

# Chicagoans make their voices heard in inauguration day protests

Steven Milan Moreno TECHNEWS WRITER

Donald John Trump, the 45th President of the United States, was sworn into office on Friday, January 20, much to the anger, frustration, and worry of many Americans across the country. The city of Chicago was no exception to this. Shortly after the end of the swearing in, Chicagoans bundled up and began to organize and gather in the heart of the city to have their anger and frustration voiced for the entire world, and hopefully the commander in chief, to hear. At 3 p.m., the protests officially began with a two-hour rally at the Daley Center, which is surrounded by numerous city, county, and state government buildings including the city hall itself. The crowds included several groups of students from local high schools and colleges who had walked out of their classes in protest of the

inauguration. Several political, social, and community groups also made themselves present at the protests including numerous churches, political groups, and student organizations.

Many of the people at the rally had intentionally ignored the television coverage of the inauguration to keep from the president the satisfaction of high TV ratings. Even so, a large television feed showing the inauguration day parade and celebrations was set up across the street from the Dally Center to keep the crowds informed on the events occurring in the nation's capital city. As the rally entered its second hour, people noticed as the protests in Washington D.C. began to turn into full scale rioting. With images surfacing of burning limousines and smashed windows, protest organizers in Chicago called for peaceful protesting, which was the case for most of the day. After the end of the second hour,

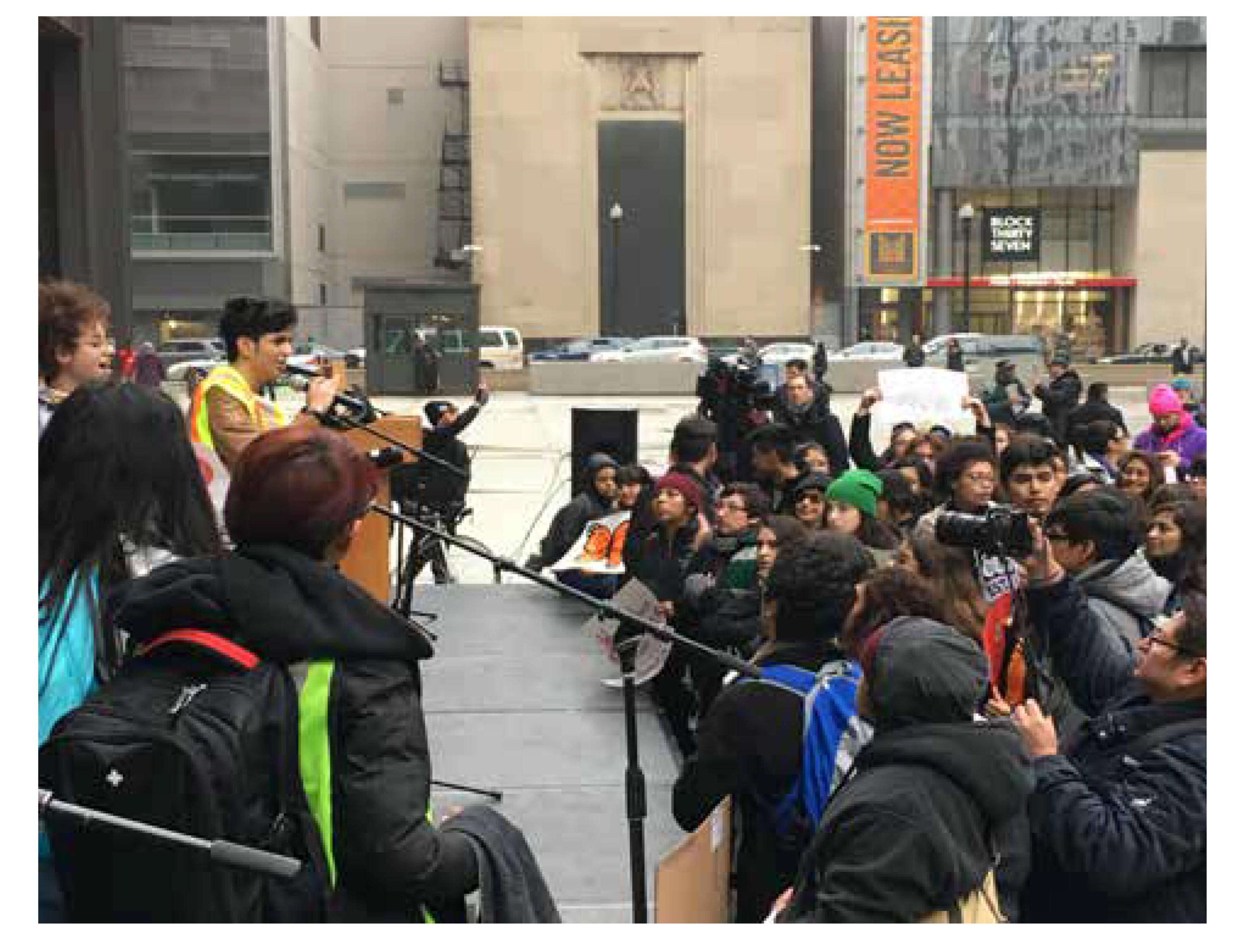
the protesters began to make their way to the Chicago riverfront from the Daley Center to begin the second protest in front of the president's grand skyscraper in the city, the Trump International Hotel.

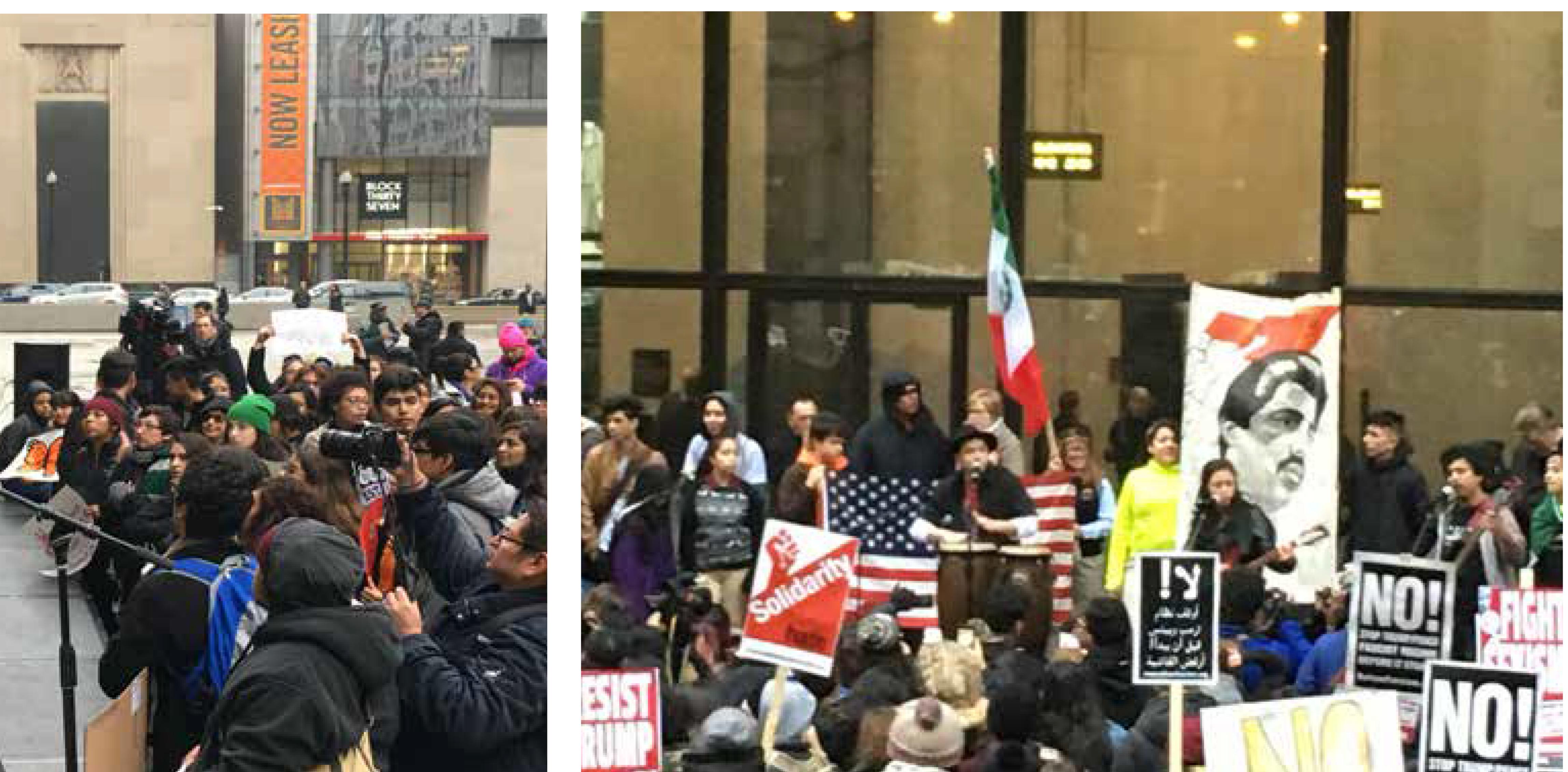
As the sun began to set, the crowd of protesters began to march through the streets across the Chicago River from the base of the tower while the police and bystanders looked on in both astonishment and fear. In addition to signs and banners filling the streets, music from an orchestral band filled the air as they played in the background. The orchestra's musical selection included such songs as the Imperial March from Star Wars, We Don't Need No Education by Pink Floyd, and the Oompa Loompa's song from Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. While the early hours of the protest at Trump International Hotel were relatively peaceful, as the night drew on the crowds began to collapse in size and increase

in violent activity. Clashes between rioters and the police began to appear throughout downtown as they began to block off streets and disrupt traffic on busy roads such as Lake Shore Drive. Despite these moments of violence and conflict, the city remained relatively peaceful when compared to other cities that experienced protesting, such as Washington D.C.

When the day came to an end, many people in the city and around the world were not yet ready to call it quits just yet. The Women's March on Washington took place the very next day along with several other sister marches in major cities around not just the nation, but the entire world. Of these sister marches, Chicago was one of the largest. With crowds surpassing a quarter of a million people, it is obvious that the citizens of this city are not afraid to speak and stand up for what they believe in.







Photos by Steven Milan Moreno

### TechNews

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# An inclusive basis for music criticism

Reno Fera-Ducatt

DISTRIBUTION MANAGER

I like music. And in the tradition of acknowledging that I feel a particular way about something, I want to understand the source of my thoughts and emotions.

I, however, perceive that my appreciation of music, and this may be generalizable to appreciation of any form of art, is more complicated than simply something being to my liking. Music can, in fact, affect my liking depending on how it is done. More specifically, I can listen to music and at first, perceive it to be distasteful, and then to grow to appreciate it for any number of reasons, often more so than music that I enjoy on first listening.

This leads me to form the conclusion that there are different levels of appreciation, and the level at which I appreciate music beyond that "first listening" mentality feels superior to me, since it resists taste, and grows my taste, growing something I perceive as a part of myself. Even if I am not "in the mood" to listen to music, there is almost a rational appeal in my mind that tell me something has markedly more merit than something else. This appeal is not concentrated in my understanding of the music to any aspect of it which makes it more impressive (e.g. in whether the music is more technically extravagant or dramatic), but in several areas, and in an understanding of how the areas are developed and understood which, though I may not necessarily understand them, can appreciate the goal that the artist wishes to advance in the their music.

Furthermore, these considerations, observing the projection of my interest in music over my life, I note the value that I ascribe to music in an album form for folk composed music, in opposition to to classically composed music, is of a higher regard than what are typically understood to be singular songs. This relationship between a song and an album I liken to a symphony; although the many parts of the symphony may be very different, they were designed to go together, and can not be appreciated fully without the acknowledgment of the others and the collection. Obviously, it is very difficult to talk in terms of music being folk, classical, symphony, song, and album because those terms are highly colloquial in use (some more than others). I use them only because they are so common.

It is no secret that the prevailing idea about music from critics is that the an album, being consumed as a full piece, offers a better experience than singular songs (this a claim in the folk paradigms of most popular music). Why, though? Why should an album, which colloquially is understood to be a collection of songs, either by some artist and curated by that artist and/or other parties for the purpose of packaging or as a compilation of many artists, be superior to the songs themselves individually? And furthermore, if we are to understand this to be the case, does this mean that a singular "song" could not be held to the same level of regard as the album?

I have been known to desire to listen to one particular song, even one particular song repeatedly, in response to an inclination under which I may find myself. Furthermore, songs that I have heard in the past, and which

my mind or the state which they create for me, and that do so because of preferences for any of the characteristics or any given element or elements of the music to which I respond.

However, there is something in the album form which I believe to be, although related to this interest in the music and appeal, distinguishable in its objectivity, or at least shared acknowledgement of genius. Music can be understood as a collection of parts—musical works are collections of notes or chords or tempos or rhythms or sounds or instruments—and all these elements, in how they fit together, make what is compelling about the music: notably, say, a good song. Why the artist made the choices they did in composing the music, why they chose to put the pieces together, in addition to where the pieces came from and why the artist choose to use them, are what is compelling about the music. Surveying the whats and whys, though we may never understand them with the vividity and clarity that the artist did, allows us to speculate and marvel at them nonetheless.

Now, one may look at the standard array of music and see the glaring examples of similarity formulaically scattered through all of it. In fact, music that doesn't follow these formulae is often perceived as sounding bad because of ignorance or laziness or just incapability on the part of the artists who may have tried to apply it, or just never even considered applying it. Sound, lyrical content, structure, technique, and more are shared and distinguish types and genres of music as they represent the attitudes of the artists that made them.

The formulae of music primes one's mind for what is next: for the change in key or tempo, or a response to particular sounds or concepts or attitudes, fulfilling or breaking expectation based on the artists' wills towards their musical preferences. And typically, these are perceived through the lens of the original artist, who considered the array of possibilities and chose based on intuition or reason. Crafting carefully, over some time, their work, investing themselves in creating what they want to create, nothing more and nothing less, using what tools they have at their disposal and their experienced understanding of their relationship with them, always pushing the possible limits of their capabilities and growing and learning so as to come closer and closer to the final product of perfection, is the ultimate goal of any artist. This is just to say, "the artist has goals, and wants to be good at them," but adding a little more passionate pizzazz. The mind may be a subjective organ, but it can be affected in predictable ways, and follows predictable patterns that can make sense (if not be fully realized or understood) by everyone.

Songs, imagining them as we have previously established, are those collections of elements based off of will and capability, but they tend to be, due to composition style or preference, limited. They are pieces. The album, eliminating the constraint of the "song's" strive for specificity, allows the artist much more liberty over their work, and ability to control it and experiment with the elements they want

therefore draw up pleasurable or familiar to utilize, are comfortable with, and know. It experiences for me are, in themselves, also enhances the music as aligned with the inclinations. There is no doubt that I have folk composition style, since perceiving each preferences for songs due to their effects on song as its own compartment eliminates the tedium, unintuitiveness, and frivolity of trying to build all desired but varied pieces into one discombobulated compartment.

> The style of music throughout the album is expected to be quite different from song to song, but there will inevitably be similarities related to the goals or style of the artist(s). And the dynamic range and variety that maintains a consistent lens of the artist and the tone or sounds they've worked extensively with is what allows for the interesting elaboration to take form. Ideas themselves, most often through lyrical content, might be echoed throughout the album in what is often called a "concept album."

> Sometimes, an artist will want the previous song to prepare the listener to the next song. It adds a sense of following to set the work on the best grounds to perceive it. It is not uncommon for a listener to want to listen to something similar to what they have just listened to, having gotten a taste from it, and this meta-ization works off of this. It is possible that listening to one song with a cleansed palate would be distasteful, but after being built and familiarized to some level on the song's elements from the previous one, the artist can demonstrate a continuation, a different take, a different though similar style or sound which they would not have been able to provide in a satisfactory way through the single song. This gives the artist even more will to exercise their experimentation on the mind: a thorough dissection of their music and ideas, one song opening up new doors and more possibilities for future ones.

> All in all, the album, in perceiving and consuming more and more varied elements of the goals and styles of the artist, allows any passive listen to enter the mind of that artist. Whether or not the art is intended for the ear that the music reached, it does widen the spectrum of thought, or mimic the widening of a spectrum of thought, from creator to perceiver, and that is thrilling. It is not just the experiencing of what is already compelling, but experiencing what you didn't realize could be compelling that is exciting.

> The colloquial "album" does this better. There is no limit to this. In theory, the meta-ization of art could go on forever, but it becomes harder and harder and less fulfilling to express the primary building blocks which make up the emotional appeal. It is a subtle and delicate balance that must be upheld.

> Returning to the question of whether a song can be considered as much of a compelling and comprehensive piece as an album made up of them, I can now provide an answer: the colloquial song described cannot. Equally, an album can be designed as the composition of parts without thought, or much thought, to the whole. However, this is remarkably less impressive. The holistic goals and styles can come in many forms, and really, it is more about the artist conveying that the choices they made were made consciously and purposefully. But doing this, and desiring this to be experienced to the fullest extent possible, should be desired.



# International Students Feature: Taiwan

Alexandra Detweiler

COPY EDITOR

International students go through count. Their transitions to surrounding scenery, people, language, holidays, and traditions may all change, and that's not even close to an exhaustive list. This section of TechNews aims to capture the perspectives of different international students in order to help others better understand other cultures and what American culture looks like to someone newly exposed to it. This week, the spotlight is on Taiwan. Shen Chun-Ju, a second year graduate student from Taipei studying manufacturing engineering, and Yuan Kai Tsai, a first year graduate student from Tainan studying materials science and engineering, have shared their opinions on the biggest differences between Taiwan and America.

One clear similarity between almost all international students is a dislike of the American diet, or at the very least a preference for the food back home. Both Shen and Yuan miss the food back in Taiwan. In Shen's words, the "food in Taiwan is a lot of different than here." In her opinion, food in Taiwan differs so drastically from here that a lot of foreigners

Taiwanese fried chicken, usually purchased here. from a street vendor. Shen described it as boneless, with Taiwanese spices like basil, all in a white paper bag. One would "normally eat it with bubble tea, [which] originated in Taiwan." According to Shen, near her house there are three or four separate bubble tea vendors, and the competitive atmosphere makes the bubble tea even tastier. In comparison, Shen said, "bubble tea in Chinatown is bad." One thing Yuan found strange about American food is how common it was to eat vegetables raw. "In my country," Yuan explained, "we eat vegetable which is cooked, but here people eat vegetable raw. We can put some salt, or put some other sauces." Another difference Yuan noted was the presence of less seafood. "Taiwan is a small island," he said, "so every city [is] near the sea. It's easy for us to get seafood. But in Chicago, it's very difficult to get seafood." In addition, Yuan explained that the general composition of meals varied greatly between the two countries. While American meals tend to have an emphasis on potatoes, he thought, Taiwanese meals instead use a lot of noodles and rice. But while most of the food is clearly very different, Yuan mentioned that the pizza

wouldn't try it. One food she misses most is in Taiwan was very similar to the pizza offered

In terms of general culture, one of the most obvious differences is the language. And while the language barrier is a big part of the transition, there are many other changes to account for. According to Yuan, "I think one difference is about family. The connection of parents and kids is very strong in my city. For example, I know a lot of Americans [whose] parents don't care much about them after 18 years old. In my country, the connection is stronger. For example, if we encounter big challenge[s] in our lives, we can get help from our parents. Our parents can help us to solve the challenges because they have more experience [and] their age is older." Yuan also noticed that people in America seemed to prefer to stay home after they finish work, contrasting with the behavior he had become accustomed to.

differences Academically, abound. One such difference, according to Shen, is the "education system here is more practical. [The] professor will do a project, be more helpful for searching a job after we graduate." In Yuan's opinion, teachers and students interact more frequently in American

classrooms. "In Taiwan, teachers usually teach students and students don't ask any questions. It's totally different than America." In addition, Yuan said that the way students go about getting answers can also be contrasted. For example, Yuan said, "students in my country they prefer to ask teachers to get the answers, but the students here in my opinion find how to solve the questions by themselves ... the students in my country want to get the answers directly. They don't want to know what the process is to get the answer, they just want to get the answer."

While many international students have a similar opinion of the American diet, there is a also a clear trend that international students appreciate the diversity of the people and cultures here. Yuan described this feeling, saying that when the two countries are contrasted, the "big difference is human. People are from [all] countries, from everywhere. When I arrived in America and I met new people, I can know a lot of cultures from their countries or different kinds of concepts or ideas." Perhaps it is a lesson to be learned from voices like Yuan that this diversity, this opportunity to learn from so many different perspectives, is truly an American blessing.

# QED holds its first thought-provoking meeting of the semester

Reno Waswil

DISTRIBUTION MANAGER

QED: The Ethical Debaters, or just QED, is a student organization dedicated to discussing ethics and philosophy surrounding a broad range of fields, including political ethics, medical ethics, bioethics, metaethics, and much more. The club invites and unites students with a curiosity about ethically ambiguous situations and a desire to talk about them and understand them in light of many different points of view. The club exists to engage its members in open-minded discourse, teach and encourage them to utilize their critical thinking and reasoning, and improve their confidence and public speaking in such manners.

QED's history is linked with the Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl, which is an intercollegiate debate-style competition run by the Association of Practical and Professional Ethics that, according to its website, "combines the excitement of a competitive tournament with a valuable education experience for undergraduate students." The name of the organization was changed over a year and a half ago from "IIT Ethics Bowl" to its current

one, which was chosen to signify that the organization was looking to publicly broaden its role from a group that competes in the Ethics Bowl to an ethics and philosophy appreciation, education, and discussion society on campus.

Last Friday, January 20, from 12:50-3:00 p.m., the organization had its first meeting of the semester in the Crown Conference Room in Hermann Hall. Though their meetings had historically focused on discussing Ethics Bowl cases, the topic for discussion at this meeting was about the foundation of ethics. In particular, beginning with thinking about the is-ought problem (which is that what happens or what people do is not necessarily what they ought to do), members engaged in a discussion about what ethics is, where we get the virtues and goals which determine or influence our choices, and what basis there is for them. Habit dictated that references to Immanuel Kant's method of ethics, Utilitarianism, the Ethics of Care, Virtue Ethics, and moral relativism were plentiful. This is because "prescriptive" ethics, or arguing what people should do given certain circumstances, is most often the club's goal.

Members talked about what reasons there were for not acting in total self-interest,

or why one should follow any prescriptive ethics in the first place. The discourse then evolved into one almost singularly stemming from the philosophical pessimism of Arthur Schopenhauer, the ethicality of having children. This followed a general agreement that the ability to exercise consent of others' actions that affect you was a justifiable virtue to be protected. A couple of the members at the meeting, both Shimer students, held the belief that, because a child cannot consent to being born, people ought not to have children.

This followed the logic that since suffering was an inevitability of living, causing the suffering of a living thing by causing the existence of the living thing without its consent, is fundamentally unethical. Just as society does not allow children, even with their consent, to engage in certain activities because they can later regret their decisions and undergo suffering, so too should we, each as decision makers, not allow children to be born to protect them from this suffering to which they cannot consent. Moreso, even if children may later not regret their decisions (or someone may not resent their life), most people believe that, because they are a vulnerable population and do not have a developed sense of the

consequences of their actions (or have no ability to consent what so ever), they should be protected from the possibility of future suffering that may be caused by those past actions. Furthermore, it is not that children are only protected because they are already living, and we do not have such obligations to the unborn. Most people, given the option to cause a great number of people misery and suffering several generations in the future in exchange for, say, free margaritas today, they would most likely feel the obligation to keep that suffering from taking place due to an obligation for inevitably living beings, which can experience suffering but do not exist yet. Therefore, everyone ought to not have children, since the child would go on to undergo suffering as a result of being born, to which they did not consent. It was quite an intriguing and thought-provoking argument for those in attendance.

The club accepts all types of people with all types of positions and meets Fridays from 12:50-3:00 p.m. (although, showing up late or leaving early is absolutely acceptable). QED hopes to continue providing a space to encourage interesting discussions for all students on the campus.

# Hawks Coffeehouse returns for the Spring 2017 semester

Reno Waswil

DISTRIBUTION MANAGER

Hawks Coffeehouse is the biweekly Union Board-hosted event series wherein student, amateur, and professional poets, songwriters, and musicians are invited to perform their art at Illinois Tech for the enjoyment of the student body in a cozy, coffeehouse-esque atmosphere. Since a day change last semester, the events has taken place every other Wednesday night, 7 to 8 p.m. in the MTCC Welcome Center, which is the the space between the State Street entrance and the Pritzker Club in the MTCC.

On Wednesday, January 17, the

series began anew for the Spring 2017 semester with the folk rock musical duo Hunt for Hunter. The band, based in Brooklyn, New York, consists of Michael Hunter and Ian Hunt. Hunter, who sat atop a cajon "box drum" for the duration of the show, accompanied the standing violin-playing Hunter on acoustic guitar and percussion. Hunter, while playing, would also occasionally kick his leg up to strike a cymbal, which added a bit of effect to Hunter's already vivacious "fiddling." Each displayed a veritable skill on their respective instruments, and though both sang, Hunter, with his impressive range, was the primary vocalist. Hunt even recounted that Hunter, having come down with a slight cold recently, had given him a list of a few songs he might

have to perform during their upcoming shows, and how he was a little bit worried about it.

Although both skilled and practiced musicians in their own right, they were novices of college touring. The 2016 Fall Regional National Association of Campus Activities in Covington, KY, which is where Union Board booked them, was the first they had attended.

The setlist for their show last Wednesday included striking covers of popular songs like "Viva La Vida" by Coldplay and a song Hunter explained was one of his first to learn, the Beatles' "Eleanor Rigby," as well as a few originals, including "Divine" off of their new EP "No Locks & No Bars." One particularly memorable song of theirs was a novelty song in which Hunter described in

no small detail an incident of a bird pooping on him in a Whole Foods. This was followed by a warning to all audience members of one particular Whole Foods in New York that they might want to avoid.

Along with the music, students enjoyed coffee, hot chocolate, and an assortment cupcakes—slightly smushed, but cupcakes nonetheless—which were set out for attendees.

Hawks semester's Coffeehouse in full swing, readers interested in attending can look forward to coming, or perhaps even performing at the event in the coming weeks. The next such event is scheduled to take place on February 1, 2017 from 7 to 8 p.m. in the MTCC Welcome Center.

Amagine your name

# 

Became a TechNews writer

email editor@technewsiit.com

# ACM holds first meeting of 2017, outlining plans for the new semester

Divya Soopal

TECHNEWS WRITER

Association Computing Machinery (ACM), Illinois Tech chapter, hosted its first callout for the spring semester on January 12, at the Stuart Building Auditorium during lunch break time (1 p.m.). Mohsin Haider gave out a breakdown of the ACM and its upcoming plans.

Computer science is a wide-reaching department at Illinois Tech, and ACM is simply an organization that seeks to 'educate to inspire' computer scientists and other tech enthusiasts. With approximately 160 members at Illinois Tech, activities that are highlighted at this organization are mainly programming workshops and tech talks. Last semester, Fall 2016, it received positive feedback for its workshops.

> active members

background to collaboratively code a one-ofa-kind idea. They spur creativity. Mobile apps, websites, robots, and more are created from scratch during these events. 48 ACM tech individuals attended hackathons last semester with around 40 percent of them attending for the first time.

The two largest hackathons attended by ACM, PennApps and MHacks, gather 1000 hackers from universities across the globe. These students often spend the most exciting and high-energy weekends of their lives at these event. For 24 to 48 hours, they team up with a motley group of creative minds. They challenge their abilities, learn new technologies, throw together tons of code, and set out to build. Sleep deprivation often fades out with the anticipation of competing for prizes.

Haider jested about ACM being a

participants of hackathons. These social hackathon club. On a more serious note, he coding events invite people with technical added that these events are just part of the equation of ACM. The purpose put at heart is to build a community of future computer scientists, engineers, and developers around this 'hacker' culture. Their objective is CERMC: Education, Recruitment, Competition, Mentorship and Collaboration. As a premier computer science organization on campus, ACM is committed to helping its members learn and grow outside of the classroom.

> The upcoming activities in the January calendar are mostly meetings, hackathon trips, technology workshops, and tech talks by Chicago tech companies, startups, and academia. ACM's two big announcements for this semester are the establishment of the Student Interest Groups (SIGs) project and the Scarlet Hacks.

> SIGs are member-led "mini clubs" within ACM. Students can lead their own SIG, which may specialize in many different

areas: SIGmobile or SIGweb, for example. All those interested in a specific area can therefore network. These groups involves being creative with technology while fostering leadership, communication, and strong work ethic skills. The best part, to some, is that SIGs allow students to run their own organizations while neglecting all the other administrative hassles. "ACM will do the finances; you do the cool stuff," says Haider.

In addition another to upcoming project for the semester is the launch of ACM's website.

ACM is planning big. Inspired by past hackathon success, ACM is working to launch their own hackathon, Scarlet Hacks, in conjunction with Major League Hacking (MLH). In that respect, ACM is looking for individuals who can take on a challenging, but at the same time rewarding, task for their Scarlet Hacks hackathons.

# Anxious to be an entrepreneur? Stop Talking and Start Doing!

Teesta Jain, Donna Rockin KNAPP ENTREPRENEURSHIP CENTER

Illinois Tech has the best and the brightest students, capable of solving large problems. So if you think you have what it takes to solve a large problem in today's complex world: stop talking and start doing. You can get tons of help all under one roof, in one weekend, all at Campus 1871, March 31-April 2, 2017. It's a weekend of learning and an experience you'll never forget.

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At Campus 1871 you'll learn about all the facets you need to consider to bring a new product or service to life. This exceptional hands-on learning experience is a unique startup extravaganza, that is a collaborative cross-campus initiative between 1871, The Illinois Institute of Technology, Northwestern University, The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, The University of Illinois at Chicago, The University of Illinois Springfield, DeVry University, DePaul University, Loyola University Chicago, and The University of Chicago. Space is limited and this exclusive startup weekend only accepts approximately 100 students.

The weekend includes Startup 101

1871 for the winning team to continue their hard work and make their idea a reality. The purpose of Campus 1871 is for you and your team to create a viable business model and design for a potential startup company that would solve a meaningful problem in today's world. Come in with ideas and get ready to pitch to the crowd.

You don't have to know it all, or be a computer science major; your area of expertise is enough to get you started and take you far. They are looking for students with interests that range from graphic design, humanities, and mechanical engineering to chemistry. Campus 1871 will pair you with students from other universities, with other skills to complement those skills you do have. luminAID®, GrubHub crash courses, keynote speakers, mentorship, and the X-Cube were brought to life on pitches, and a grand prize of membership to Chicago campuses. Maybe you'll be the next

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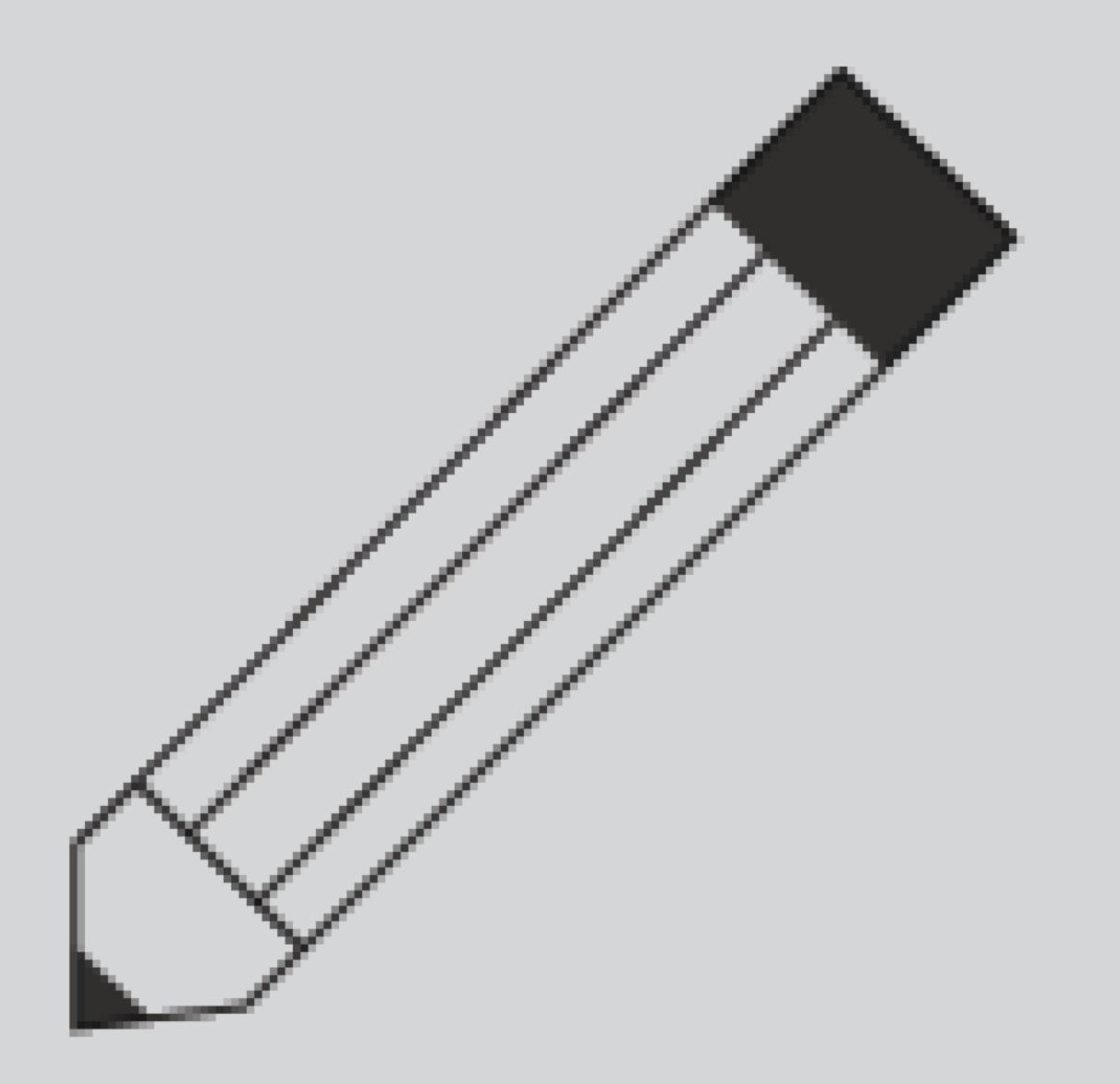
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# Student Government Association extends reach into local volunteering

Ethan Castro COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBER

You would be forgiven for believing that the Illinois Tech Student Government Association (SGA) only concerns itself with projects centered on this campus and its student organizations. In fact, it is true that the recently revived coverage of SGA in TechNews thus far has only covered SGA developments that are immediately relevant to Illinois Tech students, such as creating a universal course syllabus library or the expanding role of Judicial Board in student organization affairs. However, the Communications Committee, under Vice President Jelani Canty, is looking to take SGA into the next level of involvement—

volunteering with the local community.

As Canty himself summarizes, "this semester SGA's Communications Committee will be conducting a community service outreach project. This project is centered on the Valentine Boys & Girls Club." Located at 3400 S. Emerald Ave., this local branch of the larger Boys & Girls Club organization is just a short ten-minute bus ride away from campus. Canty himself has already been making weekly trips to the organization to volunteer his time helping local elementary school children. With members ranging between 5 and 18 years of age, the Valentine Boys & Girls Club offers a multitude of programs, including an art club, poetry club, homework help, money management, and even Mandarin Chinese of "positively influencing the lives of today's language lessons. Thus, Canty sees a prime youth." Volunteer opportunities already exist

opportunity for increasing Illinois Tech involvement in the surrounding community through a partnership with this organization.

Just as there is a perceived lack of communication between SGA and the greater Illinois Tech student body that the Communications Committee is looking to address, there is also the broader issue of increasing Illinois Tech presence in the immediate surrounding communities. Thus, Canty believes the best way of dealing with these communications gaps is through the existing opportunities provided by organizations such as the Boys & Girls Club. He believes that many Illinois Tech students can find easy resonance with the club's goal

in scattered pockets around campus, especially with the connections offered by the Office of Campus Life, like the annual Big Event. It is only logical that SGA, as one of the largest and most encompassing groups on campus, takes up its own volunteering initiatives.

Those who are interested in forming a connection with the Boys & Girls Club of Chicago are highly encouraged to reach out directly to SGA's Vice President of Communications, Jelani Canty, at jcanty@ hawk.iit.edu.

# SGA begins the new year with a new Events Chair, new office, more

Soren Spicknall COPY EDITOR

Two days after the start of the new semester, the Senate of Illinois Tech's Student Government Association (SGA) gathered in Stuart Building for their first meeting of 2017. With a month and a half gone since the body's most recent prior gathering, there was plenty of business to attend to during the allotted time. The organization worked through its usual gamut of necessary business, hearing approval requests from prospective student organizations and reporting on project progress within each of its committees, but Senators and Executive Board members also discussed a number of new business items, some of which stands to have as much an impact on the student body as its committees' various projects.

The meeting began as most Senate meetings do, with presentations from student groups that had submitted paperwork to become officially recognized on-campus organizations under the Office of Campus Life (OCL). The first such group to present was the proposed Polish Student Society, a social organization based on Polish heritage and interest in Polish culture. The group claimed 15 current members, more than the 10 required for student organization status, but wasn't able to elaborate on any specific structure already established within those members when prompted. The presenters from the Society projected a semester budget of 1,500 dollars, intending to use those funds to host a Polish cultural festival, food-related events, and other highly visible events. In addition, they expressed intent to attend some events off campus at a Polish cultural center in the city. However, their plans were somewhat light on details, and that combined with worries over their perceived lack of structure to result in a rejection by the Senate by a margin of seven in favor of approval, twelve against, and one abstaining. Senators largely agreed that the Polish Student Society's concept had merit, and that they were welcome to present again at another meeting, but that they were not organized enough yet to thrive as a student organization and have access to the university's Student Activities Fund.

By contrast, the next potential organization to present was quite polished. Students putting together a chapter of Upsilon Pi Epsilon, an honor society for computer science majors, spoke for just a few seconds under the maximum allowed time of five minutes, expanding on slides that described a full executive board structure, elaborated on the group's relationship with the computer science department, and presented a number of concrete event concepts for existing members and those new to Illinois Tech. The organization representatives, who had been working with faculty member Matthew Bauer over the last semester to begin shaping their proposal, came across as well-rehearsed and ambitious, with plans to use Upsilon Pi Epsilon to advise their academic department, provide resources for the group's members, and work in concert with Illinois Tech's chapter of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), the professional organization for new expectations for academic advisers. The room to get the ball rolling on strategies for workers in computing-related fields. When it latter project is open to unstructured feedback, the spring's upcoming SGA Executive Board

came time for the student Senate to discuss the group's application privately, a motion was sustained to skip debate altogether and move straight to voting, with 22 in favor, 0 against, and 1 abstaining.

new student organization presentations had finished, the meeting moved on to its next section: new business. To begin, SGA President Hamze "Leo" Sukkar brought forward the Executive Board's chosen candidate for the open position of Events Chair, an executive-level position that was created in the Fall semester through an amendment to the SGA constitution (it had existed informally for a year prior, but was not codified). The candidate, Adeena Ahmed, had been actively attending meetings in the past as a volunteer, including the smaller bi-weekly gatherings of SGA's Communications Committee. When asked about challenges facing SGA in its past execution of events, Ahmed spoke with energy about the organization's failure to dedicate itself to significant advance planning, setting out a goal of four weeks prior commitment and two weeks prior advertising for future activities. She also implored SGA members to attend the body's own events, something that was also claimed as a significant past failing. On a broader scale, Ahmed asserted that SGA "can be very vague about what it wishes to accomplish," and that she hoped to work to clarify the organization's actions and battle student apathy toward participation in traditional structures of leadership on campus. Following her answers to audience questions, the present senators moved to skip debate (as they had with Upsilon Pi Epsilon) and held a vote whose results indicated 22 in favor of her nomination, 0 against, and 1 abstaining, well above the two-thirds threshold needed to fill the open Events Chair position.

Next on the agenda, each member of the Executive Board (with the exception of the newly-inaugurated Ahmed, Executive Vice President Sonia Kamdar, and Judicial Board Chief Justice San Dinh) presented a brief report on their most recent activities within SGA. Sukkar announced that the organization's office had officially moved to MTCC 109, a former conference room next to the One Stop near the Commons, expressing hope that the location would be more visible than their previous office within a space shared with the OCL, Office of Student Affairs, Union Board, and TechNews. On the subject of visibility, he also stated that two new banners had been designed for display at SGA functions, one of which was specifically intended for use at each semester's President and Provost Forum.

After Sukkar's updates, Academic Affairs VP Akash Raina spoke about an upcoming effort organized by his committee, in which senators will be introducing themselves in Introduction to the Profession (ITP) courses and making themselves visible as faces of SGA. He also provided news on a few of his committee's other projects, stating that an effort to ensure syllabi were provided for every possible class was moving forward, establishing that a campus-wide curriculum amendment from the previous semester had been sent to Dr. Joseph Orgel to present at the University Faculty Council, and asking Senators to begin providing input for an upcoming push to set

and those who have encountered difficulty with advising or who have ideas about how it takes places can contact Raina directly to provide that information.

Communications Committee VP Jelani Canty spoke about his time volunteering at the nearest Boys & Girls Club charity, part of a focus on service within his committee that is intended to extend to all of SGA. He also discussed a final push to update information on the SGA website, which still contains some out-of-date information and currently suffers from a limited level of access within SGA, an issue that is being worked through with the Office of Technology Services (OTS). Finally, Canty proposed a concept for collaboration with businesses along the #31 bus line, a trial route launched last year that bisects campus on its way through the Bridgeport and Bronzeville neighborhoods. He admitted that he hadn't yet discussed such plans with his committee, but wanted to encourage students to use the #31 bus somehow so that ridership numbers would be high enough to warrant the CTA making it permanent when the trial ends this Spring.

In a brief report, Student Life VP Qianran He mentioned that the newly-formed Technology Advisory Board, which works with OTS to forward projects of student interest, had begun to see the fruits of its labor. OTS is in the process of formulating an "Athletics" tab in MyIIT, she explained, which will eventually contain information about past and future games and other events from Illinois Tech's sports teams, including scores, schedules, and other news. More information is expected to be forthcoming in the near future.

The final Executive Board member to give their report to the Senate was Sung Min Choi Hong, the student body's Finance Board Chair. Rather than a traditional report, however, he presented three new candidates for open Finance Board advising positions: Vishnav Ashok, Shruti Khetan, and Muneeb Yawari. Choi Hong explained that the field had been narrowed down from an array of applicants that was originally much larger, and that he had full personal confidence in each nominee. Each candidate was then asked about their motivations and qualifications for the position. Ashok spoke of his experience managing finances for the Residence Hall Association (RHA) and his belief that finance was a topic of utmost importance to student life at the university; Khetan pointed to internships in budgeting and resource allocation, and stated she felt becoming a Finance Board adviser was "a great way to be more involved at Illinois Tech"; Yawari's stated background was similar, with experience managing startup budgets and summer work at a finance firm, and he stated similarly that filling one of the open positions was "a good way to give back to the school, since I haven't been as active as I'd like to be." The three nominees were voted on as a slate (as required by SGA's governing documents), and all three passed with 20 votes in favor, 2 against, and 0 abstaining.

With all the structured business of the night done, it was time for Open Floor, the final segment of each Senate meeting during which any person may bring forward announcements or topics for discussion. Sukkar once again returned to the front of the

elections, which resulted in some of the most lively discussion of the meeting. Last year's Executive Board elections were the most effective of any in recent years, with nearly twice as many votes cast as in the previous year, but the current Executive Board hopes to spur an even greater number of students to vote this year. Sukkar asked senators and others present to come up with creative ways to get the word out and highlight the importance of SGA's elections, and much of the responses to his question came in the form of input over how to improve the debates held last year in Center Court. A number of alternate locations were discussed, as well as improvements to audio and the format of the event itself. There was no consensus on the perfect debate format, but those present agreed that balance had to be found between the visibility of the setting and its ability to host an event of that nature. Beyond debates, it was mentioned that publicly highlighting the importance of SGA's work and putting a focus on its successes throughout the coming semester could help passively spur Illinois Tech's students to take a more active role in choosing those who represent them to the university's administration at the highest

Before the meeting was set to close, one more item was brought forward. Food Advisory Board, a student input body which had traditionally been overseen by SGA's Student Life committee and included representatives from Illinois Tech Dining, the RHA, OCL, and Residence & Greek Life (RGL), had only met sporadically over the past year following the departure of former chair Ricky Stevenson, who reduced student leadership responsibilities after accepting a professional opportunity in his field. The SGA senator representing RHA at the time, Jermiron "Jay" Morris, was supposed to take over the group, but his death early in 2016 led to a period of uncertainty until John Munoz, then a senator serving on the Student Life Committee, put together a few meetings of the board prior to the academic year's end. In the Fall 2016 semester, however, Munoz departed his Senate seat and Food Advisory Board only met a single time, and both SGA and RHA sought a more stable arrangement. At the end of the meeting, RHA presented the concept of an amendment to the SGA constitution which would permanently place chairpersonship of Food Advisory Board within duties of the SGA Senator representing RHA, an arrangement that would ideally designate specific responsibility, keep the function of the Board accountable to two different student advocacy organizations, and resolve occasional backand-forth about whose auspices the Board falls under. RHA will present official wording of such an amendment at the next Senate meeting, and at that wording will be voted on during the following such meeting. It is possible, though, that Food Advisory Board will start up once again in the meantime, providing a direct forum for students interested in improving oncampus dining. SGA's Senate meets in its entirety on

every other Wednesday night at 9:15 p.m. in Stuart Building room 113, and its individual committees meeting on the alternating Wednesdays in the MTCC colored rooms.

# Galvanized by Trump inauguration, millions march in worldwide Women's March













Photos originially published in the New York Times













Photos originially published in the New York Times



# Independent musicians respond to Trump presidency with charity releases

Soren Spicknall

WIIT STATION MANAGER

In the wake of a surprising presidential election victory by Donald Trump, a significant number of notable figures in the American professional music community expressed dismay at the state of their nation and the safety of causes they support. Independent labels and artists, whose core demographic is typically of college age (and who, like participants in many forms of art in this country, typically skew left on the political spectrum), almost immediately began preparing for inauguration in a way that came naturally: through song. Their efforts, both individual and organizational, have led to a flood of new protest music as Trump has assumed the presidency, the proceeds of which have largely been donated to charitable organizations whose agendas are seen as opposed to that of President Trump.

Even in the leadup to election, projects like "30 Days, 30 Songs" (which curated a playlist of tracks meant to resist the prospect of a Trump presidency and spur voter registration) were active signs of widespread worry among independent musicians. That particular project immediately expanded following the results of the election, rebranding as "1,000 Days, 1,000 Songs" to continue its progressive mission throughout the coming presidential term. The effort features some original music composed specifically for the playlist, interspersed with relevant tracks from indie music history (like R.E.M.'s "It's the End of the World As We Know It (and I Feel Fine)," for example). Headed up by author and "McSweeney's" founder Dave Eggers (best known for the memoir "A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius"), as well as Zeitgeist Artist Management owner Jordan Kurland, the project is backed by college radio promo

servicer The Syndicate.

Following the election, the number of similar projects expanded exponentially. The most notable immediate effort was the result of a partnership between the creators

but with two key differences: every song is an original composition created specifically for the release, and listeners are asked to pay a minimum of \$30 for access to all 100 songs in the comp. Proceeds will be distributed



Photo Courtesy of Our First 100 Days

of "30 Days, 30 Songs" and Secretly Group, which operates indie labels Secretly Canadian, Jagjaguwar, and Dead Oceans (home to Anohni, Bon Iver, Foxygen, Unknown Mortal Orchestra, Destroyer, Dirty Projectors, and many more). Dubbed "Our First 100 Days," it is a song-a-day project formatted similarly to the original "30 Days, 30 Songs" compilation,

between organizations covering a number of progressive causes, including The People's Climate Movement, All Above All, Cosecha, Southerners On New Ground, Hoosier Action, and Revolutions Per Minute. The artists contributing to the composition aren't limited to the Secretly Group roster, and the list includes notable names like Toro y Moi,

the Mountain Goats, and PWR BTTM.

Even on a smaller scale, though, other labels and artists are working to make a difference in the beginning stages of Trump's presidency. Barsuk Records announced a label compilation titled "Sad!," whose proceeds will benefit the ACLU. That same organization is also receiving the proceeds from "Don't stop now: a collection of covers," a 37-song comp that includes performances from Jeff Rosenstock, Laura Stevenson, and others mostly involved in music scenes near Philadelphia and New York City. The band Pinegrove, who made minor waves last year for their decision to spend a month sending all their online sales profits to a Standing Rock protest group, has spent the last two months foregoing those profits once again to donate to Planned Parenthood and the Southern Poverty Law Center. Dozens, maybe even hundreds, of notable independent artists are taking similar action, especially with online sales.

Aside from diverting their own income to political causes, many in music are taking more direct personal action, and urging others to do the same. The day after election results, alternative hip hop figure El-P (onetime head of the Definitive Jux record label and current member of the critically acclaimed duo Run the Jewels) made a donation to Planned Parenthood and took to Twitter to urge his fellow artists to follow suit in public view. Amanda Palmer, Wilco, tUnE-yArDs, and plenty others participated in Saturday, January 21's Women's March in various locations across the U.S., and Arcade Fire, Gorillaz, and more have independently put out new singles with messages of rebellion and resolve. It may be challenging for many to face these next four years, but a large body of musical artists in the U.S. and around the world are using their talents to work toward a progressive future.

# Newly opened P Berry Kafé fills the need for coffee, tea, more near campus

Soren Spicknall

COPY EDITOR

Like any major city, Chicago has no shortage of offerings for those into café culture. The coffee shop as a meeting place, a workspace, and a neighborhood focal point is a time-honored tradition, and in the era of telecommuting it has become more important than ever. Even small towns are catching on: a recent visit to Fairhope, Alabama, a wellheeled bayside suburb of Mobile that's home to 15,000 people, revealed a count of no less than six cafés, up from three just two years ago. And yet, in areas of Chicago that have historically been underserved by mediumrange restaurants and similar amenities, coffee shops like those that are popular in more established neighborhoods are only beginning to pop up.

Here in Bronzeville, there existed a coffee shop named after the neighborhood at the corner of 43rd Street and South Forestville Avenue for a few years, but the surrounding area could not support it at the time and the location closed its doors long before any current student reading this lived in the community. The owners of that café went on to found Sip & Savor, a store in comparatively wealthy Hyde Park, home to the University of Chicago. With Bronzeville in their hearts, though, Sip & Savor opened a second location a couple years ago in the same space once occupied by their previous endeavor, and Sip & Savor Bronzeville is currently going strong as a comfortable, art-filled space that's popular with the area's rapidly expanding middle and upper middle class.

Though Sip & Savor exists on 43rd Street, it's far enough from campus that getting there from Illinois Tech is not significantly more convenient than heading west into Bridgeport to grab a drink at Bridgeport Coffee House or Jackalope Coffee & Tea. In a time when Bronzeville is still in early stages of

renewal, some students also feel uncomfortable venturing far south. There was a brief period of time during 2015 and early 2016 when a café called Sapa was operating near the corner of 35th & King Drive, but the business suffered from low visibility and eventually was forced to close facing mounting costs.

Out of the remains of Sapa's physical space, which takes up what was likely once a basement apartment just north of the Chicago Public Library's King branch, a brand new

P Berry Kafé's food offerings are somewhat limited at this point, but they encompass a number of local favorites for casual lunch. Bare-bones sandwiches, such as a jerk chicken option, are made in-house, as well as nachos and other unpretentious food. P Berry Kafé can reasonably cover a customer's need for a full meal, rising a step above the basic pastries offered by many cafés. They still seem to be settling into their menu and trying new things as they go, so their regular array of

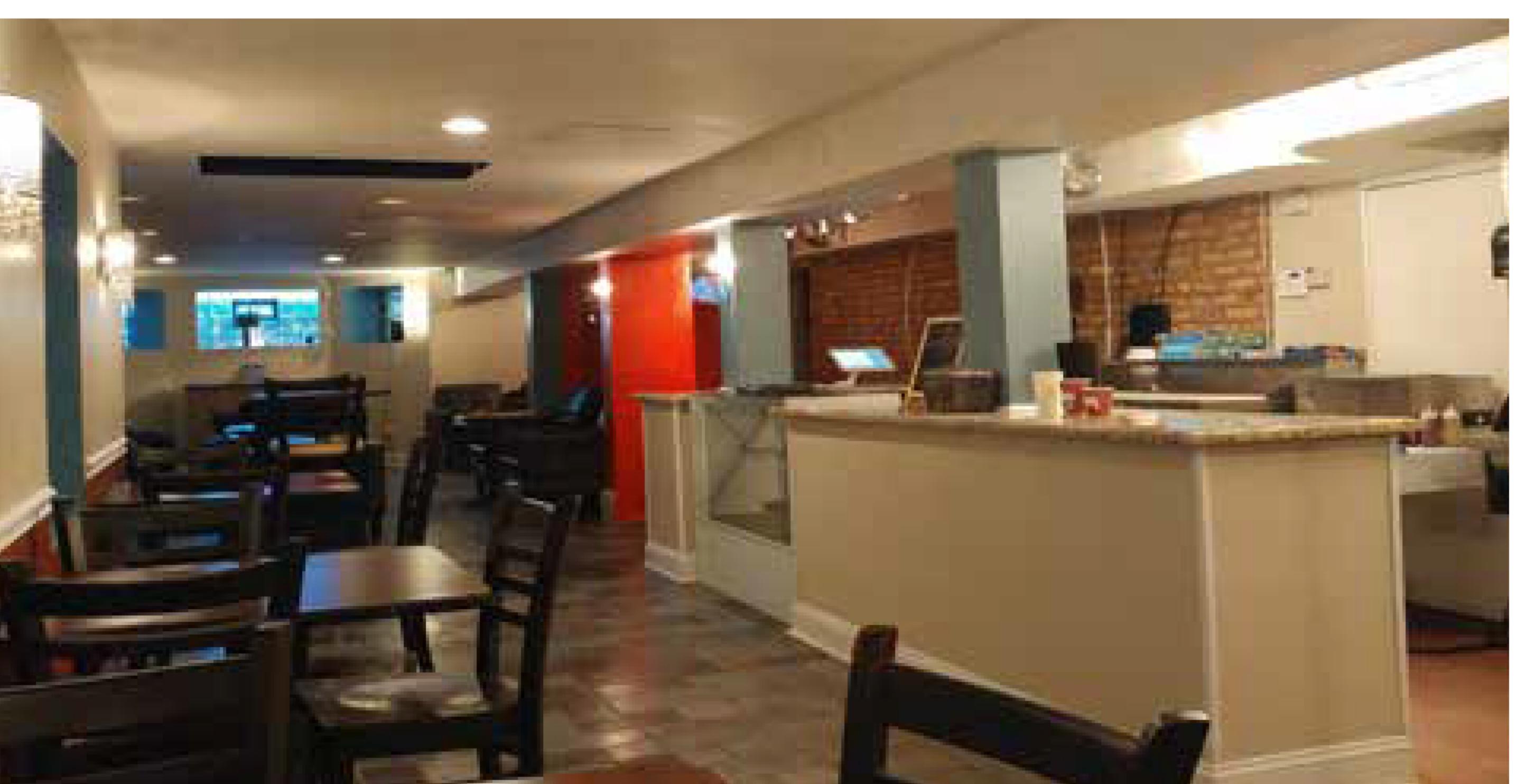


Photo by Soren Spicknall

coffee option has risen to take its place. Called P Berry Kafé and open since December, it features a selection of typical coffee- and teabased drinks, accompanied by a small menu of food for breakfast and lunch. The staff of the shop are warm and welcoming, and eager to guide newcomers around their menu (which wasn't yet posted anywhere at the time of writing). While the drinks aren't of the same quality as those on offer at Currency Exchange Café or Intelligentsia, they are far above the fare available at Brü or at Global Grounds, for that matter. A variety of flavorings are available to cover the full range of essential lattes, and a few options for tea can be purchased as well.

eats may expand in the future.

For plenty of potential customers, though, what's important in a coffee shop isn't necessarily the food and drinks on the menu. For those seeking a place where they can get away from campus and get some work done while supporting a local business, P Berry Kafé has a large space suitable for gatherings and individual pursuits alike. The store is arranged into three basic sections, with couches and a television up front that can be used for flipping channels or playing video games. In the middle next to the counter, a row of two-seat tables has easy access to electrical outlets along the wall. In the rear, near the café's bathroom,

a small corner is carved out for friends or coworkers to gather.

While all the essential elements of a coffee shop are present, there are some drawbacks to P Berry Kafé's setup. The location in a sub-ground-level unit means that natural light is at a premium, and bookworms may desire a more sunny locale. On TechNews's visit to the café the heat was also quite high, which is relieving upon entry but can be fatiguing after significant time spent inside. And while some obvious work has gone into making the café an inviting and polished place to be, it lacks a distinct personality at this point, something that local competitors Sip & Savor and Jackalope Coffee & Tea both do very well. Perhaps the addition of some artwork to the walls, or the erection of personalized decorations as the staff settles into their business's home, could benefit its overall atmosphere.

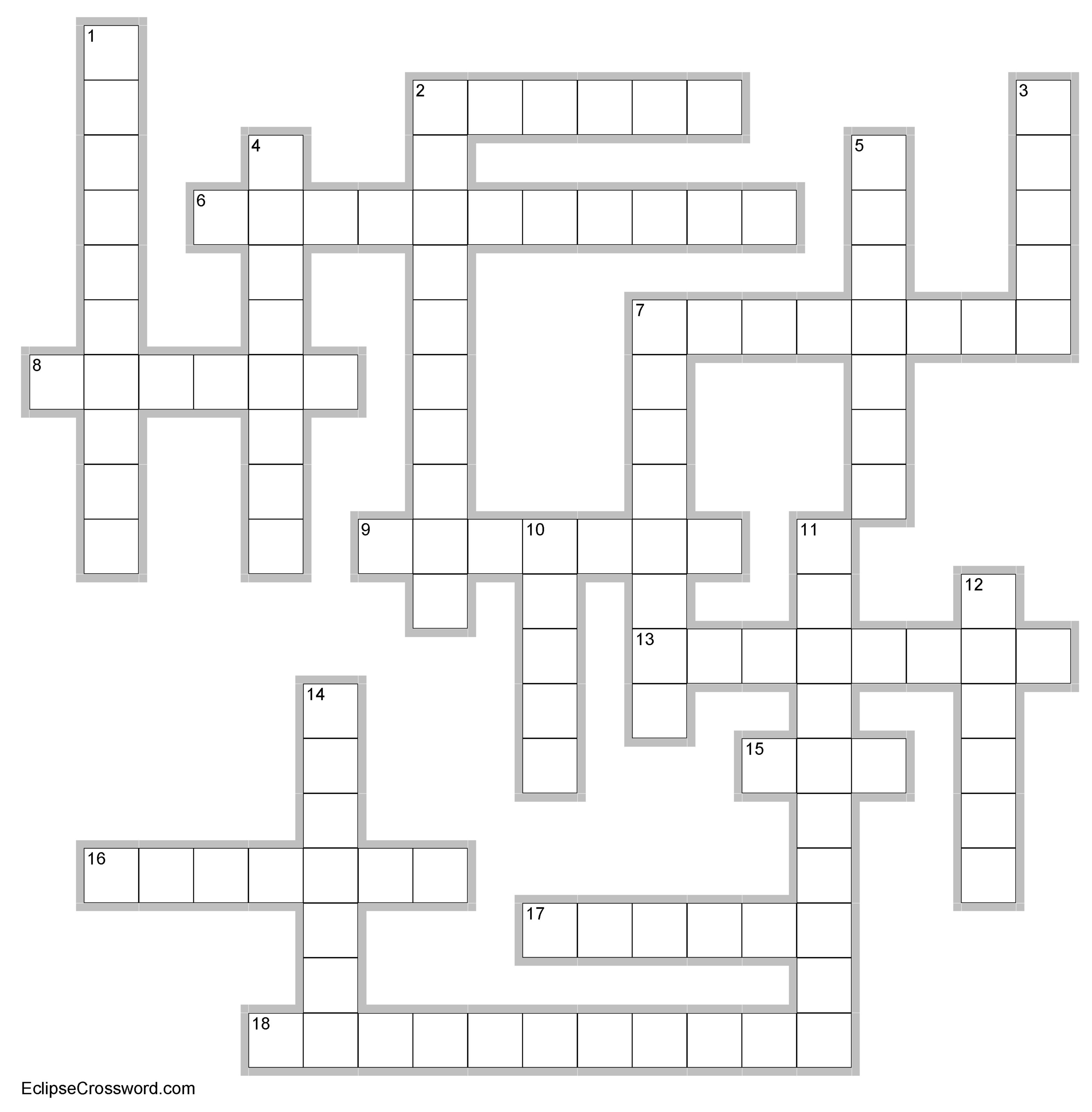
On the subject of art, works of a different sort are on exhibit regularly at P Berry Kafé. As part of an effort to reach out to the community better than Sapa did while they were open, the shop hosts weekly performances from DJs, comedians, and other Chicago figures, each performer helping to promote the café in the process. For the first month of the café's existence these shows took place only on Thursday nights, but programming has now expanded to Sundays as well.

While it's not perfect, P Berry Kafé represents the most impressive stab yet at creating a great Bronzeville café within easy walking distance of Illinois Tech. Just down a few steps from the sidewalk in the 3400 block of King Drive (near a corner that's seeing heavy investment soon, with the coming opening of Chicago's first Culver's and redevelopment of the plaza which currently holds a Jewel-Osco in planning stages) is one of the neighborhood's newest small businesses, and it's worth a look.

# WORD SEARCH

### New York Times Crossword Puzzle Trivia

If you enjoy solving crossword puzzles, you've no doubt dabbled in the New York Times crosswords. But how much do you know about the history and specifications of this popular puzzle? You'll find out, as you solve our puzzle about that puzzle! Note: Spell out all numbers in word form.



### Across

- 2. Day on which the largest puzzle appears
- 6. The motivation for the Times to begin running crosswords, more than 20 years after they were popular, was the bombing of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 7. Puzzles can be rotated 180 degrees and retain the same pattern of black squares because they have \_\_\_\_\_.
- 8. The easiest puzzle of the week is on this day.
- 9. The NYT Crossword puzzle is a regular \_\_\_\_ in over 300 newspapers.
- 13. A second type of puzzle that runs on some Sundays
- 15. If a clue ends in a question mark, it usually means the answer is a play on words, or a .
- 16. A puzzling, ambiguous clue is called this.
- 17. You'll need this if you make mistakes while solving the puzzle.
- 18. According to the NYT online spec sheet, the number of dollars paid to the writer of a Sunday crossword

#### Down

- 1. Current editor of the NYT crossword puzzles
- 2. NYT publisher who first decided to start running the crossword, Arthur Hays \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3. The *Tim*es ran its first crossword in February of nineteen hundred \_\_\_\_-two
- 4. Popular TV game show that has featured clues from the NYT
- 5. The maximum number of words in a daily puzzle is \_\_\_\_\_-two.
- 7. The most difficult puzzle of the week is on this day.
- 10. Most puzzles are written around a specific \_\_\_\_. 11. According to the NYT online spec sheet, the number of dollars paid to the writer of a daily crossword
- 12. Avenue on which the NYT is located
- 14. Number of squares in a row for a daily crossword

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# 发久生

The word Sudoku, above, is actually the abbreviation of "Suuji wa dokushin ni kagiru," meaning "the digits must be single" or "the digits are limited to one occurrence."

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www.incincerance

www.ilonograms.ru

#### Basic Rules

1. Each clue indicates a group of contiguous squares of like color.

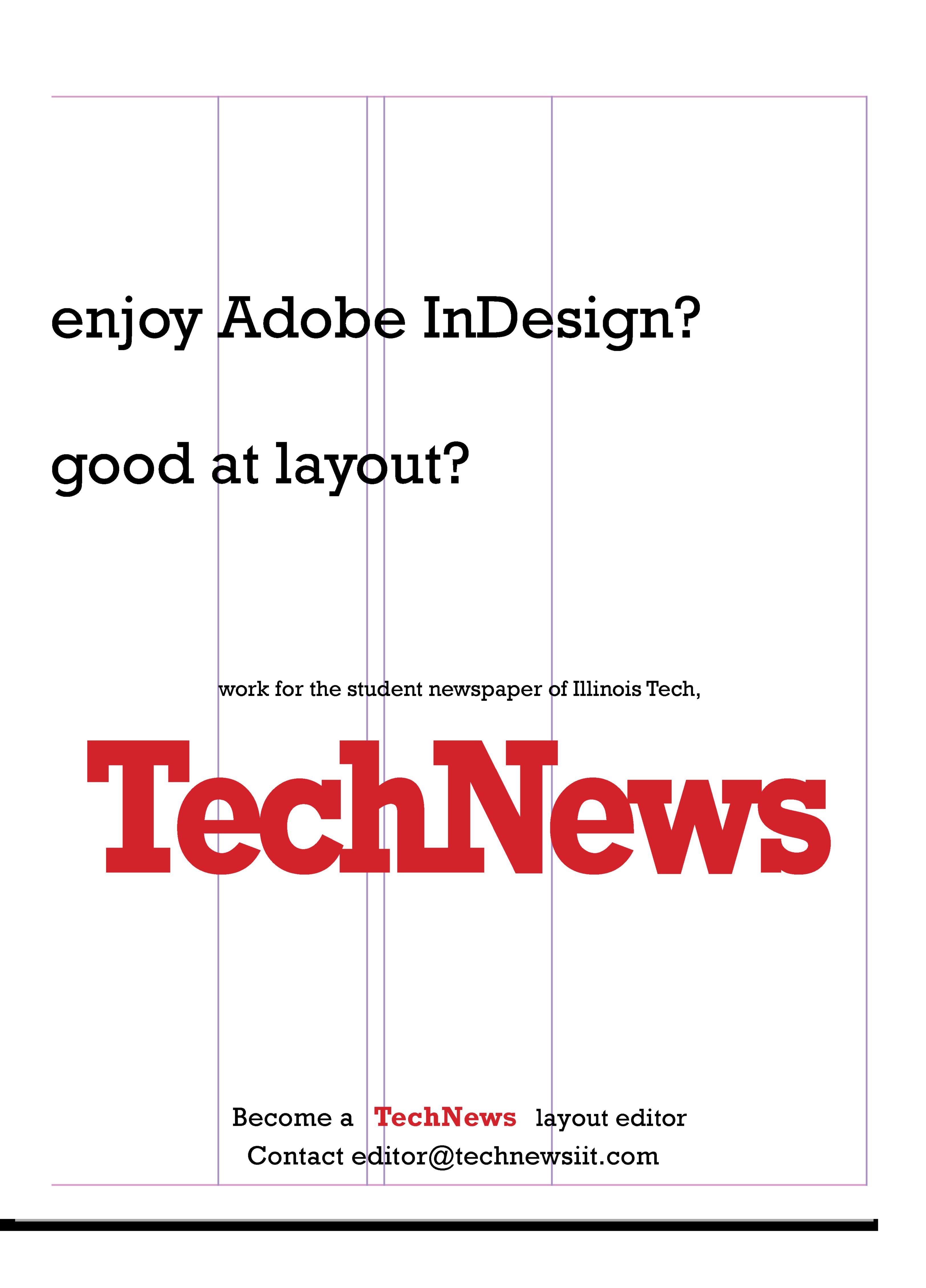
2. Between each group there is at least one empty square.

3. The clues are already in the correct sequence.

Nothing can be done They will say You must never listen when Life's lies are apparent Hopelessness exists as normality Even when you're told That strength can be found and nurtured Remember the truth And believe that your mind is weak When you falter and have doubt Accept failure as the end Know that never should you See that happiness can be found If you change your perspective

Now read the poem from bottom to top.

- Sonia Kamdar



FINAL THE WEATHER City and State-Rain. EDITION Snow, Colder (Details in Dally Aimanac) THE UNITED PRESS EVENING, DECEMBER VIRGINIA, MONDAY FIVE CENTS 20 PAGES VOLUME 97 - No. 161 1941 Battleship Lost, 1,500 Killed in Hawaii Japanese Embassy Staff Burns Papers Lone Vote Against NEW YORK, Dec. 8 (UP).—The National Broadcasting company's correspondent at Manila reported today that "Man-make history with Join TechNews at our next Writer's Meeting! Wednesday January 25, 1PM TechNews Office (MTCC 221) Email editor@technewsiit.com with any questions or article submissions LIGIOS INTO COLA ARREST 80's in Ohio, 70's map and details WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2001 .CL.... No. 51,874 Copyright to 2001 The New York Times Printed in Obio HACKED JOEST DESTROYMENTOWE AND HIT PENTAGON IN DAY OF TERE THE WALLSTREE HORRAI

Obama Sweeps to Historic Victory

Nation Elects Its First African-American President Amid Record Turnout; Turmoil in Economy Dominates Volers' Concerns

VOLSHINGTON - See. Barneck

Ohama