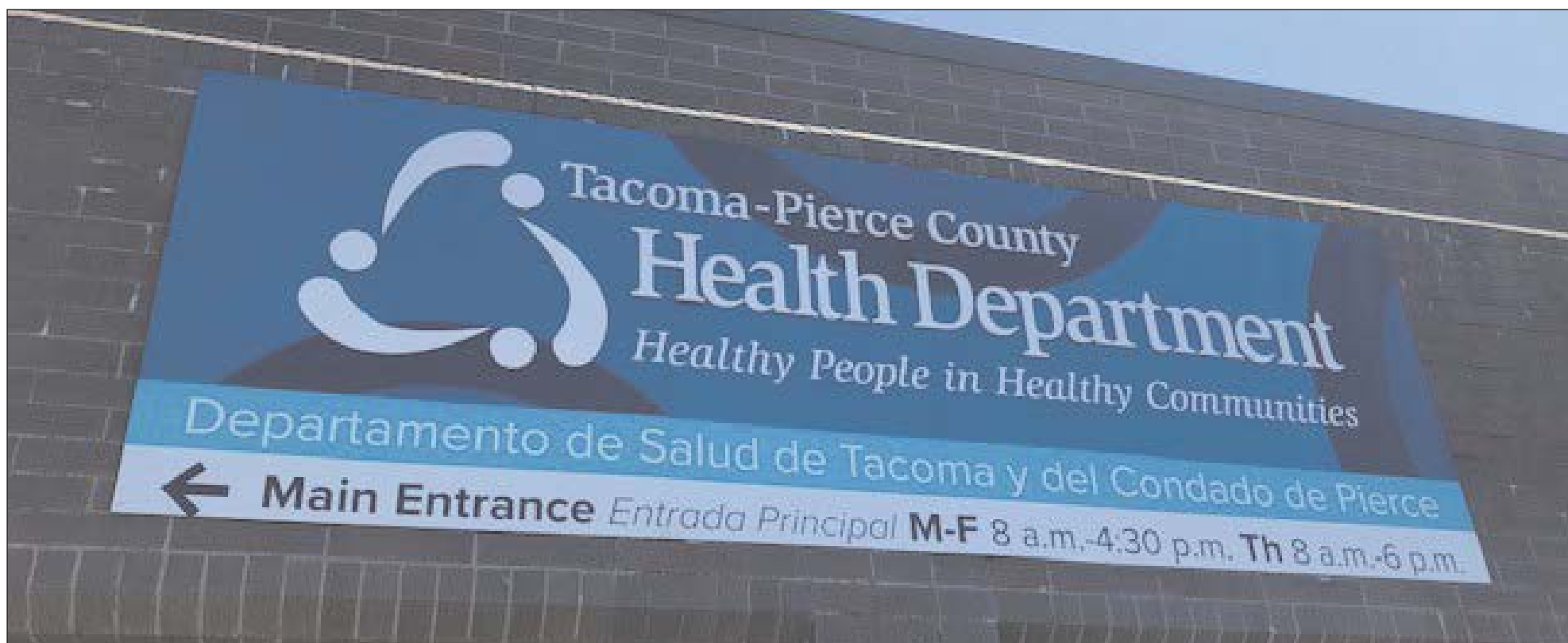
So far, the tuberculosis woman of Tacoma has successfully evaded treatment, despite the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department's most valiant efforts. They have released several reports, notifying the public of the

issue and even stating that they were working with her family to convince her to seek treatment. The Tacoma Pierce County Health Department has even gone as far as to work with the Tacoma Police Department, issuing a civil arrest warrant for detention and home quarantine. Somehow, the woman managed to evade the authorities, boarded a public bus and headed on down to the Emerald Queen Casino for some entertainment and relaxation. This selfish action exposed thousands of people in Tacoma to tuberculosis.

I'm really dying to know her reasoning. Treatment consists of several months of a rigorous antibiotics regimen, which may

be stressful, but to me, seems far better than slowly suffocating to death. She must be so uncomfortable.

I also want to know who she is. I know that revealing her identity would be a violation of civil liberties and would set a horrible precedent for healthcare privacy as a whole. However, I feel like I also have the right to know if the person next to me on the bus is needlessly exposing me to tuberculosis. It's a frustrating gray area with no "right" decision.



The Tacoma Pierce County Health Department does what it can with the resources it has.

PHOTO VIA TACOMA PIERCE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Do you want to voice your issues of concern related to news, politics, campus issues and more? Then we invite you to write a Letter to the Editor.

Letters submitted to the Ledger may be published through both TheTacomaLedger.com and our print edition.



Study Hacks for busy students ft. Lo-Fi Girl and Synthwave Boy

Tips to help you vibe while studying

By HEIDI ORTIZ CANDELARIA
OPINION COLUMNIST

The relaxing yet catchy tunes of the lo-fi genre have been known as a perfect background noise for students to use during their busy hours. But recently, a new character was added to the lo-fi channel family. Introduced as “synth-wave boy,” he sits on his computer typing away, along with his own furry friend; a cute puppy snoozing near his desk. Fans were not expecting this new addition but were pleasantly surprised. The new stream video is titled “Synthwave Radio - Beats to Chill/Game to.” Since its release on April 7, it’s gotten over 332k likes and always has over 15k viewers.

There is a lot we students can learn from both lo-fi girl and synthwave boy. Mostly, how we can make a calm and comfortable learning space for ourselves. After all, living in contemporary times where grind culture is the norm, it’s important to prioritize our physical and emotional health. Here are some tips that I’ve personally used that help alleviate stress and anxiety induced by our everyday busy lives.

Planning designated study/work times helps create a sense of control over your own time. It’s also important to eat meals before sitting down to study, since having those extra nutrients helps your body regain some of the

energy lost during the day. It’s also important to create a distinguishable ambiance, which allows your brain to alert your body that you’re ready to begin to work again: play some pleasant music on your speakers or headphones by curating a study/work playlist, light some scented candles or cleansing incense, use softer LED lights to illuminate your desk, change into comfy clothes and properly cushion your seat to create maximum back support.

Working and studying at intervals of no longer than 3 hours also helps avoid exhaustion. Especially with people like me who struggle with concentration can benefit from allowing ourselves to take short breaks; anywhere from ten to fifteen minutes. Take time to stand up from your desk, walk around, stretch and even make yourself some tea or snacks. Personally, I find English breakfast tea to give me a burst of energy during early work and study sessions, and chamomile tea to help ease my anxiety during later sessions. Having my cat curl up on my lap anytime I’m working also helps me feel my most comfortable.

Another thing that greatly helps me is keeping my space clean (to some degree) and working in a specific place in my apartment. Having a designated work area where I keep all my materials makes it easier for me to sit down and get to work. Rather than sitting

on the couch in the living room or on your bed, try to have a desk and a comfortable chair. It’ll help you avoid getting sleepy or distracted, as your body will associate these spaces with certain activities. Couches are usually for lounging, and beds are for sleeping.

As for cleaning, we all know how difficult it can be to find the energy to clean or keep organized. But trying to take a bit of time every day to put a few things in their place and keep your desk clear will definitely help get weight off your chest. It’s also great to decorate your space to your liking, rather than just having a plain workstation. Hang up posters, buy cute stationary or get a light-up keyboard. You’ll find yourself enjoying the time you’re spending there rather than dreading it. Being surrounded by the things you enjoy can give anyone a small boost of serotonin.

One thing that’s important to know is that everyone tends to have their own, unique routine. While some people benefit from more high-energy music, caffeine and brighter lighting; others prefer chill music, warm tea and cozy lighting. But one thing that stays constant for everyone is that being comfortable is the most important factor in creating a suitable workspace. Explore some of these tips, mix and match and see which

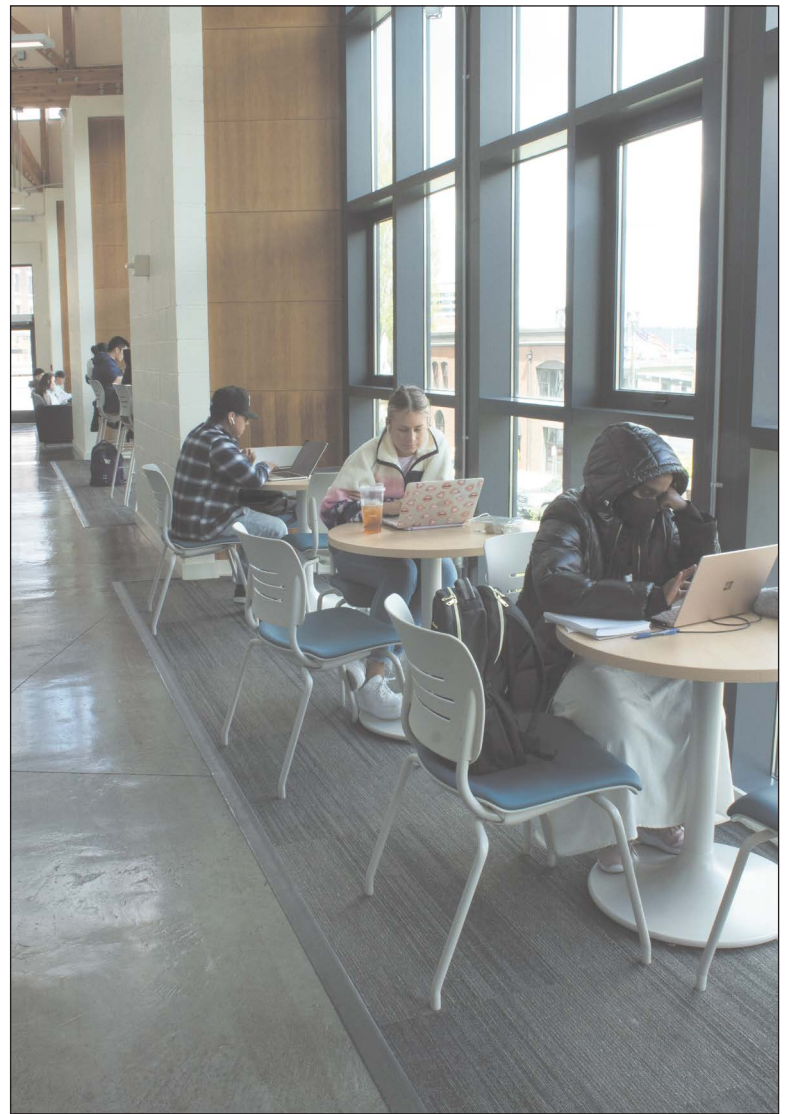


PHOTO BY ALEXA CHRISTIE

ones work best for you! If you’re looking for constantly changing lo-fi and synthwave beats to play while you work and study, check

out the lo-fi girl and synthwave boy YouTube channels.

The ban on books

The ban on books has been a greater concern than any other education issue.

By CELIA WILLIAMS
OPINION EDITOR

The ban on books has been a hot topic lately, especially within the BookTok community. With states being given more and more control over the laws they put into place, books have been under attack. The U.S. courts have allowed for certain books to be banned in schools and public libraries that go against certain beliefs and or talk about things that some might find uncomfortable.



PHOTO BY ALEXA CHRISTIE

To Kill A Mockingbird has been one of the most banned books across U.S. schools.

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee

This popular, heartwrenching novel about an African American man who was falsely accused of raping a white woman shows the injustices of our legal system and the systemic racism in the U.S., specifically during the era of the Jim Crow laws.

It’s said this book was banned essentially because of the use of the “N-word” throughout the novel. I have even heard of some

teachers using the word in class “strictly for academic purposes,” which is completely uncalled for. The use of the word by teachers in the classroom is absurd, but the book still offers some perspective on the time period and the issue with the legal system at the time and how it has led to the issues we have today.

There is still a lot to take from To Kill a Mockingbird without the use of the “N-word”.

The Lord of the Flies by William Golding

This gruesome book is about a group of young boys finding their way while stranded on an island. They become rather deranged and make a number of mistakes while on the island. The novel shows the group’s slow decline into savagery and violence, which seemed to be the issue for most.

As far as I have been able to research from articles reviewing banned books, many were simply bothered by the novel’s message which was that men are little more than animals. I find this argument both hilarious and also insightful. It really points out an idea from the novel that I had not thought of when I first read it.



PHOTO BY ALEXA CHRISTIE

According to PBS 1,858 books were banned in U.S. schools in 2021.

The Harry Potter Series

This beloved series has been banned because of conflict with religious views. The series contains witchcraft and talk of such things, which is apparently not allowed in schools. This is an interesting argument because it directly conflicts with the separation of public education and religion.

The banning of books from a school does not make them go away. Children should be enter-

tained by the books they are reading and learning to love reading.

Each of these books has been banned for one reason or another, and there are plenty more that have been banned alongside them. I find it very concerning that books are being banned and the reasons for which they are being banned is nothing short of debatable.

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A new art major for UWT

The new art major has been in limbo for 21 years, but is closer than ever to finally getting passed.

By **COLE MARTIN**
A&E COLUMNIST

The arts at UWT are lacking at best and completely neglected at worst. Which isn't really a big surprise to hear for most of you; the state of the Whitney (WHT) building on campus is a pretty clear visual indicator of it. The current Arts, Media and Culture major is quite small compared to the rest of the programs here at UWT, and even more so when compared to the arts program at UW Seattle.

However, there have been some recent developments; there are talks of a new art major in the works for students at UWT. Spearheaded by the lovely art faculty, a community-centric arts major is now closer than ever before to being created.

It would be unfair to call this major something 'new,' as art faculty have been working since 2002 to try to create another major for art students. Back then, professor Tyler Budge and the now retired professor Beverly Naidus were the two who had originally been hired to create a new art major. I got a chance to speak to professor Tyler Budge and Dr. Maria-Tania Bandes B. Weingarden about the major's history and where things stand now.

"We developed an Arts in Community major that was very socially engaged. Theme-based classes, community arts activist sort of program. We submitted that to administration to get the

major up and going, and it kept running into hurdles; the biggest being facilities and the money it would take to start the program. But we also really struggled to get people to understand what the major was about, because it didn't have the traditional art major title," said Budge.

The major has changed a lot since then, in efforts to finally get it approved. Professor Naidus retired mid-2020, and so the remaining faculty tried their best to adapt the major into something that would work.

"One of the biggest differences that we changed... really was just a marketing ploy, to get people to understand what our major was about. We could still have a very socially-engaged program with an emphasis on community art, but we could teach it through some of the skill-based courses," said Budge.

The major definitely leans towards the visual arts, but Dr. Bandes B. Weingarden, the sole force behind theater at UWT, has been directly involved in ensuring that performing arts have a place in this major and on this campus.

"There was always the question of what would happen to theater [in the new art major]. It makes sense that if the art major was going to be more studio practice, that theater would join those efforts. Because we also make; We make a different kind of art, but certainly art nonetheless," said Bandes B. Weingarden.

The major is being formed in a way that has two major tracks, one

for performing arts and one for visual arts. There will be both skill-based and theme-based courses for each track, allowing both a conceptual and physical understanding of the art form of interest, as well as an understanding of community and society in arts. There will also be some cross between the performing and visual sides of things, in some form or another.

"The core of our program is still the theme-based practice. I think that's what really sets us apart from other arts majors across the country... You learn to be a creative problem solver around a theme using the skills that you'll develop through the skill-based classes," said Budge.

This difference from the art

major norm is notable in an employment sense too; Both professors stressed the importance of the skills and abilities you learn from a program like this.

"These are marketable skills. I always hate it when, in different places, they talk about 'soft skills.' It frustrates me because they're not soft skills, they're essential skills. Things like communication, collaboration, creativity; these are skills that are used in every single field," said Bandes B. Weingarden.

The largest thing that stands in the way of this art major, other than budget and facilities, is student voice. Administration only pays so much attention to the faculty themselves; they need to know and see that students are

interested in the arts before they are willing to make any additions or changes.

"The university really does pay attention to what students have to say, and that's lovely and refreshing because they should! When students say that they want something and they really are vocal about it, you will see change happen," said Bandes B. Weingarden.

It'll be a few years until we see any change. But, if you'd like to put your voice out there and help make this major a reality, please consider putting your name on this petition.

chnng.it/dMNwZtLPHN



A photo of the Whitney building.

PHOTO BY ALEXA CHRISTIE

Classes got you ogre-whelmed? Let loose at Shrek Rave

This Shrek-themed dance party coming to ALMA will make you feel like an All Star.



PHOTO BY TACOMA'S SHREK RAVE TICKET PAGE

The motto of this international dance party phenomenon is "It's dumb just come have fun."

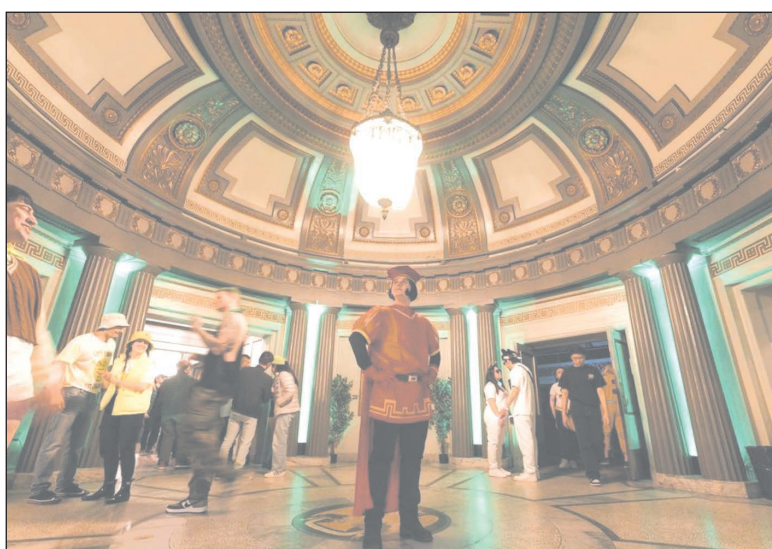


PHOTO BY KATIELEWELLYN.PHOTO ON INSTAGRAM

An attendee of a previous Shrek Rave dressed as Lord Farquaad, the villain of the first Shrek film.

By **STEPH CARONNA**
A&E COLUMNIST

Spring has finally sprung in Tacoma. It's the perfect time to emerge from your swamp, invite your friends from far far away and head out to the Shrek Rave. This event, coming to ALMA in Downtown Tacoma on May 20, isn't your typical rave; it's a dance party celebrating all things Shrek.

The event originated in Los Angeles in March 2022. Content creator Ka5sh decided to throw a party celebrating the popular Dreamworks Animation franchise in order to raise money for his sister, who was the victim of a robbery and near-fatal shooting. After witnessing the success of the first Shrek Rave, he decided to take the party all across the country.

The ongoing success of the Shrek Rave was bolstered by its virality on apps like TikTok and Twitter. Videos and photos of attendees dressed as popular and obscure franchise characters alike made the rounds and helped popularize the events.

Ever since the film's release in 2001, and with the addition of each sequel, the Shrek series has set itself apart from other animated children's media through its unique sense of humor. Now that many of the franchise's original fans have grown into

adults—whose own comedic sensibilities have been greatly influenced by the series—there is a large market for Shrek-themed nostalgia.

"Shrek really has a specific fandom," Ka5sh told Page Six after the first Shrek Rave, "They all have a really weird, specific type of humor."

The first event attracted famous rappers such as Rico Nasty and Yung Gravy. Many of the subsequent events have featured local musicians and DJs, who have performed sets and created remixes inspired by the franchise's crowd-pleasing soundtracks. In particular, songs like "All Star" by Smash Mouth and their cover of "I'm a Believer"—both featured in the first Shrek film—have been staples of Shrek Raves across the country and globe.

That's right: Shrek Rave is now an international phenomenon. It first made its way to the United Kingdom in March of this year. Recently, there have been Shrek Raves as close as Toronto, Canada and as far as Uzbekistan.

Folks who are familiar with Shrek, but perhaps not privy to the in-jokes and memeification of the series, may be confused about the popularity of these events. Why are people so enthusiastic about a dance party themed after an early 2000s animated comedy?

The simple answer is nostalgia, but the fervor for these parties goes deeper than that. Shrek Raves provide a feeling of community for people who fell in love with the franchise at any age. Attendees can expect to find others who share similar comedic and music taste as them. From descriptions and videos of past events, Shrek Raves sound like spaces in which everyone is accepted for who they are.

This isn't surprising considering the themes of the Shrek films. Most of the movies focus on Shrek struggling to fit in because of his status as an ogre, an outsider to be feared. His emotional journey usually consists of Shrek finding people who accept him. He learns that he can still be loved without having to change the fundamentals of who he is.

It makes sense that people who relate to the themes of these films would be drawn to an event that connects them with like-minded people. Shrek Rave is a dance party, but it's also an expression of freedom and creativity.

Tacoma's Shrek Rave will be taking place on May 20 at ALMA, starting at 9 p.m. Attendees must be 21 or older to enter. Links to purchase tickets can be found at

almatacoma.com/upcoming-shows.

Review: 'Evil Dead Rise' contrasted with 'Beau is Afraid'

Mommy issues, dark humor, and grotesque violence galore is where the similarities end with these films.



The poster for "Evil Dead Rise."

POSTER BY WARNING BROS. ENTERTAINMENT

By EMILIA BELL
A&E EDITOR

On April 21, two highly anticipated films categorized as horror were released. One was the follow-up to the fan favorite "Evil Dead" that was released in 2013, "Evil Dead Rise," and the other was acclaimed director Ari Aster's much awaited third feature film, "Beau is Afraid." While IMDb classifies them both as horror, they could not be more different.

"Evil Dead Rise" is a continuation of the classic horror series that began with "The Evil Dead" in 1981, and was turned into even more of a horror cult classic with "Evil Dead 2" in 1987; the second film created the campy, over-the-top, silly horror that the series became known for. "Evil Dead" (2013) brought the films back with somewhat of a soft reboot to a more serious tone, and included extremely graphic and intense violence. "Evil Dead Rise" welcomes back the campiness, though it still has the over-the-top stomach-turning gore that the 2013 film had. It takes place in a derelict apartment building, where everything begins to go wrong when the mother of a group of children becomes possessed by an evil entity and turned into a "deadite."

It references the 1987 film and other classic horror with cheeky nods and homages— particularly with its fun squirrely and sideways camera moves that are reminiscent of

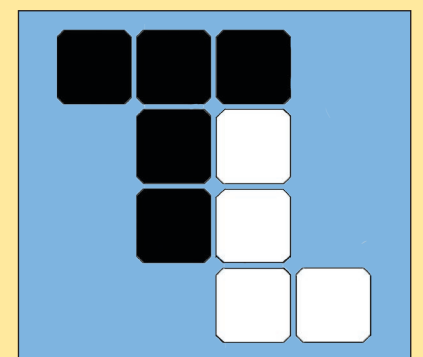
the original series. The opening sequence is brutal to the max and a fun introduction for what is to come. This film does unfortunately run into the problem that many horror movies have, which is that some characters have to be dumb in order for the plot to commence— particularly with the child characters. The effects were fun and the violence felt new and fresh, while still having that classic "Evil Dead" flavor to it. Some moments looked as though they were stop motion, which was exciting to see.

The setting of the original films and the 2013 one was a cabin in the woods— classic horror. This newest addition mixes it up, setting the film in a dilapidated apartment building. I was uncertain if the feel of the film would be cohesive with the others, but it still was, and the new setting offered different and fun scares.

The film seems to find a happy medium between the 2013 seriousness and 1987's exaggerated humor. Sadly, the characters are overall weak and lackluster, so while there is an abundance of fake blood and scares, the human aspect isn't as present as it could have been. The end climax was thrilling, tense, and absolutely disgusting— all assisted by very effective sound design. The audience had quite vocal reactions with every nasty hit and kill.

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Contrastly, “Beau is Afraid” is not part of any kind of continuation, unless you could consider it being based off of a short film Aster made years prior. “Beau is Afraid” stars Joaquin Phoenix as Beau, a man who just wants to live his life, but suffers from anxiety. To put it simply, the film is a series of increasingly outrageous worst-case scenarios.

Phoenix is phenomenal in this role, and truly carries the film through all of its perplexing plot points and twists. His timid and frightened yet kind demeanor makes him lovable. Phoenix sells every emotion — mostly, of course, fear — and the audience empathizes with him as they embark on this strange and unsettling journey with him.

While the film is classified as horror (horror/comedy specifically), it is in my mind, surrealistic with an ample dose of dark humor, which is accompanied by disturbing and/or graphic moments. It is not easy to grasp onto the plot of “Beau.” Everything takes place in some kind of heightened reality, though it is unclear whether it is “real” or if Beau is imagining things. What is clear is that Beau has a complicated, abusive relationship with his mother. This, along with being a “horror” film that has a touch of humor, is what the two films have in common: a villainous mother.

The visuals are beautiful and the acting is superb, but it would have been nice to have some more grounded moments to the film. Everything is so outrageous and bizarre that it becomes hard to connect to any of it. By the end, I was hoping for some clarity, but I did not receive it. Just like with “Evil Dead Rise,” the film begins with a bang, but “Beau” begins to unravel after the first act and the final act and ending is baffling at best.

These two films are interesting to compare; while it’s not fair to judge which is better as they have drastically different intents

and moods, they do represent two popular genres: conventional and unconventional horror.

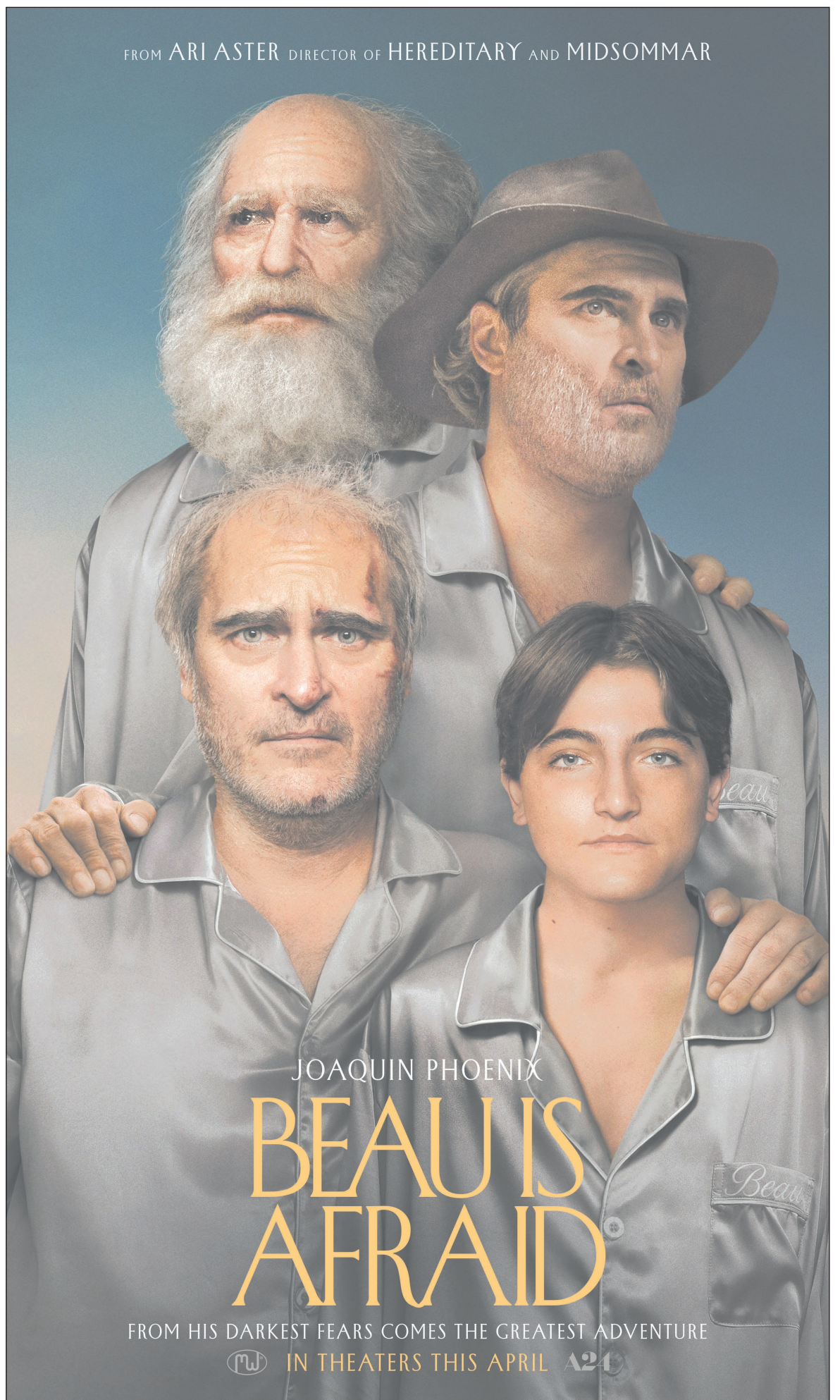
“Evil Dead Rise” is horrific in that throwing-guts-in-your-face kind of way, and “Beau is Afraid” is far more uncanny and existential. As previously stated, “Beau” is not traditionally scary. It actually made the audience laugh through much of the beginning and throughout the film. “Evil Dead” also has humor and the audience was equally vocal, but it made them jump just as often as it made them laugh.

“Beau” tugs at the subconscious; the marketing describes it as “From his [Ari Aster’s] darkest fears comes the greatest adventure.” It feels like a nightmare, disconnected and inexplicable events and all. “Evil Dead Rise” doesn’t leave room for uncomfortable relationships or strange scenarios. The fear is in the form of body horror, and is blatant and vivid.

Both films have merit and both are frightening in their own ways, though you may have to work harder to be scared of “Beau is Afraid.” “Evil Dead Rise” boasts maximum gross-out gore and jump scares, while “Beau” scratches the back of your brain. They are not made for the same audience, but I believe anyone could enjoy both of them, or hate both of them. I will say that “Evil Dead Rise” is easier to understand and will likely appeal to more horror fans, while “Beau is Afraid” is probably more controversial.

“Evil Dead Rise:
4/5
★★★★★
deadites

“Beau is Afraid:”
4/5
★★★★★
anxiety meds (with water)



The poster for “Beau is Afraid.”

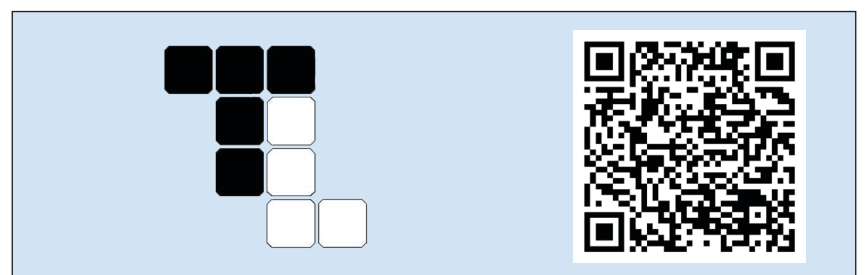
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Neutral, Soft Indie



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