

## PVCC's Ruth Yoder: 2023 SWCA Award Winner

Students show off  
 their pjs,  
 Pages 10-11

Makenzie McCoy, staff editor

Ruth Yoder, an adjunct professor, writing tutor, and long-time member of the PVCC community, has recently been granted the Professional Tutor Award during this year's annual Southeastern Writing Center Association (SWCA) conference. This award not only recognizes Yoder's commitment to her position, but also the stance of leadership she takes in it.

Yoder began her time at PVCC in early 2011 as a student. Nearly a year after her arrival, she began working in the school's Writing Center as a front desk staff member, where she built professional relationships in the community. In an interview, Yoder said that as she spent more time in the Writing Center, she became intrigued by the tutors working around her. This led to her applying and officially becoming a tutor at PVCC in 2013. After 10 years of hard work and dedication, she won The SWCA Professional

Tutor Award.

Yoder attended the annual SWCA conference in Memphis, Tennessee, to receive her award, and she described this experience as wonderful and inspiring.

"It is nice to speak with other tutors who can relate to the experiences we have in our Writing Center," said Yoder.

Members of the PVCC community greatly appreciate her work. Professor of English and Writing Center Coordinator Jenny Koster personally nominated Yoder and said, "Ruth is invaluable to our center. She has built so many thoughtful resources--handouts, videos, social media posts, English Conversation Circle topics--that have allowed our center to excel."

Yoder plans to continue taking the initiative in her position to drive students toward their academic goals. She said, "I really enjoy meeting students and reading what they have written; it is probably one of my favorite things."



Adjunct Instructor and Professional Tutor, Ruth Yoder.  
 Photo Courtesy of Ruth Yoder

### In This Issue

- PVCC Events -pg. 2
- SGA News -pg. 3
- PVCC News -pgs. 4-5
- Classes -pgs. 8-9
- Events -pgs. 12-14
- Reviews -pgs. 15-18
- Comic -pg. 19

## DATES TO REMEMBER

— **Pi Day Recognition and Celebration \*** —  
March 14, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Bolick Student Center

— **SGA March Madness Tip-Off Party \*** —  
March 16, noon to 2 p.m., Bolick Student Center

— **Free Movie Friday: *Beyond the Visible: Hilma Af Klint* \*** —  
March 17, 7:30 p.m., Dickinson Building Main Stage

— **Deliberative Dialogue: Free Speech and the Inclusive Campus \*** —  
March 21, 3:30 p.m., North Mall Meeting Room

— **Annual Job Fair \*** —  
March 29, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Main Building

— **Stand Up Comedy with Robert Mac and Chelsea Shorte ^** —  
April 1, 7:30 p.m., Dickinson Building Main Stage

— **Financial Workshops \*** —  
April 4, 11, and 18, noon to 1 p.m., M175

— **Education Employer Career Chat \*** —  
April 13, noon to 1 p.m., Virtual

— **One Mic Stand\*** —  
April 13, 7 p.m., Dickinson Building Black Box Theater

— **Academic & Leadership Awards** —  
April 17, 4 p.m., Dickinson Building Main Stage

— **NASA Langley information Session\*** —  
April 24, noon to 2 p.m., M835 and Virtual

— **Clearly You Crystals \*** —  
April 26, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Bolick Student Center

— **Sentence: *Flying in Place III*** —  
April 28 & 29, 7:30 p.m., April 30, 2:30 p.m.,  
Dickinson Building Main Stage

\*Free Event    ^Student Vouchers Available

## Editor's Note

Shazila Nadia  
Muzafar Shah,  
assistant editor



**Shazila Nadia  
Muzafar Shah**

English was not the first language I learned. Being born and raised in Malaysia, English only became a more

prominent language in my life once I entered secondary school where I was studying under the British curriculum. This was the point in my life when I realized that I enjoyed reading and writing in English, and it dawned on me that these were essential skills that would take me far in life.

After taking the required ENG 111 and ENG 112 in my first two semesters at PVCC, I opted to take Introduction to Journalism (ENG 121) as a transfer elective in Fall 2022. This class taught me important skills any journalist would need such as ways to find the best sources for articles and application of AP style. I have definitely grown as a writer since taking this class, and I have now been promoted from staff writer to assistant editor this semester.

Journalism has always intrigued me as I believe that the practice of unbiased and ethical journalism is necessary to maintain a functioning civilization. The articles written should captivate readers, but at the same time, the goal is to convey the happenings of the world as they are. I believe that the ability to inform instead of to persuade an audience is an important skill in life.

Although college life has been hectic for me thus far, I am glad I am able to write and edit articles for The Forum. This experience is a wonderful one, and I highly encourage others to take part in PVCC's newspaper whenever and however they can!



# Student Government Association News

# MARCH MADNESS



16 MARCH 12-2PM

Enjoy Game Day  
in the Student Center  
with the SGA!



Link to Tournament



Pop a Shot



Food and Beverages



# PVCC4U: Financial Assistance for Your Degree

Makenzie McCoy, staff writer

PVCC4U is a program offered by the college to aid students financially. The program covers tuition and fees for students who qualify. Applications are available as the college prepares for the spring semester of 2023.

Financial aid advisor Sherry Dudley encourages students to take advantage of this program. “Apply even if you question your eligibility,” said Dudley. “You don't know until you do.”

PVCC4U assistance will distribute funds each semester to qualifying students until the end of the fall semester of 2024. Student eligibility can only be determined after a FAFSA application is completed.

In order to be eligible for the program, students must meet a set of criteria. A student may not have a family income above \$100,000 or must have been laid off from their occupation due

to COVID-19. Students must be enrolled in six or more credit hours and be signed up for a degree or certificate program. Dual-enrolled high school students and out-of-state students are not eligible for this program.

Students who wish to receive PVCC4U assistance must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0. Students enrolled in the 2022 fall semester must have successfully completed a minimum of 75% of Fall credits attempted. For newly enrolled students in Spring 2023, an advisor will inform them of relevant requirements.

To begin the process of receiving PVCC4U assistance, students must first fill out the PVCC application form. Once you have completed the application, an enrollment coach will take you through the next steps, including all financial assistance options available to you, even if you are not eligible for this program. Students can contact the financial aid office by email for additional questions and assistance.

## Remembering 23 Years at PVCC

Makenzie McCoy, staff writer

Dr. Frank Friedman served as president of PVCC for over 20 years, and in August of 2021, he announced that his retirement would happen in May. Friedman was the fifth president of PVCC and he showed great passion in his position here at the college.

“My work at PVCC for the past 23 years hasn't been work, it has been a labor of love,” said Friedman.

PVCC had many positive changes during Friedman's time as president. A variety of programs were introduced to students including eight healthcare and four technology programs. Student enrollment increased by 25% and the number of dual enrollment students grew to 1,500 per semester. The number of PVCC graduates went from 300 students to over 1,000.

“The credit for these successes lies not only on me but all faculty and staff who helped make it happen,” said Friedman.

In addition to all of the academic progress that had been made, many of the facilities that

students enjoy today were not here until Friedman made them available to us. For example, the Theodore E. and Patt Hart Keats Science Building and PVCC's Stultz Center for Business and Career Development. Along with that, there was great success in raising funds for the college during Friedman's time here. Since taking the position in 1999, the PVCC Educational Foundation has obtained a grand total of \$27,710,585 in contributions and grants. The foundation has distributed \$17,881,734 in support of several college initiatives such as scholarships and academic programs.

Friedman describes the announcement of his retirement as emotional on several different levels. “The emotions varied from pride in what we had accomplished to sadness about stepping away,” said Friedman.

He encourages students to stay dedicated to their work and focused on their long-term goals during this upcoming semester. His time serving as president of PVCC will continue to be remembered and appreciated by the college community.

# Students Leave a Mark on PVCC's Future

Rebekah Carroll, staff writer

On Jan. 11, 2023, PVCC faculty and staff, students, and school board members gathered in the North Mall meeting room to commemorate the construction of the new Woodrow W. Bolick Advanced Technology and Student Success Center (ATSSC).

The 45,000-square-foot solar-powered building is scheduled for completion in January 2024. Featuring several new hands-on technology labs, including forensics, cybersecurity, robotics, and manufacturing. The building will offer students ample opportunities to gain experience in growing technology fields. Moreover, the ATSSC will consolidate administrative offices, and it will include student meeting spaces and club offices, fostering student success and engagement at this new heart of PVCC's campus.

PVCC hosted a ceremony to thank the contributors for the new building. There was massive applause as Jim and Cynthia Stultz, the largest sponsors of the new building, wrote their names on one of the building's structural beams. Following, all attendees were invited to sign the beam, figuratively and literally leaving their mark on PVCC's history. According to Harry Stillerman, PVCC's vice president of institutional advancement & development, this new building is



Jim and Cynthia Stultz pose with the beam after signing. Photo courtesy of PVCC Marketing & Media Relations

“symbolic of our belief in our community,” and those involved are “excited to have a facility we and our students deserve.”

The signatures of PVCC's supporters, faculty, and students are now forever penned on the ATSSC's beam, representing PVCC's deep commitment to its community. Many people have made this new project possible, and just as their names are attached to the physical structure of the campus, their dedication to building an educated community bolsters the spirit of prosperity for the people surrounding them.

PVCC has shared a video about the event on their YouTube channel: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6shg9\\_XCFes](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6shg9_XCFes).



The beam in place in the new building. Photo courtesy of PVCC Marketing & Media Relations

# UVA Educators Expo Presents Opportunities

Johnson Li, staff writer

On Friday Feb. 10, recruiters and representatives from over 60 school districts and PK-12 organizations filled the UVA Alumni Hall to start the 2023 UVA Educators' Expo. The in-person job fair and networking ran from 10 a.m. to noon and candidate interviews ran from noon to 5 p.m.

UVA's Director of Education Career Services Hilary Kerner organized the event. The Educators' Expo was open to the public and designed for candidates and students who are interested in pursuing a career in PK-12 teaching, counseling, speech, or administrative roles.

The majority of the school districts and educational job opportunities were based in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Nearby out-of-state school districts from Washington, D.C. and Maryland came to hire students majoring in education. For example, Montgomery County Public Schools is an out-of-state school district from Maryland that came to the Educators' Expo. They are two hours away from Charlottesville and thirty minutes away from Washington. Another example is KIPP DC, a college-preparatory public school in Washington.

Carson Eschman, representing the Southern Teachers Agency, explained to students that their service can place job candidates who are interested in working at private schools located between Pennsylvania and Florida and some in Texas. Carson mentioned that in this region, their service covers teaching positions at Woodberry Forest and Fork Union Military Academy. According to their website, "Southern Teacher is the premier placement service for private school teacher jobs in the South." The applicant does not

pay any money to the Southern Teachers Agency to get paired with a counselor to find private schools that match the applicant's interests.

Erica Norfleet and Amanda R. Schilling, representing Norfolk Public Schools, drove close to three hours to share opportunities for job candidates to work at their school district. The school district is located inside the city of Norfolk, home of Old Dominion University and a few miles from Virginia Beach."

Tomas Rivera-Figueroa and Madeline Hanington, representing Montgomery County Public Schools, shared opportunities for candidates interested in working in Maryland. The school district is made up of 210 public schools. According to the district's website, the Fall 2023 statistics show that 160,554 students are enrolled in all their schools combined. With high enrollment rates, the school district is looking to hire more teachers to cover more classes.

Caitlin Carroll, representing Camp Holiday Trails, shared summer camp opportunities for working with young children. According to their website, "Camp Holiday Trails has nearly 50 years of experience working with children and teens with medical needs ages 5-17, from throughout the Mid-Atlantic region." They also offer opportunities for students age 15+ to get volunteer service. More information about volunteering opportunities can be found on their website.

For those who are interested in careers in education or in pursuing a job or internship in this field, PVCC is offering an Education Career Chat on Thursday, April 13 at noon which will feature Charlottesville City Schools human resources coordinator, Jeff Earney. Email [careers@pvcc.edu](mailto:careers@pvcc.edu) for more information.



# Chemistry Education for All Students

Max Montana, staff writer

Many students take an education for granted, but some are not so lucky.

Assistant Professor of Chemistry Harish Subedi found a unique opportunity with PVCC. He is teaching at a correctional institution this semester, bringing a valuable education to a group often neglected.

Subedi came to PVCC mid-pandemic, beginning in fall of 2020. He was born in Nepal, moved to the US to study at Kent State University, and went on to teach at Western Nebraska Community College. He loves to travel, saying his favorite destination has been California. Subedi said he has not had a bad experience traveling.

"I always expect the unexpected, things may go wrong," he said. "It's my choice; nobody pushed me to have to go."

This semester, Lab Manager Mark Little and Subedi have been able to bring a chemistry class to the Dillwyn Correctional Facility. Subedi explained that while English and History courses have been offered to the facility in prior years, this is the first time they have been able to offer chemistry classes, as it was a challenge getting the proper permissions and changing the course enough to keep the lab portion within the rules of the correctional facility. Subedi teaches the lectures, while Little teaches the labs.

"For example, we're not allowed to get strong acids or strong bases there, so we get something as an alternative for our reactions," Subedi said. "We don't compromise with the outcomes, so we have to really thoroughly modify our syllabi and teaching material and lab material."

Illustrating the strict restrictions imposed in the correctional system, Subedi brought out a specific flash drive approved for use in the facility. "It's a little different setting because we don't have internet there. If I forget to print



Harish Subedi. Photo courtesy of Harish Subedi

something, I'm in trouble, so I wanna make sure that I have everything ready: all the handouts, any homework, any video files. If I wanna show something, I have to make sure they are downloaded and they are on the jumpdrive. So logistic-wise, I have to be prepared beforehand," Subedi said.

"At the beginning, I was a little hesitant on the situation, like 'oh it's a prison, what's gonna happen,' you know, all sorts of things. But when I went there, and day one after the security check, and then I was in the classroom, I had no doubt, no fear, nothing. I was just teaching chemistry, so I didn't feel like something abnormal or different. So once I entered the classroom, it's all about chemistry. Students are enthusiastic, they're attentive, they're eager to learn, so I'm happy to be a part of the team," he said.

Subedi has enjoyed his experience with the new program, saying, "I think students appreciate that when we go there, they always appreciate the fact that 'he is here for our good.' I love the fact that they appreciate the time and effort we have for them."

# Powerful Literature Makes Cultured Students

Adina Wall, staff writer

The lessons in African American Literature (ENG 258.40WI) are enlightening, heartbreaking, and necessary to learn. This writing-intensive course is available online and in-person, in 12 and 16-week format. It focuses on literary pieces from the Middle Passage to the Harlem Renaissance. There is also a sequel to this class that explores from the Harlem Renaissance to the present. Associate Professor of English Justin Wert has observed and participated in the evolution of African American literature.

Besides the textbook, there are few novels that students are required to read. They are split up throughout the semester, which makes it easier to

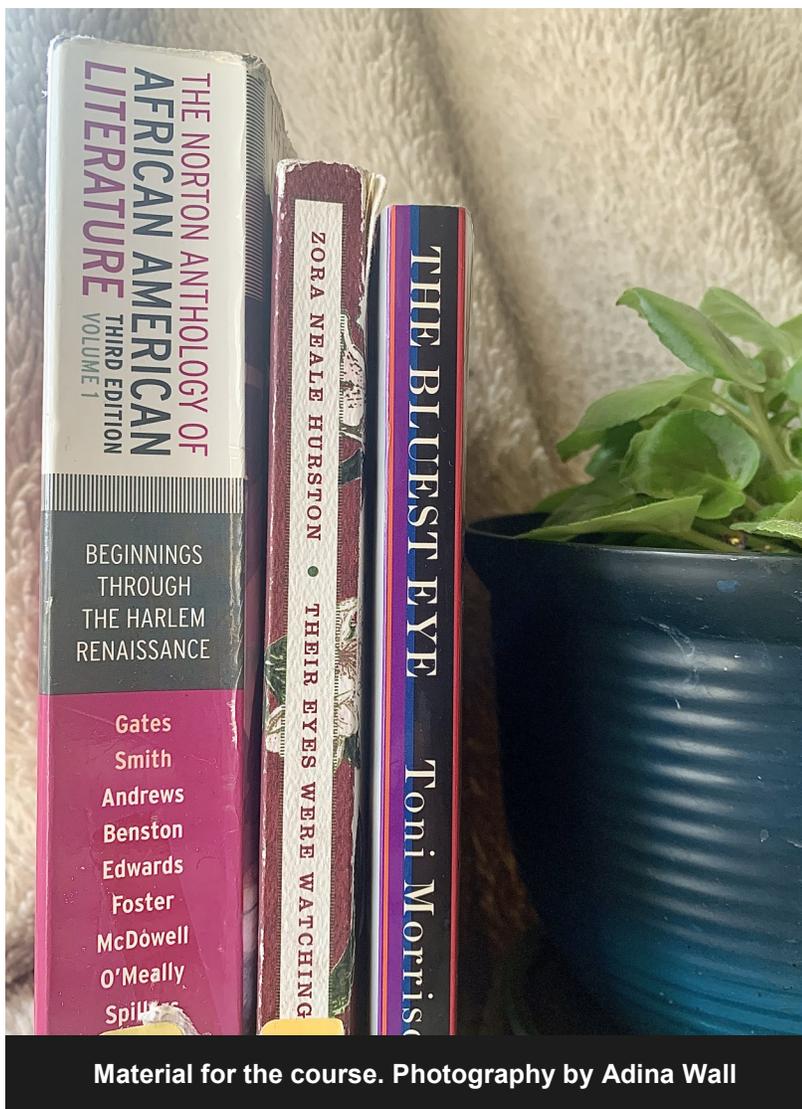
integrate them into a student's schedule. Students will be assigned a research paper where they choose a novel and write about one of the themes within its story. It is important to note that the textbook is in its third edition. This is young for literary textbooks. Wert explained to me that this is because up until the 1980s and 1990s, stand-alone college and university courses covering African American literature did not exist, except for in historically black colleges and universities such as Hampton University or Norfolk State University, etc.

There are technological advantages in taking literary courses in 2022. E-books and audiobooks can be more convenient for students. Professor Wert says, "You have to meet people where they are."

Audiobooks give students more freedom in following the material, but he encourages students to have a hard copy to reference and take notes in. E-books often let you internally annotate depending on the platform being used to gain access. It is important to take into consideration the obstacles students face in an electronic age. While many resources give students the option to download and access the material offline, it's best to be prepared.

Wert recognizes that slave narratives are the most challenging section of the course for students, and also that they have big takeaways. He explains these stories never get any easier to read, even for him. He finds them important to read because they re-humanize a race of people who were stripped of their identity in a land they struggled to feel at home in. The only way to get people to open their eyes to their truth is through storytelling, and who better to tell the stories than those who lived to tell them?

When discussing the course's reading material, he said, "It opens a window upon human experience, with each window offering a different experience to see a bigger picture."



Material for the course. Photography by Adina Wall

# Sign up Now and be a Part of PVCC History

## Take Introduction to Journalism: ENG 121

Fall Semester 2023

Learn how to read critically  
Improve your writing and communication  
Practice your editing

Get a head start with your writing career!  
Publish your articles in *The Forum* and start building your portfolio

Still need a Civic Engagement Course? Look no further!  
This 3-credit class fulfills the CE requirement and is  
an approved transfer elective in many degree programs.

For more information, Email Dr. Tamara Whyte: [twhyte@pvcc.edu](mailto:twhyte@pvcc.edu)

For a student's perspective, read Benjamin Marcus' article "Introduction to Journalism: Honing skills and engaging with the world" with this QR code:



# PVCC Valentine's Day Pajama Contest



Contestants in the PVCC Valentine's Day Pajama Contest. Photography by [unintelligible]



Winner: Voted Best Group. Photography by Sofia Mendez



Winner: M  
Photo courtes

# Contest



by Sofia Mendez



Gigi Davis counts the ballots. Photography by Sofia Mendez



Matt Goetting  
by of Gigi Davis



Gigi Davis explaining the instructions of the contest. Photography by Sofia Mendez

# Mini Mardi Gras Impresses

Phoebe Hayashi, staff writer

Someone walking by M248 at 2 p.m. on Feb. 22, 2023 might have heard unusual sounds of revelry spilling out of the room – for PVCC, at any rate. The French Club was holding their mini Mardi Gras celebration there, and everyone was invited.

Mardi Gras, or Fat Tuesday, is the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday. In the Christian tradition, Ash Wednesday is the start of Lent, a time of fasting and self-reflection in the days leading up to Easter. As the last day before all that self-deprivation, Mardi Gras celebrations are often raucous, filled with soon to be forbidden things, like sweets and non-religious music. Some places like to start the festivities as early as Jan. 6, all the way to the official day of Mardi Gras.

While not exactly raucous, the French Club's celebration certainly had a lot to eat and drink. There was a large cinnamon roll covered in thick and colorful buttercream frosting that we used as our King Cake. King Cakes are a traditional component of Mardi Gras, sold with a small plastic toy inside. Whoever gets the toy, which is often in the shape of a baby, is the one tasked with bringing the cake for next



Masks made at the party.  
Photo courtesy of Kris Swanson

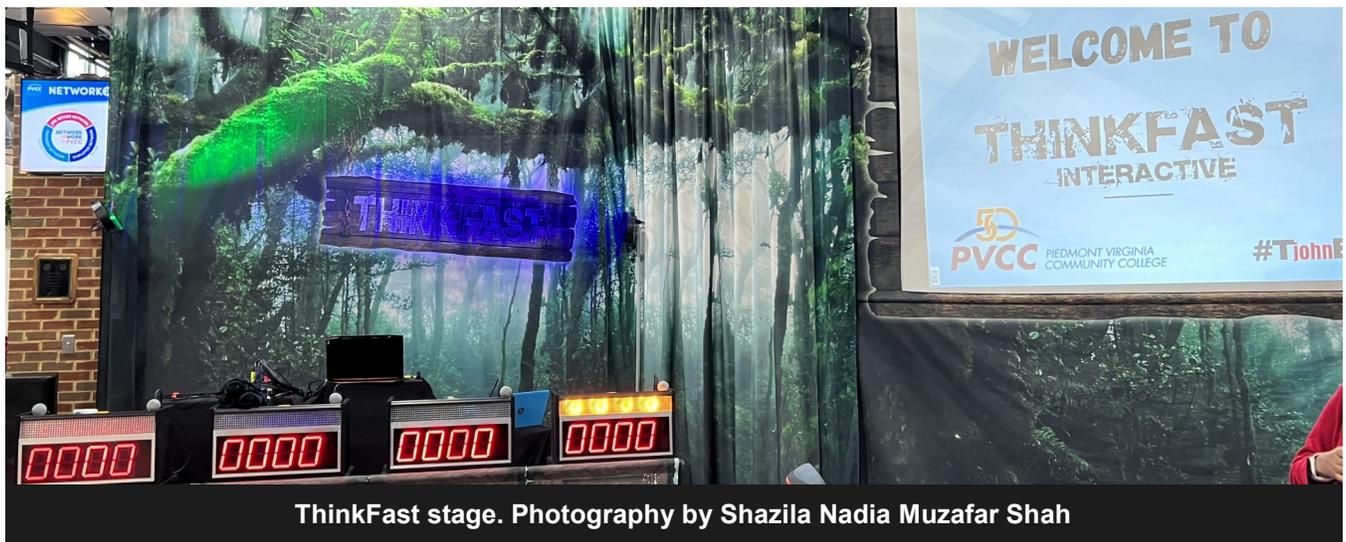
year's celebration. Other refreshments included macarons; beignets, a French deep fried pastry common in New Orleans; and Orangina, a popular French drink, similar to carbonated orange juice.

Mask wearing is another common component of Mardi Gras, so the French Club set up supplies for everyone to make their own masks. To the lively soundtrack of Mardi Gras music, everyone carefully added decorations to the mask of their choosing. Feathers were a common choice, as was glitter, resulting in masks as distinct as everyone's personalities.

While the celebration is over, the welcoming spirit of the club continues. As Club President Johnson Li said, "Participating in the French Club doesn't mean you're only focused on the language itself, but you are open to a lot of new experiences that dives you into French culture, food, music, and many other wonderful things."



Students make masks and enjoy treats.  
Photo courtesy of Kris Swanson



ThinkFast stage. Photography by Shazila Nadia Muzafar Shah

## Competition Arises at the Bolick Center

Shazila Nadia Muzafar Shah, assistant editor

On Thursday, Feb. 2, PVCC organized two ThinkFast Challenges, one at 11 a.m. and another at noon, where one student was able to walk away with \$100 for winning each round. The Bolick Student Center was draped with a forest backdrop that had a wooden sign saying “THINKFAST” printed on it. Beside this was a big projection screen which was used later to display the trivia questions. In front of the backdrop stood four standard gameshow stands with a buzzer and an electronic scoreboard attached to each of them.

At the start of the game show, participants were given devices that looked like cell phones from the late 80s or early 90s. These devices were used to enter the answers remotely after questions were displayed. ThinkFast is an interactive game show which can incorporate trivia questions as general as sports and geography to college-specific questions.

In the middle of the game, participants were given a chance to secure a spot in the final four by participating in a dance off. Once all the “cellular” trivia questions were answered, the top three participants on the leaderboard filled up the final three spaces to take part in a trivia quickfire. Lima Abdul Satar won the first round, and Spenser Woodward won the second game.

Woodward said, ““It was fantastic! I really love these sorts of events; it’s a great way to break up the routine and have some fun! I really appreciate the faculty for doing it!”



Contestants dancing for a spot in the final. Photography by Shazila Nadia Muzafar Shah

TjohnE Productions is a Michigan-based company which specializes in interactive and experiential events, one of them being ThinkFast. Head to their website for booking inquiries and more information on ThinkFast and other interactive events.

# Yoga Helps The Mind and Body Flow

Shazila Nadia Muzafar Shah, staff writer

Yoga comes from the Sanskrit word “yuj,” which means “union” or “to join.” Currently, it is a common exercise which is often identified by the twisting and contorted postures of the body, but it is much more than that. Yoga is an ancient practice from northern India that involves physical poses, concentration, and breathing techniques.

On Friday, Dec. 2, PVCC invited FlyDog Yoga to conduct a free yoga class from noon to 1 p.m. for the PVCC community. Eleven people attended this class at the Panther Fitness Center, in room M179, which was organized by Interim Director of Student & Campus Engagement Gigi Davis.

FlyDog’s Yoga Instructor Kathryn Heislup guided the students through many different poses. For this class, students did a vinyasa, which is a flow of poses that goes from a cobra or upward-facing dog pose where the back is arched with stomachs towards the floor, to the downward-facing dog pose where the head is down with hips raised. Next, students shifted their bodies into a plank position and the flow ended with chaturanga, or a low plank pose before moving on to different variations of stretches.

Heislup said, “Rest and recuperation before moving into the weekend was the goal I had for you guys. It’s really hard to let go of your week, especially since you guys have school and there’s just a ton of stuff going on right before the holidays. So, I really wanted you guys to have a chance to relax.”

Brittany Torres, a PVCC student who



Photo courtesy of Gigi Davis

attended the yoga class, said, “It was a very nice and peaceful experience, and I will definitely be going back!”

Davis was glad to see that the event had a great turnout, and has arranged for more classes the spring semester. For more information on future events, Davis can be reached at [gdavis@pvcc.edu](mailto:gdavis@pvcc.edu). More information about FlyDog Yoga can be found at their website.



Yoga class in the Panther Fitness Center. Photo courtesy of Gigi Davis

# Tea Bazaar Enjoys 20 Years on Downtown Mall

Adina Wall, staff writer

People have been gathering at the Charlottesville Downtown Mall's Twisted Branch Tea Bazaar since 2002 to enjoy its mindful refreshments, snacks, and cozy, bohemian atmosphere. Twenty years later, they have 50 worldly loose-leaf teas to choose from. Patrons can order a heady dose of exactly what they need online or in person.

Tea benefits the mind and body through its medicinal and aromatic properties. A descriptive trifold menu displays a large selection of Chinese and Japanese green teas, oolong, international black, white, red teas, herbal remedy, house special teas, and more. They are clearly priced with the majority (with the exception of specialty teas like their "blossoming" teas, and Japanese matcha) served in a pot, mug, to-go, or in loose-leaf form. The prices vary depending on what style. Pots of tea are \$6.50-\$10; for mugs, \$4-\$6; to-go, \$5-\$7; and the loose-leaf \$6-\$10 per ounce. Choosing the right tea means tuning into how your body feels in the present moment, gracing a moment to slow down and care for yourself.

Local photographer and Twisted Branch Manager Corbett Smithson has been a part of the Tea Bazaar family for about 6 years. He said his favorite teas are "Golden Monkey" and red tea. Red tea is underappreciated. "Golden Monkey" is one of their red tea selections native to Southern China that is caffeinated, brightly flavored, with earthy honey notes. Smithson noticed that people of all tea-experience enjoy sipping on Golden Monkey.

I was posted up at the Tea Bazaar for about 4 hours working on school assignments. I started uncaffeinated with a mug of "Brain Wave" (\$4.50), one of the herbal remedy teas designed to stimulate your mind. It is an invigorating blend of peppermint, sage, gotu kola, fenugreek, lavender, and rosemary. The friendly staff steep all the teas to order and have it down to a science. There's a table station with sweeteners, salt, napkins, a water jug and cups, and other things people may need as they relax.

I ordered lunch in my second hour; I chose from a selection inspired by Indian and Mediterranean cuisine. This place is great if you are a vegetarian, vegan, or have other dietary

preferences. If you bring your appetite, expect to spend \$3-\$20 depending on what you choose from the menu that features lighter fare and more filling options. I ordered a gluten-free salmon wrap with a side of dahl and rice. It was \$20 with a tip, tasted fresh, and made me feel pleasantly satisfied.

I wrapped up my studies with matcha (\$7.50), which was whisked into a chawan (tea bowl), as is tradition. Matcha is a more potent form of green tea because it dissolves a powder form of the leaves directly into the water instead of steeping the loose-leaf via teabag. Because of this, the antioxidant-rich tea is tannic (slightly bitter) and delivers stronger effects which are dualistically energizing and relaxing. Caffeine is accompanied by an amino acid that lowers your cortisol, a chemical in our bodies that contributes to stress and adrenaline. It was served with candied papaya and ginger, a delightful compliment. A spicy 16oz Masala chai to-go (\$5.50) kept me warm on the way to the car.

If you want to expand your tea knowledge, Smithson said, "There are once-a-month tea talks online or in person."

If you have any questions, You can visit their website [www.teabazaar.com](http://www.teabazaar.com) to sign up for their emailing list or call 434-293-9947. Their address is 414 East Main Street. Stop by Monday through Thursday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.



Twisted Branch Tea Bazaar.  
Photography by Adina Wall

# *You People* Adds to a Nuanced Racial Discussion

Malachi Keys, staff writer

It is easy to believe in our modern world that arguments against interracial relationships are a thing of the past. However, the nuances of navigating such relationships are more complex than ever before. Although Netflix's *You People* is classified as a comedy, it touches heavily on delicate social issues. The star-studded feature-length film dives deep into the tricky waters of navigating familial ties and views on interracial relationships.

*You People* follows the story of Ezra (Jonah Hill), a White Jewish man engaged to Amira (Lauren London), who happens to be a Black woman. Ezra hosts a podcast with his Black best friend on Black culture and the struggles its community faces.

He finds that his future father-in-law, Akbar (Eddie Murphy), is not as thrilled as his daughter is about Ezra joining the family. Consequently, Akbar goes to great lengths to make sure Ezra

does not feel welcome and to show his daughter that she is making a mistake. On the other side of the fence, Ezra's mother, Shelley (Julia Louis-Dreyfus), similarly makes her future daughter-in-law uncomfortable. *You People* also touches on the debate on who is the more oppressed group - Black or Jewish people. Shelley uses her Jewish history as a way to defend and deflect her constant uses of microaggressions toward Amira's family.

Overall, the movie was enjoyable and enriching. With the familiar faces on screen, the movie attracts many different audiences and does not disappoint. The film indirectly discusses and provides commentary on questions that are prevalent issues in today's world. Although the movie's ending felt rushed, it does not detract from the overall quality and message. With the increasing number of interracial partners in society, the film's modern feel was a solid installment to Netflix's portfolio of original movies.



Akbar (Eddie Murphy) and Ezra (Jonah Hill) at a pickup basketball game. Photo courtesy of Netflix

# Lonely Cannibals Find Love in *Bones and All*



Taylor Russell and Timothée Chalamet. Photo courtesy of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Pictures Inc.

April Navarro, staff writer

The average person has about a gallon and a half of blood coursing through their body. *Bones and All* will make this fact viscerally felt like no other movie this year. This love story between two young cannibals is about as tender as something with that premise could possibly be, and less squeamish readers should consider giving it a watch while it's still in theaters.

Taylor Russell stars as Maren, an 18-year-old girl recently abandoned by her father. The two have spent their lives relocating after Maren's cannibalistic episodes. Now on her own, Maren goes on a cross-country trip in search of a mother she's never known. Along the way she meets Lee, a fellow "eater" played by Timothée Chalamet, and a relationship quickly develops. Cannibals are a pretty lonely bunch, it turns out, so they cling to intimacy wherever they can find it. The two travel across the country getting into meat-securing misadventures and playing out the beats typical of a coming-of-age romance.

What is impressive about *Bones and All* is how well it gets viewers to empathize with its cannibal leads in spite of how grisly the act itself is depicted. Maren and Lee aren't tactful about it; they are not the type to enjoy a victim's liver with fava beans and a nice Chianti. The aftermath of a feeding session leaves them feral-looking and crimson-soaked. Maybe that is part of why they are more likable than Hannibal Lecter: they do not seem to relish it. It is a part of themselves they

cannot control.

"Whatever you and I got, it must be fed," says Sully, an elderly cannibal who gives a freshly abandoned Maren some pointers. He ends up stalking the girl and is portrayed with understated creepiness by Mark Rylance. Even this villainous weirdo is imbued with pathos, though, his desperation for companionship rather heart-breaking.

The filmography of director Luca Guadagnino includes the 2017 romance *Call Me By Your Name* and the 2018 remake of cult horror film *Suspiria*, so perhaps it's not surprising that his latest film so effectively executes both coming-of-age romance and horror.

One sequence around the halfway point epitomizes the balance Guadagnino strikes. Maren and Lee take a break from the road to visit a carnival. The two ride the Ferris wheel at sunset and kiss, one of the happier Joy Division tracks playing on the soundtrack. It's a quintessential scene of young love, but it's fleeting. Maren says, "I'm hungry, Lee," and viewers remember what movie they are watching. The next thing we know, Lee is seducing the carnival barker who is soon to be their next meal.

*Bones and All* joins 2016's *Raw* as a part of the coming-of-age cannibal canon. Like Maren and Lee, this genre-of-two is awfully lonely. Who will be next to make a contribution?

Disclaimer: the author of this article is an employee of Violet Crown and received a free ticket.

# Bachata Dance Night is a Dairy Market Favorite

Adina Wall, staff writer

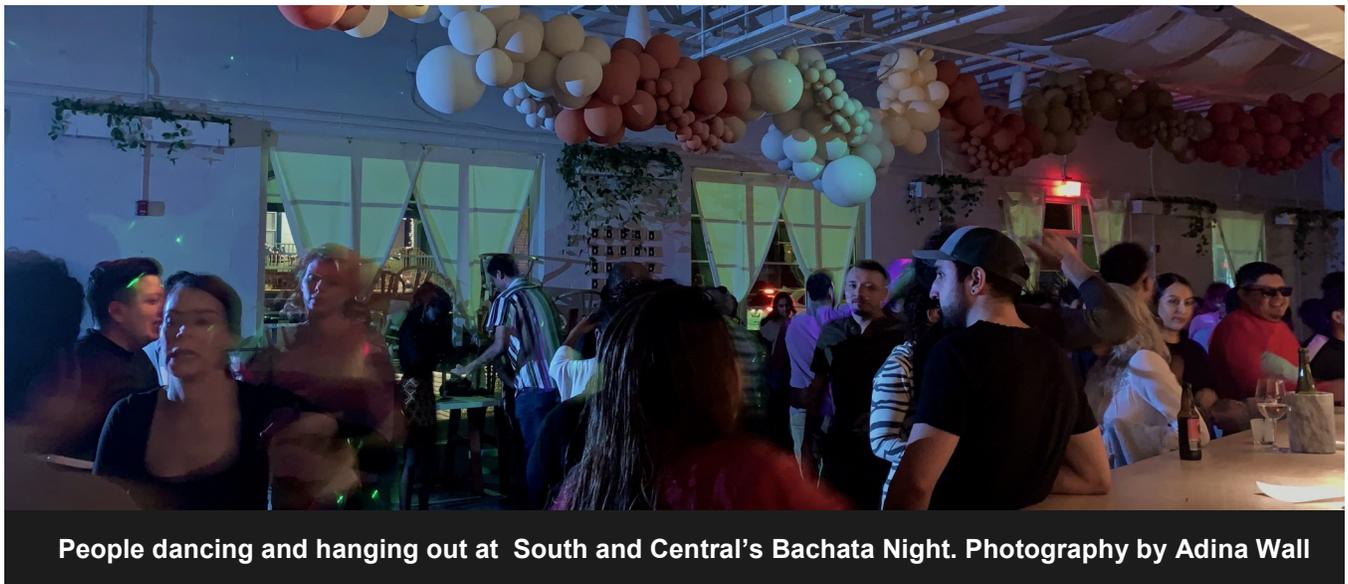
While other vendors inside Charlottesville’s Dairy Market close up shop for the evening, the Forbes-recognized steakhouse South and Central transforms into a fun and safe space for people to dance socially every Thursday from 9 p.m. until midnight. Come experience traditional bachata and other Latin dance styles with production by the Foreign Playerz, who enjoy promoting dance and supporting artistic talent. Not only is the restaurant known for an elevated South and Central American dining experience, but it also deepens the immersion with song and dance.

The Dairy Market is located at 946 Grady Avenue and is home to an array of brick-and-mortar “stalls.” As far as food goes, they have something for everyone. Take It Away sandwich shop, Dino’s Wood-fired Pizza & Rotisserie Chicken, and Bee Conscious Baking Company all cater to gluten sensitivities. Grab coffee while a friend finds a bite to eat, and together, you both can indulge in those well-deserved treats. Another stall, Manila Street, often has their Filipino food truck, Little Manila, parked outside PVCC during the school year. Retail shops, Starr Hill Brewery, and MooThru have stalls here, too. Among all of the enticing aromas and offerings is South and Central, the Dairy Market’s premier restaurant and steakhouse featuring a wood-fired grill and open-kitchen atmosphere with a chef’s table.

When arriving for Bachata Night, walk to the farthest end of The Dairy Market away from the parking lot (free for the first hour and then \$2.50 for each additional hour). I arrived around 10 p.m. and ran into Dairy Market’s Milkman’s Bar manager Abigail Fowler who was leaving after a post-shift bachata moment. She said, “I just got done dancing my heart out.”

Bachata is a social dance that originated in the Dominican Republic and is typically danced with a partner. It is not the only style of social dancing to be expected on Thursdays. Other styles include salsa, zouk, reggaeton, and merengue, all representing various Latin cultures and their influences. The consensual and sophisticated dancing is exciting to watch and participate in. Entertainment and conversation are enjoyed around the dance floor, with plenty of places to sit and stand. Hondurian executive chef and grill master Kelvino Barrera shared his favorite part of Bachata night: “The way everybody comes together. Everybody respects each other. There’s no hate.”

Wear sneakers or dance shoes. While there’s plenty of water to stay hydrated, late-night snacks and drinks are also available to purchase. The cover charge is \$10, or \$5 if you have a student ID. If you want to know more about the restaurant itself (menus, reservations, specials, and events), you can visit their website: [www.southandcentralgrill.com](http://www.southandcentralgrill.com).



People dancing and hanging out at South and Central’s Bachata Night. Photography by Adina Wall

# WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GROW UP?

ARTIST!  
AGE: 7



FASHION DESIGNER  
AGE: 12



PARANORMAL INVESTIGATOR  
AGE: 21



ASTRONOMER  
AGE: 28



COMPUTER PROGRAMMER  
AGE: 32



A MOSS COVERED STONE IN AN ENCHANTED FOREST.



# Classifieds

THE WRITING CENTER@PVCC PRESENTS

## English Conversation Circle

For non-native English speakers  
Room M617  
Wednesdays, 12:00 - 1:00

Join us to practice speaking English in an informal setting.  
No homework is required.

English Conversation Circle will not be held on days when classes are not in session.

Mar. 22: Expressing Yourself  
Mar. 29: Motivation  
Apr. 5: Nature & Plants  
Apr. 12: Accidents Happen

Questions? Contact The Writing Center at PVCC (434-961-5499).



Check us out on social media

@PVCCForum

The Forum is a voice for all students. Accordingly, materials published in The Forum, including any opinions expressed, should not be interpreted as the position of the VCCS, Piedmont Virginia Community College, or any stakeholder thereof. The paper welcomes letters to the editor, guest columns, questions, photography or any other ideas or submissions one may have for the upcoming publications. Please contact [twhyte@pvcc.edu](mailto:twhyte@pvcc.edu) with any questions.

## Contact Us

### The Forum

501 College Dr.  
Charlottesville, VA 22902  
[twhyte@pvcc.edu](mailto:twhyte@pvcc.edu)  
[www.piedmontforum.com](http://www.piedmontforum.com)

The Forum offers classified space to the PVCC community free of charge. Please send announcements along with full name, email, and phone number to: [twhyte@pvcc.edu](mailto:twhyte@pvcc.edu).

### The Forum Staff

(Listed alphabetically)

#### Assistant Editors

Makenzie McCoy  
Nadia Muzafar

#### Staff Writers/Copyeditors

Gabriella Barber  
Gaby Felipe  
Rebekah Carroll  
Luca Gett  
Seb Harper  
Phoebe Hayashi  
Lane  
Liam Hubbard  
Malachi Keys  
Mercedes Lam  
Johnson Li  
Benjamin Marcus  
Makenzie McCoy  
Sofia Mendez  
Max Montana  
Nadia Muzafar  
April Navarro  
Gianni Strazzullo  
Adina Wall

#### Comic Artist

Lauren Cottrell

#### Faculty Advisor

Dr. Tamara Whyte