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In this issue:

Music of the Masses

...cont. on page 2

The Library Shelf

...page 3

Cincinnati Spotlight

...page 4

Nursing

...page 5

Fall Festivals

... page 6

Truth According to
Amanda

...page 8

Honors & Graduates

...page 9

Admissions

...page 10

Grow. Evolve. Become.

Music of the Masses: Fusing Sounds and Cultures

By: Jason Hudson, Instructor

Music is, and always has been, communal. Music gives many people a sense of unity in religious meetings, on front porches, and at parties. Some European cultures have drinking songs, and they even sing chant-like songs to support their favorite soccer (football) teams. We feel this phenomenon at church, at concerts, and every time we hear "Bohemian Rhapsody."

A couple years ago, I came across a collection of music that embraces the communal nature of music better than any other. It is called "Playing for Change," and it brings together musicians from all over the world. Men and women from dozens of countries, from different religions, ethnicities, economic situations, and musical backgrounds sing songs about peace and unity. The album's producers traveled the world with sound equipment allowing each musician to contribute to the track regardless of how small the contribution; one L.A. musician, for example, plays the washboard, and a Venezuelan man plays the ukulele.



Many of the contributors are street performers, and all of the tracks are recorded on streets around the world. You can, in fact, visit the French Pier in Louisiana and hear Grandpa Elliot, one of the vocalists, sing with his rustically rich voice any day of the week. The only big name performers, Bob Marley and Bono, appear alongside the others in an interpretation of Bob Marley's "War- We Don't Need No More Trouble." (As an English teacher, I feel obliged to say I support this song's sentiment but not its grammar.) Despite the fact that many of these performers are unpaid and others are paid with pocket change from passers-by, the talent is incredible and the recordings excellent.

The first track, "Stand by Me" includes musicians from Louisiana, Los Angeles, Amsterdam, Brazil, Italy, Russia, New Mexico, France, Venezueluela, The Congo, South Africa, and Spain. Most of the songs will be familiar to many, but the songs find new life when interpreted through the lens of so many different cultures.

"Playing for Change Volume Two" was recently released- the same concept with many of the same musicians but a new batch of songs. I am excited to hear several more

(continued on page 2)

interpretations of Bob Marley songs as well as John Lennon's "Imagine." While the world continues to be filled with unrest and division, the producers of this project are working for and have, in a sense, realized Bob Marley's dream: peace through music.

"Playing for Change" comes as a CD/DVD set; watching the videos of musicians in their native surroundings all over the globe and hearing the finished tracks is the most exciting part of this collection. It is, however, a little pricey. If you want to get a taste before shelling out the cash, check out their youtube channel, or go to playingforchange.com.



I have always been interested in music that hovers below the radar, music at which many people will turn their head sideways, like a dog at a new bowl. People sometimes ask me where I find all this crazy music. First, I benefit from belonging to a community of like minded individuals. I was turned on to most of my favorite bands and songwriters by friends. However, there are many other sources for good independent music.

While driving one day, I was fortunate enough to hear a program on National Public Radio about a musical genius named Kutiman. I call him a genius based on the true meaning of the word; he is a pioneer, using emerging technologies to craft original and interesting music. Kutiman makes his music using youtube videos. He doesn't play an instrument; he lets others do it for him. Most tracks combine instructional videos with folks just showing off. You can, in fact, look up the original videos and see what it sounds like by itself. He uses a kid goofing off on the drums, a guy freestyling in the street, an instructional video about how to play an Fmaj7 chord, and the sound of an old cash register, among many others; each video combines dozens of videos, slightly manipulated, of course, and the end result is amazing.

It is hard to describe Kutiman in a way in which does him justice; there is no one to which I can compare him. While each track has certain similarities, they are also totally unique because they combine a different group of musicians and sounds. The good news is, his music comes from youtube and it is published on youtube. Therefore, it is totally free. Check out his youtube channel by going to youtube.com and searching for Kutiman.

The digital age and modern technology have brought many unfortunate changes to the music industry: tone correction, voice manipulation, T Pain. Seeing someone like Kutiman use this same technology to do something original and interesting gives me hope for the future of popular music.

Being a fan of independent music is at times hard work- digging to find the next great artist- but it is always worth it. If you want to start your journey down the road being an indie fan go to www.npr.org/music and start poking around. There are many other sites to help you find good under-the-radar music depending on your taste. Or better yet, ask an indie lover, like myself, to make you a mixed tape. Of course we use CDs these days. Any true music fan will love to share his or her taste with you.

Kutiman and the producers of "Playing for Change" have found ways to use technology to unite the world in song and give talented musicians, who wouldn't otherwise have it, an international stage. This is a welcome change from the recent trend of finding pretty people who can dance- no names- and manipulating their voices to be tolerable. Both projects are fun and upbeat, guaranteed to put a smile on your face.



The Research Rivalry Competition has turned the pristine and quiet library into a bloody battlefield with students clawing their way to the Question Board each day to be the first to answer the question posted daily in the Library. As our students fiercely compete with each other for the glory of success, the light of enlightenment, the tantalizing allure of the team victory feast to be held during break week, and of course, the coveted candy bar, they smell the stench of victory wafting toward them, and it smells good.

If this scene is making you slightly queasy, fear not! The librarians will groom you for carnage. These daily questions are not that difficult (after all, each question only takes the librarians a minimum of 13 hours to craft), and can be answered in about five minutes of research using books in the library, databases, or advanced Internet searching skills (in other words, Google).

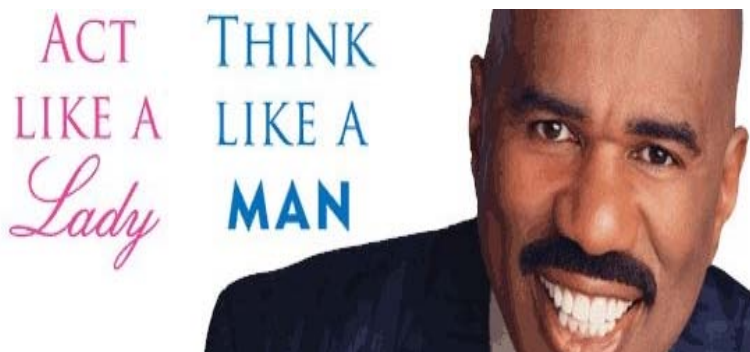
To see how your department is faring without your indispensable assistance, come see the scoreboard tallying up the departmental points, which is splattered with the blood and tears of your teammates and opponents. If this sight doesn't bring you running to the aid of your clan, you have no fighting spirit, and you need to get one (the librarians can help you locate this as well).



And lest you think the library encourages only discord and dissent, this month has also seen the formation of the BMC Book Club, bringing students together through the book "Act Like a Lady, Think Like a Man," a book about male-female relationships, written by comedian Steve Harvey. The book is available to check out from the library (or will be when students are willing to relinquish the ten copies we checked out to them) or on Amazon for \$6, including shipping, for a used copy. You can also read the full text for free online (see the librarian for the link). If you'd like to join the club, the sign-up sheet is in the library, or you can sign up through the library website (www.brownmackielibrary.com). After you join the book club, we'll send you more information about the event, using the email address provided to us.

And because we know that once you read this book, you'll want to share your new found knowledge with every single person whose path you cross but that no one else will actually want to hear you ramble on and on about a book they haven't read- especially when it involves unsolicited relationship advice- the Library has formed an online student chat group (which is kind of

like your threaded discussions in ecollege, but without the pressure or grades). When you go to the library site home page, look for the BMC Book Club page, where you can ask and answer questions about the book. While the discussion is moderated to avoid profanity and explicitness, you can go to town and talk freely about anything related to this book (example: why does my boyfriend think it is romantic to go on a date to McDonalds wearing yesterday's slept in clothing?).



In mid October, the book club will meet with a panel of relationship experts (who unlike Harvey, actually have advanced degrees in psychology and counseling) in the main campus library, and will include among others, Dr. Shantel Thomas, President and CEO of Sound Mind Consulting, and our very own Dr. Jerry Lindahl, BMC Psychology Instructor. The panelists will discuss topics like "The Three Things Every Man Needs" (oddly, one of them *isn't* food), "Mama's Boys" (and how to run from them as fast as you can), and "How to Get the Ring" (hopefully a really nice one).

Whether you decide to join the quest for knowledge through the carnal means of the Research Rivalry or the peaceful path of the BMC Book Club, it will be all fun and games until someone gets hurt. These activities are most effective when done simultaneously, using the healing lessons of Steve Harvey to assuage the damaged feelings of your Research Rivalry opponents.

We wish you luck, and may your hearts be fortified with courage!

CINCINNATI

Spotlight

By Amanda Smith, Student



Bella Luna

4632 Eastern Avenue, Cincinnati

The Bella Luna is an authentic Italian restaurant with ties to the Old World Country of Italy, off the Sicilian Coast. The restaurant is small but cozy; old world charm meets new-age eclectic pizzazz, with a certain inviting warmth of coming home.

Upon entering this Hyde Park restaurant, I was immediately hit with a wonderful mouthwatering aroma of spices. I sat with my date in the lounge, and listened to local musicians playing softly

in the background amid the chatter from those at the bar waiting on their table. The dishes were of a mixed variety, adding to the décor and overall charm of this family owned jewel. Our server was prompt and very personable. She started to indulge our thirst for knowledge with a brief explanation of how this diamond of an establishment was founded, which is something I will leave for you to discover on your own, so as not to take away from the mystique.

After hearing about the "Restaurant Week" menu, where you can order three courses for one lower price, my date and I opted for a tantalizing appetizer of clams, in a garlic and white wine sauce. With the basket of homemade bread and wonderful homemade garlic butter, and a house salad topped with a special house dressing, my taste buds went into overdrive. Our dinner consisted of Shrimp Scampi for my date and the Chicken Parmesan for myself. The food is OUTSTANDING! The noodles were done al dente, and quite perfect in my humble opinion. The breaded chicken breast was topped with the perfect combination of parmesan and marinara sauce. It was heaven on a plate. I did not try the Shrimp Scampi since seafood is not my forte. However, according to my date, it was very delicious as well.

This place is a great idea for a first date, a romantic date, or just a place to gather with some friends and relax. Remember the best part of life is having great food, great wine, and wonderful people to share it with.



NURSING

By Michelle Cohen- Fesman
MSN, RN, Senior Nursing Instructor

Assesment Technologies Institute (ATI) testing is an extremely important part of nursing education at Brown Mackie College. Over the course of his or her schooling, each nursing student will take a series of ATI tests of varying levels, which culminate with a comprehensive test which must be passed in order to move on the preceptorship class, a requirement for graduation. Preparation for the ATI involves studying from the tutorials that are offered, taking practice tests, and learning how to remediate areas of the exam for which a student may not have scored well.

The results students receive on the ATI exit exam are generally reliable predictors of the student's preparation level for the NCLEX exam. By focusing on problematic areas and with a lot practice, students will certainly see the outcomes they hope for; as the old saying goes "practice makes perfect."

In order to strengthen your ATI navigation skills join the Nursing Department during break week.



Where: BMC Main Campus- the rooms are TBA
When: Thursday, September 29, 2011
Time: 10 AM-3 PM (a cook out lunch is planned from 12-1 PM)

This activity is for students only. We hope to see all PN students in attendance for this very helpful activity session to ensure your ATI success, and we look forward to enjoying a great cook out together.



Coming in October: **Career Services Boot Camp!**

Here's what you can expect from our 4 month seminar.

Month1: Get to Know Yourself

Month 2: Chomp! Chomp!: Using Professional Language

Month 3: Dress For Success

Month 4: Ace That Interview

So put on those boots and get ready to turn yourself into the professional that we know you are!



Festivals for the Rest of Us

By: Abigail Bacon, Librarian

Many associate the Summertime with festivals and fairs. However, as Summer draws to a close, it is wise to note the advantages of festivals held in the Fall. If any of you have been to a Summer festival or county fair this Summer, you know that what starts out as a nice idea for family fun, often, after trudging through the masses under the blazing sun while your children whine for every food, drink, or trinket in sight, devolves into an insane clown's worst nightmare. Fall festivals on the other hand, typically take place as the temperatures become more crisp and mild, and though there are no scientific studies to back this up (that I know of), you can bet that your kids will be better behaved as the unruliness of Summer ebbs away, replaced by the beautiful structure of school-time expectations and rules. That being said, check the weather before you go, and plan for the worst. On a recent excursion to the Louisville Bluegrass Festival, our family was unpleasantly surprised to find the wind chill brought temperatures down to the 50's and all of the inflatable rides (mind you, the *only* rides) were closed due to the danger of the high winds.

There are many festivals in our area, celebrating many types of culture, community, and interest. Festivals have been held for many millennia. In the times of the ancient Egyptians, the citizens would celebrate Pharaoh's ascension to the throne with feasting, drama, and, let's not forget, sacrifices. Sumerian and Babylonian festivals would celebrate the rejuvenating Spring rains with feasting, dancing, and other rituals. Medieval festivals had elements in common with their ancient predecessors, but it is these early festivals that more closely resemble our modern festivals- while they brought people together from many corners of the globe with their music, dancing, food, and game, they were also centered on the exchange of goods for money- i.e. business. It seems like the main purpose of many of our modern festivals is to leech money out of our pockets while we are blissfully unaware with our mouths stuffed with cotton candy, but this is not universally true, and there are ways to avoid candy induced poverty.

When planning your fun time at a festival, set yourself a budget. Investigate the price for admission, and look online to see if there are special two-for-one deals or reduced pricing for purchasing tickets in advance at a local grocery store or gas station. If you have friends that are the festival going types, join up with them and carpool to save money on gas and any possible parking fees. The really important part, is to allot your money for food, rides, games, and/or souvenirs- and then *only* bring the cash needed to cover these expenses. Do NOT be tempted by the ATM machine omnipresent at these events, which will not only foil your earnest budget plan, but will tack on a withdrawal fee as well. To save more money, you can plan to bring a picnic lunch and only go to the festival after your stomachs are full of real, healthy, (and less expensive) food, and then treat yourselves to a candied apple or snowcone. Bringing your own drinks in a cooler is always a good idea- they cost 80% less and they taste exactly the same (scout's honor!), and if you like watery fountain soda, water yours down at home.

Remember that just because times are hard, doesn't mean that you or your family can't have fun on the cheap. Plan ahead using the guide below, and remember to bring a sweater!

(continued on page 7)

Festival Guide

Ohio Renaissance Festival Harveysburg, Ohio

Saturdays and Sundays from

September 3rd through October 16th.

Admission is \$16.99 for adults and \$8.99 for kids ages 5-12 (with family packages available)

As one of the more pricey festivals, this one provides ongoing entertainment with pirate comedy stunt shows, wailing wenches, human battle chess, and rustic foods and crafts.



Newport Oktoberfest Newport, KY

October 23, 24, 25.

This event has no admission fee- all the continuous live German entertainment you could wish for, and more. Beer, food, and music will be set up in each tent sponsored by a different brewery.



Old West Festival Williamsburg, OH

Saturdays and Sundays from

September 10th through October 9th.

Admission \$10 for adults, kids 6-12 is \$6.

Gun-slinging in a reconstructed wild west town, with cowboys, saloons, and train rides. With puppet shows and family sing-alongs, even the youngest kids will have a great time.



Keepin' it Country Farm and Fall Festivals Waynesville, OH

Weekends in October

There are no admission or parking fees, and you can get all inclusive wrist bands for hayrides, corn mazes, pony rides and more for \$10 a piece. You can purchase pies, cider, and other Fall treats, or spend no money at all to tour the grounds, bring your own picnic, and visit the petting farm.



For more info on these festivals or to investigate the many(!) other options, stop by the library to chat!



THE TRUTH ACCORDING TO AMANDA

Dear Amanda,

What should you do if someone you have been friends with for a long time (and I mean like years) suddenly becomes all about "drama" and a huge distraction in your everyday life? The friend has some family issues to be sure, but I have become increasingly aware that it maybe due to their own lack of self control and their inability to take responsibility for their actions.... What do I do?

Thank you,

Lost in Drama



Dear Lost in THE Drama,

I have changed your name in order to better protect your identity... No but really, you are lost in THE drama, not lost in drama. Being just "lost" signifies that you can maneuver your own way out of the mess in which you have currently have located yourself. You are clearly not able to achieve this, hence the email for much needed advice and idle guidance. So, from what you stated, I can see that you are a person of few words... haha. However, your situation is one of utmost concern for me.

So let's address this shall we? Your friend of a century or so has "suddenly" become more than you can handle. My dear, this did not happen overnight. Your friend has always been drama regardless of whatever is going on in her life. The fact that you are allowing her to be a distraction to you, and I assume your life and family if it's the case, tells me that you lack a certain degree of control yourself. First, let me say this: "Who is in charge of your life? You? or the semi-mental case of a friend?" I sincerely hope that you have answered

this question with choice "A". Now secondly, after determining who it is exactly at the helm of your floundering ship, you have to make a choice. Is the situation with the semi mental case something you can live with? If it is, then all I can say is QUIT WHINING..... If you cannot live with it, then say to your semi-mental case of a friend, (and of course I mean this most sincerely) "Good Riddance"

If you are content to have the drama, then deal with it and don't complain about the decision you have made. If you are not, then severe all ties to the drama and the baggage. Do some "spring cleaning" before spring arrives. Drama from one person always trickles over into other's lives. If all he or she ever wants to talk about is " me, me, me, and oh yeah me" then you are sadly lacking in quality friends. Now, as for the inability to take responsibility, all I can say is that not everyone has this natural innate ability. If they are found to be lacking in this trait, then please proceed to the nearest exit. If they follow you, then may I suggest RUNNING to the nearest exit. If they lack the ability to take blame where blame is due, then it strongly says that this person is selfish, self centered, and did I mention SELFISH? Of course, if all else fails, please feel free to "throw them under the bus."

Sincerely and with much love and laughter,
Amanda



The BMC Medical Club is one of the active clubs at BMC, and has many programs to help students get involved with the community and gain insight into the medical field. One of the more important functions of the club is to provide experience for BMC medical students at various medical facilities in the Greater Cincinnati Area.

The Medical Club is opening its membership and we would love to meet anyone interested in joining and taking part in all of the terrific activities that we have planed, including field trips, community service projects, fundraisers, and much more. If you are looking for an opportunity to do more than just go to class, join the Medical Club, and learn about the ways you can enhance your student experience at BMC.

Information regarding meeting dates and times is upcoming.

Congratulations!

Brown Mackie College- Cincinnati would like to recognize the individuals below for their stellar accomplishments. Below are our August 2011 Graduates- we wish you the best of luck! President's List Honors are awarded to those students who achieved a perfect 4.0 GPA for May, June, and July. Dean's List Honors are awarded to those students who achieved between a 3.6 and 3.99 GPA during that quarter. Well done!

Graduates

Maria A. Allgood
Corliss J. Baffour-Barham
Valerie L. Ballinger
Letrice Benson
Amber M. Boeing
Lanna K. Carnahan
Lataunya Chapman
Terrence S. Clark
Rashonda M. Davis
Natasha N. Dorsey
Richard A. Doughty
Heather M. Ehling
Amanda D. Federer
Shannon P. Flaherty
Rita K. Gessner
Keneisha N. Hamilton
Kelli L. Howard
Heather Hughbanks
Kengore B. Jackson
Annie C. Johnson
Jalene B. Johnson
Toby N. Jones
Melvin R. Kenney
Carla Knuf
Marcia A. Lemons
Mercury T. Manley
Shaquanna N. McFerrin
Camero C. Mitchell
Eduardo E. Montes
Trujillo

Teruko V. Moorer
Danielle S. Muldrow
Andrew J. Nethery
Lindsay Nuckols
Shonna L. Passmore
Ameena K. Pritchett
Fedale Richardson
David Robertson
Camille L. Rose
Jacqueline Sapp-Minton
Maria C. Shauntee
Shelby J. Sherrell-Smith
Debra Shute-Eldred
Chana D. Smith
Lynda N. Smith
Wendy J. Stallworth
Adam, Steele
Nicole D. Thompson
Lay X. Trinh
Megan Vennemeyer
Lauren Ventura
Keraune L. Williams
Ricky M. Williams
Darryl E. Wooten
Jaime E. Young



President's List

Ebony N. Al-Lateef
Rachel Ball
Timothy J. Halter
Lindsey Hardy
Kimberly Haynes
Annie C. Johnson
Annie C. Johnson
Amanda M. Leaver
Toni J. Lyons
Ja'Van N. Phillips
Cameron Prichard
Jamie N. Robinson
Shane M. Strickland

Dean's List

Tiffany L. Anderson
Corliss J. Baffour-Barham
Samantha Barker
Tiffany L. Barrett
Cristi E. Begley
Karssandra A. Bradley
Linda L. Bronner
Louis J. Bors
Barbara J. Buis
Brandon A. Clemons
LaShawnda C. Conway
Jessica F. Crane
Barbara J. Craven
Terri Culberson

Amber Drumright
Garrett W. Duello
Valerie M. Faulkner
Kimberly A. Gilbert
Tijuana D. Grier
Brandi Jones
Jennifer L. Kirk
Amber B. Kreiner
Kimberly A. Lamb
Ryan J. Marquis
Kathryn E. McDaniel
Gretchen A. Meiser
Ebony N. Moss
Bianca R. Norton
Sean H. Peat
Cornelia E. Reeves
Sandra L. Renken
Amber Riggs
Megan E. Scott
Nicole R. Slayback
Lora L. Tenkotte
Carly R. Tensing
Angela T. Thomas
Faith A. Thomas
Stephanie N. Tomczewski
Megan Vennemeyer
Tia J. Watters
Brian Wayman
Terri A. Wilson
Jaime E. Young
Jessica Zimpelman



My Legacy

When you stop and look at your today and begin to formulate your tomorrows, ask yourself, "What will be my legacy?" Think about the impact that you have on the present: your current life. Look at the people around you and how you influence them- for the good or bad. Are you the person you want to be? Are you the person you want others to remember? Ask those around you what they think about you. Do you like what you hear?

Think about the story of King Midas. He wished for everything he touched to turn to gold. When his wish was granted, he realized it wasn't all that he thought it would be. Everything he touched turned to gold; his clothes, his food, his family. Is this who you are right now? Do you value what is on the outside without being concerned for what is on the inside? Will this be your legacy?

Now, consider this story about a farmer and his dog. Everyday the dog sat by the road waiting for cars to pass. As cars drove by, the dog would chase and bark until the car had passed. Over and over the dog chased and barked. One day a man asked the farmer if he thought the dog would ever catch a car. The farmer responded that he was not worried about whether or not his dog was able to catch a car, rather what the dog would do if he ever did catch a car. Are you chasing an unattainable goal? Is this your legacy? Reflect again on who you are today and who you want to be in your coming tomorrows. Do you want to be a King Midas or the car chasing dog? What will be your legacy?

One final story: a man is walking on the beach at dawn. He watches the waves come crashing and flowing back into the sea leaving behind hundreds of star fish. He knows that the star fish will surely die if they are not thrown back into the water. Quickly, he begins throwing the star fish back, one at a time. An observer comes to the man and tells him there is no way he can save all the star fish and asks him why he even tries, because it won't make a difference. The man said to the observer, "I bet it made a difference for the ones I threw back in."

What will be your legacy?



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