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UNITER

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VOLUME 72 // ISSUE 12 // NOV 30

3

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ON THE COVER

This cover was created by
visual artist Dany Reede.

.....

YOUR VERY OWN 30

This issue is for you, and by you, according to
readers' votes.

We didn't get as many votes as a general
election, or as a UWSA election, but I suppose
we're a little bit smaller than each of those cam-
paigns. Regardless, most of the contents of this
issue weren't decided by our reporters or our
editorial team, or by press releases and phone
calls and event invites.

Who we feature in the Uniter 30 is decided by
our readers.

This year, we switched out a few categories
and added some new ones in.

We had a whole bunch of visual arts grouped
into one, but there's so much great art in our
city that it didn't seem comprehensive enough.
We also added a public art piece category and a
gallery or artist-run centre category.

I hope that art lovers will also appreciate the
gorgeous cover of this issue. Those who know
and love Dany Reede, who won the favourite
local visual artist category last year, may
recognize his distinctive style. This piece was
finished over the last month using acrylics and
embroidery.

One topic you won't see this year is favourite
local neighbourhood, but to keep this place-spe-
cific theme going, we added favourite local
public gathering place. And to send shout-outs
to the people building community, we also added
favourite local grassroots community group.

Many readers were incredibly creative in
their submissions, and it didn't seem fair to keep
their original quips to ourselves, so we added an
outtakes section on page 21. These are all you,
(though we don't know who "you" are), so per-
haps a few readers will see themselves in there.

More than anything, this issue is a reminder
of all that's worth celebrating in Winnipeg and
everyone who's working to make this a better
place to live and work and play. And that sounds
like a great topic to devote 24 pages to!

- Anastasia Chipelski

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Chloe Chafe, co-founder of Synonym Art Consultation, is this year's favourite achiever under 30.

PHOTO BY ADAM KELLY

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SUPPLIED PHOTO

FAVOURITE LOCAL WRITER

1. FRANCES KONCAN

2. Melissa Martin
3. TIE: Gislina Patterson / Bartley Kives

The term “writer” hardly suffices to describe the many jobs and talents of Frances Koncan, not just because she does other things, but because of the many varieties of writing she does.

“My artistic practice is composed primarily of writing,” Koncan says. That includes “playwriting, television, columns, grant-writing, Twitter threads, erotic fan fiction and unnecessary blogs.”

Koncan also directs for the stage and screen, and does other production jobs like sound and lighting design, projection and costumes.

“I really want a part-time admin job but can’t get an interview anywhere,” she adds.

The route to Koncan’s current creative profession was a long and unusual one.

“I got involved in theatre after failing at pretty much everything else I tried to do,” she says. “I originally intended to study

music and was pursuing a degree in piano and French horn performance. Music was the only thing I’d ever been good at, but I had a gut instinct I was on the wrong path.”

Koncan saw a play in New York that inspired her to begin taking theatre classes, which resulted in a career in the arts. While her writing can be found online and in print (including in *The Uniter’s* very pages!) she says she prefers to work in theatre.

“It’s hard to determine exactly how writing is perceived,” Koncan says. “Especially as a theatre director, I love the immediacy of live performance, which is something that writing lacks. It’s the No. 1 thing that sends me in downward spirals multiple times a week.”

While her plays like *Riot Resist Revolt Repeat* and *zahgidiwin/love* frequently touch on themes of social justice and decolonization, Koncan says she rarely thinks about such things while working.

“I’m the most themeless writer I’ve ever met,” she says. “My process typically starts from a place of chaos, and it takes a lot of work to discover what I’m trying to say.”

See more from Frances Koncan at franceskoncan.com.

-Thomas Pashko // [@thomaspashko](https://twitter.com/thomaspashko)



PHOTO BY ANASTASIA CHIPELSKI

FAVOURITE LOCAL INDEPENDENT PUBLICATION

1. STYLUS

2. Red Rising Magazine
3. TIE: Dear Journal / Winnipeg Free Press

While it’s a tough environment for small independent publications, there are still many who manage to keep themselves in print. At nearly 30 years old, *Stylus* magazine is now Manitoba’s only music magazine, and they publish every second month.

“CKUW has worked in *Stylus* into their budget and are very committed to keeping it going for as long as possible,” CKUW publishing and promotions director Gil Carroll says.

Carroll sees *Stylus* as a hub for writers and photographers to share their love of music and to build experience. It also serves as an entry point to the local music scene, he says.

“If you’re not a musician, or you’re not friends with someone in a band, (the music scene) can be less accessible, so *Stylus* is a

good entry point there for some people,” Carroll says.

“We really like the idea of just working together as a community to cover as much cool stuff as possible, and stuff that you’re not gonna find written about in other publications, not just in Winnipeg, but anywhere.”

Carroll says that while they’d like to expand the publication schedule, the costs of printing are a barrier. In the meantime, they’re focusing on getting more content online.

While *Stylus* focuses on local bands, they’ll also cover larger Canadian or American acts if there’s a local angle, like a show in town. Carroll encourages hometown acts to let them know about shows, so they can send writers and photographers out to cover live music, and for those considering writing to give it a go.

“We are always looking for new volunteers,” Carroll says. “We know that it can always get bigger and better, the more people that get involved, and so I definitely encourage that.”

Pick up *Stylus* on stands around campus or scroll through their content at ckuw.ca/stylus.

-Anastasia Chipelski // [@anachips](https://twitter.com/anachips)



SUPPLIED PHOTO

FAVOURITE NEW LOCAL ALBUM

1. BEGONIA, LADY IN MIND

2. Propagandhi, Victory Lap
3. TIE: Tunic, Boss / Slow Spirit, Unnatured

NPR called Begonia’s debut EP, *Lady in Mind*, “the place where synth-pop meets old soul and scrappy meets sexy,” and CBC Music called it frontwoman Alexa Dirks’ “own brand of gospel.”

Uniter readers called it their favourite local album of 2017.

“There’s no time for meaningless shit right now. I feel the weight of that,” Dirks told *The Uniter* in March, just after *Lady in Mind* was released.

“And I feel like I’m still figuring out how I can best tap into my experience, just as a woman or as a human, in order to say something that means something that can move people.”

Based on readers’ votes, it’s safe to say that *Lady In Mind* did an excellent job of moving people in 2017.

“WOW! This makes me emotional. That’s so sweet!” Dirks wrote in an email,

after hearing that she’d won this category.

Dirks goes on to detail her anxiety on the day *Lady in Mind* first became available, describing her emotions as an equal mix of joy and intense fear. The response since then, she says, has been humbling.

“*Lady In Mind* feels like me just beginning to come into my own and trust my own instincts as a writer ... And I hear that when I listen to it,” Dirks says.

“The fact that people connect with these songs is amazing to me. I started writing for this project as a sort of catharsis for myself but also in hopes to empower other people to be themselves and express their own individual sadness, joy, hopes, dreams, creativity and freakiness, even if it doesn’t always feel perfect or ‘pretty.’ Those are feelings I continually have to own and harness within myself almost every day.”

Dirks is in the studio this month to record her full length follow-up to *Lady In Mind*.

“As petrified as I am,” she says, “I couldn’t be more excited.”

-Murat Ates // [@wpgmurat](https://twitter.com/wpgmurat)



A holiday greeting card for Derksen Printers. The background is a dark wood texture with a snowy foreground. In the center, there are several lit red candles and a gold star. The text reads: "Season's Greetings from" in a cursive font, followed by the Derksen Printers logo (a stylized 'dp' with an arrow). Below the logo, it says "DERKSEN PRINTERS". At the bottom, it says: "We print everything from office stationery, to brochures to community newspapers!" and "For inquiries call us @ 204-326-3421 or visit us @ www.derksenprinters.com".

A hiring advertisement for The Uniter. It features a large yellow square with a white 'U' logo. The text reads: "WE'RE HIRING!" in large, bold, black letters. Below this, it says: "The Uniter is seeking a City Reporter." The text continues: "The Uniter is seeking an individual who is passionate about Winnipeg's many communities and civic life to fill the position of city reporter. This person should be dedicated to exploring a wide range of issues that affect our communities, and profiling those working to improve life in our city. The successful candidate will possess strong research and interviewing skills and will also demonstrate a critical eye for news content." It then states: "The position begins in January and pays \$105/week. See uniter.ca/jobs for more details." At the bottom, it says: "Interested parties should submit a resume including references, cover letter and two (2) writing samples by Dec. 15 at noon. Application packages should be sent to Managing Editor Anastasia Chipelski at info@uniter.ca or delivered in person to The Uniter office: ORM14 Bulman Centre, 515 Portage Ave., Winnipeg." A small note at the bottom says: "*Mouseland Press strives to be an equitable employer and will prioritize qualified applicants who belong to marginalized groups. Qualified applicants who study at or are alumni of The University of Winnipeg will also be given priority."

An advertisement for All Saints University. It features a collage of images of students and faculty. The text reads: "Earn your B.Sc, MD, or Ph.D at ... ALL SAINTS UNIVERSITY". Below this, it says: "allsaintsu.org | allsaintsuniversity.org 1.866.602.9555 | 416.743.9222 | @allsaintsu". It also mentions "ENROLLMENT IN PROGRESS". A section titled "INFO SEMINARS" lists dates and locations: "SEP 23, 2017 : SURREY, BC", "OCT 21, 2017 : OTTAWA, ON", "NOV 18, 2017 : CALGARY, AB", and "DEC 09, 2017 : BRAMPTON, ON". It adds: "To attend please register online or by phone." At the bottom, it says: "Loan Programs | Experienced Faculty | Cutting Edge Facilities".

CKUW TOP 30

November 20-26, 2017

TW = This Week // LW = Last Week // != Local content // * = Canadian Content

TW	LW	C	ARTIST	ALBUM	LABEL
1	3	!	Mmmeats	Mac N' Me	Transistor 66
2	2	*	The O Voids	Data	Sounds Escaping
3	1	!	Propagandhi	Victory Lap	Epitaph
4	5	!	Animal Teeth	A List Of Things To Say	Slow Shine
5	6	*	Little Miss Higgins	My Home, My Heart	Morning Noise
6	4	*	The Pack A.D.	Dollhouse	Cadence
7	12		Julie & The Wrong Guys	Julie & The Wrong Guys	Dine Alone
8	15		Liima	Nineteen Eighty Two - 1982	City Slang
9	10	!	Slow Dancers	Philadelphus	Freer
10	9	!	Slow Spirit	Unnatured	Self-Released
11	RE	*	Arcade Fire	Everything Now	Columbia
12	11	*	Godspeed You! Black Emperor	Luciferian Towers	Constellation
13	26		Ride	Weather Diaries	Wichita
14	7		Beck	Colors	Capitol
15	RE	!	Ghost Twin	Plastic Heart	Artofact
16	8	!	The Vangoras	The Vangoras	Self-Released
17	18	*	Eliana Cuevas	Golpes Y Flores	Alma
18	RE		Gogol Bordello	Seekers And Finders	Casa Gogol
19	14		Shimmer	Shimmer	Cooking Vinyl
20	NE		Suicide	First Rehearsal Tapes	Superior Viaduct
21	RE	*	Geoff Berner	Canadiana Grotesquica	Coax
22	13	*	Whitney Rose	Rule 62	Six Shooter
23	27	*	Cold Specks	Fool's Paradise	Arts & Crafts
24	RE	*	Alvways	Antisocialites	Royal Mountain
25	25		Hand & Leg	Hand & Leg	Black Gladiator
26	NE	*	Whimm	A Stare Ajar	Pleasence
27	22	*	Odonis Odonis	No Pop	Telephone Explosion
28	20		Mr. Lif & Brass MenaDeri	Resilient	Waximilie
29	24		Fifty Foot Hose	Cauldron	Aguirre
30	NE	*	Sleepy Sun	Private Tales	Dine Alone

Friendship

Shock out of Season
Orindal Records

This is yet another beautiful release from Chicago-based Orindal Records.

Like several other Orindal releases, Friendship's *Shock out of Season* is full of nostalgia, warm tones and effortlessly poetic lyrics. Dan Wriggins delivers a clever and deadpan vocal performance throughout the album, complemented with galloping glittery guitar, pretty pedal-steel and synths that create a spacious and dark backdrop for Wriggins' vocal excellence.

The album is filled with lyrics like “God, it’s so hard to know if anything we do makes any little difference.” Wriggins later uses unique storytelling to illustrate blossoming and failed relationships, “I was weaving on my loom, a blanket for my room, but it got complicated ... whether you are old or young, you gotta tell someone, they are appreciated.”

Wriggins is witty and earnest throughout and although he illustrates the frustrations of relationships, the album still makes the listener feel hopeful. *Shock out of Season* has so much authentic atmosphere, and this reviewer can’t wait to hear more.

- Hazel Flowers

Applying to Graduate School Information Workshop

All students are invited to an information session offered by the Faculty of Graduate Studies on applying to graduate school. This presentation will offer information on how to contact references, developing research proposals and letters of interest, as well as an overview of general application processes.

If you are in the process of, or considering applying to a graduate program, this session will offer you a chance to ask questions!

Monday, December 4
12:30 – 1:30 p.m. Room 3M50

Hosted by Deanna England -
Graduate Studies Awards, Training, and Communications Officer

Contact the Faculty of Graduate Studies for more information:
d.England@uwinnipeg.ca

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FAVOURITE LOCAL PERFORMANCE

1. YES WE MYSTIC AND THE EARTHLY PARADISE

Hon. Mentions: Beck at Insterstellar Rodeo, John K and Winter Wheat at Folk Fest, Propagandhi at the Garrick, Rachel Bourget's "After the Cause"

Performance is a broad category, including music, theatre, dance and performance art. On Sept. 21, 2017 at The Park Theatre, Yes We Mystic (YWM) presented an expanded live show that drew from nearly all of these categories.

Yes We Mystic and the Earthly Paradise was the result of a collaboration between Adam Fuhr and Keegan Steele of YWM and choreographer/dancer Ella Steele (who is Keegan's sibling).

"(F)rom Keegan's initial vision, The Earthly Paradise turned into a full-on dance, performance art (and) surreal horror narrative. A show within a show, happening all within their hour-long set," Ella Steele says.

The choreography was also inspired by YWM's creations. "Each movement, concept or action during each song was very

specific and connected to the meaning of each song," she says.

Dancer Emma Sickert joined her on stage. They began on risers behind the band, and moved around the stage as well as through the audience. As YWM played an otherwise normal set they ignored the dancers, even as their attempts to interact with the musicians escalated.

For YWM, keeping that separation was a challenge.

"(E)ven at that run-through (before the show), we were having a hard time not engaging or looking back or glancing over at the dancers, especially moments where we weren't playing anything," Fuhr says.

For the encore, the dancers finally broke with the expectation they'd established as they unplugged instruments and dismantled the drums, cutting the final song short.

Fuhr says that their vision was to create a multiplicity of reactions that went beyond a regular musical performance.

The feedback he got after the show aligned with YWM's hopes for it. Audience members mentioned "that it was unlike anything that people have seen around town," Fuhr says.

-Anastasia Chipelski // @anachips

FAVOURITE LOCAL DJ

1. MAMA CUTSWORTH

2. DJ Co-op

3. DJ Louie Lovebird

Sarah Michaelson, also known as Mama Cutsworth, has been DJing since 2004, so she's been spinning professionally for 13 years.

She currently has four main projects going on. She's in a DJ duo called House of Gold with DJ J. Jackson.

"We usually throw big dance parties with drag queens as our guests, and it's a queer and feminist-positive dance space," Michaelson says.

She also runs Mama Cutsworth's DJ Academy for All Women and Non-Binary Folks, which she started in 2012. So far, 100 people have gone through the program.

"It's been really rewarding ... basically building a community of DJs, and it's been very cool to see it happen," she says.

Michaelson also does family dance parties for kids and their families. She recently hosted one on Nov. 19 at The Good Will Social Club that raised money for the West End 24/7 Safe Space.

She's also a part of a theatre project she started in 2013.

"It's an international project with two Colombian actors (Felipe Ortiz and Daniel Orrantia) called *Speechless*, and we are lucky enough to travel around the world with that show," she says.

Michaelson says she came up with her DJ name from a few inspirations.

"Back when I started DJing, there were very few women DJing," she says. "There was a couple, but it was important for me to convey that I was a woman, which is why I go by Mama Cutsworth, rather than DJ Cutsworth."

The "Cutsworth" part comes from a funny joke.

"A friend had a grandpa, and he had a dog named Cutty, and sometimes if they were feeling fancy, they would call the dog 'Sir Cutsworth,'" she says. "And then I realized 'wait a second, Cutsworth is a really good DJ name, because of all these dual meanings!'"

-Danelle Granger // @DanelleGranger

FAVOURITE LOCAL RADIO SHOW OR PODCAST

1. WITCHPOLICE RADIO

2. The Tonic (CKUW)

3. TIE: Bury the Lede / Space Cadet (CKUW) / Winnipeg Music Project (UMFM)

It's been said that podcasts are the future of radio. Perhaps it's ironic, then, that when asked for their favourite local podcasts, *Uniter* readers overwhelmingly chose campus radio shows. Of the five podcasts to tie for the top three spots, all but one (*Bury the Lede*) are linked to local campus radio stations.

A few months after starting the *Witch-police Radio* podcast in 2012, co-hosts Sam Thompson and Rob Crooks were contacted by UMFM station manager Jared McKetiak, who offered to rebroadcast their show. The podcast still hits UMFM airwaves every Sunday night.

"I think it's leant some legitimacy to the show," Thompson says of the UMFM partnership. "(T)he fact that it was also

airing on UMFM rather than just being some basement podcast made it seem like, 'This is a real thing.'"

One of the benefits of podcasts is that producers aren't beholden to creative restraints like limited running times or ad breaks. Thompson says that airing on the radio hasn't affected their creative process.

"(The station edits) everything on their end," he says. "If listeners don't hear the whole thing on the radio, it's always available online."

Multimedia approaches expand beyond podcasting. Ashley Bieniarz's *The Winnipeg Music Project* started out as a blog.

"I contacted campus radio stations to see if they'd help me promote the project," Bieniarz says. "Jared from UMFM responded and asked if I'd want to do a regular show rather than a one-time ad."

Multimedia availability makes accessing shows easier than ever.

"I made (Winnipeg Music Project) available on iTunes and Google Play," Bieniarz says, "so if going to the website's a hassle, people can find it on (platforms) they're already using. Also, UMFM's Instagram is full of behind-the-scenes (content)."

-Thomas Pashko // @thomaspashko



PHOTO BY ADAM KELLY



SUPPLIED PHOTO



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FAVOURITE LOCAL ACHIEVER UNDER 30

1. CHLOE CHAFE

2. TIE: Joy Balmana /
Michael Barkman

In some ways, Chloe Chafe’s path to where she is right now started when she was a teen.

“What I’m most proud of is having the opportunity to work with youth for so many years. I think that’s kind of shaped completely who I’ve become and the reason why I do a lot of what I do,” Chafe says.

She began working with younger children in a wilderness context as a teen. More recently, Chafe works as a youth arts programmer with Studio 393 with Graffiti Art Programming.

“It’s really just opened my eyes on the accessibility of arts in the world and how it can be,” Chafe says. “Sometimes it’s not accessible, or sometimes too isolating, or too insular, so yeah, it’s really shaped all my programming.”

In all her work, Chafe aims to show how the art community and hip-hop community can inspire and support each other.

Chafe is also known as the co-founder of Synonym Art Consultation and the Wall-to-Wall Mural and Culture Festival, along with her creative partner Andrew Eastman.

“We are essentially one person, so he is equally getting this award,” Chafe says. She wants to shout out the crew at Studio 393 and one youth in particular.

Osani Balkaran, also known as The OB, is “an up-and-coming artist, and we are actually developing activism workshops and programs together,” Chafe says.

She urges young achievers to avoid putting themselves in any one box, and to listen.

“You don’t have to ever just be a writer, or you never have to just be a visual artist or just an athlete. Those will always cross over, and it only becomes stronger if you’re open to everything,” Chafe says.

“Just ... listen to each other and be as inclusive as possible, no matter what you’re doing,” she says. “It’s just something that I think this world needs, just to listen to each other.”

-Anastasia Chipelski // [@Anachips](#)



FAVOURITE LOCAL PUBLIC ART PIECE

1. STAR BLANKET, KENNETH LAVALLEE

2. En Masse 3. Emptyful

Kenneth Lavallee is a North End kid. While riding the bus with his mother as a child, they would pass *Peace and Harmony*, a mural by Jackson Beardy on Selkirk Avenue, almost every day.

“We would pass that mural, and I would think ‘Man, that’s the coolest thing I’ve ever seen,’” Lavallee says. “For my whole life, that mural has been a huge influence on me and my style as an artist.”

In the years prior to the painting of *Star Blanket*, Lavallee had been working in the North Point Douglas area regularly, at both Graffiti Gallery doing outreach work and at Neechi Commons making bannock.

“I was looking at a pretty dreary strip of Main Street, between Selkirk and Higgins almost every day and felt it could use some colour,” he says.

In 2014, Lavallee caught wind of *Philly Painting*, a public art project by Dutch duo Haas&Hahn.

Their goal was to mobilize the North Philadelphia community to transform a commercial corridor and bring some much-needed vibrancy to their neighbourhood.

“It involved painting murals on 50 storefronts and buildings, just huge stretches of public space,” Lavallee says. “It totally revitalized the neighbourhood. I wanted to bring that here.”

The national inquiry into missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls was gaining public attention around the time of the conception of *Star Blanket*.

“I wanted to do something related to that and in honour of that,” he says. “Also, my mum had a star blanket, and I always wanted one of my own. It seemed so sacred and special.”

To give a star blanket is to show utmost admiration for the person receiving it. To receive a star blanket indicates that the giver holds you in very high regard for your accomplishments. They are intended to protect and give comfort to those wearing it over their shoulders.

It’s clear Kenneth Lavallee loves both the North End and the people who live there. After all, he gave them *Star Blanket*.

- Callie Morris // [@lugosi_callie](#)



FAVOURITE LOCAL GALLERY OR ARTIST CENTRE

1. WINNIPEG ART GALLERY

2. aceartinc.
3. MAWA

The Winnipeg Art Gallery (WAG) is expected to fill many roles that, in a larger city, may be spread over several galleries.

But it’s their current exhibition, *INSURGENCE/RESURGENCE*, that seems to have drawn the attention of many readers. Curated by Jaimie Isaac and Julie Nagam, the show includes work by over 25 artists, including many new commissions, and is spread through multiple galleries as well as the lobby and exterior of the WAG.

“I think millennials are ... their art literacy is high,” Andrew Kear, chief curator at WAG, says.

When they see art moving outside of a traditional display, “my suspicion is that they appreciate the significance of that in a way that maybe an older generation might not.”

INSURGENCE/RESURGENCE is “also the largest group contemporary Indigenous

art show in Canada, so we’ve been promoting it that way and we feel really proud about that,” Kear says.

The show also represents a turn toward more politicized artistic content.

Kear has noted that younger audiences are more engaged in Indigenous rights, and in the political aspects of the work they’re seeing.

INSURGENCE/RESURGENCE is also one result of the relative fluidity in Isaac’s position as curator of Indigenous contemporary art.

“(W)e don’t want to start setting up a silo, like there’s Indigenous contemporary art and then there’s contemporary art. So we wanted to give Jaimie the breadth to do Indigenous shows when she wants to, do non-Indigenous contemporary shows, do shows that have both,” Kear says.

Overall, Kear describes balancing the WAG’s priorities between large international names, Inuit art, showcasing their permanent collection and responding to local artists.

- Anastasia Chipelski // [@Anachips](#)



PHOTO BY ADAM KELLY

FAVOURITE LOCAL VISUAL ARTIST

1. GABRIELLE FUNK

2. Matea Radic
3. TIE: Takashi Iwasaki / Colby Richardson

Although Gabrielle Funk grew up drawing and painting on a small scale, she is currently enjoying creating murals.

Murals “have the elements of a personal art practice, where I’m really creatively in control and making something visual, but it’s public,” she explains.

Funk says her career was facilitated by Synonym Art Consultation, who helped her put on shows and get involved in mural-making. She is currently building up her freelance career, working for Art City, Graffiti Art Programming and *The Uniter*.

Funk explains that her style is constantly evolving.

“I definitely feel most comfortable with the small-scale, kind of pointillist drawings ... I have more room to explore concepts and realism and play around with different mediums,” she says.

She strives to transpose these techniques to her murals.

“On the mural side of things, I feel like I’m still learning different techniques. It’s a totally different way of approaching art-making, one that I’m not as familiar with or as experienced in,” she says.

She explains that murals tend to rely on collaboration and may have an impact on the community where they are located.

“The large-scale murals are just such a dynamic process, and it’s really invigorating ... it’s cool to see the impact on the place that I live,” she says.

Funk explains that the permanence of murals is one of their key features. In comparison, smaller-scale art is not constantly on display in a public gallery, and pieces of a collection might get sold to different people.

“The community element of my art practice is very important to me,” she says.

See more of Gabrielle Funk’s work at gabriellewmfunk.com.

- Charlotte Morin // [@chrlsmorin](https://twitter.com/chrlsmorin)



PHOTO BY TRAVIS ROSS

FAVOURITE LOCAL PHOTOGRAPHER

1. ADAM KELLY

2. TIE: Jen Doerksen / Callie Lugosi
3. Joey Senft

Adam Kelly is a photographer who cares about Manitoba and the people who live here.

He recently released the book *HomeFree: A Book that Reimagines Manitoba*.

The book is “a collection of photos showing different landscapes throughout Manitoba, along with interviews with different folks from all over the province,” Kelly says.

“I wanted the book to encourage Manitobans to get excited about this province and all it has to offer.”

This project was an intense process for Kelly, who says it was a two-year venture that took time and money to complete.

“It required a lot of travelling and conversations that I really enjoyed and learned a lot from,” he says. “But, of course, it was also really challenging maintaining excitement about a project and investing time

and money over the course of two years. (It) was really exhausting at times, but overall, it was super worth it.”

Portrait photography is a strong interest of Kelly’s and very much a part of the work that he does.

“I’m fascinated by people, and I learn so much from getting to know them,” he says.

Kelly feels it is important that the people in his portraits are included in the process.

“I’m always trying to get to a place of collaboration with my subjects, where they feel comfortable verbalizing their ideas with me, so that the photos we’re taking are something for both of us to be excited about.”

Kelly has a portfolio available on his website, adamkellyphotography.com.

- Charmagne de Veer // [@chardeveer](https://twitter.com/chardeveer)



SUPPLIED PHOTO

FAVOURITE LOCAL DANCER

1. JILLIAN GROENING

2. Ella Steele
3. Rachelle Bourget

Jill Groening says finding out she was nominated for favourite local dancer for a third time came with mixed emotions.

“To tell you the truth, it first filled me with dread and panic,” she says. “I’ve experienced some online bullying and abuse of it because of receiving this before for the first two years.”

“It’s bittersweet, because it’s nice, and it’s nice to be acknowledged, but there is an element of frustration and sadness or anger just because of the past bullying,” she added.

Groening started dancing when she was 11 years old. She started in jazz and tap, because that’s what some of her pals were doing. Then she found ballet and really loved the movement of it.

She went to the Intensive Training Program at the Royal Winnipeg Ballet while she was in high school. She took a year off

after high school, because she was burnt out from dance and school, she says.

She got into the Winnipeg’s Contemporary Dancers school a year later.

“Doing ballet, I knew that’s not what I wanted to do, not to mention the physical ... not having the perfect body, disagreeing with a lot of the gender politics involved with it,” she says.

Groening is currently working with a local contemporary dance company called Gearshifting Performance Work, and she does work with Jolene Bailie.

She’s toured to Vancouver and Toronto with the company’s show Hybrid Human.

She’s currently in the creative process of a new show that will be out in April 2018.

“I really, really like this new work that I’m really lucky to be creating under Jolene Bailie,” she says. “It’s so fun. It’s so cool to be a part of a creative process, especially with people you can be vulnerable with, people that you really trust. There’s nothing like creating new work.”

- Danelle Granger // [@DanelleGranger](https://twitter.com/DanelleGranger)



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JAN 20

**DESI SUB
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FEB 28

*JOSH RITTER
& BAND*

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MAR 3

**DASHBOARD
CONFESSIONAL**
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BURTON CUMMINGS THEATRE

MAR 3

**AMY
SHARK**

THE GOOD WILL – SOCIAL CLUB

MAR 6

**KIM
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7 LOCATIONS TO CHOOSE FROM



PHOTO BY DANIEL CRUMP

FAVOURITE LOCAL COMEDIAN

1. SPENCER ADAMUS

2. Alex Ateah
3. Angie St. Mars

Spencer Adamus is a relative newcomer to standup comedy, but he's generated a great deal of good will in a very short period of time.

In addition to being voted favourite local comedian by *Uniter* readers, 2017 saw him win Rumor's Comedy Club's annual contest "Winnipeg's Funniest Person with a Day Job," as well as host a weekly Wednesday comedy open-mic at Wee Johnny's.

"I actually got into comedy through high school improv," Adamus says. "When I got to university, a few of my improv friends told me I should try my hand at standup comedy. I did my first standup set at the King's Head Pub three years ago."

"I did expect to eventually win the (Rumor's contest)," Adamus says of his recent success, "but I didn't think it would be this early in my career."

Adamus has plans to eventually branch out into sketch comedy, but for the time

being, he's focusing on standup and improv, as well as screen acting. (Film fans will recognize him from Solmund MacPherson's *Crime of Passion* and Chris Freeland's *Tough Crowd*, which Adamus also co-wrote.)

"I love acting in films," Adamus says. "I've done both comedic and serious roles, but I prefer playing the comic relief."

Adamus' skills as an actor and writer serve him well in his standup act, which focuses more on long-form autobiographical storytelling than rapid fire one-liners.

"I try to relate to my audience through real things that have happened to me," he says. "Some of the subjects I address in my comedy are 'What's it like to be a short guy?' and 'Being uncomfortable at the gym.' A lot of my material comes from awkward interactions I have with people."

Adamus has no intention of slowing down and hopes to participate the 2018 Winnipeg Comedy Festival.

- Thomas Pashko // [@thomaspashko](#)



SUPPLIED PHOTO

FAVOURITE LOCAL SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE

1. NARDCITY WINNIPEG

2. Coat check
3. TIE: Alex Ateah, Jodie Layne, Michelle Panting

The clickbait and rapid content generating landscape of today's online media creates its share of discontent. Capitalizing on said discontent with ironic jabs and biting satire is Nardcity Winnipeg.

"Make Me 'Favourite Social Media Presence' Or I Swear To God I'll Make Your Life A Waking Nightmare," the Nardcity Winnipeg (@NardcityWpg) account tweeted out to *The Uniter* on Oct. 26. Lo and behold, their threat-supported dream came true.

"It's fun to make fun of shareable, clickworthy content, because it's a weird combination of lazy and desperate, and it's everywhere," Nardcity Winnipeg's writer, who wishes to remain anonymous, says. They insist, contrary to what some fans of The Rebel Media say, that they are not Wab Kinew.

"I thought it would be fun to explore the absurdity of creating that kind of

over-enthusiastic content for a city as boring as Winnipeg," the writer says.

Some top tweets of Nardcity include: "True WPGers Shout 'True North' During O Canada - If There's Anything Better Than Militaristic Nationalism In Sports, It's Corporate Branding"

"Thoughts And Prayers - After Suffering A Serious Fall, @Brian_Pallister Is Stuck Face To Face With His Nemesis: Hospital Staff"

While poking fun at the seeming dullness of Winnipeg and inanity of clickbait, Nardcity Winnipeg also has a not-insignificant political side. The account has retweeted leftist group Solidarity Winnipeg and a criticism of a nurse layoff attributed to Pallister government decisions.

"I like to rope folks in with broad 'Winnipeg is cold and small' humour, then sneak radical progressive politics in the back door. My followers come for the 'There's Nothing To Do Here' jokes and stay for the 'There's A Massive Racism Problem Here' content," Nardcity says.

"My most successful content has always been work that points towards a real problem with this city," they add.

-Dylon Martin // [@Dylon_R_Martin](#)



PHOTO BY ADAM KELLY

FAVOURITE LOCAL FILMMAKER

1. SOLMUND MACPHERSON

2. TIE: Sonya Ballantyne / Milos Mitrovic / BJ Verot

Solmund MacPherson only began making films professionally in 2015, but the young artist has clearly made a name for himself.

In those two years, MacPherson has worked as some combination of director, producer and writer on 11 short films and directed the entire third season of Shaw TV's series *Millworth*. They also work in a variety of other technical positions.

MacPherson says their interest in film arose out of a childhood spent around theatre.

"My parents both work in theatre," MacPherson says, "so I've been exposed to that world since I was very young. When I was 12 or 13, my dad and I made a film together through an ACTRA member initiative program. I found I liked making the movie more than I liked acting in it."

In 2016, MacPherson and creative partner Allegra Chiarella won the RBC Emerging Filmmakers Competition at the Gimli Film

Festival, which awarded the pair \$10,000 to make their short *The Debut*.

"As far as filmmakers (in the contest), there were some heavy-hitters there," Macpherson says. "We were totally the underdogs in that situation."

MacPherson's connection to theatre is evident in their work. *Ivory Tower* and *Millworth* both explore high-school theatre, while *The Debut*, *Crime of Passion* and *Anaphylactic Rage* all focus on film acting or musical performance in some way.

"I think everybody is always performing all the time," MacPherson says. "I'm interested in seeing people try to keep up their performance in situations where it's difficult."

In addition to developing their first feature script together, MacPherson says their upcoming projects with Chiarella will be more experimental in nature, making performance part of form as well as content.

"Allegra's really into expanded cinema," they say. "We're working on stuff that won't be online. It'll happen, and then it'll be gone forever. Keep an eye out for it, because it'll be done once it's done!"

See more from Solmund MacPherson at [solmund.com](#)

- Thomas Pashko // [@thomaspashko](#)



FAVOURITE U OF W COURSE

1. INTRO TO FILM WITH HOWARD CURLE

Even before coming to the University of Winnipeg in 2006, Introduction to Film was always Howard Curle's bread and butter course. But since then, the course has taken on an added dimension that has increased its appeal.

"It's not only theoretical," Curle says. "It's a practical course. The students form groups, write a little screenplay and then shoot and edit that film in the winter term of the two-term course."

The short films made in Curle's course are a yearly staple at the UWpg Film Fest. In addition to being a fun creative exercise, the project gives a glimpse into the filmmaking process for both film majors and other students taking the course as an elective.

"I really appreciate the wide range of students I get (in the course)," Curle says. "I like to have conversations with them, because I can talk about certain qualities of movies that relate to (their areas of study)."

FAVOURITE LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUP

1. BEAR CLAN PATROL

2. TIE: Art City / Fascist Free Treaty 1
3. QPOC Winnipeg

The Bear Clan Patrol walk the streets of North End Winnipeg, seeking to help vulnerable community members and keep an eye out to ensure safety. They have held patrols in their current form since 2015.

"This is something that the community wanted," James Favel, executive director of the Bear Clan Patrol, says. The first incarnation of the patrol formed in 1992 and was created to address violence against women in the community. Favel says that the death of Tina Fontaine in 2014 spurred the re-establishment of the group.

The first meeting about restarting the patrol occurred on Sept. 19, 2014. Regular meetings working on governance occurred until May 2015, Favel says.

The first patrol happened in June 2015. In July of the same year, the Bear Clan Patrol committed to going out from Thursdays to Sundays. On June 1, 2016, Wednesday night patrols were added.

Curle says science and economics are two examples of fields that have concrete connections to the study of cinema.

"One of the things I like to emphasize is that you can't just talk about the movies as an art form," he says. "You have to talk about them as an aspect of technology and also of business."

Curle hopes the course can give students a deeper insight into a popular medium.

"Everyone's a moviegoer," he says, "and it's not uncommon for everybody to have an opinion of a movie. I try to get across how movies work as an art form, especially narrative films."

Curle tries to communicate his enthusiasm for movies to students, as well as their historical context.

"Movies are very much about the time in which they're made," he says, citing *Get Out*'s commentary on race relations as a recent example.

Editor's note: The responses to this category were so incredibly varied that there were no other causes that collected enough votes for 2nd and 3rd place.

- Thomas Pashko // [@thomaspashko](#)



A major role of the patrol when it first started was to stop fights, and to look out for sex workers in the area.

"But once we got out into the community, we quickly realized there were so many more things going on," Favel says. After patrolling the streets and interacting with people, the Bear Clan expanded the services it provided.

Working with the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority's Street Connections program, they started providing contraceptives, napkins and wipes on patrols.

The Bear Clan also started giving out food as part of patrols. From May to October 2017, the Bear Clan brought 16 tons of produce and baked goods into the community with help from community partners, Favel says.

"We're not trying to replace the police, only reduce the need for their services in our community," he says. Favel notes that the patrol does not chase down gang members or drug dealers and is focused on de-escalating violent situations. This entails building relationships and tending to the addicted and the injured, he adds.

"We are about being a consistent presence in the community, something the community can count on," Favel says.

- Dylon Martin // [@Dylon_R_Martin](#)

FAVOURITE LOCAL ACTIVIST

1. TIE: SADIE-PHOENIX LAVOIE / MICHAEL REDHEAD CHAMPAGNE

2. Uzoma Chioma

Honourable mentions:
Riley McMurray, Mitchell
Van Ineveld, Annie Beach

Sadie-Phoenix Lavoie is a 24-year-old Anishinaabe Two-Spirit from Sagkeeng First Nation, whose community organizing and work with *Red Rising Magazine* has made them a household name.

"Activism to me is creating opportunities of dialogue, conversation, self-reflection and also community reflection and accountability," Lavoie says. "It's pushing against the boundaries of the status quo and addressing systemic issues of oppression while creating spaces to discuss solutions for creating a more just society."

Lavoie pinpoints "climate justice and highlighting opportunities for Indigenous people" as "huge priorities."

"My work within *Red Rising* has been a positive push to include more Indigenous

perspectives within education and broader society," Lavoie, who co-founded the non-profit Indigenous magazine, explains.

"(W)e're using that as an opportunity to do decolonizing and revitalizing work within Indigenous communities and give tools to non-Indigenous people to learn what allyship really is from Indigenous perspectives."

Lavoie maintains that "a healthy community is a community that stands up against oppression, that comes together to promote healing, to figure out what needs to be done and who is going to be in the forefront."

"It's about people's willingness to be radical in the times when it's necessary, and I think right now it's the time to be radical," Lavoie says.

Lavoie shares the award this year with Michael Redhead Champagne, a familiar face in the Indigenous-led social justice movement in Winnipeg. Champagne has committed over 20 years to serving the North End community with a "hopeful and solution oriented approach to youth engagement, facilitation, community organizing and mobilization," as stated on his website, North End MC.

- Mandalyn Grace





FAVOURITE LOCAL POLITICAL MOMENT

1. WINNIPEG DIVERSITY RALLY AGAINST HATE
2. Wab Kinew's election / discussion of his domestic violence charges
3. TIE: Environmental protestors at Trudeau's town hall / Reopening Portage and Main

On Sept. 9, 2017 a few hundred people showed up to the Winnipeg Diversity Rally Against Hate, a large protest that was part of a series of demonstrations against hatred, white supremacy, fascism and the so-called “alt-right.”

“We do things here, in Winnipeg, on a different level than anti-fascist organizers in other cities. We’re very ingrained in the community,” Omar Kinnarath, with Fascist Free Treaty 1, says. He notes that anti-fascist organizers work closely with community and faith groups in Winnipeg. The organizing behind the Rally Against Hate was an example of this collaborative relationship.

The preparation for the Winnipeg Diversity Rally Against Hate started once word

got out that Jesse Wielenga of the World-wide Coalition Against Islam (WCAI) was planning an anti-immigration rally in Winnipeg. This rally was piggybacking on an earlier “Fake News” rally planned by the Winnipeg Alternative Media (WAM).

Kinnarath notes that anti-fascist organizers had no issue with WAM’s rally until Wielenga expressed interest in attending and launching his own rally. In the end, Wielenga ended up not showing up in Winnipeg.

“We didn’t want him here,” Kinnarath says.

Kinnarath notes that the Winnipeg Diversity Rally Against Hate happened a month after the white supremacist Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville, VA that resulted in the death of anti-fascist demonstrator Heather Heyer.

He suggests that this tragedy, alongside a media blitz by the organizing committee, contributed to the turnout.

The Winnipeg Diversity Rally Against Hate follows a trend of anti-fascist rallies in Winnipeg this year.

- Dylan Martin // [@Dylon_R_Martin](#)



FAVOURITE LOCAL POLITICIAN

1. ROBERT-FALCON OUELLETTE
 2. Wab Kinew 3. Brian Bowman
- Honourable mentions:
Jenny Gerbasi, Nahanni Fontaine

Robert-Falcon Ouellette, for the third consecutive year, is the Uniter 30’s favourite local politician. The Member of Parliament (MP) for Winnipeg Centre, sworn in on Nov. 16, 2015, remains a significant political figure.

Prompted by the killings of Indigenous women in Sagkeeng First Nation in 2017 and The Pas in 2015, Ouellette issued a statement in the House of Commons on May 4, 2017.

“My aunts, cousins, daughter, and friends are beautiful. They are courageous, humble, intelligent, loving, respectful, honest, hard-working. They deserve additional protection of our laws so people think twice before they destroy lives,” the Ouellette statement reads.

Ouellette, originally from Red Pheasant First Nation in Saskatchewan, spoke the statement in Cree.

He provided English and French translations to Parliament, but Parliament did not provide real-time translation of the Cree statement to his fellow MPs.

On June 8, 2017, Ouellette argued that his parliamentary privileges were violated in an address to the House of Commons. He believes that Aboriginal and treaty rights recognized in the Constitution Act, 1982 means Indigenous languages have an equal right to translation services as English and French in Parliament, the statement reads.

House of Commons speaker Geoff Regan ruled against providing immediate translation, saying Parliament lacked the “technical and physical capacity” to offer that level of service in an address to the House of Commons on June 20, 2017.

Ouellette was not pleased with the ruling from his fellow Liberal caucus member.

“I really think the Speaker lost an opportunity to really make a historic ruling, to be a champion for indigenous people,” Ouellette told HuffPost Canada.

The Uniter was not able to reach Ouellette for comment as of press time.

- Dylan Martin // [@Dylon_R_Martin](#)



FAVOURITE LOCAL ACHIEVER OVER 60

WELL, ABOUT THAT ...

This category did not work out as planned. That’s not because readers didn’t send in some amazing submissions - I’m sure there were lots of older achievers people wanted to highlight. But due to a technological glitch, all the reader submissions were lost.

The Uniter 30 began as a “30 under 30” roundup, but as it progressed, we widened the categories to celebrate those making impacts in the city regardless of age (for most categories). And this year, the editorial team thought it would be great to highlight some older achievers as well.

In place of reader submissions, we collected a few notable folks to highlight.

We asked our favourite younger achiever, Chloe Chafe, if there was anyone she would nominate, and she suggested elder Mae Louise Campbell. Campbell is Ojibway Metis and lives in the North End.

“(S)he’s really shaped a lot of activism in the community and been a very important member of the community,” Chafe says.

“She worked with us with the *Star Blanket* project on Main Street last year. She came and did a really beautiful talk and blessed the mural, so she’s really a spectacular person.”

Earlier this year, Winnipeg also lost a very prominent social justice activist who focused on issues for seniors up to his death at 83. Harry Paine served on boards of neighbourhood organizations and was also awarded the Lieutenant Governor’s Make A Difference Community Award. Paine was also active with the local NDP.

While *Uniter* staff were tabling to promote voting for the Uniter 30, we were approached by a 92-year-old University of Winnipeg student who is also a painter. His response to the survey was enthusiastic, but he said he couldn’t participate, as many people he would vote for are now dead.

Yet he - and others named here, and all the others whose names were lost in the void of the internet - are proof that it’s possible to keep making an impact, no matter one’s age.

- Anastasia Chipelski // [@Anachips](#)



FAVOURITE LOCAL PLACE TO EAT + NEW INDEPENDENT BUSINESS

1. CORTICELLI (AKA LANGSIDE GROCERY)

Favourite New Independent Business
2. Have a Nice Day 3. Shop Take Care
Favourite Local Place to Eat
2. Clementine 3. Forth

When Ryan, Shelley and Jason Armstrong bought 164 Langside five years ago, the plan was to open a wood-fired pizzeria. After doing all the work to meet code requirements, the 100-year old building had no room for a pizza oven.

“Pizza place gone, and we did small plates instead,” Ryan Armstrong says.

The owners have just been rolling with the punches since then.

A similar story is behind the nickname the business has already found since opening in the fall of 2017: “Langside Grocery.”

“I was demoing the first floor, and I found a wrapper from like 90 years ago of stuff that was sold (in the building) when it was Langside Grocery,” Armstrong says. (Overall), “the building really dictated the concept.”

Originally from Winnipeg, the co-owners reunited here to pursue opening a restaurant. One of them, Jason Armstrong, is a Red Seal chef.

“Restaurants are kind of in our DNA,” Armstrong says.

He fell in love with the building, and bought it the first day it was on the market.

“We almost couldn’t pay for it,” he says. “We almost lost it. It was that close. We managed to ... beg and borrow.”

Armstrong says starting a new business was harder than he thought it would be.

“If you’re buying an older building, make sure you’re doing some due diligence on what your concept is,” he warns. “It was a hard lesson learned.”

In the end, it all came together. The new restaurant is a neighbourhood fixture.

“We really wanted it to be a local for the people of West Broadway and Wolseley,” he says.

Armstrong says that the aesthetic of the restaurant, which is actually called Corticelli, is European flavour mixed with a prairie-1920s vibe.

“We wanted to capture an old-world, classy (locale), where you would go for food and a glass of wine,” Armstrong says. “We wanted a room that felt warm, comfortable and familiar from the moment you walked in.”

As for the food, Armstrong says that the duck confit tarte flambée is a bestseller.

“It has duck confit, fig jam, toasted almonds, arugula and Sriracha,” he says. “The charcuterie board is also up there in sales.”

The menu is French in influence, pairing traditional flavours with locally-sourced ingredients. (This is) “due in part to the French influence in Winnipeg (and Jason’s love for French cooking),” Armstrong says.

He says that their goal is to be “as local as possible.” This is reflected in Corticelli’s list of food producers, which includes Deluca’s, Tall Grass Bakery, Beeproject Apiaries and Hearts and Roots. He says the restaurant has been contacting new suppliers and local farmers for their upcoming menu.

Armstrong says he’s flattered to be in the running alongside restaurants like Clementine and Forth.

“That’s kind of humbling actually.”

- Jaz Papadopoulos // @culture_uniter



FAVOURITE LOCAL DATE ACTIVITY

1. GO OUT FOR FOOD

2. Drinks
(at home, or out somewhere)
3. Go to a movie or watch Netflix

This assignment went to a writer who hadn’t been on a date for an undisclosed amount of years – me.

To fill the gap between “writing about why people enjoy food dates” and “actually knowing how going on a date works,” I solicited advice through Facebook. Then the editorial committee challenged me to get a date and write an experiential piece.

I had eight days to meet someone, go for a date (at Clementine, which came up a lot in readers’ votes) and then write about it.

I updated my Tinder bio to say I was seeking a daytime lunch date for a journalism project, set the slider to “Men and Women” +/- five years around my age and started swiping.

Not surprisingly, I saw a lot of men holding fish. Since this was for journalism, I swiped right on more people than I normally would, though fish-holding was an automatic swipe left.

I became bolder. I started conversations, which are more like interviews than I realized. Some preamble, find common ground, then get down to business: “So what’s this journalism project about?”

A few matches said that a meal was a bit much for a first date. Coffee and drinks were more low-key, less investment.

The messages then took a turn toward “After date, friends with benefits?”, “Do u have a hot body?” and negging. The first two are somewhat expected for an app that’s used for hookups, but also for longer-term dating or to meet friends. However, I’d

made my goal there very clear: lunch date, good conversation, then I write words.

These messages were from dudes – I’d long since run out of women (and non-binary folks who seem to hang out on the “women” side), as is common in Tinderpeg. I realized what a lovely bubble of respectful human beings I’d been living in and began to despair.

Sixteen hours into my experiment, I posted a plea on Facebook: someone please go on a date with me on Monday for lunch so I can stop Tindering.

Within 20 minutes, I had a date with a friend I hadn’t seen in a while, who was also on Tinder and getting back into dating again.

We met at Clementine and both had the Eggs Benedict, which is an excellent selection.

Perhaps people go on food dates to see how someone else makes choices, to talk about likes and dislikes in something more mundane, like food, before getting into why men always put their height on Tinder, or why queer dating is so confusing or how to tell the difference between a hangout and a date. It’s also a chance to see if someone is a jerk toward the serving staff (dealbreaker).

Winnipeg has a great restaurant scene, and food dates can be a fun way to explore them, my date said.

We were both curious to try what the server called “sunflower seed parfait” (later labelled as panna cotta on the bill). It sounded like good-food-ruined-by-so-called-healthy-eating, but turned out to be incredibly tasty.

We also agreed that a food date is for more of an established sort of date, as in a friend date, a date with someone you know already or a date with someone you’re in a relationship with. If that’s true, it means that most people who voted for food dates aren’t thinking of first dates off T’inder, and that’s not necessarily a bad thing.

- Anastasia Chipelski // @anachips

FAVOURITE LOCAL PLACE THAT NO LONGER EXISTS

1. LO PUB

2. Royal Albert Arms Hotel Bar
3. Mondragon Bookstore and Coffeehouse

Jack Jonasson laughs as he's informed Lo Pub won the Uniter 30's favourite local establishment that no longer exists category.

"Of course it did," he says.

The self-described "guy in charge" of Lo Pub, Jonasson recalls a "dive bar." "There was a fireplace and there was a canon above the mantle on the fireplace and these cool ceiling tiles above the bar and stuff. I really like that kind of '60s, '70s hotel bar feel."

Lo Pub was a community hub.

"We were open to anybody and anything, and we really tried hard to develop a community. I tried hard to make Lo Pub somewhere I wanted to hang out. Somewhere that's got live music, cheap beer, good friends, interesting conversation and somewhere that felt like your grandpa's basement."

PHOTO BY ANASTASIA CHIPELKI

FAVOURITE LOCAL CHEF

1. MAX FRANK, HAVE A NICE DAY

2. Adam Donnelly, Segovia / Mandel Hitzer, deer + almond
3. Ben Kramer, custom catering

Max Frank operates a hot dog food truck with some friends at Rainbow Trout Music Festival during the summer. However, the Winnipeg climate makes it difficult to sustain a food truck year-round.

Frank explains that the food truck culture seen in the summertime is prevalent year-round through food counter restaurants, such as Have a Nice Day, where he works.

"The food truck scene across the world has really shown people that you can get some really amazing food off a truck or a food counter," Frank says.

Frank began working in the restaurant industry as a teenager and took a year of culinary school before becoming the chef at Have a Nice Day.

Hot dogs are a pillar of the restaurant's menu. Their meat dogs are organic and locally made.

PHOTO BY DANIEL CRUMP

Jonasson managed Lo Pub during its four-and-a-half years as a bar attached to a hostel at the corner of Ellice Avenue and Kennedy Street until 2012, when both the Hi Hostel and Lo Pub went down and out. Although Lo Pub was a vibrant community watering hole, The Forks North Portage Partnership sold the building as the 120-bed hostel business struggled with occupancy.

"Independent of (the Hi Hostel), we were profitable and viable," Jonasson told *The Uniter* in 2012.

"Lo Pub wouldn't have existed without the people that came to our events, sat at the end of the bar, participated in lively debates about world issues with hostel guests from every corner of the world and made it their home," Jonasson updates in 2017.

"We all look for some place to belong, and in that four-and-a-half years we were around for, I think we were that place for a bunch of people, myself included," he says.

Jonasson went on to perform general manager (GM) duties at the West End Cultural Centre (WECC), and left that post in November. "I'm taking some much needed time off and planning my next move," he says.

- Sam Swanson // [@samuelevan](#)

"I've done catering for years, and we cater a lot of weddings," Frank says. "Often, as a late-night snack, we'll offer a hotdog bar." He explains that hot dogs pair well with the late night party vibe of weddings and festivals, and that The Good Will Social Club has a similar environment.

He says students are the restaurant's primary clientele, which meant that price was a consideration for the restaurant.

"Especially with our newer menu, we realized that we had to have some items that were ... \$6 and under," Frank says.

He emphasizes his love of falafels, as well as fried chicken. The menu integrates the interests of both Frank and the owners, alongside the cravings of the clientele.

"It was sort of a combination of things I was passionate about. I've always been interested in different street foods," Frank says.

Frank explains that, regardless of the style of food served, he puts lots of effort into quality and the preparation.

"Food has changed so much," he says. "It doesn't have to be fancy ... you can eat great food anywhere."

Have a Nice Day is housed in The Good Will Social Club at 625 Portage Ave.

- Charlotte Morin // [@chrlsmorin](#)

FAVOURITE LOCAL BAKER

1. SUZANNE GESSLER, THE PENNYLOAF BAKERY

2. Amanda Kinden, Oh Doughnuts
3. Jenna Rae, Jenna Rae Cakes

Suzanne Gessler believes in authenticity, which is why she uses a brick oven to bake her sourdough bread.

"I always wanted to bake in a wood-fired brick oven ... not only does it have the cachet of old-fashioned baking, it actually produces really great bread," Gessler says. The oven also produces delicious cakes, cookies, pastries, croissants and morning buns.

After feeling that she was burning out at her job in city planning, Gessler began her career as a baker.

"I wanted to be my own boss," she says. "I wanted to do something creative. I wanted to work with fun people ... I also loved baking and entertaining."

She attended baking school before opening the bakery in 2015.

"I owe the majority of my success to some really great staff that (have) been with

me since the beginning," Gessler says.

Gessler was interested in making sourdough bread after her husband, who's of Polish descent, couldn't find a loaf that tasted like what he ate growing up. However, she believes there is currently a growing market for sourdough in the city.

Since sourdough is created from a living culture, there is a lot of variability.

"There's a lot of things that play into it ... it's sort of a challenge in that sense," Gessler says.

"Over time, we just got ... better at it," says Gessler, explaining the staff's trial-and-error method.

Since Gessler places importance on supporting local businesses, she hired Canadian masons to build her oven. The bakery also sources their ingredients locally and organically when possible.

"I'm hoping that in a few more years, we'll just be ... an established neighbourhood bakery," she says.

The Pennyloaf Bakery is located at 858 Corydon Ave. More info can be found at [thepennyloaf.com](#).

- Charlotte Morin // [@chrlsmorin](#)

PHOTO BY DANIEL CRUMP



FAVOURITE LOCAL GATHERING PLACE

1. THE FORKS

2. The Good Will Social Club
3. Old Market Square

It's no wonder *Uniter* readers chose The Forks as the top public gathering place in Winnipeg in 2017 – it has served as a meeting place and central hub for more than 6,000 years.

"We know that Indigenous people passed through and traded in this space before it became the centre of the fur trade and eventually a railway hub," Larissa Peck, marketing and communications co-ordinator for The Forks, says.

But it wasn't always a gathering place. It fell into disrepair in recent history.

"From the late '60s to the late '80s, the space we know as The Forks sat as an abandoned rail yard – no access to the waterfront, just brown and dreary," Peck says. "The land was gifted by the three levels of government to The Forks to turn it into a community space."

Today, The Forks attracts more than four million tourists and Winnipeggers each year, according to Peck.

The Forks has activities year round. In the summer, there are free outdoor events like Canada Day and the Pride Winnipeg Festival and powwows, as well as activities held at the Oodena Celebration Circle, boat tours, the riverwalk and much more.

In the winter, The Forks features, among other things, ice skating, the Red River Mutual Trail on the river, the Arctic Glacier Winter Park, tobogganing and indoor shopping and/or hanging out in the The Forks Market.

"We strive to be an inclusive, progressive, urban meeting place for Winnipeggers and tourists year round," Peck says, adding that "We see almost as many (visitors) over a frigid weekend in February ... as we do on a hot August weekend."

More activities and information can be found at theforks.com.

- Charmagne de Veer // [@chardeveer](https://twitter.com/chardeveer)



FAVOURITE LOCAL WINTER ACTIVITY

1. SKATING THE FORKS RIVER TRAIL

2. Walking
(yes, just walking in general)
3. TIE: Festival du Voyageur, sleeping, drinking, tobogganing

Many Winnipeggers enjoy walking and skating where the Red and Assiniboine Rivers meet.

Ice adventurers of all kinds are attracted to the trail by local traditions and arts attractions. The warming hut arts installations provide interactive spectacles each year. The 2017 huts included local works from the University of Manitoba Faculty of Architecture and Nelson McIntyre Collegiate student, Sean Kohli.

Some locals make an annual tradition of checking out the public art along the trail.

"I love the art installations, the warming huts. That's the main attraction, in my opinion," artist Carrie Bryson says. "I like to see how the City hires architects and artists to make it more than just an ice rink. It's sort of a gallery, too."

In 2017, ice trail enthusiasts were also exposed to an international piece, "Open Border" by Joyce de Grauw and Paul van den Berg from Rotterdam, Netherlands, which Bryson highlights. "I really liked the red drapes. They were these red tapestries that were really bold and interesting," she says.

The ice trail is more than just an art show and recreational activity. After all, the Red and Assiniboine Rivers have been transportation routes for thousands of years.

"I plan on skating to work on the river trail this winter," Bryson adds. Her home and workplace are both located along the trail.

"This summer, I was biking to and from work, and I would like to do something active to get to and from, but I can't bike in the winter. I'm not brave enough to," Bryson says.

Bryson figures the time it takes to mind her bicycle is about the same required to lace up and untie her skates.

"I think it will take just as much prep beforehand and after as biking did, because I would have to change out of my biking gear and lock my bike up at work anyway," she says.

- Sam Swanson // [@samuelevan](https://twitter.com/samuelevan)



FAVOURITE LOCAL ATHLETE

1. NATASHA O'REILLY

Honourable mentions:
Andrew Harris, Jonathan Toews

Natasha O'Reilly used to be a sideshow performer doing fire spinning, among other things. She started playing dodgeball when one of her friends asked her to sub for his team.

"There was a lot more energy that you have to put into it that I really enjoyed. So I ended up joining his team with a bunch of sideshow performers and circus folk, and we started on a team through Winnipeg Rec League," O'Reilly says. "And that's pretty much how the obsession started."

She's currently playing on a few teams in the Dodgeball Winnipeg league. She plays on Aeon Flux, which is a women's gold team, and a provincial team called Strike 1919.

O'Reilly says one of her favourite memories of playing dodgeball was when she was with her team Strike 1919 in Halifax for a Team Canada tryout in 2016.

"Being with a group of women who were just as passionate as I was for the sport, just being with them and being able to experience playing at a national level with them, I think is my favourite memory and my favourite moments," she says.

O'Reilly says she was surprised to be nominated as the favourite local athlete, because a lot of people don't consider dodgeball to be a sport.

"I was really shocked and surprised and at the same time humbled, because I have a community of people that are behind me and think of me as an athlete, and that's phenomenal. Especially for women," she says.

"A lot of women in our league feel that they're not good enough. So for myself, I'm the type of person who's trying to recognize the sport (and) at the same time encouraging more women to play," O'Reilly added. "And this is a stepping stone for sure in achieving that. And I'm hoping to inspire a few players to become athletes and have us recognized as a sport."

- Danelle Granger // [@DanelleGranger](https://twitter.com/DanelleGranger)



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University of Winnipeg*

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UNITER 30 OUTTAKES

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THOSE WHO DIDN'T WIN ANYTHING

In tallying the votes for this issue, one of the greatest joys and greatest challenges is going through all the reader submissions. It's wonderful to see a wide variety of awesome Winnipeg people, places and things being nominated.

It can also sometimes be difficult to wade through hundreds of submissions where the same person or place may be entered with three or four different spellings, or phrasings, or in different orders, but we found a way to sort them all out – and in the process, ended up reading pretty much every single one.

There were some real gems in the submissions this year, though, and rather than keep them as anonymous inside jokes, we thought we'd share some of them with fellow readers. Some are notable because they're original or unusual, and others are just funny.

(Editorial note: while some obviously jokey submissions are fun, we do encourage readers to nominate people/places/things that could *actually* get featured in each category.)

We can't name who wrote these, 'cause we don't know, but a brief version of the category they were found in follows each outtake.

- Anastasia Chipelski // [@anachips](#)

"Thrift shopping for accordions."

(DATE ACTIVITY)

"Coffee News hahaha"

(PUBLICATION)

"Brian Pallister, 'I prefer beer'."

(POLITICAL MOMENT)

"The ledge* lawn 420."

(PUBLIC GATHERING SPACE)

*LEGISLATURE, WE ASSUME

"Taking an out-of-towner to Portage & Main and talking about how bad it is you can't walk across."

(DATE ACTIVITY)

"Hopefully Trump's impeachment between now and the end of the year."

(POLITICAL MOMENT)

"Uncle Peter after a few drinks."

(DANCER)

"The large baseballs outside of Shaw Park."

(PUBLIC ART PIECE)

"Finding the perfect mittens."

(WINTER ACTIVITY)

"The pothole on Corydon by Kenaston."

(PLACE THAT NO LONGER EXISTS)

"Go to NK community centre and eat borscht."

(DATE ACTIVITY)

"The Where's Waldos around WPG."

(PUBLIC ART PIECE)

"Cemetery."

(PUBLIC GATHERING SPACE)

"Not falling."

(WINTER ACTIVITY)

"The Golden Boy."

(PUBLIC ART PIECE)

"I'm not telling you my favourite place to drink, because then you'll go there."

(PLACE TO EAT OR DRINK)

"Hospital emergency rooms."

(PLACE THAT NO LONGER EXISTS)

"Every fascist rally falling flat, while solidarity rallies were one big party."

(POLITICAL MOMENT)

"Think about moving, knowing I'll never move."

(WINTER ACTIVITY)

"God, we need a good public space in this city."

(PUBLIC GATHERING SPACE)

There was also the reader who wrote "communism" in 11 categories and "cool" in 15 others, though none of those entries placed.

THE COLUMN



HALFWAY TO SOMEWHERE

WITH JASE FALK

[@JASETHEELF](#)

THOUGHTS FROM THE LIBRARY CORNER

It's the end of November, and if you are as busy as I am, this time of year will be characterized by long hours spent studying in tucked-away corners of the library or days spent staring blankly into the dull glow of a computer screen.

So much of our education is done while we sit in one place. We engage our minds while our bodies remain stagnant. Sometimes learning does just demand that we need stillness to concentrate. However, the physical space we learn in seems to often be overlooked in educational contexts.

Recently, in a critical theory seminar I am taking, we abandoned our small windowless classroom and began meeting in the basement of Riddell Hall. Even from having one class within the course like this, I noticed the level of engagement in the class conversation significantly increase.

This kind of approach definitely has its limitations and caters much more to small, upper-level humanities courses than it would to say, a large, lecture-based science course.

It's hard to shift your perspective too far when the real demands of a university education require us to learn in a certain way. Sitting down and studying course material for hours can certainly teach discipline, but that kind of learning, if pursued too far, can result in a detachment from lived experience.

I also don't want to devalue the real intellectual learning that happens on campus. I do, however, think there needs to be a greater reciprocal relationship between our actions and education.

It's all fine to learn challenging new ideas at university, but what we learn should inform the ways we act and the kind of things we are mindful of when interacting with people in our daily lives. This way, the value of education becomes abundantly apparent if we allow our everyday lives to become enriched by the ideas we learn in our classes.

Likewise, learning often comes from the very real experiences we have outside classrooms and in the outside world. When we get up and go to our jobs, homes, families outside the classroom, we should not leave behind the challenging ideas we have had to face in school. We should apply the theory we learn and test it out in the outside world.

In my critical theory class, we often discuss the lived experiences classmates bring forward that relate to the topics we



ILLUSTRATION BY BRYCE CREASY

are studying. This kind of engagement makes abstract concepts make more sense and seem much more applicable.

Whether or not it is from the actual courses I am taking, I often feel like being around campus gets me into a headspace where I seek out new perspectives and ideas. As the last few days of the semes-

ter roll by, this is a good time to consider how that mental space can be brought into the everyday – how lived experience can function as a valuable tool, and how the things learned in the little study corners of the library can function alongside the experiences of the everyday.

SOLUTION TO LAST
ISSUE'S PUZZLE

Courtesy of onlinecrosswords.net

A	C	E	S		A	L	M	S		A	G	I	N	G
S	A	L	E		M	E	A	T		B	A	S	I	E
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N	A	M	E	D		T	R	A	Y		O	N	C	E
G	L	I	D	E		A	N	N	E		R	E	A	M

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by Sari Habiluk



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Student Services

STUDENT SERVICES

The Student Services staff of The University of
Winnipeg provides the student body with information
on upcoming events and opportunities:

CAREER SERVICES

We have moved. Our offices are now located on the
first floor of the Rice Centre. To book an appointment,
please call 204.786.9257 or visit the Student Services
front desk at 489 Portage Avenue.

Annual Career Fair

Tues., Jan. 16, 2018
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Duckworth Gymnasium

Find out about potential careers, part-time jobs,
volunteer and internship positions as well as college
and university programs at the Annual Career Fair and
Speed Networking event. For details, go to uwinnipeg.ca/career-services and click on "Career Fair."

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROGRAM

Wanted: Volunteer Language Partners

Volunteer language partners are English speakers who
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Volunteers are needed for the upcoming Winter Term.
Please contact 204.982.1151 or email elpstudentlife@uwinnipeg.ca. For more information, visit uwinnipeg.ca.
ca/elp and click on "Student Life."

HOLIDAY SEASON CLOSURE

Fri., Dec. 22, 2017 - Tues., Jan. 2, 2018 (inclusive) - The
University is closed during this period for the holiday
season.

Wed., Jan. 3, 2018 - The campus re-opens on this date.
Thurs., Jan. 4, 2018 - Lectures for Winter Term begin.

STUDENT CENTRAL

Adding/Dropping Courses

Dec. 4, 2017 - FINAL DAY to withdraw from a U2017FW
class for 50% refund of the base tuition, UWSA and
UWSA Building Fund fees (No refund is applicable
from Dec. 5, 2017-Feb. 14, 2018.)

Jan. 4 - 17, 2018 - Course Add/Drop Period - course
adds/drops and section changes for the 2018 Winter
Term can be made during this time.

Adds/drops and section changes can be made
through WebAdvisor using the "Student Planning/
Registration" link.

Exams

The Examination Period is Dec. 7 - 20, 2017. Please
check your courses on the exam schedule now: Go
to uwinnipeg.ca/registration and click on "Exam
Schedules."

If you have any time conflicts, follow the instructions
on the webpage to deal with them immediately.

Exam locations can change, so remember to also
check the "Daily Exam Schedule," which will now be
posted on the website the day before each exam day.

(Paper schedules will no longer be posted around
campus.)

Grades

Grades for Fall Term classes will be posted on
WebAdvisor tentatively on Tues., Jan. 23, 2018.

Locker Rental

Do you need a space to store your stuff? Rent a
locker for Winter Term! The time frame for rental is
Jan. 4 - Apr. 20, 2018. Cost: \$20.00/person

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Tuition Fees for Winter Term

Pay tuition the easy way -- through your bank or
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Every student who pays for Winter Term 2018 courses
by THURS., JAN. 4, 2018 using one of the following
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- via Flywire
- through WebAdvisor with a credit card

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For more information, please visit: [uwinnipeg.ca/
student-central](http://uwinnipeg.ca/student-central)

Waitlists for Winter Term

Check your UW webmail account every Monday and
Thursday for important waitlist notifications. The
automated waitlist program will be run for the last
time on Jan. 1, 2018. If a seat becomes available for
you, be sure to claim it within the 72-hour time period.

After classes have started, if you are still on a
waitlist, you should attend class. Keep up with the
reading and note-taking and let the instructor know
you are on the waitlist and wish to be registered in
his/her class

If a space becomes available during the Course Add/
Drop Period, you will need written authorization
on a Permission Form from the instructor to
officially register. Take your signed form to Student
Central, 1st floor, Rice Centre (489 Portage Avenue),
within three business days of the date on the form.
Payment must be made by the end of the Course
Add/Drop Period.

For more information, please go to [uwinnipeg.ca/
registration](http://uwinnipeg.ca/registration) and then to "Wait Lists."

Changes to Student Central's Hours

Fri., Dec. 15, 2017 - open 9:00 am - 4:15 pm
Thurs., Dec. 21, 2017 - open 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Fri., Dec. 22, 2017 - Tues., Jan. 2, 2018 - CLOSED for
the holiday break
Wed., Jan. 3, 2018 - re-opens with regular hours
SC's regular hours are Monday-Thursday 8:30
a.m.-5:30 p.m., Friday 8:30 a.m.-4:15 p.m.

STUDY SKILLS WORKSHOPS

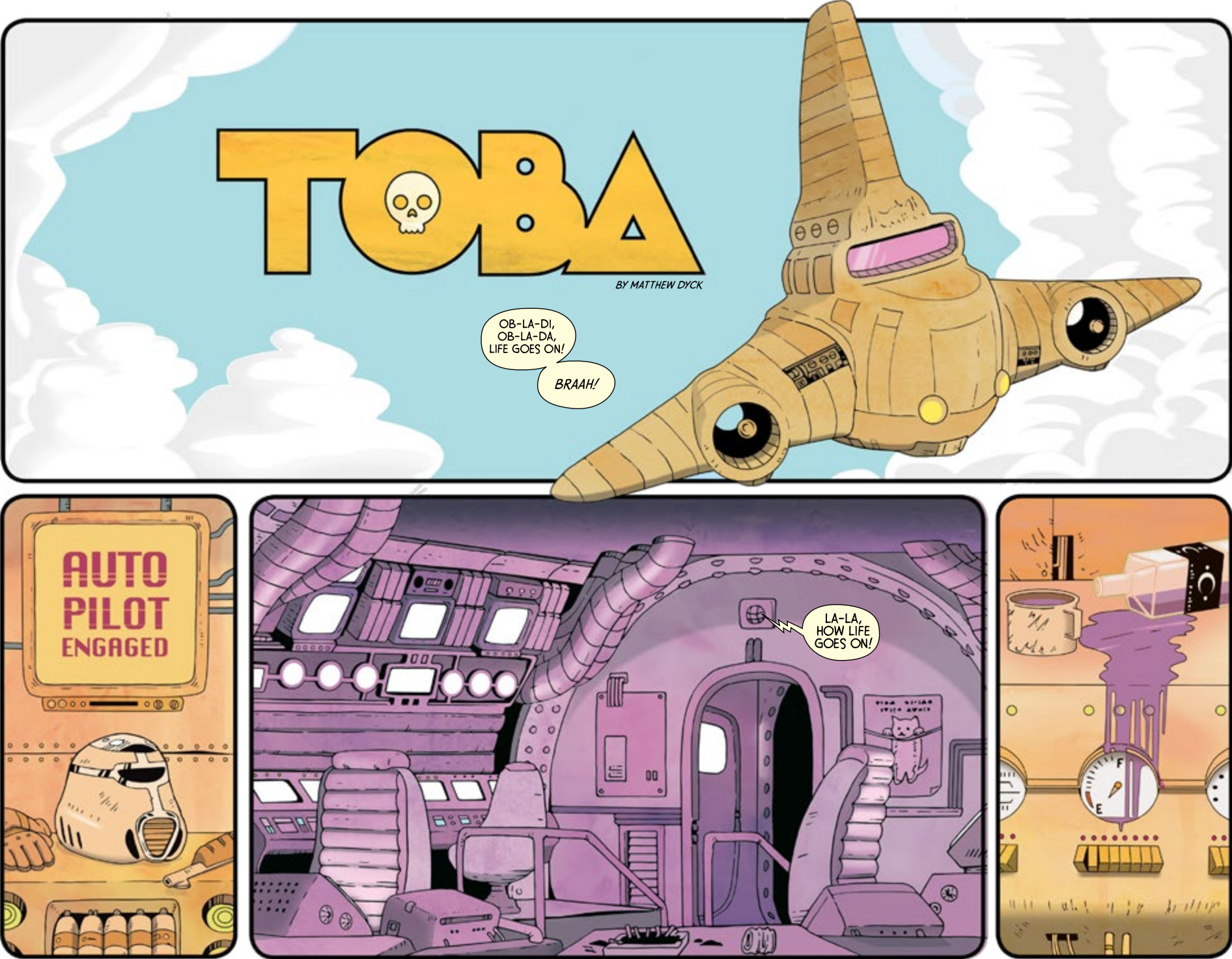
Study Skills Workshops are designed to improve your
learning skills in areas such as note-taking, reading,
time management and coping with stress.

The next series of nine workshops will be offered
from Jan. 15 - 31, 2018 on Mondays, Tuesdays, and
Wednesdays. For details, go to [uwinnipeg.ca/
study-skills](http://uwinnipeg.ca/study-skills)

PHONE: 204.779.8946

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EMAIL: studentcentral@uwinnipeg.ca

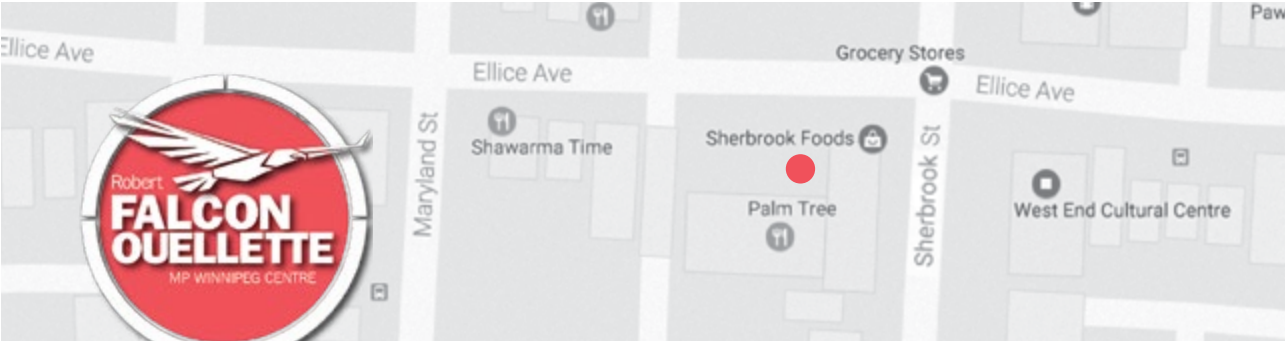


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We publish every Thursday of the school year, but you can illustrate as often as you'd like - weekly, biweekly, monthly, once or twice a year - really, it's up to you.

Email Bryce at creative@uniter.ca for more info!



Robert-Falcon Ouellette

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