

## Filmmaker shares career path



## Finding solace in anonymity



## A primer on spring fashion



# The Berkeley Beacon

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## After racial profiling allegations, college removes guard

Hunter Harris, *Beacon Staff*

A series of incidents in the Little Building left two African-American professors believing they were racially profiled and led to the removal of a Securitas officer from the college, according to Emerson College Police Department Chief Robert Smith.

Well before the March 10 implementation of Emerson's 24/7 "Tap and Go" policy, at least four African-American professors were stopped by a Securitas employee working at the downstairs security desk on their way to a Dinner for Faculty of Color event Feb. 10. The employee asked them to tap in because she said she did not recog-

nize them, according to Benny Ambush, senior distinguished producing director-in-residence.

The dinner was an annual event for faculty and administrators sponsored by Sylvia Spears, the vice president of diversity and inclusion.

Ambush said he was one of the faculty members stopped at around 5 p.m. Under the previous policy, anyone entering an Emerson residence hall was required to tap in between 6:45 p.m. and 7 a.m.

Jerald Walker, chair of the writing, literature, and publishing department, who was one of the professors stopped, said he believed this was a case of racial profiling. He identified the guard as a white woman in

**"The findings and conclusions supported what [the professors] said."**

— ECPD Chief Robert Smith

her late twenties or early thirties.

"Three other black male faculty were stopped by this same woman, similar to how I had been stopped," said Walker.

He said other faculty had shown their IDs, but he refused to, and continued walking to the dinner, despite the guard's protests, and threats to call security. He shared his story when he arrived to the Beard Room, and other black male faculty members came forward with accounts of similar encounters, according to Ambush.

Walker said he informed Spears about the incident and sent a complaint to Smith. Smith assigned Lieutenant Steve Desy to begin an investigation.

"In the end, the findings and conclusions

supported what [the professors] said," said Smith.

Smith said that based on the ECPD investigation, he asked Securitas to ban the officer in question from Emerson, and informed the affected professors of this decision. He said as ECPD chief, he can choose which Securitas employees can be assigned to Emerson.

"When that security person was interviewed," said Smith, "[she] couldn't explain why [she] had asked particular people attending Sylvia's dinner to tap or show ID when it wasn't tapping hours."

Smith said he is unsure whether or not

See *Securitas*, page 3

## Low candidate turnout at SGA's Press Night

Martha Schick, *Beacon Staff*

The Student Government Association held its annual Press Night on Tuesday, March 25, with only nine of the 17 candidates in attendance. All but one seat, the class of 2017 senator, are uncontested.

Press Night is meant to allow those running for SGA positions to give a campaign speech to students and student press. Although SGA posted about the event once on its Twitter and Facebook pages, only 14 students — who were either members of SGA or the press — attended.

Emily Solomon, SGA executive assistant

and organizer of Press Night and the election, said in an interview after the event that she didn't ask when candidates would be available for Press Night to avoid the appearance of picking favorites.

"You come into the problem of picking a date," said Solomon, a freshman visual and media arts major. "You have some people saying, 'Well, did you choose that date because I couldn't make it and that person could?'"

Solomon said candidates cited work and rehearsals, among other conflicts, as reasons they could not attend.

See *Press Night*, page 2

## Pedaling for diabetes, student makes and films history

Christina Bartson, *Beacon Staff*

It was Thanksgiving Day and the sun was high overhead when Greg Auerbach slowed his pedaling and stopped his bicycle on the roadside. Sitting on his bike seat with one foot bracing him on the dirt curb, he said later, he pulled his OneTouch blood glucose meter out of a bag on his handlebars. He pricked a finger and put a drop of blood on a test strip. The meter beeped and the number on the screen read 60 — he was low.

He found a bag of peanut M&Ms, and at the side of the hot, stretching Arizona road, he said ate the candy to get his blood sugar levels back to normal so he can keep biking to California.

Auerbach was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes when he was four years old, and at age 23 he became the first person with the chronic disease to bike across the nation in solitude. On Oct. 5, 2012, he left his hometown of Jenkintown, Pa. and headed west to

raise money for diabetes research.

"It was a childhood dream," said Auerbach. "I had to do it. I felt the need."

Fifty days, 3,363 miles, 13 states, and four flat tires later, Auerbach reached the Pacific Ocean. He raised over \$4,000 in donations from individuals and companies for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

While pedaling and checking his blood sugar, Auerbach was also filming his

See *Bicycle*, page 10



Auerbach biked 3,363 miles to Santa Monica, Calif. Courtesy of Greg Auerbach



## Wayans' World

Comedian dispenses jokes and advice  
by Jess Waters • p. 6

Marlon Wayans visited Emerson on March 23. • Evan Walsh / *Beacon Staff*

## No-hit wonder Underclassmen combine for no-hitter

Mike Lucas, *Beacon Staff*

The Emerson baseball team's first-ever New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference game was forgettable. The Lions lost 13-1 to the Clark Cougars. The second game of the double header — well, that's something Emerson College will never forget.

The Lions' young pitching staff made history when freshman Cal Laird and sophomore Jack Caportorto combined to throw the first no-hitter in school history in a 2-0 win.

"It's the first no-hitter I've ever thrown," said Laird, who added he has been pitching since little league. "It's a pretty amaz-

ing experience that I was able to do it as a freshman."

Laird was one of the Lions' top recruits this year, according to head coach Dave Hanley. The Lions wanted Laird so badly that associate head coach Buddy Hanley — Dave's son — flew out to Chicago to see him pitch.

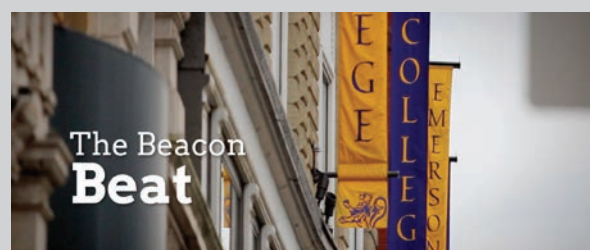
"We went after Cal the minute we found him," Hanley said. "We knew he was going to be an ace, and we knew he was going to be the leader of the staff all four years."

No-hitters usually occur when a pitcher is throwing his best stuff. That

See *No-Hitter*, page 11

**"It's the first no-hitter I've ever thrown."**  
—Cal Laird, freshman pitcher

### Online extras



The Beacon Beat: our weekly news recap  
[berkeleybeacon.com/go/beacon-beat](http://berkeleybeacon.com/go/beacon-beat)



9 questions with Marlon Wayans  
[berkeleybeacon.com/go/9-questions-with-marlon-wayans](http://berkeleybeacon.com/go/9-questions-with-marlon-wayans)



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# news

## New OHRL director to be hired

Rebecca Fiore, *Beacon Staff*

Emerson College opened a job search March 5 for a new director of the office of housing and residence life. David Haden is currently both the OHRL director and associate dean of students; when the new post is filled, he will only retain the associate dean position, according to Ronald Ludman, the dean of students.

Haden said he has held both positions since 2005. Ludman said the hiring of a new OHRL director will allow Haden to concentrate on supporting the Office of the Dean of Students.

"In many ways, Haden is straddling both of those positions and hasn't been fully able to realize the associate dean responsibilities, and offer me the support that will ultimately maximize our ability to support students," said Ludman. "It doesn't allow him to focus on the larger issues that the dean of students office handles."

According to the job posting on the school's website, the OHRL director is expected to be responsible for activities in the residence halls, overseeing the housing selection and room assignments, and managing the evaluation forms for all members of the department.

Haden told the Beacon in an email he does not mind the change.

"I look forward to taking on some new responsibilities while continuing to have a leadership role with the Offices of Housing and Residence Life and Student Conduct whose student and professional staff members, missions, and efforts mean a great deal to me," he wrote.

The idea of splitting this position came about in January of this year, Ludman said, and was not sparked by any specific event.

He said Haden, as associate dean, will help him collaborate with other divisions like the Emerson College Police Department, the Center for Health and Wellness,



Since 2005, David Haden has held the positions of OHRL director and associate dean of students.

Paola Camargo / *Beacon Staff*

and the Emerson College Counseling and Psychological Services.

"Once [the new director of OHRL] position is filled, that will free Haden up to provide leadership in the dean of students office, to assist me with student life," said Ludman. "He will continue to provide leadership and supervision for housing and student conduct."

The dean of students office is in charge of overseeing the Division of Student Affairs, which includes Career Services, Greek Life, Center for Spiritual Life, GLBTQ Student Life, and other programs, according to Emerson's website.

The new director will report to Haden, said Ludman. He said there has not been a search committee assembled yet, but the school hopes to hire someone by the end of the spring semester.

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**"Haden is straddling both of those positions and hasn't been fully able to realize the associate dean responsibilities."**  
—Ronald Ludman, dean

## SGA grants appeal money to EVVYs and ASIA

Martha Schick, *Beacon Staff*

The Student Government Association unanimously approved appeals by the EVVY Awards, and Asian Students for Intercultural Awareness, or ASIA.

The EVVY Awards was allocated \$13,706 for lighting equipment, according to producer Tara Heaslip. The organization's appeal came after what the senior visual and media arts major called extensive efforts to get more funds outside of SGA due to increases in prices, like renting the Cutler Majestic Theater.

Heaslip said efforts taken to try to keep the appeal amount down included raising ticket prices by \$5, which will raise an estimated additional \$5,000. The organization also asked for, and received, \$65,000 from the visual and media arts department, which in past years has donated \$60,000, according to Heaslip.

Since the EVVYs are funded by the VMA department, it does not receive money for a budget from SGA, according to the appeal packet. The organization appealed for and received \$13,255 from SGA last year.

The EVVYs also sells ads in its playbills, but typically only solicits them after nominees are announced, to get family members to buy space for congratulatory messages, according to Heaslip. However, she estimated that the ads would bring in about \$1,500, based on last year's figures. The cost of production is \$115,139, according to the appeal packet.

Alicia Carroll, the visual and media arts senator, who said she has worked on the EVVYs for the past two years, spoke in favor of the appeal.

"From working on the EVVYs, I can honestly attest to the fact that it does cross departments, and it does involve a lot of people, and it's a staple of Emerson," said Carroll, a sophomore visual and media arts major.

ASIA was allocated \$4,150 to bring Arun Gandhi, Mohandas Gandhi's grandson, to speak about nonviolence at Emerson. The event will take place April 7 at 7 p.m. in the Bright Family Screening Room, according to the appeal packet.

Leeanne Dillmann, the vice president of ASIA and a junior political communication major, appealed for the funds. Dillmann said ASIA did not itself fundraise toward the \$6,500 total needed for the speaker. According to its appeal packet, the organization received \$1,000 from the Office of Student Life.

It also received \$350 total from other organizations, such as Emerson's Black Organization with Natural Interests, a co-sponsor of the event, and Emerson International. ASIA will also use \$1,000 out of its own SGA-furnished budget, according to Dillmann.

According to the packet, this cost includes \$1,000 for food from Sodexo, the \$500 fee for using the Bright Screening room, and the \$5,000 speaker's fee.

SGA Vice Treasurer Hilary Fan, a freshman marketing communication major, asked during the appeal why there was no fundraising money being used for the speaker. Dillmann said that ASIA's fundraising in the previous semester was not intended for Gandhi, but was instead used to donate to typhoon relief.

Dan Goldberg, the class of 2017 president and a freshman visual and media arts major, spoke in favor, saying that the amount ASIA was appealing for was small and that the speaker would be beneficial.

No one spoke against the appeal. There is \$28,434 left in the appeals fund.

After the appeals, SGA closed the meeting to vote on the ERA award for Emersonian of the Year.

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## Eight out of 19 candidates absent at Press Night

See *Press Night*, page 1

Press Night traditionally falls halfway through the election cycle: after election packets were due March 17, and before polls open on April 2 at midnight, according to Solomon. She also said SGA picked the time of 7 to 8 p.m. to minimize conflicts with classes.

SGA President Paul Almeida, a junior political communication and marketing communication double major, said he was not entirely surprised by the absence of some candidates.

"This isn't the first time we had students running for positions not show," he said in an interview. "It would have been wonderful if they were there and it's something that's expected, but it's not necessarily egregious that they weren't there."

A new requirement as of this semester, instituted by Solomon and Sharon Duffy,

associate dean of students and SGA faculty moderator, is sending in a candidacy statement prior to Press Night that can be read in case of absence, said Solomon.

While five of the eight absent candidates didn't send in a statement, sophomore political communication Connor McKay was the only officially ballot candidate to not submit, while the other four were write-ins. Solomon said that she would speak to Duffy about the future of McKay's campaign and the possibility of his name being taken off the ballot and made to run as a write-in, although she said she doesn't see the absence of a statement becoming a major issue for non-contested positions.

McKay said in an interview that from what he understood, a candidacy statement was only needed if the candidate wanted it printed in the ballot. He said that he didn't think his absence from Press Night would hurt his chances.

"I don't think [Press Night] is really relevant," he said. "I feel like social media is a lot more far-reaching and effective and relevant."

He said that he plans on speaking on the radio, putting up flyers, and using a Facebook event page to do most of his campaigning.

Navidra Hardin, the only candidate for SGA president and a write-in, was unable to attend. The sophomore journalism major said he was called into work at the last minute.

Kassandra King, SGA vice president and a junior political communication major, was present to give her speech as a write-in candidate to be re-elected as vice president, and said she felt it was important that she, as a candidate, attended.

"If I'm standing there and telling you I will take on this position, I will be there every step of the way," she said in an interview.

Solomon read several statements for those

who didn't show up.

There are no students running for the position of treasurer for any class, or secretary for class of 2015 and class of 2017. Of 23 electable positions on SGA, 11 currently remain with no declared candidates. Students can still run write-in campaigns, although they can no longer get their names on the ballot.

Five of the eight academic departments lack a candidate for senator, with freshman Alexandra Nikolaidis as the only senator on the ballot and in attendance, running for communication sciences and disorders, and sophomores Rebekah Brinkerhoff and Alicia Carroll running as write-ins for performing arts and visual and media arts, respectively. All three currently occupy these positions.

The only contested position is for the class of 2017 senator. Freshman journalism major Gabriella Kula and performing arts major Bathsbeba Wood are running. Kula is currently the athletics commissioner, and Wood is the current class of 2017 senator. Both were present to give speeches.

Even amid absences of both people and statements, Solomon said that all candidates were accounted for in some way, whether or not they attended.

"No one is not represented at this night," she said. "It's just a matter of who's here in the flesh."

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## Public Safety Log

**Monday, March 17**

At 12:13 p.m., a faculty member reported her laptop was stolen from her office in the Walker Building.

At 1:52 p.m., a Sodexo employee reported money was stolen from his jacket while at work.

At 2:50 p.m., a Barnes & Noble employee reported the theft of six purses from the bookstore. The thief put the purses into an Abercrombie and Fitch bag and fled the store before being caught.

At 3 p.m., the Emerson College Police Department and the Boston Fire Department responded to Allen's Alley, the backstreet between the Little Building and the Cutler Majestic Theatre, for a fire alarm. The fire alarm was caused by a burst water pipe

in the loading dock area. The water flow was quickly turned off and Facilities Management was able to repair the pipe.

**Tuesday, March 18**

At 4:19 p.m., a student reported her wallet was stolen from her coat pocket while she was walking on the corner of Tremont and Boylston Street.

**Wednesday, March 19**

At 4:19pm, ECPD and BFD responded to 10 Boylston Place for a fire alarm. The cause of the fire alarm was a malfunction of the fire pump. There were no fire or injuries to report.

**Friday, March 21**

At 8:31 p.m., ECPD investigated a report from the Office of Housing and Residence Life of the smell of marijuana coming from a residential suite in the Little Building. An occupant of the suite admitted to OHRL and ECPD to smoking marijuana.

**Saturday, March 22**

At 8:28 p.m., ECPD investigated a report of a student trapped inside an elevator on the 12th floor of the Little Building. Facilities Management was able to free the student quickly without injury. The elevator was taken out of service for inspection.

**Sunday, March 23**

At 1:30 a.m., ECPD confiscated a hookah that was found by OHRL in the Little Building.

At 2:16 a.m., ECPD assisted OHRL investigating a smell of marijuana. The occupants of the suite where the smell originated claimed the smell was from burning incense and not marijuana. ECPD confiscated a marijuana pipe that was found in plain view from the residents.

At 2:35 p.m., ECPD investigated a report of a suspicious person defacing the window in front of WERS.

## Corrections & Clarifications

In the March 17 issue, the caption of the article "Campus safety firm visits campus, hears from students" incorrectly spelled the photographer's last name. Paola's last name is Camargo, not Camrago.

# Professors say they were racially profiled by Securitas employee

Continued from Securitas, page 1

the employee was fired from Securitas, a security services company headquartered in Stockholm that employs approximately 300,000 workers, according to the company website.

Tom Fagan, vice president of human resources and administration of Securitas' northeast region, declined to comment on the incident.

Spears said she alerted President M. Lee Pelton and other college administrators about the incident at a president's council meeting the morning after the dinner.

Walker said the day after his encounter with the Securitas officer, he received a call from President Pelton, and a follow up call the day after that.

"President Pelton called me at home to offer his apologies for the encounter and to stress that that sort of conduct is something that is not acceptable at Emerson College, that he himself as an African-American has certainly experienced that kind of treatment, that he continues to experience it, and the last thing he will do is allow it to take place on his campus," said Walker.

Sophomore writing, literature, and publishing major Willie Burnley said that the race of the dismissed Securitas agent doesn't change his opinion of the events, but that he's pleased with the college's response.

"If this had been a black Securitas worker, a racial bias could still have been at play," he said.

Walker and the other professors received an email from Smith, informing them of efforts to ensure that actions like this would not happen in the future.

"Securitas Account Manager [Jeffrey] Scott and I will be meeting with Dr. Spears to discuss development of a block of training that will focus on promoting, understanding, and respect for racial and cultural differences, and assist those in attendance to acquire the skills and techniques required to avoid the racial profiling of community members and visitors to a diverse environment like Emerson," wrote Smith. "This



Theodore Life Jr. said Emerson should further screen Securitas personnel before they join the college. • Nydia Hartono / Beacon Staff

training will be delivered to all current, and future, Securitas personnel employed by Emerson College."

Theodore Life Jr., distinguished director-in-residence, was also asked by the Securitas guard to tap in that night. He said he would like to see a more strict vetting process of security workers because they are often one's first impression of the college as a visitor.

"[This incident] calls into question the training Securitas gives its personnel, and I think it calls into question the fact that Emerson should also be proactive with a second screening, in many respects, to not just take the people we're assigned from Securitas," said Life.

All involved professors said that they were in support of the trial 24/7 tap policy, the implementation of which had nothing to do with these allegations of racial profiling, according to Spears and Smith.

"The Emerson community is a diverse community, so security has to reflect the understanding of that," said Life. "That's what I think is the most disturbing, that you have an individual working in a diverse community but is not seeing the diversity and had drawn her own boundaries about who belongs."

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**"You have an individual working in a diverse community but is not seeing the diversity and had drawn her own boundaries about who belongs."**  
 —Theodore Life Jr., professor

# Business major in the works

Myles Badger, Beacon Correspondent

Emerson faculty and administrators are working on a proposal for a new business major—one that planners say would be unlike other college's business degrees. Since last semester, efforts have been underway by staff from the business and entrepreneurial studies minors to figure out what the major at Emerson would entail.

These faculty and staff members say they are seeking to establish a curriculum that develops Emerson students' business abilities in line with its core fields of communications and the arts.

"The major itself has not yet been fully defined," said Donald Hurwitz, interim chair of the marketing communication department. "We're looking to frame the business classes we offer in the context of the skills Emerson students require. There's lots of business programs in Boston and around the world; we don't want to offer just another one of those here."

Hurwitz said that although faculty and staff expect the major to be introduced in the next few years, there has not been a definitive date set. He said he is working in coordination with Phillip Glenn, interim dean of the school of communications, and Michael Whelan, chief academic officer.

"Since our niche is always communication and arts, this major will be more about creative enterprises," said Glenn. "In an interesting parallel, Berklee College of Music has a 'Business of Music' major. What we're doing is essentially a 'Business of Communication and the Arts' major."

While Hurwitz said he is not yet sure if the new major will be part of the school of communication or the school of the arts, he said the developments are happening within the marketing communication department, where the current entrepreneurial studies and business minors reside.

Hurwitz said over the next year, as the ma-

major is built, planners will address the hiring of faculty and the development of courses.

He said he thinks a new field of study could bring together students looking to capitalize on the business side of Emerson's traditional fields.

"This major will take an impulse that's already here and add to it," said Hurwitz. "Communication and the arts are more important than business to the college. This project will only augment our ability to innovate in our standard fields."

The goal of the new major is not to increase the college's student population, said Glenn, but to redistribute the existing student body by providing an alternate path of study.

"All the discourse I've heard is that we are not wanting to grow the college in total, but to shift enrollments," said Glenn.

The major also comes as something of a legacy project, since many of its ideas were initially introduced by the late Karl Baehr, the founder of the college's entrepreneurial studies minor, E3, according to Glenn.

"Shortly before his death last fall, we had talked about him leading the faculty group developing this," said Glenn, "and while it was sad, and his death set us back, I think of this as in his honor."

Hurwitz said the Office of Academic Affairs fully supports developing the current business studies minor into a major, and many students currently involved in the business program are excited.

"I think it's a step in the right direction," said Chris Dobbins, a sophomore marketing communication major and entrepreneurial studies minor. "Obviously there are some concerns about it, only because this is a primarily communications and arts based school, but I do see potential, if those end up being the focus, that lots of students could benefit from it."

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# Five full-time faculty hired

Hunter Harris, Beacon Staff

A search that began in fall 2013 for seven new faculty members yielded five hires in the visual and media arts, performing arts, and communication studies departments, according to Jill Davidson, the senior administrative assistant in the office of academic affairs. The searches were conducted as a part of President M. Lee Pelton's goal to hire 40 new faculty members within the next five years.

According to Phillip Glenn, interim dean of the school of communication, these specific departments were chosen to hold searches as a result of recognized need.

"That decision comes out of [Chief Academic Officer Michael Whelan's] office, the deans', and the department chairs' discussions of the needs and the strategic priorities of different programs and of the college," said Glenn.

In a statement emailed to the Beacon, Whelan said the two failed searches—for assistant professors of communication studies and writing for film and television—are ongoing this semester.

Walter Klenhard was hired in the fall as a one-year faculty member for the 2013-2014 school year to fill the vacant writing for film and television position, according to Anne Doyle, executive director of academic affairs.

In an email to the Beacon, Doyle wrote that the money to fund the salaries of new faculty members is allocated annually by the college.

"Each year, the Finance Office would support new faculty lines and for many years we have increased faculty lines by [two to three] a year," wrote Doyle, referring to the job openings that happen periodically. "When Dr. Pelton started, he announced that he wanted more faculty lines supported each year, so last year we

received additional funding."

Pelton's announcement, which is outlined as an aspect of the Academic Excellence tier of the college's Strategic Plan, would require a 21 percent increase in full-time teaching staff, according to Whelan.

For the current school year, the five new professors hired—two in the visual and media arts department, two in the communication studies department, and one in the performing arts department—come from a range of educational and professional backgrounds.

Newly-hired production designer-in-residence Charles McCarry said he has worked on film and television productions like *Elf*, *The Departed*, and *Saturday Night Live*. Melissa Healey said she has taught at Emerson part-time for the last two years prior to being hired as the artist-in-residence for the performing arts department. David Kishik, hired as an assistant professor in communication studies, was previously a fellow at the Berlin Institute for Cultural Studies, according to Emerson's website.

Carly Miller, a student in a philosophy class Kishik taught last semester, said that his familiarity with the material was clear in his instruction.

"I liked his teaching style a lot and found him really approachable," said Miller, a freshman writing, literature, and publishing major. "In the end, he really taught me a lot, and I often find myself going back to that class, and specifically referencing a lot of the concepts in other classes."

The other faculty members hired were Camilo Ramirez, as assistant professor of photography, and Seung-A Jin, as assistant professor of marketing communication.

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**The College's Strategic Plan requires a 21 percent increase in full-time teaching staff within the next five years.**

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**Tickets \$8**  
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# editorial

## At SGA speech night, the sounds of silence

### At issue:

Unacceptable candidate attendance at SGA speech night

### Our take:

If SGA can't take itself seriously, how can the rest of us?

The Student Government Association would have you believe that members tried their best to engage the Emerson community in its elections process.

"In my thoroughness to make sure that every candidate knows about press night, it didn't occur to me to reach out to news outlets," executive assistant Emily Solomon wrote in an email to the Beacon.

Yet it's clear SGA failed on both counts. That email from Solomon arrived to the Beacon only seven hours before its Press Night, where candidates are expected to deliver speeches about their ideas for the upcoming year—scant time for the intended audience to prepare.

Eight of the 17 candidates did not show up.

Eleven positions have no candidates at all.

Even though no-shows were ostensibly required to have sent a prepared statement, five still flouted that mandate, going completely unrepresented at the only public forum for candidates.

And despite SGA's posts on social media, no students besides reporters and SGA members showed up.

That hardly seems like thoroughness to us.

The gaunt attendance could be attributed in part to the decision to not check with

candidates to find a time that worked best for the most members. The argument was that selecting a time blindly would help prevent the appearance of bias toward particular candidates. Of course, there would be a simple response for that: maximizing attendance at speech nights offers students a fuller sense of the candidates when they head to the online ballot box. Simply, objectively choose the time when the most candidates could RSVP affirmatively.

But the lack of attendance by the candidates is only symptomatic of a larger problem: a culture of apathy set by current members of the student government. While the absence of almost half the contestants does raise questions about their motivation and qualifications, it is more important to question why so many candidates found that an acceptable decision to make.

The upper rungs of SGA have set a precedent of impassivity, failing to enforce the organization's own policies regarding attendance and candidacy statements. This casual and lax approach to running SGA sends a message to all its members—current and prospective—that this is an acceptable attitude. If stability and dedication are to be in the future of SGA, a facelift for the rules and structure should be in its present.

The upper rungs of SGA have set a precedent of impassivity.

This indifference trickles down to SGA's everyday operations. Just this semester, four officials stepped down, and according to its website, 10 positions remain open. And accepting the responsibilities that come with being an elected SGA official include managing the annual student activities fee, an amount that SGA recently proposed to raise \$10 per student per semester. It's an important undertaking that should be done by students committed to their roles. It's money that funds our student organizations every year—from literary magazines to comedy troupes and cultural organizations, this money allows us to pursue co-curricular interests. Students charged with those decisions should fully invest in what they're doing.

The attitude that should be more common is that of the candidates who are running for the only contested position—class of 2017 senator—who did show up to advocate for themselves. A desire to attend Press Night and a respect for its validity should be expected from all.

There's no mandate that says students have to participate on student government. If you don't have the drive or the time to commit to being an official, there's a simple solution: don't do it.

## Letters

If you want to respond to, or share an opinion about, an article in the Beacon, you can write a short letter to the editor. Email it to [letters@berkeleybeacon.com](mailto:letters@berkeleybeacon.com). Please note that letters may be edited. Submissions for print must be shorter than 250 words.

## The Berkeley Beacon

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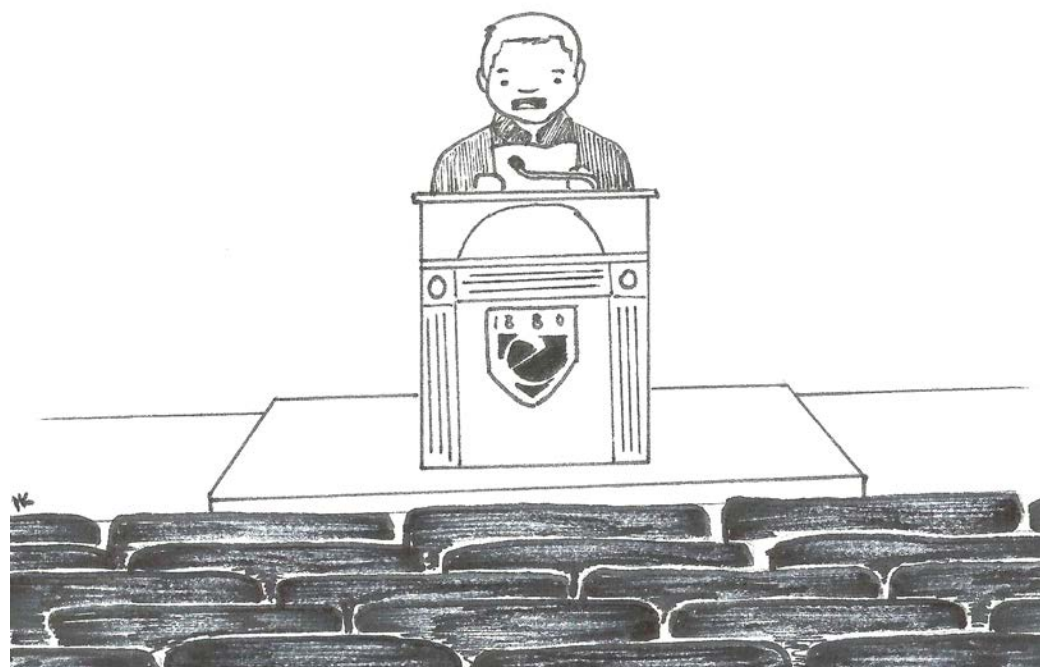
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by Holly Kirkman

SGA speech night:  
"I'm Emily, reading for Cate, who was  
supposed to read for Joel, who was  
supposed to read for Bryan, who..."



# opinion

## For the lonely, anonymity



Blurred identities offer students comfort when posting on Facebook confessional pages. • Photo illustration by Evan Walsh / Beacon Staff

**Trelawny Vermont-Davis** is a senior political communication major and opinion editor of the Beacon.

Anonymity is undeniably the zeitgeist of Emerson's current social media activity. In the last couple of years, a variety of confession-focused pages have become popular, most notably Emerson Confessional and Emerson Compliments. These Facebook pages, for better or for worse, offer students a platform to express admiration, respect, and often feelings of lust for other students with a public audience—sans the burden or intimacy of revealing their own identity. Both pages have proven successful; Emerson Confessional boasts over 1,500 likes, often filling our newsfeeds with posts ranging from witty romantic haikus, to bizarre feelings of self-deprecation.

Hidden identities are not limited to confession based websites; they also exist on other platforms. Last week, I wrote a feature pertaining to Greek life at Emerson. A few hours after the story was published online, I received a text from a friend asking if I had read the comments online: I hadn't, and part of me wishes I never had. Though most

remarks were primarily concerned with the feature itself, some were simply about me.

With online identity ambiguity comes trepidation, and Emerson Confessional is certainly not exempt. Anonymity, coupled with the promise of a wide audience, manifests itself in many forms: multi-paragraph monologues on feelings of desire, guilt-driven confessions on cheating on a significant other, or objections to campus sexual assault. But the chance at invisibility, across many Emerson platforms, has also given rise to other forms of public script: posts pertaining to lack of self-worth, sexual insecurity, or episodes of humiliation. These heavier messages are displayed right under posts that make a mockery of the anonymous confession page. Posts like "I am really drunk and high right now. to everyone

who doesn't get f\*\*ked up, too bad 4 u."

But despite the commenters who make a mockery of Emerson's confession projects, these pages, at their core, exist to achieve a fundamentally positive thing. Although it is easy to write Emerson Confessional off as a joke, it is clear

that many people who post feelings of solitude are looking for condolence. And through the comments, they often get just that. But despite the well-intentioned and compassionate commentators, there is a danger in this sort of interaction. Students' attempts to console the depressed through endearing comments is not a substitute for real counseling, just as posting an anonymous confession to Emerson Confessional cannot replace speaking with a qualified counselor, therapist, or psychiatrist.

Overall, though, these pages seek a

constructive goal. Anonymous posts offer a way to articulate campus apprehension and personal opinion, while allowing other students the assurance of knowing they are not alone in these feelings. The deeper side of Emerson Confessional is undoubtedly significant, in that it calls attention to the Emerson students silently struggling with depression and perhaps serves as a means for further action to improve student well-being.

But it is important to remember while anonymity may provide a level of comfort for us to discuss issues of depression, sexual assault, class, and race, it is limited to a small audience of subscribers and confined by the very nature of Facebook commenting. These topics, as arduous as they may be, need to be discussed openly to begin to improve campus culture.

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With online identity ambiguity comes trepidation and Emerson Confessional is certainly not exempt

## The Russian Anschluss

**Victor Wong** is a senior journalism major and Beacon contributor.

The recent hostile and provocative acts committed by the Russian Federation against the sovereign state of Ukraine and Crimea in pursuance of its geopolitical and territorial interests in those two areas are a timely reminder to all people who value freedom and security of the need for the U.S. to project its power abroad to ensure the continued maintenance of both peace and prosperity throughout the greater world. The stationing of Russian troops in Crimea in the aftermath of the unceremonious ouster of corrupt Ukrainian leader Viktor F. Yanukovich constitutes a clear violation of international law and norms and must be met with a robust response on the part of the United States and the European Union. In spite of every assurance given by the modern intelligentsia that the past era of saber-rattling and the violation of nations' and states' sovereignty by hostile nations is a thing of the past, recent events have provided the people with a starkly different reality, one that, if left unchecked, will come to resemble the old world rather than the one that was said to have materialized in the aftermath of the Cold War.

Throughout the tenure of the current administration, the people have seen an increasingly aggressive China making its growing military prowess known toward the nations that surround it. Recently, the Russian Federation sold the Peo-

ple's Republic of China its first aircraft carrier, and, while the PRC has continued to increase its military spending to better enforce its territorial interests in the surrounding regions, the U.S. has decreased its military spending, having come to the conclusion that the value of cyber prowess has taken precedence over the value of the American soldier, who twice liberated Europe and has fought around the world in defense of Western values in the face of its various lesser alternatives and counterparts. The annexation of Crimea by the Russian Federation cannot be tolerated by the nations who comprise the Western world; the Russian Federation cannot be allowed to absorb a large swath of the Ukrainian people and economy and expect to not suffer consequences for its criminal behavior. If this precedent is permitted to endure, other hostile nations will look to Russia's actions as being representative of a new benchmark being set in the way in which foreign affairs and interests are to be conducted and pursued. In recognition of the ways

in which the world has changed since the end of the Cold War and the World War II, the United States and its allies should seek to check the rising aggression of the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China.

The annexation of Crimea by the Russian Federation via a dubious referendum that does not enjoy the involvement of the Ukrainian government should not be recognized by any nation that comprises the international community. Until the Russian Federation removes its troops from Crimea and recognizes the sovereignty

of Ukraine, the United States and the European Union ought to send troops along the border that separates Crimea and Ukraine, to guard against further Russian aggression and incursions into the territories of surrounding states. To check the rise of Russia as a hostile force committed to the reigniting of the Cold War, and the rise of China as a nation that will inevitably wish to expand its reach around the region it occupies, the United States should advocate for a new

international order and way of doing business. The remilitarization of Germany and Japan should commence in light of their respective proximities to Russia and China; over the course of their rich and varied histories, both nations' soldiers have proven to be of the highest rank and calibre.

A new emphasis ought to be placed on the Strategic Defense Initiative, which was the subject of much discussion at the height of the Cold War, to ensure that an America ripped and torn apart by contemporary warfare shall never exist. It should be made clear to all powers who wish to challenge American influence abroad that should they make the decision to pursue their interests in violation of international law, they will meet head-on the full might and power of the Western world, led by the United States and its European allies, whose values and ways of conducting affairs have in the past withstood the onslaught of every nation and alliance that has sought to challenge it. Only with a robust and aggressive foreign policy can the United States and its European allies hope to maintain security around the globe, for it is only through the credible threat of total war and annihilation that the civilized world can hope to promote peace and prosperity beyond its borders.

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# arts

Jess Waters, Beacon Correspondent

## Wayans gives the commandments of comedy

Marlon Wayans does not believe in idle time. When a two-hour window appeared in his two-month promotional tour for *A Haunted House 2*—during which, according to Wayans, he will average three hours of sleep a night—he filled it with a trip to Emerson College.

Speaking in the Little Building Beard Room Sunday, March 23, Wayans's Q-and-A had a theatrical feel. He is a classically trained actor, with broad Shakespearean gestures. He abandoned the microphone with a grin.

"I'll just project," he said.

He slips between the roles of his life quickly and easily. He is an actor, producer, comedian, creator, and a father of two.

"My son was in a tournament," said Wayans. "I flew 3,000 miles to see it, then I turned around and flew 3,000 miles back, same night, because I love him."

Wayans has been active in Hollywood for more than 20 years, and is best known for his comedy roles in films like *Scary Movie* and *White Chicks*, both of which he co-wrote. He's also known for a dramatic part in Darren Aronofsky's *Requiem for a Dream*, in which he played addict and drug dealer Tyrone C. Love.

During his event at Emerson, Wayans played the part of a teacher, doling out advice to eager students, but was self-conscious about the role.

"I dress like a professor," said Wayans, tugging at his expensive-looking sweater, "but I talk like a goddamn freshman."

He got more comfortable as time passed, switching between seriously discussing his thoughts on media representation—"the Hispanic population is a billion-, maybe trillion-dollar industry. Why is no one catering to them?"—and cracking jokes—"My comedy has a distinct jalapeño onion flavor. You know, like that shit you eat when you're high as hell and you go, 'damn, that's good!'"

Soon Wayans was as familiar with his audience as he was with the cast of comedy superstars he's worked with. He spoke fondly of Jim Carrey, and casually referred to Kevin Hart as "Kev."

He gave advice as it was necessary. Some of it was specific—the commandments of comedy, so to speak.

"You parody a genre, not a movie," Wayans said. He added later, "The best jokes are colorless. The point of a joke is to make everybody laugh."

His passion for comedy was shared by his audience, a group of about 30



Marlon Wayans, star of comedies *Scary Movie* and *White Chicks*, spoke in the Beard Room this past Sunday afternoon. • Evan Walsh / Beacon Staff

students who took turns doing stand up while waiting for him to arrive. Najah Muhammad, a senior performing arts major, asked the audience why they were there.

"Because I like to laugh!" someone cried out.

But Wayans' lessons didn't just apply to aspiring comedians. His first two tenets he repeated time and time again.

"First rule: find something you love," he said. "Second rule: Work at it every single day."

Wayans recalled his start in the business, his merciless schedule.

"Not joking, I was shooting my first gig on the day of my graduation," he said. "I went straight from there to the set of a Kmart commercial."

Not long after graduating from Howard University, Wayans moved to Hollywood with brother and fellow ac-

**"I dress like a professor but I talk like a goddamn freshman." -Marlon Wayans**

tor Shawn Wayans for a regular job on the award-winning TV sketch series *In Living Color*, started by his other two brothers Damon and Keenen Wayans.

"I'd be on set all day, then me and Shawn would stay up all night writing," he said. "It would be 4:30, and we'd have to be at work at 8. We wrote 17 drafts of *Scary Movie* like that."

The constant grind is something familiar to many Emerson students, as is Wayans' advice to diversify.

"It's not enough to just be one thing anymore," he said. "I couldn't just be a comedy actor. I had to start writing, producing, promoting myself. I had to become a creator."

Muhammad, who is graduating in May, called Wayans's session at Emerson a "call to action."

"We live in a culture that demands instant gratification, but it's not like that

out there," she said. "All of my biggest inspirations had to work hard to get where they are."

The Q-and-A at Emerson preceded an advanced screening of *A Haunted House 2* at the Regal Fenway theater. Wayans co-wrote the film, debuting nationwide April 18, with producer Rick Alvarez, and stars as Malcolm, a young man plagued by paranormal events.

Wayans attended the screening and did a second Q-and-A afterward. He believes attending screenings is one of the most important things he does.

"It helps me to connect with the audience," he said. "I love hearing them laugh. That's what I do, you know?"

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## Muppets Most Wanted finds what fans are looking for

Jasper Yeo is a junior visual and media arts major & Beacon film columnist.

Illustration by Holly Kirkman

*Muppets Most Wanted* is a movie that is all the better when compared to its predecessor. 2011's simply-titled *The Muppets* had a lot to prove, bringing the beloved felt characters back to the big screen. Human stars Jason Segel and Amy Adams did a fine job investing the movie with optimism and fun, while *Flight of the Conchords* alumni James Bobin and Bret Mackenzie supplied their respective directing and songwriting chops. However, this time around, only Bobin and Mackenzie returned.

This seems very conspicuous, as *Muppets Most Wanted* begins with "THE END" of the previous film lingering in the air, as the Muppets announce, "We're doing a sequel" in song, adding, "everybody knows it's not as good as the first." Well, that's debatable. *Muppets Most Wanted* is a good film precisely for having nothing left to prove. With the heavy lifting of the first out of the way, it can settle on being fun.

The plot finds Kermit (Steve Whitmire's voice and hand) and the Muppets back where they work best: languishing in obscurity. To rebound, they embark on a European tour led by the innocuously-named manager Dominic Badguy, portrayed by Ricky Gervais. Of course, this is all a cover for escaped master criminal/frog Constantine (voiced by Matt Vogel)



to forcibly swap places with Kermit (they look alike, you see) to plan a massive heist while the Muppets' world tour serves as a distraction. In the place of his double, Kermit is hauled off to a Siberian Gulag run by a tuneful Commissar Nadya (Tina Fey).

Sound familiar? It's a common mix-up plot that dominates family movies. Mistaken identity and the ensuing caper antics have provided basic framework from *A Man Called Flintstone* to *Cars 2*, but the cast of Muppets have the wit to keep things fresh. Requisite cameos and jokes calling on everything from the Marx Brothers to

Ingmar Bergman (Bork-borkman?) round out the movie.

The heist plot especially calls to mind 1981's *The Great Muppet Caper*, which followed another get-the-gang together feature, the original 1979 *Muppet Movie*. In fact, the self-referential vibe of the "We're Doing a Sequel" number echoes Caper's "Hey a Movie!" Winking at the audience is a legacy of Jim Henson that years and Disney's ownership have not diminished.

The gift of Mackenzie's Kiwi songwriting wit allows the songs to both move the story along, and call attention to their function in a musical film, adding humor to the inherent absurdity of expressing specific emotions in verse. For example, an overblown emotional song will rapidly intensify, crowding the frame with superimposed characters. Overall, the music is more consistent and funnier this time around, though there is no grand equivalent of 2011's "Life's a Happy Song." However, it won't matter much when Ty Burrell and Sam the Eagle put on a song-and-dance interrogation scene.

As for newer elements of the formula, Segel's Muppet brother Walter, introduced in the previous movie, reappears. This is for the best, since Segel and Adams' plotline in *The Muppets* fell into conventional live-action comedy beats that took up

time "at the expense of other longtime Muppets"—*Most Wanted's* cheeky words, not mine. Now the movie can be a Muppet piece first and foremost, and not a Jason Segel movie.

As Kermit teaches the gulag inmates song and dance, Walter fills the designated 'straight man' role among the oddball cast. This is appropriate, as Whitmire's Kermit seldom captures the right mix of mania and exasperation as Henson's portrayal did. Much like Mickey Mouse, the burden of being the face of a brand has caused the character to sand off some interesting rough edges. On the plus side, this makes the doppelganger act of Constantine particularly funny, as he must imitate an imitation.

In all, this is a case where the ambition (and sometimes mawkishness) of the previous movie is traded for cleverly done traditional humor. However, the genius of the Muppets is that for them, "tradition" means irreverence, affability, and self-deprecation. The old coots Statler and Waldorf will always be in the balcony just in case people start to appreciate this puppet show too much.

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## From lobotomies to the limelight

### Documentarian Barbara Kopple shares career path at Emerson



Documentary filmmaker Barbara Kopple laughs during a conference interview. • Evan Walsh / Beacon Staff

Erica Mixon, *Beacon Staff*

Barbara Kopple's career began while working among lobotomy patients at Medfield State Hospital with Northeastern University, where she decided she wanted to be a filmmaker instead. Now, with over 30 years of experience, the Academy Award winner has worked with icons such as Jane Fonda and Donald Sutherland.

"I realized when I was studying psychology that nobody would probably ever read what I wrote," Kopple said in a press conference at Emerson, prior to the Thursday showing of her newest film, *Running From Crazy*. The documentary, which screens tonight at 7 p.m. in the Paramount Center, focuses on the lives of Ernest Hemingway's family members. "So I decided that the images and all the

things that I saw would be so incredible if I could put them on film."

Kopple worked her way up from the bottom, learning everything she could about filmmaking while in the field, from editing, to reconstituting film, to doing sound work.

"I wasn't afraid to do anything," she said. "I wasn't going to let anybody tell me that something couldn't be done, because I would know how to do it all, even though that might not be the role that I wanted to do."

Kopple said she always tries to do what she fears the most. For her, this includes anything from public speaking ("I'm basically shy, although my friends will say I'm not") to camping out in South Sudan during a violent civil war. While filming her Oscar-winning documentary *Harlan County, USA*, about a coal miners' strike

in Kentucky, Kopple said she even received a death threat.

"Yes, it's a risk, but if we just sit and do the things that are easy, we never learn and become strong and have stories to tell," Kopple said.

Her fearless decision to begin creating documentaries was also influenced by the political backdrop of the time in which she grew up in, specifically the Vietnam War and the Civil Rights marches in Washington.

"It became a very social and political time in my life and I wanted to do something," Kopple said. "I wanted to make changes in some way."

To make those changes, Kopple said she believed she didn't need to be objective. Instead, she needed to understand people on a deep level and connect with them intimately to create truthful, honest

work.

"I want to relate to them," Kopple said. "I want them to be the best that they can be; I want them to bloom and to be alive and I care what happens to them."

She said she's not a journalist, but a filmmaker who wants to dig as deep as she possibly can.

"People are people, and sometimes it's going to get really messy, and sometimes you think that people don't like you, or sometimes you think you're not getting the material that you want," Kopple said, "but if you care about it and you're passionate about it, you just have to keep going after it and keep doing it."

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**"I realized when I was studying psychology that nobody would probably ever read what I wrote."**

**-Barbara Kopple**

## Artist residency to emphasize performance's healing power



Daniel Beaty performing Tuesday night before the announcement. Courtesy of Nicole O'Neil

Jason Madanjian, *Beacon Staff*

On Tuesday, March 25, Emerson College announced a three-year civic engagement program and artist residency with writer and performer Daniel Beaty, funded by a \$350,000 grant from the Barr Foundation.

The news followed a one-night performance by Beaty on the Paramount Mainstage in which he acted out excerpts of his play *Emergency* and read from his new book *Transforming Pain To Power*.

The Barr Foundation's grant will keep Beaty at Emerson from July 2014 to June 2017. The foundation's goal is to support leaders who enhance educational and economic opportunities in Boston, according to its website.

Just last month, the Barr Foundation awarded ProArts — which Emerson College is a one of six members of — \$140,000.

As part of his partnership with the college, Beaty will introduce "I Have A Dream: Boston," a program where Beaty said he hopes to bring the power of performance to help both Emerson students and the Boston community at large discover their voices and potential.

"He will strike a chord with many black men and other people who feel they may not have any hope left," said Kelly Bates, executive director of the Elma Lewis Center, Emerson's civic engagement hub.

Bates said the center will help Beaty identify the youth and adult communities in the city that will most benefit from dealing with their issues through performance.

The goal, according to Bates, is for Beaty to inspire the community at large.

"They will be able to tell stories like Daniel, but in their own authentic voice," she said.

His collaborations with the community will be based on the themes present in his new book. And many of those themes

were present Tuesday night, as Beaty recounted an uneasy childhood. Almost born in jail due to his parent's ties with a gang, Beaty grew up with a father who became addicted to heroin. When his dad went to prison, Beaty convinced himself that his tragic situation was all his fault.

Beaty said that thought haunted him for years. And it wasn't until he embraced the healing powers of performance that he was able to overcome his pain.

"I'm no longer having moments of beauty pass me by because I'm in a cage of my own fears," Beaty confided during his performance.

During his tenure, Beaty will also put on at least one show a season for ArtsEmerson.

David Dower, the director of artistic programs for ArtsEmerson, said he is excited by the chance to continue working with Beaty and have him continue ArtsEmerson's initiative for civic engagement.

"We've been talking in big terms, now we're going to be working within those terms," said Dower regarding the collaboration. "We're excited to move from the idea phase to the action phase."

Beaty previously held a yearlong residency at Emerson in 2013.

Taking the stage for a little under an hour, Beaty performed the opening monologue of his one-man play *Emergency*, which played the Paramount Mainstage last season. He also performed a powerful piece of prose in tribute to his mother, whose strength kept him afloat during his childhood.

Now Beaty hopes to take these healing performances and share them with the Boston community.

"My real intent in writing," said Beaty, "is for us to know that no matter the pain that we experience, there is a possibility of transforming that pain into power."

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**"They will be able to tell stories like Daniel but in their own authentic voice."**

**-Kelly Bates, Executive Director of the Elma Lewis Center**

# lifestyle

## Housing hunt: Exploring Boston's neighborhoods

Erica Mixon, *Beacon Staff*

It's rare to hear a student say they enjoy apartment hunting. Dealing with ever-increasing rent and exploring the questionable domains of some messy occupants tend to add to the frustration. With basic knowledge of Boston's neighborhoods and surrounding towns, however, it's easier to navigate through the process, and to find a fit that meshes with your top priorities, and most importantly, your budget.

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### Cambridge

*Average rent (1 bedroom) \$2,300*

Like Allston, Cambridge is a cultural hub. Peppered with music venues, bars, breweries, and restaurants, Cambridge has a nightlife that caters to young people.

Hayley Rosenthal, a senior writing, literature, and publishing major, said she often takes advantage of this culture, naming Bukowski Tavern and Puritan & Company as her favorite places to eat and drink.

"Central Square is fun and has a lot of hidden gems, like bars you wouldn't think are cool until you actually go in them," Rosenthal said. "If you like the underground new music scene, Cambridge is the place to be."

Music venues in Cambridge range from The Middle East in Central Square, which functions as a Lebanese restaurant, nightclub, and well-known concert venue, to The Sinclair in Harvard Square, a two-tiered space with bars on both levels.

For Rosenthal, however, Cambridge isn't worth the 30-50 minute commute to classes from her apartment outside of Kendall Square, which includes a bus ride and a T ride.

"I spend the majority of time commuting downtown, but I know that it's where I live in Cambridge. I happen to live far from everything," said Rosenthal.

Cambridge is approximately seven square miles, resulting in a wide variety of travel times. Although Rosenthal's commute can be up to 50 minutes, someone living near the T station in Central may get to the Emerson campus in just 10 to 15 minutes.

According to Rosenthal, living off of the Red Line makes the trip to campus only slightly easier.

"It's faster, more predictable [than the Green Line], and tells you when the train is coming," she said.

### Beacon Hill

*Average rent (1 bedroom) \$2,744*

Cobblestone streets and historic buildings make up Beacon Hill's old-town charm. The 15-minute walk to campus may elicit some huffing and puffing, but Beacon Hill's proximity to campus makes it a viable option for Emerson students.

"I don't have to get a gym membership," Isabella Pierangelo, a junior marketing communication major, said of her hilly commute.

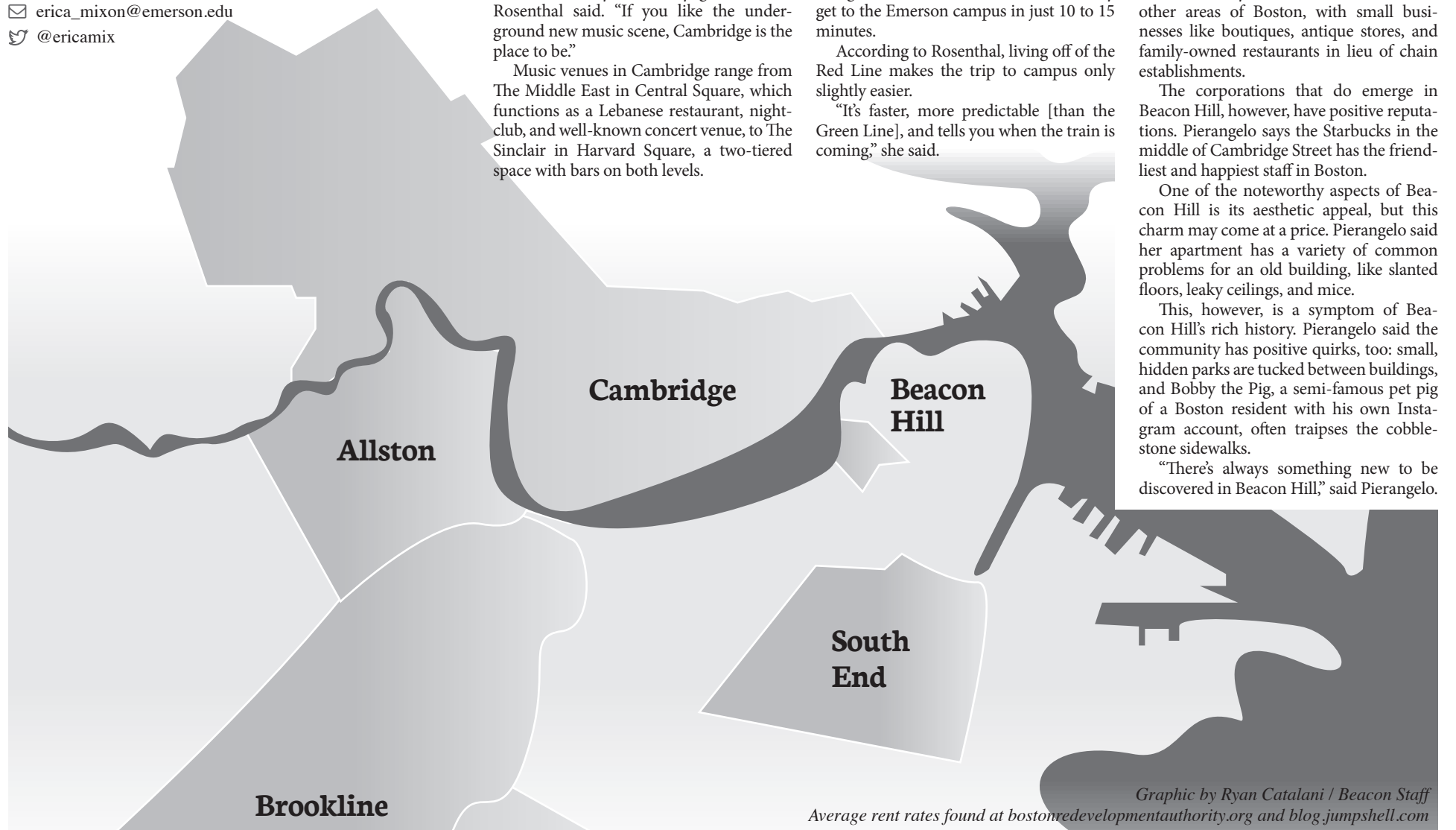
According to Pierangelo, Beacon Hill is considerably less commercialized than other areas of Boston, with small businesses like boutiques, antique stores, and family-owned restaurants in lieu of chain establishments.

The corporations that do emerge in Beacon Hill, however, have positive reputations. Pierangelo says the Starbucks in the middle of Cambridge Street has the friendliest and happiest staff in Boston.

One of the noteworthy aspects of Beacon Hill is its aesthetic appeal, but this charm may come at a price. Pierangelo said her apartment has a variety of common problems for an old building, like slanted floors, leaky ceilings, and mice.

This, however, is a symptom of Beacon Hill's rich history. Pierangelo said the community has positive quirks, too: small, hidden parks are tucked between buildings, and Bobby the Pig, a semi-famous pet pig of a Boston resident with his own Instagram account, often traipses the cobblestone sidewalks.

"There's always something new to be discovered in Beacon Hill," said Pierangelo.



Graphic by Ryan Catalani / Beacon Staff

Average rent rates found at [bostonredevelopmentauthority.org](http://bostonredevelopmentauthority.org) and [blog.jumpshell.com](http://blog.jumpshell.com)

### Allston

*Average rent (1 bedroom) \$1,499*

Before moving to Allston, junior Yamuna Hopwood said she experienced it primarily as a place to party on the weekends.

"I thought it was a slum," Hopwood, a marketing communication major, said. "But once I started going there during the daytime, Allston transformed into a really cool little community."

Steeped in a variety of cultures, Allston is home to cafés, thrift stores, hookah lounges, music venues, and bars. Hopwood named In House Café as her favorite place in Boston, where she often writes.

"Whenever I look especially tired or frazzled, the owner will give me a free coffee," said Hopwood.

Out of Boston's neighborhoods, Allston has the highest percentage of young adults, with 65 percent of residents in the 20-34 age range, according to Boston Redevelopment Authority.

"It's a very young community, which has its good and bad [sides]," Hopwood said. "If you want to go out, there's always something going on. It's a lot more lively at night than the Emerson area, where everything tends to close a lot earlier."

With that active nightlife, however, can bring some seediness. Hopwood said that she sees more homeless people in her neighborhood than around the Emerson

### Jamaica Plain

### Jamaica Plain

*Average rent (1 bedroom) \$1,846*

Located off of the Orange Line, Jamaica Plain is a historic neighborhood with a diverse cultural community—over a quarter of its population is Hispanic, according to Boston Redevelopment Authority. Characterized by colorful triple-decker homes, the neighborhood's cultural mecca is reflected particularly in the restaurants and stores on Centre Street, which range from late-night Chinese restaurants like Food Wall, to Cuban fare at El Oriental de Cuba.

"It's lively," Ashu Rai, a junior visual and media arts major, said of his neighborhood. "Especially along Centre Street, there are quite a few things to do."

Besides a variety of ethnic restaurants, Jamaica Plain is also known for its large, historic parks, including Jamaica Pond, Arnold Arboretum, and Franklin Park.

"Jamaica Pond is a really nice place to go for a run," Rai said, adding that even the walk from his apartment on Mozart Street to the Stony Brook T station is scenic, with a lot of greenery.

According to Rai, the commute from his apartment to the Emerson campus is about 25 minutes on the Orange Line.

"The Orange Line is awesome and gets me to school quickly," Rai said. "I'm hoping to live in JP next year because I really like it."

### Brookline

*Average rent (1 bedroom) \$1,803*

Also known as an area for families, Brookline borders six of Boston's neighborhoods, including Jamaica Plain and Allston. Brookline has a distinctly suburban atmosphere with tree-lined streets and multi-million dollar, single-family homes—as well as a reputation for being expensive. The Boston Globe reported that the average price for a single-family Brookline home in 2013 was over \$1.2 million.

Matt Buckley, a junior writing, literature, and publishing major living on Vernedale Street, said his favorite thing about the area is the quietness. The family-orientated nature of Brookline can sometimes have its drawbacks for students, though.

"During my first night in Brookline, we received a noise complaint from our neighbors while having a couple of friends over," Buckley said. "I suppose it was their way of welcoming us to the neighborhood."

Brookline offers a variety of areas to explore, including Brookline Village and Coolidge Corner, known for excellent shopping, food, and nightlife. According to Buckley, the Coolidge Corner Theatre is a fun place to go on the weekends, where they often show indie films and old classics.

### South End

*Average rent (1 bedroom) \$2,340*

Known for its charming brownstone apartments, fine dining, and rich culture, the South End is a historical neighborhood, home to young professionals and families. Located south of Back Bay, the area is most easily accessible by bus.

"The Silver Line bus is daunting at first, but easy to figure out," said Rachel Birkenthal, a junior marketing communication major who lives in the South End. From Birkenthal's apartment on West Concord Street, it's about a 20-minute walk to Emerson's campus, or a 15-minute bus ride.

The South End has a thriving theatre scene, with Boston Center for the Arts based out of Tremont Street, a variety of cafés and restaurants, and 30 parks, according to The City of Boston's official website.

Birkenthal said while it's difficult to find a Dunkin' Donuts or a Starbucks in the South End, independently run businesses like Flour Bakery and The South End Buttery are plentiful, where owners know their regular customers by name.

The South End has a reputation as a cultural hub, but also as a quiet and safe family neighborhood.

"I don't think there's a bad part of South End," Birkenthal said. "I always feel safe."

campus, and it's common to hear drunken partygoers shouting as they stumble out of Allston bars, clubs, and house parties.

"This morning when I was walking, a guy running down the street shouted, 'Sometimes your father isn't really your father,'" said Hopwood. "That kind of stuff

happens every day."

Another drawback of Allston is the run-down quality of some apartments. According to Hopwood, many students board in multi-family homes built in the early 1900s, with infrastructure adjusted awkwardly to modern needs. Hopwood's four-bedroom

apartment has a total of two functional electrical outlets.

"[Allston] is a good area that hasn't been kept up at all, but it's definitely getting better," Hopwood said.



## Dating Tips Under pressure

Leah Casselman

*Casselman is a junior marketing communication major & the Beacon dating columnist.*

You have a million film sets you have to be on, final projects to start, and papers to write. Not to mention you need to figure out your summer internships and your housing for the next year. But do you have time for a relationship?

If you've been following this column, I'm sure you are now involved with a person who is deserving of your complete awesomeness. But as you get busier, at least in my experience, either your work or your relationships tend to suffer. The first thing many of us do when we get stressed is break connections with the people we love. But if we drop the people we're dating every time things get tough, we would have a different lover every other month. Our frantic lives can make commitment harder, but that doesn't mean love should disappear. Here's what to consider as you get into your busiest month of the semester.

Don't think of your significant other as a chore, or they will become one. Relationships should be a source of comfort and relaxation, not a contributing factor to our mental breakdown. A good snuggle can make even the worst days more bearable. Talking to the important people in your life isn't like doing the dishes—you don't need to check it off a list and call it good. Do these things because they make you happy. I am one to fall into the trap of pushing people away, and I have to force myself to really think about why I am doing what I'm doing and realize that I am projecting my anxieties on the person I care about.

**Our frantic lives can make a relationship harder, but that doesn't mean love should disappear.**

Lean on each other. You're a team, so act like it. Part of being a couple is talking about your problems and supporting one another. It's selfish to think of yourself or the person you're with as a burden. If communication, or a lack thereof, becomes a major problem, then don't force yourself to stay in a bad situation. But every real couple has its rough patches. Part of being in an adult relationship is remembering that you aren't doing this alone. Be a listening ear for them and they will reciprocate. Just remember that it isn't your job to fix their problems, it is your job to support them through them.

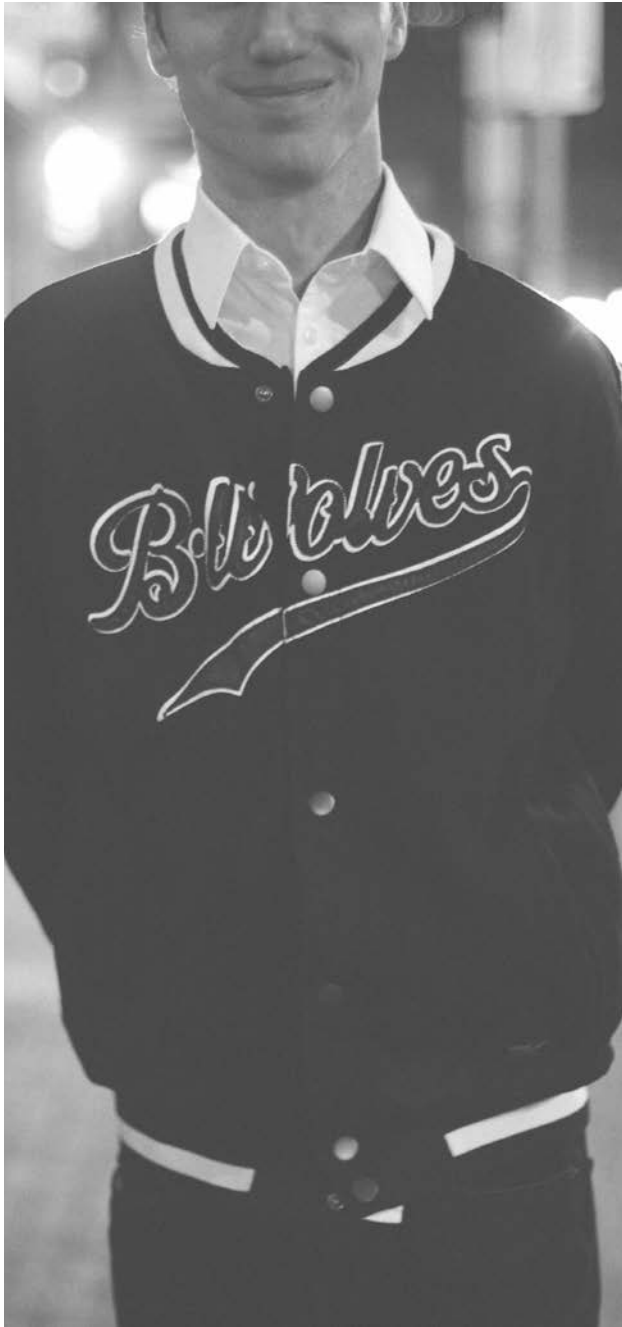
Take some time apart if you need to. Don't use a break to go find a new lover, use it to find yourself. Don't pull a Ross and Rachel and forget to discuss the terms of your temporary separation. A lot of couples don't survive a break, but if it happens because you really don't have time for each other, communicate that well and do your best to contact the other person when things let up.

Give and receive back rubs. They change lives and save relationships. I am never more in love then when a man touches my aching back. After a hard week, exchanging backrubs can be both relaxing and sensual. Stress makes you tense and stiff and can definitely turn you off to physical desires; giving your significant other a chance to unwind can go a long way for both of you.

Don't ignore your sex life. If you aren't already having sex, don't start because I told you to do so in a column, but if you are, there is no better feeling than forgetting all your troubles and worries with another person. Libidos tend to suffer when we have a million things on our minds. When I get down I always try to make things a little more interesting. You're really busy? Let's share a shower and kill two birds with one stone. A home cooked meal and chocolate can go a long way too.

Every relationship is different. Listen to your partner and see what they want to do about the stress and communicate how you feel. The same goes for relationships with friends. Although you may not be having sex with each other, the other tips still apply. Be there for each other and you won't have to let go.

## Springing fashion back into the past Emerson style aficionados talk this season's trends



Left: Freshman Cooper Irons predicts the varsity jacket will be a staple in spring fashion. • Photo by Nydia Hartono / Beacon Staff  
Right: Irons also said that Nikes and New Balance will be big this season. • Photo by Evan Walsh / Beacon Staff

Alyssa Gocinski, *Beacon Correspondant*

Black and white fringes gracefully swooshed down the runway this spring as designers such as Calvin Klein and Emilio Pucci embellished their work with this '70s Moroccan-inspired trend, instead of the typical cluster of modern floral patterns.

This year, Rag & Bone and DKNY have presented styles drawn from the '90s at Milan Fashion Week, while Michael Kors and Jason Wu have showcased reinvented '60s styles at New York Fashion Week.

A few Emerson fashion aficionados have also attributed many of the popular upcoming spring styles to times past—throwbacks ranging from the later 1900s to our semi-recent childhoods.

Jennifer Ortakales, a junior journalism major and former Beacon fashion columnist, said she's attributed the emergence of forgotten trends to recent popular movies such as *American Hustle*.

"I've noticed that every season has its own decade that comes back, and this spring, it's the '70s," she said. "Designers are now using deep V-necks, wrap dress styles, and metallic colors."

In fact, Jack McCollough and Lazaro Hernandez displayed a wide array of metallics and pleats through their '70s-inspired collection, which was named one of the best collections in Vogue's Fashion Guide for Spring 2014.

Not only are trends from the '70s reappearing, but so are those from the early 2000s, according to Ortakales.

"The skort is making a comeback, and I'm not sure how I feel about it," she

said. "I keep thinking back to when I was in third grade—it was super lame."

However, she said since the style has modernized into a shorter, asymmetrical skirt with shorts in the back, she may give it a try.

Serena Kassow, a sophomore performing arts major, works as a stylist at LF on Newbury Street, and also holds a position on the beauty and style committee at Emerson Fashion Society.

"For spring trends, I've noticed that off-the-shoulder looks are really coming back," she said. "Jelly sandals—the ones you probably wore in middle school—are also big again."

Vogue recently published a spring fashion article that displayed \$795 Givenchy jelly sandals—but for those of you who don't want to break the bank on rubber shoes, these styles can be found affordably at stores like Forever 21.

Kassow also said denim trends are leaning away from tight-fitted styles to more old-school types, such as the baggy, distressed boyfriend style.

Cooper Irons, a freshman journalism major and stylist at Emerson Fashion Society, said it can be easy for students to pull off one of this spring's '90s runway-inspired looks.

"You can wear a plain outfit, and tie a plaid button down around your waist to spice it up and add more color," he said. "It gives off a cool, urban vibe."

He also said some of the more sporty looks can be integrated into both men's and women's fashion.

"The varsity jacket's not really preppy, but not too athletic either, and it can work for either men or women," he said. "Also, tennis shoes like Nike and New

Balance are now being incorporated more into styling for outfits rather than athletic wear."

Harper's Bazaar included an entire section titled "Game Time" in their Spring 2014 Runway Report, which featured combinations of sportswear with high fashion from designers such as Prada and Vera Wang.

According to Chantelle Bacigalupo, a freshman journalism major and blogger at Emerson Fashion Society, the most important throwback trend to pay attention to this season is the kimono.

"Whenever I wear a kimono people are like, 'Nice cape, Chantelle,'" she said. "I've seen girls wear them a lot at themed parties but not as an everyday thing."

But the popularity of kimonos has recently risen thanks to clothing stores such as Urban Outfitters, which are now reinventing the trend, and transforming them into more breezy and colorful boho-chic garments, according to Bacigalupo.

Although full-blown kimonos have not made it big on the runway this season, kimono sleeves have. Designers such as Proenza Schouler and Philosophy have incorporated structured kimono sleeves into both shirts and jackets but have manipulated them into more elegant, high-fashion styles.

But along with contemporary, revived trends have returned some obscure, questionable trends.

"I've heard that tea length skirts are coming back," Bacigalupo said. "I'm really not sure how anyone is going to work that."

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# sports

## Cross-country cyclist turned to camera, and M&Ms

Continued from *Bicycle*, page 1

experience traversing America for a short documentary.

This spring, he transferred to Emerson to pursue his passion for storytelling in film, and is currently a junior visual and media arts major.

"It's our experience that shapes who we are, and I wanted to tell mine," said Auerbach, a wide smile stretching across his bearded face.

His documentary will be shown in April at Rockin Docs for Diabetes Cure, an annual fundraising event in Philadelphia.

Type 1 diabetes is a lifelong disease in which a person's pancreas stops producing insulin, a hormone responsible for regulating the body's blood glucose levels. Auerbach lives with Type 1 diabetes by testing his blood glucose about 10 times a day, administering insulin through a pump, visiting his endocrinologist regularly, and keeping fit, he said.

Auerbach averaged 70 miles a day on his Surly bicycle, weighed down by 60 pounds of supplies, including clothing, toiletries, medical supplies, and sugar for correcting lows, and he arrived at Santa Monica Pier on Dec. 1, he said.

"I pushed myself really hard—I had to reach my destination," said Auerbach. "I almost felt like I wasn't a diabetic because I was burning so many calories and I didn't need to take insulin for meals sometimes."

His mom, Lisa Flaherty, met him at the finish line in California. Flaherty, who is a pediatrician and diagnosed her son's diabetes, said although she was

worried about his health and safety, she knew he needed to embark on this adventure.

"He's always felt chained down by diabetes," said Flaherty. "In some ways, he is. He's dependent on the medication and supplies, but he's never felt bad for himself or shown self pity."

Auerbach said he captured the experience on film to motivate others to test their personal limits, Type 1 diabetics or not. He received a small grant from the JDRE, but mostly funded the trip through his own earnings.

He kept an HD Panasonic HC-V700 camera in a bag on his handlebars, he said, and documented everything he saw—getting routed to cross an unfinished bridge in West Virginia, visiting his old fraternity at Gettysburg College, dancing beneath St. Louis' Gateway Arch, and the countless curious dogs that followed him in nearly every state he crossed.

He was collecting footage for his film, but the camera acted as more than a digital journal—it gave him a feeling of companionship during his long solo journey.

"It gave me a sense of comfort to talk to the camera," said Auerbach. "People say happiness is shared, and I wanted to share it with my friends and family."

While Auerbach was on the road, his friends and family could join him virtually. He enabled Google Latitude on his smartphone, which allowed his progress to be tracked on an online map. He also updated his locations with regular blog posts on his website, [bikefordiabetes.com](http://bikefordiabetes.com). Auerbach planned his route beforehand, but said he mostly took the trip town by town, improvising if needed.

Auerbach said he spoke with his dad nearly every day on the phone, who would look ahead for roadblocks and help keep him on track. He said his dad is also an avid cyclist and visited him in Arizona, where they biked the rim of the Grand Canyon.

"He was my eye in the sky," said Auerbach.

Even though his dad was looking out for him, while making his way through Illinois, Auerbach said he got stuck in a lighting storm. He had to get off of his bike, and shrink his 5-foot-9-inch frame flat against the ground at the curbside.

"I was the tallest object for miles," said Auerbach. "I felt completely helpless. There was nothing to protect me in the moment. It was like swimming in the ocean and being surrounded by sharks."

There were high points to match the low points, though, Auerbach said. In St. Charles, Mo., he met a newly married couple at a brewpub one night, and



Greg Auerbach, who has Type 1 diabetes, raised over \$4,000 for diabetes research biking across the nation, and documented his trip in a short film. • *Evan Walsh / Beacon Staff*

over a few drinks at the bar, Auerbach explained his trip. When he returned from the bathroom, the couple was gone and his check was paid.

The idea for the trip had been brewing in Auerbach's head since he was in high school, said his best friend, Rob Frisbie.

"It's always been in the planning," said Frisbie. "He needed the opportunity to connect with himself."

Frisbie said he has known Auerbach since pre-K. Growing up with a diabetic friend meant Frisbie not only learned to be dialed into Auerbach's emotional highs and lows, but he said he can sense when his friend's blood glucose levels are dropping. He saved Auerbach from a hypoglycemic attack last summer. Auerbach was unconscious, and Frisbie carried him to his car and helped him swallow soda until his levels came back up.

In high school, Auerbach and Frisbie took a film class together.

"Labeling him as a storyteller is an understatement," said Frisbie. "You can tell he has this innate talent for sharing stories. It was so clear that this was what he wanted to do."

Flaherty said her son's interest in the silver screen started at a young age.

"He's been making home movies since he was a little guy," she said. "He would spend the day making clay animals for claymations or putting on skits with friends."

Auerbach worked on a Lifetime film and *The Way Way Back* in 2012, he said, but he got to tell his own story this time. His trip across the nation was the greatest experience of his life, he said.

Type 1 diabetes forced Auerbach to break the rhythm of his pedaling—an interruption he's anticipated in his daily life since age four. In life's haste, he must slow down, pull out his glucose meter, and address the task at hand—his health. It's a routine that's become part of his identity, and sometimes he appreciates this pause.

Sitting on his bike seat, eating peanut M&Ms with a shaky hand, he was able to gaze into the varied American scenery on the horizon, and breathe for 15 minutes.

"I found a way to take it all it," said Auerbach. "I could enjoy life without diabetes being a hindrance, but still know that it's there."

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"It gave me a sense of comfort to talk to the camera," said Auerbach. *Evan Walsh / Beacon Staff*

**"It's our experience that shapes who we are, and I wanted to tell mine."**  
—Greg Auerbach

Samuel Evers, *Beacon Correspondent*

Emerson announced the hiring of new athletic director Patricia Nicol on March 18, replacing Stan Nance, who took over in an interim role in May 2012 after Kristen Parnell's resignation. Nicol, who spent the last 10 years at Division 2 Southern Connecticut State University at the same position, will officially begin May 19.

A week after Nicol's hire was made official, student-athletes say they are pleased by her Division 2 experience, and are happy the college chose to retain Nance in its future plans.

"My first reaction was excitement; she has some really thought-out ideas about how to take Emerson [athletics] to the next level," said Tatiana Motevalli-Oliner, senior softball captain, who

## Athletes react to new AD

served on the athletic director search committee. "I think she'll continue the work Stan [Nance] and the athletic department has started in terms of making athletics a priority on campus."

Julian Rifkind, a junior baseball player and a member of the athletic director search committee, said he could tell Nicol was enthusiastic about the position.

"I know she has a lot of experience at the Division 2 level, and puts an emphasis on communication between coaches and administrators," said Rifkind. "That's definitely something all of us can benefit from."

Other athletes said they appreciated Nance's efforts in his interim role. Hav-

ing already worked at the college for 11 years, Nance will be reassigned to senior associate of athletics when Nicol takes over this May. His new role will include many of the responsibilities he previously held as associate athletic director, like alumni relations and recruiting.

"I can't thank Stan Nance enough for what he's done as the interim AD the past two years," said Patrick Lowndes, a sophomore soccer player. "But I think Dean Ludman and the athletic committee picked a great candidate in Mrs. Nicol. She has a wealth of experience and was a former collegiate student athlete herself, and I think Emerson's athletics program has a bright future."

Junior men's basketball captain Eli

Kell-Abrams was similarly positive about the announcement.

"It's a new opportunity. I've heard very good things about her and she seemed very nice when I met her," said Kell-Abrams. "Her history with her Division 2 program in Connecticut is impressive. I'm also excited that Stan Nance is staying. Both of them working together will be great for the athletic program."

Nicol, who was a finalist in 2010 and 2013 for Division 2 Athletic Director of the Year, said in a previous interview with the Beacon that she is going to wait until she officially begins, and gets a chance to assess the program from within, before she makes any concrete plans at Emerson.

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**"My first reaction was excitement; she has some really thought-out ideas about how to take Emerson [athletics] to the next level."**  
—Tatiana Motevalli-Oliner

## Two-sport athletes help women's lacrosse team transition

Connor Burton, Beacon Staff

Emerson's women's lacrosse team is in the midst of its first season of competition in the New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference. As the team works to earn respect in its new conference, the squad will look to five dual sport athletes, who already have NEWMAC experience under their belt, to help propel their team into the playoffs.

Sophomore midfielder Tayllar Righini, who scored a team-high six goals for Emerson's women's soccer team, is one of four players on the 17-player women's lacrosse roster who also play soccer.

Righini, a communication sciences and disorders major, said having her teammates Maggie Sheetz, Naomi Kramer, and Casey Jablonski playing alongside her in both sports is a huge advantage.

"Dual-sport athletes are aware of commitments and know they have to stay in shape for both seasons," Righini said. "I know all [my teammates] are working really hard, but soccer girls have already had in-game experience earlier in the year, so we're more prepared."

Third-year head coach Megan Moore said having multi-sport athletes on her team has proved invaluable, especially after accepting the head coaching job in 2011 and inheriting a depleted roster.

"We had a big senior class, and because of coaching changes, it wasn't a priority for them [to play] anymore," Moore said. "We had only one senior stick around for the 2012 class. It was a challenge to get athletes. We were lucky to have athletes show interest."

Aside from having players to help fill the roster, Moore said the experience her two-sport athletes earned in the fall and winter was extremely helpful.



Tayllar Righini (above) plays soccer in the fall and lacrosse in the spring.  
Beacon Archive



"[It's] nice to have them as a resource and to get their outlook," said Moore. "One of our seniors [Jablonski] was senior captain for the soccer team and in our preseason meetings she was in-

strumental in sharing what the level of competition [in the NEWMAC] was like for soccer. She was also able to share the things she learned. After hearing what she had to say, we know we can still

compete."

After the women's soccer season ended, Righini said she had a week off before she jumped into lacrosse offseason workouts.

"[There is] very little time for rest, but it's a lot easier to be a student athlete than a student," said Righini, who currently leads the team with nine assists. "When you know you have prior commitments, you plan ahead and get stuff done."

Macy Day, a junior defender, started attending offseason lacrosse workouts during the final few weeks of her basketball season. Although both schedules overlapped and she had no time to rest, Day said she did have to deal with some adjustments, but was more than ready to compete with the lacrosse team this season.

"Basketball is a long season, and I always find myself being stronger, and when I get to lacrosse, I play faster," said Day, captain and forward for Emerson's basketball team. "It's funny to see how your body will change and react. [You go from] short sprints to full field sprints. Going from sneakers to cleats is weird and going from a soft court to turf is a shocker in the first week."

Although playing two sports can be physically and mentally taxing, Moore said she isn't worried about her multi-sport athletes' health.

"It's just part of the [Division 3] experience, and I tend to kind of sell that to recruits," Moore said. "If [someone] is passionate about two sports, they have that opportunity here."

**"My first reaction was excitement; she has some really thought-out ideas about how to take Emerson [athletics] to the next level."  
—Tatiana Motevalli-Oliner**

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## Baseball team makes history with first NEWMAC win

Continued from No-Hitter, page 1

wasn't the case on Saturday for the Lions' lefty freshman though, who said his arm felt frozen after the second inning because he wasn't wearing an undershirt despite the frigid weather. The game time temperature was in the mid-40s.

"Nothing was working for me," Laird said. "I couldn't throw my curveball. My changeup was on and off, and I couldn't spot my fastball for a strike."

Still, Laird struck out six Cougars, walked six, and hit Clark's leadoff hitter — the only lefty in the lineup — three times.

Hanley made the call to the bullpen with two outs in the seventh inning after Laird surrendered a four-pitch walk, and then hit the next batter.

"It wasn't a hard decision at all because it was a 1-0 nothing game," Hanley said. "[Laird] was toast and we needed to win that game. When I went out to get him, I asked him, 'Do you even know you have a no-hitter going?' and he had no clue."

Hanley handed sophomore Caportorto the ball, but the sophomore said he was more concerned with getting the win than he was with protecting the no-hitter.

"I went into the game basically not even for myself, but for [Laird] and the team," said Caportorto, who threw 2 1/2 innings to complete the no-hitter. "Cal motivated me to not give up a hit, but more importantly, I just wanted to win the game."

Caportorto came in and worked out

of the jam in the seventh inning, recorded a one-two-three eighth inning, but got in a little bit of trouble in the top of the ninth. Clark's leadoff hitter reached first base on a throwing error by freshman shortstop Mitch Moormann, and advanced to second on a throwing error by Caportorto. The sophomore struck out the next batter, and then got the Cougars' second baseman to ground out to third. The Lions were just one out away from history, and the final out is something Caportorto said he will never forget.

"It was a two-seam fastball on the outer half," he said about the final pitch. "It was bit over the outer half and he rolled it over to second base. I had all the faith in [Cal Ciarcia] to make that play."

As the Lions move forward in NEWMAC play, Hanley thinks his team can surprise a lot of people.

"Any time Laird or [Caportorto] is on the mound, we have a shot to beat anybody on any given day," he said. "We have 17 guys on our roster. The problem is a lot of our fielders pitch. We don't have a lot of depth but I keep telling our guys, 'Our nine against anyone else's nine can compete on any given day.'"

The win improves the Lions record to 3-9 on the season and 1-1 in conference play. The three wins are already more than the team had all of last season.

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Jack Caportorto (left) and Cal Laird (right) combined to throw the baseball team's first ever no-hitter, and NEWMAC win. • Thomas Mendoza / Beacon Staff

THURSDAY

## Everybody X Dance now



Students of majors outside performing arts were allowed to contribute to *X Dance*. • Courtesy of Emerson Stage

Emerson Stage premieres its annual modern dance festival, *X Dance*, at the Greene Theater tonight. The show features the work of student choreographers Kaitlyn Frank, Gabriel Nesser, Olivia Moriarty, Cassie Schauble, and Cassie Samuels, accompanied by 26 dancers from a broad range of majors. EmStage uses *X Dance* to celebrate the creativity and versatility of Emerson students and is one of the few shows that invites non-performing arts majors to participate. With everything from modern dance to ballet, Latin, and ballroom styles, the numbers are both physically and musically diverse in their storytelling.

—Kavita Shah / Beacon Staff

### X Dance

♥ Greene Theater, 6th Floor of Tufts Building  
 🎫 March 27, 8 p.m.; March 28, 8 p.m.; March 29, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; March 30 2 p.m.  
 \$8 Emerson community; \$12 general public

FRIDAY

## Pitch, please



Treble Makers making treble. • Courtesy of Matt Lewis

All four requisitely punny Emerson a cappella groups will gather for the first time ever for a grand ode to the unadulterated human voice. Acappellics Anonymous, Achoired Taste, Noteworthy, and Treble Makers will take the Paramount Mainstage for Acappellooza, along with the Emerson Lions Spirit Squad and Fermata Town, a local “semi-professional” a cappella group featuring Emerson alumni.

Half the funds raised will go to Emerson Scholarships, and half will go to the a cappella groups. The event is part of the college’s Spirit of Emerson program, which encourages positivity, creativity, and all many of nice things at Emerson.

—Andrew Doerfler / Beacon Staff

### Acappellooza

♥ Paramount Center Mainstage  
 🎫 March 28, 7:30 p.m.  
 \$10 students; \$22 adults; \$17 seniors

SATURDAY

## Guess who's coming to dinner? Race relations.



Ayad Akhtar concludes a monthlong residency at Emerson. Photo by Larry D. Moore via Wikimedia Commons.

A staged reading of the Pulitzer-winning play *Disgraced* is the latest example of The Office of the Arts’ effort to showcase stories with many perspectives.

The last event of playwright Ayad Akhtar’s senior artist residency at Emerson, the piece focuses on a Pakistani-American lawyer and his Caucasian wife who host a dinner party for their friends. While it starts friendly enough, things get dicey as race relations are put in a microcosm.

David Dower, ArtsEmerson’s director of artistic programs, says the college’s goal is to reflect the ever-growing diversity of Boston.

“This is the reality of our city now,” said Dower. “It’s important we’re putting the world on stage on purpose.”

—Jason Madanjian / Beacon Staff

### Disgraced: A Staged Reading

♥ Semel Theater, 3rd Floor of Tufts Building  
 🎫 March 29, 7 p.m. RSVP required: <http://bit.ly/1m768QJ>

THE REST OF THE WEEK • SUNDAY

## For the love of the movies, and \$1000

Of about 100 undergraduate and graduate student submissions, 18 shorts have been selected to be screened at this year’s Emerson Film Festival. The movies fall into three categories: “Homeworlds,” about home and family; “Outerworlds,” about other worlds and states of being; and “Interworlds,” about interpersonal relationships.

“It was as much about good films as it was putting films together that complemented one another,” says Anna Feder, the events and internships manager for the visual and media arts department. The all-day event features Q-and-As after each screening, a reception afterward, and an audience award. The winner will receive a \$1,000 cash prize and a professional filmmaker’s package, presented by Kevin Bright.

—Kelsey Drain / Beacon Staff

### Emerson College Film Festival

♥ Bright Family Screening Room, Paramount Center  
 🎫 March 30, 2 p.m. to 10 p.m.



Still from *Le Blue Stella*, directed by Peter Ferris Rosati. • Courtesy of Anna Feder

## Even more events

View this calendar and submit your events at [berkeleybeacon.com/events](http://berkeleybeacon.com/events).

THURSDAY, MARCH 27

### The Girlie Project presents... Girtlenecks

Paramount Center Mainstage, 8 p.m. The flyer for this sketch troupe’s first show of the semester features the members in what appears to be the same ugly turtle-neck. But perhaps they ordered 10 of the same ugly turtle-neck.

### Running from Crazy with Barbara Kopple

Paramount Center Mainstage, The master documentarian, who won Oscars for 1976’s *Harlan County, USA* and 1991’s *American Dream*, screens her new picture about Ernest Hemingway’s family.

THURSDAY MARCH 27 AND FRIDAY MARCH 28

### Laser Jam

Little Building Cabaret Space Jam-themed laser tag. What else is there to say? Free play on March 27, and a bracketed tournament March 28. Sign up for the tourney at <http://tinyurl.com/LaserJam>.

MONDAY, MARCH 31

### Mondays are a Drag...

Multipurpose Room, Piano Row, 7 p.m. “...so why not add queens?” inquires this drag show’s Facebook event page, and we are unable to think of an answer. Participation is encouraged.

TUESDAY, APRIL 1

### Big Lebowski

Bright Family Screening Room, 7 p.m. Fill your Bright Lights sort-of requirement while wearing a bowling shirt and sipping on a faux-White Russian.

### Electric Hustle

Semel Theater, 7 p.m. Get all your senses stimulated at this performance that includes juggling, gyroscopic sensors, live jazz, and photography.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2

### Vegan Food Festival

Bill Bordy Theater, 216 Tremont St., 6 p.m. Earth Emerson, Emerson Peace and Social Justice, and Emerson Poetry Project combine forces to give you free vegan food, a vegan bake-off, and vegan poet Steve Brogenbuck.

EMERSON STUDENTS! MEMBERSHIP IS FREE AND INCLUDES:  
 \$15 Theatre Tickets, \$10 Rush Tickets

**ARTS EMERSON**  
 THE WORLD ON STAGE

**OPENS TUESDAY!**  
 APR 01 - 06

## NOT BY BREAD ALONE

NALAGA'AT THEATER  
 DEAF-BLIND ACTING ENSEMBLE

A triumphant celebration  
 of the indomitable human spirit

EMERSON/PARAMOUNT CENTER MAINSTAGE  
 559 WASHINGTON ST BOSTON #BreadAlone

ARTSEMERSON.ORG /617.824.8400

**6 PERFORMANCES ONLY!**  
 APR 09 - 13

## LEBENSRAUM (HABITAT)

JAKOP AHLBOM

All the charm and virtuosity  
 of a Buster Keaton film

EMERSON/PARAMOUNT CENTER MAINSTAGE  
 559 WASHINGTON ST BOSTON #Lebensraum