

ON THE COVER

Cover art by Austin Boulton. Austin is an aspiring self-taught illustrator and cartoonist from Winnipeg and inspired by the cartoons and comics they grew up with and the friends who motivate them. Austin's work has been compared to artists such as Dr. Seuss and Patick Kyle because of their strange whimsical illustrations. They have a strong passion for printed media and strange tales that one day will be accessible for everyone.

You can find Austin's art in zines and in various music projects from Winnipeg musicians. They're currently working on finding their own style by exploring new mediums and studying comics and animation.

SWEET, SWEET NEWSPRINT

THOMAS PASHKO
MANAGING EDITOR

 @THOMASPASHKO

It finally happened! *The Uniter* is back in print!

That's right, folks. Unless something has gone horribly awry between the time I'm writing this (Wednesday evening) and Thursday afternoon, this issue marks *The Uniter's* first print edition since March of 2020, when the University of Winnipeg campus closed due to COVID-19. We've been teasing this for a bit, and it's still a reduced print run (we're currently only distributing the paper on campus), but after 39 online-exclusive issues and two batches of summer stories, it sure feels good to be holding some sweet, sweet newsprint.

But that's not all! This issue is also dedicated to the results of our annual Uniter 30 readers' poll, in which you, our beloved audience, voted on your favourite Winnipeg people, places and events of the past year in 30 different categories. We're thrilled to present this to you all and show the winners some love.

A few notes about the Uniter 30: in most cases, we reached out to first-place winners for interviews. In instances when those winners weren't available, or in cases where the winner is someone who has been covered in the same category in multiple previous years, we've opted to speak to or cover second-place runners-up. And finally, since this is an opportunity to pass the metaphorical microphone to others, we didn't count any votes cast for *The Uniter* (although one or two of our staff may have gotten some recognition for work they've done both inside and outside our pages).

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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.

Favourite local achiever over 60

1. Fred Penner

BY HALEY CHARNEY

2. Gramma Shingoose

HALEYCHARNEY

3. Dave Barber

“When I get called, I go.” That’s Gerry Shingoose’s motto.

A respected elder, knowledge-keeper and grandmother, Gerry Shingoose (or “Gramma Shingoose” as she’s known by many in Winnipeg’s Indigenous community) is a fixture at community events.

Shingoose is, in her own words “a residential-school warrior” who survived nine years at Muscowequan Residential School.

“The trauma that I experienced was horrific ... it was a genocide ... and I survived that genocide.”

Reconnecting with her Indigenous culture through Idle No More in 2012 spurred Shingoose to regain pride in her identity that the residential-school system tried to take from her.

“We were sinners ... we were dirty Indians ... you know, those kinds of abuses. I came out of there with really low self-esteem. I came out of there ashamed to be an Indian. And today, I’m so proud, and I carry that pride knowing that I’m a strong Indigenous woman. And I love being Brown.”

When the Truth and Reconciliation Commission was dissolved in 2015, Shingoose was determined to not let the collected residential-school survivors’ stories “sit on the shelf.” And so Shingoose made it her mission to go into the community and tell her story.

“When I was in residential school, in that little dormitory, I had nobody to help me. Nobody ... and now I can speak to what happened to me.”

Today, Shingoose estimates she’s shared her story with around 12,000 students from kindergarten to university during the last six years, often with her family by her side.

Shingoose also works with university students in the Department of Community Health Sciences at the University of Manitoba, co-instructing with Dr. Josée Lavoie to teach students about the historical and present-day treatment of First Nations, Metis and Inuit people by the Canadian healthcare system.

Beyond this, Shingoose can also be found doing heart medicine at Ka Ni Kanichihk for Indigenous women who’ve experienced sexual violence.



PHOTO BY DANIEL CRUMP

Favourite local achiever under 30

1. Adam Fuhr

BY THOMAS PASHKO

2. Mahlet Cuff / Kayla Fernandes (tie)

THOMASPASHKO

Winnipeg music fans have known Adam Fuhr, 28, for the past decade through his work in indie-rock group Yes We Mystic. But the love for Fuhr in the favourite local achiever under 30 category likely comes from his newest project, the recording studio and record label House of Wonders, which has worked with groups like Amos the Kid and Julien’s Daughter.

Launched in September 2020, Fuhr says he was inspired to create an affordable studio option for local artists following his experience recording the first Yes We Mystic album in 2015.

“I was so broke, I was eating Tim Hortons bagels throughout the whole process,” he says. “We were recording, it was an amazing experience, but it cost a lot of money.”

Despite the steep costs, Fuhr deeply valued the experience of recording in a physical studio space.

“There’s always stories and these amazing legacies to some of these big studio rooms,” Fuhr says. “Like, ‘Oh, this microphone is from 1948

and was used in a speech by whoever.”

Fuhr was also motivated by his appreciation for the collaborative atmosphere and professional rigor of working in a studio, which can’t be replicated through processes like at-home recording.

“My little dream was to put together something that was just in some shack room somewhere. No one’s under any idea that I have a palace that I’m working out of.”

It may seem ironic that the space’s name, House of Wonders, evokes a sense of grandeur. But Fuhr says the name is a joke that originated with local indie-pop quintet Royal Canoe.

“Royal Canoe recorded out of their rehearsal room, and they called it ‘the Shit Hole,’” Fuhr says, laughing. “When Yes We Mystic recorded in our own rehearsal room for a while, we called it ‘the House of Wonders,’ because we thought it was a funny juxtaposition to call a similar kind of room the opposite thing.”



ALLY GONZALO (SUPPLIED)

Favourite local activist

1. Mahlet Cuff (Justice 4 Black Lives Winnipeg)

BY REBECCA DRIEDGER

2. Omar Kinnarath (FF1)

REBECCADRIEDGER

3. Kayla Fernandes (Vagina Witchcraft)

Some activists cite a specific moment in their life that sparked a desire to make a change. For Mahlet Cuff, it wasn’t so much a *moment* as a buildup.

“I was just so angry and upset with what was going on at the time, and also going on to this day and has been going on for a long time,” Cuff says. “I think for not only myself, but a lot of Black folks also had their breaking points last May and June.”

Aside from being an interdisciplinary artist and a curator, Cuff is the founder and a co-community organizer of Justice 4 Black Lives Winnipeg. They advocate for – and hope to see – the abolition of police and the dismantling of systems of oppression.

“It’s reflecting with the families who have lost their children or their family members to police violence and the police murdering people. I want to help those people as much as I

can,” they say.

Whether it is with their art, their curating or their activism, Cuff is committed to helping those in their community.

“For me, activism is really a community-oriented thing where I am able to connect with other people, or when other people work very collaboratively with a goal in mind.”

It may not have been one event that specifically sparked their interest in activism and organizing, but they find it worthwhile to help those who really need it here in Winnipeg.

“I can see myself doing this for a long time, because I love connecting with people and helping people and making sure people are heard and seen and validated, because I think (those who need the help most) are the people that are unfortunately murdered by the police or treated terribly,” Cuff says.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Favourite local album

1. **Vagina Witchcraft - *Vagina Witchcraft***
2. **Amos the Kid - *No More New Ideas***
3. **Virgo Rising - *Sixteenth Sapphire***

BY KEELEY BRAUNSTEIN-BLACK

 KEELEY_IMAGE

The self-titled, six-song debut album by local band Vagina Witchcraft landed the group on the 2021 Polaris Music Prize long-list – and earned them a Western Canadian Music Award for Metal and Hard Music Artist of the Year.

Vagina Witchcraft, comprised of Kayla Fernandes, Dylan Sellar, Seppel Bruyere and Julien Riel, is often described as mixing elements of doom, metal, hardcore and punk.

Responding to *The Uniter* via email, the band describes their album as “a journey through hardships, trauma and the deepest, darkest thoughts of the human psyche. A heart-wrenching anguish and a celebration of anger. A fierce stand against oppression and intolerance and a path to radical self-acceptance. Heavy, noisy and hopeful.”

They chose the band name Vagina Witchcraft because it was Fernandes’ Instagram handle.

“We chose it because it grabbed people’s attention, as well as showcased the power and destigmatization of words and the bodies that

accompany them that may be seen as vulgar in today’s society,” they say.

The band started in the basement of Fernandes’ and Sellar’s house. After seeing them play at Manitoba Metal Fest in 2018, Mike Peters of Cancer Bats invited them to play a bill. They were joined by Bruyere and Riel, who played with Sellar’s previous band.

What was originally intended to be an EP turned into a full-length album. Recorded at the UFMF live room with David Dobbs, the album is a collection of songs based on Fernandes’ and Sellar’s basement days, riffs that have been in their heads for a while (including a few that were written collaboratively combined with Fernandes’ poetry) and new material inspired by the music.

“It’s been three years now, and we couldn’t be prouder of what we’ve accomplished and the fact that our peers in the community appreciate the body of work that we’ve created,” they say.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Favourite local athlete

1. **Desiree Scott**
2. **Nikolaj Ehlers**
3. **John Rush**

BY CALLUM GOULET-KILGOUR

 CGOULETKILGOUR

Desiree Scott, Winnipeg-born soccer star, has been a favourite of *Uniter* readers for a few years. In 2019, she was also voted favourite local athlete. Last year, she received the second-most votes.

Scott, who grew up in Winnipeg and attended the University of Manitoba, has played for Canada’s national team since 2010 and plays for the professional team Kansas City Current.

Jeanette Sivilay, a local soccer fan, says in an email to *The Uniter* that she is not surprised that Scott was voted Winnipeg’s favourite local athlete.

“She’s consistent, is a leader and gets the job done,” she says, adding that her “nickname is the Destroyer, and she is an absolute powerhouse on the field.”

Scott’s accomplishments include a gold medal at the 2011 Pan American Games, bronze medals at the 2012 and 2016 Summer

Olympics and a gold medal at the 2020 Summer Olympics (held this year).

“It’s been really exciting to see the women’s national soccer team come into the success they deserve,” Sivilay says.

“Honestly, to see a strong group of Canadian women work together so well as a team to dominate their sport is really inspiring for fans like me,” she says. “I really hope we get to see a national women’s league start up.”

In addition to Scott’s successful international career, she has also been involved in sport outreach initiatives like the Homeless World Cup Foundation.

“I had the pleasure of meeting her when she came through town afterward, and she was so warm and welcoming to everyone she met,” Sivilay says. “We really have amazing local athletes.”



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS (SUPPLIED)

Favourite local barber or hairstylist

1. **Ashley (Burdie) L’Heureux (Sapphire)**
2. **“I cut my own hair”**
3. **Walter Spooner (Waltz on In)**

BY ALEX NEUFELDT

Ashley (Burdie) L’Heureux became interested in hairstyling because she loved caring for people.

“I like to make sure other people feel really cared for, and I want to make sure that everyone feels as good as they can,” she says. “To be able to do that in some way, even if it’s as simple as cutting off someone’s split ends or giving them a haircut or hairstyle that makes them feel like who they are on the inside, that makes me feel really good.”

L’Heureux, a stylist at the Sapphire Hair Lounge, says the past two years have really highlighted the importance of hairstyling to many of her clients’ wellbeing. “We’ve sort of realized that we’re more like a mental-health service,” she says.

“I mean, none of us are professionals at all in that way, but the fact that we’re there and willing to listen and make someone feel just like

themselves again, I think is a really big thing,” L’Heureux says.

“Over the last two years, we’ve all been like ‘who are we? What are we doing with our lives?’ and even just getting rid of the roots on your head or colouring your whole head purple just makes you feel like you again, and I just think that’s the best thing ever.”

Sapphire Hair Lounge temporarily closed three times during the COVID-19 pandemic, and L’Heureux says knowing her work is so appreciated after a period of such uncertainty “is a really special feeling.”

“It feels really nice, and it feels good that I’m making other people feel good, and Sapphire is the best place to work,” she says. “I feel like I’m the best version of myself, and I’m the best stylist I’ve ever been because of the people who work there.”



PHOTO BY CALLIE LUGOSI

Favourite local comedian

1. Paul Rabliauskas

BY CHARLIE MORIN

2. Angie St. Mars

📷 MILLENNIAL.DIGS

3. Abbie Falvo / Spencer Adamus (tie)

Paul Rabliauskas' personal brand of humour is boisterous yet charming, whether he's telling a story about matchmaking through diabetes or returning to his community of Poplar River First Nation and discovering there's a wolf problem.

The Anishinaabe comedian talks a lot about living life on and off the reserve.

"I'm just trying to normalize who we are to the general public ... using humour as a tool to teach Canada about what's going on in our backyard," Rabliauskas said in an interview with the Canadian Press.

Although perhaps best known for his stand-up comedy, Rabliauskas recently announced

he will be starring in a 10-episode comedy series he co-created. The show, *Acting Good*, which is loosely based on his life, is produced by Kistikan Pictures.

Previously, Rabliauskas has performed at festivals including Oddblock Comedy Festival, the Winnipeg Comedy Festival, the Crackup Comedy Festival and the Arctic Comedy Festival. He has also hosted radio and television programs.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Rabliauskas also started an Anishinaabemowin (Ojibwe) language-learning podcast with his mom.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Favourite COVID-safe date activity

1. Taking a walk in the park

BY ALEX NEUFELDT

2. Stay home and watch a movie

3. Picnic

Earlier this year, Zach Fleisher held a Twitter poll to determine the most beloved Winnipeg park, the full voting bracket of which lasted several days. The final vote came down to FortWhyte Alive and Assiniboine Park.

Sorry to the voters, but frankly, that it came down to those two admittedly beautiful and probably ecologically critical parks (I am not an ecologist) speaks to the tendency among some Winnipeggers to ignore some of the best things this city has to offer in favour of any space that allows them to forget the city exists at all.

I have gone on some lovely dates at both of those parks, but my favourite park walk dates have not happened at either of them. Instead, they've happened at the myriad of tiny, postage stamp-sized parks and river-adjacent greenspaces that get shoved into the nooks and crannies of the city.

The ideal Winnipeg park walk date IMHO involves stops at multiple parks, strung together

with visits to coffee shops and corner stores, with time in nature and neighbourhood alike.

These parks are (in my experience) the ones most often neglected by the City of Winnipeg, despite being the public greenspace most accessible to a huge portion of the city's population. These are the ones where you can't forget where you are, that are full of neighbours on hot days and desire paths on frozen ones, where you never stop hearing the traffic, but you also hear birds and kids playing and snippets of conversations.

Not investing in and celebrating these parks is not just an issue of romanticization and escapism. It also has material consequences. The health of the tree canopy impacts neighbourhood temperature and air quality, urban ecosystems, noise pollution, energy use and even road safety. I still really enjoy walking in the sprawling greenspaces, but the parks that have grown truly entwined with my relationships are always the ones already entwined in my day-to-day life.



ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIELLE FUNK

Favourite local dancer

1. Dancing Gabe

BY CIERRA BETTENS

2. Ella Steele

🐦 FICTIONALCIERRA 📷 CIERRABETTS

3. Sophia Lee

If anyone is the embodiment of a Winnipeg legend, it's Dancing Gabe.

Whether he's in the crowd at the Grey Cup Festival or volunteering at the Canada Summer Games, Gabriel Langlois – better known to most Winnipeggers as Dancing Gabe – brings the moves. Since he began dancing over three decades ago, Gabe's presence has become synonymous with nearly every major sporting event in the city.

"I started at Blue Bomber games in 1984, and seven years later, I became Dancing Gabe for the Winnipeg Jets," Gabe says.

While the Jets may have left Winnipeg for a 15-year period, Gabe's passion certainly did not. He continued to pump up the crowds at Manitoba Moose, Winnipeg Blue Bomber and Winnipeg Goldeyes games, instantly recognizable by his number 91 jersey and animated dance moves.

Growing up as a St. Vital kid – the neighbourhood the dancer still calls home – Gabe's

spirit was the highlight of high-school pep rallies and sporting events. Whether in the halls of Glenlawn Collegiate Institute or at the YM-CA-YWCA next door, Gabe's friendly demeanour is felt by all those who cross paths with him.

When asked about his favourite part of dancing at games, Gabe says it's "the electricity" and "the crowd" that keep him motivated.

More than a hallmark of major sporting events in Manitoba, Gabe is committed to being of service to his community as a regular volunteer. In February, he received an honorary diploma in community development from Red River College Polytech for his contributions.

"I've been to seven Grey Cups. I've been a volunteer for Pan-Am Games, the Western Canada Summer Games (and) the Canada Summer Games," Gabe says.

After 37 years in the crowds, it's safe to say that a sports game just ain't the same without Dancing Gabe.



MIKE SUDOMA (SUPPLIED)

Favourite film by a local filmmaker

1. *Strong Son* by Ian Bawa
2. *Ste. Anne* by Rhayne Vermette
3. *PG: Psycho Goreman* by Steven Kostanski

BY REBECCA DRIEDGER

REBECCADRIEDGER

Strong Son is a four-minute autobiographical documentary starring Ian Bawa's father, who seeks to give marital advice to his "bodybuilding and image-obsessed son."

"The themes of my family and my dad are pretty much a key factor over the last number of years," Bawa says. "He's my drive to make things all the time."

This was the last of three shorts Bawa made starring his father before his passing in 2020.

The first is called *Trevor's Turban* and involves his father putting a turban on his Icelandic friend, Trevor. It was an interesting experience for Bawa, since he had the chance to delve into his cultural heritage without actually having to appear on camera in any way.

The second, titled *Missing Toes*, is a three-minute experimental doc of his father having the bandages on his feet changed.

"My dad is an amputee, and pieces of his feet are amputated because he was diabetic," Bawa says. "It was a weird experimental doc about him getting his bandages changed and how he's dealing with it."

Strong Son was shot in only two hours using Super 8 film. The writing was a very loose script of things Bawa's father used to say to him.

"It kind of blew up. It made it to a number of major film festivals, and it has actually, at this point, led me to make an adaptation of it into a feature," Bawa says. "It kind of changed my life, and that is a little weird, because it is a film I need for me — and it became a film for everyone, because everyone could relate to it."

Bawa attributes this sense of connection to vulnerability. He says that because he was "accidentally vulnerable" in making this film, it really connected with people.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Favourite local gallery or artist space

1. (F)Artspace
2. Winnipeg Art Gallery
3. TakeHome BIPOC Artist House

BY CHARLIE MORIN

MILLENNIAL.DIGS

COVID restrictions prompted Artspace to re-define their relationship between community and art.

"We were pushing ourselves not to think about the building and what happens inside, but the building and also what happens outside," Eric Plamondon, executive director of Artspace, says.

To get around the lack of indoor art spaces during COVID-19 lockdowns, Artspace made use of their exterior. This included transforming their two entrances into public-art spaces, as well as adding projections on the side of the building in collaboration with Jazz Winnipeg for Nuit Blanche Winnipeg.

However, the most popular stunt they pulled was also the most simple: adding an F in front of their rooftop sign.

"Art doesn't have to be super in-depth, super full of meaning. Sometimes art is supposed to just allow people to smile and tap back

into some very innate instincts. When you see 'Fartspace,' you can't help but sort of chuckle to yourself," Plamondon says.

Plamondon says everyone needed laughter during the pandemic, and the collective gag of Fartspace was a point of connection in those moments of isolation.

"I'm sure everyone looking up at Fartspace and laughing, you sort of knew that you were not the only one who lived that moment," he says.

Plamondon says the pandemic shone light on the obstacles people face in accessing art, in terms of art spaces, events and creation.

"Being voted as a favourite space means that spending time making art accessible is crucially important, now more than ever. Hopefully it's a way of allowing more people to know that, yeah, that's our mandate. That's our mission. And all are welcome in this building," he says.



PHOTO BY KEELEY BRAUNSTEIN-BLACK

Favourite local grassroots group

1. Winnipeg Police Cause Harm
2. Mutual Aid Society (MAS)
3. Bear Clan Patrol

BY REBECCA DRIEDGER

REBECCADRIEDGER

In response to the deaths of several BIPOC individuals at the hands of the Winnipeg Police Service (WPS), the grassroots organization Winnipeg Police Cause Harm (WPCH) was formed in September 2019.

The organization raises awareness about community-centred alternatives to involving the police in issues surrounding public safety. Organizers believe defunding the WPS and reallocating its resources to other services, such as public housing and community-based crisis teams, would better meet the city's needs.

The organization is entirely volunteer-run, and the COVID-19 pandemic slowed their efforts slightly. Taking advantage of opportunities to meet virtually, members launched an online-friendly campaign that allowed Winnipeggers to report complaints about the noise the police helicopter made in their area. The campaign was created after accusations that the WPS underreports the number of complaints they receive. Aside from the campaign, WPCH also fundraised to help other local organizations.

"More recently, we were grateful to partner with the BIPOC Families Against Police Violence organizers and get out into the community and share space with folks who are truly affected by police violence," Nickita Longman, a member of WPCH since the beginning, says in an email to *The Uniter*. "This kind of shared solidarity and connection is what drives our group forward and is truly what we are striving for."

The abolitionist group is trying to bring awareness to Winnipeg audiences about how 26.6 per cent of the city's 2020 operating budget went toward the WPS, which is the highest proportion of spending on police of any major city in Canada.

To connect with the community, WPCH offers resources, information and ways to get involved through their website and social media accounts.

"Everything that we say and do follows a long lineage of struggle by Indigenous and Black feminists, prisoners, survivors and people just doing their best to live their lives in a brutally violent colonial society," Longman says.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Favourite local live performance (online or in-person)

1. Propagandhi at the Park Theatre

BY ISABELLA SOARES

2. Begonia - ArtsJunktion Instagram live auction

BELLASOARES0601 BELLA_SOARES16

3. Real Love Mini Fest at the Beer Can

Since they began releasing music in 1986, the punk-rock band Propagandhi, originally founded in Winnipeg, has played all over the world. Still, there's nothing like returning to their hometown and playing a few tunes at a classic venue. When restrictions began to loosen up and live music started up again, the band returned to the Park Theatre.

Propagandhi played three shows there this year on Oct. 8, 9 and 10, accompanied by bands Choke, W3APONS and Mobina Galore.

"We were really well-equipped with an arsenal of songs, and the vibe was so cool. With hometown bands, there is this sense of pride, because your art is a reflection of yourself but also of your place," Sulynn Hago, Propagandhi's guitarist, says.

Hago is from Florida and joined the band in 2015 after an open call for a touring guitarist was put up online. Despite having grown up

outside of Canada, they felt welcomed at the Park Theatre on the multiple occasions Propagandhi played there.

"My first show with Propagandhi was at the Park Theatre, so I have a special connection with that place. It was also the last place that we performed pre-COVID," they say.

The band will head back on their Western Canada tour starting in May 2022, after they announced on Nov. 24 that shows would be postponed.

Propagandhi is marking the 20th anniversary of their third album, *Today's Empires, Tomorrow's Ashes*, with a new remixed and remastered version done by Jason Livermore.

"Thanks to everybody for all the positive comments about it. It's nice to hear people are feeling the difference! To us, it's like a new and exciting record," the band said in a social media post shared on Nov. 12.



DWAYNE LARSON (SUPPLIED)

Favourite local neighbourhood

1. West Broadway

BY CALLIE LUGOSI

2. Wolseley

GORALUGOSI

3. The West End

West Broadway has a little bit of something for everyone.

Jocelyne Nicolas, executive director of West Broadway Biz, says the neighbourhood's ethos seems to be defined by inclusivity and acts of community care.

"I always say that West Broadway is a small area with a big heart," she says.

"I think that the community is evolving, which is important. I think that's sort of the starting point (of a thriving community): a place where everyone feels safe and welcome and (where) everyone feels that they have the ability to participate and be a part of a community."

Nicolas says there have been many changes to the neighbourhood in the last five years. These include the addition of protected bike lanes that connect the neighbourhood to downtown and Wolseley.

In addition to blossoming infrastructure and a variety of restaurant and retail offerings, the neighbourhood contains a high concentration of

non-profit organizations and healthcare facilities.

"We are really lucky, because there has been a history here, a tradition, really, of grassroots organizing to create the kind of change the neighbourhood wants to see," Greg MacPherson, executive director of the West Broadway Community Organization, says.

"And certainly West Broadway residents, businesses and organizations have been very vocal about wanting proper housing for people to live in and wanting to support people to stay where they live."

West Broadway is historically known for its diverse residents, according to MacPherson.

"This richness of perspective, of background and urgency lends the neighbourhood a mystique and an atmosphere that alternates between charming and alarming," he says.

"We are a community that cares about one another, and people want to try to make sure that others have a place to live."



PHOTO BY CALLIE LUGOSI

Favourite new local independent business

1. Gâto

BY CALLUM GOULET-KILGOUR

2. Willow Press

CGOULETKILGOUR

3. La Taqueria Mexican Tacos

Even in 2021, being voted favourite local new independent business is no small feat. Despite the economic challenges caused by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, numerous small businesses have opened up in Winnipeg over the past few years and are flourishing.

Gâto, founded in 2018 by Laura Ghurboo, is one of the newest additions to the city's thriving bakery scene.

"I started it at my place, in my own kitchen, and I was baking for the farmer's market," she says.

"I've been a baker for years. It was something I'd do after coming home from work as a passion," Ghurboo, who is both owner and operator of Gâto, says.

What sets it apart from other bakeries, however, is its explicit focus on providing sustainable goods.

"When we started, we wanted to make products that are a little bit better for the envi-

ronment, but also tasty," Ghurboo says.

She says all her products are either locally or sustainably sourced. Furthermore, Gâto's offerings include both vegan and non-vegan options.

"We are trying to introduce people to more vegan alternatives so that, perhaps, people who would not have tried it might be interested in it, and maybe they'll even like it," Ghurboo says.

She adds that Gâto offers the only vegan sourdough croissant in Winnipeg.

"It's definitely a feat, since they're very hard to make," she says, laughing.

Gâto's menu is wide-ranging. It includes cronuts, cakes, éclairs, bread and macarons. They are currently featuring holiday-themed items, such as snowmen, Christmas cookies, Yule logs and a croissant wreath (which is even more impressive than it sounds).



PHOTO BY KEELEY BRAUNSTEIN BLACK

Favourite local outdoor gathering place

1. The Forks

BY THOMAS PASHKO

2. Munson Park

THOMASPASHKO

3. Assiniboine Park

I'm a fairly new resident of Osborne Village, having just moved there this past summer. A week or so after my move, on my first bus ride to near-by West Broadway for a haircut, the 635 took me through the swanky and relatively unfamiliar-to-me Wellington Crescent strip. It was there that I caught my first glimpse of the idyllic Munson Park, nestled against the Assiniboine River.

I didn't know anything about the park, which was originally the grounds of the home of the lawyer John Henry Munson. Munson moved to Winnipeg in 1881 and named his house Crescentwood, which eventually gave the neighbourhood its name. It was later bought by James A. Richardson. In 1976, the land was donated to the city by the Richardson family, and in 1984, it officially became a public park.

Ignorant to all of this, I just thought that it looked like a cute park. Fortuitously, that night, I had plans to get together with a friend, a

Winnipeg expat who was in town visiting from their new home in Montreal. Out for a walk, I remarked as we approached Munson Park, "I spotted this place from the bus earlier. It looks pretty cozy."

My friend, who is much more worldly than I, was aghast that I hadn't spent any time there yet. Having lived in the Village years ago, they informed me that we had to go there. They guided me through all the twisty paths and found a perfect little nook in a clearing overlooking the river. We sat there while the sun went down while geese floated lazily down the river and the light eventually dimmed enough that we could no longer identify whether the rodents swimming by were beavers or muskrats.

It was a perfect introduction to this welcoming bit of green space. I'm glad other Winnipeggers seem to love it, too.



PHOTO BY THOMAS PASHKO

Favourite local photographer

1. Dwayne Larson

BY CALLUM GOULET-KILGOUR

2. Joey Senft

CGOULETKILGOUR

3. Jess Mann

Dwayne Larson, who received the third-most votes for favourite local photographer in *The Uniter's* 2013 Uniter 30, finally cracked the top spot, beating Joey Senft and Jess Mann.

"I feel very privileged that (the readers of *The Uniter*) voted for me," he says. "I work hard, I love what I do, and I hope that comes across in the photos."

Born and raised in Estevan, Sask., Larson started practising photography at a young age for fun before realizing he could turn his passion into a career.

"About 13 years ago, I moved to Winnipeg to go to photography school to pursue this full-time," Larson says.

He adds that his experience with Winnipeg's photography community has been overwhelmingly positive.

"Everybody is more than willing to help out if you're in a bind or if something bad happens," Larson says.

The last two years have been difficult, given that the COVID-19 pandemic "put everything to a grinding halt."

"A lot of the stuff that I do revolves around crowds, events ... weddings," he says, emphasizing that much of his work was put on hold.

"I'm hoping that everyone goes back to normal, but (who knows) what that 'normal' will be," Larson says.

In addition to his booming wedding and personal-photography business, Larson is the house photographer at the Park Theatre and the True North Sports + Entertainment event photographer.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Favourite local place that no longer exists

1. Forth Bar

BY HALEY PAULS

2. The Zoo/Ozzys

HALEYPauls

3. The Garrick Centre

Forth Bar, once located at 171 McDermott Ave., was a fixture of the Winnipeg restaurant community since it was opened in 2015.

Whether it was in the cozy, intimately lit basement bar or on the rooftop terrace with its incredible Exchange District skyline, Forth Bar was certainly a pleasant place to grab a drink, making it an immediate Winnipeg classic.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, the bar also hosted frequent wine nights featuring special menus by favourite Winnipeg cooks that boasted extensive wine lists, including low-intervention wines made by small-batch producers.

During its five-year stint, Forth Bar underwent several changes to management. It was initially opened by Josey Krahn and most recently operated by Elsa Taylor and her restaurant group, Oddlot Co., that owns and operates The Roost and Oxbow.

Taylor says that, in mid-2020, Oddlot Co. entered an agreement with the building owner "to buy the bar over the course of a few years,

while he hunted for someone to take over the cafe in a similar fashion."

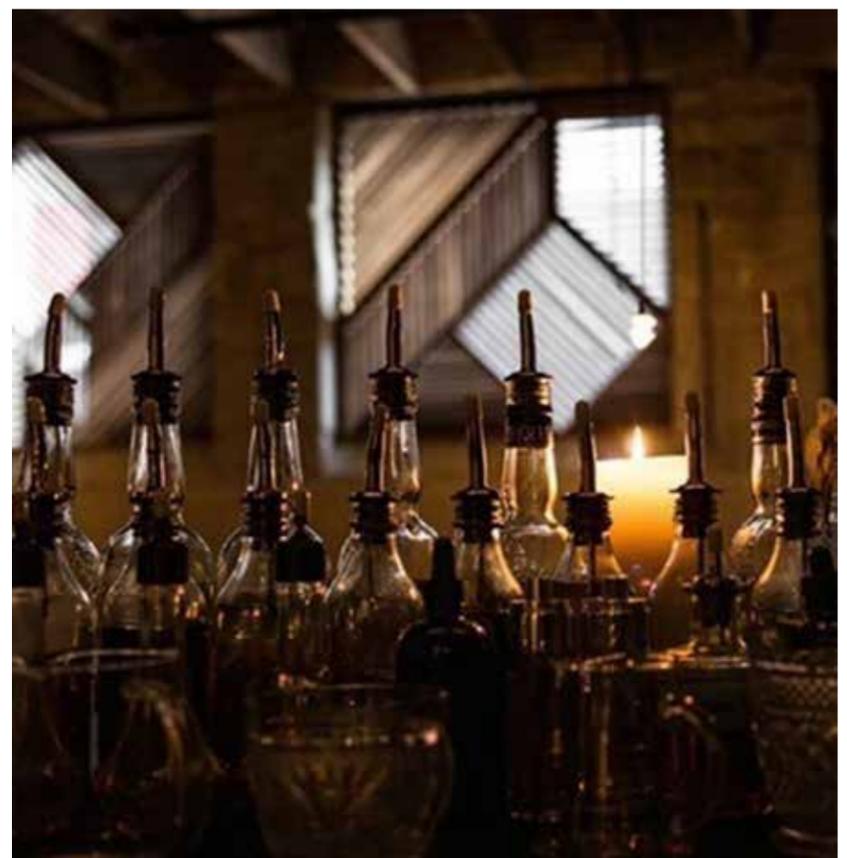
At this point, Taylor's group took over operations at the bar. "The space was majestic," Taylor explains, noting that it was located in a well-maintained heritage building and that "a lot of money went into its initial construction."

But, of course, they add, "the people are what did it. They were cool as fuck, and they made drinks properly, while remaining unbothered by bells and whistles."

"They brought something unique to Winnipeg, and they had fun and they loved each other."

Unfortunately, Taylor's company recently had to exit the deal due to "irreconcilable differences" with the building owner. Taylor says Oddlot Co. has other plans on the horizon, which will involve some of the old team from Forth Bar.

"You can catch some of the Forth Bar team shaking up drinks and serving folks at our new spot, Parcel, coming soon!"



SUPPLIED PHOTO

A place you can't wait to visit when the pandemic ends

1. The Good Will Social Club
2. Anywhere other than Winnipeg
3. A buffet

BY ISABELLA SOARES

[BELLASOARES0601](#) [@BELLA_SOARES16](#)

After COVID-19 pandemic lockdowns temporarily shuttered Winnipeg's vibrant music sector, it couldn't be more fitting that *Uniter* readers were eager to return to in-person concerts at one of the city's most inviting venues: the Good Will Social Club.

Home to various local band shows throughout the year, karaoke nights and dance parties, the Good Will has been a popular place for people from various age ranges to feel at ease when taking in their bit of entertainment.

Winnipeg's admiration for the venue was apparent when the bar raised over \$54,000 in less than 24 hours after a GoFundMe page was set up to help cover for their expenses during the first wave of the pandemic.

"It is quite honest in its delivery, and it is a very humble venue. Pretty much everyone can attend and enjoy this cross-section within the arts community," Good Will manager Antho-

ny Kowalczyk says.

The bar shut down again in March of this year, after the second wave of COVID-19 hit the province, only to emerge from hibernation in September 2021. Despite having opened its doors for small get-togethers, the first real-deal event since its closure was a dance party with DJ Co-op, DJ Hunnicutt and Lambo called Totally Tens.

"It was a really neat look at what the new normal is and how reminiscent it was before COVID. It was well-attended. People were quite respectful of the regulations, and it seemed normal, taking out the fact that people were wearing masks," Kowalczyk says.

Although the pandemic hasn't ceased, the Good Will's reopening has been triumphant in event booking and attendance. With attractions happening every week, keep an eye on the venue's Instagram, @thatgoodwill.



PHOTO KEELEY BRAUNSTEIN-BLACK

Favourite local podcast

1. Witchpolice Radio
2. Bikini Drive-In
3. One Great History

BY KEELEY BRAUNSTEIN-BLACK

[KEELEY_IMAGE](#)

Witchpolice Radio host Sam Thompson describes the podcast as "an interview show that focuses on Manitoba musicians or adjacent. It could be someone who is from here and ... still active in the community or someone who is from here originally and is now applying their trade somewhere else and also people who are connected to the music scene, like music photographers, or they design posters, or they produce records."

Thompson says the "Witchpolice" name was something of an accident.

"There was a song by a band that I was in called 'We are the Witchpolice.' I originally made a free website to post one of those songs online ... This was in 2009. It really is a name that isn't related to anything, and I just sort of got stuck with it. Now it's associated with the podcast, I guess," Thompson says.

Thompson started the show in 2012, when he was playing in multiple bands. The podcast

began as a way for him to stay in touch with the music scene, and the show has grown significantly since then.

"When it started off, it was me and multiple co-hosts usually just sitting around and talking about records, and it was kind of a way for me to stay in touch with my friends," Thompson says. Eventually, it morphed into a more journalistic interview series. However, Thompson likes to keep the interviews conversational.

In some ways the COVID-19 pandemic has been a boon to the podcast.

"Before the pandemic, I used to go out and physically interview all of the guests (in person)," Thompson says. "Because of the pandemic, I have been doing (interviews) remotely, and that has actually turned out to be a good thing ... I get better-quality recordings, because you don't have to account for wind or people eating in the background or whatever else."



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Favourite local political moment

1. Brian Pallister resigns
2. Queen Victoria statue toppled
3. Wab Kinew interrupts Alan Lagimodiere

BY HALEY PAULS

[HALEYPAULS](#)

It marked a big moment for Manitoba politics when Brian Pallister finally threw in the towel after five years as premier – a turbulent year and a half of which had been during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

By the time of his resignation, polls suggested Pallister no longer had the support of the Manitoba majority. A Probe Research Poll showed that by June 2021, support for the Progressive Conservatives had fallen to a mere 29 per cent of decided voters.

And for good reason. Pallister repeatedly downplayed the pandemic and neglected to anticipate second and third waves of COVID-19 that health-care experts told him were coming.

According to federal health-department statistics, under the Pallister government, Manitoba had the second-highest per-capita rate of COVID-related deaths in the country, second only to Quebec.

Recently, Pallister was criticized for comments suggesting the colonization of Canada was done with good intentions.

"The people who came to this country before it

was a country ... didn't come to destroy anything," Pallister said in a speech after the statues of Queen Elizabeth and Queen Victoria were toppled during a Canada Day rally at the Manitoba Legislature, following the discovery of unmarked graves at residential-school sites across Canada.

Pallister was criticized for espousing "racist political propaganda" by Indigenous politicians, activists and allies who called for him to step down.

Though this latest controversy may have triggered Pallister's decision to finally sign the resignation papers, he had hinted at an early resignation since December.

Many Manitobans are gleefully waving goodbye to a man who wreaked havoc on the provincial healthcare system, turned away from scientists and healthcare professionals during a pandemic and continues to look at Canada's colonial history with rose-tinted glasses. However, it's likely that Pallister is equally happy to retreat from the spotlight to his vacation home in Costa Rica.



ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIELLE FUNK

Favourite local politician

1. Leah Gazan

BY REESE ESTWICK

2. Uzoma Asagwara

REESEESTWICK

3. Adrien Sala

After being asked to run in an election for about 10 years by community members, Leah Gazan, Member of Parliament for Winnipeg Centre, took steps toward Parliament Hill in 2019 – not because she wanted to be a politician, but because she answered the call to action.

Prior to her political career, Gazan worked as an educator, advisor and media contributor, making her a passionate community member and activist for nearly three decades.

“We are (at) a critical juncture,” Gazan says. “We are in the midst of a climate crisis and what I call a ‘corporate dictatorship’ that puts the rights of corporations over the human rights of peoples.”

Gazan’s work has centred around human rights, and she is currently focusing on Motion 46: Guaranteed Livable Basic Income, which would offer reliable financial support to all Canadians who need it.

“In the riding of Winnipeg Centre, you see

that growing inequality on the ground: people living in poverty, growing numbers of people becoming unhoused and unsheltered,” Gazan says. “Poverty is the most violent human-rights violation.”

Gazan says the implementation of CERB showed that the Government of Canada has the money to support all Canadians with financial needs, but they “lack the political will” to implement long-lasting financial support.

“I just felt like we needed a strong voice in Ottawa to speak truth to power,” she says. “As a long-time grassroots advocate, I felt that it was a necessary time, and that is exactly what I have been doing since being elected.”

Gazan continues to use her political positioning to amplify the voices of those silenced by political institutions. She views her role not as a position of power, but as an opportunity to be a liaison on the journey to change.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Favourite local public art piece

1. The toppling of the Queen Victoria statue

BY CIERRA BETTENS

2. *Bloody Saturday* by Bernie Miller and Noam Gonick / *Forever Bicycles* by Ai Weiwei (tie)

FICTIONALCIERRA CIERRABETTS

On July 1, the Manitoba Legislative Building was surrounded by a sea of orange shirts. Hundreds of people gathered for the Every Child Matters Walk, an alternative to the festivities that usually take place on July 1 in the wake of the discovery of unmarked graves of Indigenous children found at residential-school sites across Canada.

Video captured from that day depicts a powerful scene: as protestors chanted “no pride in genocide!” the iron-coloured statue of Queen Victoria succumbed to the force of a rope being pulled by protestors. Red handprints painted the seat of concrete the former monarch had been sitting on since 1904. Warrior flags waved over the figurehead of the Crown: one of the primary architects of colonial domination.

In the aftermath of the statue’s toppling, local Indigenous artists began to reimagine what

could stand in its place. Métis artist Kenneth Lavalée’s rendering of a shell and sweetgrass sculpture received ample support online.

“You burn sweetgrass to cleanse your mind and spirit, the environment and space. I thought this place could use a good cleansing,” Lavalée said in a CBC article published in July.

“I’ve been talking about the queen for a long time: that particular sculpture, how out of place it seemed here. Front row, centre. Why does she get the best spot? She’s never been here. She doesn’t really represent anything of Manitoba or its people.”

For now, it’s uncertain what will take the coveted spot in front of the Manitoba Legislative Building. What is certain is that the traditional boundaries of art bear no match to the power of collective resistance.

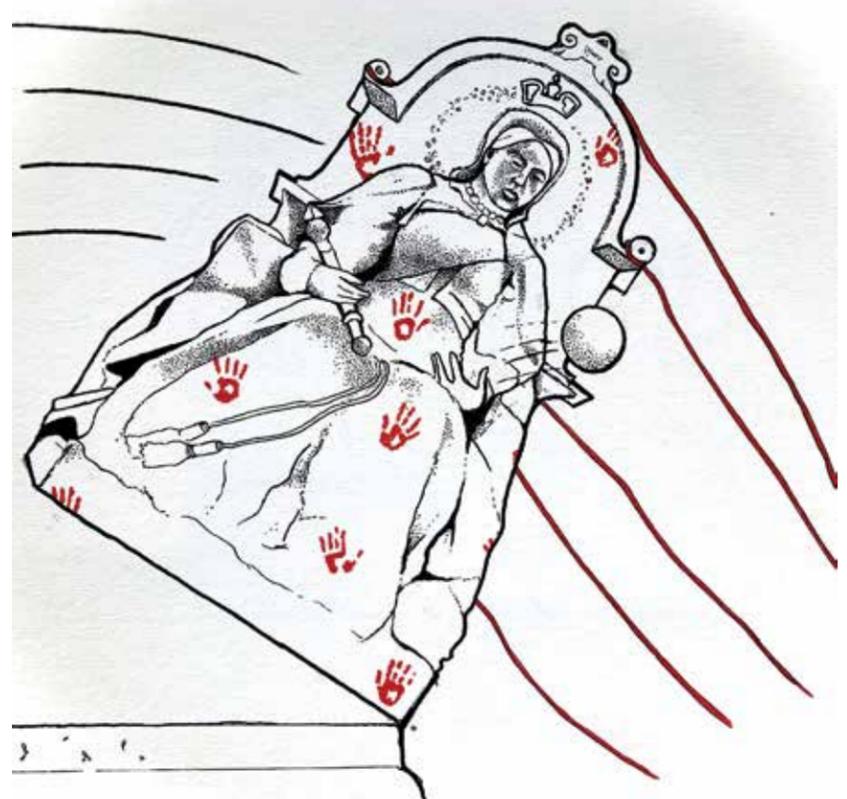


ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIELLE FUNK

Favourite local publication

1. *Stylus Magazine*

BY ISABELLA SOARES

2. *Red Rising Magazine*

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3. *Winnipeg Free Press*

Bringing the inside scoop on the local music scene, *Stylus Magazine* has been on Winnipeg’s radar since its inception in 1989. The music magazine’s profiles and reviews cover both emerging bands and established musicians. Published twice a month, the publication is adored by readers who are not only looking for new tunes to add to their Spotify playlists, but who also feel connected to the local music scene.

“*Stylus* has a super strong history in Winnipeg, and it has been around for over 30 years. It is a real community-builder, and we are very glad that people voted for us this year,” Gil Carroll, the magazine’s editor, says.

Some of the exclusive content available in the magazine includes the CKUWHO series that profiles the radio hosts of CKUW 95.9 FM (which funds *Stylus*), album reviews for the latest releases in and out of Winnipeg, as well as a hip-hop column called *Winnipeg*

State of Mind, which has been curated by Nigel Webber for four years.

Carroll is also involved in other music projects, such as booking shows through Real Love Winnipeg and playing guitar for local band Living Hour. He says what makes the publication unique is that it amplifies the work of emerging musicians, even if they’re just starting out.

“For artists, it can be very validating to be reviewed in a publication. Music blogs and magazines have been a part of music communities for so many decades, so it keeps that tradition,” Carroll says.

This year, the magazine has welcomed a new assistant editor to the team: Kaitlyn Emslie Farrell. In addition, *Stylus* is now offering home delivery at a cost of \$12 for six issues.



PHOTO BY CALLIE LUGOSI

Favourite local restaurant

1. Magic Bird Fried Chicken	BY REESE ESTWICK
2. Roughage Eatery	 REESESESTWICK
3. Yafa Café	

Since Oct. 31, 2018, Magic Bird Fried Chicken has been open at The Handsome Daughter, bringing a comfort-food experience to Sherbrook Street.

Magic Bird's menu has something for everyone (but mostly chicken lovers), with a variety of classics like buckets of chicken and chicken tenders. The menu is also home to many new chicken-sandwich creations, fries and salads.

Behind every good menu is a creative process, and, at Magic Bird, chef and owner Michael O'Connell continues to create new and intriguing recipes for customers to try.

"I will just eat something and be like, 'how can I incorporate this into a fried-chicken dish?'" O'Connell says. "Sometimes, we will just come up with a name as a joke, and I'll try and work backwards from that ... it's really just (about) trying to find new things."

Winnipeg's West Broadway has been O'Connell's home community for about 15 years.

"It's just great to be able to run a business here," O'Connell says. "I can walk down the street and see people that I know every single day. I am friends with all of the other business owners. It's just a really nice community."

For O'Connell, like many business owners, the COVID-19 pandemic posed some challenges.

"We were able to continue being in business because people wanted comfort food," O'Connell says. "It is really nice, now that things are open again, to be able to see people (and) the community."

"I am just really glad to see that people continue to support us ... and I am really happy that people enjoy our food," he says. "That's the biggest thing that makes me happy – making nice things for other people."

Magic Bird Fried Chicken is open and ready for customers. Find them at 61 Sherbrook St. and try one of the weekly specials.



PHOTO BY CALLIE LUGOSI

Favourite social media presence

1. wpg_affirmations	BY REESE ESTWICK
2. Winnipeg Wildin	 REESESESTWICK
3. Faceplam / mbpolidragrace (tie)	

On Sept. 16, one creative Winnipegger decided to start an Instagram account: @wpg_affirmations. It's based on the extremely popular @affirmations account that currently has 861,000 followers from all around the globe.

The person behind @wpg_affirmations, who asked to remain anonymous, started the account with the intention of entertaining a few close friends, but in only three months, the account now has more than 1,800 followers.

"Many more people started to like (the content) than I was expecting," the account owner says. "When we got 200 followers, I was like 'oh, this is actually getting traction,' which I wasn't really expecting it to, because, at first, I was just making it as a joke for friends."

In each post, there is an affirmation paired with a graphic. The affirmations are rooted in satirical humour and speak to common experiences of living in Winnipeg.

When creating each piece of content, the account owner asks themselves questions, such as, "Is (the affirmation) relevant? Is it something that people will see and, at least on some level, think it is relatable?"

The account welcomes the public's suggestions via Instagram direct messages but is selective about what suggestions they accept to ensure they are being kind and respectful to all people.

"I try to make (each post) kind of strange, but not alienatingly so," they say.

The account owner plans to continue to challenge themselves to create high quality content for their followers to enjoy. "I would not have kept doing it so long if people weren't responding to (it), so I am really glad that they are."

The account offers followers a sense of community through comedy, and in this time of isolation, relatability goes a long way.



Favourite University of Winnipeg Course

1. A billion-way tie	BY THOMAS PASHKO
	  THOMASPASHKO

Tallying the votes for the Uniter 30 poll is always an interesting process. Readers can vote for anyone or anything they want in a given category, or omit any individual one if they choose. This can lead to wildly varying results from category to category.

Sometimes, there's a clear landslide winner that gains dozens more votes than the runner-up. Other times, a single vote determines the winner. The same is true for the number of contenders: the votes may be split between only three or four clear favourites, or there may be a long list of nominees, each with a small number of votes.

But something very unusual happened this year as I counted the votes for the favourite University of Winnipeg (U of W) course category. The number of nominees kept piling up, but no course garnered more than a single vote.

At first, I was aghast. "What am I going to

do without a clear winner in the category?" But as the process went on, it did become clear what an incredible breadth and diversity of topics are represented in the course materials at the U of W. It's touching and actually kind of sweet that every student had a different thing they were excited about.

Votes were cast not just for full-term courses, but also for guest lectures and one-off seminars. Topics and classes were as varied as Rebeca Heringer's work in the Faculty of Education to the lessons imparted by the Manitoba Food History Truck. Others chose to single out specific profs, like Kent Simmons in the biology department or Andrew Burke in English.

Others still specified that, while they aren't current students, they wanted to offer support to campus organizations like CKUW and Diversity Food Services. So, while we always prefer to single out a clear winner, this is still nice.



PHOTO BY KEELEY BRAUNSTEIN-BLACK

Favourite local visual artist

1. **Winnipeg Waldo**

BY CHARLIE MORIN

2. **J.D. Renaud**

IG MILLENNIAL.DIGS

3. **Annie Beach**

A familiar face peeks out at passersby around the city in his iconic red-and-white striped shirt, black glasses and bland smile. This is Winnipeg Waldo, a street-art take on the character hidden in the pages of the popular series of children's puzzle books.

The anonymous artist behind Winnipeg Waldo was inspired when travelling overseas in cities where grassroots street art was really embraced and found this was lacking in Winnipeg.

Public art "changes the vibe and the atmosphere around the city," the artist says.

Winnipeg Waldo started appearing around town in 2017.

"I chose the image of Waldo, because it's ... a concept that explains itself. You see a Waldo somewhere, and you think 'wow, that's kind of cool' ... and then you see another one some other time in a different place, and you (realize) 'okay, there's more of these, and there's lots of

them to find,'" the artist says.

Public engagement has been the best part of the project, according to the artist, not only in terms of public interaction with the art but also in the online response.

"I think it encourages a lot of people to start their own concepts and contribute to that culture of street art in Winnipeg," they say.

Grassroots-level street art is valuable, because it reflects the community, the artist says. "It gives your neighbourhood its own sort of artistic identity that's true to that neighbourhood."

The artist was pleased to hear Winnipeg Waldo had been voted favourite local visual artist, particularly because the project has been ongoing for over five years.

"It makes you feel like there is still that engagement and there are people who are enjoying this ... that's really encouraging, and that sort of thing keeps an artist going."



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Favourite Winnipegger abroad

1. **Neil Young**

BY PAUL HODGERT

2. **Kenny Omega / Britney Kornel (tie)**

PAULHODGERT

Neil Young may not have been born in Winnipeg, but he forged his musical identity here. As a student at Kelvin High School, Young formed his first band, The Squires, during the early 1960s before moving to what is now Thunder Bay and eventually Toronto to play in The Mynah Birds with Rick James in 1966.

His entire tenure in Winnipeg lasted only six years, but those six years were enough for the readers of *The Uniter* to choose Young as their favourite Winnipegger abroad.

Young's idiosyncratic output is a good fit for Winnipeg. Throughout his career, while playing in various groups, he has dabbled in surf-rock with The Squires, R&B with The Mynah Birds and folk-rock with both Buffalo Springfield and Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young.

As a solo artist, he has released records of folk, folk-rock, proto-grunge, rockabilly, country and synth rock. His creative restlessness is mirrored in the isolated restlessness of a city of 700,000 people in the middle of the Canadian Prairies.

Winnipeggers are quick to point out when someone successful has come from Winnipeg. We are especially proud of people like Young who have achieved massive commercial and artistic success on their own terms.

Young's reputation as a stubborn curmudgeon is born of his determination to be his authentic self, whether he's being sued by Geffen Records for making "non-commercial" music or refusing to release certain albums on CD for decades, because he believed the math used in creating digital audio was incorrect. He believes in his art and his vision for how it should be presented.

We can see the best and worst of ourselves as Winnipeggers reflected in Young. His music touches our lives and gives us the vocabulary to understand our own restlessness and stubbornness. His authenticity and commitment to his principles are an ideal for which we can strive, and that is why he's our favourite Winnipegger abroad.

Not bad for a six-year stay.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Favourite local writer

1. **Cierra Bettens**

BY ALLYN LYONS

2. **Ryan Thorpe**

IG ALLYNLYONS

3. **Madeline Rae**

Cierra Bettens has moved up to first place in the favourite local writer category after tying for third in 2020.

Bettens got her start as a volunteer writer at *The Uniter* during her first year at the University of Winnipeg and quickly fell in love with journalism.

"I think I've always been interested in writing, and I wanted to use it as a catalyst to connect with my community and shine a spotlight on issues that haven't been noticed," she says.

In the past few years, she's worked as a city reporter and then arts and culture editor for *The Uniter*. She's also written for *Lithium Magazine*, *This Magazine* and *Canadian Dimension*.

However, she wasn't always sure writing was for her.

"I always thought writing is something other people do," she says. "Once I started writing for *The Uniter*, I just instantly fell in love with it and the feeling that I was contributing to my community."

As a city reporter, Bettens saw an opportunity to learn more about Winnipeg's inhabitants and what was going on in the city.

"When I started, I instantly enjoyed it and felt connected to Winnipeg," she says. "It was like I had an in on everything going on."

She writes about topics from Shoegaze to labour strikes to Winnipeg's punk scene with a conversational and compassionate voice, bringing to light issues others hadn't considered.

It's clear speaking to Bettens that her writing is driven by a desire to serve her community and hold power accountable.

In what she says was one of her most powerful interviews, she spoke to Canada Goose workers about organizing for fair-labour practices. She felt honoured to be trusted to tell such an important story.

"It's nice to feel like you're contributing to change in a way that maybe journalists aren't supposed to do," she says. "But whatever."



PHOTO BY DANIEL CRUMP

Editorial note: *Cierra Bettens is The Uniter's arts and culture editor. While we don't count votes cast for The Uniter in the Uniter 30, readers are free to cast votes for Uniter staff and their work.*

UNITER 30 OUTTAKES

The class clowns are at it again

BY THOMAS PASHKO   THOMASPASHKO

It happens every year. It's part of the nature of a poll that allows voters to type whatever they want into their ballot. We get some weird ones. We get some funny ones. We get some that are essentially the newspaper version of bathroom-stall graffiti. Of course we prefer people to vote sincerely with their hearts rather than their funnybones, but we still include some of our favourite outtakes every year. It's a lousy deterrent.

Favourite local achiever over 60

"Anyone but the Brians."

Favourite local achiever under 30

"Who is even that young anymore?"

"My kids."

"Some hipster."

"I'm too old to know anyone under 30."

Favourite local activist

"All pro-maskers and pro-vaxxers."

Favourite local album

"OMG Amos the Kid *No More New Ideas*, Virgo Rising *Sixteenth Sapphire*, Jaywood, Anthony Oks, Central Heat Exchange, Taylor Janzen's album is gon be sick."

Favourite local barber or hairstylist

"My girlfriend who cut my split ends in the bathtub."

Favourite local comedian

"NOPE DUNNO DON'T WATCH COMEDY SHOWS"

Favourite COVID-safe date activity

"Pulling out the invasive purple Loosestrife flowers from Southdale ponds."

"Complaining."

"Rigorous intellectual debate."

"ZOOM STRIP TEASE"

"Profane spells."

Favourite local dancer

"People dance?"

Favourite local dancer

"Does Guy Maddin still make movies?"

Favourite local gallery or artist space

"Fartspace. But only when the 'F' is there."

Favourite local performance (online or in-person)

"The 2021 federal leaders' debate."

Favourite new local independent business

"Dunno, haven't left the house in two years."

Favourite local place that no longer exists

"Can I name every record store that was ever in Winnipeg?"

Place you can't wait to visit after the pandemic ends

"I BEEN DOING IT ALL"

"I'm actually pretty happy not visiting anywhere these days."

Favourite local podcast

"n/a listen to the radio bruh"

Favourite political moment

"The snow dick on the river outside Pallister's home."

"Pallister fucking off."

"NO MORE DONNY"

"Forth Cafe blowing it on Instagram lol"

"Brian Pallister crying."

"Every time Uzoma or Nahanni or Wab shut down bullshit."

Favourite Winnipegger abroad

"My cousin."

"You spelled 'Winnipegger' wrong." (Editor's note: we did. Sorry.)

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	
6AM	MORNING BREATH	!EARSHOT 20	Cafecito Latinoamericano	Fly Travel Radio ★	FANTASTIC FRIDAY World - Island music	THE MAN IN THE GREY FLANNEL SUIT SHOW	CKU-SPEAKS	
7AM				CANQUEER				
8AM	CKUW MORNING NEWS / FRONT BURNER (CBC)						WOODEN SPOONS	SHADES OF CLASSICS Classical and New Age
9AM	DEMOCRACY NOW!							
10AM	DEPARTMENT 13 POP/ROCK	This Way Out WINGS	VOYAGE Jazz	PLANETARY RADIO Cheeze Please	PLANETARY RADIO	MUD PUDDLE RADIO For Kids (Adults too)	INDIGENOUS IN Music	
11AM		BOOTS & SADDLE COUNTRY		ACCESSIBILITY MATTERS	PLANETARY RADIO			
NOON	The Sean Show			!EARSHOT DAILY	PLANETARY RADIO	THE ELECTRIC CHAIR	TEMPLE OF JAZZ	
1PM	TALKING RADICAL RADIO Truth Before Reconciliation	THE GREEN MAJORITY	ALTERNATIVE RADIO	BINKY PINDER'S FUNHOUSE	NO FIXED ADDRESS LIVED EXPERIENCES OF HOMELESSNESS		NEON BEIGE SOUND EXCHANGE	
2PM	GROUNDSWELL New Classical	Your Show Here	Classical Kaleidoscope	RADIO ECOSHOCK	GLOBAL RESEARCH NEWS HOUR	THE IVORY TOWER Eclectic Mix	YOU CAN'T HIDE FROM GOD Gospel	
3PM	PSYCLE RADIO	Winnipeg Arena is on Fire		BARKING DOG Past 'n Present Folk 'n Roots	What's Up Winnipeg?	Eclectic Residents	Classical Delights ★	
4PM			SPACE CADET MUSIC, OUT OF THIS WORLD	WHAT ON EARTH IS GOING ON?	Chart Noises CKUW's Top 39	THE TRIP PSYCHEDELIC ROCK	The Shortwave Report Bikini Drive-In	
5PM	INNER CITY VOICES	THE GREEN BLUES SHOW	AMATEUR HOUR So Bad, It's Good	PAGES	PEG CITY PLAYLIST		Jokes On You Local Comedy	
6PM	THE WORLD World	Lost Chunes	TWANG TRUST Country/Roots/Big, Dumb Rock 'n' Roll	EAT YOUR ARTS & VEGETABLES	THE HOW DO YOU DO REVUE	WE BUILD HITS Hip-Hop	THE C.A.R.P. The Completely Asinine Radio Program	
7PM	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		Rank and File Radio: Prairie Edition	
8PM	DESTINATION MOON Sock-Hop-A-Go-Go		Your Show Here	Dub City Steppers	QUADRAFUNK Electric Dance Party	RED BOX Hip-Hop	THE GASHLYCRUMB TINIERS	
9PM		!EARSHOT DAILY	!EARSHOT DAILY	PHASE ONE Electronic		DANCE HALL FEVER Dancehall and Reggae	ISLAND VIBES Caribbean	
10PM	!EARSHOT DAILY	MONKEY SPARROW	Two Princes	Brain Drainer Radio				
11PM	BREAK NORTH RADIO ★	LISTENING PLEASURES						
MIDNIGHT	METAL MONDAY	NIGHT DANGER RADIO	HURLEMENTS SUR LA TOUNDRA	THE WONDERFUL & FRIGHTENING WORLD OF PATRICK MICHALISHYN	MANITOBA MOON	CRYSTAL PALACE	Rainbow Country	
1AM			THE SENTINEL'S MARVELOUS KALEIDOSCOPE					
2AM	MODERN JAZZ TODAY	The Motherland Influence	DEEP THREES				Your Show Here	
3AM	AMPLIFIED RADIO	Old Parlour Radio	CELT IN A TWIST					
4AM								
5AM								
6AM								



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MUSIC

LOCAL SPOKEN WORD

SPOKEN WORD

ALTER-NATING WEEK

Temporary Programming

WWW.CKUW.CA

OFFICE: 204-786-9782

NEWS DESK: 204-786-9998

ON AIR: 204-774-6877

FAX: 204-783-7080

EMAIL: CKUW@WINNIPEG.CA

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



THE UNIVERSITY OF
WINNIPEG

Student Services

Webinar Wednesdays:

Tips for Success!

Student Services staff share some valuable strategies and tips to help you succeed at UWinnipeg. They cover a wide variety of topics, including:

- Preparing for Winter Term (Dec. 8)
- Making the Most Out of the Career Fair (Dec. 15)

All sessions are from 12:30 to 1:00 pm on Zoom. For more information and to register online, please go to: uwinnipeg.ca/student-services/webinar-wednesdays.html

Student ID Cards

New students for Winter Term and others who need an ID card: The next deadline for ordering your card is coming up on **Dec. 7** (for pick up Dec. 9). For instructions, please go to: uwinnipeg.ca/accepted-students/getting-ready/student-id-cards.html

Work-Study Program

The 2021-22 Work-Study Program

is accepting student applications until **Dec. 3**. To obtain the application form and check out the position listing, go to: uwinnipeg.ca/awards/work-study-program.html

Exams

The Examination Period is **Dec. 9-22**.

Please check the online exam schedule now: uwinnipeg.ca/exam-schedules/index.html

Waitlists for Winter Term

Don't lose out on a seat in a wait-listed course! Remember to check your University Webmail – every day – for permission to register.

Holiday Break/Start of Winter Term

The University is closed for the holidays from **Dec. 24 to Jan. 4**. Most services resume on **Wed., Jan. 5**. Lectures for Winter Term begin on **Thurs., Jan. 6**.

Winter Term Add/Drop Period

The Winter Term (U2021W) Add/Drop Period is **Jan. 6-19**. The last

day to drop a U2021W course and not be charged the fees is **Jan. 19**. Students who drop a U2021W course Jan. 20 and onwards are still responsible for paying all of the course fees.

Tuition Fees for Winter Term

Pay the easy – pay online through your financial institution.

Use the bill payment feature on your financial institution's website.

1. Log on to your bank's website
2. Add The University of Winnipeg – Tuition as a bill payee
3. Use your seven-digit student number as the account number (International payments can be made via flywire.com.)

U2021W fees are due **Jan. 24**.

In-Person Service Resumes for Some Student Services

Some departments in Student Services are now open for in-person meetings. All offices are continuing to offer some remote meeting options. Please see this webpage

for details about each department: uwinnipeg.ca/student-services

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 an academic or career advisor. Appointments with advisors can also be booked through the website: www.myvisit.com.

Need a Spot for your Winter Coat? Rent a Locker!

Locker rentals have resumed on campus, with options now available in Manitoba, Centennial and Riddell Halls, as well as in Richardson College and the Asper Centre. For more information on location and cost, along with an online form, go here: uwinnipeg.ca/accepted-students/getting-ready/locker-rental.html



DIVERSIONS



Inner-City Work Study is Seeking Students

You can be a part of Reconciliation in Action. Apply to the Inner-City Work Study program, a unique opportunity from May to August of 2022. Learn more about the inner city, colonization, poverty, reconciliation and how community responds effectively to these challenges - while working in a community organization.

The work: 4 days/week for \$22/hr up to 450 hours.

The study: UIC-3020 Inner City Work Study; 1 day/week for 15 weeks.

Apply online at uwinnipeg.ca - search for Inner City Work Study.

Deadline is December 15



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THE UNITER IS SEEKING A CAMPUS REPORTER

The Uniter is seeking
a campus reporter for
the 2021-2022
publishing year.

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information.