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CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION

Read to find out more about methods that can help you land your dream co-op job. P3



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‘A step in the right direction’: PRISM on WCDSB’s decision to fly the Pride flag

Suji Udayakumar
Assistant News Editor

June 2021 marks the first time that the Waterloo Catholic District School Board (WCDSB) has decided to fly the Pride flag at its regional schools in support of the LGBTQ+ community.

Members of the Pride and Respect for Individuals of a Sexual Minority (PRISM) club at St. Mary’s High School in Kitchener, Ont. called the decision “a step in the right direction.”

“The Pride flag, by itself, will not fix the strained relationship between the LGBTQ+ community and the Catholic church, and by extension, Catholic school boards,” said Christine Bendia, a PRISM staff leader.

PRISM is a support group and a safe place for LGBTQ+ students to be with people they can trust, according to Grade 12 student Dante Duval.

“Not all students have friends or family that they can talk to about anything that they’re struggling with in terms of being a queer person,” Duval said. “[PRISM’s] a place where they can discuss how they’re feeling if they’re going through a tough time.”

PRISM staff leader Jessica Elias said the

program is a space where students and staff can talk about how to promote diversity and inclusivity in schools, which is further supported by raising the Pride flag.

“Raising just [the Pride flag] emphasizes that everyone is safe here, everyone’s welcome here and everyone’s included,” Elias said.

Duval pointed out that even though the flag might not seem like much, it represents inclusivity and safety for many individuals. “I hope that when [people] see that flag they can be like, ‘You know what? There is someone there on my side. There is someone that I can count on. There are people there that are going to be there for me if I need them.’”

In an interview with CTV News Kitchener, board trustee Greg Reitzel said he disapproved of the decision. “I believe this attempt is misguided. No truth for past hurts will be found in a piece of fabric,” Reitzel said.

He added that he understands that this is a genuine want for healing from a marginalized community. However, such comments by Reitzel have been met with backlash.

“The fact that we are getting resistance from upper levels of the Board of Trustees is a sign that this is still a contentious issue within the community,” said PRISM staff

leader, Todd Horne.

Horne also mentioned that the flag is a good first step, but there is still considerable work to be done before the LGBTQ+ community feels accepted and welcomed.

“Symbols are good. Backing them up with policy and action is what makes these symbols real and true.”

Duval also spoke about how a lack of familiarity and knowledge can be a factor in an individual’s disagreement with the board’s decision. He emphasized that despite this, open-mindedness is necessary.

“To an extent I can understand if it’s not something you’re familiar with, but you need to be able to have that open-mindedness to realize that this is the future that we’re going into,” Duval said.

Members of PRISM also mentioned that education, advocacy and representation are pivotal in continuing to promote equity and inclusion at schools.

“I think what it comes down to is educating,” Elias said. “If you are educated in the topics and you explore and you identify and you meet people you know from different groups, then you can understand and come to that realization that you know we’re all people. We all should be included. We all should be accepted. We all should be valued

and have our voice in society.”

Duval mentioned that education about queer people such as gender identity and sexuality being implemented in the curriculum would also be helpful.

“I think those are really important things that if you’re not a queer person, it’s not something you’re going to go out and research or try to better understand, because it doesn’t apply to you,” Duval said.

Bendia also spoke about the importance of representation. “From my own experience, being possibly the first and only out transgender staff member in our board, I would love to see more representation,” Bendia said.

“I worry about the impact on those students, and on myself, that comes with never seeing anyone else that has the same unique experiences and struggles we do. It can be incredibly alienating and lonely,” Bendia added.

Horne emphasized that adults should be listening to students and that students need to feel safe when voicing concerns and ideas. He also said systemic change is required. “It’s great that the board comes on top and says we’re going to do a Pride flag,” Horne said. “But I would love to hear them say to the kids, ‘What’s the biggest thing we can do to support you?’”



AHLAM IBRAHIM

The Waterloo Catholic District School Board (WCDSB) has decided to fly the Pride flag at its regional schools in support of the LGBTQ+ community.

Landing your dream co-op job

Rashmi Gopaul
Reporter

The University of Waterloo is highly renowned for its co-op system and claims to have the largest co-op program in the world.

Many students expect guaranteed co-op placements at their dream job. However, for many the reality is anything but.

"It is really competitive to get co-op jobs...I didn't get any interviews for the jobs I applied to in the main round, but I kept trying and finally secured my job," said second-year medicinal chemistry student Julie Dang. For her first co-op placement, Dang was able to work in the Smith Research Group in the chemistry department at UW.

As a science student, Dang said she believes it is difficult to land a job that is relevant to what one is studying and wishes there were more jobs in science since the co-op experience is great as long as it's related to one's program.

"You really experience what applying for jobs in real life is, along with all the rejections and dealing with rejections...show you're passionate about what you want to do. Try to volunteer...Networking is also a great way to meet potential employers," Dang said.

UW offers many non-credit training courses and programs, including professional development courses that teach students how to prepare for interviews, perfect their resumes, deal with conflict and work as a team. The EDGE program is also a great way to develop the many valuable skills employers look for and non-co-op students are also eligible to participate.

Yue-Chi-Ming Mary Melissa Pearl, a second-year accounting and financial management student, applied for her first co-op through WaterlooWorks, which she said was "very easy to navigate."

"There are so many resources available. If ever you are not sure, just email your co-op advisor," Pearl said. "The most important thing is to apply to as many jobs as possible and don't be picky, especially in the beginning."

UW students can also apply to co-op placements outside of Canada — as was the case with Rishabh Ballkorum, a third-year math and financial analysis and risk management (FARM) student.

Though Ballkorum initially applied for co-op placements through WaterlooWorks, he ended up applying to external placements by himself due to a lack of job offers.

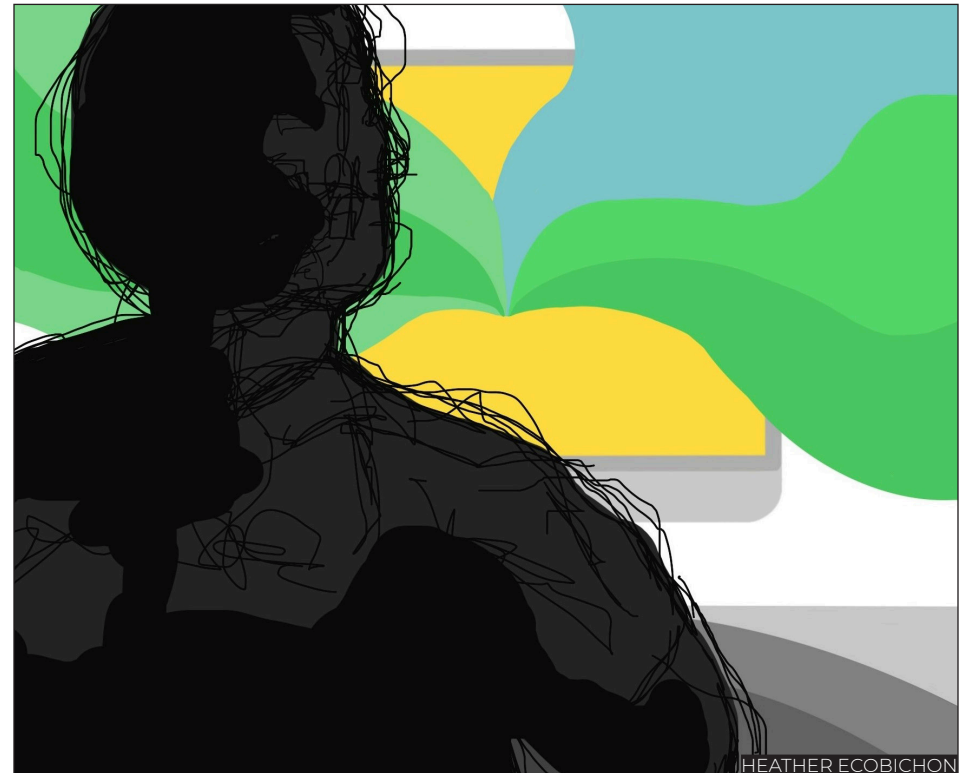
"Gaining work experience and soft skills, such as advanced Excel knowledge, prior to starting university is a plus. Employers al-

ways value prior experience," Ballkorum said.

Though UW is recognized for its co-op programs, the process can be much harder than it seems, especially for students apply-

ing for their first co-op.

"But as you do more co-ops and gain more experience, the process gets easier and easier," Ballkorum added.



Announcement: Updated course selection process for Fall 2021!

On June 3, the Office of the Registrar at the University of Waterloo announced in an email that there will be some changes to the course selection period in light of the hybrid delivery for the fall term.

The course add and drop period will be open from June 9 at 8:15 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. on June 22.

Some courses will use the concept of blended classes — including online and in-person activity — with a BLND campus code on Quest. Students are expected to review the undergraduate studies calendar to ensure they select courses according to their degree requirements. The course selection offerings list can also be viewed to see the instruction modes for various courses.

To add courses, sign into Quest from a desktop. Select the subject code and course code for the courses needed and choose an appropriate campus code. For certain majors, core courses might be pre-selected and should not be dropped.

Written by Rohit Kaushik



UW passes landmark carbon neutral investment strategy: No fossil fuel investments by 2025

The divestment strategy, passed by UW's Board of Governors, also aims to reduce carbon emissions by 50% by the end of this decade.

Karen Chen
News Editor

The University of Waterloo's Board of Governors voted to pass a carbon-neutral investment strategy during a meeting on June 1.

The carbon-neutral investment strategy, No fossil fuel investments by 2025, is "one of the most innovative decarbonization strategies developed by a Canadian academic institution," according to a press release from Fossil Fuel UW.

"I am incredibly moved by the amount of support that we've gotten from the campus community over the past few years that I've been a part of Fossil Free UW," said Petra Duff, a representative of Fossil Free UW at the Divest Canada Coalition.

"We would never have gotten to where we are without the dedication of everyone pushing this issue," Duff continued.

"From people striking outside of Ira Needles hall week after week to members of campus organizations like WUSA and GSA who pushed to officially support divestment

and carbon neutral investing, every effort was crucial in getting us to the table."

Going beyond divestment, the strategy features several ambitious targets, including a 50 per cent reduction in carbon emissions by 2030, 100 per cent carbon neutrality in both its pensions and endowment fund by 2040, and no material positions in fossil fuel exploration and extraction companies by 2025.

Other goals include climate-conscious re-investment as well as an annual disclosure of its performance.

"I was really excited to see UW's decision to divest its endowment and pension funds from fossil fuel industries by 2025 — investments that are increasingly at risk due to the climate emergency," said Michelle Angkasa, WUSA's first-ever sustainability commissioner, in a written statement to Imprint.

"The recommendation is one of the most ambitious and pragmatic solutions by any university, a necessary outcome given the urgency and complexity of the climate challenge we face," said Truzaar Dordi, a PhD candidate in climate finance and a member of UW's responsible investment

advisory group.

"This policy is a legacy that secures the university's position as a leader and innovator in environmental sustainability and climate action — affirming that we indeed walk the talk."

With UW included, there are now eight universities in Canada that have fully or partially committed to divestment from fossil fuels.

These include the University of Guelph and the University of British Columbia.

Although the University of Guelph was the first Canadian university to commit to fossil fuel divestment in its endowment portfolio, UW's strategy is both more progressive and more timely.

"This decision aligns with the university's reputation as an innovative environmental leader," said Angela Carter, an associate professor in political science.

On May 19, UW released its Climate Emergency Declaration, a milestone in the fight against climate change.

The report recognizes "that the impacts of climate change are already being felt both in Canada and around the world and will

continue to intensify."

"I am hopeful that UW will mobilize more of its immense human and physical capital to achieve its climate targets," Angkasa said.

UW recognizes that "as a public institution with a robust academic reputation for research and teaching on climate change and energy, [it] has a crucial role to play in climate action."

As such, the university has reached out to grass roots organizations and called on community support in the Kitchener-Waterloo Region in an effort to listen to the voices of thousands of students calling for change.

"Of course, this decision is just the beginning of the hard work that must still be done. Now that we've divested, we must think critically about how to positively re-invest in measures that will pave the path for a more resilient and sustainable future," Angkasa said.

"I hope that all students take this opportunity to get inspired and to celebrate that our grassroots efforts have paid off. Change is possible, and it's up to us to keep demanding it!"

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

IMPRINT ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THE UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO IS SITUATED ON THE TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES OF THE ATTAWANDARON (NEUTRAL), ANISHNAABEG, AND HAUDENOSAUNEE PEOPLES. THE UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO IS SITUATED ON THE HALDIMAND TRACT, LAND PROMISED TO SIX NATIONS, WHICH INCLUDES SIX MILES ON EACH SIDE OF THE GRAND RIVER. THEREFORE, IMPRINT RECOGNIZES AND RESPECTS THIS LAND THAT IT IS SITUATED UPON.

UW INDIGENOUS STUDENT ASSOCIATION



PHUONG TU



The different facets of LGBTQ+ in STEM

Rashmi Gopaul
Reporter

Systemic biases are ever-prevalent in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education and industry for LGBTQ+ people, be it LGBTQ+ scientists who would prefer a more welcoming environment in labs, or students who want more inclusive spaces in their institution.

LGBTQ+ folks are less likely to be retained in STEM fields and more likely to face wage and hiring discrimination. Being treated differently by co-workers and employers, social isolation, harassment, and limited access to career opportunities are some of the ways LGBTQ+ people are marginalized. More critical situations such as being denied treatment or receiving a lower quality of healthcare is even more worrying.

The University of Waterloo boasts having an extremely diverse and inclusive student population that is always trying to maintain a safe space where everyone feels included.

“Being a member of the LGBTQ+ community and a STEM student, you can feel part of a very small and isolated minority,” said Teddy Ayyoob, a second-year PhD student in UW’s pharmacy program.

“My preceptor [at my co-op placement] was very receptive and supportive when it came to my pronouns and creating a safe and comfortable work environment,” Ayyoob said. “All workplaces and preceptors should understand how important that is to their co-op students.”

Ayyoob added that by normalizing the use of pronouns — either by including them in email signatures or other ways — it creates a more welcoming environment especially for trans students to also share their pronouns.

“As well, establishing within the classroom and the broader UW school community that disrespect, discrimination and bigotry is unacceptable should be prioritized by staff and faculty,” they said.

Claire Thompson, a second-year biomedical engineering student, said she recognizes her privilege on the matter since she can easily conceal the fact that she is part of the LGBTQ+ community.

She said once people are aware of her identity, they tend to treat her differently. “They give me weird looks if they see me holding hands with someone of the same

gender. But you get used to it and just brush it off.”

Thompson is the president of UW EngiQueers, one of over 30 groups of EngiQueers Canada. The organization is a nationwide non-profit that actively evolves

engineering student culture and traditions to become more inclusive and reflective of its diverse community and advocates for inclusive policies at the institutions that build the very foundation of EngiQueers.

“There is always something we can do to

improve the lives of marginalized groups at UW. Connecting people with shared lived experiences is a great start to ensure that people going through similar hardships have an understanding community to fall back on,” Thompson said.



BlackBerry partners with UW to create Joint Innovation Program

Rebecca Butler
Science & Technology Editor

The University of Waterloo and BlackBerry have teamed up to drive innovation in the Waterloo region with the release of the new Joint Innovation Program.

“We are thrilled to be doubling down on our mission to foster the next generation of innovators and imagineers as part of our expanded partnership with the University of Waterloo,” said BlackBerry CEO

John Chen in a press release.

The program will offer students the chance to explore new technologies and expand their knowledge alongside industry experts. Members of BlackBerry’s Advanced Technology Development Labs will collaborate with students and staff to turn their research projects into market-ready products.

According to the press release, the goal of the five-year partnership is to drive research focused on cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, machine learning and safety assurance.

Students who have an interest in these areas — or even commercial aspirations for their intellectual property — will be able to form business partnerships with BlackBerry through the program.

In addition to research, the partnership will create co-curricular learning opportunities like Research & Development (R&D) challenges and hackathons for students.

BlackBerry will also offer an annual \$10,000 Cybersecurity and Privacy Excellence Scholarship, which will be awarded to students who excel in the cyber-

security domain.

Ever since BlackBerry was founded by Waterloo alumni over 30 years ago, the university has continued to work alongside them and other partners in the industry to conduct innovative research.

“This agreement is an important milestone in our long-standing partnership, and further cements the university’s unique position at the heart of a critical innovation community,” said Feridun Hamdullahpur, president and vice-chancellor of UW, in the press release.

The program will also encourage

staff from the math, science and engineering faculties, as well as the Waterloo Cybersecurity and Privacy Institute, to participate in research projects.

This research will be directed towards BlackBerry’s core business areas and new technological developments, such as their recently announced Intelligent Vehicle Platform (IVY).

“We look forward to working with the university to take new ideas from hand-scribbled diagrams to fully formed technologies ready for the global marketplace,” said Chen.

Tech start-up files first Waterloo-based IPO in 15 years

Mahek Kaur
Reporter

This spring, Magnet Forensics Inc. became the first Waterloo-based tech start-up to become a publicly traded company in the last 15 years.

On April 28, the company issued almost 7 million shares that began trading on the Toronto Stock Exchange under the symbol “MAGT” at \$17 per share. Driven by strong investor demand, the share price rose by almost 35 per cent by the end of its first day on the market, closing at \$22.90.

Becoming publicly traded is an important step for small companies as it allows them to generate the capital needed to expand. This is achieved by filing an initial public offering (IPO), which allows the public to purchase shares in the company on the stock market.

The company originally planned for an IPO of \$90 million and a share price ranging from \$14 to \$16. Boosting the price to \$17, the size of the offering increased to slightly above \$100 million.

On May 3, the IPO closed at \$115 million. The company intends to use the received funding to accelerate growth.

Magnet Forensics, now with about 300 employees, was founded in 2010 by current Chief Technology Officer and former Waterloo Regional Police constable, Jad Saliba.

After taking time off work to

battle stage four cancer, Saliba returned and joined the high-tech crimes unit where he started working on the technology.

At the time, Saliba said felt that the tools available to investigate

digital crimes and cyberattacks were not sufficient to solve more complicated cases.

In turn, he created a software that enables organizations to discover and analyze various types

of digital evidence such as conversations that took place over social media platforms that have been deleted by the senders.

“We provide private and public sector organizations with innovative tools to investigate cyber attacks and digital crimes,” Saliba said in a YouTube video posted to Magnet Forensics’ channel.

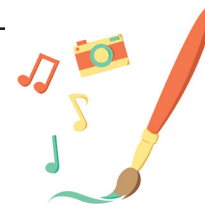
Over the last decade, Magnet Forensics expanded their product line and their solutions are now being used in over 90 countries. Their clients include large law enforcement agencies like the FBI and about half of the Fortune 100, the top 100 American companies based on total revenue.

Cybercrime has been on the rise over the last couple years. The FBI’s 2020 Internet Crime Report revealed a 69.4 per cent increase from 2019 in complaints of suspected internet crime.

According to CTV News Kitchener, many involved in the Waterloo start-up community are hoping Magnet Forensics will be the first of numerous Waterloo-based start-ups to be putting out an IPO. This includes Dave Caputo, the chair of the board at Communtech and CEO of Trusscore, the last Waterloo start-up to go public.



HEATHER ECOBICHON



The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on arts & entertainment

Yelda Safi
Assistant Copy Editor

It is no doubt the arts and entertainment industry has suffered significantly during the COVID-19 pandemic. After a year of varying restrictions, lockdowns and cancellations, many arts organizations across the country experienced a sudden halt in operations and a massive decrease in employment rates.

An article by the Canadian Association for the Performing Arts (CAPACO) calculated that in 2020, one in four arts workers lost their jobs across Canada.

Based on the Labour Force Survey conducted by Statistics Canada, CAPACO gathered that employment in the arts, entertainment and recreation industries decreased by 25.4 per cent in 2020 compared to 2019 — the greatest loss of employment out of all industries relative to its size.

This significant loss of jobs may be the result of the mass cancellations of many events, festivals, performances and other arts and entertainment programs that usually consisted of large gatherings and were not considered essential. CAPACO noted that the arts industry saw a decline of 36.6 per cent in total actual hours worked, and the performing arts businesses were hit the hardest with a plummeting decline of 60.7 per cent of total actual hours worked in 2020.

Another major impact the pandemic had on the arts industry is the transition to virtual and live streamed events. From the Juno Awards to the Toronto International Film Festival, many of Canada's most popular arts events took place virtually where the audience could enjoy from the comfort and safety of their homes.

The National Arts and Culture Impact Survey (NACIS) released in November 2020 concluded that one in two organizations had a positive experience going online and 59 per cent of individuals and 65 per cent of organizations agree that virtual

events are necessary. However, approximately a quarter of organizations expressed that going online is not the best option for them, with many noting that they did not have the proper technology and tools for hosting virtual events.

Many of the arts programs in Waterloo Region were also cancelled in-person or streamed virtually last summer. The Ever After Music Festival, Kitchener-Waterloo's largest music festival, was cancelled last year and officially postponed to 2022. Other organizations like the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery (KWAG) hosted virtual exhibitions on its YouTube channel.

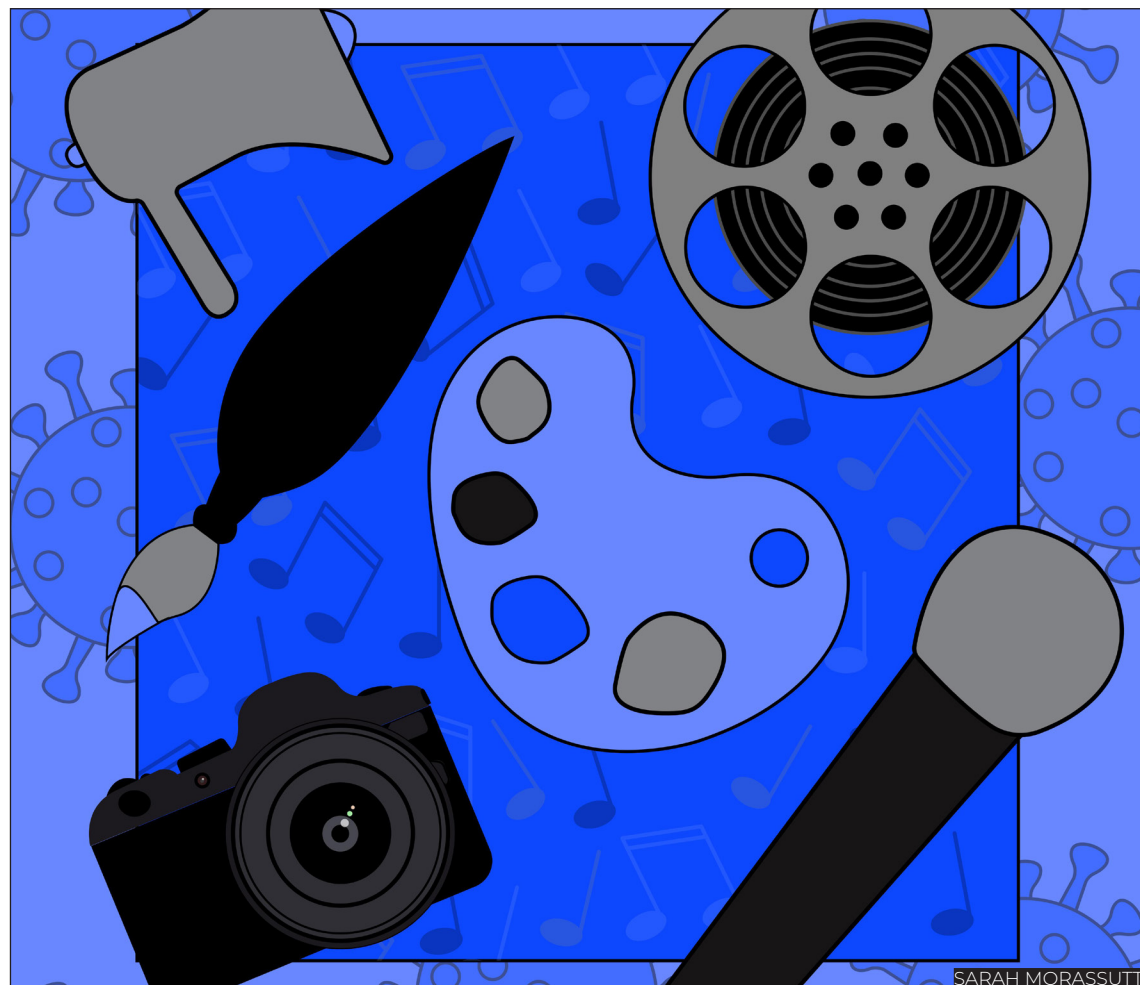
Many arts clubs at the University of Waterloo also stayed connected through social media platforms and virtual events after all the in-person events and gatherings held by WUSA were cancelled due to COVID-19.

Animusic Ensembles, a unique UW student group of musicians who welcome all kinds of instrumentalists and play music from anime and videogame soundtracks, continued their concerts and performances virtually over the past year.

"When lockdown happened, we were planning for our concert and then all of a sudden it sounded like we couldn't have one," said Jasmine Chan, former president of Animusic Ensembles and a third-year

"When lockdown happened, we were planning for our concert and then all of a sudden it sounded like we couldn't have one."

JASMINE CHAN, FORMER PRESIDENT OF ANIMUSIC ENSEMBLES



SARAH MORASSUTTI

pharmacy student. "It was a big shift because we had to quickly salvage the term and figure out a way to kind of make our practices not go to waste."

It was difficult for many clubs to transition online, however for Animusic Ensembles, that was not the case.

"The transition for our club has been surprisingly smooth," said Amanda, a third-year computer engineering student and current music club president. "Figuring out exactly what direction we were going to take it first was a bit tricky, but I think it ended up pretty well because we have a YouTube channel now and we're a lot more active on social media as well."

"A lot of people have resorted to streaming as an alternative way for live performances," said Stone He, a

fourth-year mechanical engineering student and active member of Animusic Ensembles. "Our primary focus is recording projects."

Animusic Ensembles, although a newer club in comparison to other UW musical groups, had an overall positive experience operating their club online over the past year.

"We actually happened to be able to retain a lot of members because they would have otherwise had to leave because they were graduating," said Chan. "So we actually got really lucky in that sense that we retained a huge majority of our member base and we were still able to get new members because they saw that we were an active club."

"We gained a sizable following on YouTube, and we had one video that reached 12,000 views," said He.

Looking ahead toward upcoming

semesters, it is still uncertain when on-campus gatherings and in-person events will reopen.

"I personally can't wait to get back to in-person rehearsals, but I do think that the online side of things will continue — posting to YouTube and sending recordings in — because it has been so successful for us and it's a way to keep our alumni in the loop," said Chan.

"I think we're moving to a more hybrid approach as time goes on, because the social media presence that we have has actually been very beneficial to us in terms of growth and it's really fun to know that you're actively contributing to something together," said Amanda.

More about Animusic Ensembles and their upcoming performances can be found on their social media pages and YouTube channel.

A taste of **LGBTQ+** art: *Imprint* reviews & recommendations

Ashley Tang
Reporter

In 2012, Frank Ocean released his debut studio album titled *Channel Orange*. The album's success would go on to help Ocean garner recognition from music lovers and critics from all over the world.

Ocean is often praised for his narrative-driven lyricism. His songs aren't the straightforward one-dimensional radio songs with a catchy beat and repetitive buzzwords. The stories he tells throughout his songs are filled with intricate literary devices and he lays his vocals on top of alluring instrumentals that support the vivid atmospheres he aims to create.

Channel Orange discusses a variety of topics ranging from wealth and drugs, to liberation, love and sex. LGBTQ+ themes are also a prominent focus throughout the album.

"Bad Religion" alludes to Ocean's struggles with his sexuality along with his feelings of unrequited love. As he belts out "I can never make him love me," Ocean parallels the man who he harbours unrequited feelings for with the uncertainty of his relationship with God. "Him" can refer to the man he loves who doesn't return his feelings, but "Him" could also be interpreted as God who Ocean believes will see his love for another man as sinful.

In "Pink Matter," Ocean's words waltz upon a continuous and addictive guitar riff that drones on throughout the song. The instrumental is paired with Ocean's use of

vivid imagery that encompasses the femininity and sensuality of the female anatomy. Initially, he sees women as the sole source of his pleasure, but as he begins to question his beliefs, he ends up choosing "pleasure over matter", signifying that he accepts that whether he is with a man or woman does not matter, rather, he can find pleasure in both.

Ocean's ability to teleport listeners to different settings through his music is just one of his many hidden talents. Perhaps the song that is most representative of the album's dynamic experience is "Pyramids." When the song begins, listeners brace themselves for an almost 10-minute journey starting with Ocean's vocals echoing on top a soft ringing and funky bassline that transports them to the pyramids of Egypt where they dance with Cleopatra. The bass is switched out for a sequence of electric notes and suddenly listeners are stepping into a nightclub in Dubai. A series of transitions take place as different instrumentals overlap and listeners find themselves trapped in a retro video game, thrown into a laser rave, then dancing on the strings of an electric guitar. The last 30 seconds of the song end with a lonely instrumental that sounds like the beginning of a coming-of-age film.

Unlike most albums, *Channel Orange* isn't boxed into a specific genre. Rather the album takes on different styles of music such as R&B, neo-soul, electro-funk, jazz and pop. The album's 17-song tracklist will throw listeners into a vibrant, psychedelic journey that will make you want to dance, cry and fall in love, all at the same time.

channel ORANGE

COURTESY DEF JAM RECORDINGS



COURTESY GAMIVO.COM

Life is Strange is a story-driven, graphic adventure video game available on PC, mobile, Xbox and Playstation. The game is set in the small fictional town of Arcadia Bay and follows Max Caulfield, a seemingly normal 18-year old photography student, until she discovers she can rewind time. To progress through the game, players will have to make choices that could potentially have major impacts on the story's events. But unlike most choice and consequence games, Max's supernatural power means that she can go back in time to see how different choices would play out.

Players come to learn more about Max through her inner monologues, text messages and diary entries, but so much is still unknown about our protagonist. The most pressing question being: How did Max get her time-rewinding powers? The game doesn't give us an explanation and Max herself even contemplates the question by asking "Why me? I'm just a geek girl in some small town."

As players accompany Max on her journey, we learn alongside her how to use her newfound ability. This new power allows Max to literally take back anything she says, predict people's actions before they take place and prevent any accidents from happening. But more often than not, Max finds herself using her rewind powers to save Chloe Price — her childhood best friend she lost touch with when she moved away to Seattle. However, the two quickly rekindle their friendship

throughout the course of the game.

Rather than introducing Chloe as a plot device to further Max's journey, the writers emphasize that Chloe is her own individual person. Max and Chloe might be an inseparable pair, but first and foremost they are separate complex characters with unique identities. It is when the two come together that they create a playful, emotional and loveable dynamic.

While Max and Chloe might just be video game characters, their chemistry is undeniable, with players even having the option to develop their friendship further if they so choose. It's the classic best friends-to-lovers trope, but the way their story is written doesn't make it cliché. There are subtle hints that allude to the feelings between the two girls that may have been present since childhood, but with an overall air of ambiguity as to what their relationship could potentially evolve into. This interesting relationship dynamic has fans consistently rooting for Pricefield — Max and Chloe's ship name — to prevail against the game's obstacles.

Life is Strange also has arguably one of the best in-game soundtracks. The selection of songs has a heavy presence of acoustic guitars that adds on to the game's hopeful and nostalgic nature. Additionally, the calming ambience of Arcadia Bay perfectly captures that small town feel.

If you've ever wanted to turn back time, then plug in your earphones, get ready to escape reality and step into the world of *Life is Strange*.

sports & health



WRITE FOR SPORTS

Want to go to UW games for Imprint? You'll be able to talk to players, coaches, and fans! For more info, email sports@uwimprint.ca.

Student Athlete Spotlight: Sam Jones

Saihaj Dadhra
Sports and Health Editor

Third-year knowledge and integration student Sam Jones first began participating in competitive sports at the age of five as a competitive swimmer in Montreal.

Jones didn't participate in organized sports for a couple of years after moving from Montreal to Ottawa in 2006. However, Jones' father — a University of Waterloo alumnus and former varsity volleyball player — introduced Jones to volleyball.

Jones began participating in volleyball youth programs at age 10 and played competitive volleyball from ages 13 to 16 in a club and was part of their school team. The club season ended in May 2016, and Jones came out as transgender in July of the same year. Jones played as part of their high school's girls' volleyball team from 2016 to 2017, but wore a boys' volleyball uniform.

"When I was put on the girls' team, it was really great because for the most part, they were all super supportive," Jones said.

Just after wrapping up their time playing club volleyball in the summer of 2016, Jones had a reputation for playing the sport well and knew several members of the school team from having played club volleyball with other athletes outside of school. Jones said they didn't face

any issues when wearing the boys' uniform, and the team and coaches were "very accommodating."

However, the gender neutral bathroom was on a different floor of the school building and did not have water fountains. This became an issue in particular when Jones began coaching at their club. "I did not have access to any water, while working a six-hour shift that involved a lot of physical activity," Jones explained. "I ended up having to ask one of my coworkers to refill my water bottle as I was not out to them, it was really stressful trying to explain why I couldn't do it myself."

During the 2017-18 school year, Jones was the head of the school's Rainbow Alliance and made the switch to play on the boys' volleyball team. "Transitioning to the boys' team was pretty horrible, because they are not very accepting," they said.

Jones said they made the decision to join the boys' volleyball team in the summer before the new school year started and their decision to play on the team prompted concern.

"I had people asking me, 'Do you have a safety plan? Do you know how you're going to get to and from practice so that you're not alone?' Because people were afraid that I would be assaulted. And thankfully, that never happened. But I was harassed and bullied," they said. "We had one game where a specta-

tor was referring to me as 'it' and my team did nothing."

Jones said they faced microaggressions from teammates such as not being acknowledged as part of the team, not being invited to team gatherings, teammates cutting in line in front of them. Jones was not on hormones during their time playing volleyball in high school. They explained that they could "pass" as male a lot of the time, but stood out because they had a high pitched voice.

Although Jones said they faced transphobia on the team, "Being able to play volleyball on the boys' team was huge," they said. "To my knowledge, no other out trans person had played sports at my high school."

Jones is a co-founder of a youth group called SAEFTY Ottawa — an organization based in Ottawa that aims to create a safe space for LGBTQ+ individuals and their families. Jones is still involved with the group remotely from Waterloo, while also volunteering with UW's Glow Centre as the external director.

While recovering from top surgery two years ago, Jones took up crocheting as a hobby that has since grown into a business, called Kartoffel Krafts.

Before the pandemic, Jones would swim recreationally a few times a week at the UW pool. Jones was sharing a locker with a friend, who had rented a locker in

the men's change room. Although there is a gender-neutral change room with lockers, one cannot be rented like they can in the women's and men's change rooms.

Jones hopes to work in User Experience (UX), with a particular interest in hearing aids and improvements that can be made to products that aid with hearing

loss. "My goal would be to work at a company in Denmark, that's where the scene is in terms of design and also hearing aids."

Jones' message to UW students is: "Do not be complacent when you see injustice occurring around you. Even if the issue does not directly impact you, your complacency leaves vulnerable people behind."



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GOWARRIORSGO.CA/RESILIENTWARRIORS

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Stay up to date with Warrior Rec programs, events, job opportunities, tips and tricks on how to stay well, facility information and more. Visit gowarriorsgo.ca/warriorinsider to sign up for our *NEW* newsletter.

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Next scheduled post-mortem meeting:
 Virtual due to COVID-19

Next scheduled board of directors meeting:
 Virtual due to COVID-19

opinion



HAVE YOUR SAY

Submit your letter to the editor or your community editorial to opinion@uwimprint.ca. Find more opinions at uwimprint.ca.

Reflecting on our social movements

How can we improve to better help our communities?

Many social justice movements bring important attention to systemic inequities that affect disadvantaged peoples globally. Yet as we pass the one-year anniversary since the George Floyd protests, little has changed for the living conditions of many Black neighbourhoods around the world. Reflections are needed to address how advocacy centered in academics and/or social media creates a disconnect between real world applications and shapes much of the performative activism we see.

Additionally, examining the ways in which activism can facilitate accessible community engagement is also a vital part of truly promoting reform. As a Black woman and a second-generation immigrant, I believe a lot of the approaches toward advocacy — such as those used by Black Lives Matter (BLM) and similar organizations — haven't effectively achieved positive change within our communities.

While we have made steps toward symbolic change, recognition and awareness, I do not think this is enough. Examples include the overwhelming attention on performative statements from celebrities and businesses, token minority representation in movies, or out of touch trends such as the "blackout" movements on Instagram in June 2020. Eventually, what happens is that advocacy might not always align with the lived experiences of people in need. We are ironically repeating the history of disadvantaged people continuously being ignored and not having their voices heard, only this time by members of their own community.

An intriguing piece by Huffington Post analyzed how Malcolm X, known as one of the most notable figures in the civil rights movement, observed the media's fixation on referring to Black celebrities on complicated matters. The article specifically mentioned the pattern of white people in positions of power offering Black activists room in meetings to present a false image of allyship. We most recently saw this in the past election season with former U.S. president Donald Trump pandering to Black celebrities such as Lil Wayne, or current U.S. President Joe Biden having interviews with Cardi B.

Unfortunately, this drowns out the voices of critical community leaders including non profit organizations such as the Asso-

ciation of Black Psychologists, Black Urban Growers, or the Black Health Alliance based in Canada. What comes out of these conversations or statements from these celebrities only achieves "token progress" that the notable Malcolm X observed in his speech delivered decades as mentioned in the previously noted Huffington Post write-up. In my opinion, these celebrities who often don't have the experience or expertise to have critical discussions on opportunities to solve and address anti-Black racism, discredit the movement and public narrative.

The rise of "brand activism" is another notable case, an example being Nike's launch of Colin Kaepernick as the face of their campaign, which increased their profits tremendously. It is clear that campaigns and marketing techniques that were driven by these large corporations lead to increased revenues while the inequities in Black and racialized communities remain the same. Moreover, the outrage continuously pushed by the media polarizes everyday working people who have more in common than the corporations which benefit from our suffering, outrage and division.

I think it is time to evaluate how recent movements, actions and controversies have actually made a difference in promoting equality. BLM has reportedly collected \$90 million in donations as of 2020 according to the Washington Post. For instance, the story of Michael Brown who was tragically shot by the police the same year also made

headlines in the news. Yet not long ago his father demanded to receive compensation and questions where the money was distributed within the community as noted in a piece by the Washington Post. History has shown this cycle is all too common with viral social movements, especially regarding tragedies related to police brutality that end with little support to victims' families or institutional reform.

I believe we need further accountability of non-profit organizations in order to ensure the social mobility and self-determination of Black communities by allowing for bottom-up change. Maybe it doesn't seem like much — but I believe a start toward sustainable progress in structural reform is to extend hospitality to one another. Talk with people, be open to new ideas and let go of our preconceptions of the "other," particularly through encouraging crucial community collaboration in our city planning, public health and policy decision-making. Yet, this can only happen once we shift our focus and actually become invested in promoting equity and well-being for each other, even if that means needing to be pragmatic.

Itman Hassan
Fourth-year public health student



JIA CHEN



As the Province of Ontario begins to reopen and we enter Step 1 of their 3-step reopening plan, the following activities are what will be permitted at Waterloo as we enter each step.

We ask that our participants make their best efforts to social distance and wear masks when not participating in vigorous activity

**Reservations will be required for any instructional programming.
Visit warrior.uwaterloo.ca**

STEP 1

June 11

- » Outdoor activities with the maximum allowance of 10 people per the space which includes:
 - Warrior Field
 - Grass Fields
 - Ball Diamond
 - Disc Golf
 - Outdoor workouts on Warrior Field (max allowance of 10 participants)
 - Varsity Practices (max allowance of 10 participants)
- » Indoor buildings remain closed

STEP 2

Estimated to begin early July

- » Outdoor activities with the maximum allowance of 25 people per the space which includes:
 - Warrior Field
 - Grass Fields
 - Ball Diamond
 - Disc Golf
 - Beach Volleyball Courts
- INTRAMURALS**
 - » League style (3 week season +1/2 week playoff)
 - Spikeball
 - Beach Volleyball
 - » Tournament style (weekend)
 - 7v7 soccer (may be 6v6 or 5v5 depending on numbers allowed)
 - Ultimate Frisbee
 - Beach Volleyball
 - Spikeball
 - » Varsity Practices (max allowance of 25 participants)
 - » **Indoor buildings remain closed**

STEP 3

Estimated to begin late July

- » Buildings (CIF/PAC) open and indoor spaces operational with protocols aligned with Public Health guidelines in place
- » Reservations and a tap WatCard will be required to access facilities

ONLINE PROGRAMMING AVAILABLE

We continue to offer our online programming as well.
Visit our Healthy Warriors at Home page at gowarriorsgo.ca/onlinerec

GOWARRIORSGO.CA



#GOBLACKGOGOLD

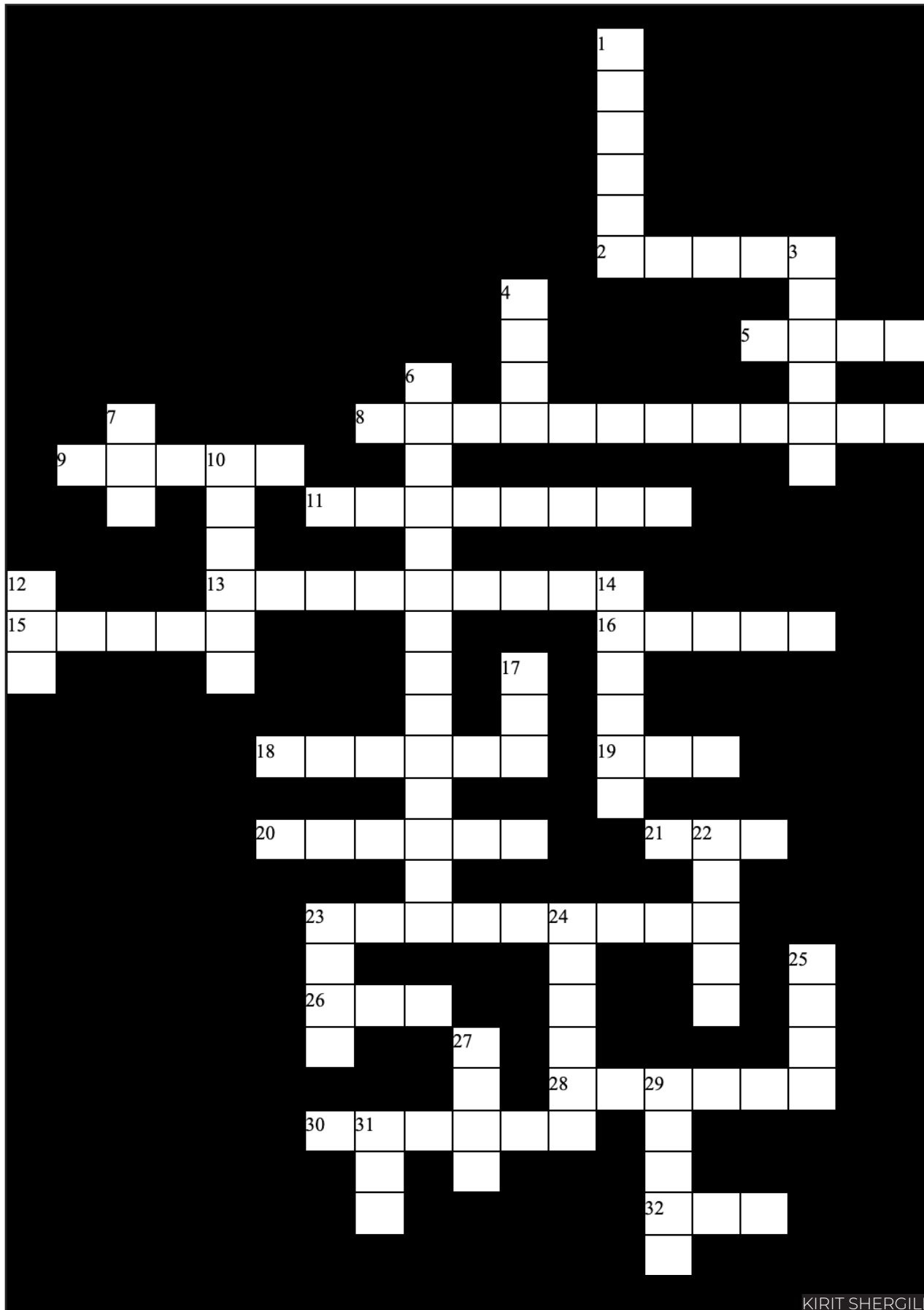
distractions



YOU SAID EVERYTHING WOULD BE BACK TO NORMAL BY THE END OF JUNE...

JULY-ED!

Imprint crosswords | Number one hits



KIRIT SHERGILL

Across

- 2. Surrey town known for salts
- 5. Reddit Q&A sessions
- 8. 1983 Lionel Richie #1 song (3,5,4)
- 9. Drink to
- 11. Like one who got careless at the beach
- 13. Fairy tale ball arrivals
- 15. Something numbered in groceries
- 16. Blow up
- 18. #1 Toto song that mentions the Serengeti
- 19. Pitching stat
- 20. Minor accident
- 21. 1970 #1 hit with the line "What is it good for?"
- 23. 2017 #1 Song Whose Music Video Has Over 6.5 Billion Views On Youtube
- 26. Candle material
- 28. Chatted via webcam
- 30. Steamed cantina food
- 32. Hogwarts mail carrier

Down

- 1. "___ Mucho": 1944 #1 song
- 3. 1997 Hanson #1 song
- 4. Indian bread
- 6. Best days of the week's #1 song on Spotify in 2020 (8,6)
- 7. Short cut
- 10. Elon Musk company concerned with travel to Mars
- 12. Beaver's project
- 14. Catcher of the Golden Snitch, in Quidditch
- 17. Remote battery size
- 22. Make amends
- 23. Like morning grass
- 24. Carnival offering
- 25. Surrounded by
- 27. Lay's chips-in-a-can brand
- 29. Google rival
- 31. Swiss peak

LAST PAPER'S ANSWERS

