

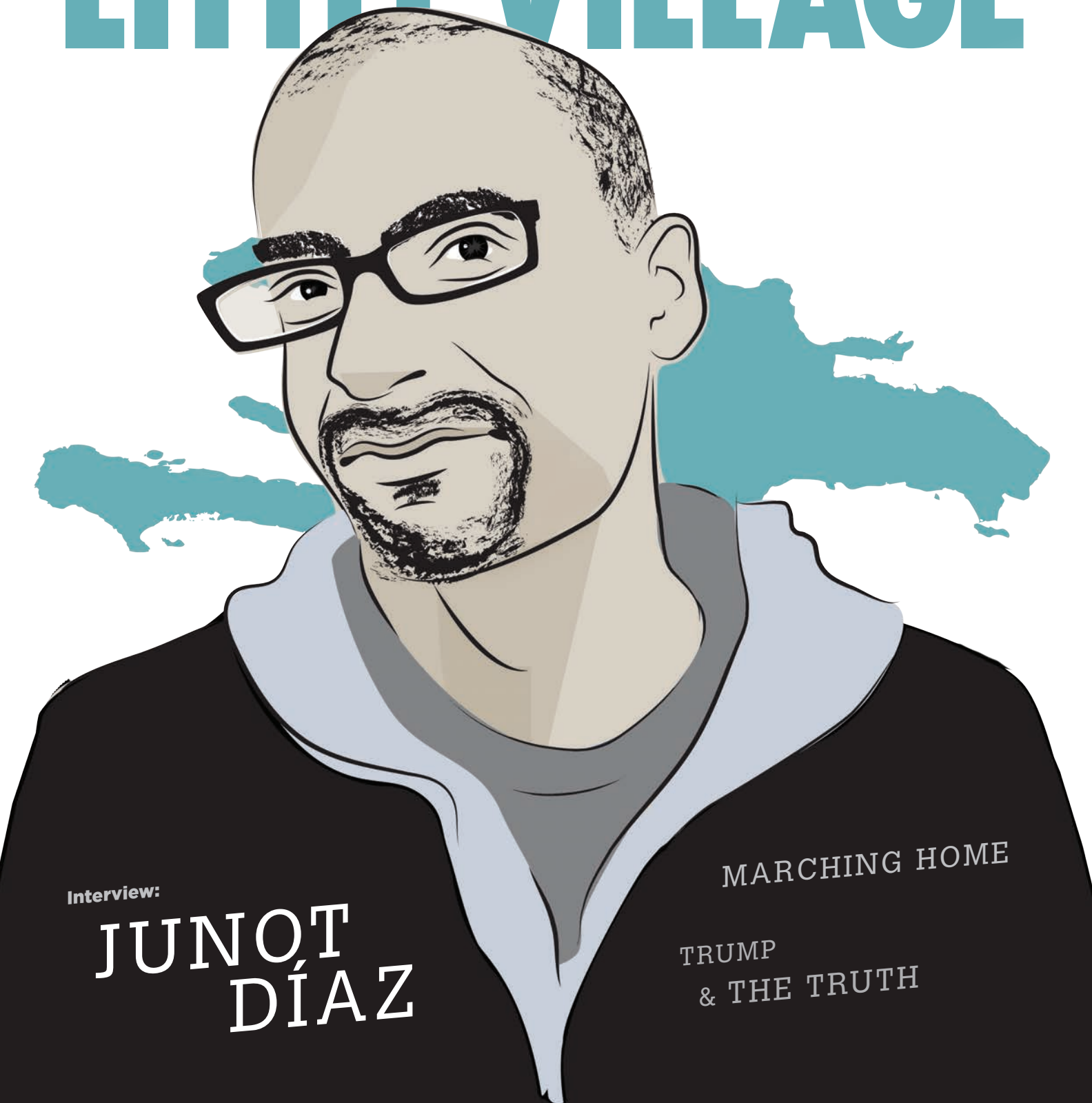
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ISSUE 214 FEB. 1-14, 2017

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LITTLE VILLAGE



Interview:

JUNOT
DÍAZ

MARCHING HOME

TRUMP
& THE TRUTH



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Photo by Zak Neumann

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March, then Dialogue

Make change, starting in your communities.

THOMAS DEAN

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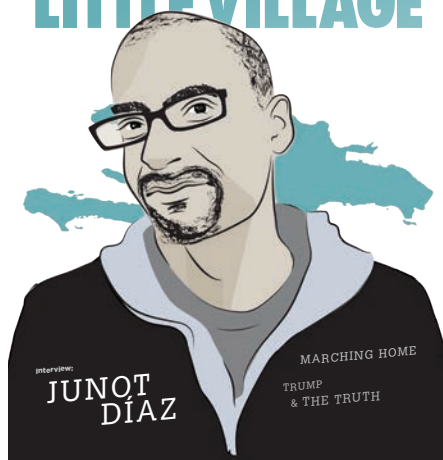
Trump Goes Global

Post-pre-electoral optimism.

ALBA LARAGRANERO

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Junot Diaz
by Cheryl Graham

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Breathing Room

THE SPACES WE OCCUPY have a way of both becoming and reflecting who we are. Questions of space have driven some fascinating recent dialogues: Why do men take up more space than women? What constitutes a “safe space?” Who is welcome in the space of our country?

In UR Here, Tom Dean talks about being present in the space we’re in, conversing with the people in our communities and embracing solutions that help us move forward together.

But space—and one’s ability to lay claim to it or have a voice in how a space is used—can be unequally distributed.

In an interview with Junot Díaz, the Pulitzer-prize winning author talks about the idea of creating space for diverse voices in our literary culture.

Space can define us. A country’s borders create a sense of national identity. But our concept of space can also limit us, and blind us to that which is beyond our borders.

In the monthly En Español column, Alba Laragranero highlights the similarities between the political movements in our nation, which led to the election of President Donald Trump, and the surge of similar political figures in Spain and beyond.

In the spirit of exploring the space that surrounds and defines us, we encourage readers to join us as we start at home, take action in our communities, make room for diverse voices in the search for solutions and reach out—beyond the easy boundaries of comfort and habit—to connect with others, recognize their struggles and create a space for unity.

—LV Editors

14 Alternative Facts

Digging for truth in Trump’s Washington.

BAYNARD WOODS

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Little Village is an independent, community-supported news and culture publication based in Iowa City. Through journalism, essays and events, we work to improve our community in the Iowa City, Coralville and Cedar Rapids area according to a few core values: environmental sustainability, affordability and access, economic and labor justice, racial justice, gender equity, quality healthcare, quality education and critical culture.

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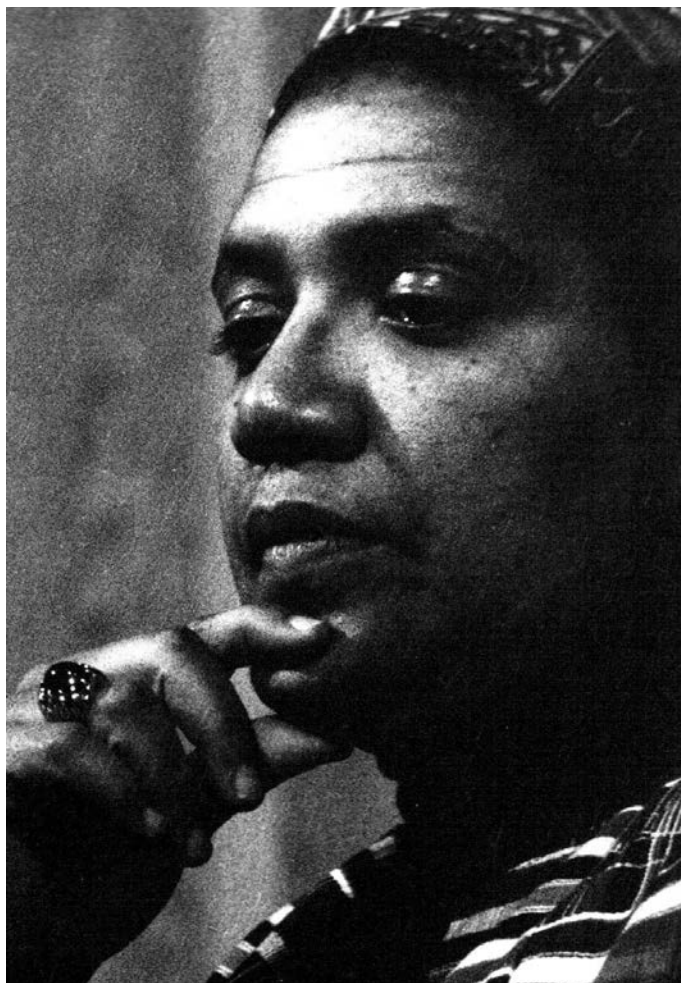


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Changing the Culture of Change

"The master's tools will never dismantle the master's house. They may allow us to temporarily beat him at his own game, but they will never enable us to bring about genuine change."
—Audre Lorde

Photo by K. Kendall



BETWEEN THE MINDSETS OF "WE MUST," "WE SHOULD" AND "WE CAN'T" is the reality that we are. We find ourselves in 2017 with intensifying political polarization, violence and mean-spirited policy agendas that threaten to blaze a path of destruction across the globe. As I see it, this is our situation. We have faced thousands of years of fear and aggression manifesting as genocide, war, slavery, ethnic cleansing, rape, greed, colonialism, ecocide, mass incarceration and more. Many people I have talked to want to repair our relationship with the earth, each other and ourselves so that the planet is a more livable place. This longing for a more workable world is an expression of the fundamental goodness of humanity. But has politics overshadowed our ability to see that goodness? What is the rest of this picture? After all, we are not made of politics.

When I taught poetry with young people who were incarcerated, we began by brainstorming a list of our human qualities that could not be taken away from us but that we often forget about. Their list included things like respect, intelligence, curiosity and love. We then discussed the stories about ourselves (our own and those of others) that we internalize whether they are true or not. We did some exercises that allowed us to understand how those stories ("mindsets") operate in our lives and obscure our ability to relate to each other with clarity and compassion. And then we began to learn about and write haiku. We used contemplative exercises and interactive group work that allowed us to share our lives in a bigger space. I imagine the social change work we do together can benefit from a similar process.

Because we are all naturally loving, generous and kind without exception, we are already wired for problem-solving, already solutions-oriented. Respecting these innate qualities and sharing these abilities can be a guiding principle in how we work together. Uncovering these qualities can help us overcome ignorance.

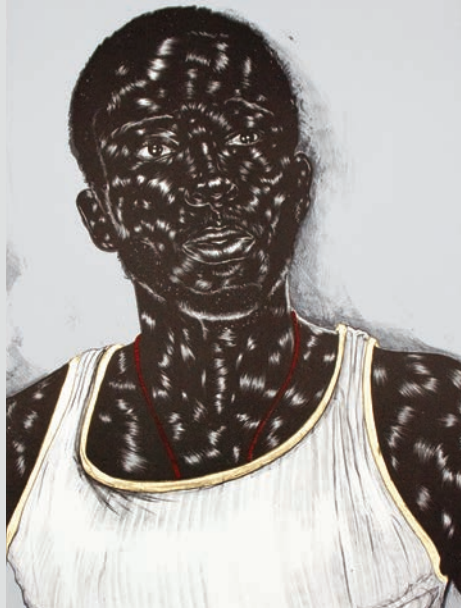
By ignorance, I mean ignoring our innate excellent qualities. If we are busy ignoring who we are, we will ignore others as well. Our conditioning within fear- and aggression-based institutions has served to distort this capacity and create a false sense of separation.

Last month, millions of people across this country commemorated the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. He was a man whose work in the service of justice was guided by a profound understanding of fearlessness, dignity, excellence and interdependence. The work of cultural transformation—changing the way we relate to each other as human beings, the way we think about each other—means digging into our fears and assumptions. Above all, it means changing the ways we relate to fear and aggression. To do so allows us to build a society that can sustain us. If the motivation for our work together comes from outside of us, or negativity or blame, it will be fragile and disconnected from true courage. But if our work is inspired by what we love, then the work itself is a source of strength and daring.

The Black, lesbian, feminist poet Audre Lorde reminds us that "the master's tools will never dismantle the master's house." Accepting this premise compels me to question whether or not we fully appreciate the tenacity of our conditioning. Why do so many of us who genuinely care to create a better world struggle so mightily against our best interests and each other? Is the logic of dominance winning in our organizations? Have we done the work to unmask our investment in unhealthy power and privilege dynamics? Are we happy to continue this way? Are us vs. them dichotomies distorting our perceptions? Are we choosing blame or responsibility? Greed or sharing? Violence or kindness? What is a human being? Do we trust this collective human journey to teach us what we need to know?

If we accept our vulnerability, especially in these difficult times, it can be a source of strength and fearlessness. I believe this to be the case because I have faith in our goodness. All humanity, without exception, is good. **lv**

Damita Brown, PhD is a co-founder of Midwest Telegraph (midwesttelegraph.com), a digital community work space for exploring cooperative pathways to social change.



Toyin Ojih Odutola, (American, born in Nigeria, 1985–)
Birmingham (middle), 2014
Four-color lithograph with gold leaf
Museum of Art Purchase Fund, 2016.114a-c
©Toyin Ojih Odutola. Courtesy of the artist, and Jack Shainman Gallery, New York

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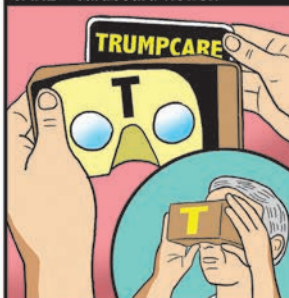
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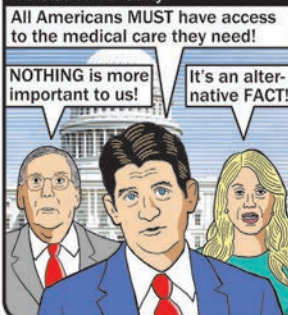
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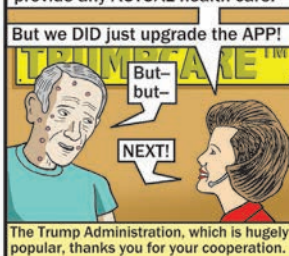
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The Trump Administration, which is hugely popular, thanks you for your cooperation.

Flag burning in downtown Iowa City led to confrontation, citations

They could be burning a flag or sign with "Trump" on it, if that's their point, but burning the symbol of our country is disrespectful and it is disappointing that they don't see it that way. Their actions now make the story about a flag burning, not a Trump protest. Not a very effective way of making their point. I lived through the '70s in college—I thought we learned that lesson. Maybe there is a whole new generation that needs to be educated with a civics lesson from that time. Happy to see Mr. FedEx and the others take action, not just get out their phones to get some pics or video. Can we take this and learn from it—both sides!

—Ed Ullrich

Iowa's Fight for \$15 readies itself for an uphill battle

I am sorry but I did read your article this morning and you are surely some of the dumbest people on the planet. Have you bought a hamburger in this town? The most damaging thing anybody could do to the economy would be to double everybody's expense reports. That is exactly how you cause great depressions. Now don't get me wrong, I understand the problem. Most of the workers in America make 10K less than they should for the job they do. Poor benefits too. That goes without saying. However, we can't just tell the employer to fork over money they don't have. Hillary Clinton is the only politician I have heard with the proper solution. Profit sharing. You shouldn't force a guy barely making it to pay *double* in wages. It's economic suicide, pure and simple.

—John Smith

Spirituality centers around Buddha for many in Iowa

Thank you for sharing, it's encouraging to hear how sanghas are growing across our nation. May we be the community that lives in Harmony and awareness.

—Dale Wilbanks

Photos: Iowa City Women's March draws a crowd nearly 1,000 strong

Voices united cannot be ignored. Iowa city voices were heard on Election Day and they we heard in unison today. Although voices on Election Day did not decide electoral college votes for the state, voices united for peace, unity and equality will prevail in the end. There is no freedom until we're equal.

—Sarah Nage

UR Here

Starting at Home

Embracing the solutions right outside our door. • BY TOM DEAN

As we look ahead to a world of profound—and often frightening—change, I stand firm in my belief and faith that our best field of action and our best hope is our local community and environment, our place and our home. As I write, this past weekend witnessed a historic national demonstration that even shot across the globe. The Women’s March on Washington, one of the largest demonstrations in history, provided astonishing inspiration in a time when despair is all too easy. Such mass actions are and always will be necessary. But we can’t have a global march on Washington every day, every week or every month. For true change to happen, it must start within ourselves and within our home places.

In the past couple of years, I have found

new inspiration in the poet and leadership guru David Whyte and his ideas about “the conversational nature of reality.” Whyte’s vision of “conversation” is not a facile one. It is challenging and even frightening. Rather than just smoothing over differences, Whyte’s conversation forces us to uncover uncomfortable, perhaps unseen, depths—within both ourselves and others—and engage with them. The conversation with reality is not an argument, and it’s not compromise, which is the model we have traditionally used in our governance system and which now seems irretrievably broken. Conversation, the interchange between sometimes profound differences, changes if not creates reality itself. That can certainly be beautiful and uplifting, but it can also be frightening and wrenching. Regardless, it is always transformative.

Former Missoula, Montana Mayor Daniel Kemmis’ vision of community in his classic book *Politics and the Community of Place* works something like this. For Kemmis, today’s broken politics are based on “communities of interest,” which hold positions that are battled over for victory or loss. Even compromise—part of one position and part of another—makes everyone at least a little unhappy. Kemmis proposes an alternative method, what he calls a “community of place,” by which we come together not to fight over positions but to determine what is in all our best interest and to move forward together. Public life should be about practiced inhabitation, not ideological supremacy. Through this process, we come to understand everyone’s reality. In knowing that, we figure out our best mutual reality—not a win or a loss, the rule of a majority or even a compromise—and move forward together.

The beauty of this approach is that, by definition, solutions are inherently within the reality, or diverse realities, right before us, and that is exactly what David Whyte invokes in his poem “Everything is Waiting for You,” which valorizes the local, starting in



SIGNS OF LIFE Protesters at the Women’s March in Des Moines speak up. Photos by Mei-ling Shaw



the home. Using modest, homespun imagery, Whyte encourages us to “note/the way the soap dish enables you,/or the window latch grants you freedom ... The stairs are your

We can't have a global march on Washington every day, every week or every month.

mentor of things/to come, the doors have always been there/to frighten you and invite you,/and the tiny speaker in the phone/is your dream-ladder to divinity.” As we ease into conversation with the reality of the world around us, we start to sense that “the kettle is singing/even as it pours you a drink, the cooking pots/have left their arrogant aloofness and/seen the good in you at last.”

The natural world plays a central role in Whyte's vision. But the reality of nature is not that it is ours to manipulate but rather ours to pay attention to and, of course, enter into

conversation with. Whyte closes his poem with, “All the birds/and creatures of the world are unutterably/themselves. Everything is waiting for you.” This vision is not alienating

but invitational. We just need to listen and understand through conversation. As Whyte says, “Alertness is the hidden discipline of familiarity.”

In the poem “Start Close In,” Whyte emphasizes how we need to start with “the first/thing/close in,/the step/you don't want to take.” And that

first step is right here: “Start with/the ground/you know,/the pale ground/beneath your feet,/your own/way of starting/the conversation.”

From the people we live with in our community to the natural environment—it's all speaking to us if we will only listen and enter into conversation with it. As Whyte says in describing the work of Invitas, his leadership institute, “Engaging in conversational leadership is to ‘invite what you do not expect,’ bringing you to the frontier of what is emerging in your organization and asking you to turn into it, rather than away from it.” The

conversational vision is alchemical rather than argumentative. It bridges differences in a way more profound, and I suspect more enduring, than majority rules or compromise.

Ultimately we do need to have national and international conversations, and million-person marches are necessary as dramatic, blunt instruments that punctuate and activate. But true change starts in our communities and in our care of the natural world right outside our door. Our current governing system—local, state and national—has devolved into a ping-pong match such that whoever is in power sets out to undo what the previous regime instituted. When the pendulum swings back, the next regime will do the same. This kind of governmental and cultural whiplash serves no one well and is unsustainable. We need a new approach to leadership, change, progress and culture that is enduring and respectful of all. We need to cultivate alertness as our discipline of familiarity, enter into conversation with what is really there (not just what we want), encounter everything that is waiting for us and in that way create lasting change. ♡

Thomas Dean is ready to start close in.



¿Pero qué les pasa a los Americanos?

Las últimas elecciones estadounidenses fueron comentadas en todo el mundo. Nadie parecía entender que Trump ganara la presidencia, pero ¿por qué no? • **POR ALBA LARAGRANERO**

Photo by Steve Snodgrass



El día de las elecciones de 2016, me encontré con un amigo español comprando vino en una tienda del centro. Él estaba asustado porque tenía la premonición de que Trump iba a ser el próximo presidente. Yo lo tranquilicé, en ningún momento me había tomado en serio que eso pudiera ocurrir. En mi cabeza (y en mi corazón), que Trump ganara las elecciones era un escenario que no se tenía en pie.

Unas horas después, tuve que aceptar esa realidad imposible. Y no fui la única. Recibí mensajes y llamadas desde España. Todos querían saber qué les pasaba a los americanos. Fue precisamente al leer esas preocupaciones de mis compatriotas cuando me di cuenta de que Donald Trump hubiera ganado también en mi país. Al fin y al cabo, ¿es tan diferente la supuesta persona del 2016 de lo que tenemos en España? Hice memoria.

Con cierta guasa (por la incredulidad, claro), nos escandalizábamos en campaña

porque Trump hablaba de construir un muro que retuviera a los inmigrantes mexicanos que intentaran cruzar la frontera estadounidense. No sé si lo saben, pero en España tenemos unas vallas de tres metros de alto, plagadas de unas malintencionadas concertinas, que “protegen” nuestras

fronteras en el norte de África. Por ahí una similitud bien fácil de trazar.

Trump ha hecho tantos comentarios machistas que sería demasiado benévolo hacia él escoger solo uno de ellos que oscureciese los demás, como si no hubieran existido. Su “grab them by the pussy” me recuerda, así, también sin pensarlo mucho al “Cada vez que le veo la cara y esos morritos pienso lo mismo, pero no lo voy a contar aquí”, que profirió hace unos años un alcalde del partido que aún nos gobierna para referirse a una ministra socialista. Pero, claro, eso fue en 2010, ¿y desde entonces? Desde entonces, nada. Es que el feminismo para otro alcalde del mismo partido, en pleno 2016, es cosa de “mujeres amargadas y fracasadas”.

En cuestiones de corrupción, España tampoco tiene ninguna lección que dar. Sigue en el gobierno un partido que, desde su fundación, ha tenido cinco de seis tesoreros imputados por la justicia. Financiación ilegal del partido, blanqueo de capitales, cohecho, delito electoral o soborno son sólo algunos de los delitos que se han imputado a miembros del Partido Popular.

Entonces, ¿de qué nos escandalizamos? ¿Cómo es posible que no comprendamos a los otros si se comportan exactamente de la misma manera irresponsable y ciega que nosotros? Yo no podía creer que iba a ganar Donald Trump, tampoco que Mariano Rajoy volvería a ser presidente, y no puedo creer que vayan a seguir en el poder sus iguales en países que no se dan por aludidos. No puedo creer que a estas alturas de la historia, cuando identificamos tan fácilmente lo que no nos gusta fuera, sigamos justificando lo de dentro. Pero ya he comprobado que no puedo fiarme de mis creencias. Espero que mi amigo me haya perdonado el optimismo preelectoral.

But what is wrong with Americans?

The recent U.S. election was discussed all around the world. It seems that nobody abroad understands how Trump became president, but why not?

BY ALBA LARAGRANERO; TRANSLATED BY SPENSER SANTOS

On Election Day 2016, I ran into a Spanish friend buying wine at a downtown store. He was worried because he had a premonition that Trump was going to be the next president. I calmed him. Not for a moment had I taken seriously the idea that it would happen. In my

head (and in my heart), the idea that Trump would win the election was a scenario that just didn't stand to reason.

Some hours later, I had to accept that impossible reality. I wasn't alone. I received messages and calls from Spain. Everybody wanted to know what was wrong with

Americans. It was precisely upon reading these worries from my fellow Spaniards that I realized that Donald Trump would have also won in my country. After all, is the supposed Person of the Year for 2016 so different from what we have in Spain? I remembered.

With a certain humor (clearly born of incredulity), we were scandalized during the campaign because Trump talked about building a wall to keep out Mexican immigrants who would try to cross the U.S. border. I don't know if you know it, but in Spain we have some fences that are three meters tall, covered with malicious razor wire, which "protect" our borders with the north of Africa. Right there it should be easy to draw the parallel.

Trump has made so many sexist comments that it would be too charitable to him to choose only one which overshadows all the rest, as if they had never existed. His "grab them by the pussy" reminds me, then, without thinking much, of the "Every time I look at her face and those little lips I think the same thing, but I won't say anything here" comment, which a mayor from the party that still governs us said some years ago in reference to a socialist minister. But, of course, that was in 2010, and since then? Since then, nothing. It's just that feminism for another mayor from the same party, in the middle of 2016, is a thing for "bitter and failed women."

In matters of corruption, Spain doesn't have the high ground either. There's still a party in the government which, since its foundation, has had five out of six treasurers accused of some kind of dishonesty. Illegal party financing, money laundering, bribery, electoral crime or subornment are just some of the indictments which have been leveled at members of the Partido Popular.

Why are we scandalized, then? How is it possible that we don't understand others who act with the same blind irresponsibility that we do? I couldn't believe that Trump was going to win, nor that Mariano Rajoy was going to be president again, and I can't believe that their equals will remain in power in countries that won't take the hint. I can't believe that at this stage of history, when we identify so easily what we don't like from afar, we continue justifying it at home. But I've already proven that I can't trust my beliefs. I hope my friend can forgive me my pre-electoral optimism. **lv**

Alba Laragranero is a Spanish MFA graduate.

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DC: Democracy in Crisis

Beachhead and the War on Facts

Reporting from the frontlines of the “opposition party”
BY BAYNARD WOODS

“Democracy in Crisis” is a new syndicated column out of Washington, D.C. that appears in a number of alternative weekly newspapers and websites around the country.

The teams of President Trump’s temporary appointees laying the groundwork for taking over and remaking federal agencies refer to them-

selves as “beachheads” or “beachhead teams,” a military term for the point of invasion.

Politico reports there were approximately 520 members

of such teams when Trump took the oath of office. In any presidential transition, there will be tensions between career civil servants and political appointees pushing a new president’s agenda, but, according to experts on the matter, this administration’s use of the term may exacerbate those relations.

The term was offhandedly used in 2000 by Bush’s incoming press secretary, Ari Fleischer. It was central to the language of Romney’s 2012 transition plan, which was provided to the Trump team. But its use here seems systematic, making many within various federal agencies feel they are being conquered.

“The language of war being used suggests that cooperation is not the primary philosophy dictating this transition period,” says professor Heath Brown, who studies presidential transitions at the City University of New York’s John Jay College of Criminal Justice. “If the operating philosophy is one of combat rather than cooperation, then we’re in for some trouble with how these agencies are going to function on a day-to-day basis.”

Because the Trump team ‘threw out Chris Christie’s transition plans, Brown says, there is “a larger level of chaos in the past for an already chaotic process.”

Given the fact that Trump was a reality TV star, it is not surprising that communications is the main focus of these beachhead teams.

“[Trump’s people] want to control message in a lot of different ways, and for that reason I think they have

made that a priority,” Brown says. “The Trump transition team devoted a lot more staff resources to communications than transition teams in the past ... In the past, communications just hasn’t been a first priority.”

In 2009, Obama only had two communications people on his 13-member senior transition staff. In contrast, at least 10 of 23 staffers in Trump’s transition team served some communications function, Brown says.

In the process, they may well be changing what “communications” means—from informing the public, or even spinning the message, to something more like outright propaganda. Democracy in Crisis uncovered a 1996 *Cornell Daily Sun* article about then-CNN analyst Kellyanne Conway that shows she has been thinking about media and manipulation for at least 20 years. The story paraphrases Conway (née Fitzpatrick) speaking to student groups about “manipulative media and political jargon.” In the talk, she also criticized people for “following what is decided by a few elite.”

A section of the article subtitled “Questions of Reality” notes: “In a generation where television and Internet images ‘bombard our senses,’ it is essential, according to Fitzpatrick, to realize that the soundbytes [sic] or visuals prepared by the evening news editors do not represent reality.”

Conway, the article reads, “applauded [Bill Clinton’s] ability to use the media to his advantage.”

While this shows that Conway’s obsession with controlling the media narrative is not new, it also underlines how she and her boss are pushing the standard spin of ‘90s-era Washington into the full-blown denial of reality in the age of Trump.

During the Trump campaign, *PolitiFact* found that only 4 percent of his claims could be considered entirely truthful. Some, including President Obama, naively thought the power of the presidency would curb, rather than increase, Trump’s tendency to lie. But thus far truths remain merely occasional, almost accidental.

After the inauguration on Jan. 20, in the first “unofficial” press conference of the new administration, press secretary Sean Spicer stood in front of reporters and repeatedly lied to the press about things that didn’t matter. It was pointless from any standard political means-ends perspective. (*Baltimore City Paper* did a great job putting together the actual numbers.)

Later, in his first “official” press



conference, Spicer said, “Sometimes we can disagree with the facts.”

Between Spicer’s two statements, on the Sunday talk shows, Conway baptized Trumpspeak with a succinct name: “alternative facts.” She also threatened to “rethink our relationship” with NBC if *Meet the Press* host Chuck Todd persisted in saying Spicer had lied.

A couple days later, Trump advisor and Lenin-wannabe Stephen Bannon called the press the “opposition party.”

The attacks on the press, however, are only part of a larger attack on facts themselves—attacks beginning, appropriately, with the communications-obsessed beachheads now inside federal agencies.

Trump ordered the EPA to freeze all of its grants, to take down the climate change section of its website (although the administration later backed down on plans to remove content) and to cease all communications with the press.

Then, according to an email obtained by BuzzFeed News, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s research division prohibited employees, including scientists, from communicating or sharing information with the public. The USDA later lifted the gag order, saying that it was released “without Departmental direction” and was not sent at the request of the Trump administration.

But information about climate change is not the only thing at risk—data, science and research are being suppressed. And Trump’s congressional allies are all too happy to play along.

Republican Sen. Mike Lee of Utah and Arizona Congressman Paul Gosar introduced bills this week that say, “No Federal funds may be used to design, build, maintain, utilize or provide access to a Federal database of geospatial information on community racial disparities or disparities in access to affordable housing.”

This racist bill, which would help maintain the kind of segregation affecting cities like Milwaukee, Baltimore and St. Louis, could still die in committee, but it is of a piece with Trump’s all-out war on facts. Deprived of access to facts, citizens are incapable of making decisions. This is an essential feature of tyranny.

As an air of war prevails in Washington, using the term beachhead may in fact be among the small minority of things the Trump team is honest about. ■

Baynard Woods is editor at large at the Baltimore City Paper.



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Brea & Butter / Recipe:

Braised Short Ribs

Try a little tenderness. Serves two. • BY ARI ARIEL

Your Valentine's Day dinner should be easy and indulgent. This one-pot recipe is both. Port wine and hint of cardamom and cinnamon makes this simple braise feel luxurious. It will take about 3 hours to cook, but you can (and should) do it a day or two in advance. The dish gets even better as it sits in the fridge, so you can spend the day of love with your date instead of slaving away in the kitchen. When you're ready, just warm up the ribs and serve with mashed potatoes, polenta or grits.

- 2 large short ribs, about 1½ pounds
- Salt and pepper
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1 shallot, cut in half
- 1 carrot, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1 celery stalk, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 2 garlic cloves, peeled and whole
- 1½ tablespoons tomato paste
- 1½ teaspoons flour
- ½ cup red wine
- ¼ cup port wine
- ½ cup beef or chicken stock
- 1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 sprig of thyme
- A small pinch of cinnamon (less than 1/8 of a teaspoon, optional)
- 1 cardamom pod (optional)



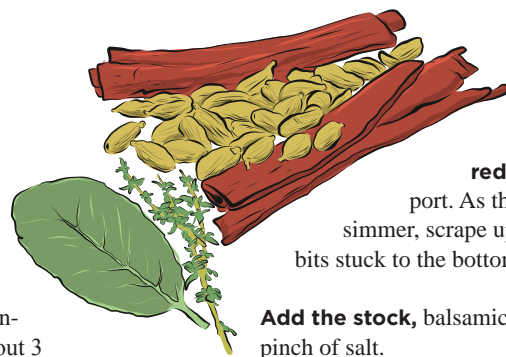
Illustrations by Blair Gauntt

Preheat the oven to 300 degrees. Season the short ribs generously with salt and pepper.

Place a small saucepan or Dutch oven over high heat. It should be just big enough to hold the short ribs in a single layer without too much extra space. Add the oil. When the oil is hot, add the ribs and brown well on all sides. This should take about 10 minutes. Transfer the meat to a plate.

Pour off most of the oil. Add the shallot, carrot and celery and cook for 5 minutes. Add the garlic and cook for another minute.

Add the tomato paste and cook, stirring, for 1 minute. Add flour and cook, stirring, for another minute.



Add the red wine and the port. As they come to a simmer, scrape up any browned bits stuck to the bottom of the pot.

Add the stock, balsamic vinegar and a pinch of salt.

Add the bay leaf, thyme and the cinnamon and cardamom if using.

Bring to a simmer, then return the ribs to the pot. Cover and place in the oven.

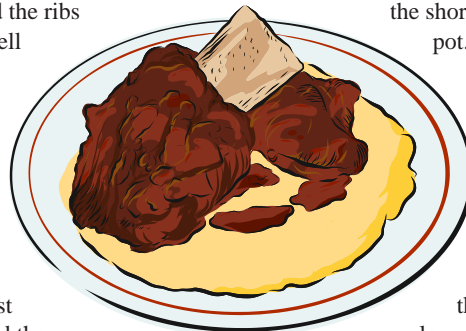
Cook until the meat is fork-tender, about 3 hours.

Remove the pot from the oven. Transfer the short ribs to a plate or bowl. Strain the braising liquid through a fine sieve. Return the short ribs and strained liquid to the pot.

Allow everything to cool for a bit, covered, and place in the refrigerator overnight.

To serve, spoon off any solidified fat that has risen to the top of the braising liquid. Bring the covered pot to a simmer on low and cook just until both the meat and liquid are hot.

Move each short rib to plate. Taste the liquid to check for seasoning and consistency. Salt if necessary. If the sauce is too thick, add a bit of stock. If it is too thin, reduce. Pour the desired amount onto each rib. **lv**



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Beer of the Month: February

ChewBOCKa

Confluence Brewing Company, Des Moines, Iowa
BY CASEY WAGNER

The “chew” in the beer of the month—Confluence’s ChewBOCKa—is the unintended but delicious result of a common brewing complication.

One of the problems that can vex brewers is what is known as a “stuck mash.” When separating the mash—a hot porridge of crushed grains and water—finely ground grain can create a clog that slows or stops the draining of liquid wort, which will become beer, through the false bottom of a mash tun and into a boil kettle.

It’s what frustrated John Martin, Confluence’s brewer, while making a batch of doppelbock a few years ago. A process that usually takes two hours turned into a 20-hour wait for wort to slowly drain through a densely packed layer of finely milled grain. As Martin patiently waited, the wort gradually collecting in the boil kettle was being heated to 208 degrees. After simmering at that temperature for nearly a day, the wort thickened much like a sauce and eventually turned into a beer that had a noticeably chewy mouthfeel.

To replicate the chewiness of that stuck mash batch under ideal conditions, Martin says he now boils ChewBOCKa’s wort longer than usual to make it deep and dark. It’s chewy, he says, but not as chewy as it was after the stuck mash.

Pour ChewBOCKa into a favorite pint glass. It is a light mahogany color that is more ruddy than brown. Two fingers of buttery, tight, tan head dissipates gradually and leaves a skim and thin ring around the edge. The aroma is sweet and nutty, with scents of toasted malt, caramel, toffee, cocoa, molasses and dark fruit. The mouthfeel is thick and, as promised, chewy—no doubt a fitting tribute to the “liquid bread” monks drank during their Lenten fast. The flavor is a pleasing blend of toasted malt, caramel, cocoa, molasses and dark fruit. Alcohol is noticeable in each sip, too, but it is not overpowering.

ALCOHOL CONTENT: 7.1 percent ABV.

FOOD PAIRINGS: Martin recommends German sausage, fish and chips and any kind of pork dish, including braised pork knuckles. In his book *Tasting Beer*, author Randy Mosher recommends rich, roasted foods and chocolate cake.

WHERE TO BUY: ChewBOCKa can be found at most major beer retailers while supplies last. Martin said it is also on tap at 30hop, Sonny’s Northside Tap, Shakespeare’s and Twelve01 Kitchen and Tap.

PRICE: \$10 for a 32-ounce bottle. **lv**

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The Early Tears: Lesson #11

Sometimes it's best to pass up a good deal

Can Vic make the Lyle Run in less than 12 parsecs? • BY VIC PASTERNAK

Illustration by Josh Carroll



Lyle stayed at the far end of 9th Street, out at 23rd Ave.

He had a tic. He would gasp and catch a hand on his face like he might sneeze. The frequency and depth of his gasping would become pronounced as he got excited, which was often. He was peculiarly particular, an older gentleman, neatly dapper, always wearing a suit freshly pressed, shoes at a spit-shine, belted overcoat and OJ gloves. His grin opened like a zipper to show his big white caps.

"You know where I'm going, right?"

He gasped and caught his hand to his face.

Lyle's story was blurry at the edges. He lived at his mother's apartment for evolving reasons. First, untold disaster befell his 6,000-square-foot home. After his home was repaired he resisted moving back in hopes of selling it off. Then his mother fell ill.

Every night he went for a three-hour meal at House of Lords, and every night he took a cab back and forth. He never tipped.

Like most, Lyle made up for it in airs. He was rich in the knowledge of life's luxuries

His grin opened like a zipper to show his big white caps.

and was sure to tell of his walk-in cigar humidor, and how he upgraded his master bath with a jacuzzi. He liked to talk about gravity boots.

Lyle gasped, "I've just factory-ordered a custom Carver home stereo with a linear arm

turntable."

He told me he once lived in Scotland and owned a golf course there. "To be honest, I couldn't run a golf course as well as I can keep books. So I left what I loved and returned to what I'm good at. And let that be a life-lesson."

A lesson at what I could only guess. I let him out at House of Lords and he waited in the dome light, one leg out in the lot and a killer glove outstretched for his 50¢.

The Lyle Run, while it lasted, was kind of bullshit—driving five miles empty to drive two-and-a-half paid and no tip. Then you're stuck in Coralville.

Dispatch posted me out there so should a CV call come in he might service it in a few minutes instead of fifteen or thirty. I dawdled to the DeliMart for smokes, rolled through Taco John's drive-thru, and pulled in back of 2nd Street to eat and smoke and to look at the night from back there.

My vigil lasted an hour and a half as I listened to the rotation of drivers loop over end as they hit one downtown call after another. Finally Dispatch called me: "How about 910 Benton Drive."

"Ten-four, ten-four," I told the radio before slinging the mic onto the floor.

Benton Drive went over to Lakeside and I was clear after that, "Back downtown, Number Twelve."

So I stopped at another DeliMart to take a leak, and then to puff a cigarette with #96 and talk about how crappy our nights were going. Then I went off to scoop the loop, looking for flags and scanning the pleasure radio. Everybody that planned to go out was out already.

I finally came up in rotation.

"Back to Coralville, Twelve. Just Different on 9th."

Coralville's only adult bookstore, long gone now, was on the shallow end of 9th, back when the Marriott was a swamp. I could have taken the interstate but I took the highway. The night hadn't any hustle for me so I wasn't hustling for it.

Plus, you never know what you're getting out of the jack shack.

Dude I got dressed like a rock-n-roller and reeked of flyover material. I figured he was killing time before heading to his hotel.

Turns out, he was just going home for the evening, the purveyor of fine bondage

leathers who ran a shop in the rear of the bookstore.

I was a bit amazed. "There's really a market for that stuff here?"

"I just paid off my house. We got jackets, too, and pants. That brings in the bikers. And we just opened a women's line. Bustiers, corsets—you name it."

I could name all sorts of wild shit.

"Say how much for one of those masks with the zipper?"

It just blurted out and I didn't know where I was going with it.

"My buddy's always wanted one," I plowed on. "You know, just to have around the crib. On the coffee table, and whatnot. I wonder if it's in my range for ah, one of those white elephants."

"You're into white elephants, huh?"

We were just pulling into his driveway when he told me zipper masks are illegal in Iowa. "You can get what you're looking for if you know the right people."

"So how much?"

"Since it's illegal I'd have to charge \$250. But if you want to come inside, I'll cut it to \$125."

"Ah no, man, yeah, \$250's a right pricy white elephant."

"Like I said, I could split it if you want."

"And like I implied I'd probably want to pay a fair market price, you know what I'm saying? Plus we're real busy tonight."

"Suit yourself," he said before leaving.

I cleared on the radio and Dispatch sent me to bring Lyle home.

Back to the House of Lords, I rolled into the lot on howling tires and here came Lyle: stumbling, well-fed and whiskeyed.

Months later, years even, after Lyle ran out of money for steaks and cabs, he got caught ripping off his mother's retirement account. He went to prison for that and never rode in my cab again. I don't know whatever became of him.

But there he was grinning at me like a mule. He gasped and caught his face in his gloved hand.

"Look at you. St. Andrew's Golf Course is the grandest golf course in all the world and you'll never get there driving a cab. 'Home, James.'"

Lyle laughed and gasped, wanting to know how often I heard that. **lv**

Sean Preciado Genell is author of the Vic Pasternak novel 'All the Help You Need,' available now at Prairie Lights.

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A-List

Solidarity, Community and Resistance

UI Visiting Writer-in-Residence Junot Díaz on carving out space.
BY KELLI EBENSBERGER

Dominican-born, New Jersey-raised author and activist Junot Díaz has had a career as successful as one could dream, with a vulnerability and honesty that one rarely expects. His writing ranges from short story collections *Drown* (1996) and *This is How You Lose Her* (2012) to his novel, *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*, which won the

2008 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, to landmark articles for *The New Yorker*, *Boston Review* and *GQ*. Díaz's experience as an American immigrant manifests in his characters, who carry the fervor of diaspora, the internalized rage of marginalization but the eloquence and swagger of his luminous experiences with language and identity. Carving out a space in the modern literary canon, Díaz has given a voice, a written folklore to millions who share his experience while also illuminating those realities for white Americans, just as works like Kendrick Lamar's *To Pimp a Butterfly* or Barry Jenkins' *Moonlight* have done.

A co-founder (in 1999) of the Voices Workshop for Writers of Color at the

University of Miami, Díaz was one of the authors who signed *LitHub*'s massive and galvanizing petition "An Open Letter to the American People" against the election and rhetoric of Donald Trump. The current political and social climate is grim at best, with years of progress toward equality for women, immigrants, people of color and LGBTQ being set back in the blink of an eye. *Oscar Wao* states, "It's never the changes we want that change every-

thing," and "if these years have taught me anything it is this: you can never run away. Not ever. The only way out is in." Díaz's narrative speaks truth beyond the book binding. And if this year's movements like the Women's March have taught us anything, it is this wisdom from *This is How You Lose Her*: "This is what I know: people's hopes go on forever."

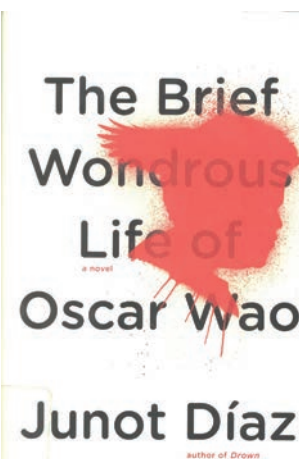
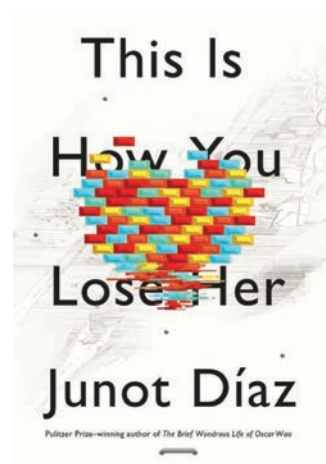
"In dark times like these we need folks more than ever to engage their civic muscles ..."

—Junot Díaz

The University of Iowa Frank N. Magid Center for Undergraduate Writing, in partnership with the UI Latin American Studies Program and Latina/o Studies Program, is set to host Díaz Feb. 14 at 7 p.m. in 100 Phillips Hall (16 N Clinton St.) as the spring Visiting Writer-in-Residence. Díaz answered questions for *Little Village* via email ahead of his visit to Iowa City.



A-LIST:
Writer-in-residence
JUNOT DÍAZ
100 Phillips Hall
Tuesday, Feb. 14, 7 p.m.



You're a man wearing many hats presently: Pulitzer-prize winning novelist, professor at MIT, fiction editor at the *Boston Review*, guest columnist for various publications and that is just the start. How do you see these paths informing each other? And I co-founded and help run the Voices Workshop for Writers of Color. Which sounds like a lot, right? It would be if I was working on all these things full-blast but the truth is I'm pretty lazy and don't do nearly as much as I should. But if these various pursuits are held together by anything it's my love of reading and my desire to create more space for more people in our literary culture.

Many of your novels deal with culture clash, in particular the role different languages have in constructing one's life. Having moved from the Dominican Republic at age six, what was your experience of becoming bilingual during such formative years? Today, do you and your family have a preferred language, or do you maintain a type of hybrid "language of intimacy," as Amy Tan refers to it? My family speaks Spanish at home and in the world. I speak English and Spanish among my friends. One of the benefits of living in the urban Northeast is that Spanish tends to be ubiquitous and so I use both my languages all the time and [in] nearly all settings. Quite a change from when I was young. When I was growing up in New Jersey every immigrant I knew was under enormous pressure to jettison all connections to their former homes and become as American as possible stat. The fact that I held onto any Spanish at all was a miracle given how much hostility was directed at all things "Spanish." By the time I was an adult I had lost so much of my Spanish that I had to re-learn it. Talk about irony.

As we enter a political era where communication is so vital but there is such widespread xenophobia and a resistance to "political correctness," has dialogue and language taken on new significance for you? If anything has come into focus these last years is the importance of

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WILLIAM ELLIOTT WHITMORE The Englert Theatre, Friday, Feb. 3 at 8 p.m., \$20-25 Iowa's own William Elliott Whitmore comes to the Englert, supported by Elizabeth Moen (Iowa City). Whitmore is local royalty, of sorts—his ruling family of Iowa music includes cousin Luke Tweedy of Flat Black Studios, where his most recent album (2015's 'Radium Death') was recorded. He has a reach that extends wide into the folk community at large, but roots deep in the Iowa soil, and inspiration from across a wide spectrum of disparate genres, infusing his patented "roots-folk" with strains of the punk sounds he grew up on.

WED., FEB. 1

ART & EXHIBITION

Inside the Exhibition: Carved—Woodcut and Woodblock Prints from the Collection, Cedar Rapids Museum Of Art, 12:15 p.m., Free

'FUTURED' Open Studio Hours, Public Space One, 4 p.m., Free

CINEMA

New Release Films: 'Jackie,' FilmScene, 2:30 & 7:45 p.m., \$6.50-9

New Release Films: 'Lion,' FilmScene, 3:30 & 8:30 p.m., \$6.50-9

Encore Screening: 'Moonlight,' FilmScene, 6:10 p.m., \$6.50-9

New Release Films: '20th Century Women,' FilmScene, 8:15 p.m., \$6.50-9

Late Shift At The Grindhouse: 'Manhattan Baby,' FilmScene, 10 p.m., \$4

MUSIC

Break Dance Group, Public Space One, 6 p.m., Free

EDUCATION

Introduction to Meditation Class, Milarepa Buddhist Center of Iowa, 7 p.m., Free

THEATRE & PERFORMANCE

Rodgers & Hammerstein's 'The Sound of Music,' Hancher, 7:30 p.m., \$36-85

Kyle Abraham/Abraham.In.Motion, Des Moines Civic Center, 7:30 p.m., \$15-47

Gahc x Rozz-Tox Presents: 'Soul Kitchen,' Rozz-Tox, 8 p.m., Free

Are you planning an event? Submit event info to calendar@littlevillagemag.com. Include event name, date, time, venue, street address, admission price and a brief description (no all-caps, exclamation points or advertising verbiage, please). To find more events, visit littlevillagemag.com/calendar.

THU., FEB. 2

EDUCATION

Hawkeye Lunch and Learn: Women in Technology, Iowa Memorial Union, 12 p.m., Free

TED Talks Celebrate Black History Month, Iowa City Public Library, 12 p.m., Free

Against the Winds of Tyranny: International Habeas Corpus, Human Rights and the Rule of Law, Old Capitol Museum, 4 p.m., Free

Explorers Seminar Series—The Aurora: Nature's Lightshow in the Sky, Old Capitol Museum, 6:30 p.m., Free

CINEMA

New Release Films: 'Jackie,' FilmScene, 12:30 & 5:30 p.m., \$6.50-9

The Picture Show: 'The Iron Giant: Signature Edition,' FilmScene, 3 p.m., Free

New Release Films: 'Lion,' FilmScene, 3:30 & 8:30 p.m., \$6.50-9

Encore Screening: 'Moonlight,' FilmScene, 6:10 p.m., \$6.50-9

New Release Films: '20th Century Women,' FilmScene, 8 p.m., \$6.50-9

ART & EXHIBITION

Opening Reception Spring Exhibitions 2017, Cedar Rapids Museum Of Art, 5 p.m., Free

[Art]iculate Yourself, Public Space One, 5 p.m., Free

SPORTS & REC

Workout Of The Week, NewBo City Market, 5 p.m., Free

Soundness w/ Sayde Yoga, Illuminations Healing Arts Center, 5:15 & 6:30 p.m., \$12

GAMING

Geek Trivia Night: A Cedar Rapids Comic Con Affiliate Event, Greyhound Deli at the Downtown Cedar Rapids Public Library, 6:30 p.m., Free

MUSIC

Reciting 'Parsifal': Opera as Spoken Word Performance in America, Voxman Music Building, 5:30 p.m., Free

The Cantafios, Cafe Paradiso, 6 p.m., Free

Florida Georgia Line w/ Dustin Lynch, Chris Lane, iWireless Center, 7 p.m., \$49.75-75

Bob Marley Birthday Bash ft. Natty Nation w/ Fire Sale, River Music Experience Redstone Room, 7:30 p.m., \$8-10

Karen Meat & The Computer w/ Tambourine, Seth Knappen, Rozz-Tox, 8 p.m., \$5-10

Ryley Walker w/ Condor & Jaybird, The Mill, 8:30 p.m., \$10-12

Elizabeth Moen, Joe's Place, 9 p.m., Free

Retrofit Vinyl w/ DJ Slimpickens, Dick's Tap & Shake Room, 9 p.m., Free

Spacecamp w/ Juliano Dock, Gabe's, 10 p.m., Free

CRAFTY

Gems of Hope Workshop, Beadology Iowa, 6 p.m., Free



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>> CONT. FROM PG. 21

solidarity, community and resistance.

Whether through your own experiences as a student and professional or through your fictional characters, your works often focus on the experiences of “otherness.” What is the responsibility of writers in a climate like our present one? Do you see creative forces as having a different, possibly even more accessible, influence in shaping people’s cultural mindset? Writers and their responsibilities—I don’t know if I can speak to that. That’s not a natural category of identity for me. But I do believe that every person owes their society a debt—I believe that everyone has a civic responsibility that they need to discharge. In dark times like these we need folks more than ever to engage their civic muscles, to engage their civic imaginaries—to try to leave the time/place they find themselves in slightly better for the generation that is to come.

I know that literature can shape the world but it does that by itself. No way we can influence what the future needs from books. All I can do is work on making the present better and that’s where I tend to focus my energies.

I can’t be the only one dying to know: What is next in the pipeline for you? A new novel? Collection of short stories or essays? Heck, a screenplay even? I wish I had a good answer for you. I’m pretty much the laziest writer I know. I haven’t written a word of fiction in four years. And don’t know if the drought will end any time soon. Maybe one day soon the engine will turn on but right now I’m finding myself crazy dry. Which is maddening but sometimes shit just don’t turn your way. **lv**

Kelli Ebensberger is an English and French-speaking, Xicana-German woman who is constantly lost. Literature and food are among the few things that help.



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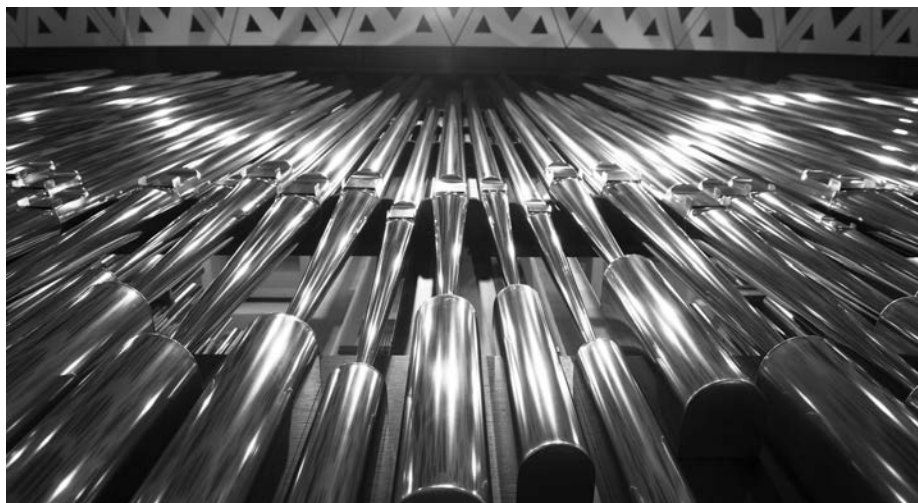
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AREA EVENTS PRESENTED BY CROWDED CLOSET



KEVIN BOWYER PERFORMS K. SORABJI'S 'ORGAN SYMPHONY NO. 2' Voxman Music Building, Friday, Feb. 10 at noon, Free

The University of Iowa School of Music welcomes renowned organist Kevin Bowyer of the University of Glasgow to break in the incredible Klais organ in the new Voxman Music Building, which opened late last year. Bowyer's performance will include another first—the first North American performance of composer Kaikhosru Sorabji's eight hour organ epic 'Organ Symphony No. 2.' The public is invited to come and go over the course of the event, but there will be a section set aside in the audience for listeners who want to hear the piece in its entirety with minimal distraction. The organ was built by Bonn, Germany's Orgelbau Klais, founded in 1882 and run currently by Philip Klais, great-grandson of the founder. Photo by Tim Schoon

THEATRE & PERFORMANCE

The Janice Ian Experience, Public Space One, 6:30 p.m., Free

'A View From The Bridge,' Riverside Theatre, 7:30 p.m., \$12-30

Rodgers & Hammerstein's 'The Sound of Music,' Hancher, 7:30 p.m., \$36-85

LITERATURE

Stacy Green, Legion Arts CSPA Hall, 7 p.m., Free

FRI., FEB. 3

FAMILY

Read on the Rug: 'Shapes,' Old Capitol Museum, 10 a.m., Free

Superhero Story Time: A Cedar Rapids Comic Con Affiliate Event, Children's Area at the Downtown Cedar Rapids Public Library, 10 a.m., Free

EDUCATION

Kevin van Bladel: 'The Six Manuscript Traditions of the Sasanian Kingdom,' Voxman Music Building, 10:30 a.m., Free

Johannes Preiser-Kapeller: 'From Parchment to 'Big Data'—Methods and Tools for a Computational History of Medieval Afro-Eurasia,' Voxman Music Building, 1 p.m., Free

CINEMA

Out of this World Movie Day: A Cedar Rapids Comic Con Affiliate Event, Whippie Auditorium at the Downtown Cedar Rapids Library, 11 a.m., Free

ART & EXHIBITION

Comic Strip Contest: A Cedar Rapids Comic Con Affiliate Event, Commons Area at the Downtown Cedar Rapids Public Library, 2 p.m., Free

MUSIC

First Friday Jazz February: Betsy Hickok, Opus Concert Cafe, 5 p.m., \$12

Friday Night Live Music w/ Terry McCauley, Cedar Ridge Distillery, 6 p.m., Free

David Smith & Chris Vallillo, Uptown Bill's, 7 p.m., Free

Ballroom and Latin Social Dancing at Old Brick, Old Brick, 7:30 p.m., \$4-8

William Elliott Whitmore w/ Elizabeth Moen, The Englert Theatre, 8 p.m., \$20-25

Whiskey's Gone: A Zac Brown Tribute Band, River Music Experience Redstone Room, 8 p.m., \$8

Maarja Nuut, Legion Arts CSPA Hall, 8 p.m., \$17-21

Maria Minerva w/ Aru, Terre, Rozz-Tox, 9 p.m., \$10
14th Annual Bob Marley Birthday Bash ft. Fire Sale, Iowa City Yacht Club, 10 p.m., \$5


The Raskins w/ The Horse Theory, Gabe's, 10 p.m., \$10

COMMUNITY


Hot Soup—Cold Noses Benefit Supper For Iowa Humane Alliance, American Legion, Marion, 5 p.m., Free-\$8

CRAFTY


Crafty Party: Lovebirds, Home Ec. Workshop, 6 p.m., \$35



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AREA EVENTS

EDUCATION

Night At The Museum: Ancient Egypt, Museum of Natural History at UI, 6 p.m., Free

SPORTS & REC

Candlelight Meditation, Indian Creek Nature Center, 7 p.m., \$20

Star Wars Night at the Cedar Rapids RoughRiders: A Cedar Rapids Comic Con Affiliate Event, Cedar Rapids Ice Arena, 7 p.m., \$10.75-35.75

THEATRE & PERFORMANCE

Dreamwell Theatre Presents: KaraokeCon, The Mill, 7 p.m., \$5

Nolte Academy Presents: 'School of Rock' Youth Production, Coralville Center for the Performing Arts, 7:30 p.m., \$16-26

Underground New Play Festival, Theatre Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m., \$14

'A View From The Bridge', Riverside Theatre, 7:30 p.m., \$12-30

Rodgers & Hammerstein's 'The Sound of Music', Hancher, 7:30 p.m., \$45-100

Mike Armstrong, Penguin's Comedy Club, 8 p.m., \$15-17.50

LITERATURE

Dometa Brothers, Prairie Lights Books & Cafe, 7 p.m., Free

SAT., FEB. 4

CINEMA

The Picture Show: 'Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory', FilmScene, 10 a.m., Free-\$5

COMMUNITY

2017 Cedar Rapids Comic Con, The DoubleTree Hilton Hotel Cedar Rapids Convention Complex, 10 a.m., Free-\$15

CRAFTY

Make Three Pairs of Earrings: Intro to Wirework, Beadology Iowa, 10 a.m., \$58

Wire Heart Pendant, Beadology Iowa, 1 p.m., \$68

Knitting: Design Your Own Stranded Mittens, Home Ec. Workshop, 1 p.m., \$50



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PG. 35



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A TUESDAY ROMANCE

Saint Valentine's Day Dinner Baroncini Ristorante, 4, 6 & 8 p.m., \$59 Prepared by Chef Baroncini, dinner options include fresh, house-made macaroni with braised duck, wild caught cod filet over green peas and mashed potatoes and mille-feuille with passion fruit and white chocolate lemon crystals.

Pullman Chef Specials Pullman Diner, 5 p.m. Chef specials include Vietnamese marinated shrimp in Hoisin-peanut sauce, seared skirt steak, and layered chocolate cake with burnt orange ice cream. Reservations for both tables and booths will be available.

Prix Fixe Dinner & Live Music Motley Cow Cafe, 5 p.m., \$55 Valentine's dinner features both a la carte and prix fixe menu options, including cheese fondue on poached watermelon radish, fried oyster salad and seared foie gras with candied hazelnuts. The evening features live jazz by the Scott Barnum Trio.

Gourmet Chef Specials Joseph's Steakhouse, 5 p.m., \$34 Featuring seared pink snapper served over forbidden black rice w/ haricot verts, crème fraîche naturally preserved with grapefruit. As an additional menu option, oysters will also be served for the evening.

Signature Cocktail & Coured Pairing Dinner Cedar Ridge Distillery, 5:30 & 8 p.m., \$65 An intimate affair fashioned around a sensuous dinner, candlelight and drinks. Enjoy a signature cocktail upon arriving and then sit back and relax for the four gourmet dinner courses with wine pairings.

Augusta Pop Up Prix Fixe Supper FairGrounds Coffeehouse, 6 p.m., \$50 Ben & Jeri are back to serve a special Valentine's Day supper featuring a full course dinner of soup, lobster filet and chocolate soup for dessert. Entree will feature potatoes and corn on the side.

A Killing at Codswallop Castle Ashton Hill Farm, 6 p.m., \$50 Old Creamery Theatre offers a special Valentine's Day edition of their murder mystery dinner performance.

Painting w/ Brush & Barrel, "Date Night African Sunset" at Brix, 6:30 p.m., \$40; "Date Night Champagne Toast" at Brush & Barrel, 6:30 p.m., \$35 Bring your special someone to paint a picture on Valentine's Day. Includes canvas, instruction and snacks.



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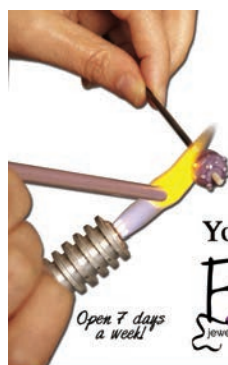
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FAMILY

Once Upon a Saturday! Celebration, Iowa Children's Museum, 10 a.m., Free with admission

Family Storytime: Celebrate Black History Month, Iowa City Public Library, 10:30 a.m., Free

Meet A Raptor, Indian Creek Nature Center, 12 p.m., Free

SPORTS & REC

Ready, Set, Curl—Outside!, Black Hawk Mini Park, 1 p.m., Free

THEATRE & PERFORMANCE

Rodgers & Hammerstein's 'The Sound of Music,' Hancher, 2 & 7:30 p.m., \$75-100

Underground New Play Festival, Theatre Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m., \$14

Nolte Academy Presents: 'School of Rock' Youth Production, Coralville Center for the Performing Arts, 2 & 6:30 p.m., \$16-26

'A View From The Bridge,' Riverside Theatre, 7:30 p.m., \$12-30

Mike Armstrong, Penguin's Comedy Club, 8 p.m., \$15-17.50

Jason Boland & The Stragglers, First Avenue Club, 8 p.m., \$17

MUSIC

Black History Month Gospel Music Concert, Iowa City Public Library, 2 p.m., Free

John Denver Tribute Show w/ Ted Vigil, Ohnward Fine Arts Center, 7 p.m., \$25-30

Scott Engledow, Uptown Bill's, 7 p.m., \$5-10

Brentano String Quartet and Guest Bassist Mark Bernat, Old Capitol Museum, 7:30 p.m., Free

Summer Camp: On The Road Festival ft. 6 Odd Rats, Soul Phlegm, Goosetown, Viva Moxie, Iowa City Yacht Club, 8 p.m., \$5

Chrash w/ The Velies, Mountain Swallow, River Music Experience Redstone Room, 8 p.m., \$8.50

Milk Duct Tape w/ Otros Outros, Leather Parachute, Thick, Trumpet Blossom Cafe, 8 p.m., \$5-10

Paramount Presents: 'Video Games Live,' Paramount Theatre, 8 p.m., \$19

An Evening with Dawes, The Englert Theatre, 8 p.m., \$30-33

QCSO Masterworks IV: Joined by a River, Adler Theatre, 8 p.m., \$6-62

Dickie Band, Cafe Paradiso, 8 p.m., Free

Whiskey's Gone, Blue Moose Tap House, 8 p.m., \$10-12

DJ Leviathon, Gabe's, 10 p.m., Free

The Fuss w/ Samedi, Dishwater Blonde, Gabe's, 10 p.m., \$5

SUN., FEB. 5

MUSIC

Bare-Foot Boogie, Public Space One, 9 a.m., Free

NewBo Cafe: The Roots of Rhythm Trio, NewBo City Market, 1 p.m., Free

Piano Sundays: American Liszt Society with Ksenia Nosikova, Nicholas Roth and Guests, Old Capitol Museum, 1:30 p.m., Free

QCSO Masterworks IV: Joined by a River, Augustana College, Centennial Hall, 2 p.m., \$6-62

Fonziba Drums, Iowa City Public Library, 2 p.m., Free

Aaron Carter w/ Nikki's Wives, Jared Kudde\$, Luktaviuos, Blue Moose Tap House, 7 p.m., \$15-65

Mori Mente w/ Ronin, Gang of Trees, Rozz-Tox, 8 p.m., \$5-10

FOODIE

Unprocess Your Life Cooking Class, Becky's Mindful Kitchen, 1 p.m., \$60

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Community Worktime, Public Space One, 1 p.m., Free
 Superheroes of History Day 2017: A Cedar Rapids Comic
 Con Affiliate Event, National Czech & Slovak Museum
 & Library, 1 p.m., Free

THEATRE & PERFORMANCE

Rodgers & Hammerstein's 'The Sound of Music,'

Hancher, 1 p.m., \$75-100

'A View From The Bridge,' Riverside Theatre, 2 p.m.,
 \$12-30

Underground New Play Festival, Theatre Cedar Rapids,
 7:30 p.m., \$14

LITERATURE

Sunday Fun Day : SIT, STAY, R.E.A.D. with Therapy Dogs
 of Johnson County, Iowa City Public Library, 2 p.m.,
 Free

Laura Ingalls Wilder 150th Birthday Party, Ushers Ferry
 Historic Village, 2 p.m., \$20-24

Bridgid Ruden, Prairie Lights Books & Cafe, 4 p.m.,
 Free

ART & EXHIBITION

Comics & Beer: Space, Location, and Virtual Travel

in Comics: A Cedar Rapids Comic Con Affiliate Event,
 National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, 4 p.m.,
 \$8



OLD CREAMERY THEATRE PRESENTS: 'A KILLING AT CODSWALLOP CASTLE' Ashton Hill Farm, Cedar Rapids, opens Saturday, Feb.

11 at 6:30 p.m., \$50 Old Creamery Theatre is serving up mystery alongside a meal from Chef Mickey's Catering in Iowa City and desserts from Marion's Take the Cake. The comedy centers around a murder in a haunted castle, and promises mayhem and frivolity. The menu features cucumber sandwiches, fig and bleu cheese tarts, fig and stilton salad with a port wine dressing, English roasted potatoes, buttery garlic green beans and a choice of beef, chicken or vegetable Wellington. The show runs Saturday nights through Mar. 11, with additional performances on Valentine's Day (see sidebar pg. 27) and on Mar. 4 (for a 12:30 p.m. matinee). Photo courtesy of Old Creamery Theatre

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AREA EVENTS

MON., FEB. 6

ART & EXHIBITION

'FUTURED' Open Studio Hours, Public Space One, 4 p.m., Free

CRAFTY

Knitting: Comfy Socks, Home Ec. Workshop, 5:30 p.m., \$50

Roaring Twenties Beaded Bracelet through Kirkwood Community College, Beadology Iowa, 6 p.m., \$58

THEATRE & PERFORMANCE

Cambodian Dance Workshop, Old Capitol Museum, 6:30 p.m., Free
Music

Open Drum Circle, Public Space One, 7 p.m., Free

EDUCATION

Clean Water in Iowa, Iowa City Public Library, 7 p.m., Free

Understanding Buddhism Class, Milarepa Buddhist Center of Iowa, 7 p.m., Free

Patrisse Cullors: #BlackLivesMatter Lecture, The Englert Theatre, 7:30 p.m., Free

TUE., FEB. 7

ART & EXHIBITION

'FUTURED' Open Studio Hours, Public Space One, 4 p.m., Free

MUSIC

Acoustic Music Club, River Music Experience, 4:30 p.m., Free

Austin Awake w/ Arizona Zervas, KoVu, Blue Moose Tap House, 6 p.m., \$8-10

Blues Cafe, River Music Experience Community Stage, 6:30 p.m., Free

LITERATURE

Iowa Writers' House Presents: The Violet Realm, Iowa City Public Library, 6 p.m., Free

'From Prison to PhD': An author event with Jason Marque Sole, Iowa City Public Library, 7 p.m., Free

SPORTS & REC

Women's Backpacking 101, Indian Creek Nature Center, 6 p.m., \$6-8

THEATRE & PERFORMANCE

'The Sound Of Music,' Des Moines Civic Center, 7:30 p.m., \$40-140

WED., FEB. 8

MUSIC

Music on A Wednesday w/ Kathy Maxey, Larry Mossman, Peter Rolnick, Iowa City Public Library, 12 p.m., Free
Nth Power w/ Soul Sherpa, Gabe's, 9 p.m., \$10-12

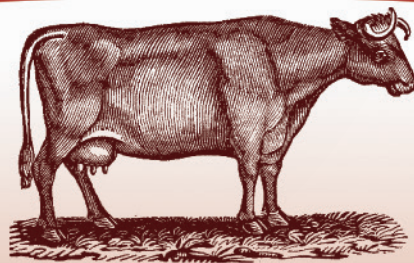
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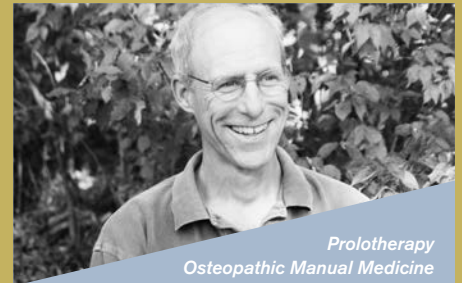
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LITERATURE

Michael Tisserand, *Prairie Lights Books & Cafe*, 7 p.m., Free

Talk Art, *The Mill*, 10:30 p.m., Free

EDUCATION

Introduction to Meditation Class, *Milarepa Buddhist Center of Iowa*, 7 p.m., Free

THEATRE & PERFORMANCE

'Soil,' *Hancher*, 7:30 p.m., \$10-35

'The Sound Of Music,' *Des Moines Civic Center*, 7:30 p.m., \$40-140

THU., FEB. 9

MUSIC

Orchestra Iowa: *Pied Piper*, *Iowa City Public Library*, 10:30 a.m., Free

Steve and Michaela McLain, *Cafe Paradiso*, 6 p.m., Free

T'Monde, *Legion Arts CSPPS Hall*, 7 p.m., \$14-17

The Band of Heathens w/ *Chicago Farmer*, *Jenny Lynn Stacy & The Dirty Roosters*, *Daytrotter*, 7 p.m., \$10-12

Fred Hersch Trio, *The Temple Theater*, 7:30 p.m., \$29-39

An Evening With Keller Williams, *River Music Experience Redstone Room*, 9 p.m., \$25-30

Retrofit Vinyl w/ DJ Slimpickens, *Dick's Tap & Shake Room*, 9 p.m., Free

CINEMA

The Picture Show: 'Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory,' *FilmScene*, 3 p.m., Free-\$5

SPORTS & REC

Workout Of The Week, *NewBo City Market*, 5 p.m., Free

Yoga By The Glass, *Cedar Ridge Distillery*, 6 p.m., \$25

Guided Meditation with Noelle Holmes: *Let Your Heart Lead You*, *Cedar Rapids Museum Of Art*, 6 p.m., \$10

LITERATURE

Long Past Slavery: Representing Race in the Federal Writers' Project, *Iowa City Public Library*, 7 p.m., Free

Sho Sugita, *Prairie Lights Books & Cafe*, 7 p.m., Free

THEATRE & PERFORMANCE

'A View From The Bridge,' *Riverside Theatre*, 7:30 p.m., \$12-30

'The Sound Of Music,' *Des Moines Civic Center*, 7:30 p.m., \$40-140

'Soil,' *Hancher*, 7:30 p.m., \$10-35

FRI., FEB. 10

MUSIC

Inaugural Organ Recital featuring Kevin Bowyer: *Organ Symphony No. 2*, *Voxman Music Building*, 12 p.m., Free

Live Lunch w/ Tony Hoeppner, *River Music Experience Community Stage*, 12 p.m., Free

Jazz After Five: 3 Dawgs and a Bone, *The Mill*, 5 p.m., Free

Friday Night Live Music w/ Justin Goodchild, *Cedar Ridge Distillery*, 6 p.m., Free

Mike Cochran, *River Music Experience Community Stage*, 7 p.m., Free

Summer Camp: On The Road ft. Have Your Cake, Rude Punch, Earth Ascending, The Candymakers, The Dawn, *River Music Experience Redstone Room*, 8 p.m., \$10

Jorge Tapia Art Opening & Live Show w/ Har Di Har, Nonnie Parry, JLSDR, Rozz-Tox, 9 p.m., \$5-10

Cycles, *Dick's Tap & Shake Room*, 9 p.m., Free
Halfloves & Jack Lion w/ On0, *Blue Moose Tap House*, 9 p.m., \$8-10

First Fleet Concerts Presents: William Clark Green, *Blue Moose Tap House*, 9 p.m., \$12-14



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EMPOWERMENT BIRTH SUMMIT 2017 Iowa City Public Library, Friday, Feb. 10 at 5 p.m. & Saturday, Feb. 11 at 10 a.m., Free A wide variety of activities will be presented at the ICPL as part of the Empowerment Birth Summit, which runs Friday evening and 10 a.m.–6 p.m. on Saturday. The summit is appropriate for a wide range of attendees, including expectant parents, those hoping to become pregnant, those interested in a career in maternal care and those interested in the feminist and social justice aspects of childbirth. It opens Friday night with a dedication to water, and includes presentations on homebirth, breastfeeding, postpartum experiences, prenatal yoga and more. Local doulas and private-practice midwives will be engaging in conversations throughout the summit as well. Mandi Hillman, director of Iowa Birth, will lead a circle presentation on the feminist history of birth. The event is free to the public. Photo by Mamma Loves via Flickr Creative Commons

AREA EVENTS

Heatwave & Landman w/ Arias, Iowa City Yacht Club, 10 p.m., \$7

Viva Moxie w/ Monolithic, The Hex Girls, Gabe's, 10 p.m., \$5

COMMUNITY

Empowerment Birth Summit 2017 Event, Iowa City Public Library, 5 p.m., Free

CRAFTY

New Class: Gyrls Night Out - Wire Wrapped Ring, Beadology Iowa, 5:30 p.m., \$58

SPORTS & REC

Wine & Yoga, Zen Den Yoga, 6 p.m., \$25

ART & EXHIBITION

Night At The Museum: Ancient Egypt, Museum of Natural History at UI, 6 p.m., Free

THEATRE & PERFORMANCE

The Janice Ian Experience, Public Space One, 6:30 p.m., Free

'A View From The Bridge,' Riverside Theatre, 7:30 p.m., \$12-30

The Naked Magicians, The Temple Theater, 7:30 p.m., \$41-76

'The Sound Of Music,' Des Moines Civic Center, 7:30 p.m., \$40-140

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AREA EVENTS PRESENTED BY CROWDED CLOSET

City Circle Acting Company Presents: 'Next to Normal,'
Coralville Center for the Performing Arts, 7:30 p.m.,
\$12-27

CINCH World's Toughest Rodeo, US Cellular Center,
7:30 p.m., \$17-57

Dreamwell Theatre Presents: 'Antigone,' Public Space
One, 7:30 p.m., \$10-13

Underground New Play Festival, Theatre Cedar Rapids,
7:30 p.m., \$14

Heywood Banks, Penguin's Comedy Club, 8 p.m.,
\$22-25

SPT Theatre Presents: 'Don't Be An Ass,' Legion Arts
CSPS Hall, 8 p.m., \$20-25

The Second City: 'We're All In This Room Together,' The
Englert Theatre, 8 p.m., \$30-35

SAT., FEB. 11

EDUCATION

History Camp Field Trip: Iowa City, Old Capitol Museum,
10 a.m., Free

FAMILY

Tooth Fairy Day, Iowa Children's Museum, 10 a.m.,
Free

Night at the Children's Museum, Iowa Children's
Museum, 6 p.m., \$20

CRAFTY

Intro to Lampworking: Make Glass Beads, Beadology
Iowa, 10 a.m., \$98

COMMUNITY

Empowerment Birth Summit 2017 Event, Iowa City
Public Library, 10 a.m., Free

THEATRE & PERFORMANCE

'The Sound Of Music,' Des Moines Civic Center, 2 p.m.,
\$69-89

The Naked Magicians, The Temple Theater, 5 & 8
p.m., \$41-76

**Old Creamery Theatre Presents: 'A Killing at Codswallop
Castle,'** Ashton Hill Farm, 6:30 p.m., \$50

'A View From The Bridge,' Riverside Theatre, 7:30
p.m., \$12-30

Dreamwell Theatre Presents: 'Antigone,' Public Space
One, 7:30 p.m., \$10-13

'The Sound Of Music,' Des Moines Civic Center, 7:30
p.m., \$40-140

CINCH World's Toughest Rodeo, US Cellular Center,
7:30 p.m., \$17-57

City Circle Acting Company Presents: 'Next to Normal,'
Coralville Center for the Performing Arts, 7:30 p.m.,
\$12-27

Underground New Play Festival, Theatre Cedar Rapids,
7:30 p.m., \$14

The Second City: 'We're All In This Room Together,' The
Englert Theatre, 8 p.m., \$30-35

SPT Theatre Presents: 'Don't Be An Ass,' Legion Arts
CSPS Hall, 8 p.m., \$20-25

The Great Stories Series: 'Roses & Thorns,' Giving Tree
Theater, 8 p.m., \$20

Heywood Banks, Penguin's Comedy Club, 8 p.m.,
\$22-25

**Album Recording with Comedian Mike Bridenstine w/
Arish Singh,** The Mill, 8 p.m., \$10-15

MUSIC

Red Cedar Chamber Music for Seniors: Hussite Fantasy,
Summit Pointe Senior Living Community, 2 p.m.,
Free

Pete Seeger Tribute Night, Uptown Bill's, 7 p.m., Free

The Ying Quartet with Billy Childs, Hancher, 7:30 p.m.,
\$10-40

Shawn Maxwell's New Tomorrow, Cafe Paradiso, 8
p.m., Free

Smooth Jazz Valentine's Day Concert, River Music
Experience Redstone Room, 8 p.m., \$40-48



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 Ricky, *Trumpet Blossom Cafe*, 8:30 p.m., \$5
 Space Jesus w/ PROKO, Of The Trees, *Blue Moose Tap
 House*, 9 p.m., \$15-18

The Maytags w/ Candymakers, *Iowa City Yacht Club*,
 10 p.m., \$8

Joe Maz, *EDEN Lounge & Nightclub*, 10 p.m., Free

DJ Freeze, *Gabe's*, 10 p.m., \$10

FOODIE

Valentine's Day Pairing Dinner, *Cedar Ridge Distillery*,
 6 & 8:30 p.m., \$65

SUN., FEB. 12

MUSIC

Bare-Foot Boogie, *Public Space One*, 9 a.m., Free
 Davina & The Vagabonds, *The Mill*, 7 p.m., \$12-15

Ben Folds & A Piano, *Paramount Theatre*, 8 p.m.,
 \$35-282

Magic City Hippies w/ 6 Odd Rats, *Gabe's*, 9 p.m.,
 \$10

CRAFTY

New Class: Metal Foldforming, *Beadology Iowa*, 1
 p.m., \$98

Make Your Own Stein At Lion Bridge Brewing, *Lion
 Bridge Brewing Company*, 2 p.m., \$35

School of Sewing Part I, *Home Ec. Workshop*, 7 p.m.,
 \$85

THEATRE-AND-PERFORMANCE

'The Sound Of Music,' *Des Moines Civic Center*, 1 &
 6:30 p.m., \$40-140

City Circle Acting Company Presents: 'Next to Normal,'
Coralville Center for the Performing Arts, 2 p.m.,
 \$12-27

'A View From The Bridge,' *Riverside Theatre*, 2 p.m.,
 \$12-30

Underground New Play Festival, *Theatre Cedar
 Rapids*, 7:30 p.m., \$14

Electric Theatre Presents: A Companion and
 Commentary On 'The Vagina Monologues,' *Rozz-Tox*, 8
 p.m., Free

COMMUNITY

Community Worktime, *Public Space One*, 1 p.m., Free

Second Sunday Garden Forum: Lives Written on the
 Land with Connie Mutel, *Iowa City Public Library*, 2
 p.m., Free

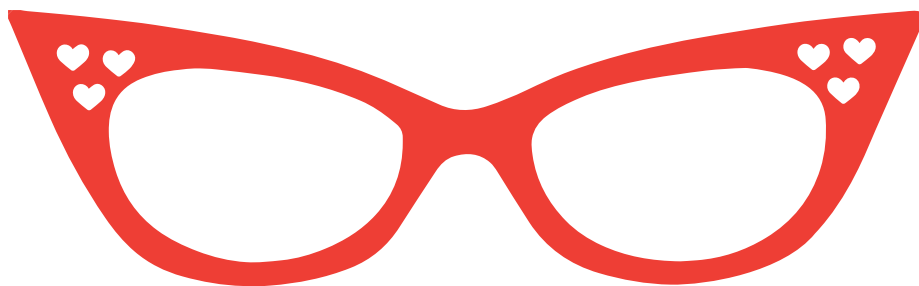
The James Gang: Fundraising - A Conversation with
 Katie Roche & Jenny Colville, *Eastside Recycling
 Center*, 3 p.m., Free

CINEMA

Iowa Valley Global Food Project Fundraiser: 'Vang' - A
 Drama About Recent Immigrant Farmers, *Old Capitol
 Senate Chamber*, 2 p.m., Free

FOODIE

Winter Party: Chocolate, Cheese, & Wine, *Brix*, 4
 p.m., \$50



I'm a divorced mom of two. I recently finished my medical training, and am starting to think about dating again. I haven't really dated since we broke up several years ago. My ex and I split equal custody and have a very close friendship and still spend a lot of time together as a family. I think this might be intimidating for potential dates. I love my ex and we have a really great, supportive situation for our kids, but we're not romantic and give each other a lot of space. Is there any way to make this easier? —Dr. Mom

Dear Dr. Mom,

It sounds like in many ways, you have it made. Now let that havin'-it-made mojo attract the kind of person who will add magic and sparkle to your already full life, not make it harder. Many single parents would

going to get right away that your situation with your ex is a positive, not something to be afraid of. Even if they feel some feelings about it, it won't be a dealbreaker for them, because it works better for everyone

when there is harmony with your ex and your kids. I've seen my share of the opposite, and nothing drives off sweethearts faster than unresolved, ongoing divorce drama. It's likely that it will be a little weird for anyone entering any post-marriage kids situation no matter what the dynamic, and adjustments will take time.

If they're serious about getting with you, they will care about the wellbeing of your kids and will want you to be happy.

have an easier time of things if they were co-parent buddies with their ex the way you are. But I see how a newcomer to your situation might be a little bit challenged, since our culture doesn't provide a lot of modeling for positive, reasonable relationships with exes, let alone close friendships. Dating while managing kids and careers is never easy for anyone, but you may have to employ a little extra patience for trial and error here bringing a new person into the mix.

When someone good comes along (a mature, observant, patient, reasonable person), they may be kinda weirded out, but they're

If you do end up getting involved with someone who balks at you hanging out with your ex, the solution is simple: Be patient, but let them know that your kids come first, and anything that makes raising them better and easier (i.e. the friendly ex) is right up there. If they're serious about getting with you, they will care about the well-being of your kids and will want you to be happy, and you guys can hammer away at any jealousy and attendant discord with loving good intentions. If they are fuckboi (or girl) material, you know what to do, Doctor. *xoxo, Kiki lv*

Questions about love and sex in the Iowa City-Cedar Rapids area can be submitted to dearkiki@littlevillagemag.com, or anonymously at littlevillagemag.com/dearkiki. Questions may be edited for clarity and length, and may appear either in print or online at littlevillagemag.com.

MON., FEB. 13

ART & EXHIBITION

'FUTURED' Open Studio Hours, Public Space One, 4 p.m., Free

FOODIE

'42nd Street' Pre-Show Dinner, The RiverCenter, 5:30 p.m., \$25

EDUCATION

Oscar Salazar Summerwill Lecture, Iowa Memorial Union, 7 p.m., Free

Understanding Buddhism Class, Milarepa Buddhist Center of Iowa, 7 p.m., Free

Paying the Price: College Costs, Financial Aid, and the Betrayal of the American Dream, Iowa City Public Library, 7 p.m., Free

MUSIC

Open Drum Circle, Public Space One, 7 p.m., Free

Low Lily, Cafe Paradiso, 8 p.m., Free

THEATRE & PERFORMANCE

'42nd Street,' Adler Theatre, 7:30 p.m., Free

TUE., FEB. 14

ART & EXHIBITION

'FUTURED' Open Studio Hours, Public Space One, 4 p.m., Free

MUSIC

Acoustic Music Club w/ David G. Smith, River Music Experience Community Stage, 4:30 p.m., Free

Vance Gilbert & Ellis Paul, Legion Arts CSPPS Hall, 7 p.m., \$20-25

FOODIE

Saint Valentine's Day Dinner, Baroncini Restaurant, 4, 6 & 8 p.m., \$59

Valentine's Day Prix Fixe Dinner, Motley Cow Cafe, 5 p.m., \$55

Gourmet Chef Specials, Joseph's Steakhouse, 5 p.m., \$34

Augusta Valentine's Day Prix Fixe Pop Up Supper, Fair Grounds Coffeehouse, 6 p.m., \$50

Valentine's Day Pairing Dinner, Cedar Ridge Distillery, 5:30 & 8 p.m., \$65

CRAFTY

Valentine's Day Painting with Brush and Barrel, Brix, 6:30 p.m., \$40

LITERATURE

Iowa Writers' House Presents: The Violet Realm, Iowa City Public Library, 6 p.m., Free

Junot Díaz Reading, Phillips Hall, 7 p.m., Free

THEATRE & PERFORMANCE

Old Creamery Theatre Presents: 'A Killing at Codswallop Castle,' Ashton Hill Farm, 6:30 p.m., \$50

Comedy XPeriment, Stoner Studio Theater, 7:30 p.m., \$12

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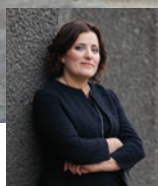


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Sara Goldrick-Rab

Professor of Higher Education Policy
& Sociology at Temple University,
and Founder of the Wisconsin HOPE Lab



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ONGOING EVENTS

MONDAYS

Moeller Mondays, *Daytrotter*, \$5-10, 7 p.m.

Open Mic, *The Mill*, Free, 8 p.m. **Honeycombs of Comedy**, *Yacht Club*, \$3, 10 p.m.

TUESDAYS

Iowa City Farmers Market, *Mercer Park*, 3-6 p.m.

Acoustic Music Club, *River Music Experience*, Free, 4:30 p.m. **Tuesday Evening Jazz**, *Motley Cow Cafe*, Free, 5:30 p.m. **Karaoke Tuesdays**, *The Mill*, Free, 10 p.m. **Blues Jam**, *Parlor City Pub and Eatery*, Free, 7 p.m. **Underground Open Mic**, *The Yacht Club*, Free, 8 p.m. **Weekly Old-Timey Jam Session**, *Trumpet Blossom Cafe*, Free, 8:30 p.m. **Comedy & Open Mic Night**, *Studio 13*, Free, 9 p.m.

WEDNESDAYS

Music is the Word: Music on Wednesdays, *Iowa City Public Library*, Free, 12 p.m. **Low Cost Yoga**, *Public Space One*, \$2, 5 p.m. **Burlington Street Bluegrass Band**, *The Mill*, \$5, 6 p.m. (2nd & 4th Wednesdays) **Open Mic Night**, *Penguin's Comedy Club*, Free, 6:30 p.m. **Spoken Word**, *Uptown Bill's*, Free, 7 p.m. (1st Wednesday) **Open Mic**, *Cafe Paradiso*, Free, 8 p.m. **Karaoke Wednesdays**, *Mondo's Saloon*, Free, 10 p.m. **Open Stage**, *Studio 13*, Free 10 p.m. **Open Jam and Mug Night**, *Yacht Club*, Free, 10 p.m. **Late Shift at the Grindhouse**, *FilmScene*, \$4, 10 p.m.

THURSDAYS

I.C. Press Co-op open shop, *Public Space One*, Free, 4 p.m. **Novel Conversations**, *Coralville Public Library*, Free, 7 p.m. (3rd Thursday) **Thursday Night Live Open Mic**, *Uptown Bill's*, Free, 7 p.m. **Daddy-O**, *Parlor City Pub and Eatery*, Free, 7 p.m. **Live Jazz**, *Clinton Street Social Club*, Free, 8 p.m. **Karaoke Thursday**, *Studio 13*, Free, 8 p.m. **Gemini Karaoke**, *Blue Moose*, Free, 9 p.m. **Retrofit Vinyl w/ DJ Slimpickens**, *Dick's Tap & Shake Room*, Free, 9 p.m.

FRIDAYS

Music is the Word: Music on Fridays, *Iowa City Public Library*, Free, 12 p.m. **Friday Night Out**, *Ceramics Center*, \$40 6:30 p.m. **FAC Dance Party**, *The Union Bar*, 7 p.m. **Sasha Belle presents: Friday Drag & Dance Party**, *Studio 13*, 8 p.m. **SoulShake**, *Gabe's*, Free, 10 p.m.

SATURDAYS

Family Storytime, *Iowa City Public Library*, Free, 10:30 a.m. **I.C. Press Co-op open shop**, *Public Space One*, Free, 12 p.m. **Saturday Night Music**, *Uptown Bill's*, Free, 7 p.m. **Elation Dance Party**, *Studio 13*, 9 p.m.

SUNDAYS **Pride Bingo**, *Studio 13*, 6:30 p.m. **Pub Quiz**, *The Mill*, \$1, 9 p.m.

THEATRE & PERFORMANCE **'A View From the Bridge'**, *Riverside Theatre*, \$12-30 (Jan. 20-Feb. 12), **Rodgers & Hammerstein's 'The Sound of Music'**, *Des Moines Civic Center*, \$40-140 (Feb. 7-12), **Rodgers & Hammerstein's 'The Sound of Music'**, *Hancher*, \$36-100 (Jan. 31-Feb. 5), **Underground New Play Festival**, *Theatre Cedar Rapids*, \$14 (Feb. 3-19), **Dreamwell Theatre Presents: 'Antigone'**, *Public Space One*, \$10-13 (Feb. 10-18), **Old Creamery Theatre Presents: 'A Killing at Codswallop Castle'**, *Ashton Hill Farm*, \$50 (Feb. 11-Mar. 11)

ART & EXHIBITION: **'Mightier Than The Sword'**, *African American Museum of Iowa* (Aug. 26, 2016-Jul. 29), **The Fourth Iowa Metals Guild Exhibition**, *Cedar Rapids Museum of Art* (Oct. 22, 2016-Aug. 6), **Travel Posters from the Lowry**, *National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library* (Nov. 5, 2016-Mar 5), **Thomas Agran: 'Developmental Potential'**, *Coe College* (Jan. 13-Feb. 5), **Nicole Shaver: 'Between Crystalline Peaks'**, *Coe College* (Jan. 13-Feb. 5), **America on Paper: Prints from Associated American Artists**, *Cedar Rapids Museum of Art* (Feb. 4-May 14)



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Clinton Street Social Club 18 S Clinton St, (319) 351-1690, clintonstreetsocial.com

Englert Theatre 221 E Washington St, (319) 688-2653, englert.org

FilmScene 118 E College St, (319) 358-2555, icfilmscene.org

First Avenue Club 1550 S 1st Ave, (319) 337-5527, firstavenueclub.com

Gabe's 330 E Washington St, (319) 351-9175, icgabes.com

Iowa Artisans' Gallery 207 E. Washington St, (319) 351-8686, iowa-artisans-gallery.com

Iowa City Community Theatre 4261 Oak Crest Hill Rd SE, (319) 338-0443, iowacitycommunitytheatre.com

Iowa City Public Library 123 S Linn St, (319) 356-5200, icpl.org

Iowa City Senior Center 28 S Linn St, (319) 356-5220, icgov.org

Iowa City Yacht Club 13 S Linn St, (319) 337-6464, iowacityyachtclub.com

Iowa Memorial Union 125 N Madison St, (319) 335-3041, imu.uiowa.edu

Lasansky Corporation Gallery 216 E Washington St, (319) 337-9336, lasanskyart.com

M.C. Ginsberg Objects of Art 110 E Washington St, (319) 351-1700, mcginsberg.com

The Mill 120 E Burlington St, (319) 351-9529, icmill.com

Old Capitol Museum 21 N Clinton St, (319) 335-0548, uiowa.edu/oldcap

Prairie Lights Books & Cafe 15 S Dubuque St, (319) 337-2681, prairielights.com

Public Space One 120 N Dubuque St, (319) 331-8893, publicspaceone.com

Riverside Theatre 213 N Gilbert Street, Iowa City riversidetheatre.org

Sycamore Cinema 1602 Sycamore St, (319) 358-6773, marcustheatres.com

Taag Studios and Art Expressions 1041 Arthur St, (319) 855-4755, taagstudios.org

Terry Trueblood Recreation Center 4213 Sand Rd SE, icgov.org

Trumpet Blossom Cafe 310 E Prentiss St, (319) 248-0077, trumpetblossom.com

University of Iowa Museum of Art 1375 Iowa 1, (319) 335-1727, uima.uiowa.edu

University of Iowa Museum of Natural History 17 N Clinton St, (319) 335-0480, uiowa.edu/mnh

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CEDAR RAPIDS/MARION

African American Museum of Iowa 55 12th Ave SE, (319) 862-2101, blackiowa.org

Brucemore Mansion 2160 Linden Dr SE, (319) 362-7375, brucemore.org

Cedar Rapids Museum of Art 410 Third Avenue SE, (319) 366-7503, crma.org

Cedar River Landing 301 F Ave NW, (319) 364-1854, cedar-river-landing.com

Cocktails and Company 1625 Blairs Ferry Rd, (319) 377-1140, cocktails-company.com

Giving Tree Theatre 752 10th St, (319) 213-7956, givingtreetheater.com

Hawkeye Downs Speedway and Fairgrounds 4400 6th St SW, (319) 365-8656, hawkeyedownsspeedway.com

Indian Creek Nature Center 6665 Otis Rd SE, (319) 362-2876, indiancreeknaturecenter.org

JM O'Malley's 1502 H Ave NE, (319) 369-9433

Legion Arts CSPPS Hall 1103 3rd St SE, (319) 364-1580, legionarts.org

Lion Bridge Brewing Company 59 16th Ave SW, (319) 200-4460, lionbridgebrewing.com

Little Bohemia 1317 3rd St SE, (319) 366-6262

Mahoney's 1602 E Ave NE, (319) 364-5754

McGrath Amphitheatre 475 1st St SW, (319) 286-5760, mcgrathamphitheatre.com

National Czech and Slovak Museum 1400 Inspiration Place SW, ncsml.org

NewBo City Market 1100 3rd St SE, (319) 200-4050, newbocitymarket.com

Opus Concert Cafe 119 Third Ave SE, (319) 366-8203, orchestraiowa.org

Paramount Theatre 123 3rd Ave SE, (319) 398-5211, paramounttheatre.org

Parlor City Pub & Eatery 1125 3rd St SE, (319) 247-0000, parlorcitypub.com

Penguin's Comedy Club 208 2nd Ave SE, (319) 362-8133, penguinscomedyclub.com

Q Dogs BBQ 895 Blairs Ferry Rd, (319) 826-6667, qdogsbbqcompany.com

Shores Event Center 700 16th St NE, (319) 775-5367, shoreseventcenter.com

Tailgators 3969 Center Point Rd NE, (319) 393-6621, tailgatorslive.com

Theatre Cedar Rapids 102 3rd St SE, (319) 366-8591, theatre.org

US Cellular Center 370 1st Avenue NE, (319) 398-5211, uscellularcenter.com

Veterans Memorial Stadium 950 Rockford Rd SW, (319) 363-3887

CORALVILLE

Cafe Crema 411 2nd St, (319) 338-0700, facebook.com/caffecrema.us

Coralville Center for the Performing Arts 1301 5th St, (319) 248-9370, coralvillearts.org

Coralville Public Library 1401 5th St, (319) 248-1850, coralvillepubliclibrary.org

Coralville Recreation Center 1506 8th St, (319) 248-1750, coralville.org

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THE STRAIGHT DOPE BY CECIL ADAMS

Why do we have to fill out a 1040 form? The IRS knows what most people owe. Why don't they just send us a bill or a refund? —Scott Henderson

Some big-time politicians have had that same idea. "There's no reason the IRS can't send Americans pre-filled tax forms to verify," one presidential hopeful insisted in 2007. Well, apparently there was *some* reason, because that same guy spent the last eight years in the Oval Office and you'll still be fumbling with a 1040 sometime between now and April 15. Circumstances partially excuse Barack Obama's failure to deliver on his promise that "millions of Americans will be able to do their taxes in less than five minutes," what with the economy collapsing shortly before he took office and all. But there's a simpler explanation for why this commonsensical idea hasn't prevailed in D.C.: Enough money has been spent to stop it from happening.

If you're paid strictly in wages and, like nearly 70 percent of Americans, you claim the standard deduction rather than itemizing, you're familiar with the drill: You get a W-2 from your employer listing what you were paid and how much tax was withheld. Next (unless you shell out for pro prep) you fill in some blanks, do some math, squint at a tax table, sign your name, drop the form in the mail and worry that you screwed it up. And you very well may have—the IRS finds more than two million mistakes every year. These are spotted easily enough, because the IRS got the very same W-2 figures, did the same math and filled out the same form.

All this redundancy can't really be necessary, right? Sure enough, an alternative system, known as return-free filing, already exists in such forward-thinking locales as Denmark, Sweden and Spain, where the government basically does just what you propose: they send out a bill for taxes due—or a refund of overpayment—for the recipient to approve. Even here in the U.S., you don't have to compute your property taxes yourself, so why can't you just kick back and wait for the IRS to figure out your income tax?

The closest we've come to an official answer to that question was in 2009, the year Obama took office. The Taxpayer Advocate Service of the IRS told Congress that Obama's proposal was "not feasible at this time." The government receives the necessary information too late in tax season, they claimed, so a return-free system would delay refunds and anger impatient taxpayers. Which sure sounds like a dodge—is the IRS, the one federal agency even less beloved than the TSA, really afraid people will be mad at it?

You'd figure typical deficit-hawk

conservatives would be happy to save the money the IRS wastes every year confronting the American taxpayer's inability to subtract correctly. And in fact Ronald Reagan himself endorsed return-free filing in 1985. But small-government zealot Grover Norquist and his group Americans for Tax Reform oppose efforts to streamline the filing system, preferring reforms that "enhance voluntary compliance." A weaselly phrase, that—no arms would be twisted by offering a return-free option, and completing a 1040 hardly means you're "volunteering" to pay taxes. The more likely reason for the resistance is that the proposed set-up would make the tax "simplification" Norquist favors—lopping off upper tax brackets, mainly—a much harder sell. If you're trying to paint U.S. taxation as hopelessly burdensome, the

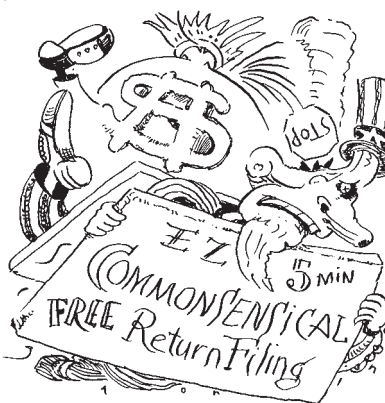
last thing you want to see is the IRS transformed into an agency that just mails Americans a refund check every year.

Meanwhile, special-interest groups are in the trenches trying to shoot down return-free pilot plans. In 2005, California adopted a program called ReadyReturn, which allows qualified residents to opt for a pre-completed tax return rather than fill out their own. The state estimates that the new process has saved millions a year in prep fees

and about a half a mil in government administrative costs, and taxpayers who've used the service are overwhelmingly pleased. Thing is, not many Californians take advantage of it—in 2012, only 90,000 out of the approximately one million eligible—and officials complain they've had a hard time getting the word out. That's because software manufacturer Intuit, the maker of the prep app TurboTax, wants it that way: According to a 2013 investigation by the nonprofit journalism outfit ProPublica, the company spent more than \$3 million in lobbying and campaign contributions between 2005 and 2009 fighting ReadyReturn. Intuit didn't manage to kill the program outright, but the state's budget for marketing it was cut to a dinky \$10,000.

Perhaps wary of incurring the deep-pocketed wrath of Big Tax-Prep and its small-government allies, other states have seemingly been in no big hurry to follow California's example. But the dream remains alive in D.C.—last April, Elizabeth Warren became the latest senator to propose (doomed) legislation introducing return-free filing. Somehow, I don't see a lot of progress on this front any time soon. Being evidently opposed to paying taxes at all, our new president seems unlikely to expend much effort on making it simpler to do. **lv**

—Cecil Adams





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ASTROLOGY BY ROB BREZSNY

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Who would have guessed that Aquarian Charles Darwin, the pioneering theorist of evolution, had a playful streak? Once he placed a male flower's pollen under a glass along with an unfertilized female flower to see if anything interesting would happen. "That's a fool's experiment," he confessed to a colleague. "But I love fools' experiments. I am always making them." Now would be an excellent time for you to consider trying some fools' experiments of your own, Aquarius. I bet at least one of them will turn out to be both fun and productive.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): In Shakespeare's play *Macbeth*, three witches brew up a spell in a cauldron. Among the ingredients they throw in there is the "eye of newt." Many modern people assume this refers to the optical organ of a salamander, but it doesn't. It's actually an archaic term for "mustard seed." When I told my Piscean friend John about this, he said, "Damn! Now I know why Jessica didn't fall in love with me." He was making a joke about how the love spell he'd tried hadn't worked. Let's use this as a teaching story, Pisces. Could it be that one of your efforts failed because it lacked some of the correct ingredients? Did you perhaps have a misunderstanding about the elements you needed for a successful outcome? If so, correct your approach and try again.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Once upon a time, Calvin of the "Calvin and Hobbes" comic strip made this bold declaration: "Happiness isn't good enough for me! I demand euphoria!" Given your current astrological aspects, Aries, I think you have every right to invoke that battle cry yourself. From what I can tell, there's a party underway inside your head. And I'm pretty sure it's a healthy bash, not a decadent debacle. The bliss it stirs up will be authentic, not contrived. The release and relief it triggers won't be trivial and transitory, but will generate at least one long-lasting breakthrough.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): The coming weeks will be an excellent time to ask for favors. I think you will be exceptionally adept at seeking out people who can actually help you. Furthermore, those from whom you request help will be more receptive than usual. Finally, your timing is likely to be close to impeccable. Here's a tip to aid your efforts: A new study suggests that people are more inclined to be agreeable to your appeals if you address their right ears rather than their left ears. (More info: tinyurl.com/intherightear)

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Here are your five words of power for the next two weeks, Gemini. 1. *Unscramble*. Invoke this verb with regal confidence as you banish chaos and restore order. 2. *Purify*. Be inspired to cleanse your motivations and clarify your intentions. 3. *Reach*. Act as if you have a mandate to stretch out, expand and extend yourself to arrive in the right place. 4. *Rollick*. Chant this magic word as you activate your drive to be lively, carefree and frolicsome. 5. *Blithe*. Don't take anything too personally, too seriously or too literally.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): The 17th-century German alchemist Hennig Brand collected 1,500 gallons of urine from beer-drinkers, then cooked and re-cooked it till it achieved the "consistency of honey." Why? He thought his experiment would eventually yield large quantities of gold. It didn't, of course. But along the way, he accidentally produced a substance of great value: phosphorus. It was the first time anyone had created a pure form of it. So in a sense, Brand "discovered" it. Today phosphorus is widely used in fertilizers, water treatment, steel production, detergents and food processing. I bring this to your attention, my fellow Cancerian, because I suspect you will soon have a metaphorically similar experience. Your attempt to create a beneficial new asset will not generate exactly what you wanted, but will nevertheless yield a useful result.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): In the documentary movie *Catfish*, the directors, Henry Joost and Ariel Schulman, present a metaphor

drawn from the fishing industry. They say that Asian suppliers used to put live codfish in tanks and send them to overseas markets. It was only upon arrival that the fish would be processed into food. But there was a problem: Because the cod were so sluggish during the long trips, their meat was mushy and tasteless. The solution? Add catfish to the tanks. That energized the cod and ultimately made them more flavorful. Moral of the story, according to Joost and Schulman: Like the cod, humans need catfish-like companions to stimulate them and keep them sharp. Do you have enough influences like that in your life, Leo? Now is a good time to make sure you do.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): The city of Boston allows an arts organization called Mass Poetry to stencil poems on sidewalks. The legal graffiti is done with a special paint that remains invisible until it gets wet. So if you're a pedestrian trudging through the streets as it starts to rain, you may suddenly behold, emerging from the blank grey concrete, Langston Hughes' poem "Still Here" or Fred Marchant's "Pear Tree In Flower." I foresee a metaphorically similar development in your life, Virgo: a pleasant and educational surprise arising unexpectedly out of the vacant blahs.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): When he was in the rock band Devo, Mark Mothersbaugh took his time composing and recording new music. From 1978 to 1984, he and his collaborators averaged one album per year. But when Mothersbaugh started writing soundtracks for the weekly TV show *Pee-wee's Playhouse*, his process went into overdrive. He typically wrote an entire show's worth of music each Wednesday and recorded it each Thursday. I suspect you have that level of creative verve right now, Libra. Use it wisely! If you're not an artist, channel it into the area of your life that most needs to be refreshed or reinvented.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Many vintage American songs remain available today because of the pioneering musicologist John Lomax. In the first half of the 20th century, he traveled widely to track down and record obscure cowboy ballads, folk songs and traditional African American tunes. "Home on the Range" was a prime example of his many discoveries. He learned that song, often referred to as "the anthem of the American West," from a black saloonkeeper in Texas. I suggest we make Lomax a role model for you Scorpios during the coming weeks. It's an excellent time to preserve and protect the parts of your past that are worth taking with you into the future.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): The mountain won't come to you. It will not acquire the supernatural power to drag itself over to where you are, bend its craggy peak down to your level and give you a free ride as it returns to its erect position. So what will you do? Moan and wail in frustration? Retreat into a knot of helpless indignation and sadness? Please don't. Instead, stop hoping for the mountain to do the impossible. Set off on a journey to the remote, majestic pinnacle with a fierce song in your determined heart. Pace yourself. Doggedly master the art of slow, incremental magic.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Who can run faster, a person or a horse? There's evidence that, under certain circumstances, a human can prevail. In June of every year since 1980, the Man Versus Horse Marathon has taken place in the Welsh town of Llanwrtyd Wells. The route of the race weaves 22 miles through marsh, bogs and hills. On two occasions, a human has outpaced all the horses. According to my astrological analysis, you Capricorns will have that level of animalistic power during the coming weeks. It may not take the form of foot speed, but it will be available as stamina, energy, vitality and instinctual savvy. **lv**



BELLY BELT

Stay True EP

www.bellybelt.bandcamp.com/album/stay-true

Iowa City West High alum Kate Feldmann's *Belly Belt* isn't miles away from her day job dressing as a Disney Princess for children's birthday parties. She adopts personas, she plays make-believe, she toys with identity as she did on her previous album, *Bangers*. The dominant sound in the arrangements on *Stay True* is the ebullient arpeggiation of the Suzuki Omnichord, which is strummed with a fingertip on a metal plate. Every sound, word and gesture is intentionally synthetic and artificial, but paradoxically sincere.

The opening tracks, "Blood On Your Hands" and "Stay True," have a dreamy girlish quality. But "Ocean Baby" has a thrashy punk rock sound that's at the center of a triangle with the Beach Boys, the Pixies and Bikini Kill as its vertices. There's some first-rate screaming on the hook line, "Come ride the waves with me." It's kind of an abstract ocean, not the actual salty expanse off of the coastline.

Going yet another direction, "Ooh Baba" is both a song title and the only lyric. She channels Britney Spears' white-girl melisma with random screams, giggles and horse whinnies dropped in for effect, before an indistinct noise—traffic? ocean waves?—intrudes. The repeated drum-machine and electric piano loop is catchy, but the repeated nonsense lyric and gratuitous melisma are an ironic commentary on girl pop clichés.

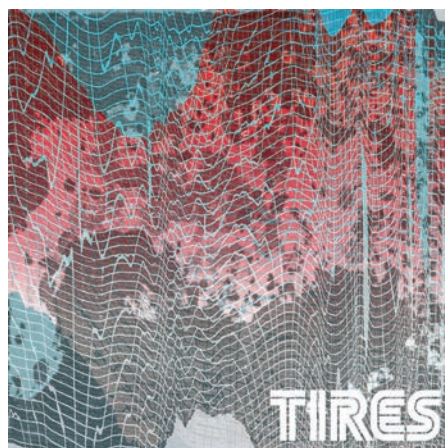
In "What Did I Say," Feldmann's raucous, distorted voice lays down the law: "Consider me when I say this, and you better do as I say because I'm the dad." The deliberately crappy synth lead and Casio

drums are punctuated by jarring blasts of electronic noise.

The repetition of "Baby" in song titles and lyrics ("Ooh Baby," "Ooh Baba," "Ocean Baby") seems like a comment on the infantilization of women in pop music while embracing it. The music on this EP toys with a sort of "joking/not joking" irony when it comes to the image of a female pop artist. Feldmann wants to be Britney Spears or a Disney Princess both sincerely and ironically. What she is as a result is both and neither; the listening is never 100 percent easy.

Stay True revels in its shiny plastic surface. The sound of Feldmann's voice gets twisted, sometimes by emotion and sometimes by audio effects processing. The EP's title seems ironic and sincere at the same time, a scream from the heart and an elaborately-constructed joke. With no fixed meaning, and the performance of emotion instead of its direct expression, *Stay True* is like a Miranda July movie—you feel that something important is happening even if you have no idea what's going on.

—Kent Williams



TIRES

LP1

www.tires.bandcamp.com

The big, anthemic sound of Phil Young's (the Wheelers) new instrumental project TIRES was inspired by the recent passing of his grandfather. "He was kinda a cranky old guy to me most of my life," Young told me in online chat. "We were one of the only families that didn't live in his home state of Indiana so we didn't see him as

often as everyone else, so there was definitely a disconnect because of that. When I wasn't able to physically make it to his funeral I wanted to commemorate his memory by doing something positive and creative instead of dwelling on the negative memories of him at the end of his life."

It's the soundtrack for whatever superhero spy missions you have going on.

It was time well spent. The experimental electronic rock that resulted from the three-day sequester—a mix of synths and live guitars and drums—is driving, bombastic and distorted, evoking post-rock stalwarts Trans Am's first three albums and Madison's so-called "emergency rock" band Cougar. Every song on the album doubles the adrenaline rush of the previous, making for a thrilling ride with zero chill. It's a fun listen, but it's not background music—it's the soundtrack for whatever superhero spy missions you have going on. A trip to the gas station becomes a triumphant mission where everyone is saved.

Appropriately, then, the last track "11" is the closing credits for this movie. Certainly the slowest song on the album, the glistening synth runs swirl around a gigantic guitar solo. The highest notes cleave to a big chorus that would make Brian May of Queen proud.

Young says, "I think the mentality of creating upbeat material as my personal form of antidepressant has stuck with me since the day I created the first songs." By taking a dark and sad personal event and flipping it, TIRES has created a perfect audio mood enhancer for the rest of us. **lv**

—Mike Roeder

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FLOSS BY PATRICK BLINDAUER

The American Values Club Crossword is edited by Ben Tausig. Subscription information can be found at avxword.com.

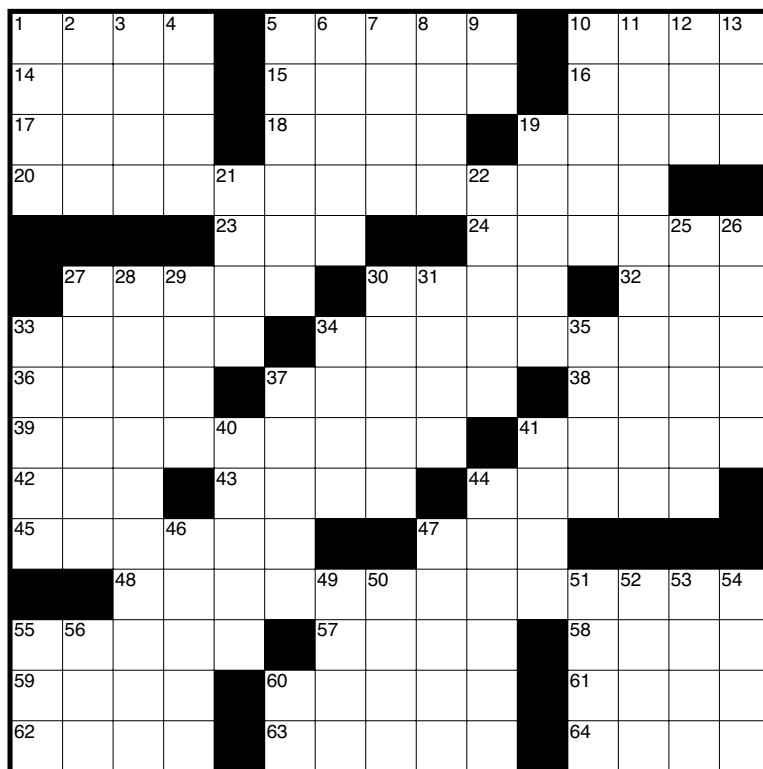
ACROSS

1. Put down some dead presidents, say
5. Name used by Shakespeare and Disney
10. Agile
14. Second-highest choral part
15. *The End of America* author Wolf
16. One might require a horn
17. "I was a boozer, a ____, and a loser" (recurring *Strangers With Candy* line)
18. Bonnie Prince Charlie costume piece
19. Grunts
20. Perpetually cool?
23. Civic center?
24. Couple who sing a duet in the musical version of *Titanic*
27. Cans
30. Requiring first aid
32. Where bin Laden was buried
33. "Swinging on ____" (Bing Crosby song)
34. "2001" computer, fixed so he's no longer prone to murder?
36. Blacken, in a way
37. Spy show with Bradley Cooper and Victor Garber
38. Holiday ____ (2016 Black Friday stunt by Cards Against Humanity)
39. Princess at the bar every night?
41. TV miniseries of 1977 and 2016
42. Org. that enforces portions of the ACA
43. "Suuuure!"
44. Out of practice
45. "Heavens!"

47. Gimlet ingredient
48. Metric for predicting the durability of a big fib?
55. Institutions of higher learning: Abbr.
57. Early smartphone
58. Off in ____ land
59. Go from Athens to Zagreb, say
60. President whose autobiography was published by Mark Twain
61. Solid-falling-in-liquid sound
62. Maintain
63. Annoyed with
64. Modern workers may be asked to wear many of them

DOWN

1. Walker of *The Fast and the Furious*
2. 1960s New York City fusion music
3. Romantic couple
4. Cherish
5. Club with a longer World Series drought than the Red Sox or the Cubs
6. Make the betting interesting, in a way
7. Garlicky sauce that's good for helping you get rid of vowels in Scrabble
8. CPR providers
9. Boxer who left the earthly ring in 2016
10. Confirmation
11. Publicity event
12. Presley's middle name, at birth
13. Genesis contemporaries
19. Word processing command
21. Certain camper, for short
22. Napoleon cousins
25. Property
26. Willy Loman's line of work
27. Onto the beach



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BEOFF OWE ELIOT
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UNE MISSTHEMARK
MAI EMINEM STEP
ALT DELTAS YEAH

28. Wins the Hunger Games, say
29. Gilbert of *The Big Bang Theory*
30. *Ocean's Eleven* crime
31. Home of Zion National Park
33. Sharp, as an odor
34. How some comedians work
35. Letters between pis and sigmas
37. *Three Tall Women* playwright Edward
40. Gimlet garnishes
41. Littlest litter member
44. Lasagna cheese
46. Communist muralist Diego
47. Alec's *Beetlejuice* costar

49. Bonus, in adspeak
50. Chanel alternative
51. Like some males
52. Simba's significant other
53. Habit-forming material?
54. Jabbers
55. She played Mia in *Pulp Fiction*
56. Science TV show since 1974
60. *Today* alternative, briefly

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