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# NEW SCHOOL FREE PRESS

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## Off-Off Broadway Theater Nearly Offed

ERIC KILLELEA STAFF WRITER

The 13th Street Repertory Company is nestled in a Greenwich Village brownstone just off Sixth Avenue, directly across from Arnhold Hall. A red awning and green brick entrance mark the spot, and Edith O'Hara provides a personal welcome. She is the charming 92-year-old founder and artistic director of the off-off Broadway theater, which has been around since 1972—and may not be around much longer.

I met O'Hara on a Friday afternoon; she provided me with a ticket to see *Conversation with a Kleagle*. Written by Rudy Gray and directed by Kevin B. Ploth, the play is based on the life of civil rights leader and acclaimed writer Walter Francis White. In the late 1920s, with lynching widespread in the south, White, a light-skinned, black man who could pass for white, interviewed a recruiter for the Ku Klux Klan.

An enthusiastic audience nearly filled the 70 house seats. But after the play, when the lights went up, the catharsis was cut short. O'Hara came on stage, thanked us all, and then began to expand on a passage written in the play's program. "An alarming amount of small New York City theaters closed in 2006, 2007, and 2008, wiping out a part of the culture and heritage of New York City. And now, 13th Street Repertory Company is engaged in a struggle for its very survival against real estate developers who want to tear down the historic building that houses the 13th Street Theater."

O'Hara said that in the



Edith O'Hara, the 92-year-old founder of the 13th Street Repertory Company

GARRET HURLEY

past five years, the theater has spent almost \$200,000 in legal fees in an ongoing battle to ensure its future. As she said this, a plastic jar was passed around to each member of the audience, and people kindly chipped in.

The 13th Street Repertory Company was founded in 1972, when O'Hara saw an ad in the *Village Voice* for

available space. Two years earlier, she had come to New York to produce a musical named *Touch*, which she had helped develop in a summer theater program in Warren, Pennsylvania. A mother of three, O'Hara had also run a Pennsylvania children's theater.

According to her group's website (13thstreetrep.org),

the theater is "dedicated to helping playwrights develop new plays and to helping theatre artists develop their craft in a caring, professional environment." It now hosts five to seven hours weekly. And on weekend afternoons, the theater also produces original plays for children.

"It's a wonderful historic theater right around the cor-

ner," said Cecilia Rubino, the coordinator of the Lang theater program. "Students who are leaders of the Theater Collective now were able to re-forge a connection and it's been a wonderful neighborhood theater space for Lang students for the last two years."

"We have a good working relationship with the 13th Street Theater," said Lang student Sean Hempill, a member of the Lang Theater Collective, who was part of the One Act Performance Festival that performed at the theater in the fall of 2008. The Festival "got to the heart of what the LTC is about—students running all aspects of the theater." The LTC's next performance ran by their Improv Troupe, will be shown at the theater on April 7.

When I later met with O'Hara, she was chatting with visitors. She sat in her recliner, with crossed-legs, and adoring blue-green eyes. She said that the brownstone that she lives in—directly upstairs from the theater—could possibly be one of the oldest in the Village (*Backstage Magazine* wrote that it is over 220 years old). O'Hara claimed that it was part of the Underground Railroad. "There is a trap door in the dressing room," she said.

"We have sent a request to the Landmarks Preservation Commission urging that they consider the building for landmark designation," wrote Andrew Berman, Executive Director of the Greenwich Village Society for Historic Preservation in e-mail. Berman said that the Society has also "tried to help

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

## Plans Keep NSIE Occupied

AIDAN GARDINER OPINIONS DEPUTY

On March 29, members of The New School in Exile and Radical Student Union met at the 6th Street Community Center. During the two and a half hour meeting, they finalized plans for shutting down the university on April 1 if New School President Bob Kerrey and Executive Vice President Jim Murtha do not resign. The groups' April 1 plans will include, but are not limited to, various public events including roving rallies starting in front of 66 W. 12 St. at 2 p.m. and moving around to all the Village campuses. However, it's not clear if the school will be shut down. A subset of the meeting discussed another occupation that they are planning.

"People kept suggesting that an occupation was going to happen," said Suzanne Exposito, a Lang student who attended the meeting. "No one specified the time and place of the occupation."

"Maybe only a handful of people were filled in on an occupation," she added.

"Whether or not we'll see an occupation of 65 [5th Ave.], the President's office, or some other place—maybe," Chris Crews, NSSR student and NSIE participant, said last week.

NSIE has no apparatus to prohibit or approve the plans of its participants because the organization is non-hierarchical.

"It's certainly not my place to tell people what to do or not to do," said Scott Ritner, NSSR student and NSIE participant, before the meeting.

Discussion between NSIE students leading up to April 1 has often centered around the group's use of radical tactics. Some wanted April 1 to be a day of aggressive direct action while others were concerned that such behavior would alienate the student constituency NSIE hopes to serve.

"Some people think that we should be doing more militant action," said Crews. "Other people are not necessarily sympathetic to the dean and provost positions, but at least willing to acknowledge that, yeah, they need more time if they want institutional change."

"But that shouldn't be an excuse for us to just sit on our laurels and do nothing," he

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

## Riot Grrrl Nation Kathleen Hanna talks girlhood in America

KEVIN DUGAN NEWS EDITOR

Rebel Girl, don't you know you're the queen of my world?

That was at least part of the audience refrain from a March 26 panel called "Girls Girls Girls: Girlhood in America," a discussion in Wollman Hall put on by The New School's Gender Studies program. Among its guest speakers, the most prominent was former Bikini Kill singer, Riot Grrrl, and activist Kathleen Hanna. Nearly 200 attendees showed up for the discussion.

The other speakers included the poet Felice Bell, Lang

graduate and youth coordinator Cleopatra LeMothe, Feministing.com contributor Courtney Martin, author Kathleen Sweeney, and Lang professor Ken Wark. While the panelists focused on representations of women and girlhood, they focused on topics as disparate as reality television and transgendered youth of color.

"What kind of girlhood in America do we ignore?" LeMothe said. "Real girls are disappearing in the midst of the myths being told about them."

But many in the audience were clearly focused on Hanna. During an intermission, students formed long lines to talk to her. Many asked her to sign books like

Simone de Beauvoir's *Second Sex* and album covers of Hanna's former band, Julie Ruin.

Hanna reflected on her work in Bikini Kill, and how her upbringing affected her outlook. In particular, she brought up the semantic battles to reclaim words like "bitch" that were traditionally meant to degrade women.

"One word that was consistent was the word 'slut,'" Hanna said, referring to her verbally abusive childhood.

She then showed a black and white picture of her in the '90s during her time in Bikini Kill with that word written across her stomach. She said that, at the time, she was trying to reclaim its



KEVIN DUGAN

Hanna signed records and books for members of the packed audience.

use. "A lot of what I wanted to do with the band was to be a hero of my own childhood," she said.

But Hanna, now 40, waxed reflective on the photo and

its impact. "Now that I look back, I don't know how successful it was," she said. "If you're worried about getting punched, do you sit in your room and punch yourself in the face?"



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# State Law Hampers MTA

On March 25, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority board voted 12 to 1 to both increase fares by as much as 23 percent and substantially cut service on bus and subway lines, especially those in outer boroughs. According to this plan, the monthly Metrocard will increase from \$81 to \$103, a price hike that will terminally affect budgets among students and the working classes throughout the city who rely on public transportation. *AM New York* recently ran a cover story about the hikes that warned about the looming bad old days of New York's 1970s, where the subways were underpopulated, dirty, and dangerous.

There is plenty of blame to go around for this. Governor David Paterson refuses to use Federal bailout money to subsidize the MTA, despite the fact that New York is the largest regional economy in the United States, and the second largest in the world. The MTA also occupies one of the single most expensive pieces of real estate in Manhattan on 44 St. and Madison Ave., one that City Council member Eric Gioia estimated was worth \$200 million. Instead of heeding calls by politicians to move somewhere cheaper and rent out their space, they have insisted on lavishing themselves with their primo space and, until recently, their own car services to bring them there.

But there's a bigger problem underlying why the MTA board voted to ravage our wallets. A New York State law requires the Authority to have a balanced budget each year, where revenue is equal to its spending. This law prevents the agency from both saving money or operating with long-term debt.

Let's not mince words: this is insanity. The people who could change this law are the very politicians who will yell "shame" to score easy political points. Gioia may have had a good plan for moving the MTA's offices

to Queens, but he was also running for Public Advocate—perhaps more interested in votes than in actual change.

This city needs politicians who are able to take a stand against interest groups—including the MTA. Otherwise, the very infrastructure that keeps New York thriving for everyone, rich and poor alike, will become a luxury that only the privileged few, the ones who would likely drive anyway, can afford.

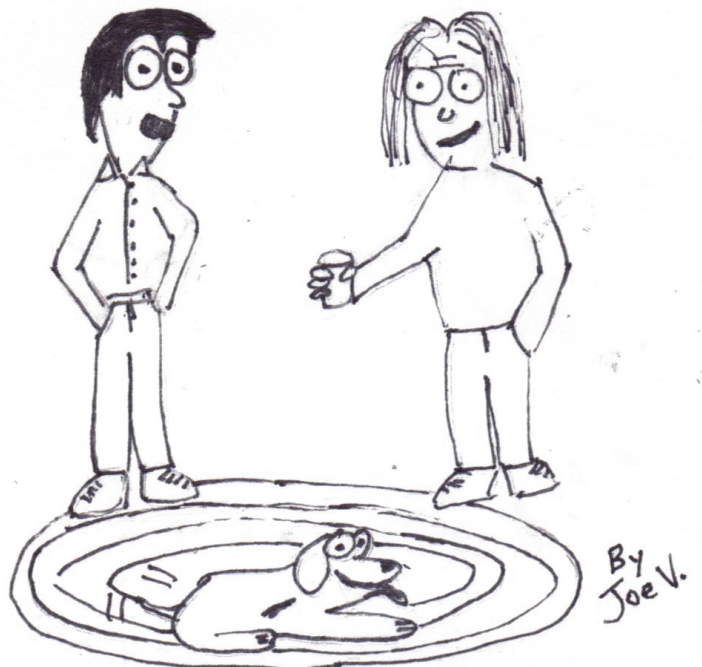


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NSFP COMICS • BACKPAGE



"We call him Norman Mauler. He helped establish New Journalism, writes novels, and licks his own balls."

## NSFP CROSSWORD

By Elisabeth Garber-Paul, Cynthia Laplaige, and Bianca Brady

ACROSS

- 1. St. Marks karaoke
- 8. Can't get in without one
- 10. Roll with it?
- 11. P.O. form to file when moving, acr.
- 12. Type of healthcare org.
- 13. Was \_\_\_ allnighter?
- 14. Downright dirty
- 17. \_\_\_ la la la la
- 18. What Walter Benjamin smoked in Marseille
- 19. The Chinese General's family
- 20. The only way to serve a Guinness
- 23. Japanese math game
- 24. Type of jobs (rf. to 15 across)
- 26. On the wagon
- 27. Mix with 4 down
- 30. Fabio's most gorgeous asset

- 31. Stuck...
- 34. Formerly called personelle, acr.
- 35. Please \_\_\_ the premises
- 36. Great Balls \_\_\_ Fire
- 38. Breadwinners
- 39. Carnival attraction, with house
- 40. What cows chew for a second time
- 41. Jack Daniel's mash
- 42. Full of rodents or annoying children
- 43. Let it get away

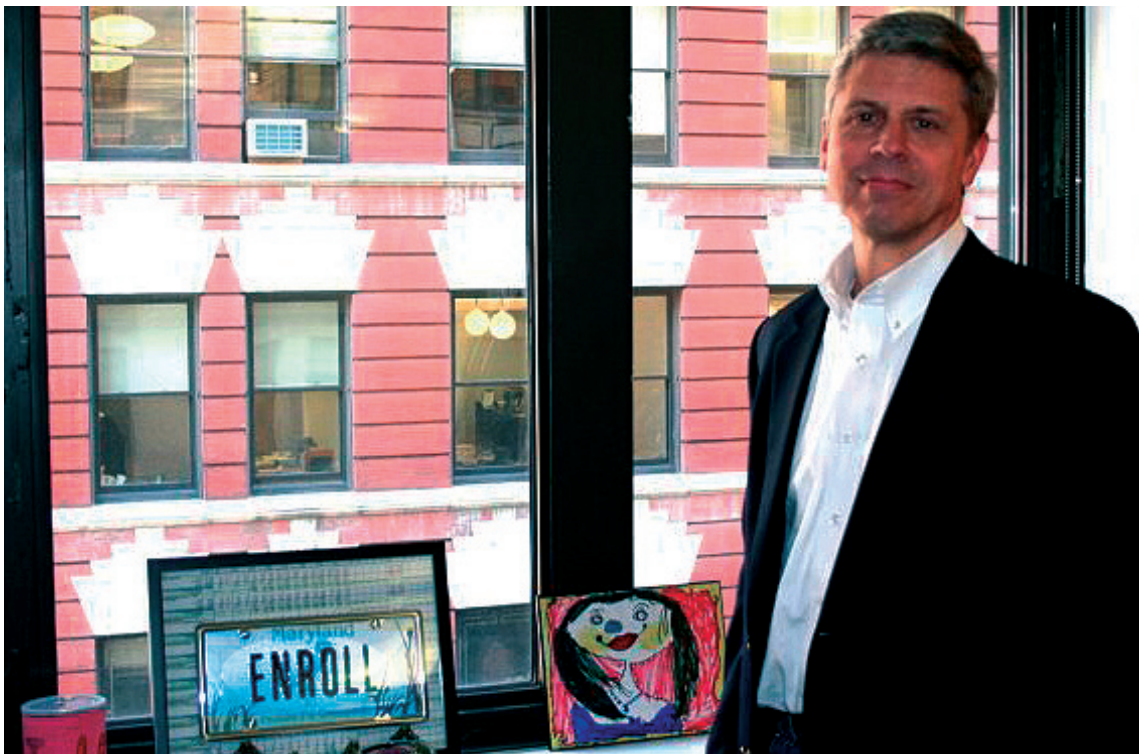
DOWN

- 2. Smidge
- 3. Defensive org.
- 4. A juniper spirit
- 5. Here, in Paris
- 6. Casual for men
- 7. Beano's opponent

- 8. Dancing, like a martini
- 9. Positive *Vice* critique
- 12. Reason to run to the porcelain God
- 15. Unit of liquid in Ancient Greece
- 16. Arbitrary abode, in publishing
- 21. Simple pairing
- 22. Chatter
- 25. Pieces of genetic information
- 28. Farthest from the closet
- 29. Take one home if you're drunk
- 31. \_\_\_ been had
- 32. African American org. est. 1909
- 33. Heavy metalers had a motely one
- 37. Son of Homer

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Bob Gay, Executive Vice President of Enrollment, wants to centralize advising and increase enrollment

GARRETT HURLEY

## The Fight For Advising

SAM PAUL STAFF WRITER

Bob Gay came to The New School as Executive Vice President of Enrollment Management in 2007, drawn, he said, by the challenge of organizing a university composed of eight separate divisions.

"There's really three big buckets," Gay said in an interview in his office. "There's design, performing arts, and liberal arts, and they're all done differently."

Since his arrival, Gay has been an advocate for centralizing advising at The New School, which would add liaisons between each division and the central university administration, as well as add a new layer of training for current advisers. Other administrators have advocated for this system as well, citing

the supposed efficiency that the long-term push for centralization is supposed to yield.

This seemingly straightforward initiative has become a point of contention at The New School. The university, dependent upon tuition rather than endowment, relies on high enrollment levels to fund its most basic functions. Academics, which in many ways form the backbone of the university, are often at odds with the so-called corporatization, or centralization, of schooling.

While some members of the university community took issue with this initiative when it was proposed because it might impinge on the advising structures already in place in each division, none would agree to speak on the record with the *Free Press*, or did not respond by press time.

Enrollment management was the brainchild of Jack Maguire, a one-time physics professor who, in 1976, turned BECAME Dean of Admissions at Boston College. Maguire's vision was the application of business and marketing tactics to college recruitment, in effect transforming the prospective student into the prospective

Pretty much everything I do is geared towards achieving enrollment targets

customer.

Maguire's tactics were so successful at Boston College that similar models emerged at other universities. Maguire opened a consulting

firm, Maguire and Associates in 1985. They have since offered their services to over 350 institutions. The New School is among their clients. Former Provost Ben Lee announced that the company would be hired as part of a larger move towards "strategic enrollment" in December of 2007. On the company website, a testimonial by Bob Kerrey reads, "Maguire Associates feels like they are a part of The New School team."

Gay's background is in business. Graduating from Towson University with a BS in Business and Economics in 1982, Gay first worked as a telemarketer after college, and then within the Cellular and Long Distance Industry for 17 years. He started working in education at the University of Maryland University College (UMUC) in 2000, later going on to Cardean Learning Group in 2006.

At The New School, Gay supervises Student Financial Services, the Registrar, Enrollment Operations and Admissions. "My focus though is achieving enrollment targets," Gay said. "Pretty much everything I do is geared towards achieving those targets."

According to the 2008 University Factbook, the last available, the level of undergraduate enrollment at the university had risen 5.1 percent from 2007 to 2008. When factoring in all students, including non-credit seeking ones, it increased 4.2 percent during that same time.

Another major task for Gay—and one of many major sticking points for critics of the Kerrey administration—is the centralization of the admissions process. One step

towards this end is the concentration of all of the Admissions Departments except for performing arts' at 72 5th Ave.

The plan to centralize advising was waylaid in January after the no-confidence vote and occupation of 65 5th Ave. changed some administrative priorities. Should this system be adopted, however, student advisers would be cross-trained in order to resolve central university-specific issues, such as financial holds and payment processes, and unlock university-wide curriculum for students.

Gay said that this change would affect only the "administrative support and customer service aspects of advising. It does not speak to faculty advising or the need for professors to meet with their students."

Gay said it was important for advisers to act as "the primary advocate for the student, intervening between the student and the bureaucracy to solve problems and expedite. In short, I would say the adviser's job is retention."

He said that there are also difficulties in developing Cross-Divisional programs, such as the Environmental Studies program, which combines students at both Parsons and Lang. While staff from both divisions has been trained in partnership with Environmental Studies faculty, there are issues of inequity, Gay acknowledged. For instance, the tuition charged and aid given to Parsons and Lang students differs. Nevertheless, Gay said, as Cross-Divisional programs are expected to grow, the question of tuition is becoming increasingly important. Gay refrained from commenting about possible solutions.

"That's an issue that's being discussed," Gay said. "That's something that we're working on to make sure that we come up with something that's appropriate and fair and equitable."

## The New School For Veterans

MAX WATERMAN REPORTER

On March 17, The New School announced that it will become an ongoing participant in the Department of Veterans Affairs' Yellow Ribbon Education Enhancement Program, intended to allow veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan to attend private universities at no cost.

The program, set to go into effect on August 1, 2009, is part of the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act, also known as the new G.I. Bill. The congressional act, passed in 2008, provides veterans who have served at least three years of active duty since September 11, 2001 full undergraduate tuition payments, up to the cost of the most expensive public college in a veteran's home state.

In New York State, the bill provides veterans with \$23,032, the price of four years' tuition at the State University of New York. This would pay for less than one year's tuition at The New School, where undergraduate four year degree programs cost between \$16,000 and \$18,000 per semester. However, under the Yellow Ribbon Program, if the university agrees to waive one half of the tuition not covered by the bill, the VA will pay the remainder.

Through its participation in the program, The New School will

fund 10 qualifying veterans entering degree programs this fall term, and, according to Eileen Doyle, Assistant Vice President for Student Financial Services, will continue to do so in following years. This funding, according to Doyle, will come out of the university's financial aid budget, "which the Board of Trustees increased for the 2009-2010 award year and beyond."

Beginning April 1, the VA's website will list The New School among the institutions participating in the program. Participating schools will each establish their own application procedures and decide the maximum number of students they will fund per year.

"Under the World War II G.I. Bill of 1944, the university welcomed home hundreds of service members to a new future," said New School President Bob Kerrey, who served as a Navy Seal during the Vietnam War. "These men and women helped establish Greenwich Village and The New School community as the intellectual and creative epicenter of New York."

"The partnership between the university and the G.I. Bill helped build the traditions that sustain the university's mission today," he added. "The New School is proud to continue this legacy by opening our doors to those who have served our country in Iraq and Afghanistan."

## Students Push For Investment Committee

CLAUDIA ACEVEDO STAFF WRITER

On Wednesday, March 11, in 65 5th Ave, an open forum was held with the intention of forming a Socially Responsible Investment Committee at The New School.

David Shukla, a New School for Social Research student who is also on the Board of the Responsible Endowment Coalition, stressed the importance of making 20 year olds financially literate if they want greater representation in the decision-making processes of the university.

"Universities like Columbia have been setting up classes on socially responsible investing," he said. Shukla also stressed that for financial literacy to be accomplished it will be necessary for the "University to be much more forthright with the endowment project investments."

The New School, as a private institution, is under no legal obligation to disclose who the money managers are or where the university's investments are going. However, since 1985, there has been a "Policy and Procedures on Investment Responsibility" at the university that recognizes its social responsibility. According to the policy, the university's trustees should maximize the institution's assets to support the school's mis-

sion. "They also recognize the moral responsibility to weight carefully ethical considerations related to managing the university's assets," the document reads.

New School President Bob Kerrey acknowledged in his blog that this policy has "fallen into disuse." But after previous attempts by the University Student Senate, the December occupation, and the efforts

of the Radical Student Union members of the faculty, Kerrey suggested an ad-hoc committee comprised of faculty, administration, and students to review the policy, in an open letter earlier this month. This ad-hoc committee will be in charge of making recommendations to the Board of Trustees as to what would be an effective Socially Responsible Investment Advisory Committee—an advisory body that has no direct say in investment allocation. According to Kerrey's letter, the committee should be implemented no later than the start of the Fall 2009 semester.

Among the issues that were raised in the meeting were the degree of involvement Kerrey wishes to have

in the committee (Kerrey wishes to appoint a student representative of his own choosing) and the implications of this, and figuring out ways in which to make The New School a more sustainable institution while maximizing its social impact.

After the Hampshire College divested itself from six companies because of their involvement with the Israeli occupation of the

"Columbia University has classes on socially responsible investing"

West Bank this past February, two NSSR students and RSU affiliates expressed their concern with

The New School's relationship with L3 Communications, the sixth largest American defense contractor and their connection to the war in Iraq.

During the upcoming months this ad-hoc committee will be communicating with the student body and members of the Faculty Senate to come up with a structured mission statement and a sample portfolio from the responsible investment world. These documents will be presented to the Board of Trustees by the second to third week of May, during the final board meeting of the spring semester.



# Union Conference Explains Unrest

KRISTINA MONLLOS STAFF WRITER

On March 25, students and faculty from The New School and NYU gathered at the NYU Department of Social and Cultural Analysis at 41 E. 11th St. for "Raising Our Voices: A Student-Faculty Forum on Urgent Issues Facing NYU and The New School."

The forum began with facilitator Jan Clausen, Second Vice President of Local 7902, the part-time faculty union of The New School and NYU, introducing each panel member. There were student representatives

from each school's radical groups. Farah Khimji and

Maria Lewis represented Take Back NYU, Rana Jaleel represented the Graduate Student Organizing Committee of NYU, Geeti Das and Chris Crews represented The New School in Exile, and Atlee McFellin represented the Radical Student Union of The New School. Chris Rzonca, NYU Unit Chair and Andrew Ross, NYU chapter of the American Association of University Professors, were faculty speakers.

The meeting addressed many conflicts, most of which fit under the larger theme of the meeting, the "corporatization of the university". The student and faculty representatives explained what the

current climate of their respective problems with the various university's administrations are.

"I believe that this meeting is the beginning of a dialogue," said Rzonca. "There are intersections within the groups. We have some common interests and we have some common ground."

"Though we won't agree on everything," he added.

Adjunct professors of The New School are currently gearing up to negotiate their second contract with a Bargaining Committee forming. The purpose of the committee will be to negotiate with The New School's administration

for their teaching contracts.

Members of the panel also addressed the idea

**"This is political. It's not just economical"**

of students and adjunct faculty connecting, due to the administration's vision of them as "disposable." It was then explained that a university can not function without students and faculty, and that the administration are truly disposable members of a university.

"This is political. It's not just economic," said Das, a graduate student at The New School for Social Research. "It has to do with an increasingly bloated bureaucracy and a very strong executive arm flexing its muscles with absolutely no checks and balances."



The distribution of new hires based on each division of The New School. Parsons has five, Milano has two, Lang has one, and General Studies has one.

= 1 New Hire

# Need A Job? Teach At The New School University is the last place on Earth that's hiring

LAZARO MEDINA REPORTER

Every year, the deans and directors of all eight New School divisions gather for a round-table free-for-all to compile a priority-list of future faculty hires. Yet, despite this year's budget cuts and an economy bordering on full-fledged economic depression, the deans and directors collaborated with an unprecedented degree of cooperation, transparency, and planning. Furthermore, future sessions will likely incorporate the format-changes made to this year's session.

Lang Dean Neil Gordon said that the compilation and prioritization of this year's list was a "real wonderful moment for us because we worked not in competition with each other," he said. "But we worked collaboratively to decide what the university could afford and how to properly put the people we needed around the university."

In addition to being inordinately cooperative and productive, the meetings also established new precedents for future prioritization meetings. The lack of a provost during much of the pre-search process

forced the deans and directors to work largely without administrative direction.

Vice Provost Elizabeth Ross, who liaised between the group and the administration, said that New School President Bob Kerrey was "supportive" and "really kept pretty hands-off."

"He wanted recommendations from the deans and that's what he got," she added.

This year was also the first time that the deans and directors knew beforehand which hires everyone else would be asking for. This transparency allowed for more cross-divisional hires, which satisfy two or more divisions' needs; in other words, penny-pinching for academic administrators. For example, a new Americanist history professor will be teaching at both Eugene Lang and The New School for General Studies.

Planning for new hires will also be extended from one-year cycles to three, which forces and ensures that no department is overlooked; the list for Fall 2010, for example, should be ready by Spring 2009. This means students will actually know which professors are teach-

ing which courses at the time of our registration.

Former Provost Benjamin Lee may be the reason why all of this was possible. Lee, who, as provost from 2006 to 2008, included the deans in his decision-making, initiated weekly meetings for the deans and directors of each division. These meetings acclimated the deans and directors to mutual, horizontal leadership, whereby they worked in conjunction with each other as opposed to in a leadership structure.

The problem of a "group effort where everyone wants to hire for their own areas" was eradicated during the prioritization because "each of the deans and directors are aware of what would be best for the whole university," said Gordon. "It's a very mature place to be, academically and administratively," he added, to be able to balance one's own needs with the needs of others.

Gordon believes that future prioritization sessions for new hires will follow this year's initiative. "It's going to be much more of a collaborative process, and much less of a competitive process than it's been in the past," he said. "I think any dean will tell you the same."

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# Science to Lang: Let Me Upgrade You

COREY MULLEY REPORTER

On February 13, Katherine Ludeman brought her experience from Brookhaven National Labs back to The New School classroom.

Using video conference technology, Ludeman connected her partner at Brookhaven, Keith Jones, with New School professors Kyle Benet (Ecology) and Mara Haseltine (Lang Outdoors), and Haseltine's students in the Oyster Gardens of NYC course. The idea: to introduce students to the unique work involving New York City oysters that Ludeman and Jones did this past semester at Brookhaven's facility.

Brookhaven National Labs is home to the Synchrotron Light Source, a \$160 million particle accelerator funded by the US Department of Energy. Working with Brookhaven, Ludeman used the Synchrotron to identify toxins in wild New York oysters.

Though Ludeman mentors under Jones and works closely with researchers at Brookhaven, she has only been to the facility twice. "It

looks like you're coming to a military base," she said in an interview. "Guards at the check point copy down visitors' identification and license plate number to validate your entry. The Synchrotron is housed in a large rounded structure.

Inside a loud humming can be heard, the sound of the AC required to cool the machine. The Synchrotron itself is shaped like a huge disk with 70 beams that spiral off its main body. "It looks like the sun, the way you draw it as a little kid," Ludeman said. Each beam contains research stations where scientists work. In total, over 2,500 visiting scientists work there.

The Synchrotron's process is complex, but can thought of as a giant x-ray machine. The accelerator uses magnets to guide electrons around its track like a subatomic roller derby. The atmosphere of the track is a total vacuum, allowing electrons to reach maximum momentum. The particles build momentum each time around, go faster and faster, and begin to approach the speed of light.

The speeding particles radiate energy in the form of light, pro-

ducing an enormous amount of X-rays. The X-rays are focused on a sample, which in Ludeman's case was oyster flesh. When blasted with these X-rays, the samples of oyster flesh fluoresce, giving off their own energy in the form of light.

Finally, the light radiating from the sample oyster flesh is read and decoded by a computer sensor. Since each wavelength of radiated light is characteristic of a different element, the computer can identify what elements are present in the oyster flesh. Through this complex process, Ludeman's project is able to accumulate data that showed small, but not necessarily insignificant, traces of calcium, zinc, lead (toxic), and arsenic (toxic) in the flesh of wild oysters.

Most importantly, their data is helping researchers understand what pollutants are in the waters and how they are absorbed by wild-life.

"By looking at the flesh, you can understand the way they've taken toxins from the local environment," said Jones.

Ludeman found the opportunity for her senior thesis through Hasel-

tine, her professor. "Kat wanted to do a thesis project that was hands on," said Haseltine in an interview. "It turned out that there was opportunity with Brookhaven, so I started talking to Keith Jones."

"We're in New York, go meet people," said Ludeman. "Network. Ask everybody. Your senior project is basically the breaching of the college world and the post-college world. You have to own it."



PROVIDED BY BNL

The Synchrotron lab located in Brookhaven, New York.



## Fire At William St. Dorm No students or staff harmed

ASHLEY WANNAMAHER STAFF WRITER  
BIANCA BRADY REPORTER

On March 11, there was a fire in the New School's William Street residence hall. The Fire Department of New York was able to contain the fire and put it out. No one was hurt and damages to the dorm were minimal.

The fire began between 8:15 and 8:30 a.m. in the bathroom of a third

floor suite at William Street, a 17-story building located in the Financial District in downtown Manhattan.

The incident occurred when a resident threw a towel over a space heater igniting the towel. After the towel began burning, the resident threw it into the bathtub and exited the room without turning the water on. When her roommates smelled something burning, they discovered the fire and the building was alerted. Most residents of the dorm evacuated, although evacuation was only mandatory for the third and fourth floor residents.

New School representatives did not disclose the resident's name

and information, and residents refused to comment on the fire.

Space heaters are not permitted in the William Street dorm. An e-mail was sent to all residents of the dorm in the afternoon of March 11 by Alisa Bayes, Area Coordinator of Student Housing and Residence Life at William Street, notifying them of the cause of the alarm. The e-mail also contained a reminder to residents of heating elements that are not allowed at William

Street. The list includes candles and hot plates as well as space heaters.

The resident responsible for the fire has not been fined or punished.

Fire fighters were able to contain the fire to the bathroom and subsequently extinguish it. The bathroom suffered mostly drywall damage, but the firefighters also had to make a hole in the ceiling to prevent the fire from spreading. As a result, several tiles need to be replaced.

Bayes and others are available in the Residence Life Office at William Street to address any concerns or questions residents may have about fire safety protocol.

After the towel began burning, the resident threw it into the bathtub and exited the room

## Student Arrested After Graffiti Incident "Bye Bob" spraypainted on President's door

AIDAN GARDINER OPINIONS DEPUTY

A member of the student group New School in Exile was arrested on criminal mischief charges at 3:55 a.m. on March 12 outside the 11th street residence of New School President Bob Kerrey. Jacob Blumenfeld, a philosophy student at The New School for Social Research, had allegedly been spray-painting the words "Bye Bob" onto the downstairs door of the house.

"We were awoken by the police who had tackled the perp as he was trying to ride away with his two friends," said Sarah Paley, Kerrey's wife, in an e-mail.

Police in the area noticed three people wearing ski masks riding bikes and became suspicious because, Paley said, "it wasn't that cold," and followed them. Blumenfeld was arrested as he allegedly tried to ride away. The other two suspects escaped.

At his arraignment on March 12, Blumenfeld was charged with Criminal Mischief in the third degree, a class E felony, as well as Criminal Trespassing in the third degree, Making Graffiti, Possession of a Graffiti Instrument, and Resisting Arrest, all of which are misdemeanors. Blumenfeld was arraigned on the evening of March 12 and released.

Sources told the *New School Free Press* that on March 28, Blumen-

feld pled guilty to charges of Criminal Mischief. The move was part of a plea bargain with the Manhattan District Attorney who subsequently dropped the four other charges. Blumenfeld has been ordered to pay The New School \$1,000 for damages and to perform 10 days of community service, and be put on probation for a year. At the March 29 meeting, Blumenfeld declined to comment.

In an e-mail, Chris Crews, NSSR student and NSIE member, said that this incident should not be used to characterize all of NSIE. "I feel it is unfair to use this incident to try and paint The New School in Exile as a group of law-breakers and marginal students not interested in real change but only causing a ruckus," said Crews.

"You don't see us condemning

"You don't see us condemning the entire New School for the actions of Kerrey and Murtha"

Citing the Federal Education Rights and Privacy Act, New School administrators declined to comment on whether or not he has been suspended. However, several people close to Blumenfeld said that he has been suspended and is currently barred from New School facilities at least until his disciplinary hearing some time in the coming weeks. Blumenfeld again declined to comment. The Judge also ordered Blumenfeld to not deliberately approach, communicate with, nor contact Kerrey in any way. Failure to comply, he said, would result in further prosecution.

the entire New School for the actions of Kerrey and Murtha," Crews added.

"Jacob is a brilliant scholar, a courageous opponent of injustice, and a man of real integrity," said Micah Murphy, NSSR PhD candidate and NSIE member, in an e-mail. "Bob Kerrey could learn a lot from his example."

-Additional Reporting by Elisa Deljanin and Kevin Dugan

## Extreme University Makeover

BERLICE BASSAS REPORTER  
ELISA DELJANIN NEWS DEPUTY

On Tuesday, March 10, the Radical Student Union, a progressive student group, and ReNew School, an environmental student group, joined forces for a peaceful "clean-up" of the Albert List Academic Building at 65 5th Ave.

The goal was to beautify the mainly unused space and reach out to the student population to discuss concerns and possible solutions for current problems at The New School. The two groups plan to hold this demonstration every Tuesday at 4 p.m.

"The facility has been in limbo since the occupation last December," said Eric Eingold, a student at The New School for Social Research and member of the RSU. "They're letting the library rot and the escalator from the second story is covered up...Tumble weeds are blowing up there, and the building is ugly and vacant."

The groups tried to make the event fun by encouraging about 30 participants, some of whom were not in the two groups, to bring art supplies and food. At 5 p.m., RSU put on their first performance of the satire play "A Day in the Life of Bob Kerrey," written by Yotam Marom, a student at The New School for General Studies. The play follows New School President Bob Kerrey while he looks for another job because, as he says in the script, "Everyone hates me."

"I don't think it would be nominated for any Academy Awards," Roger Ward, former Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, said about the play. Ward was present during both cleanups.

"We want to lighten things up a bit and open a discussion about

some of the issues [that have] been rising," said Pat Korte, a Lang Junior and General Secretary of RSU. "We want students to come together and engage through dialogue, and we want input on the current struggle."

During one of the activities, participants compiled a list of demands for the administration. Some of them requested more space for student organizations, better access to scholarship money, and cheaper student housing. Other individuals drafted potential floor plans for the building so the administration can take students into consideration while planning floor space in the now empty 65 5th Ave.

"I do wish the student groups would do some planning [ahead]," said Linda Reimer, the Senior Vice President for Student Services. "We received an e-mail about it in the middle of the night warning us

that this was going to happen." She added that she was glad it was a peaceful demonstration.

"I'm satisfied with the outcome, although I would like to see more students participate next time," said David Eisenhauer, a Lang senior and co-chair of ReNew School. "I think the activities we do here are very worthwhile."

At the March 24 cleanup, there were fewer people in attendance, and the cleanup took the form of a meeting between RSU and ReNew School discussing the April 1 deadline The New School in Exile set for Kerrey and Executive Vice President Jim Murtha to resign.

"Today was not meant to be a protest, it's more about fun," Korte said about the cleanups. "But there is a real problem with communicating to students and we're doing this because we care about our education."



Students gathered at 65 5th Ave. to clean up the space and created alternative floor plans for the administration.

SAM LEWIS

## Fight For the New School Rages On

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

added. From the deadline's proposal at an NSIE meeting on February 1, the plan evolved into a shut down in a matter of days. "When we initially set the April 1 deadline," said Crews, "there was never a clear agreement that we were shutting down the school."

At the Faculty Senate meeting on February 10, Geeti Das, NSSR student and NSIE participant, spoke for NSIE announcing, "If on [April 1, Kerrey] has not resigned, we will shut down the functions of the university." At their press conference a week later, others used the same rhetoric.

"At the very beginning, we laid it out [so] that it could be an April Fool's joke," said Crews, "but it also could be shutting down the school."

"Somehow it became only tied to the 'shutting down the school' part," Crews added.

Plans to shut down the university have not been met with wide support after the appointment of Interim Provost Tim Marshall, whom many see as a counterweight to Kerrey's business-like approach.

In a statement released to the New School community, the deans of every division endorsed Marshall saying, "With the appointment of Tim Marshall as provost, we believe we are now in a strong position to move forward by supporting the provost and building the capability of the provost's office."

However, according to their website, NSIE criticizes Marshall's supporters. They believe he will be unable to create substantive change at the university. "There've been

five other provosts here and every time one has come in, 'Ah, this guy's going to have the left to change things,'" Ritner said. "How is someone who is an Interim Provost going to be able to do anything more significant than people who are actually the provost?"

Although Kerrey has the ability to fire Marshall, Neil Gordon, Dean of Lang, said that it would be an unwise political move. "I would foresee very bad things happening for the university," said Gordon. "However, I don't think there's the remotest possibility of it."

Marshall said he is committed to reforming the university but also said that the April 1 deadline inhibits his ability to do so. "I would prefer more time than the April 1 deadline is giving me," said Marshall.

"April 1 is about the removal of people, not fixing things generally," he added.

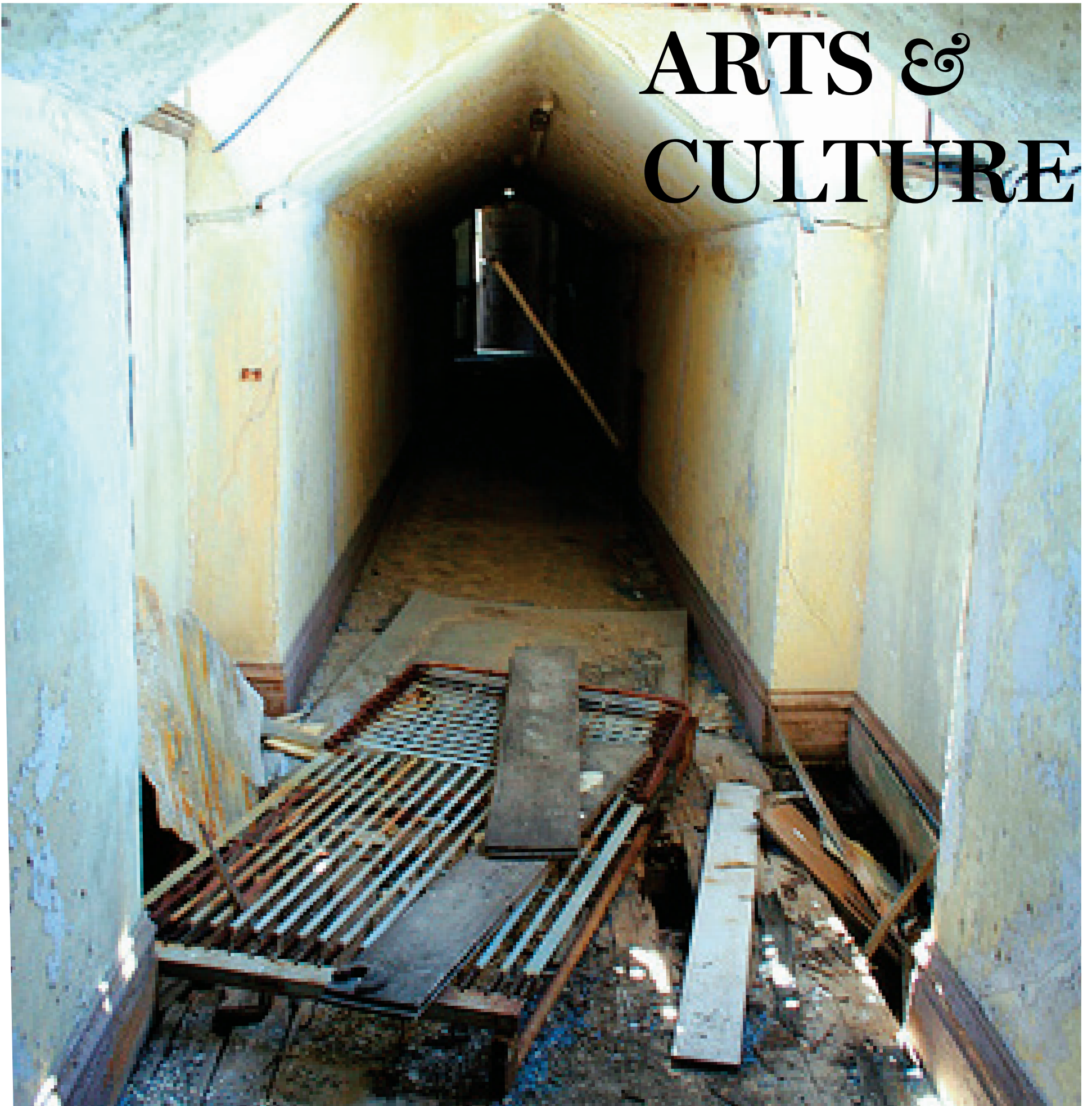
Gordon believes that the students' demands for transparency and accountability can still be achieved through the existing process. "I think, with the exception of the question of Kerrey and Murtha's resignation," said Gordon, "All of the other demands that are being made by this student group can be met by this process."

Ritner said he had no confidence in Marshall's ability use the existing process to reform The New School as long as Kerrey and Murtha are still in office. "There comes a point where you can't convince somebody to do what you want," said Ritner. "If that person is standing in your way, especially in a university setting, you need to get rid of them."

Somehow it became only tied to shutting down the New School



# ARTS & CULTURE



Photos by Nadia Choudury

## Exploring the Uninhabited and Unknown Finding adventure in even the most urban of environments

HELEN BUYNISKI STAFF WRITER

Urban exploration can consist of an observant stroll along undeveloped waterfront land or a furtive infiltration of locked-up World's Fair relics inside a major sports arena. Explorers may set out on a mission with cameras, flashlights, exhaustive research, or just a healthy curiosity about their surroundings. There are as many types of explorers as there are hidden (and hidden in plain sight) points of interest, and New York is rich with opportunity for expeditions into the forgotten, the abandoned, and the unknown.

For most urban explorers, the lure of exploration lies far beyond the simple cheap thrill of going where we shouldn't. Sites may be chosen for their historical significance, architectural distinction, associated legends or ghost stories, or spur-of-the-moment curiosity. The Renwick Smallpox Hospital on Roosevelt Island, though perennially redecorated with new coils of barbed wire, remains an explorer favorite, and the recently-

landmarked Domino Sugar factory has seen much exploration since the company ceased operations in Brooklyn several years ago. Exploration is not limited to abandoned buildings, either: along these lines, one of the Red Hook warehouses still standing post-Ikea offers extremely convenient rooftop access due to downstairs tenants' disinclination to lock the doors to the street. A glass-walled rooftop cabana accessed from inside rewards explorers with a spectacular view of the harbor.

Most urban explorers document their travels photographically, creating a visual record of spaces that may not exist a few months after their visit. The ravenous pace of development far outstrips the laborious bureaucratic process needed to acquire landmark status for a building, and far too often, these photographs are all that remains of once-magnificent places.

Documentary filmmaker and photographer Nathan Kensinger found a wealth of abandoned industrial sites when he arrived in Brooklyn in 2004. Settling near the Gowanus Canal, Kensinger was

surrounded by deserted factories, decommissioned naval terminals, and disused warehouses all but forgotten even by neighborhood residents. He soon "fell in love" with nearby Red Hook and began obsessively photographing the neighborhood's industrial waterfront, particularly the Revere sugar refinery and the Todd shipyards, described as "huge cathedrals of abandoned industry." While he does have an interest in preserving many of his photography subjects in view of their endangered status, "to me [the photography] is all about exploring where you live, and exploring what's around you... a lot of people just don't even know where they are. They're living in the city and they don't even know the history of the blocks around them." His photographs (viewable at [kensinger.blogspot.com](http://kensinger.blogspot.com)) have appeared in a plethora of online publications, and online attention has led to several gallery shows, most recently at Brooklyn's Uniondocs this past winter.

Urban explorers are often unfairly lumped in with vandals and malicious trespassers, and security

guards are sometimes slow to recognize the difference between the two. Kensinger, however, does not worry too much about being apprehended: "Documenting a space is not a crime, per say. I'm more concerned with the safety of these places—they're all pretty dangerous to be walking around in, in terms of their structure. Or lack thereof."

Getting caught is the least of your worries if the stairs you stand upon suddenly detach from the inside of a tower wall, or a supposedly

abandoned subway tunnel unexpectedly lights up with the glare of an oncoming train. Books like Jeff Chapman's *Access All Areas*, published under the "Ninjalicious" pseudonym he used for more than two decades of urban exploration, offer invaluable safety (and infiltration) advice.

For the inquisitive and level-headed explorer, opportunities for discovery are everywhere. Whether one's interest is aesthetic, historic, or simple curiosity, New York's hidden spaces do not disappoint.







## The Magic of the Margarita

ELISABETH GARBBER-PAUL EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

As the weather gets warmer, it's time to inch away from the whiskey-laced winter and slip into something a little lighter. Gin and tonic? Reminds me way too much of my dad. Fuzzy navels? Gave those up at 16. Vodka soda? I prefer when my alcohol tastes like alcohol. If I wanted to drink water and black out, I'd just do roofies.

No, the summer months call for only one thing: the margarita. There are many myths surrounding its origins, but one thing is clear: the right combination of lime juice, tequila, and triple sec are the recipe for an unforgettable evening—or at least that's what you'll think after a few. But where to go for *una buena*? While it's not hard to find a decent Jack and Ginger, a margarita isn't something

On that note,  
Jose Cuervo is  
a hack

you can leave to an amateur.

First off, only 100 percent agave tequila will do. On that note, Jose Cuervo is a hack and should be ashamed of the second-rate crap he sells to unassuming housewives and college students. A couple of shots of that pungent mess will leave even an experienced lush useless the following day. Who has time for a walk of shame before 10 a.m.? Patrón will do in a bind, but Herradura or Don Julio will usually result in a smoother night at a better price.

Some prefer Cointreau or Grand Marnier to triple sec, the former making it sweeter, and the latter adding a hint of orange to the mix. Either way, only freshly squeezed lime juice is acceptable as a finish. If you see a bartender pull out a bottle of Rose's, cancel the order and exit immediately. Nothing good can come of the encounter—you won't be able to stomach enough for the evening to get interesting.

Keep in mind that the amount you imbibe will be in direct proportion to the amount of crazy shit that happens to you. No one should wake up in her own bed only to find her wallet, keys, and purse—but missing her pants. Keep in mind, one is fun, two is better, and three, you may wake up a bit disoriented. *Cómo se dice*, who paid for the penthouse?

## On Running An Art Gallery

MARGAUX HALDIMANN  
GUEST CONTRIBUTOR

Anyone can open up a space and stick art on the walls, but to gain recognition for this task and get the public to attend, is an art all its own. Mary-Presley Adams, director of Hasted-Hunt Gallery and graduate from the Parsons School of Design, believes that an art gallery has to have "professionalism, consistency, and organization." Katie Rashid, director of Jack Shainman Gallery, says one always has to believe in the art that is being sold.

Adams attributes her gallery's success to the co-owner's exceptional business practices, "They're professional, they're friendly and personable and they're good peo-

reputation in the art world, which makes your business a success.

With a good reputation, an identity forms that explains to your audience who you are as a gallery and what kind of business you practice. "Consistency allows our clients to understand who we are. Through pamphlets and invitations to openings," Adams said, "we brand ourselves." Branding in the art world allows more people to recognize the gallery, resulting in more business. Experience also adds to reputation, as is the case for the owners of Hasted-Hunt who have combined over 50 years of art industry knowledge, so always be observant and open to new experience.

It doesn't hurt to have a critical eye either, "The more you see, the more sensitive you become and the more your eye develops," Rashid



ple. They don't do bad business." Furthermore, they keep records of their client's likes and dislikes, to better serve their needs in the future and develop loyalty. "We know who likes what, who buys what and we can remember that and we have a relationship with them," said Adams.

Not only is it necessary to have good relations with your clients, but also with the artists. Collaboration amongst the gallery staff and the artist is also essential in the selling process, installation, and largely influences how the pieces are received. "Artist's have a very strong opinion about how they want their work to be displayed," Rashid said, "However, we try to work with their needs and they usually listen to our curator." This helps generate a respectable

said. At Hasted-Hunt, the curators are, mostly, the people making the edits of what is hung on the walls. They'll go through the work and select it...But they're really good at it. I've seen them take a whole selection of work and then when it's up on the wall and it's in the order that they desired its really amazing and you're looking at the body of work with new eyes," Adams said.

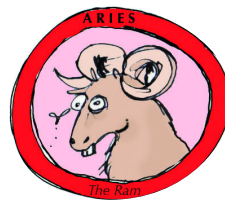
A good location also helps but isn't essential. Hasted-Hunt and Jack Shainman are both located in Chelsea, and the directors admit that being in such a hip area is beneficial.

Success has a different meaning to everyone. To those who have been in the industry for years, it means having a good reputation, a passion for art, the right contacts, and a sustainable business.

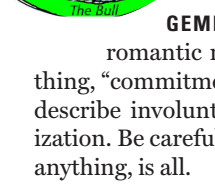
## Helen's Horoscopes

HELEN BUYNISKI STAFF WRITER

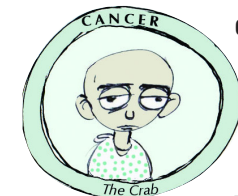
**ARIES** Ignoring a personal crisis will not make it go away. Neither will pouring glitter all over it, which isn't as original a tactic as you think. Clean up the mess, preferably without writing a disaster memoir about it.



**TAURUS** Whoever coined the phrase "safety first" is almost certainly a rich bastard by now. Millions of kids who had this advice drilled into their heads growing up aren't. Keep this in mind.



**GEMINI** While a loving, serious romantic relationship is a beautiful thing, "commitment" is a term also used to describe involuntary mental institutionalization. Be careful of signing your name to anything, is all.

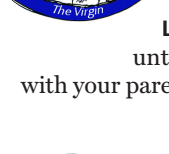


**CANCER** There is an age beyond which getting sloppily drunk and telling everyone at the bar your deepest, darkest, most embarrassing secrets is irreversibly pathetic. Save your money—drink at home!—and your dignity will follow.

**LEO** Practice makes perfect. That said, take note of what you're practicing: shooting heroin into those tiny veins under your toenails, no matter how expertly done, will not get you far in life.



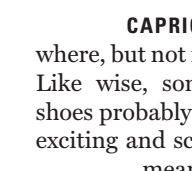
**VIRGO** A watched world never ends. Fortunately, there are plenty of people babysitting the apocalypse—stop taking yourself so seriously and you'll probably live longer anyway.



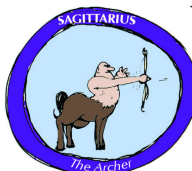
**LIBRA** It's all fun and games until you end up moving back in with your parents. And no, you can't live in their basement "ironically."



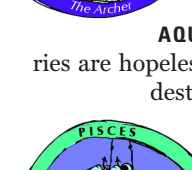
**SCORPIO** Fantasy has a nasty habit of meeting reality in all the wrong places. You're very good at faking—or shall I say \*embellishing\*—dull or unflattering details about yourself, but you wouldn't want to be seen turning into a pumpkin at midnight, would you?



**CAPRICORN** Flattery will get you somewhere, but not necessarily into anyone's pants. Like wise, some one complimenting your shoes probably doesn't want to violate you in exciting and scandalous ways. Say what you mean or prepare for some very awkward silence.



**SAGITTARIUS** Art is what you can get away with. For now, a little imagination on your part and some good acting will get you what you want, fast.



**AQUARIUS** Happily-ever-after stories are hopelessly dull. Fortunately, you're not destined for fairytale romance, but you're missing out on a lot of good, not-so-clean fun by living in your OKCupid inbox.



**PISCES** If it comes in a bag, it's not real.

## What is Poetic Greatness Anyhow?

JOSH ANDERSON STAFF WRITER

The death, or dying, of great American poetry is greatly exaggerated. American poetry is in an awkward point in its development: there are at least 10,000 poets in the country, but not many more readers than that. The poetry community has become very insular, but also increasingly open to new voices. Claims by the likes of David Orr of the *New York Times*, that after the masterful John Ashbery there are no 'great' American poets, are without merit.

Orr and others see American poetry as too meek in its aspirations. Ashbery is the antithesis of the new Humble School: he writes grand poetry that is grafted out of surrealism, pop culture, and abstruse language, but he's also very funny.

The poets of the Humble School are obsessed with minutiae and sublimity of the everyday. Marcella Durand's idiosyncratic sociological investigations and the recently deceased Thomas Disch's meek romantic yearnings of are among the most notable examples of this style.

Citing the prosaic Elizabeth Bishop as a key inspiration for the Humble School, Orr argues that "Great poetry" is obsessed with images and ideas ready for greatness themselves. "Greatness implies scale, and a great poet is a big sensibility writing about big things in a big way," Orr writes. That is definitely the classical conception of great poetry, but it passes over a lot of poets that are great in their own small way. There would be no room in the canon for the likes of Marianne Moore's charming nature poems in this Hall of Greatness.

The most noticeable adherent

to the Humble School is Elizabeth Alexander, who read at president Obama's inauguration, only the fourth poet to do so. Her poem, "Praise Song for the Day," was given a lukewarm reception by both the crowd and literary critics. Most found the poem too "mundane." Some readers did take to the poem, and when it was published, it landed on the best-seller list—an exceptional occurrence for a book of poetry. Even this didn't satisfy critics, who pointed to its initial sale of 6,000 out of a print run of 100,000.

I asked Alexander how she responded to the critics. "You don't respond," she answered. "Poetry doesn't really get on the *Times* best-seller list [...] And I sort of say, why is that the story?" In our economically obsessed world, it's difficult to cut art out of commerce. "It is only in the world

of poetry that the writers have become the readers, and the readers the writers. The two activities have merged in a non-commercial contract," Martin Earl writes on the Poetry Foundation website. "I don't know any non-poets (or stretching it a bit, non-writers) who read poetry." It's not problematic that poetry isn't regularly on the best-seller list, but that poetry doesn't seem to appeal to those outside the "poetry schools," where sectarianism is much celebrated.

In another way the dominance of written poetry has been overtaken by the popularity of songsmiths like Bob Dylan, who has been nominated for the Nobel Prize on several occasions. Dylan's poetry is tremendous, but it would be a tragedy to let poets like Disch and Durand languish in obscurity.



## Reviews

## MUSIC

Camera Obscura,  
*My Maudlin Career*

Camera Obscura's music isn't going to change the world. They're a little band from Scotland that makes pretty indie pop. They sound sort of like Belle & Sebastian, but not as good. They also sort of sound like the Concretes, and are maybe even a bit better. Their fourth album, *My Maudlin Career*, does little to expand on their sound. Ditties like "French Navy" and "The Sweetest Thing" are little slices of pop heaven, delivering upbeat odes to love over the sounds of trumpets and guitars. Their music is seemingly from another era, evocative of old girl groups like the Shangri-Las and the Ronettes. Their lyrics sound like they're coming from the inside of a 10-year-old girl's notebook, which can be endearing at times and annoying at others: "If love was a season, you would be in bloom."

Songs like "James" and "My Maudlin Career", however, give you hints at what the band might be capable of, displaying surprising depth and grace. Lead singer Tracy Anne Campbell has a dreamy ethereal voice that acts as the perfect compliment to the band's music.

Does any of this mean that you'll remember any of the songs after the album ends? Probably not. But the band never pretends to be something it's not. Their music serves as the perfect backdrop to a picnic on a sunny day. It may not be very memorable, but you'll be happy while you're listening at least.

—Ryan O'Connell, Reporter



## FILM

*Explicit Ills*,  
Dir. Jim Jarmusch

Recently at the Angelika Theater, actor and first time director, Mark Webber, showed his new SXSW winning film, *Explicit Ills*. Produced by Jim Jarmusch, the film



follows three Philadelphia families as they deal with drugs, poverty, and ever-changing family dynamics. With an even bigger emphasis on this country's lack of affordable health care, the film serves as a voice for America's underclass.

The movie stars Rosario Dawson as the struggling single mother of sick child, Babo. Played by newcomer Francisco Burgos, Babo is a charming 11-year-old who steals the show and makes it impossible for the audience to leave unaffected. Indie actor Lou Taylor Pucci, from *Thumbsucker*, got a new hair color but stuck with his usual role as the druggie and *Little Miss Sunshine*'s Paul Dano makes a small, but memorable, appearance as a mentor and friend to little Babo.

The film shows the current state of our country by focusing in on a small community of three completely different families that are all intertwined. There's the healthy rich family that can afford to open their very own health food store, the poor single mother that can't pay for her sons' asthma medicine, and the young drug addicted couple that can't seem to get their lives straight.

What the film lacks in plot and any climax, Webber makes up for through a realistic script, adorable

children you want to see succeed, and a believable conjuring of today's financial woes. He introduces us to an America that doesn't get much attention, and convinces the audience that this country's fight for equal opportunity is far from over.

—Carly Royce, Reporter

## THEATER

*Zombie*,  
Dir. Thomas Caruso

The stage room is pitch black. Then, a sudden flash of the spotlight illuminates the figure of Quentin P. He seems familiar at first: a skinny, frail man, with poor posture, dangly arms, and oversized square glasses. He appears sympathetic, even pitiful. That is until he announces, "I am an admitted sex offender."

If you want to know what it's like to sit in a dimly lit, bare room with a deranged criminal, *ZOMBIE*, the multi-award winning Off-Broadway show is the play for you. Quentin P. is played by Bill Connington in a masterful character study of a psychopath. For 75 minutes, Connington holds your attention by successfully escorting you deep into the mind of a serial killer as he describes the murder, torture, and rape of his young male victims, all the while delivering dialogue in a childlike tone and maintaining menacing eye contact with the audience.

*ZOMBIE*'s Quentin P. takes us through the play-by-plays of several murders he has committed in attempts to capture the perfect young boy and transform him into his own personal zombie, someone who will love and worship him unconditionally. He describes in explicit detail how each of the murders happen and his sexual desires for the boys he captures.

The show's running at the Studio Theater on Theater Row (410 W. 42nd St.) until April 26, 2009. It was directed by Thomas Caruso and along with being the only actor on stage; Connington also adapted this play from the novella (*ZOMBIE*) by Joyce Carol Oates.

Unlike many movies out today that try and categorize themselves as "terrifying," horror seems to have hit a plateau. Horror films rely on cheap scares by showing an extensive amount of blood and guts. *ZOMBIE*'s vulgarity doesn't depend on any of this. Instead, it strips the complex mind of a man who has completely lost all sense of reality yet is convinced he is perfectly sane. The psyche of Quentin P.'s character is ultimately more frightening than the torture porn that pervades modern horror films.

*ZOMBIE* is not a show to miss, especially if you are in need of an entrance back into the horror genre. This play shows us why we should be frightened, and exactly how so many other movies fail at this.

—Alexandra Sharry, Staff Writer

## MUSIC

Masakari,  
*Eden Compromised*

Close your eyes and imagine that His Hero is Gone and Amebix got together and had a child. Got it? OK, now imagine that that child grows up in a dank room full of teenage angst, listening to nothing but Death Side and Disfear records until he is 21 years old. Now, open your eyes and what you have is Masakari, a crust punk band from Cleveland, Ohio—not to be

confused with the crusties you see on St. Marks, who ask you for cigarettes and your leftover pizza. And in case you are wondering, Masakari got its moniker from a Japanese battle axe used by warrior monks, a fitting name for this bestial group.

The band's debut 7" EP, *Eden Compromised* will be released April 3 on Halo of Flies Records out of Milwaukee, WI. But don't fret if you don't have a record player; each record that you buy directly from the band will come with a CD-R containing all of the tracks.

"Altruism vs. Egoism (The War Within)" is a song about one's intentions and may have you considering the nature of your thoughts and actions as lead singer Tony Yannick screams, "The appetite cannot be fed to satisfy/Greed besieged reason in whom thinks of



only himself/No longer human... but machine." You may not want to listen to this disc on the subway, because the striking drum roll of "Vanquish," and the downshifting guitar tempo will have you slam dancing on the L-train. "Forever Cursed," takes off without a moment's notice into discordant hardcore and the high energy doesn't stop as the rest of the band does battle cry-esque backing vocals throughout the song. In "IV," Yannick says, "From the beginning of time we've forged our prophets/ From a shallow pool of fantasies and moral backwash."

In short, if God does exist, and has heard *Eden Compromised*, He sure as Hell is in Heaven crowd surfing and pumping His fist in the air.

—Stephen Tompkins, Reporter

## The Sensibility Scale

By Kyle McGovern Arts & Culture Deputy  
Josh Kurp Mangaging Editor



» Making the stairs available at 55 W. 13th St.

» *Tales of the Black Freighter* turns out to be better than *Watchmen*

» David Paterson's approval ratings have dropped so low even he can see that New Yorkers are unsatisfied



» Due to the poor economy, candy sales have skyrocketed. Unfortunately, the 100 Grand bar is still too expensive for average Americans.

» Another Tim Curry classic, *It*, to be re-made

» *MacGyver: the Movie* The film will be made successful with only a ball of twine, a paperclip, and a legion of felisphiliic women.



» We're pretty sure we saw Adam Duritz of the Counting Crows outside the Lang Building...

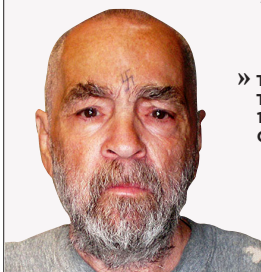
## SUPERSENSE

» Forty years later, Charles Manson still in prison

» Jason Segal and Paul Rudd's awesome rendition of Rush's "Limelight"

» The end of *Battlestar Galactica*

» Sean Penn, Benicio Del Toro, and Jim Carrey as *The Three Stooges*



» Mickey Rourke to appear as the villain in *Iron Man 2*

» The Freedom Tower re-named 1 World Trade Center



» World's first flying car actually flew for 37 seconds in upstate New York Roads? Where we're going, we don't need roads



» \$103 a month for less subway service?

## NONSENSE

DESIGNED BY RYAN QUIGLEY

## Producing Plays, Trying to Survive

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

by honoring the 13th Street Repertory Theater with one of our annual 'Village Awards' and by helping the theater to get coverage for their plight in the *NY Times*."

The theater's legal troubles started in 2004, and its case has been in and out of the New York State Supreme Court, as well as civil housing courts. O'Hara is battling a bookstore proprietor from the Baltimore area, Stephan Loewentheil, and his wife, who say they are the majority owners of the brownstone, which includes the theater.

In an e-mail to the Free Press, Loewentheil's lawyer, Steven Eckhaus, wrote, "The Loewentheils are the majority stock holders of the corporation which owns 50 W. 13th St." He added, "The Loewentheil's have, from the very beginning, of-

ferred that Ms. O'Hara can have a lease for \$1 a year, and that the 13th Street Repertory Theater could have a lease for \$1 a year for as long as Ms. O'Hara continues to operate the Theater."

**"It's been a wonderful neighborhood theater space for Lang."**

O'Hara admits turning down the offer, and says she has since received six eviction notices. She refuses to acknowledge the Loewentheils

as her landlord, arguing that they made a deal with O'Hara's former investor, Gordon Milde, without her consent.

Now, it is unclear when the dispute will be resolved. But until then, young-hearted O'Hara will continue to open her theater doors to NYC audiences.

She insists she will never sell her stock. "I want to leave this as a legacy when I'm gone," she said.



# Roller Girls Get Rough

COREY MULLEY REPORTER

An elbow is thrown and a player is knocked from her skates to her kneepads, sliding a good 15 feet before she hits the wall. In a sport where throwing elbows is an accepted technique, even a team practice can get rough. It's March 16 and the Gotham Girls Roller Derby team is drilling before the season opening on March 28. The team meets in a retired cigar factory deep in Queens.

In the upcoming faceoff against the Boston Massacre, the Gotham Girls will don short skirts, fishnet stockings, and make up, but this is a practice and the players are more focused on the athleticism than vamping. Though their minds are focused on their drills, the names printed on their shirts reveal their

Derby, few New Yorkers are aware of the bouts being played right under their noses. In fact most New Yorkers only have a vague idea of how the game is played. Pebbles, one of Gotham Girl's public relations, explains the rules.

Each team has one Jammer and four Blockers. Jammers score points for their team by lapping the opposing blockers who attempt to obstruct the way or knock the Jammer to the ground. "You're playing offense and defense at the same time, that's what's so compelling," adds Debbie, who works with the Gotham Girls.

Pebbles is getting excited and is gets to her feet. A whistle is blown by a ref in the center of the circular track and the players break into a sprint on the tips of their skates. After a few strides they're on their wheels, weaving dangerously

corner. She's thrown off her skates and flies off the track slamming through a row of folding chairs.

"OHHHHH!" yells Pebbles from the sidelines as the Jammer gets back to her feet. "Bonnie's going to Jam, watch this." Bonnie Thunders was named their MVP last season explains Pebbles. Bonnie comes from a 12 year foundation in synchronized figure skating and her agility is unmatched. "She'll slice through those Blockers like butter," says Pebbles.

The whistle is blown and Bonnie takes off like a rocket. Watching Bonnie hop-skip recklessly through the other bodies, it's hard to see the calculated grace of a figure skater. Bonnie's movements are closer to those of a skinny jack-rabbit or a loose skidding hubcap. But as Pebbles predicted, Bonnie weaves precariously through the blue vests scoring a several points before the end of the round.

Every few minutes we hear the thump and clack of muscle and elbow pads as a girl hits the floor. The players still on their wheels dash around the fallen or simply lift up their skates and go right over. "A lot of the drills are about falling and getting up fast," says Pebbles. Injuries are extremely common in Women's Roller Derby. Pebbles explains that the only reason she's not out on the track at this very moment is that she is still re-



GARRET HURLEY

Members of the Gotham Girls at a practice in Brooklyn on March 16

covering from a brutal fall.

Debby tries to explain the atmosphere of a Roller Derby game. "It's not quite a circus feel..."

"Crazy, frenetic," offers Pebbles. "It's like a monster truck rally. The fans are all really connected. They all have their favorite players."

"It's got this rockabilly, punk-rock kind of feel," continues Debby.

Roller Derby remains below the mainstream, occupying a cult status for those involved. Since the sport has such a smaller audience than other professional sports,

a more community-like scene emerges. "You can get closer to the players, closer to the action. Fans hangout with the players for after-about drinks," added Debby.

"Oh jeezus!" yells Pebbles as Surly Temple knocks an opposing player through the folding chairs again. "Ex-hockey player," explains Debby.

All regular season bouts are played at Hunter College Sportplex. More info at [gothamgirlrollerderby.com](http://gothamgirlrollerderby.com)

**"It's like a monster truck rally. The fans are all really connected"**

love affairs with flair: Bonnie Thunders, Surly Temple, Raggedy Animal and Beyonslay, to name just a few.

Though the Gotham Girls All-Stars boast the title of World Champions of Women's Roller

through each other.

They whirl around the track together in a giant convulsing mob as the Jammers try to find an opening through. Red team's Jammer slips past an opposing Blocker but gets a hard shoulder as she rounds the

## Wrestlemania Puts Nostalgia in Headlock

ROBB MAYNARD OPINIONS EDITOR

I can recall watching WrestleMania 7 on video cassette incessantly when I was a child, eating a bowl of Froot Loops on my couch while jumping up and down on the cushions and mimicking "Macho Man" Randy Savage's flying elbow smash. My dad always said professional wrestling was the only thing that could get my attention for an extended period of time. With me glued to the television, it gave him the opportunity to do things that he enjoyed far more than parenting. In short, almost all I ever did was watch professional wrestling.

I reveled in the interactions between the fan-favorite heroes, characters like Hulk Hogan or the Ultimate Warrior (known as "faces") and their narcissistic, yet cowardly antagonists, like Rowdy Roddy Piper and the "Million Dollar Man" Ted DiBiase (known as "heels"). And I marveled at how well certain plot lines culminated and climaxed after months of development outside the ring, and then played out in choreographed (and sometimes improvised) physical encounters within.

As I've matured, if that's the appropriate word, I've begun to appreciate the spectacle as an art form. I resent the ignorance of people who think Sports Entertainment only appeals to homophobic rednecks who believe that the "rasslin' is real, dagnabbit." Try to think of it as live theater which blends stage fighting with pyrotechnics; in which a steel folding chair is the ultimate literary device.

The haters who make those types of derogatory comments are the people who grew up watching professional wrestling anyway. You all you used to watch it. Sure, you were 8 or 12 or drunk, but we both know you used to watch and you used to bask in its low-brow glory. Then somehow, the product lost

you.

It lost me too, from 2002 to 2005, I didn't watch wrestling at all. I was disappointed with the quality of WWE's annual WrestleMania events, the Super Bowl of Sports Entertainment. In fact, the last WrestleMania that I can remember actually feeling significant was WrestleMania 12, in which Bret "Hitman" Hart and Shawn Michaels battled for over an hour for the then WWF Championship. That was 1996.

However, I've felt a tide shifting in the professional wrestling world. The WWE Universe is beginning to have more fun with itself again, giddily throwing in self-referential humor and seeming almost nostalgic for the "glory days" of late-80's professional wrestling. They now poke fun at some of their silliest gimmick ideas, and even feature a Russian brawler, Vladimir Kozlov, who believes he still represents the now-defunct USSR.

That's why, for the first time in about thirteen years, I'm actually excited for WrestleMania, dagnabbit. Sunday, April 5, marks the 25th anniversary of the event, the culmination of a quarter of a century of steel cage matches and blood feuds on the "grandest stage of them all."

And this year's event need not only be for those of you who have been keeping up in the past couple of years. These matches feature rivalries from the days when you ashamedly watched wrestling because you loved to watch Stone Cold Steve Austin taunt authority, or marveled as Mick Foley fell off of dangerously high structures for your personal amusement and awe, or felt proud when Hulk Hogan smashed communism with the only thing those Soviet shithheads understood...excessive violence. I'm definitely going to be watching on April 5, happily embracing that warm childhood feeling I've had crushed out of me by the weight of the world.

## Students Going for the Gold

COSETTE BRUHNS DESIGN EDITOR

While the average Lang student saunters into class with just enough time for a cigarette, Kaitlyn Weaver begins her day early with a four to six-hour practice before sprinting to school. Kaitlyn is a world-class athlete in the sport of Ice Dancing and spends at least 35 hours of her week training on the ice. With twice the amount of hours of training than a five-credit workload, Kaitlyn's weekly schedule would make even the hardest Lang hipster trying to bring down the university cringe. Kaitlyn, however, doesn't have the luxury to pontificate in the courtyard over why Lang has a cap on absences; she's busy training for the Olympics.

A Houston native, Kaitlyn left home to first train in Connecticut before moving to Toronto to train with her partner, Andrew Poje, in 2007. Home schooled in high school in order to accommodate all the relocations, Kaitlyn still finds it important to continue her studies. "All through my grade school years, my parents stressed the importance of maintaining excellent grades in addition to my sport. If my grades fell, skating would stop. This ideology continues today."

After deciding to take a year off after high school in order to concentrate on skating, Kaitlyn entered the University of Waterloo as a freshman in the fall of 2008 as an undeclared major in the Arts concentration. Within that semester, she managed to travel to China and Japan while preserving her student status and still turning in all her homework. With the ability to submit timed tests online, Kaitlyn explains that, "I am able to submit assignments or take exams before the [test] date, if I think I'm going to be unavailable to take it."

However, on her recent trip to Beijing for the Cup of China com-



COURTESY OF KAITLYN WEAVER

Kaitlyn Weaver skating with partner Andrew Poje at the 2009 Canadian National Championships competition

petition, Kaitlyn miscalculated the time difference and mistakenly missed an exam. Describing the difficulty in balancing her sport and her studies she says, "Most times it is very difficult for athletes to balance a high-level sport and academics. I don't want to become too overwhelmed, so that is why I only take one class. It's enough of a mental distraction, yet I'm still learning and moving toward a diploma."

Other athletes decide to abstain from scholastic pursuits in order to better focus on their sports. Nikolaj Sørensen, a 20-year-old ice dancer from Denmark, already completed a year of university before leaving his home to train in the States. Preferring to forgo any online or enrollment options here, he has decided to postpone school until after he has finished his skating career.

Kaitlyn on the other hand prefers the challenge of maintaining her demanding schedule. As busy as ice dancing keeps her, she aspires to continue her academic studies and take classes like art history, archaeology and psychology in the future all while pursuing her Olympic dream. "Andrew and I would be honored to go to the 2010 Olympic Games in Vancouver, Canada," she says. "It's been my dream since I was a little girl to go to the ultimate sporting event, and it is closer than ever. We are training as hard as we can right now in order to make this dream become reality."

Lang students may find it difficult to juggle smoke breaks, Bob Kerrey plays, and oh, homework, but if they all had Kaitlyn's drive, maybe Lang wouldn't top ESPN's list of worst university athletic programs in the country.




# SPEAK FOR YOURSELVES

## OPINIONS

by Team Strike Force: Claudia Acevedo, Josh Anderson, Berlice Bassas, Sam Denlinger, Aidan Gardiner, Justine Harrison, Charlie Le-veridge, Robb Maynard, Kyle McGovern, Corey Mullee, Elmo Roper, Alexandra Sharry

### Methodology

We surveyed 177 current New School students and faculty. Each New School division was represented proportionally based on their total enrollment. The surveys were anonymous, though respondents who wanted to give additional comments were asked to provide their names so that they could be quoted—some still declined to be named, but commented anyway. We made every effort to ensure that the survey was administered fairly and included a random sampling of students. Still, this is a survey, not a scientific poll; as such, it may not be perfectly representative of the student body as a whole.

 = 5 People

### Should Bob Kerrey Resign?



"He should be aware that he doesn't have a mandate from the New School faculty and students."  
-Ashley Kidd, NSSR

"No."  
-Bob Kerrey

"[Kerrey] probably shouldn't have been made president in the first place, but ousting him now could have some pretty awful ramifications."  
-Christopher Walsh, Parsons



### Conclusions

- Lang, More than any other division believes they are well informed
- Roughly 2/3 of respondents disagree with or are profoundly indifferent toward the protesting student groups
- Fewer people than you'd think know who Bob Kerrey is.

### In General Do You Agree with the Methods of the Protesting Student Groups?



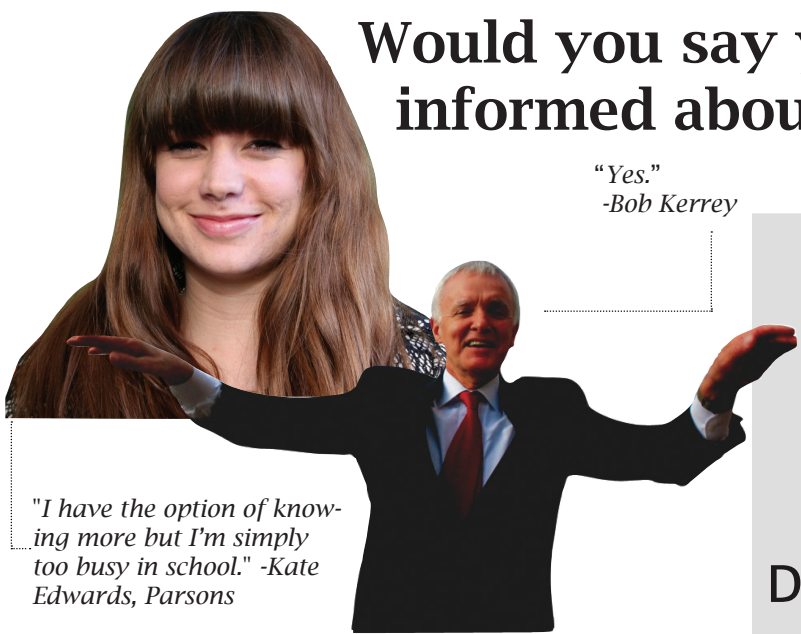
"I think they need to approach it some other way--sit ins are only so effective the 100th time."  
-Veronica Raphael, Parsons

"The message is easily ignorable. The reason the protests of the 60s still resound is because they did something unexpected and creative."  
-Tyler Caffall, Drama



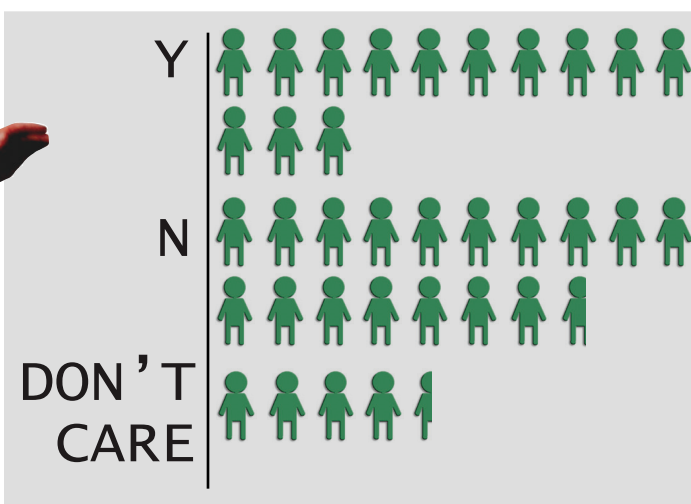
- Roughly 40% of Lang respondents believe Kerrey should resign, the highest of any division. Another 40% surprisingly don't care.

### Would you say you are generally well-informed about what is happening at the New School?



"Yes."  
-Bob Kerrey

"I have the option of knowing more but I'm simply too busy in school."  
-Kate Edwards, Parsons



- Jazz feels especially uninformed.

- Most Milano and NSSR respondents don't care if Kerrey resign. Most also don't think they are well-informed.

I don't agree with chasing [Kerrey] down the street, everything else is okay.

is. Kerrey who Bob know I don't

Nobody tells Jazz kids anything.

Everyone makes mistakes and he has been working on fixing the problems. He does listen to the protest.

STUPID AND POINTLESS.

It's more organized and professional compared to other protests of other schools.

It was funny to hear about students chasing after him.

I was involved with the occupation and I was disappointed with the lack of listening and consensus. A lot of asymmetrical power relationships were reproduced.

It's not as though the next person would be better. I have little faith in the New School finding its own Obama.

I DO NOT CARE! LEAVE THE MAN ALONE!

Not enough information is available to people without actually joining RSU/NSIE, and the idea of "radicalism" scares off more moderate students who are, nonetheless, concerned about the changes at the school.

From what I've observed, the student protests have been insulting, unprofessional, and counterproductive. If you're going to try and affect change, you should shave your beard, put on a suit, and be CIVILIZED.



# Should Lang switch from 4 credits to 3?

## Yes, Bigger Workload Means More Respect

KYLE MCGOVERN ARTS & CULTURE DEPUTY

In my three years here, The New School has been going through an identity crisis. The provosts, the protests, department guidelines that shift every semester, unsatisfied staff, questionable investments—I can already see all the raised eyebrows at job interviews to come.

And now, thanks to Gawker and *New York*, Lang's known more for inert bureaucracy and self-important sit-ins than for any sort of educational merit. The administration, faculty, and student body have to face an important issue: securing Lang's legacy.

There's been talk of altering Lang's credit distribution system, switching from a mostly four-credit curriculum to a three-credit one, and what this means for the school's tradition of featuring seminar classes.

A three-credit system doesn't necessarily betray the "Principles of Lang." Fewer credits and more classes don't automatically translate to big lecture halls or Scantron tests; it just means more work.

Maybe if Lang were to demand a heftier course load from students, the school's reputation would improve. Maybe I would be able to explain where I attend college without resorting to asking, "Do

you know *Project Runway*?"

I've loved my time at Lang. The seminar style of teaching and loose core requirements is exactly what made me decide to transfer here from Fordham University. And now that I've received the education I wanted, it'd be nice if in a few years that "Liberal Arts" diploma could mean something a little more than a disinterest in business classes.

Considering that every other division of The New School primarily offers three-credit classes, adjusting the credit distribution at Lang would promote integration between the schools and foster a stronger sense of identity within the university.

This is a university very much in flux—any legacy Lang will have in the future is uncertain at best. The university's graffiti font logo isn't very reassuring: "The New School" is literally fading away.

## No, Less Credits Means Shorter Classes

LILY O'DONNELL REPORTER

It has been proposed that Lang classes be shortened to an hour and twenty minutes and be worth three credits rather than four. This



might not sound like a threat to the integrity of our school's values, but, without seminar classes, Lang is not Lang.

Sure we'd all like to jump at the option of shorter classes, but let's take a minute to contemplate the fall before we jump. One of the main attractions of Lang for me was the seminar classes, and the prospect of genuine intellectual discussion in the classroom rather than the high school lecture classes dressed up a little and called "higher education" that can be found at larger colleges.

If Lang's classes are successful in reaching this goal, an hour and forty minutes shouldn't be enough time, let alone too much. Smoothly run, focused, and heated discussions can run for several hours without feeling stretched out. If some classes do not provide enough material to fill the hour and forty minutes, this is a symptom of a problem with the classes, not their length.

Teachers at Lang wouldn't tell a student struggling to fill out the length requirement for a paper "don't worry about it, just cut it off," so one hopes that they would say that the idea must not be complex enough yet, and push the student to develop it further. It seems obvious to me that the same solution should be applied to class length. If the material isn't provoking enough discussion it is, up to the teachers and the students to fix this, not throw up their hands and shorten them to accommodate their shortcomings, jeopardizing the classes that do need the full length.

*BarackObama: Afghanistan this. Nimitz class aircraft carrier that. Anyone noticed that Gen. Schwartz looks like Lurch and Dick Van Dyke's love child? 7:36 PM April 4th from Situation Room*

# GANGSTER OF Love



ROBB MAYNARD OPINIONS EDITOR

Several of my rabble-rousing peers are accusing President Bob Kerrey of jeopardizing the academic integrity of The New School, and after months of whining and posturing, I think they've finally got something right. A thousand monkeys carrying signs and chanting slogans for a thousand years are bound to make sense eventually. Truth be told, Kerrey is thoroughly defiling the academic integrity of this school, and it began with the increase in enrollment under which we now suffer.

The enrollment at Lang has doubled since 2002. We have twice the number of students, but the same number of brain cells shared between them. Kerrey has obviously done away with the standards this school claims to have once held, accepting any students willing to put aside whatever shreds of self-respect still remain after their rejection from NYU. He has filled this school with hypocrites and pseudo-intellectuals who seek to one-up each other in a sophomoric dick-measuring contest over who is more fashionably liberal, synthetically radical, or monotonously unique.

I have to share space and resources with nitwits who think a space heater is an appropriate towel rack, or that wearing a ski mask is an inconspicuous way to commit criminal mischief in temperate weather.

This high volume of cretins choke our book caches, foodnasiums, and learnatoriums. Once, the infestation was so severe, Kerrey was forced to barricade the students within a cafeteria rather than allow them to roam free and pester students actually doing work.

You may be hard pressed to believe my beef with Kerrey, what with my well-documented history of pro-establishment sentimentality. But my rage towards our president builds each day that I must endure a lackluster seminar course filled with dolts chirping on about inconsequential interpretations of "problematic" texts they didn't even read. Maybe if Kerrey filtered the enrollment properly, I wouldn't share a school with morons too stupid to understand the inherent contradictions of an "anarchy club."

If Bob Kerrey is to resign on April 1, I demand that he take his cadre of mental defectives with him, before they devalue my degree any further. I'm giving the idiotic population of this school until April 1 to get out, or...fuck, there's nothing I could take away from you apathetic assholes that you'd even miss anyway.

*Hugs not drugs? Why do I have to choose?*

# Charles Freeman and the Loss of Reason

JOSH ANDERSON STAFF WRITER

Standing up to Israel in the United States can be political suicide. Charles Freeman was forced to decline his nomination as Chairman of the National Intelligence Council after his name was run through the muck by former American Israel Political Affairs Committee director Steven Rosen, *New Republic's* Marty Peretz, and members of Congress, because he dared to criticize the policies of Israel toward Palestine. With Freeman's silencing—after Dennis C. Blair, Director of National Intelligence, had assured him the job—the Israeli lobby has succeeded in limiting the debate on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

For years Freeman has been dead set against the aide

Charles Freeman would have been an important bulwark against the unending unreason of our foreign intelligence. For now, Peter Lavoy maintains the chairmanship, and the status-quo. (The NIC was the same organization that stood firmly behind the National Intelligence Estimate on Iraq's Weapons of Mass Destruction.) Freeman was one of the few Washington insiders to stand behind the 2007 NIE on Iran's nuclear program that asserted that the country was not engaged in nuclear weapons development as previously assumed. Freeman himself acknowledged the power of the lobby, "The libels on me and their easily traceable email trails show conclusively that there is a powerful lobby determined to prevent any

view other than its own from being aired, still less to factor in American understanding of trends and events in the Middle East."

Oil and other corporate lobbies have exerted a greater influence on U.S. foreign policy, but the stranglehold that the Israeli lobby has on public discourse is massive. Freeman has long been admired as a reasonable voice among the ideologues, and was one of the few to defend the intelligence estimate that showed Iran's nuclear program was mostly smoke and mirrors. He could have been a moderate voice in the Obama administration; instead he's just another victim of the Israel lobby.

*April 3. Kerrey's Nazi gold found under loose block in Lang courtyard.*

# Why a Student Movement

YOTAM MAROM GUEST CONTRIBUTOR

Word on the streets is that student movements are full of whiny, privileged cry-babies. Being a privileged cry-baby wannabe-student-revolutionary myself, I am in the uncanny position to respond. Let's summarize the arguments: students join student movements for fun or image; things aren't that bad; there are more important struggles. I'll try to respond.

First of all, revolution should be fun, and we shouldn't have to apologize for that. We shouldn't expect to stand on soup lines, wearing gray, and humming sad ballads about the workers. Movements should reflect the world they want to create. (However, any students feeling guilty about having fun during struggle are encouraged to send letters of apology to Helen Buyniski, author of "Recession Gives Us Nothing Better To Do Than Protest" in the last issue of the *Free Press*.)

Secondly, The New School is far from what it should be. This university prioritizes its branding and business relations over its facilitation of a space for education and community, it denies those who fill its halls a voice in the decisions that affect their lives, and it uses its wealth to hurt communities outside of it. Yes, it could be worse (like, for example, schools in other countries that have been bombed by the American aggression that our university's president actively supports...), but we shouldn't settle for anything less than a self-managed university, where the students, faculty, staff, and others who make this place run are the same people who govern it.

Thirdly, yes, there are more important battles to be fought, and we should be involved in all sorts of different struggles. But while The

New School is not quite the site of the worst evil on earth, it is ours; it is one of the circles closest to us, because we are students. We struggle here because this is one of the spaces we have the most control over, because we are expressly responsible for it, because this is an institution that represents us to the rest of the world (both with its image and its money), and because it can be a platform from which we can participate in the larger struggles happening all around us. We also do it because we know we can win ourselves a self-managed university—if we care enough to fight for it.

A community in revolution seeks both to transform its own community life and to use the space it has won to confront other material forces—to interact with other communities, to liberate more space. We change the world by living the way we think we ought to live, and by confronting the forces that prevent society at large from doing so. This school is one of the communities we can change, both to live the way we think we ought to live, and as a step towards confronting the world outside its walls.

Seems like a worthy cause to me. Hope you're in for it too.



*You don't represent the students!*

the United States provides the Israel. "As long as the United States continues unconditionally to provide the subsidies and political protection that make the Israeli occupation and the high-handed and self-defeating policies it engenders possible, there is little, if any, reason to hope that anything resembling the former peace process can be resurrected," he said in a speech to the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations in 2005. "Israeli occupation and settlement of Arab lands is inherently violent." Apparently calling an aggressive warfare state "violent" is radical position. "His statements against Israel were way over the top and severely out of step with the administration," Sen. Charles Schumer (D, N.Y.) said, after his step-down.





# THE FUNNIES PAGE

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BY AIDAN GARDINER AND SAM DENLINGER

See more at: [www.thenewcampus.org/nsfp](http://www.thenewcampus.org/nsfp)

## Garfunkel



Bud Owen



## MYSTERY SQUIRREL

Mack & Dubbs



A snake can not legally obtain a marriage license, which requires a human signature. Plus, what would a snake be doing watching SportsCenter?

existential funnies

