

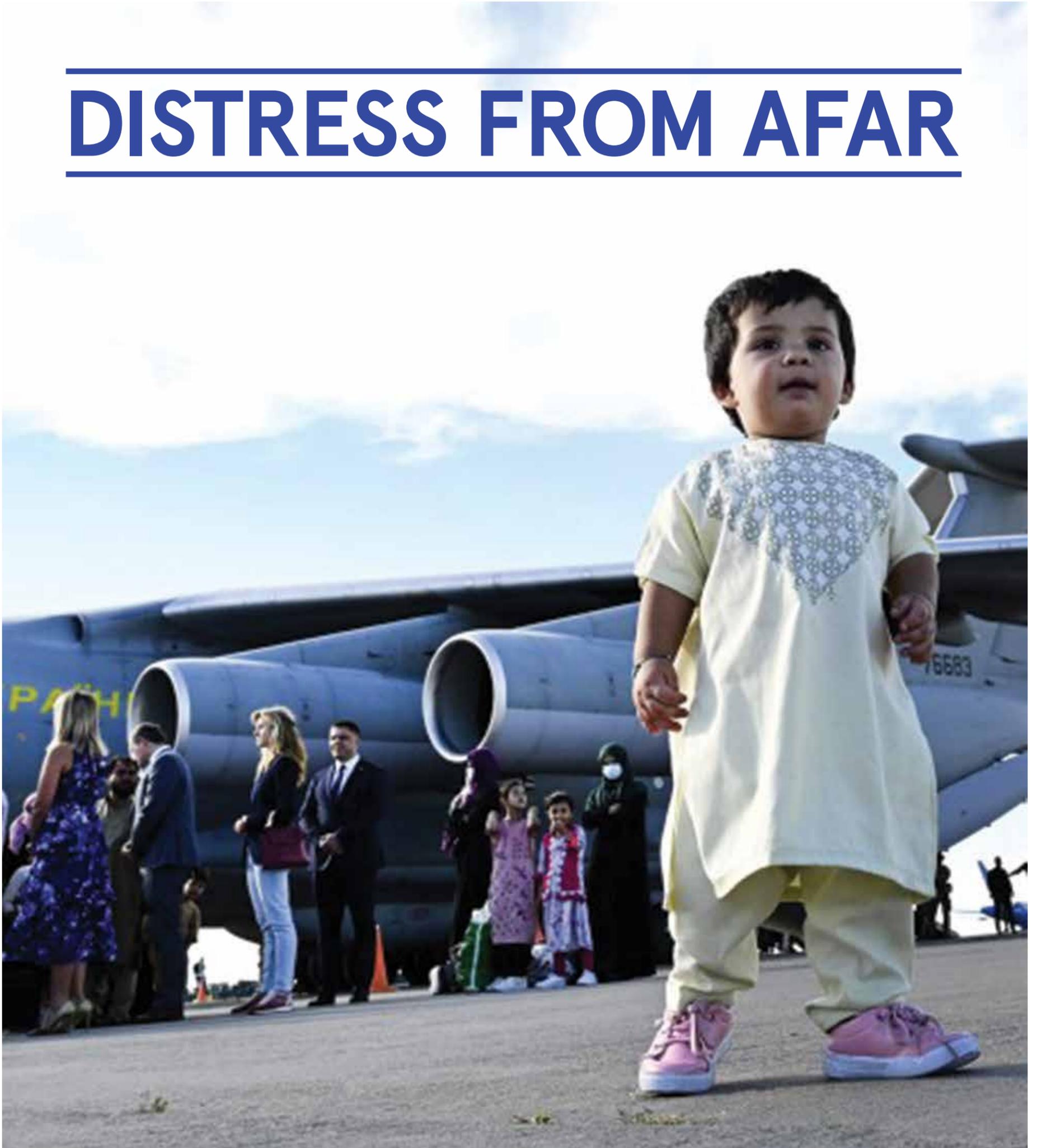
THE **U** N I T E R

LOCAL FESTS RETURN— P5 & 6

NO MORE CAMPUS VOTING—P11

RETURNING TO CAMPUS
MASKED AND VAXXED—P12

DISTRESS FROM AFAR



WINNIPEG AFGHANS RESTLESS FOLLOWING TALIBAN TAKEOVER, HOPEFUL FOR INCOMING FAMILIES

U SPEAKER
SERIES

WALL
TO
WALL

THE UNITER SPEAKER SERIES &
WALL-TO-WALL FESTIVAL PRESENT:

SYNONYM

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH MARTHA STREET STUDIO

A Conversion with: Lido Pimienta

Discussing care, empowerment and resistance through
creative practice

HOSTED BY MARIANA MUÑOZ
GOMEZ

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 / 7 P.M.

ON FACEBOOK LIVE ON
THE UNITER PAGE





PHOTO BY KEELEY BRAUNSTEIN-BLACK

Kristin Treusch, owner and operator of Square Peg Tours, hosts the tour of the old Vaughan Street Jail for Doors Open Winnipeg. Read more on page 5.

ONE FOOT IN THE DOOR

THOMAS PASHKO
MANAGING EDITOR

@THOMASPASHKO

This is different! Well, sort of.

Faces are back on the U of W campus! Human faces. Technically, the pigeons never left. And they're behind masks, so you can't really see them, and it's a little under half the number of faces we'd normally see, but still! Faces!

Like everyone else, the University of Winnipeg and *The Uniter* newspaper are slowly dipping our toes into the waters of normalcy while keeping an eye on COVID case numbers. Which, in this tortured metaphor are, perhaps, the water temperature? I don't know, I've been inside for 18 months, give me a break.

For our newspaper, a gradual return means an impending return to print. We're hoping to have a limited number of physical papers back on stands in October, hopefully increasing circulation as the university increases capacity (knock on wood).

We're also welcoming some new staff, including business manager Valerie Chelangat, arts and culture reporter Isabella Soares and campus reporter Reese Estwick. We're happy to have them on board, as well as all of our returning staff.

In the meantime, we're still tucked away over here at uniter.ca, where we've been for the last year and a half, publishing a full issue every week during the academic year and plugging away during the summer too. But I can't wait for you all to get to read us in glorious newsprint once again.

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SUBMISSIONS

Submissions of articles, letters, graphics and photos are encouraged, however, all new contributors (with the exception of letters to the editor) must attend a 45-minute volunteer orientation workshop to ensure that the volunteer understands all of the publication's basic guidelines.

In-person volunteer orientations are currently suspended due to COVID-19, but over-the-phone and remote orientations can be arranged. Please email volunteer@uniter.ca for more details.

Deadline for advertisements is noon Friday, six days prior to publication. The Uniter reserves the right to refuse to print material submitted by volunteers. The Uniter will not print submissions that are homophobic, misogynistic, transphobic, ableist, racist or libellous. We also reserve the right to edit for length/style.

WHILE YOU WERE AWAY

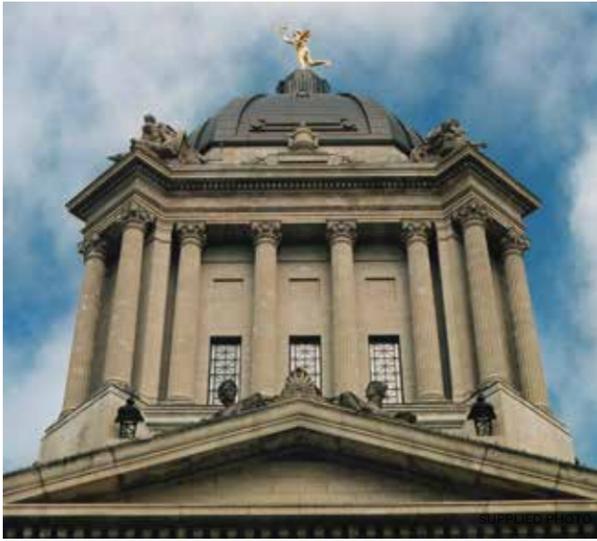
Here are some (more) summer stories you might have missed

THOMAS PASHKO
MANAGING EDITOR

 @THOMASPASHKO

For the second summer in a row, *The Uniter* has had to cancel our annual Summer Festival Guide, a special issue which lets readers know about all the various fests they can attend. But, just like in 2020, a COVID-19 pandemic means no festivals, and no festivals means no special issue.

Instead, we continued reporting stories on uniter.ca throughout the summer, informing about and commenting on the stories on campus, in Winnipeg and elsewhere that folks need to know about. Here's a small sample. Read more at uniter.ca.



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AT RISK WITH BILL 49

Access to information in jeopardy, U of W professor says

BY DONALD STEWART, JUNE 7

“Premier Brian Pallister’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic has been roundly criticized by the opposition, local news media and community activists alike. But beyond the pandemic response itself, Pallister’s Progressive Conservative (PC) government has also been accused of using the pandemic as cover to push through anti-democratic legislation.

“One such piece of legislation is Bill 49, the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act, which one University of Winnipeg (U of W) professor is denouncing as dangerous ... ‘Bill 49, I think, is going to wreck freedom of information in Manitoba,’ (professor Kevin Walby) says.

“The PCs with Bill 49 are ratcheting up secrecy in a way that I think is really disconcerting.”

“Bill 49 also includes new FOI laws that affect labour unions. The added text on labour relations and workplace investigations allows the head of a public body to block the release of information that could be unflattering to them, including information that might ‘harm the competitive position or interfere with contractual or other negotiations of the public body as an employer.’ ... ‘This is a direct attack on Manitoba unions who use FOI to figure out what the government is doing to public-sector employees,’ Walby says.”



LONDON, ONT. TERROR ATTACK IGNITES CALLS FOR CHANGE

Muslim student community seeks greater safety and inclusion on campus

BY CIERRA BETTENS, JUNE 30

“For Abdul Ahad, the president of the University of Manitoba’s Muslim Students Association (MSA), the attack was yet another confirmation that Islamophobia is on the rise. In 2019, racially/ethnically-motivated and religiously-motivated hate crimes were the highest reported categories in the country, according to Statistics Canada ... ‘It’s really unfortunate to see the rise in Islamophobia,’ Ahad says. ‘It’s a horror. It’s a shock. It actually (compromises) our safety.’”

“In May, (human rights student Talia Taras) wished

to attend a webinar on community policing hosted by the University of Winnipeg—the problem, however, was that it fell on Eid al-Fitr, an Islamic holiday that marks the end of Ramadan. When she requested the date be changed to ensure interested Muslim students like herself would be able to attend, it was ultimately denied ... The University of Winnipeg’s calendar of religious holidays mistakenly lists Eid al Fitr as taking place from May 14 to 16, rather than the correct dates of May 12 to 13.”



FINDING COMMON GROUND

Why talking to loved ones about vaccines matters now more than ever

BY HANNAH MAGNUSSON, AUGUST 6

“It is critical that we get serious about addressing vaccine hesitancy, and moral foundations theory may show us the way. This theory suggests that when we are faced with a moral decision (like whether or not to vaccinate), we make an instinctive judgment first based on our unique moral compass and then come up with an explanation to defend it after the fact.

“This is important. It means people who are vaccine hesitant don’t just wake up and decide that they want to be the villain. In their perception of the world, they are acting in a completely rational way. Research on vac-

cine-hesitant parents from before the pandemic showed that high-hesitancy parents based their concerns on two moral foundations: purity and liberty. Put simply, they viewed the vaccine as unnatural or disgusting and resented being told what to do in this regard.

“When talking to someone who is vaccine hesitant, it might feel natural to appeal to the care and fairness foundations with pleas to protect the vulnerable and do their part in ending the pandemic. This has not been shown to be effective, which many of us have already noticed firsthand.”



VACCINES MANDATED AT U OF W CAMPUS

News comes after pressure from UWFA, MOFA and others

BY CIERRA BETTENS, AUGUST 23

“After weeks of advocacy from faculty unions and pressure from students, the University of Winnipeg (U of W) is set to follow in the footsteps of other Canadian universities by implementing a COVID-19 vaccine mandate for the fall term.

“Set to partially open its doors to offer more than 40 per cent in-person classes on Sept. 7, the U of W will now require that students attending these classes ‘must show proof of full vaccination or attest to being partially vaccinated and provide proof within a specified timeframe,’ according to the Aug. 19 announcement.

The University of Manitoba and Red River College have also mandated vaccines on campus.

“Vaccines are the best protection we have against COVID-19. By ensuring that everyone on campus is protected, we go the extra mile to keep Manitoba healthy and increase the likelihood of an even fuller campus reopening for the winter term,’ Dr. James Currie, the interim president and vice-chancellor of the U of W said in a press release.”



RESILIENT AND SPOOKY DOORS OPEN THIS WEEKEND

Annual event invites public to visit heritage buildings, connect socially

SARAH LONDON | ARTS AND CULTURE REPORTER | [SRA_5000](#)

After what feels like a million years of being locked up in your own house, this weekend you have the opportunity to safely socialize with other folks and ghosts alike in some of Winnipeg's beautiful historic buildings.

Doors Open Winnipeg is an annual event organized by Heritage Winnipeg. The public can explore Winnipeg's heritage by touring old buildings, historic neighbourhoods and more – with COVID restrictions in place.

This year, the event takes place on Sept. 11 and 12 with multiple activities and locations to visit each day. Online registration opened Sept. 3 but there are plenty of time slots available.

Attractions include a West End BIZ Audio Mural tour, Grant's Old Mill Museum and a scavenger hunt to find a loose Golden Boy.

One award-winning tour takes visitors through the Vaughan Street Jail at 444 York Ave. Tours of the jail run from 9 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. both days of the event. Tour participants can expect to hear "stories of famous Canadians from both sides of the bars, inmate treatment, 19th century law, see a flogging rack (and) walk into solitary confinement," according to the description.

Kristen Treusch is the owner and operator of Square Peg Tours and hosts the jail event.

"Doors Open is the one opportunity for the public to get into the building, otherwise you can't enter it at any other time," Treusch says.

Treusch's crew dresses up in period costumes and relays stories that give context on women's treatment in jail, the city's red-light district and specific historical figures like Hugh John Macdonald, she says.

It's important for the Vaughn Street Jail to participate in Doors Open as one of the only buildings in the event "that needs protection and (heritage) designation," Treusch says.

"It should be opened up a lot more often for people to have access and learn about it," she says.

Cindy Tugwell, the executive director of Heritage Winnipeg, sees Doors Open as more than just an event to visit and learn about buildings' heritage, as well as architectural and social history.

"The purpose of Doors Open (is) to enjoy the social connectivity (while) learning about the history and heritage and culture and really celebrating the city," she says.

Tugwell describes the work Heritage Winnipeg and Doors Open do as having "a double benefit for the city," both working with and supporting participating heritage venues throughout the year and



PHOTO BY KEELEY BRAUNSTEIN-BLACK

Kristin Treusch, owner and operator of Square Peg Tours, hosts the tour of the old Vaughan Street Jail for Doors Open Winnipeg.

encouraging the public to head downtown and explore different areas of the city during the event.

Hosting Doors Open during the COVID-19 pandemic has been challenging, but the organization and their venues and tour guides got creative, offering pre-registration and time slots for tours and building entrance.

"It's interesting how innovative people

can get when there's problems to solve," Tugwell says. She adds that Heritage Winnipeg and their community are small but mighty.

To learn more and register for Doors Open Winnipeg this weekend, visit doorsopenwinnipeg.ca.

A CURATION OF CARE

Latest Plug-In ICA exhibition weaves an intimate conversation

CIERRA BETTENS | ARTS AND CULTURE EDITOR | [FICTIONALCIERRA](#) [@CIERRABETTENS](#)

Running from now until Dec. 17, *When Veins Meet Like Rivers*; ᑲᑎᑦᓂᑦᑲ / *okhizata / maadawaan* is Plug-In Institute of Contemporary Art's (Plug-In ICA) latest exhibition, featuring work from artists Dayna Danger, Kite and asinnajaq.

While the exhibition initially began as a solo show, it blossomed into a group exhibition when asinnajaq reached out to Kite and Danger, feeling it was necessary to expand the show to include more voices.

"To me, I think about it not as a typical group show, but more like a trio. If this was a piece of music, there (would be) three players, but they're one song," Kite says.

Suzanne Kite, known by her artistic alias, Kite, is an Oglála Lakhóta performance artist, visual artist and composer. Primarily, Kite's work focuses on Lakota ontologies, as well as the relationship between Indigenous protocol and artificial intelligence.

Kite's installation combines sound, video, stone and storytelling. Videos from her family home in South Dakota are complemented by stones collected by asinnajaq to tell stories rich in history and meaning.

While Kite says that it's difficult to pinpoint when the three artists actually met, the project's true origins lay in a budding friendship rooted in the

Montreal neighbourhood they lived in together.

"We were in a big friend group, and we slowly started to have conversations between ourselves," Kite says.

The relationships that formed the exhibition progressed when Allison Yearwood, the executive director of Plug-In ICA, crossed paths with Danger at a residency at the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity. She says the opportunity to work with and get to know the three artists on a more intimate level has been a refreshing experience.

"It's really just been a cathartic process working on the show with the three of them," Yearwood says.

The central theme of the exhibition rests on two pillars: submit and resist. As Danger and Kite responded with their pieces, the artworks became intimately interwoven, still with the onus to display their unique messaging.

"I think (the themes) really almost seamlessly exist and vibrate within each of the pieces," Yearwood says. "Each of them are enveloping, yet allowing each other to exist."

Above all, Kite says *When Veins Meets Like Rivers* is a testament to the importance of reciprocity and profound care, from one artist to another.

"The major takeaway we've been reflecting on as a group is our respect



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Visual and performance artist Kite is one of three artists featured in the exhibition *When Veins Meet Like Rivers* at Plug-In ICA.

and awe for each other as artists, human beings and friends," Kite says. "I think that could be a revolutionary concept for group shows."

***When Veins Meet Like Rivers* ; ᑲᑎᑦᓂᑦᑲ / *okhizata / maadawaan* will be featured at Plug-In ICA (1460 Portage Ave.) from Aug. 21 to Dec. 17. To book an appointment, visit plugin.org.**

SHERBROOK STREET FEST RETURNS

Programming to take place throughout West Broadway

CIERRA BETTENS | ARTS AND CULTURE EDITOR | [TWITTER](#) FICTIONALCIERRA [INSTAGRAM](#) CIERRABETTS

After a one-year hiatus, the Sherbrook Street Festival will return to West Broadway for its 16th year from Sept. 10 to 11. This year, however, folks can expect to hear music playing from River Avenue to Portage Avenue.

"Instead of closing down Sherbrook, we're doing pop-up events around the West Broadway area," Gil Carroll, the festival's co-director, says. "If people are walking around and hear music, they can follow that, and they'll find something cool."

A few years ago, Carroll and Adam Soloway -- also the faces behind Real Love Winnipeg -- were called on by the West Broadway Biz to plan the Sherbrook Street Festival. Carroll says navigating the planning of the festival amid COVID-19 has been a significant shift, but he's confident that the festival will run smoothly.

"Part of the beauty of music festivals is people coming together, hanging out with their friends, meeting new people or dancing," he says. "It's been quite a shift for sure."

Those who visit the area from Sept. 10 to 11 can enjoy live music at The Beer Can, family programming, activities and free food at the Broadway Neighborhood Centre, DJ sets at Chip's Vintage, a film screening at the Cinematheque and plenty more.

This year, collaboration has been integral to the festival's success. The programming

will run alongside the University of Winnipeg Student Association's (UWSA) annual Roll Call event to welcome students back to the fall term. Carroll says the decision to expand the festival to all four corners of the neighbourhood was in part due to safety concerns about occupancy limits, but also to help boost local businesses and community organizations in the area.

Chip's Vintage is one of several venues in the neighbourhood opening its doors to local artists, musicians and vendors. Andrew Chipman, the owner and operator of the store, says the way the festival is set up this year encourages exploration of the area.

"What I find so interesting about (Sherbrook Street) is how it's this main vessel of so many different neighbourhoods," Chipman says. "It's walkable, it's bikeable, and it's such a nice meeting spot."

Since opening the vintage clothing shop, pop-ups have remained a core part of Chipman's business model.

"It's such a great opportunity for me to align myself with people who I think are doing great things in the city," he says. "Space is always such a barrier or hurdle for some people, so it's great to be able to be a host and open up my space to others."

Whether it's on Sherbrook Street or Portage Avenue, the festival remains committed to its original vision: to spotlight the won-



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Gil Carroll, co-director of the Sherbrook Street Festival

derful people, culture and businesses that call West Broadway home.

"When the festival first started, it was to bring people to the area to show that there's a lot of awesome people who live around there," Carroll says. "It's really just a celebra-

tion of that neighbourhood and that community."

For more information, visit facebook.com/sherbrookfestival.

THE MASK AT HAND

Small businesses address demand for fabric face coverings

SARAH LONDON | ARTS AND CULTURE REPORTER | [TWITTER](#) SRA_5000

From your friend with a sewing machine to your favourite clothing line, everyone seems to be making masks, including a local nurse and home healthcare brand.

I called local mask-maker Alex Baker right before she left for her shift as a nurse at Health Sciences Centre. Her job served as inspiration for her mask business, as it forced Baker to isolate early in the COVID-19 pandemic with her dog and an old sewing machine her grandma gifted her.

"I pulled (the sewing machine) out during those 14 days of me just stirring in my apartment and retaught myself how to sew," Baker says.

In September 2020 with COVID case numbers rising, Baker had friends approach her about sewing them masks and, when her dog got sick, instead of picking up extra shifts, she kept selling, she says.

"I got a few more orders, (and) I would see people wearing them on the street, and I was like, 'that's so cool! I made that' ... and now it's been a year of me making masks," she says.

"When everything shut down in early 2020, much of our business dried up overnight," Matthew Kroeker, creative director at Top & Derby, a Winnipeg-based company known for compression socks and walking canes, says.

Top & Derby decided to make masks when the demand for fabric face coverings emerged. "We needed to stay busy and find a way to generate some much-needed revenue," Kroeker says.

Deciding to offer masks was "an

exercise in speed and efficiency." After finding a seamstress to partner with, Top & Derby put their effort into sourcing textiles.

"I had a lot of fun lining up with all the grandmas at the fabric store," Kroeker says. "I scoured those shelves every week and managed to find some really beautiful limited-edition cotton prints."

"Those dark days of 2020 deserved some colour and a little style to brighten things up, so designing a nice little collection of fashion-forward cotton masks seemed like the obvious answer," Kroeker says.

Top & Derby had adapted to reinvigorate their business but always knew the face masks would be a temporary product offering.

"As people stocked up on masks and restrictions loosened, the demand for our face coverings waned," Kroeker says.

Baker's business remained busy until the cold snap last winter. She saw a dip in sales that inspired her to expand her product offerings to include dog bandanas and scrunchies.

"I really enjoy sewing and creating things for other people," she says, adding that she plans to continue operating her business and is working on a few things she hopes to release this fall.

It's more than the creative outlet or extra income that draws Baker to mask-making. She's been a COVID nurse on and off throughout the entire pandemic.

"I see an importance in masks, and I think it really helps with people's anxiety,



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Alex Baker is a nurse at Health Sciences Centre who moonlights as a mask-maker.

so if I can provide them with that while making a cute product that they actually want to wear, I think it helps," she says.

Check out Baker's masks at [@masksbyalex](https://instagram.com/masksbyalex) on Instagram. Top & Derby can be found online at topandderby.com.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

BLOOD & WATER

“Fiksation,” New episodes air Sept. 24 on Netflix



KEESHA HAREWOOD | FEATURES REPORTER | @KEESHAHAREWOOD

Netflix’s *Blood & Water* is a South African teen drama series that follows highschooler Puleng Khumalo (Ama Qamata) as she attempts to unravel the mysterious disappearance of her older sister Phumelele.

Narratively speaking, one of the more interesting aspects of the show’s first episode “Fiksation” is the details surrounding Phumelele’s disappearance. Early on, it’s established that Phumelele was kidnapped as an infant, with no leads or theories as to

who took her and why.

For Puleng, this is an especially difficult emotional burden to bear. She feels like she and her younger brother are second-rate compared to the memory of Phumelele.

The show establishes this dynamic by demonstrating how Puleng’s mother Thandeka Khumalo (Gail Mabalane) devotedly marks Phumelele’s birthday each year, turning it into a relatively lavish

occasion that serves as both a celebration and memorial.

In this moment, and other instances where Phumelele is spoken of, a lot of attention is put toward exploring Puleng’s frustrations. Her turmoil here is easily conveyed, well-acted and extremely relatable, despite the relatively uncommon nature of the tragedy she lives with.

The area where the first episode falls short is the mystery.

While the show presents an interesting twist to Phumelele’s disappearance, the way it seeds it into the story is somewhat ham-fisted.

For instance, there are a few moments where Puleng – as she’s trying to investigate her sister’s disappearance – converses idly with her friends and peers, and from that stumbles into an idea or revelation that moves her progress on the mystery forward.

During these moments, the dialogue becomes a little too on-the-nose. Or, even worse, the dialogue spells out a connection

that is otherwise easily inferred.

Even still, as the layers of the mystery are pulled back one by one, a good amount of intrigue is produced. There’s clearly an in-depth network of secrets, betrayal and lies that are waiting to be unearthed throughout the plot of the show. Fortunately, the dialogue doesn’t hinder the intrigue too much.

Plus, other aspects work well enough to enhance the show’s quality. Particularly the cinematography, set design, music and lighting gel well together and create a cohesive viewing experience.

Overall the first episode of Netflix’s *Blood & Water* is worth a watch. Despite its shortcomings, “Fiksation” is the pilot episode, and the show will more than likely improve in quality throughout the later episodes. With the second season right around the corner, now would be an ample time to catch up on the first season in preparation for new episodes.

ARTS BRIEFS

CIERRA BETTENS | ARTS AND CULTURE EDITOR | @FICTIONALCIERRA @CIERRABETTENS

window: topographies of a homeplace

The window gallery is located on the side of the Artspace building (425-100 Arthur St.) facing Bannatyne Ave. It will feature artist rudi aker’s *topographies of a homeplace*, curated by Marie-Anne Redhead. The exhibit will be available for viewing until Oct. 14..

Winnipeg Beer Festival

Rain or shine, the fourth annual Winnipeg Beer Festival will be hosted at Fort Gibraltar (866 St. Joseph St.) on Sept. 11. Visitors can enjoy unlimited beer samples from local brewers, a host of food trucks and a live DJ set. Tickets are available in three different time slots, with pricing ranging from \$17.35 to \$49.95. Visit wpgbeerfestival.com for more details.

Intro to Nature Drawing Workshop with Dr. Heather Hinam

Learn how to observe and capture nature in art with naturalist and illustrator Dr. Heather Hinam. The nature-drawing workshop will be hosted by CPAWS at Assiniboine Park on Sept. 16 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. For more information and to register, visit cpaws.mb.org.

Queer We Go Again art exhibition at The Edge Gallery

The Edge Gallery and Urban Art Centre will display artwork from local 2SLGBTQIA+ artists in the *Queer We Go Again* exhibition. The opening reception is on Sept. 3 from 7 to 9 p.m., and the show will run until Sept.14. Entry is free, however, capacity is limited to 50 per cent or 50 people.

Healing Power exhibition at cre8ry

From Sept. 2 to 14, cre8ry will showcase artist Anja Studer’s *Healing Power* exhibition. Drawing inspiration from immersion in nature, Studer’s work is a “response to the worldwide pandemic and the increased human divide. The gallery is located on the second floor of 125 Adelaide St. and is open Tuesday to Friday from 12 to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 12 to 5 p.m. Entry is free, and donations are welcomed.

MAWA Annual Over the Top Art Auction

To support the organization’s programming and educational activities, Mentoring Artists for Women’s Art (MAWA) is hosting its 17th annual Over the Top Art Auction. Over 180 original pieces from budding and established artists will be auctioned off. The auction will be divided into three separate time frames: Sept. 3 to 26, Oct. 1 to 31 and Nov. 5 to 28. Bidders can visit charityauction.bid/mawa or stop by in person at 611 Main St.

DISTRESS FROM AFAR



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS (SUPPLIED)

An airplane carrying Afghan refugees and Ukrainian citizens arrives at Boryspil International airport in Kyiv, Ukraine after leaving Kabul, Afghanistan. Following the Taliban's capture of the Afghan capital, many countries scrambled to evacuate refugees, allies and citizens.

Close your eyes and envision education for all, peaceful gatherings and women rising the workforce ladder. This was Afghanistan's trajectory before the atrocities that have flooded media outlets in the past weeks.

"Women were able to go to school, be able to work and be a part of the community. They were free to pursue their dreams ... It was nothing like what is happening right now," Mariam Omar, chair of the Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan Manitoba chapter, says.

Having grown up in Afghanistan and moved to Winnipeg in the early '80s, Omar, her sister, and mother were sponsored by Canadian friends they had met in Afghanistan. They were fortunate to flee before the first Taliban

takeover from 1996 until 2001 and weren't there to witness that regime's unsettling reality.

Yet, with a heavy heart, Omar spoke about her untarnished memories residing in Afghanistan when the opportunities were available for women to have a place to flourish. Her mother was allowed to be a teacher, while Omar and her sister were able to attend school without any restrictions.

Years after her move to Winnipeg, Omar went to a symposium in Calgary in 2004 and was surprised to find out about the Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan organization (CW4WAFghan), which was primarily composed of Canadians.

Omar felt guilty for not doing more for her own com-

munity. Inspired by the cause and eager to give back, she decided to open the CW4WAFghan Manitoba chapter.

"It was at that moment that I decided that I would come to Winnipeg and open a chapter, because I couldn't reconcile with the fact that (I), as an Afghan, wasn't doing anything while these Canadians were banding together."

The CW4WAFghan Manitoba chapter has organized annual fundraisers to support women and children with programming in Afghanistan, as well as to inform Canadians about the importance of improving Afghan women's access to education so that they can achieve a greater purpose for their future.



On Aug. 19, four days after the Taliban retook Kabul, a group of women protest in the Afghan capital against the militant group's abysmal record on women's rights.



Crystal Bayat, a 24-year-old Afghan human rights activist, is confronted by a member of the Taliban at the Aug. 19 protest.

History threatens to repeat

The freedom for women to grow and prosper is now in question since the Taliban returned to power with rampant chaos. An extremist, ultraconservative Islamist group with religious, political and militant elements, the Taliban has its roots in the mujahideen paramilitary factions which fought against invading Soviet forces from 1979 to 1988. Most of the Taliban's early leadership came from among the mujahideen fighters, who were supported by the US (among other countries) in the form of money and weapons. Mujahideen political parties formed a new Afghan government in 1992.

The Taliban emerged in 1994 in opposition to the new mujahideen government. From 1996 until 2001, it ruled over most of Afghanistan, pledging peace and security through the strict enforcement of their controversial interpretation of Sharia law. This included public executions and amputations as punishment for murderers and adulterers. It was a shaky reality for women at that time. They were required to wear all-covering burqas and couldn't leave their homes unaccompanied by a man. Many were forced to marry Taliban soldiers and girls were forbidden from attending school. These former stern conducts, which were set aside for over 20 years, are now no longer in the past.

"As we speak right now, there are reports that women are being forced to marry Taliban soldiers. Taliban soldiers are going (from) home to home asking for single women and girls and their names ... Students who are in university and are women were told to go home and not come back.

I read that girls who had prospered in the field of sports, they are all hiding or burning or burying all (their) equipment, so that the Taliban cannot find them and therefore execute them," Omar says.

"I read that girls who had prospered in the field of sports, they are all hiding or burning or burying all (their) equipment, so that the Taliban cannot find them and therefore execute them."

Despite Taliban officials claiming that things have changed since their first rise to power and that women will have the chance to work in the government and receive proper education, some of their actions contradict their speech. Reuters reported on Sept. 6 that those women who have been allowed to return to universities are separated from men by curtains or boards, taught separately, or segregated to certain areas of campus. This only deepens the amount of fear of death threats if women continue to work in their industries or return to university classes.

"Although they say that they have changed, their actions do not support their rhetoric ... The advancement that women made in the last 20 years after the Taliban fall has been incredible," Omar says. They

were flourishing. They had the opportunity to reach their full potential."

Evacuations and departures

The distress is universal at this point. Violence in the Kabul airport affected everyone trying to leave with the legal documents to fly out of the country. The Canadian government has finalized its evacuation plan, transporting more than 3,700 people from Kabul, ranging from incoming refugees to Canadian citizens. There are also 5,000 Afghan refugees currently in United States military bases, who will be resettled to Canada.

This news led families in Winnipeg and the rest of the country to feel unsettled about the security of loved ones left behind (as of Aug. 31, there were still about 1,250 Canadians in Afghanistan) and has stirred doubts on how many more people will get the chance to leave Kabul.

More than 8,000 people have applied to come to Canada, and, according to Canada's assistant deputy minister for immigration, refugees and citizenship Daniel Mill, two-thirds of these applications have already been processed. Dr. Shauna Labman, associate professor of human rights at Global College at the University of Winnipeg, talks about the ongoing processes to ensure more Afghans arrive in the country.

"There are two special programs that have rolled out. The first one is the evacuation program and (the second is) a resettlement program for those outside of Afghanistan," she says.

According to Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada, the first program is geared toward Afghan nationals and their family members who have assisted the

Canadian government.

The second one, known as the special humanitarian program, will help Afghan nationals who are outside of Afghanistan and who don't have a durable solution in a country other than Canada. Women leaders, human-rights advocates, LGBTI individuals, journalists and those who helped Canadian journalists, immediate and extended family members are eligible for the special humanitarian program. Canada has indicated it will resettle 20,000 Afghans through both government resettlement and private sponsorship. Sponsorship means groups in Canada can come together to support and assist refugees for their first year in Canada.

There is also work being done for Afghans already in Canada. Processing for family reunification, permanent residence and applications for dependent Afghan family members overseas, and temporary residence including extensions for Afghans in Canada and those abroad, have all been prioritized with some fees waived.

At the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, all files related to Afghans are being expedited. All these efforts combined are in place to ensure that as many Afghans arrive in Canada and reunite with the rest of their family members and acquaintances as possible.

"So there are all these moving pieces of evacuation, resettlement and asylum claims for refugee status in Canada and recognized protected persons who want to bring their families. There are all these different wheels in play, but, ultimately, they are working to get Afghans here, particularly Afghans with family," Labman says.

Arrival and resettlement

Aside from the ongoing applications that are still being processed, some Canadians are asking what will happen to the refugees and residents who arrive in the country. Are any people coming to Winnipeg specifically?

Ariana Yaftali, co-founder of the Afghan-Canadian Women's Organization and a human-rights advocate, says that despite the uncertainty and distress that the Winnipeg Afghan community is feeling at the moment, there will be some large families arriving in the city.

"We are going to get some numbers here in Winnipeg and in Manitoba. We have been contacted by some agencies here in Winnipeg to know what we can do as a community," she says.

There is already an established Afghan community in the city. Together, they hope to welcome new families to Canada sooner rather than later.

"We have to have hope. What I can do is provide that emotional support. We are meeting politicians and contacting agencies.

People are calling, so that is a good sign ... The light at the end of the tunnel is that there are some people that have been rescued," Yaftali says.

"We are providing interpreters (and) volunteers. We are also asking for donations, and our greatest need right now is housing ... They are coming from a very chaotic situation, so they need time to relax and process everything, and, hopefully, we will walk carefully with them in that path. That way they can settle in Winnipeg successfully."

This hope amidst the turmoil sparked by the daily events happening in Afghanistan brings out a small sense of relief to the Winnipeg Afghan community during this time. Yet, all efforts are welcome to extend a helping hand to the incoming families who will become fellow neighbours.

When asked about how Winnipeggers should respond to these newcomers who have faced a nerve-wracking reality for the past month, Yaftali answered: "Be open, don't judge and welcome them into your community."



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Mariam Omar is the chair of the Manitoba chapter of Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan

To support the Afghan community through donations or volunteer opportunities, contact local refugee organizations or reach out to Manitoba's chapter of the Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan at manitoba@cw4wafghan.ca.



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS (SUPPLIED)

US paratroopers from the 82nd Airborne Division board the last American airplane to leave Afghanistan on Aug. 30. The US's exit strategy has been criticized by some for facilitating the Taliban's rapid takeover of the country.

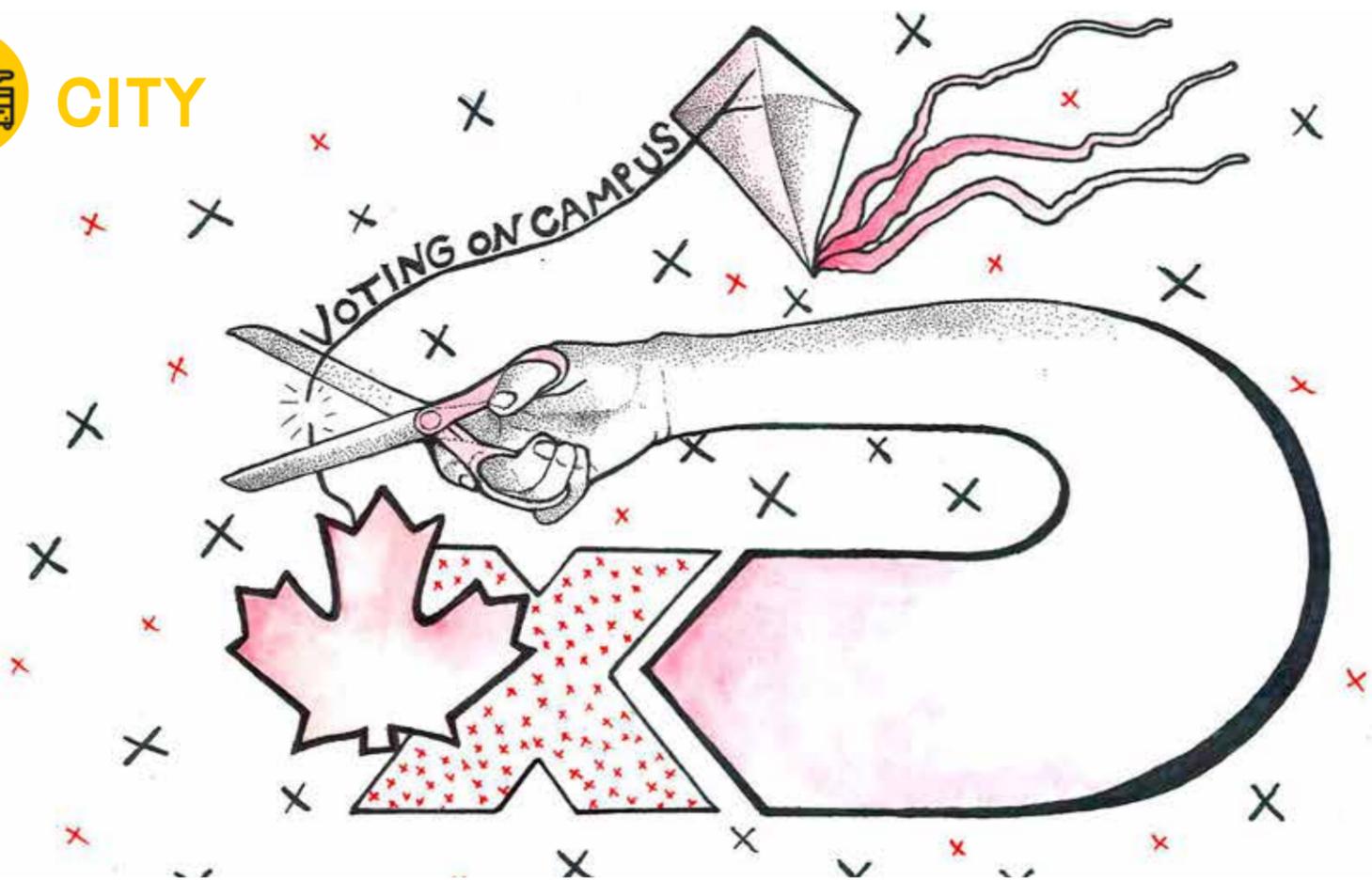


ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIELLE FUNK

THE FEDS GIVETH, AND THE FEDS TAKETH AWAY

Vote-on-campus program suspended after two elections of success

ALEX NEUFELDT | CITY EDITOR

While liberal and conservative political commentators alike characterize youth in post-secondary programs as politically engaged in the extreme, voter turnout rates over the past 30 years suggest that while the youth (typically defined as those between 18 and 24 years of age) vote is currently the largest voting bloc by age, young people have been casting fewer and fewer votes since the 1990s.

That trend seemed to reverse when Elections Canada introduced the Vote on Campus program in 2015, which set up special polling stations on university campuses that allowed students to vote in their home riding. Alexandra Koslock, president of the Canadian Federation of Students - Manitoba (CFSMB), says the program "increases accessibility and decreases some of the barriers experienced by students."

Youth voter turnout numbers suggest the program was extremely successful, with youth voting rates rising from 38.8 per cent in the 2011 federal election to 57.1 per cent in the 2015 federal election, and over 70,000 votes cast through the Vote on Campus program.

Koslock says that, so far, CFSMB "continues to hear from students on the ground that

they're excited, and they're looking forward to voting for their leaders in this election that represent their values."

She cites honouring Indigenous learners' right to education, free post-secondary, debt alleviation, climate change, post-COVID-19 recovery inclusive of post-secondary students, as well as alleviating barriers to international students, including access to publicly funded, barrier-free healthcare systems and tuition rates similar to domestic students as key issues for students.

On Aug. 25, Elections Canada announced via Twitter that they would not run the Vote on Campus program for the 2021 federal election. The tweet cited "the challenges brought on by the pandemic and the minority government situation" as reasoning for the program's suspension.

As of the writing of this article, the original tweet has over 1,000 quote tweets and comments, many criticizing the decision, either by accusing Elections Canada of suppressing votes or inquiring what impact "the minority government situation" would have on a voting accessibility program.

Marie-France Kenny has some clarifying

answers. Kenny, who is the regional media advisor for Elections Canada in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, says the program is not being run because of planning issues and a lack of legal mandate.

"Whenever we finish an election, we already start planning the next election. It takes a long time to figure out dates, locations, where we're going to set up offices and to figure out and work with campuses and colleges. It takes a lot of logistics," she says. "Because this is not a fixed-date campaign, and because it's a short time span, there was not enough time – and with the pandemic, not enough resources – to ensure polling locations on campuses."

Kenny also says that varying mask and vaccination policies on each campus has made it difficult to organize polling stations with post-secondary administrations, as each station would require unique protocols. "Everything evolved very quickly, and it became clear that it was impossible to do. It was looked at from every angle," she says.

At the national level, the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) is advocating for the right to vote on campus to become law. Elections law can mandate that Elections Canada set up polling stations in specific locations, and it does require stations be set up in long-term care facilities for seniors or people with physical disabilities. Kenny says this was another reason for the cancellation of the program. It wasn't legally required.

Kenny also cites the reduced numbers of students on campus as a reason for the cancellation of the program. She says Elections Canada is still trying to set up advance polling stations on campuses but stresses that figuring out logistics with each campus and landlord is challenging.

"It was something that was dear to the staff at Elections Canada," Kenny says. "Making sure that students could vote has been one of the priorities of Elections Canada."

Koslock says "this decision of no voting

stations on campus just shows, in our opinion, that they're not a priority to the government and to Elections Canada."

"Youth voters genuinely often believe that their vote doesn't matter, and it won't make a difference," she says. "I think COVID-19 has posed significant barriers for students in post-secondary education, and now being faced with not being a priority by Elections Canada or the government to have accessibility in voting is unfortunate."

"If Elections Canada is rolling back a program that they introduced, that they identified as necessary to increase the youth voter turnout, what are they doing in turn?" she asks. "Are they actually going to stand by what they said and place polling stations in student-populated neighbourhoods? We hope to see that they're doing something to increase fair and equitable access to voting for students."

Koslock says CFS has initiated their GenerationVote or GenV campaign to help students understand how and where they can sign up to vote and the positions and promises of the political parties, so that they can make informed voting decisions. CFS will also use the campaign to share information about debates that are particularly relevant to students and any other election updates.

If Elections Canada and the federal government are committed to showing students that their votes matter, Koslock suggests setting up polling stations on campuses and having multiple polling stations where students live.

The federal election is on Sept. 20. To register to vote, go to elections.ca. Sept. 14 is the deadline to apply for a special ballot, which you will need if your home riding is different from the one you currently live in. Your local polling station will have its own days set for advance voting. To learn more, visit elections.ca or cfs-fcee.ca/genv-faq/.

CITY BRIEFS

ALEX NEUFELDT | CITY EDITOR

U of W vaccination mandate update

The University of Winnipeg has mandated vaccination in order to enter the campus. There is a vaccination verification centre in Riddell Hall open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Verification requires proof of vaccination and will be indicated with a sticker on student and employee ID cards. *The Uniter* will report on updates to the policy during our publishing period.

Doors Open Winnipeg is back

The 18th annual Doors Open Winnipeg event is taking place on Sept. 11 and 12. This event, which encourages history and architecture appreciation, will include over 100 free events and tours at locations across the city. Verified immunization and masking is required for all indoor events. For a full list of participating locations, visit doorsopenwinnipeg.ca.

Rock climb online

One of the University of Winnipeg's oldest traditions is the annual rock climb, which typically happens at the beginning of the fall semester and involves teams of three scaling the large rock in front of Wesley Hall. Thanks to Applied Computer Science program alum Cody Bailey, the annual event can happen virtually this year in the form of a side-scrolling platformer. The game can be played at uwvirtualrockclimb.ca.

Virtual Pride panel

Pride events across Winnipeg are happening in September this year due to the public health measures that prevented Pride programming in June. Part of the University of Winnipeg's Pride programming is Pride Panel: Sharing our Stories, which will feature Issa Kixen and Sadie-Phoenix Lavoie as speakers who will share their stories and struggles. The virtual event is on Sept. 10 at 12:30 p.m.

Federal election voting details

The federal election is on Sept. 20, and advance polling is open from Sept. 10 to 13. Eligible voters can register at elections.ca, and there will be televised debates from national leaders hosted on most Canadian broadcasting platforms prior to Sept. 20. If you currently live in a different riding than your home riding, you can apply for a special ballot by mail or in an Elections Canada office.

When Veins Meet Like Rivers at Plug In

Plug In Institute of Contemporary Art will host *When Veins Meet Like Rivers; ????? / okhizata / maadawaan* until Dec. 17. The exhibit features work by asinnajaq, "a visual artist, filmmaker, writer and curator based in Montreal"; Kite, "an Ojibwa Lak?ota performance artist, visual artist and composer raised in Southern California"; and Dayna Danger, "a Two-Spirit/queer, Metis/Saulteaux/Polish visual artist raised in so-called Winnipeg."



HAYER TAKES THE HELM OF UWSA

Student groups continue to grapple with COVID-19

CALLUM GOULET-KILGOUR | CITY REPORTER | CGOULETKILGOUR

Back to school at the University of Winnipeg (U of W) means new student leaders and lots of planning for the coming year. At the end of last year, U of W students chose a new slate of representatives.

Kirt Hayer obtained 64.7 per cent of votes to become the U of W Students' Association (UWSA) president. Jonathan Henderson and Reza Saker Hossain were elected to the positions of vice-president external affairs and vice-president student affairs, respectively.

Hayer, who has previously run unsuccessfully for president, is majoring in psychology and has been a student at the U of W since 2015. He hopes to promote "freedom of expression, viewpoint diversity and science" within the university. Hayer also plans on "advocating for international student issues, particularly in improving access to healthcare."

"In terms of external advocacy, my executive team is working diligently to protect student interests with the implementation of Bill 33," Hayer says, referring to provincial legislation which could effectively give the government control over student fees.

"We are currently engaged in consultations with the Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Immigration in order to shape this policy," he adds.

With regards to the COVID-19 pandemic, Hayer is pleased with the university's approach, mandating masks and vac-

cines on campus.

"I am in support of the vaccine mandate, as it ensures students can have the safest return to campus possible and decreases the likelihood of further interruptions. I would like to have more (in-person) events, but it is hard to make clear and decisive plans with the constantly shifting and difficult to predict public health situation," he says.

Other student groups across the U of W are dealing with the challenges of the pandemic, while preparing to return to campus after eighteen months. Kiera Pond Augusto, president of the UWinnipeg Physics Student Association, says that the pandemic continues to complicate event planning for the upcoming year.

"COVID is affecting our planning, as we are working to make all of our activities a hybrid of online and in-person," she says in a message to *The Uniter*.

"As well, we aren't able to host as many fundraising activities as we would like," Augusto says.

She adds that the UWSA has not been providing adequate support to student groups like hers.

"I have found that they have been very distant and unresponsive when I have tried to communicate with them," Augusto says. "When they do respond they are quite nice, however, it takes a very long time for them to respond."



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Kirt Hayer became the president of the University of Winnipeg Students' Association following the most recent election.

Hayer says that no student group has contacted him about this problem, nor has the vice-president external affairs – responsible for this portfolio – expressed any concern about this.

"My idea is to have monthly meetings with the executives of all student groups that are interested, with the first meeting being in late September, in order to create a channel of communication and collaboration between various student groups and the UWSA," he says.

Finally, Hayer says his team remains focused on "increasing the scope and efficacy of student services."

"Some student services that we are advocating for include open-source educational materials, safe study spaces available on evenings and weekends through key-card access and improving tutoring services," he says.

The UWSA's event calendar can be accessed at theuwsa.ca/events.

A (SOMEWHAT) NORMAL BACK-TO-SCHOOL

U of W campus reopens after year of online learning

CALLUM GOULET-KILGOUR | CITY REPORTER | CGOULETKILGOUR

After more than a year of closure, the University of Winnipeg (U of W) reopened its doors to students and instructors on Sept. 7. This long-awaited return to on-campus instruction comes after the 2020-21 academic year, which was delivered almost entirely online due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

This is not an entirely normal back-to-school season, however. The world has changed since March 2020, when the campus was last open, and the U of W has had to adapt. Approximately half of all courses are still delivered online. Furthermore, numerous safety protocols are in place.

The road to implementing these policies was rather rocky. As late as last month, the U of W administration was still debating whether mandatory COVID-19 vaccination should be introduced. Finally, a vaccine mandate was announced on Aug. 19, largely thanks to the University of Winnipeg Faculty Association's (UWFA) pressure.

Ryan Dueck, an honours student in the sociology program, is taking both in-person and online courses this semester. He approves of the U of W's policies on masks and vaccines.

"I am satisfied with the eventual deci-

sion and am grateful to the (UWFA) for applying pressure to get it done," he says in a message to *The Uniter*. However, Dueck is "disappointed that it took so long to make the decision."

Peter Miller, president of UWFA, says he is pleased the U of W finally announced vaccine and mask mandates. He adds that it is important for faculty members to feel comfortable with their choice to either teach in person or online.

"The faculty association's perspective on this has been: we want faculty members to have a large degree of say in their working conditions," Miller says, since "different faculty members have different opinions of safety."

"Our concern beyond the vaccine mandate and mask mandate is to make sure that faculty members could make these decisions based on their comfort and safety levels that are informed by their family and personal situation."

The U of W has allowed this flexibility for faculty members for the fall term. However, there is still some uncertainty about what will happen if the COVID-19 situation changes, and instructors want to move their in-person classes online.

Miller, an associate professor of classics who is teaching one in-person class, is



PHOTO BY DANIEL CRUMP

After more than a year of almost no in-person classes, the University of Winnipeg is open for vaccinated students at a limited capacity.

looking forward to the fall semester.

"I've been eager to come back to campus to work and teach, and I know that I have a small class, so I thought, given the rollout of the vaccines, that would be reasonable."

Though students and instructors are welcome on campus, they will have to enter at designated building access points. This will allow the administration to verify vaccination status and control of the flow of people on campus.

Dueck, who was a U of W student

throughout the past year of online learning, has been satisfied with the education he has received during the pandemic.

"I was quite impressed with the profs I had and their ability to spring into action and make this work," he says.

Information on the U of W's response to COVID-19 can be found at uwinnipeg.ca/covid-19.

CREATIVE WRITING AND INTERNATIONALITY

Dr. Sandy Pool, assistant professor, English department, U of W

KEESHA HAREWOOD | FEATURES REPORTER |  KEESHAHAREWOOD

As the new assistant professor for the University of Winnipeg's (U of W) English department, Dr. Sandy Pool has ideas for incorporating her international experience into the creative writing stream.

"I have been working and travelling internationally for the past five years," Pool says.

Pool began by working in the United States, mainly in Buffalo and Florida, before moving to the United Kingdom. There, she taught in the most prestigious creative writing program in Britain at the University of East Anglia.

In addition to her teaching experience, Pool wrote two books of poetry *Undark: An Oratorio* and *Exploding Into Night*, which was shortlisted for the Governor General's Literary Awards in 2010 (added).

Pool hopes that, by 2022, her newest written project will be released. It's a series of personal essays written about her mother.

"They're focused on the complicated relationships between mothers and daughters, and also queerness," she says.

"My mother was sick for my entire life, so it's really about thinking about illness

and sickness and how that might affect your relationship with your mother."

Alongside her excitement with her creative projects, Pool is enthusiastic about what she might bring to the U of W's creative writing program.

Specifically, Pool hopes to incorporate internationality into the program. Her goal is to get more Canadian writers operating in creative spaces that extend beyond our local sector.

"I think my international experience allows me to link international writers and Canadian writers together, so I'm super excited about that," she says.

"It would be really fun to see what comes out of those new collaborations."

What is something you've learned from your students?

"To stay current, and I think my students keep me current."

What was your worst grade in university?

"Oh! Uh, F."



SUPPLIED PHOTO

If you could have any superpower, what would it be?

"I'm so anxious about the climate emergency, I really am, especially with the forest fires. I feel like my superpower would be ... being able to improve the environment dramatically."

What do you think creative writing has the ability to do to effect change?

"I'm one of those writers and professors who deeply, deeply believes that creative writing can save your life. It has certainly saved mine thousands of times over."



THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

Student Services

Undergraduate Add/Drop Period

Make your changes!

Course changes (adds and drops) can be made Sept. 7-20.

The final day to drop a regularly-scheduled U2021F or U2021FW course for full refund is **Sept. 20**.

See more information at: uwinnipeg.ca/registration/course-drop-information.html.

Study Skills Workshops: Advice & Tips for Academic Success

Study Skills Workshops are designed to improve your learning skills and help you achieve your academic goals.

Organized by Academic & Career Advising, these six workshops will be held via Zoom. Workshops are **FREE**. **Registration in advance is required.**

Workshops will run **Sept. 13 – 29**, Mondays and Wednesdays, 12:30 to 1:20 p.m. Topics for the first week are:

- Skills for the Virtual Classroom: Participation, Note-taking, and Presentation (Mon., Sept. 13)
- Start at your Library: Navigating Library Resources Remotely (Wed., Sept. 15)

For details, see: uwinnipeg.ca/academic-advising/study-skills-workshops.html.

Student ID Cards – Order Yours by Sept 15

Students can choose to pick up a student card on **Sept. 17** (Riddell Hall atrium -

Quad entrance) from 10:00am-6:00pm. If you would like to pick up a student card on **Sept. 17**, you need to send in a photo for your student card by **Sept. 15 at 4:30 p.m.**

Please go to uwinnipeg.ca/student-id-card for more details about cards and photo parameters.

All students are being asked to show their student ID card and proof of vaccination upon entry to campus. If you become an on-campus or local student in another term, you will have the opportunity to obtain a student card at that time.

Campus tours will also be offered on a first-come, first-served basis during the student card pick-up day on **Sept. 17**.

Wanted: Volunteer Notetakers

Are you interested in doing some volunteer work while you are attending classes this fall?

There may be students in your classes who need access to quality notes for reasons related to a disability or medical condition. Accessibility Services is seeking volunteer notetakers to fill this need.

If your instructor makes a request for a volunteer notetaker in one of your classes, please consider signing up! It's a great way to sharpen your own note-taking skills and help out another student at the same time. Contact vnt@uwinnipeg.ca for more information.

On a Waitlist? Check Your Webmail Every Day

After classes have started, if you are still

on a waitlist for your preferred course section, you should continue to check your webmail account daily for permission to register off of the waitlist.

If a space becomes available for you during the Course Add/Drop Period, you will receive an email letting you know that you can register through WebAdvisor. Register immediately!

For Fall Term, the waitlist will run for the last time on **Sept. 20** which is the last day to register for a Fall or Fall/Winter Term course.

For more information, please see: uwinnipeg.ca/registration/wait-lists.html.

UWSA's Health Plan and U-Pass Updates

The deadline to opt out of the Green-shield health plan is **Sept. 21**.

The UWSA suspended the U-Pass program for Fall Term. Post-secondary Peggo cards, however, are available for pickup/purchase at the Info Booth on **Sept. 17** from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm. Go to the Quad entrance of Graham Hall.

For details, please see: theuwsa.ca/healthplan theuwsa.ca/u-pass

Pay Tuition the Easy Way

Fall (U2020F) and Fall/Winter Term (U2020FW) fees are due **Sept. 23**. Note that this is NOT the same date as the last day to be eligible for refund (see above).

Pay tuition the easy way... pay through your bank! Students pay for Fall and Fall/

Winter Term undergraduate courses by **Sept. 23** either:

- as a bill payment through their financial institution (online, telephone, in-person at a branch) using your seven-digit student number as the account number, or
- via Flywire.com (international payments)

More information is here: uwinnipeg.ca/fees/index.html.

Apply Now for Fall/Winter Awards

The online application for Fall/Winter 2021-22 Awards, Bursaries, and Scholarships is now open.

Deadline: **Oct. 1, 2021**

Apply now! Go to: uwinnipeg.ca/awards.

Use the myVisit App

Need some help from someone in Student Central and/or Academic & Career Services? Download the myVisit app today. The myVisit app enables students to add themselves to a virtual line for drop-in Zoom sessions at Student Central. The app can also be used to book appointments for a Zoom or in-person meeting with a student central staff member or an academic or career advisor. Appointments with advisors can also be booked through the website: www.myvisit.com.



READING IN COLOUR

I'll be your trusted learning partner

VALERIE CHELANGAT | COLUMNIST | VALERIE_CHELA

With the environmental nightmares of the summer months coupled with a year-and-a-half-long pandemic, it's as if we are stuck in the apocalypse. The remains of Indigenous peoples are being found at several residential school sites, the situation in Afghanistan continues to worsen, and, of course, we're still in the thick of the COVID-19 pandemic. Shouldn't we be coming out on the other side by now?

If we reach further back into our memories, we might recall Brian Sinclair's death in September 2008 at the Health Sciences Centre, resulting from racist and stereotypical assumptions made by hospital staff.

Now, fast-forward to May 2020, when George Floyd was brutally killed by a police officer in the light of day. These tragic events came as a shock to many, resulting in a general desire to be better. Many Canadians are now working on becoming more aware of their privilege and acting to reduce unconscious biases that fuel systemic racism and various other discriminations toward disabled people, 2SLGBTQ+ communities and religious groups.

One important way to build empathy, understanding and awareness of issues that marginalized groups face is by increasing the diversity of our bookshelves. Recently, the demand for diverse representation and characters has been growing, but the problem of knowing how to engage meaningfully with difficult content in person and online can be challenging.

A common comment I see, particularly on social media, is a variation of "don't ask me, Google it." People are doubly burdened

by experiencing marginalization and oppression, and then being expected to explain their suffering. We are tired of teaching others how they are hurting us, and this is completely valid.

Think of it this way: when you want to become an electrician, you enroll in the appropriate program, take the time to study and meet all the requirements to receive certification. You make an effort. You act. To succeed, you must have a desire to learn. You must put in the necessary time, actively studying and practising to acquire knowledge. The same is true for unlearning biases and becoming better allies. Meaningful understanding and awareness of social issues does not come simply by swiping through Instagram stories. It's intentional, and it takes time.

Elif Shafak, a British-Turkish novelist, differentiates between information, knowledge and wisdom on her YouTube Channel *Say Your Word*. In a video titled "Information: When was the Last Time You Said I Don't Know," she explains that, living in the digital age, we have access to such an excess of information that we acquire little knowledge and even less wisdom.

"Knowledge cannot be rushed," she claims, adding that staying with material longer is crucial for developing knowledge. Shafak argues that scrolling through social media isn't enough, because we're typically only spending a few seconds on every post we come across. She believes the constant swiping on our screens leads to mind "fatigue" and "numbness," rather than enabling us to build knowledge.

Although marginalized people should



ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIELLE FUNK

not be expected to provide free education to their more privileged friends, sending people away to social media or to "Google it" is unlikely to change much. People need to be encouraged to consume meaningful content, to stay with it and to really engage with the material. This is where I come in.

As I read and learn, I would like to volunteer myself as your guide. I want to be your trusted learning partner, as we venture through this wilderness of information in earnest. Let's break the habit of only reading authors with names we can pronounce and

explore literature from all walks of life.

I want you to truly see me, to truly see marginalized groups, and for us to truly see you. I am confident that if we are intentional learners and honest in our quest, we will become a stronger, more empathetic community, even as we trudge on through what feels like an ongoing apocalypse.

Valerie Chelangat is a Kenyan-Canadian columnist and a bookseller for marginalized voices. She is a Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing student.



GET PUBLISHED!

The Uniter is seeking volunteer writers, illustrators and photographers.

You don't need experience, just a desire to tell stories!

For more information, email Holly at volunteer@uniter.ca.



ILLUSTRATION BY CREATIVE DIRECTOR TALIA STEELE | @ST_TALLICA

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	
6AM	MORNING BREATH	!EARSHOT 20	Cafecito Latinoamericano	Fly Travel Radio ★ CANQUEER	FANTASTIC FRIDAY World - Island music	THE MAN IN THE GREY FLANNEL SUIT SHOW	CKU-SPEAKS	
7AM	CKUW MORNING NEWS / FRONT BURNER (CBC)						WOODEN SPOONS	SHADES OF CLASSICS Classical and New Age
8AM	DEMOCRACY NOW!						MUD PUDDLE RADIO For Kids (Adults too)	INDIGENOUS IN Music
9AM	DEPARTMENT 13 POP/ROCK	This Way Out WINGS	VOYAGE Jazz	PLANETARY RADIO Cheeze Pleeze	SUNNY ROAD Roots Music	THE ELECTRIC CHAIR	TEMPLE OF JAZZ	
10AM	The Sean Show	BOOTS & SADDLE COUNTRY	ACCESSIBILITY MATTERS	NO FIXED ADDRESS LIVED EXPERIENCES OF HOMELESSNESS	HOW TO SURVIVE A TORNADO	NEON BEIGE SOUND EXCHANGE	YOU CAN'T HIDE FROM GOD Gospel	
11AM	TALKING RADICAL RADIO Truth Before Reconciliation	THE GREEN MAJORITY	ALTERNATIVE RADIO	RADIO ECOSHOCK	GLOBAL RESEARCH NEWS HOUR	THE IVORY TOWER Eclectic Mix	Classical Delights	
NOON	GROUNDSWELL New Classical	Your Show Here	Classical Kaleidoscope	BARKING DOG Past 'n Present Folk 'n Roots	What's Up Winnipeg?	Eclectic Residents	The Shortwave Report	
1PM	PSYCLE RADIO	Winnipeg Arena is on Fire	SPACE CADET MUSIC, OUT OF THIS WORLD	WHAT ON EARTH IS GOING ON?	Chart Noises CKUW's Top 30	THE TRIP PSYCHEDELIC ROCK	Bikini Drive-In	
2PM	INNER CITY VOICES	THE GREEN BLUES SHOW	AMATEUR HOUR So Bad, It's Good	PAGES	PEG CITY PLAYLIST	Jokes On You Local Comedy	THE C.A.R.P. The Completely Asinine Radio Program	
3PM	THE WORLD World	Lost Chunes	TWANG TRUST Country/ Roots/ Big, Dumb Rock 'n' Roll	TAWNY, THE BRAVE Pop/Rock	THE HOW DO YOU DO REVUE	WE BUILD HITS Hip-Hop	Rank and File Radio: Prairie Edition	
4PM	THE TONIC Garage, Punk, Surf, and R&R	BLUESDAY PLAYING THE BLUES	S.A.N.E. * RADIO Local Experimental Music	Adult Kindergarten	CHECK CA Funky	RED BOX Hip-Hop	THE GASHLYCRUMB TINIES	
5PM	DESTINATION MOON Sock-Hop-A-Go-Go	YOUR SHOW HERE	Your Show Here	Dub City Steppers	QUADRAFUNK Electric Dance Party	DANCE HALL FEVER Dancehall and Reggae	ISLAND VIBES Caribbean	
6PM	!EARSHOT DAILY	!EARSHOT DAILY	!EARSHOT DAILY	PHASE ONE Electronic	Brain Drainer Radio	CRYSTAL PALACE	Rainbow Country	
7PM	!EARSHOT DAILY	MONKEY SPARROW	Two Princes	THE WONDERFUL & FRIGHTENING WORLD OF PATRICK MICHALISHYN	MANITOBA MOON	YOUR SHOW HERE		
8PM	BREAK NORTH RADIO ★	LISTENING PLEASURES	HURLEMENTS SUR LA TOUNDRA	THE SENTINEL'S MARVELOUS KALEIDOSCOPE	DEEP THREES			
9PM	METAL MONDAY	NIGHT DANGER RADIO	THE SENTINEL'S MARVELOUS KALEIDOSCOPE	DEEP THREES	CELT IN A TWIST			
10PM	MODERN JAZZ TODAY	The Motherland Influence	DEEP THREES	CELT IN A TWIST				
11PM	AMPLIFIED RADIO	Old Parlour Radio	CELT IN A TWIST					
MIDNIGHT								
1AM								
2AM								
3AM								
4AM								
5AM								
6AM								



- MUSIC
- LOCAL SPOKEN WORD
- SPOKEN WORD
- ALTER-NATING
- WEEK
- Temporary Programming

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12 Some programs are on hiatus and/or airing different content due to university closure for COVID-19.



HOROSCOPES

Venus enters Scorpio at 4:39 PM on Friday, September 10.

Venus in Scorpio is attracted to things that are unusual and macabre. There is a willpower to Venus in Scorpio that is unusual for Venus, which usually likes to lounge and wait for what it wants. Venus in Scorpio, however, wants to control the narrative!

SOURCE: ASTROLOGY.COM

ARIES

Tensions are likely to be clashing between your relationship needs and the demands of your career path, Aries. The balance-seeking Libra moon squares off with emotionally raw Pluto, unleashing these frustrations in the first half of the day. Thankfully, the moon moves onto a supportive meet-up with faith-instilling Jupiter and bond-sweetening Venus, imbuing the evening with ideal, romantic date night energy.

TAURUS

Is the big picture vision of your life at odds with your current reality, Taurus? Thursday's skies work to bridge the gap, but the process will likely involve hard truth-telling and discomfort. The easygoing Libra moon squares off with brooding Pluto, touching on these tensions. Luna's sweet meet-up with visionary Jupiter and magnetic Venus, later on, helps to diffuse stress and gently open up emotional outlets.

GEMINI

Thursday's skies point your focus towards the current story swirling around your love life, Gemini. Your desire to keep your love life light and playful will likely be at odds with a deeper story stirring around intimacy and commitment as the partnership-oriented Libra moon squares off with heavy Pluto. Things ease up later as the moon swirls with big-hearted Jupiter and bond-building Venus, making a deeply romantic atmosphere.

CANCER

The universe has been doing a number on your experience of partnerships, Cancer. You're likely to find yourself tapping back into that story today as the romance-loving Libra moon squares off with brooding Pluto. Look at elements of your past that seem to be fogging up your present. Later, the moon's sweet connection with big-hearted Jupiter and bond-building Venus brings a warm, healing energy to frayed intimacy.

LEO

Thursday's cosmic landscape presents some troubling grounds to trek through, Leo. You're likely to be tapping into the tension brewing between your day job and your need for mental downtime as the balance-craving Libra moon squares off with transformation-demanding Pluto. Assess what you can change and work to free up! Luna's sweet union with optimistic Jupiter and lover Venus, later on, smooths over any ruffled feathers.

VIRGO

You've been under serious pressure when it comes to your creative life, Virgo. It's been critical for you to restructure your approach to your passions and how you share your heart with others. This narrative is nudged along today as the balance-seeking Libra moon squares off with brooding Pluto. A more peaceable tone settles in later when the moon aligns with visionary Jupiter and benefit-bringing Venus.

LIBRA

What's been changing from deep within and down below, Libra? Thursday's skies highlight this ongoing story around your shifting foundations as the moon's presence in your sign squares off with transformative Pluto. This tension-relieving aspect highlights where deeper healing is needed around family bonds. The smoke clears later on as the moon swirls with buoyant Jupiter and good-time Venus, making the grounds for an ideal romantic date night.

SCORPIO

Mental and communication-based tensions are likely to be running high today, Scorpio. Make room for yourself to speak your truth rather than bury your real feelings down below. The compromising Libra moon squares off with brooding Pluto, touching on this potent narrative. Fortunately, the moon moves onto a sweet alignment with optimistic Jupiter and bond-sweetening Venus, bringing a warm, healing energy to the second part of the day.

SAGITTARIUS

The cosmos has actively been pushing you to break down old confidence blockages, Sagittarius. Are you letting yourself embrace the healing work that's required to do that? Thursday's skies see the peace-seeking Libra moon's square with transformational Pluto, touching on these tensions around your self-worth. Thankfully, the moon's supportive alignment with big-hearted Jupiter and magnetic Venus, later on, smooths over any rough patches.

CAPRICORN

Life has been pushing you to embrace a new sense of independence in recent years, Capricorn. Are you answering the call and proceeding fearlessly? Today's cosmic landscape touches on the current tension existing between your personal identity and career goals. What can you adjust to make space for yourself? Later on, Luna's sweet alignment with optimistic Jupiter and magnetic Venus brings beneficial opportunities for advancement.

AQUARIUS

The universe has had all eyes on you in recent times, Aquarius. Thursday's skies touch on some mental tensions and ancient baggage that need clearing out as the balance-seeking Libra moon squares off with transformational Pluto. Lean into activities that encourage release and renewal. The atmosphere lightens considerably on the mental front, later on, when the moon swirls with lover Venus and big-hearted Jupiter.

PISCES

Are you putting in the work to be where you want to be, Pisces? You can no longer float in hopes of reaching a shore as Thursday's skies uncomfortably illustrate between the balance-craving Libra moon's tense square with change-demanding Pluto. Examine your goals and the concrete plans you're making to get there. The moon's supportive connection with lover Venus and optimistic Jupiter, later on, makes for a sensual, warm atmosphere intimacy-wise.



IT'S VIRGO SEASON

Those born with Virgo as their rising, sun or moon sign have a diligent, adaptable, and observant energy in the core of their personality, an echo of the preparedness and utility of late summer/early fall activities.

Virgo Dates—
Aug 23 – Sept 22

Symbol—
The Virgin

Mode + Element—
Mutable Earth

Ruling Planet—
Mercury

House—
Sixth

Mantra—
"I Analyze."

Tarot Card—
The Hermit

Colors—
Warm yellow

Body Part—
The digestive system