

2 STUDENT LIFE

Make some time for fun

As student journalists, a big part of our job is knowing the community we serve. In the final special issue of 2010, we decided to put that knowledge into a handbook for discovering the best that Wash. U. and St. Louis have to offer.

Inside, you'll find our profiles of seven Reader's Choice picks-your vote on everything Wash. U., from the best place to nap to the most popular student-run show. You'll also find our picks on 15 Editors' Choice categories, the winners of votes from our senior staff.

You may be embarking upon finals week when you decide to browse through this issue, or you may be coming back for the spring semester in January. Either way, we hope you make time for the best of everything.

BEST OF WASH. U.

Best philanthropic event Linus Best secret study spot DUC Formal Lounge

- 4 **Best annual party** Art Prom Best Greek event Chi Omega's Rent-a-Pet
- Best female athlete Marilee Fisher 5 Best male athlete Michael Burnstein Best game of fall semester Football upsets No. 19 Wabash

BEST

Best movie theater Chase Park Plaza 6 Best place to recover after a night out Boosters Cafe

- Best local coffeehouse Kayak's 7 Best unexplored neighborhood Cherokee Street Best sushi Miso
- Best museum St. Louis Science Center 8 **Best pizza** Pi Pizzeria
- Best bar Blueberry Hill 9 Best karaoke Mike Talayana's Juke Box Restaurant

READER'S CHOICE

Best restaurant Pappy's Smokehouse

12 Best class Introduction to Sexuality Studies Best professor Richard Loomis

Best a capella group The Stereotypes 13 Best on-campus eatery Bear's Den

Best on-campus meal Stir-fry 15 Best student-run performance Diwali



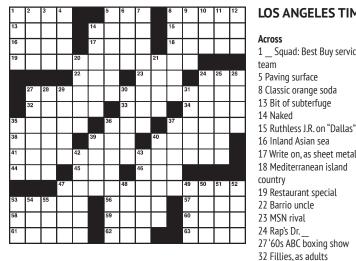
Student Life

One Brookings Drive #1039 #330 Danforth University Center Saint Louis, MO 63130

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Editor in chief: Kate Gaertner Executive editor: Josh Goldman Managing editors: Paula Lauris, Shayna Makaron & Dan Woznica Writers: Cyrus Bahrassa, Jaclyn Bild, Alex Dropkin, Jonathan Emden, Kara Gordon, Johann Qua Hiansen, Charlie Low, Sahil Patel, Percy Olsen, Hana Schuster, Hannah Schwartz, Stephanie Spera, Perry Stein, AJ Sundar & Michael Tabb Design Chief: Evan Freedman **Designers:** Anna Hegarty, Sahil Patel, Mary Yang **Online editor:** David Seigle Copy editors: Lauren Cohn, Robyn Husa, Rachel Noccioli, Lauren Nolte, Jordan Weiner, Courtney Safir General Manager: Andrew O'Dell Advertising Manager: Sara Judd



TODAY'S SOLUTIONS Don't Peek!

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LOS ANGELES TIMES DAILY CROSSWORD

Down

33 Singer Chris or actor

35 Microwave gadget

36 Sci-fi escape craft

38 Minute stake?

37 Geometry calculations

39 Vienna's land: Abbr.

44 B'way "no seats" sign

47 Motor Trend magazine

56 Silents actress Theda

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58 French parting

62 Low grade

63 Cathedral recess

59 What avengers get

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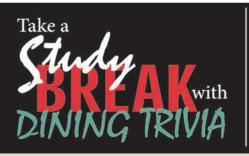
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activist Arthur

1 _ Squad: Best Buy service 1 Mardi 2 Continental cash 3 Biblical twin 4 Brown seaweed 5 Bit of body art 6 Semicircular entrance 7 Prepared, as leftovers 8 Doe, for one 17 Write on, as sheet metal 9 On holiday, say 10 Zero, in soccer 11 Explosive abbr. 12 Khan 14 Suits 20 Catchall category 21 Qatar's capital 24 The Kalahari, for one 25 Uninspired new version 26 Barely gets by, with "out" 27 Key of Beethoven's "Appas-34 Tennis star/anti-apartheid sionata" Sonata 28 "You are not!" rejoinder 29 Plato's language 30 First-year student, briefly 31 Terror: Bush campaign 35 Bills at bars 36 Finished dealing with 37 Hacienda brick 41 Featured mail-order club 39 "We Three Kings" adverb 40 Certain Nebraskan 42 Opposite of transparent 43 Main dish 47 Trucker with a handle 48 Top choice, for short 49 Song sung with arm 53 Ribs sauce style, briefly motions 50 O.K. Corral name 51 Word of sorrow 52 "The of the Ancient Mariner" 53 "Pow!" cousin 60 Study a lot in a short time 61 Roger who played Bond 54 Hoo-ha 55 Grande

FRIDAY'S SOLUTIONS

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1 What is the highest selling food item in the Bear's Den?

- A. fountain drink
- B. regular stir fry
- C. pizza slice
- D. milk chug

2 ... how many have been sold since the grand opening this Fall?

A. 15,000 C. 95,000 B. 45,000 D. 125,000

3 When giving tours, which dining location do the Admissions Tour Guides call "the best place to eat on campus?"

- A. Holmes Lounge
- B. Bear's Den
- C. Ibby's
- D. DUC

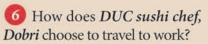
4 Available at the DUC and Holmes Lounge, what is not in a Jake's Wrap?

- A. strawberries
- B. raisins
- C. bananas
- D. grilled chicken

5 The cocoa bean is incredibly rich with antioxidants, amino acids, vitamins and minerals, and considered "brain food."

TRUE or FALSE

Email your answers through December 20th to jill.duncan@cafebonappetit.com for a chance to be one of 10 winners of a holiday treat! Answers will be posted on December 21st at diningservices.wustl.edu and on Facebook; search "Washington University Dining Services"





7 How much campus food waste has been converted into compost this school year?

A. 500 lbs. C. 25,000 lbs. B. 1,000 lbs. D. 125,000 lbs.

8 Which DUC employee started out as a WUSTL Campus

Police

brought to you by WASH U Diving Services ... good luck on finals!

officer?

Miss Tom Jason Dixon Smitty Wedner

9 Which logo can you find on the side of a Dining Services delivery truck?



10 Describe the program it represents.

1 Midnight Hayes order #5000, and winner a gift ceritficate to Ibby's, is anticipated to happen during finals week. What is the Midnight Hayes?

Best of Wash. U.

BEST PHILANTHROPIC EVENT Linus

There's no question about it—The Linus Foundation is really good at two things: planning parties and giving money to children's charities.

Founded in 2005 by then-seniors Jeff Bruening, Jon Dembling, Eric Kuhn and Josh Mandel-Brehm, the Linus Foundation plans bi-annual, relatively swanky functions that have become popular among Wash. U. students for good music and an open bar. The organization has grown nationally, expanding into nine cities and serving a host of children's charities. At Wash. U., the parties have become more popular every year, with more than 600 students attending the most recent event.

"It's really pretty simple—it's a group of kids partying for a cause and donating money for something that will enhance the community," said senior Alex Greenberg, this year's St. Louis branch president.

Ultimately, Linus won our staff vote because of the strides it has taken to integrate itself into the local community. This fall's charity, Books and Basketball, was founded by current Wash. U. senior Paul Johannet and sends Wash. U. volunteers to tutor and participate in gym activities at three elementary schools in St. Louis.

Though the event is pricey—\$50 at the door this year—the foundation is able to donate upwards of \$7,000 from each event to charity through careful resource allocation. The foundation's first national initiative, Night Night Linus, raised more than \$26,000 in 10 local communities this year, donating more than 1,300 care packages to homeless children nationwide.

Editor's Note: Alex Greenberg is a Student Life columnist.

BEST SECRET STUDY SPOT DUC Formal Lounge

When it's time to crack down on work, you can hit up a familiar study spot like Olin Library, where you're guaranteed to find hundreds of other suffering students. Or, you can opt for a quieter, lesser-known location: the DUC Formal Lounge. Located on the second floor of the DUC next to Room 276, the formal lounge offers a homey hideaway from the chaos of Tlsch Commons.

The lounge looks like your rich uncle's dining room. A chandelier hangs from the ceiling, and a baby grand piano sits in the corner. There's a large wooden table perfect for doing homework. The plush couches, comfortable chairs and inviting fireplace can soothe the stress of midterms and finals season.

As junior Anita Khoong explained, "[The formal lounge] is quiet and comfortable. If you want to take a nap there, you can. And it's usually not that crowded."

If you enjoy studying in a social environment but like the noise level to be low, then the formal lounge is your perfect study spot. The room is occasionally booked for events, but it's generally open for students in the know. And now that you've read this, that includes you.



MATT LANTER | STUDENT LIFE The DUC Formal Lounge offers a secluded study spot for students, complete with a fireplace and a baby grand piano.

BEST ANNUAL PARTY Art Prom

Though they may spend the vast majority of their time tucked away in studio, art school kids sure know how to throw a party. Every year in April, Art Prom hits the Wash. U. scene as a fantastic "last hurrah" before the finals hibernation period. As copresident of Art Council Jennifer Rich said, "It's a fun twist on a traditional idea and gives everyone on-campus the opportunity to let their creative sides run wild."

The night goes as follows: Students spend hours putting together their craziest ensembles of neon, fishnets, shiny pleather and maybe even some satin, 80s prom dresses. Then they board buses from campus and are whisked away to a magical land of mystery. The location changes each year and is kept a secret until students arrive at the event—and even then, they still might not know where they are. But one thing's for sure: there will be inflatable toys (think dinosaurs and robots, depending on the theme), music far more danceable than anything you'll find at a frat party and an endless flow of beer and wine for those of age.

Tickets are usually around \$10—undoubtedly a steal for transportation, an open bar, a killer DJ, and enough Facebook profile picture material to last you the rest of the year.

BEST GREEK EVENT Chi Omega's Rent-A-Pet

There are certain things that we're deprived of in college—babies, home-cooked meals, a normal sleep and laundry schedule—and puppies definitely fall into this category.

That's why Chi Omega's Rent-A-Pet is genius. Originally conceived by the Chi Omega chapter at the University of Missouri-Columbia, the event enables students to spend 10 minutes with a dog in exchange for a charitable donation.

The chapter holds Rent-A-Pet events in the fall and in the spring, and the dogs for the event come from advisors and professors at Wash. U. In the fall, proceeds go to the Make-A-Wish foundation, Chi Omega's national philanthropy. In the spring, they go to the chapter's fundraising for Relay For Life.

"I really like to see how enthusiastic it makes people," said junior Emily Kelin, Chi Omega's philanthropy chair. "The fact that we've been able to do something that gets people so excited and raises money for charity is really rewarding."

BEST FEMALE ATHLETE Marilee Fisher

Choosing this year's best female athlete was tough, especially with all of Wash. U.'s All-American volleyball players and last season's national championship basketball team. But with her consistent statistical NCAA dominance, volleyball superstar Marilee Fisher gets our nod.

After a freshman campaign in which she led the country in assists per set and was a Second-Team All-American, Fisher once again established herself as one of Division III's top setters in her sophomore year. Apart from moving up to First-Team All-American, her 11.71 individual assists per set once again led the country statistically.

Fisher's steady success as setter was key to the team's .282 hitting percentage, fourth-best in the nation, and her consistency made attacking even easier for the Bears' already talented hitters. In a complex Wash. U. offense, Fisher's impact is tough to ignore.

"The [Wash. U.] offense is a sophisticated system, and it takes an incredibly cerebral setter to run it," head coach Rich Luenemann said. "Marilee leads the offense as well as any setter I've ever coached."

Fisher is on pace, along with fellow sophomore Kelly Pang, to become the next student athlete in the storied history of the Wash. U. volleyball program to achieve All-America honors in all four years on the court.



MATT MITGANG | STUDENT LIFE

Sophomore Marilee Fisher passes the ball over the net in a match on Sept. 5.

BEST MALE ATHLETE Michael Burnstein

We couldn't ignore Michael Burnstein's staggering accomplishments during his career at Wash. U. In just two years, since his transfer here in 2009, Burnstein has established himself—not only as one of the best male runners in University history, but also as one of the best runners in the nation.

This cross country season, Burnstein placed first in the University Athletic Association championship meet. He was just the second runner to do so at Wash. U. and the first since 1999, and he led the men's team to their first conference title since 2003.

Burnstein also took home All-

American honors at the NCAA championships for the second straight year the second male Wash. U. runner to do so as well.

"He's just wired in a way that allows him to run his best when it matters because he's not wasting energy fretting over [possible shortcomings]," said Jeff Stiles, coach of the cross country and track & field teams. "He expects to do well, and he's just a real gamer. The

BEST GAME OF FALL SEMESTER Football upsets No. 19 Wabash

Earlier this fall, the Bears football team was 2-2 after defeating two weak teams and suffering two ugly losses.

On Oct. 9, opponent Wabash College, No. 19 in Division III, was riding a four-game winning streak. Statistically, the Bears were heavy underdogs.

But the Red and Green defense kept the home game close in the first half, and with the score tied at seven and 31 seconds remaining in the half, senior tailback Jim O'Brien broke loose. O'Brien caught a screen pass at the 37-yard line, let his offensive linemen set up their blocks and sprinted the remaining 63 yards for a touchdown, giving the Bears the lead and momentum heading into halftime.

The Little Giants responded to open the third quarter, scoring 13 unanswered points to take the lead. Wash. U. got the ball back with 4:37 left to play in the fourth quarter, trailing 20-17.

Senior quarterback Stephen Sherman led the Bears down the field in eight plays, capping the game-winning drive with an 18-yard touchdown pass to junior wide receiver Easton Knott in the back left corner of the end zone with 1:10 left in the game.

"The victory over Wabash really showed us what were we capable of when we were playing to our full potential," Sherman said.

The 24-20 win sparked a six-game winning streak that carried the Bears to a 7-3 overall record. According to head coach Larry Kindbom, this was the game that showed "our kids we've got a good football team."

bigger the meet, the better he's going to run."

Despite bouts of pneumonia and a sinus infection interfering with training and meets, Burnstein has still managed to put up winning times and has helped pave the way for a "rebirth" of the Washington University men's cross country team.

Best of St. Louis



A new musical wind ripped off from the motion picture

MONTY PYTHON and Holy Grail

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BEST MOVIE THEATER Chase Park Plaza

212 N. Kingshighway St. Louis, MO 63108

A gorgeous hotel in the heart of the Central West End, Chase Park has all the essentials: screenings of everything from blockbusters to obscure indie films, comfortable seats and validated parking. The Moolah Lounge is often touted as the best movie theater in St. Louis, but its admittedly plush couches can't compare to the unique movie experience at Chase Park Plaza.

Chase Park wins our pick because each jaunt to the movies guarantees a different experience. We've encountered everything from a moviegoer sitting down at the piano in the lobby and crooning amazing renditions of Elton John songs to the man sitting behind us at "Vicky Christina Barcelona" trying to convince his wife to have a threesome, to bathroom conversations with the participants of a Father-Daughter Chastity Ball.

Insert a real, live organist before every film and servers bearing platters of mints and chocolates afterwards, and you've got the most perfect and entertaining movie-going experience possible—in fact, who even needs a movie when the theater is this much fun?

Did we mention they serve margaritas?

BEST PLACE TO RECOVER AFTER A NIGHT OUT Boosters Cafe

567 Melville Ave. St. Louis, MO 63130

Just south of the Loop, Boosters Cafe is in the ideal location for upperclassmen to roll out of bed straight into a delicious brunch on a Sunday morning (and by morning, we mean noon, of course). The menu is humble yet delicious, and the friendly staff makes Boosters feel like a homey, small town diner—the kind we all expected when moving to the Midwest.

Choose your meal according to how hard you went out the night before—rock stars, go for the Scrambler Breakfast with three scrambled eggs with cheese, onion and sweet peppers, bacon or sausage, sautéed potatoes with salsa, and toast or an English Muffin—all for \$7.25. (Did we mention Boosters is practically free?) For sweeter fare, go with the chocolate chip or pumpkin pancakes—our personal favorite.

What really sets Boosters apart is that they have the greatest substitution policy you could ask for—seriously, ask for anything, and they'll probably say yes. So for all you herbivores, a pumpkin pancake instead of bacon is indeed a valid trade.

Boosters cooks their food with just enough butter and oil to satisfy your morning-after grease quota without making you feel like you need another shower. Top that with an order of selfserve (read: bottomless) coffee and you'll recover in no time.



LILY SCHORR | STUDENT LIFE

Boosters Cafe is an accommodating, affordable place to recover from whatever happened after that night out.

BEST LOCAL COFFEEHOUSE Kayak's

276 N. Skinker Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63130

Located just northeast of Brookings, Kayak's offers something for everyone. It opens at 6:30 a.m. and serves Belgian waffles for the early risers. And even though it closes at 10 p.m., it's a convenient place for art students to stock up on caffeine for a late night at the studio.

Order whatever suits your fancy: For the sweet-toothed among us, there are waffles and French toast, as well as the typical bakery fare. There's soup and salad, not to mention a wide variety of sandwiches and wraps for lunch and dinner. The hearth-baked pizzas are also a favorite. The coffee, which is now Kaldi's brand since Kayak's was bought out, is also good fare.

The rustic log cabin décor makes it feel like a ski lodge—and let's face it, there's nothing better than hot cocoa on a winter night. It's the warm and cozy atmosphere that sets Kayak's apart from the typical corporate Starbucks—and, obviously, your typical night in Whispers.

BEST UNEXPLORED NEIGHBORHOOD Cherokee Street

There's a renaissance happening in south St. Louis, and we think it's high time for Wash. U. students to get off the Loop and explore it. With art galleries, coffee shops and vintage stores packed closely together, Cherokee Street's run-down, industrial feel only serves to highlight its artsy, underground appeal.

"I think Cherokee is to St. Louis what St. Louis is to the nation—it's kind of under the radar, unpolished, misunderstood," said Jeff Vines, co-creator of STL-Style, a clothing store located on Cherokee Street that embraces the city's unique identity through St. Louis themed apparel. "But it's really brimming with this creative spirit. It's beautiful, it's gritty."

And this local pride is exactly what fuels Cherokee Street to keep growing into an artistic and cultural epicenter. It's the perfect scene for young people who love St. Louis' eccentricities and want to be part of infusing a creative culture throughout the city.

When you head to Cherokee Street, make sure to check out the historic antique district, grab some authentic Mexican food at Tacqueria and a coffee at The Mud House, and take time to browse through the eclectic shops.

BEST SUSHI Miso

16 N. Meramec Ave. St. Louis, MO 63105

Located in swanky downtown Clayton, Miso's menu combines eclectic pan-Asian dishes with staples like pad thai and crab rangoon for a traditional, but markedly posh, take on Asian cuisine.

Though the entrees are delicious, it's the smaller sushi dishes that set Miso apart from competitors like the Drunken Fish and Blue Ocean. With more than 35 rolls to choose from, Miso's sushi assortments include a must-try tuna roll with tempura crunch and spicy, neon green wasabi aioli. Tasty Miso classics include the spicy Sumo Roll (shrimp tempura stuffed with cream cheese, avocado and wasabi, \$13) and the Godzilla roll (\$13), which is topped with a sweet soy reduction. Out of the fresh, delicately seasoned sashimi and sushi options, the Papasan eight-piece roll wraps spicy snow crab, cucumber, avocado and rice and is draped with striped bass, a jalapeno wafer and chili aioli. Eight pieces may not sound like much, but "the rolls are larger than expected and you won't leave hungry," senior Matt Miller said.

Well-known for its dim lighting, pulsing D.J. hits, and lush lounge décor, Miso has been a top pick for hosting events and formals this year.

Go for dinner or swing by from 5-6:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday for happy hour. Miso is the perfect spot for a post-homework wind-down-or a pregame to a night out.

Study Abroad with Overseas Programs 2011 Application Deadlines: Forest Park Pkwy Think Outside the Box. Forseth



Kayak's is a popular coffee destination near the Wash. U. campus.

BEST MUSEUM St. Louis Science Center

5050 Oakland Avenue St. Louis, MO 63110

Where in St. Louis can you hop in a flight simulator, sleep under the stars and construct a (sort of) giant arch? In one afternoon? For free? The answer, of course, is the Science Center, conveniently located in the giant backyard we call Forest Park.

Named one of the top five science centers in the U.S., the St. Louis Science Center (SLSC) receives about 1.2 million visitors every year. Its state of the art OMNIMAX Theater both completely swallows visitors and allows them to travel through time and space to the Hubble Telescope, Mecca and, starting in January, the prehistoric ocean.

"The interactive exhibits are awesome – best if you sacrifice your dignity, get in line with the five-year-olds and build an arch, play with the laser harp, put your hand in a 10-foot-tall steam tornado and see what happens," senior Kirsten Siebach said. "It's a fantastic way to remember why you actually like science when you need a break from solving the Schrodinger equation."

The SLSC will soon feature an exhibition on the science of climate change and its effects all over the world. The exhibition opens on Jan. 8–just in time for our return to St. Louis, as we walk to class against the frigid winds and wish that global warming would make an appearance.

BEST PIZZA Pi Pizzeria

6144 Barack Obama Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63112

Pi's biggest claim to fame is also what tends to draw new customers—its pizza is President Obama's favorite. In fact, he paid to have the restaurant's chefs flown to D.C. in order to cook their cheesy deep-dish delicacies for a White House dinner.

The pizzeria's extensive menu offers



Freshmen enjoy the St. Louis Science Center during this year's new student Orientation.

appetizers, salads and both deep-dish and thin crust pizzas. But Pi is famous for its deep-dish variety, and we feel very strongly that this is not the time to cut some calories and order the thin crust. Deep-dish is clearly the way to go. (When you go to a steakhouse, you don't order a salad.)

The deep-dish pizzas (\$12-\$22) have several tasty layers of ingredients. They start with a thick, much-loved cornmeal crust, followed by fresh mozzarella cheese and your chosen toppings (or ... middlings, because they aren't actually on top). Fresh chunks of tomatoes cooked in Italian herbs like oregano and basil finish off the pizza. No need to deal with goopy sauces; the restaurant clearly believes in preserving the integrity of their ingredients.

To round out your meal, try the restaurant's specialty "cookie pi" (\$7), a housemade pie that is basically one giant gooey chocolate chip cookie served with caramel, hot fudge, walnuts and your choice of ice cream (vanilla, salted caramel or cinnamon). We recommend ordering all three.



JOSH GOLDMAN | STUDENT LIFE

Pi Pizzeria offers thin crust and deep dish pizza, like this Western Edition deep dish pie that was enjoyed by the Design staff while making this issue.

BEST BAR Blueberry Hill

6504 Delmar Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63130

Sometimes simpler is better. With dart boards, pinball machines and a jukebox inside, Blueberry Hill has a low-key vibe that's perfect for students.

Patrons are friendly, laid back and always open for conversation. Blueberry Hill's prices are reasonable, service is quick, and high-heeled sorority girls are kept to a minimum. Founded in 1972 by Loop legend Joe Edwards, the bar is filled with old-school knick-knacks and memorabilia, including vintage lunch boxes and toy figures—all of which make for great conversation starters. The bar is also famous for its beer selection of over 60 bottled beers and 18 draught taps.

Blueberry Hill's concert venues, the Duck Room and the Elvis Room, bring in local music acts—in particular, famous St. Louis blues legend Chuck Berry, who plays there every month (and sells out at lighting speed).

Though the drinks are on the weaker side and the food is on par with the typical

bar fare, the distinct, the hometown feel of Blueberry Hill sets it apart as our favorite. Plus, its convenient location on the Loop makes it easy to bar hop or head back home—or better yet, to Jimmy John's.

BEST KARAOKE Mike Talayna's Juke Box Restaurant

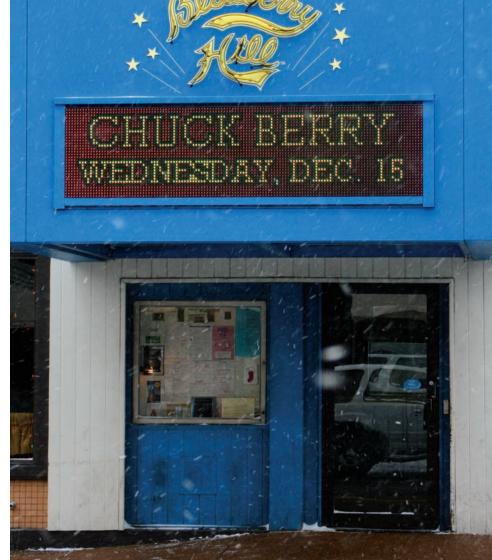
1115 Hampton Ave. St. Louis, MO 63139

If you're looking for a classy way to turn 21–or 45–Talayna's is your best bet. Owned and operated by the legendary Mike Talayna, the karaoke bar (and former strip club!) offers mirrored walls, disco balls and an entertaining swath of local culture.

Go for the well drink specials (trust us, they're strong), the conversations you'll have in the bathroom, and the fact that this is probably the only bar in St. Louis where satin hot pants, a glittered tank top and five-inch heels are components of an acceptable outfit. Sign up early for karaoke—there's a long waiting list.

"I went to Talayna's to celebrate my 21st birthday ... The atmosphere was very friendly, there were lots of familiar faces. We all just mingled out on the dance floor and had a really fantastic time," junior Michael Brodsky said.

If you're lucky, you'll get a glimpse of owner Mike Talayna sitting at the bar with a series of mixed drinks in front of him; we're pretty sure he's been sitting at the same spot since around 1975. And if you're smart, you'll tell your sober driver to remember that there's a 24-hour Steak 'n Shake right down the street.



LILY SCHORR | STUDENT LIFE Located on the Delmar Loop, Blueberry Hill is a clear pick for "best bar."



Use winter break to make your summer plans. Here's what your classmates did last summer...



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(LA), Washington University in St. Louis, iGEM Team Member, St. Louis, MO; An C. (LA), Washington University School of Medicine, ASPIRE Program, St. Louis, MO; Andrew S.* (LA), General Mills, Minneapolis, MN; Andrew W.* (BU), Cofactor Genomics, Marketing, St. Louis, MO; Anitra A.* (LA), Initiative, New York, NY; Anna A.* (LA), BlueGreen Alliance, Washington, D.C.; Annie C.* (LA), The Breakthrough Collaborative, Summer Intern/Teacher, Cincinnati, OH; Anton M.* (BU), The Nielsen Company, Specialized Analytics, New York, NY; Arielle S.* (LA), University of Washington, Seattle, Assistant Student Researcher; Ashley J. (EN), Innovations in International Health, Research, Cambridge, MA; Austin S. (LA), Washington University School of Medicine, Researcher, St. Louis, MO; Austin W.* (LA), Sigma Aldrich, Hoopes Summer Scholar, St. Louis, MO; Aycan S. (LA), Deloitte LLP, Corporate Finance, Istanbul, Turkey; Ben S.* (BU), The Road Less Traveled, Leader, Costa Rica; Benjamin F. (LA), Washington University School of Medicine, Research, St. Louis, MO; Benjamin J.* (LA), Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis; Bennet G.* (LA), War News Radio, Swarthmore, PA; Benson L.* (BU), ConAgra Foods Inc., Finance/Risk Analyst, Omaha, NE; Blake S.* (LA), Two Men and a Truck, Chicago, IL; Brandon B. (EN), Procter & Gamble Company, Tetre Program; Brent S.* (EN), H2scan, Valencia, CA; Brian D.* (BU), HBO, New York, NY; Brian H. (BU), Make-A-Wish Foundation, Special Events, St. Louis, MO; Brian K.* (EN), ExxonMobil, Houston, TX; Brittany L.* (LA), Overland, San Isidro de El General, Costa Rica; Caroline M.* (LA), American Red Cross, Washington, D.C.; Cary E.* (FA), Harvard University, Cambridge, MA; Catherine W. (LA), St. Louis Art Museum, St. Louis, MO; Charles F.* (LA), Washington University in St. Louis, Summer Conference Assistant, MO; Charles M. (LA), Washington University in St. Louis, Researcher, MO; Cher C.* (LA), Washington University School of Medicine, Researcher, St. Louis, MO; Cherhan R. (LA), University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Research, Dallas; Christian D.* (LA), Free Flow Power Corporation, Renewable Energy Project, New Orleans, LA; Christina W. (LA), Washington University in St. Louis, Research, MO; Cindy G.* (LA), Brown Shoe Company, St. Louis, MO; Cindy T.* (BU), General Mills, Business Management Associate, Minneapolis, MN; Cindy Y.* (BU), PricewaterhouseCoopers, Assurance, Atlanta, GA; Connie H. (LA), U.S. Embassy in Beijing, Commercial Service, China; Daniel T.* (AR), Eckenhoff Saunders Architects, Chicago, IL; Daniel W. (LA), Washington University in St. Louis, Research in Economics, MO; Danielle H.* (FA), Maydles Film Inc., New York, NY; Danielle S.* (LA), Morgan Stanley, Investment Banking Summer Analyst, New York, NY; Danielle W.* (LA), Shearwater Education Foundation, School Culture, St. Louis, MO; David C.* (LA), Summer Camp, Camp Leader, Henderson, NC; David H.* (LA), Greenberg Traurig, Law Intern; David H. (LA), Roswell City Hall, GA; David I.* (BU), Morgan Stanley, Operations Summer Analyst, Manhattan, NY; David P.* (EN), Monsanto Company, Infrastructure Co-op, Creve Coeur, MO; Davis J.* (LA), Rochester Downtown Development Corporation, Rochester, NY; Diana H. (LA), Tokyopop, Los Angeles, CA; Dionne C.* (LA), New City Fellowship, St. Louis, MO; Dulsinea D.* (BU), DIRECTV Latin America, Creative Marketing, El Segundo, CA; Edwin R. (EN), ITT Corporation, Clifton, NJ; Elianora P.* (EN), Buro Happold, Structures, New York, NY; Eliot W.* (EN), Google, Mountain View, CA; Elizabeth B. 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(LA), Echo Design Group, Sales Department, New York, NY; Jennifer S.* (LA), St. Louis Crisis Nursery, MO; Jennifer S.* (LA), College Bound, St. Louis, MO; Jennifer S.* (LA), KDHX Community Media, Volunteer Coordinator, St. Louis, MO; Jennifer V.* (EN), University of Kansas, Lawrence; Jeremy D.* (EN), Washington University School of Medicine, Researcher, St. Louis, MO; Johann Q.* (BU), Infuz, Copywriting, St. Louis, MO; John M. (LA), United Mountain Defense, GIS Analyst, Knoxville, TN; Jordan K.* (BU), Sony Music, Global Marketing, New York City, NY; Joseph B.* (LA), Washington University in St. Louis, Researcher, MO; Joseph L.* (BU), Breakthrough Collaborative, Teacher, Cincinnati, OH; Julia L.* (FA), Nickelodeon Animation Studios, Burbank, CA; Julia M.* (LA), Choate Rosemary Hall, Teaching Intern, Wallingford, CT; Julie G.* (BU), Kohl's Inc, Business Analyst Intern, Milwaukee, WI; Kate R.* (LA), Camp Kamaji, Canoe/Kayak Director, Bemidji, MN; Katherine B. (LA), AMAP, Field and Lab Assistant, Ashgabat, Turkmenistan; Kathryn B.* (BU), Build-A-Bear Workshop, Licensing, St. Louis, MO;; Kathryn S. (LA), Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D.C.; Kathryn S.* (LA), The Village Education Project, Otavalo, Ecuador; Kelsey R.* (BU), Grass Roots EventCom, Marketing, Buckinghamshire, England; Kenjiro S.* (BU), JP Morgan, Summer Analyst, Tokyo, Japan; Ki K.* (LA), Study Abroad, Seoul, Korea; Kirsten S.* (LA), James Madison University (VA), Clonbur, Ireland; Krizia C.* (BU), RZB Finance, Latin America, Bethel, CT; Laura J. (FA), Sibley/Peteet Design, Austin, TX; Laura J.* (LA), U.S. Department of State, Paris, France; Laura P. (LA), Vertegy, St. Louis, MO; Laura S.* (LA), Minneapolis Institute of Arts, MN; Lauren H. (LA), 22nd Judicial Circuit Family Court, Practicum Student, St. Louis, MO; Leslie F. (EN), General Electric, EID Co-op/Intern, Cincinnati, OH; Lindsey J.* (LA), China Academy of Agricultural and Mechanical Sciences, Beijing, China; Lisa G.* (BU), Katz Media Group, Media Associate, Wayne, NJ; Madeleine P.* (LA), United Way, Summer Associate, Alexandria, VA; Mara M.* (FA), Pixar Animation Studios, Technical Director Internship, Emeryville, CA; Marc H.* (LA), Calvin Klein Underwear, Marketing, New York, NY; Marc R.* (LA), Study Abroad, Mexico; Marin T.* (LA), The Law Offices of Suzanne Brown, PC, St. Louis, MO; Marissa A.* (LA), Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D.C.; Martin M.* (LA), The Atlanta BeltLine and Park Pride Atlanta, Program Developer for Adopt-the-BeltLine, Atlanta, GA; Marya K. 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Counselor, Westfield, NJ; Elizabeth T.* (LA), Chikumbuso Women and Orphans Project, Lusaka, Zambia; Emre S.* (LA), Deloitte and United Nations Development Program, Turkey; Erica L.* (LA), Argonne National Laboratory, Researcher, Chicago, IL; Erika A. (LA), Study Abroad, Madrid, Spain; Erin T.* (LA). Uganda Development and Health Associates, Iganga, Uganda; Evan D. (EN). Sho-Me Power, Civil Engineering Intern, Marshfield, MO; Ezelle S.* (LA). Charlotte Coalition, Health Dispanities Intern, Charlotte, NC: Garrett S.* (BU), FGI Risk Services, Account Management, New York, NY; Ginika A.* (BU), United Way of Greater St. Louis, Project Intern, MO; Hannah S.* (LA), Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, Washington, D.C.; Hanzhi Z. (EN), Washington University School of Medicine Biotechnology Center, St. Louis, MO; Harrison G. 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(LA), Washington University Medical School, Diversity Supplement Fellow, St. Louis, MO; Kelly F.* (LA), Cross-Cultural Solutions, Volta Region, Ghana; Kelly L.* (EN), Washington University in St. Louis, Researcher, MO; Kenneth B.* (LA), Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, St. Louis, MO; Kevin M.* (LA), Washington University in St. Louis, Researcher, MO; Kirsten M.* (BU), Union Pacific, Corporate Audit, Omaha, NE; Krista M.* (AR), Lawrence Group, New York, NY; Kristen C.* (EN), U.S. Department of Transportation, Springfield, IL; Kyle H. (AR), Architectural Artisans; Laura Z.* (LA), Breakthrough Miami, Teacher, FL; Lauren B.* (FA), Regional Arts Commission - St. Louis, Gallery Intern, St. Louis, MO; Lauren K. (LA), Shabot Corporation, Purchasing/Internal Compliance, Shanghai, China; Lauren M.* (LA), Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, OH; Lian S. (LA), Office of Senator Richard J. Durbin, Legislative Intern, Washington, D.C.; Lindsey S. (LA), Trust, PR, New York, NY; Lisa G. 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(LA), Washington University School of Medicine, SIBS Summer Student, St. Louis, MO; Mike F.* (BU), Monitor Group, Finance, Boston, MA; Morgan D. (LA), United Way of Greater St. Louis, Des Lee Fellow, MO; Morgan L.* (BU), Skif International, Marketing, St. Louis, MO; Natalie A. (LA), NASA, Los Angeles, CA; Nicholas T. (EN), National Renewable Energy Laboratory, Golden, CO; Nisa Q. (LA), Space Center Houston and Strive for College, TX; Paul F. (LA), Washington University in St. Louis, Researcher, MO; Peter J.* (BU), Toledo Mud Hens, Ticket Sales, Toledo, OH; Preethi K. (LA), Urban Studio Cafe, St. Louis, MO; Priya P. (LA), Project CURE, Tempe, AZ; Robert L.* (EN), Bloomberg LP, New York, NY; Robyn H.* (LA), Washington University in St. Louis, Assistant, St. Louis, MO; Rohan J. (EN), Washington University School of Medicine, Research, MO; Rori S. (FA), Orlando Museum of Art, Development, Orlando, FL; Ryan F. (BU), George K. Baum & Company, Denver, CO; Samantha S. (LA), Montclair State University, Livingston, NJ; Samuel P.* (EN), Data Doctors, Houston, TX; Sarah L.* (LA), Study Abroad, Paris, France; Sarah M.* (LA), Public Health Organization + Community Center, Volunteer Intern, Santiago, Chile; Sarah W. (LA), ABC, Writer's Intern, Los Angeles, CA; Sarah W. (LA), TouchPoint Autism Services, Individual Support Assistant; Sasha Y.* (FA), Study Abroad, Florence, Italy; Selena L. (LA), Oxford University, Globe Theater, Oxford, United Kingdom; Seo C.* (LA), Samsung, Seoul, Korea; Stephanie D. (LA), Lawrence Arts Center, Intern-Assistant Director, Lawrence, KS; Stephen H.* (EN), U.S. Space And Rocket Center, Aviation Challenge Counselor, Huntsville, AL; Steven M.* (LA), Perry Ellis, Shanghai, China; Sunil S.* (BU), Kiva, Community Outreach, San Francisco, CA; Timothy B.* (LA), Current TV, Los Angeles, CA; Tom S.* (BU), Merrill Lynch, Private Banking Summer Analyst, Chapel Hill, NC; Tracey R.* (BU), Chicago Children's Museum, Public Relations and Social Media, Chicago, IL; Tyler B.* (BU), Island Orthopedics, Dark Room Tech, Oyster Bay, NY; Vaidehi A.* (LA), Washington University in St. Louis, Researcher, MO; Vivian W. (LA), New England Research Institutes, Boston, MA; William M.* (LA), Education Exchange Corps, Teaching Assistantship/Teacher, St. Louis, MO; Xenia C.* (LA), Study Abroad, Chiang Mai, Thailand; Yi G. (LA), Washington University in St. Louis, First 40 Chair, MO; Zach G. (BU), Davis Financial Group, Director of Marketing, Springfield, IL; Zach H.* (BU), Fox Sports, Los Angeles, CA: Zachariah D.* (EN), Washington University in St. Louis, Researcher, MO; Zachary W.* (BU), United Way Worldwide, Marketing and Branding, Alexandria, VA

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(EN), Washington University Department of Chemistry, St. Louis, MO; Danielle R.* (LA), Gindling Hilltop Camp, Music Leader & Counselor, Malibu, CA; David R.* (LA), Carolina's Medical Center, Charlotte, NC; David Y.* (EN), Summerbridge Hong Kong; Debra Y.* (EN), Study Abroad, China; Derek M. (LA), Washington University Department of Chemistry, St. Louis, MO; Di P.* (EN), University of California, Berkeley; Dylan C.* (BU), Talisman Summer Camps, Direct Care Staff, Zirconia, NC; Eileen L.* (LA), Education Exchange Corps, Teacher's Assistant, St. Louis, MO; Ellen K.* (LA), BermanBraun, Santa Monica, CA; Emily Z. (FA), Nantucket Island School of Design and the Arts, MA; Emma H. (LA), Miami Art Museum, Public Relations FL; Eugene K.* (LA), Study Abroad, Iida, Japan; Francis A. (AR), City Club at River Ranch, Swim Instructor, Lafayette, LA; Gary S. (LA), Lincoln Land Community College, Sprinfield, IL; Genevieve H. (LA), Uricchio, Howe, and Krell PA, Charleston, SC; Genkai H. (LA), Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO; Gloria H. (LA), University of Western Michigan, Kalamazoo; Grace C* (LA), Princeton Regional Health Department, NJ; Helena H.* (BU), YMCA Camp Nokomis, Assistant Craftshop Director, Photography Instructor, Windsurfing and Silvercraft Assistant, Meredith, NH; Hilary S. (LA), Ward's Berry Farm, Team Leader, Sharon, MA; Hyun Hwan A.* (LA), Washington University in St. Louis, Olin Library Assistant, MO; Jacob S.* (BU), UBS Wealth Management, New York, NY; Jacob Z. (LA), The Independence Institute, Denver, CO; James U. (EN), Eastern Property Group, Marketing and Operations, Philadelphia, PA; James W.* (LA), Camp Thunderbird for Boys, Associate Counselor, Bemidji, MN; Jared S.* (BU), Summit Medical Group, Short Hills, NJ; Jasmine K.* (EN), National Society of Black Engineers Summer Engineering Experience for Kids, Teacher, Washington, D.C.; Jasmine K.* (EN), Washington University in St. Louis, Researcher, MO; Jason C. (BU), Hola, Sales Team Member, Shanghai and Taipei, China and Taiwan; Jason L.* (LA), National Institutes of Health, Administrative Clerk, Silver Spring, MD; Jeffrey P.* (EN), University of Minnesota, Minneapolis; Jennifer G.* (EN), Washington University in St. Louis, Research, MO; Jessica F. (LA), Memory Care Home Solutions, St. Louis, MO; Jessica P. (LA), California State University, in St. Louis, Research, MO; Jessica F. (LA), Memory Care Home Solutions, St. Louis, MO; Jessica P. (LA), California State University, in St. Louis, Research, MO; Jessica F. (LA), Memory Care Home Solutions, St. Louis, MO; Jessica P. (LA), California State University, in St. Louis, Research, MO; Jessica F. (LA), Memory Care Home Solutions, St. Louis, MO; Jessica P. (LA), California State University, in St. Louis, Research, MO; Jessica F. (LA), Memory Care Home Solutions, St. Louis, MO; Jessica F. (LA), California State University, in St. Louis, Research, MO; Jessica F. 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(BU), Fudan University, Shanghai, China; Justin E.* (LA), Washington University School of Medicine, Researcher, St. Louis, MO; Karen M.* (LA), Louise Blouin Foundation, Global Creative Leadership Summit, New York, NY; Katherine D.* (LA), Breast Cancer Research Foundation, New York, NY; Katherine M. (LA), The Hour Publishing Company, Norwalk, CT; Kathryn C.* (LA), VGXI, Inc., Validation Technician, The Woodlands, TX; Kelsey E.* (FA), Fudan University, Shanghai, China; Kevin H.* (BU), Study Abroad, Shanghai, China; Kevin L.* (LA), Bradley University, Peoria, IL; Kyle B.* (LA), Camp Ramah, Senior Counselor, Ojai, CA; Lauren N.* (LA), Study Abroad, Paris, France; Leigh S.* (LA), Camp Kohahna, Traverse City, MJ; Madeleine D.* (LA), Biohof SchÄpfenried, Praktikantin, Bern, Switzerland; Matthew A. (EN), Henry S. Jacob's Camp, Counselor/Ropes Course Specialist, Utica, MS; Mian L.* (LA), University of Cincinnati, OH; Michael L. (EN), NASA, Cleveland, OH; Minjie Z.* (EN), Huawei Technologies, Software Design, Shenzhen, China; Morgan S.* (LA), Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO; Olufunmilola O.* (LA), Washington University School of Medicine, Researcher, St. Louis, MO; Patricia H. (LA), Washington University in St. Louis, Researcher, MO; Paul B.* (EN), Coastal Construction, Miami, FL; Paul S.* (BU), EcoFrontier, Seoul, Korea; Philip M. (EN), University of Maryland, North Potomac, MD; Priyanka P.* (LA), University of Missouri - Kansas City, Overland, MO; Rachel B.* (LA), Study Abroad, Grosseto, Italy; Rachel B.* (LA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Chicago, IL; Rachel L. (AR), Wyckoff-Tweedie Photographers, LaGrange, IL; Raza W.* (BU), JPMorgan Chase, Summer Analyst, New York, NY; Re-I C.* (LA), Washington University School of Medicine, Researcher, St. Louis, MO; Rina M.* (LA), Fudan University, Shanghai, China; Robert B.* (LA), Pioneer Hi-Bred International Inc, Research, Des Moines, IA; Rohan G. (EN), Michigan State University, Shanghai, China; Robert B.* (LA), Pioneer Hi-Bred International Inc, Research, Des Moines, IA; Rohan G. (EN), Michigan State University, Shanghai, China; Robert B.* (LA), Pioneer Hi-Bred International Inc, Research, Des Moines, IA; Rohan G. (EN), Michigan State University, Shanghai, China; Robert B.* (LA), Pioneer Hi-Bred International Inc, Research, Des Moines, IA; Rohan G. (EN), Michigan State University, Shanghai, China; Robert B.* (LA), Pioneer Hi-Bred International Inc, Research, Des Moines, IA; Rohan G. (EN), Michigan State University, Shanghai, China; Robert B.* (LA), Fudan University, Shanghai, China; Robert B.* (LA), Pioneer Hi-Bred International Inc, Research, Des Moines, IA; Rohan G. (EN), Michigan State University, Shanghai, China; Robert B.* (LA), Fudan University, Shanghai, China; Robert B.* (LA), Pioneer Hi-Bred International Inc, Research, Des Moines, IA; Rohan G. (EN), Michigan State University, Shanghai, China; Robert B.* (LA), Pioneer Hi-Bred International Inc, Research, Des Moines, IA; Rohan G. (EN), Michigan State University, Shanghai, China; Robert B.* (LA), Pioneer Hi-Bred International Inc, Research, Des Moines, IA; Rohan G. (EN), Michigan State University, Shanghai, China; Robert B.* (LA), Pioneer Hi-Bred International Inc, Research, Des Moines, IA; Rohan G.* (EN), Michigan State University, Shanghai, China; Robert B.* (LA), Pioneer Hi-Bred International Inc, Research, Des Moines, IA; Rohan G.* (EN), Michigan State University, Shanghai, China; Robert B.* (LA), Pioneer Hi-Bred International Inc, Research, Des Moines, IA; Rohan G.* (IA), Pioneer Hi-Bred International Inc, Research, Des Moines, IA; Rohan G.* (IA), Pioneer Hi-Bred International Inc, Research, Des Moines, Rohan G.* (IA), Pioneer Hi-Bred International Inc, Research, Detroit; Sarah H.* (EN), Boston University, MA; Shanet S. (LA), University of Texas in Arlington; Sophie C. (LA), Wyden for Senate, Media, Portland, OR; Stanford R.* (EN), Launchpad, New Orleans, LA; Stephanie B.* (LA), NARAL Pro-Choice Missouri, Political, St. Louis; Stephanie Z.* (FA), The Nichols Company, Product Assistant, Fort Wayne, IN; Stephen W.* (LA), Swank Motion Picture, Sales Lead Qualifier, St. Louis, MO; Thomas Y.* (LA), Columbia University, New York, NY; Tiana W.* (LA), YMCA, Lifeguard/Swimming Instructor, New York, NY; Tianxin K.* (LA), Washington University in St. Louis, MO; William C. (LA), University of Colorado Health and Sciences Center, Psychiatry, Denver; William C.* (LA), The Jackson Laboratory, Research, Bar Harbor, ME; Yi H. (LA), Missouri Botanical Garden, SURF, St. Louis, MO; Yingcheng X.* (LA), Millenium Pharmaceuticals, Boston, MA; Zachary F.* (BU), The Topps Company, Product Development, New York, NY

*I'm willing to be a resource. To see my full name, log into CAREERlink at careercenter.wustl.edu.

FROM PASSION SPRINGS PURPOSE

"Start looking for internships and applying to them early; I started over winter break and ended up having multiple options." Allison's career tip

20%

On average, students with internship experience received a 20% higher starting salary offer in 2010.

WINTER BREAK EVENTS

Networking Parties + Talent Summit in New York, Washington, D.C. + Chicago

CIC Career Fairs in New York, Boston, Washington, D.C., Chicago + Los Angeles

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CARTER CENTER 12 Waltington Linkerstrum Sciame

Internship Book will be delivered over winter break. Use it to plan for your summer.

CAREER CENTER Washington University in St. Louis

The Career Center is open over winter break. Call us at (314) 935-5930 to schedule an appointment for over-the-phone advising.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2010

12 STUDENT LIFE

Reader's Choice

BEST RESTAURANT Pappy's Smokehouse

3106 Olive St. St. Louis, MO 63103

Located in a midtown parking lot tucked away off Olive St., Pappy's is known for its almost absurdly delicious Memphis-style ribs.

"Pappy's is the single best meal you can get in St. Louis. By far the best barbeque I have ever had. It's all about the ribs," said senior Adam Savaglio, a frequent diner.

The restaurant has won prestigious awards on several occasions. It's been voted Best BBQ In St. Louis since 2008 by the Riverfront Times and was featured on Adam Richman's Man vs. Food during his visit to St. Louis. On your way to the ordering counter, you'll also see three massive pig-shaped trophies championing the restaurant's success in whole hog competitions.

Your trip to Pappy's will begin by taking your place in line. Be sure to plan your trips during off hours; the line can be out the door during lunchtime. And be wary of the dinner trek: Pappy's only serves its amazing barbeque until it's gone.

There's no question about it—Pappy's is an adventure, and one well worth it. Make it an all-day event, because all that awesome barbeque will put you into a food coma like you've never experienced one before.

BEST CLASS Introduction to Sexuality Studies

While many of our classes prepare us for our professional aspirations, no class better prepares us for personal interactions than Intro to Sexuality Studies. Students develop knowledge of both the construction of their own sexuality and the relationship between sexuality and politics, and by the end of the course, they're capable of actually communicating about a topic that many awkwardly avoid.

Whether you have sex every day or not at all, you'll always leave Intro to Sexuality with a new fun fact to tell your roommate, whether it's about the orgasm gap, how to embrace the erotic or the artsy and woman-friendly Swedish porn you watched.

The course examines topics such as sexual pleasure, feminism, intimacy, oppression, LGBT studies and sexual education by analyzing articles, reading novels and watching videos—and no subject is off-limits. By the close of the semester, you become aware of just how heteronormative our society—including Wash. U's campus—is, just how many oppressive barriers are built into our political structure, and how you can help change them.

"Most people think sexuality should be a very taboo and undiscussed topic, and we tend to have a lot of misunderstandings about it," said senior Alec Koppel,



JAMES HARRANG | STUDENT LIFE

The Reader's Choice pick for "best professor," Dr. Richard Loomis, keeps General Chemistry lectures informative and entertaining.

who took the course as a sophomore. "Taking sexuality studies clears up a lot of those misunderstandings in an accessible and entertaining way."

Openly discussing a subject so taboo as sexuality for three hours a week changes the way you look at the world. And, among other ways its students are enlightened, Intro to Sexuality Studies students are better in bed.

BEST PROFESSOR Richard Loomis

Three times a week at 11 a.m., students rush the doors of Lab Sci 300, shoving past the stream of winded freshmen trying to leave. The students are hurrying to get their front-row seats for optimal viewing of professor Richard Loomis's next general chemistry lecture. Somehow, he manages to make a class of 300 anxious pre-meds burst into laughter several times an hour.

Students love Loomis because of his charisma—even in the back row, students

aren't going to fall asleep. They wait with baited breath for the next gimmick, whether it's free Twizzlers or Red Bull distributed at random, or his son answering questions about quantum mechanics. But between all of the jokes, Loomis thoroughly explains everything, answers every question that comes up and stays at his desk for more than a half hour after the lecture to give extra help.

Sometimes when tours peek into the room, Loomis shouts for a prospective student to answer a question at the board. Everyone cheers as a high schooler walks slowly down the stairs, and Loomis, after making a politically incorrect joke about state schools or Wash. U's tuition, helps her figure out what to do. By simplifying the concept for her, everyone else can further understand the material.

Loomis loves pushing his students to grasp the complexity of chemistry, without creating a stressful atmosphere. "I don't try to weed people out; I want it to be the students working together to learn," Loomis said. "I like the light bulb that goes on above peoples' heads—I like it when students get it."



BEST ON-CAMPUS EATERY

Bear's Den

The top on-campus eatery is the newest one. Well, sort of. Bear's Den was resurrected this year with the completion of South 40 House, and within it, you'll find a broad range of cuisines and ample dining space. Need something fast? Grab a slice of pizza. Want to go international? Try stir-fry or the delicious Indian food. Students who keep kosher can now get a hot meal at Bear's Den, and vegetarians have more choices.

But don't limit yourself to dinner only. "Bear's Den is the place to be for lunch," junior Marc Hendel said. "You get great lunch deals there." Bon Appétit has offered \$5 lunch combos throughout the semester, including stir-fry and a fountain drink. And the ever- popular all-you-caneat brunch on Saturdays and Sundays has eggs, bacon, pancakes and more.

True, the lines are long and the waits are sometimes excessive, but BD will always hold a special place in our hearts. Let's face it: Freshman year, BD workers were like our replacement parents, always there with a nice, hot meal and a smile at the end of a grueling school day. Plus, there's just nothing like a good halfand-half after a Saturday night out.

Senior Nevin Watkins performs a solo as the a cappella group The Stereotypes sings "Like a Prayer" at Mr. Stereotype MMX on Dec. 3 in May Auditorium.

BEST A CAPELLA GROUP The Stereotypes

Whether it's the Nice Jewish Boy, the Southern Gentleman, That Guy or any other stereotype, the all-male a cappella group the Stereotypes has been consistently wowing crowds at Washington University since 2001.

"Our only goal for the show is to make sure the audience has fun," said senior Dithu Rajaraman, a member of the Stereotypes. Nicknamed the "Stypes," the group is a regular competitor in the International Championship of Collegiate A Cappella and placed seventh in the country last year. The Stereotypes produce two full concerts a year. In the spring, the group puts on In Surround Sound.

"They're loved by so many because

they are a very approachable group of guys," said sophomore Elena Gittleman. "They know how to make fun of themselves."

At the latest edition of Mr. Stereotype, the fall event where members of the group compete for audience votes, one Stype threw candy canes into the crowd, while another, clad in a towel, nearly suffered a wardrobe malfunction. One lucky fan was picked from a raffle to be serenaded with Bruno Mars' song "Just the Way You Are" on stage.

The Stereotypes repertoire is farranging, from typical fare such as Top 40 hits and rock to choral arrangements and Hindi songs.

Other fan favorites by the group include "Jai Ho," "Your Song" and "Defying Gravity." Whatever the song, you can count on the Stypes to sing it in style.



NNEKA ONWUCURIKE | STUDENT LIFE

With a new look, Bear's Den was the readers' clear pick for "best on-campus eatery" in 2010.



MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2010



JOSH GOLDMAN | STUDENT LIFE Chefs prepare stir-fry for patrons of Bear's Den. Stir-fry was not available on the South 40 until the new Bear's Den opened this fall.

BEST ON-CAMPUS MEAL Stir-fry

If you get stir-fry at 6 p.m., there will be at least 18 people in line, and you will wait no less than 30 minutes. An average of three people will cut you. You will check your phone 17 times.

Somehow, this deters none of us. The typical Wash. U. student has a cracklike addiction to stir fry, the only food on campus more sought-after than fro-yo.

But, not all stir-fries are created equal.

For example, any fry made at the Village is inherently superior to one from South 40 "Sizzle and Stir." This is because for some reason you cannot get peanut sauce at Bear's Disneyland. You can get a Deep Tissue or Swedish massage, but no peanut sauce.

The Village menu allows you to choose from four proteins, three starches and six sauces, with the option of adding any combination of eight vegetables and three spices. (Apologies to anybody having GRE flashbacks.) This means that the number of possible combinations is 17,418,240, or roughly the number of stars in the known universe.

Which is the best one? The answer is unquestionably chicken with peanut sauce, noodles and ginger, with any combination of vegetables.

Red hot sauce is an acceptable finishing touch. If you're crazy, you'll put on more than one scoop. If you're certifiable, you'll beat this year's record of 4.25 scoops. If you legitimately are a danger to yourself and others, you'll best the all-time record of 12.

BEST STUDENT-RUN PERFORMANCE Diwali

Every November, Wash. U. students are treated to a night of dance, music and theater at Diwali, presented by Ashoka, the South Asian student association. It took about 200 students practicing for four hours a day for weeks in the middle of midterm season to produce last November's Diwali. Watching the show, it was clear how



MATT MITGANG | STUDENT LIFE

Juniors Shweta Joshi and Sumi Garg lead a line of classical dancers during this year's Diwali celebration, which was voted the "best student-run performance" by Student Life readers in 2010.

much care was put into every aspect of the performance. The fashion show was appropriately goofy. Sur Awaaz, Wash. U.'s co-ed Hindi a cappella group, deserves props for seamlessly mixing Jay Sean's "Down" into "Jashn-e-Bahara." That being said, this year's Raas dance absolutely stole the show, with its mixture of fluid dance moves and highly skilled (and shiny) dandiya twirling.

Senior Monis Khan's skit, "Love in the Time of Partition," was the show's connective tissue. Following a series of party-seeking events, the main characters find themselves travelling back in time to 1947, the year of partition between India and Pakistan.

"It's surprising how popular Diwali was because of how foreign the subject matter of the show is, but it's a testament to the quality of the performance and how much people invested themselves in creating it," Khan said. We have to agree. Until next fall, Diwali.

