



# THE CLARION

By students, for students



**Women's History Month**

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**FREE**

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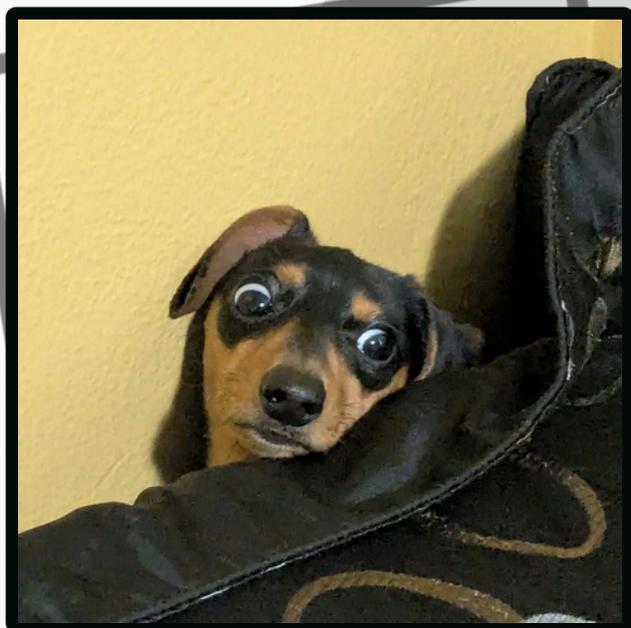
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**The Clarion**










Dusekkar from Forsaken. Guppy Neff



Art submission. Jackson Sparrow



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# LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Hello Tartans, I am Noah Schlarman, the new Executive Editor of the Clarion. I am a creative writing major at Sinclair Community College and have always been passionate about transferring emotions onto a page. I firmly believe that a strong pen can be the most impactful tool in any person's arsenal.

I mainly tend to write fiction and poetry, but I have become enamored with the art of journalism and have been pursuing a career in this field ever since. This passion was not always my career. However, I used to work as a union carpenter in Dayton, local 136. Because of this, I have a deep appreciation for an honest day's work and the gratifying feeling that comes with seeing something I built with my own hands.

Like many people, I did not know exactly what I wanted to do. Once COVID-19 came and the layoffs that followed, I found myself aimless in a busy world eager to move past me. This is when I rediscovered my love for writing. I would draft stories and worlds while I swept floors at night for just enough money to get by. When life felt too stressful and I felt underprepared, I turned to my love for writing to make sense of the feelings trapped inside my head.

Learning to focus on being kind to myself was a struggle I am sure many can relate to. It is human nature to listen to the rude voice inside the mind. I listened to that voice as if it were gospel for a long time. Looking back on it now, it feels rather silly, but when one is in the midst of despair and feelings of unworthiness, the smallest mole hill feels like a jagged mountain.

Eventually, with patience, persistence, and dedication, I saved enough money to go to Sinclair. I was blessed with a strong support system of friends and family who encouraged me every step of the way. I was only able to listen to this encouragement once I started the journey of self-love.

Once I arrived at Sinclair, I realized that putting good things out often came with a similar reception. Being nice to strangers made me feel good, and charity provided me with purpose and a revelation that by servicing others' needs, I serviced my own. Now, I go out of my way to say hello to a person I have not yet had the pleasure of meeting.



**Executive Editor Noah Schlarman.** Guppy Neff

Becoming a reporter at the Clarion allowed me to learn more about my community and meet more interesting people. It felt like the first real step in the direction I desperately want to go. Since then I have taken steps to become a copy editor and now an executive editor. I am lucky to have such a great group of people to work with here at the Clarion.

In honor of Women's History Month, I would like to briefly thank some of the strong women who helped shape the person I am proud to be today. Firstly and most obviously, my mother Missy, who is the wisest and strongest person I have ever had the pleasure of knowing. She taught me that while life is not always kind, the blessings it provides leave us little reason to be ungrateful. A struggle she worked through on her own as she courageously battles multiple sclerosis (MS) and somehow manages to be the happiest and most optimistic person I know.

To my three older sisters: Alex, the relentless entrepreneur who comes up with better business ideas than the last. She has shown me that while we work out of necessity, it is also crucial to thrive and follow the dreams people call impractical.

Tori, the ambitiously devoted go-getter who's work ethic would put nearly everyone else to shame. She taught me that quitting only makes it worse when things get tough. She has shown me the value of tenacity and commitment.

Madi, the most patient, kind and understanding person in my life. Often the lightning rod of my worries and doubts, she has lifted me from rock bottom and stood me on her shoulders to show me the light of better days. I would not be close to the person I am today without the relentless faith that these strong, intelligent, and capable women have.

My newfound ambition is a collection of all their hopes and encouragements. The talks that always seem too short are never lacking in quality and somehow every time we talk again, it is like we never stopped in the first place.

I am grateful for the opportunity to be in the position I am in both mentally and physically. The Clarion has provided me with amazing people and opportunities. As the new executive editor, I look forward to a long and happy journey.



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# Women's History Month

## The Strength and Struggle of Our Mothers

By Esperance Amuri, Online Editor



In the United States, many holidays and celebrations remain consistent, even though some are being diminished or banned. March is no exception; it is designated as Women's History Month, including the celebration of Saint Patrick's Day.

Women's History Month began in 1981 when Congress approved Public Law 97-28, urging the president to declare the week starting March 7, 1982, as "Women's History Week."

By 1987, advocacy from the National Women's History Project led Congress to designate the entire month of March as Women's History Month. Since then, annual presidential proclamations have honored women's contributions to U.S. history and highlighted the significant achievements of women across various fields.

For those interested in learning more, the Women's History Month website provides links to the Law Library of Congress which offers resources to help better understand the importance of this month.

The National Archives records document the great contributions that women have made to the U.S. nation. The history of these women can be learned from the national archives by exploring their stories through letters, photographs, film, and other primary sources.

A significant moment in U.S. history was the women's suffrage movement, which culminated in the passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution. This amendment prohibited states from denying the right to vote based on sex. Decades of dedication from suffragists paved the way for this significant achievement, but it was only one milestone in the ongoing fight for women's rights.

The National Archives features an exhibit titled "Rightfully Hers: American Women and the Vote," which highlights the relentless struggle for voting rights throughout American history. This exhibit honors the diversity of activists who championed the 19th Amendment.

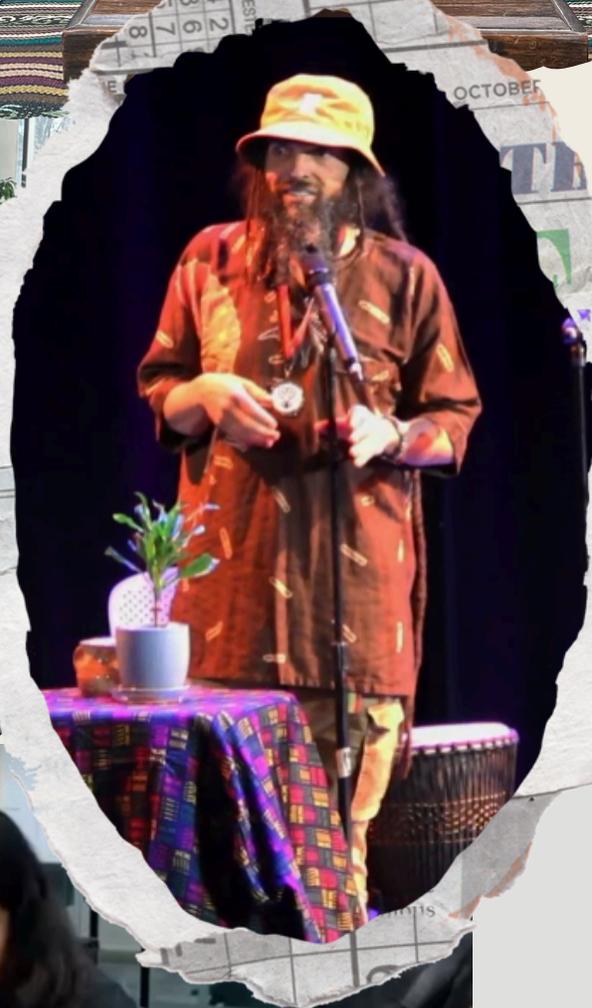
Women such as Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, Sojourner Truth, Ida B. Wells, Frances Willard and Mary Church Terrell were instrumental in making the 19th Amendment a reality through years of activism, protests and legal battles.

While many influential women could be acknowledged, listing them all would be extensive. However, they deserve to be remembered, taught in schools and discussed among girls and women today. Learning about their achievements fosters confidence and resilience, empowering future generations to strive for their best selves.

As March approaches, every girl or woman can find inspiration in the story of a remarkable woman from history. By choosing someone whose experiences and values resonate with her, she can draw strength and wisdom from that person's journey. Let their perseverance, courage, and accomplishments guide her, shaping her path and inspiring confidence in pursuing her goals.



# FEBRUARY



**Blessing Beads**  
As these beads catch your eye  
Smile and know that  
YOU ARE LOVED

# Immigrants Influence on St. Pat's Day

## How Irish American Immigrants Shaped St. Patrick's Day

By Noah Schlarman, Executive Editor

**H**olidays are special times to come together with friends and family and observe or celebrate a particular event. Often based on anachronistic and unverifiable tales, people use these stories as justifications to spend time and cherish those close to them.

In American culture, many holidays have strayed quite far from how they were initially observed. Because America hosts a collection of different cultures, people have taken certain aspects of a holiday and made it their own unique celebration.

St. Patrick's Day is an embodiment of this phenomenon. In modern America, it has become a day to celebrate Irish culture and heritage, usually by wearing green, pinching those who are not, drinking shamrock shakes and, for many adults, drinking copious amounts of green beer.

Interestingly, St. Patrick's Day festivities as we know them actually began with Irish immigrants in the latter half of the 18th century. Immigrants would put on parades in New York City, sing native songs, play bagpipes and wear green. This symbolized Irish rebellion and was banned in Ireland itself during British rule. They did this to honor and connect with the homeland they longed for.

Back in Ireland, however, St. Patrick's Day was a solemn religious holiday rather than a celebration of all things Irish. It was a day of observance to St. Patrick, a Roman slave turned Catholic missionary who spread Christianity throughout fifth century Ireland. The Catholic Church venerates him as the patron saint of Ireland. Ironically, pubs would be closed in observance of the holiday.

However, time marches on. According to "The Wearing of The Green: A History of St. Patrick's Day" by Mike Cronin and Daryl Adair, Irish public officials in the late 1970s grew quite envious of the American version of the holiday. They began trying to import the celebration to Ireland, often by consulting American St. Patrick's Day experts. It notes that while it was successful, the meaning of the American celebration was lost across the pond, and the experience was relatively empty to Irish citizens.

This St. Patrick's Day, be sure to spend time with family and friends, adorn the clover shirts and leprechaun buckle trim hats and remember that cultural influence is a two-way street.



# More Knowledge is More Savings

## Take Charge of your Benefits

By Andrew Barnes, Staff Writer

**B**eing a student at college really puts a strain on a person's wallet. Between tuition books commuting and all the other costs, it can force a student to truly make some rough decisions financially.

Some good news, however, is that there are plenty of establishments that offer discounts to students. These discounts are not unremarkable either; sometimes stores offer upwards of 10%, if not more. These stores aren't just local restaurants but also retail and even internet and cell service providers.

A word of caution, is that not every store will take part in these deals, so students looking to take advantage should confirm their local store's participation before partaking.

One such establishment is Cousin Vinny's. For readers that like pizza, this should be on your radar. Since 2002, Cousin Vinny's has been a staple pizza in multiple communities across three states.

With such varied choices ranging from an Italian sub to a taco pizza, there is something for everyone's tastes. For students, they offer a deal in the form of a one-topping pizza for seven dollars and three dollars shipping.

Look up Cousin Vinny's Website for more information.



Cousin Vinny's Pizza. [restaurantjump.com](http://restaurantjump.com)



At Sinclair, communication is one of the most important things they try to teach the students that are attending. In this digital age, one of the most common forms of communication is through one's cell phone, but that requires that one pay for their cell service.

This is not a cheap undertaking either, with certain cell plans ranging upwards of \$30-50 a month. Fortunately for those on a budget, AT&T has a deal for students. You can get \$10 off a month with the AT&T unlimited premium plan with 5G coverage included at no extra charge.

A personal computer is a great thing to have at Sinclair Community College, but they are out of reach for many students. It should come with some relief to know that these too can be under a student discount.

A great brand for this is Lenovo; the prices begin affordably, but even then, it might still be outside of the means of most students. To remedy this, Lenovo has a discount for students. This deal allows students to save 5% on select laptops. For more specific information, go to Lenovo's website.

Coming to school with style can help a student feel better about themselves and that confidence can help in their academics. But fashion is an expensive undertaking. A remedy for this financial burden, comes in the form of J. Crew. an outlet store already specializing in discounted prices on classic pieces made of quality materials. The savings continue if you are a student because they are offering to take 15% off of your order for a single order if you present a valid ID at checkout. For more information, students can visit their website.

Working all day and not taking a moment to oneself is no way to live. Students need a balance of work and leisure, and a movie is the perfect thing to do during one's leisure. The question then becomes which theater to choose.

AMC is the perfect choice for such an endeavor. AMC has a wide selection of both movies and locations around Ohio.

The discount they offer is different depending on the specific movie, so one should check the website before deciding on their film choice.

Students that are feeling the pinch of tuition on their wallets should look to the websites above to see if their local stores take part in these deals. Not every store will take part in these deals, so one needs to check with their own local store and take advantage of the discounts to save themselves money.



Lenovo Technology. [Gizmochina.com](http://Gizmochina.com)

# An Inside Look at Dayton's Funniest

## The Comedians of Dayton

By Noah Schlarman, Executive Editor



Photo of Lori Graves. [Lorigcomedy.com](http://Lorigcomedy.com)



Photo of Brent Bowser. [Brentbowsermerch.com](http://Brentbowsermerch.com)



Photo of Jeremy Johnson. [JeremyJohnson.com](http://JeremyJohnson.com)

**T**he Gem City is known far and wide for its innovation. Not only in manufacturing but comedy as well. Dayton hosts a rich variety of comedians that perform all over the country, who all cut their teeth in the local comedy scene. Here is a look at some of the people who keep us laughing here at home.

Brent Bowser says he always knew he would get on stage. At a mere 18 months old he was cracking jokes and making each room brim with laughter. Through school he immersed himself in doing comedy skits and became involved in his high school theater which he continued his passion for throughout college. After this, Brent found himself attending friends open mics.

"I watched one of my coworkers film his first album at Go Bananas [Comedy Club], and I thought that I could do it, so I asked how to get involved and I was pointed in the direction of Wiley's Comedy Club." Brent said.

Like many other local comedians, Wiley's Comedy Club was considered home to Brent until its closing in Sept. 2024. There is speculation that it could reopen under the new direction of Dave Chapelle's management company. In the meantime, comedians have found other comedy clubs around the city to hone their skills. Places like Brickys Comedy Club and the Laugh Zone House of Comedy have become bastions to up and comers as well as veterans of the craft.

Brent has a wealth of experience to draw upon. Opening for acts such as Joe List and Dan Cummins, he is also a founding member of the Pullin' It Improv troupe.

Stand-up is very much a performance, everything is rehearsed, from the facial expressions down to the pauses between words. It is difficult but crucial to be able to master the art of weaving improvisation into such a rehearsed performance.

"When the script doesn't go the way it's supposed to, improv has certainly helped me to be more aware of the audience and what they are feeling. Which allows me to adjust to whatever energy they may be giving me." Brent said.

Like Brent, Lori Graves is also familiar with improv. Lori teaches the art of comedy at Ohio University. While travelling to Hartford, Connecticut for a show she shared her insights on the art.

"Improvisation is part of the performance, and if you can get the audience on your side then you can do anything, its just that you only have about 30 seconds sway them." Lori also says that like any skill, it gets easier the more you do it. Performing the same jokes and routine can become tedious to keep the same energy you had the first few times it was told. To her, this is where improv and crowd work can really help.

Lori has performed all over the country and for all kinds of crowd. Some of her proudest recollections include working with non-profits like United Service Organizations and Wounded Warriors.

When she recorded her first comedy album, Lori could think of no better place than where she first got started; the Majestic Theatre in Chillicothe, Ohio. Lori did her first performance opening for a band that she is friends with. Unlike most comics starting out with a handful of patrons at an open mic, Lori first performed in a packed room of 300 people.

Lori is a veteran of the comedy world and has seen it transform drastically in her years as a performer.

"It's changed a lot, but the biggest change was after Covid [19]. Nobody has attention spans anymore; I am more of a storyteller but now jokes need to be short and punchy."

Contrary to Lori's experience, comedians like Patrick Callahan has only two years of performing under his belt. This is considered little experience in comedy circles, but with new blood comes new perspective and excitement for performing.

Patrick started the way nearly all comics do; bombing on stage in front of less than ten people. His self-deprecating humor shined through during his interview when he opened up about his natural stage fright.

"I was terrible; I was so terrible, I don't even remember doing it, I just blacked out and had an out of body experience because I was so scared. But its whatever, I'm delusional and I just kept going back up. "Unlike most newbies, Patrick was not deterred from wanting to get back on stage. He fell in love with the life and other fellow comedians.

"90 percent of the comedy scene is just hanging with cool people, and every now and then you get on stage for a bit." Patrick missed the glory days of Wiley's. Instead, his stomping grounds are at Bricky's in Miamisburg, Ohio. The club set a world record last year for the longest comedy show ever performed at a mind boggling 84 hours long; a feat Patrick helped achieve.

One of the biggest changes in the comedy scene according to Patrick is the way that comics get big now.

"The digitalization of comedy has changed how people get big. Road dogs don't really exist anymore. Now people just post podcasts and specials to YouTube for free and try to get engagement that way."

Travelling as a comedian is still important to Patrick, utilizing big cities is the best thing a comedian can do. "Dayton is great because we are so close to big cities like Columbus, Cincinnati, Chicago, and others, but if you don't ever leave Dayton it wont matter. The king of Dayton is a nobody in Milwaukee." A profound sentiment from someone just getting started on their comedic journey.

Patrick's goal is like every other comedian starting out; to be able to do it full time. He also hopes to make it onto Kill Tony, a popular comedy podcast. He wants the exposure and to be seen by a large audience; though he doesn't know how the anxiety would feel in front of so many people.

Another slightly more seasoned comic shared their insights about dealing with anxiety for stand-up. Jeremy Johnson says learning to accept anxiety as part of the act is key to conquering it. Just like any first-time comedian is going to fail, they will also be nervous while doing it.

"I'm an anxious person by nature, so you can imagine how scary it is to get up in front of strangers...They serve alcohol in the clubs for a reason. We all need a little liquid courage to get going, but now I get on stage no problem." Jeremy said.

Like Brent Bowser, Jeremy always knew he would make his way to a stage one day. He got his first chance when his friend invited him to an open mic in Cincinnati. Jeremy wanted to try it out somewhere he knew no one would know his name, just in case he ate it.

Fortunately though, Jeremy had a great first set and his passion for making people laugh only grew from there. However, even after a great first experience, Jeremy was still plagued with stage fright. Out of fear of failing, he rehearsed his act so many times that he became tired of hearing it.

"I would rehearse every day in front of the mirror, and the issue with that is now the joke you've told 500 times isn't funny to you anymore. So when you go on stage you are already nervous and now you think your own jokes suck." Jeremy said.

This is where a great support system comes in. Jeremy called and did his act in front of a friend who loved it. This gave Jeremy the ego boost he needed to get back on stage.

The stage fright comes in a spectrum that affects every comic differently. Some comics were never nervous even from the first time, while other comics still vomit on their shoes before going on stage for the hundredth time.

For a civilian who might want to take their shot in the limelight, all of the local comedians had the same advice to give. Have fun; be delusional; be nervous; let it happen and if a newcomer bombs, get on stage and try again.

The most important thing about performing comedy is being willing to commit to it and allowing the bad sets to happen. Failures do not define anybody; attitude and outlook determine how people will be remembered.



**Patrick Callahan mid performance.** *Patrick Callahan*

# From Bedside to Big Picture

## Sinclair's RN to BSN Program

By Koena Lizza, Staff Writer

**F**or many registered nurses (RNs), pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree can feel out of reach. Balancing demanding work schedules, family responsibilities and the ongoing learning required in healthcare can make further education seem overwhelming.

Recognizing these challenges, Sinclair Community College has created an innovative and highly supportive RN to BSN completion program tailored for working nurses. Launched in spring 2024, this program provides a unique and accessible pathway for RNs to advance their education, improve their leadership skills and expand their career opportunities.

Sinclair's RN to BSN program offers working professionals the flexibility to pursue their degrees without disrupting their daily lives. In addition to this flexibility, the program fosters a vibrant learning environment enriched by its students' diverse experiences.

Lynn Jenkins, an Associate Professor and Program Director, shares, "One of the great things about the program is that the students are all coming from very different places. They're of different ages, different ethnicities, racial groups, and cultural groups. They're coming from different experiences." This diversity creates a dynamic classroom atmosphere where students learn from expert faculty and each other, enhancing the educational experience for everyone.

A key feature of the program is its applied learning which incorporates practicum hours and hands-on projects that allow students to translate their theoretical knowledge directly into real-world nursing practice. This approach bridges the gap between classroom learning and the complexities of actual patient care.

For instance, a recent program graduate collaborated with the emergency room team at a local hospital to develop and implement strategies to address staff burnout, a critical issue in the healthcare field. This project perfectly exemplifies the program's focus on practical problem-solving and its commitment to empowering nurses to make a tangible difference in their workplaces.

"Her part was very important," Jenkins said. "Very essential to the whole beginning of the program." highlighting the significant impact students can have even while in the program.



**Nurse students talking to their teacher.** Koena Lizza

This personalized approach ensures that each student's learning experience is carefully tailored to their aspirations, professional objectives and unique circumstances.

The program also benefits from a strong and productive collaborative partnership with Sinclair's eLearn division, which provides students access to additional support services and resources, including technical assistance and study skills workshops.

"The faculty has just been amazing to work with. We've made some changes based on student feedback," Jenkins said, highlighting the program's dedication to continuous improvement and responsiveness to student needs. Faculty members are deeply invested in their student's success. They cherish the opportunity to be part of their transformative journeys and witness their growth from initial challenges to triumphant graduation, recognizing the invaluable connections forged.

The program actively partners with local healthcare organizations, such as Good Neighbor House, Fidelity health fairs, and the program's clinical partners, to provide students with a wide range of community nursing experiences. They are also developing partnerships with Montgomery County Public Health and the Hope Center to offer students more diverse clinical experiences and connect them with important community health initiatives.

To aspiring nurses Jenkins said, "I would advise them to trust themselves, and that if their heart is leading them there, all the rest will follow and to never give up on themselves because they're worth it."

These words might resonate deeply with aspiring nurses. Still, they also express a universal and timeless truth: Discovering one's passion and pursuing it with courage and determination is a journey open to everyone, regardless of background or current circumstances. At Sinclair this philosophy is central to every program, empowering students to embrace their full potential and achieve their dreams, whatever their chosen field.

Sinclair's RN to BSN program stands as a powerful testament to the college's unwavering commitment to advancing nursing professionals and improving healthcare delivery. The program's supportive, flexible and accessible structure is making a significant contribution to the evolution of nursing practice and the enhancement of patient care, ultimately benefiting the entire community.



Outside of Premire Health building. Koena Lizza

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# April 4-6

**The Hub at the Arcade**  
31 South Main Street, Dayton, OH 45402



This event is hosted by Sinclair's Computer Science and Information Technology department, and based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation (NSF) under Grant DUE 2055411. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the NSF.

# Sinclair's Guitar Lab Hits the Big Screen



Sinclair's Guitar Lab on PBS

By Dion Johnson, Multimedia Specialist

**T**his past January, PBS aired an episode of "The Art Show" featuring Sinclair Community College's very own Guitar Lab during its first segment. Over the course of about 10 minutes, the episode briefly covered

the process of building a guitar in the lab as well as the importance of applying STEM outside of the classroom. The members of the Guitar Lab take great pride in the episode and were happy to be given the opportunity. They also admit that the entire thing was a fluke.

Andrew Shaffer, the Guitar Lab's Operations Manager and Senior Lab Tech, recounts the story of how the PBS special came to be.

"There was an individual who was taking one of the Physical Education classes and she told her friend that worked for PBS that she ought to go down to Sinclair... I guess she was walking by and was like 'What is that?' She stopped in and she asked 'What do you do here?' I told her and she was like 'Do you think it would be alright if we did a story on you?'" Shaffer said.

After sending the request up the chain of command and getting approval, filming was allowed to begin. There was just one problem. For the episode, PBS wanted footage of a guitar being made from start to finish. The regular course that Sinclair offers does so over a period of four months. Luckily, there was a training event last summer where members would build the guitar over the course of a week instead.

"It was almost like it was meant to be...The universe said 'Yes, this will happen.' If it was another time, it would have been very difficult for them to film the entire process, but it was perfect." Shaffer said.

Two months after capturing footage of the training event, PBS returned to film the team producing the kits that they ship out across the world. This is a day-to-day task of the Guitar Lab team. From Alaska to Germany to Columbia, the Guitar Lab sells and ships kits to STEM programs not just across the country, but internationally as well.

"We were known more nationwide and outside the country than we were in Sinclair," said Josh Kemper, a member of the Guitar Lab for five years.

Kemper has a love for STEM and seeing its applications in the real world through actual crafting. By working with the Guitar Lab, he hopes to share this love with students getting into STEM programs via building guitars.

"What formulas you're using and what problems you're doing, you can see the results in front of you. It makes it easier to understand and this is a lot more fun than a bird house." Kemper said.



Pictures of the guitar lab. Dion Johnson

# A Marvelous Experience

## An in depth look at Marvel Rivals

By Andrew Barnes, Staff Writer

# RIVALS



Loki new skin in marvel rivals season 1 . Rivalskin.com

**H**ero shooters have been a mainstay in the video game industry for a long time. From giants of the genre like Team Fortress Two and Overwatch to more niche entries like Concord or Quake Champions, the format has proven to stand the test of time. Now, a new title has come out with a marvelous twist: superheroes.

NetEase games have come out in collaboration with Marvel Studios to create Marvel Rivals, a first-person shooter focusing on Marvel superheroes. This combination attained acclaim from both fans and critics.

The general gameplay is what one would expect from a game in this genre: various game modes and a cast of eclectic characters with unique mechanics to play as. The special twist comes in with the specific mechanics and how they relate to each character.

Each character has a collection of moves and mechanics that feel both varied and accurate to the character.

An example of this is Loki. In both the comics and the movies, he has always been known for his illusion magic and never being what he seems. In the game, this is replicated with his clones; each clone looks like him. In addition to these clones, he can become invisible while leaving a clone in his place and even swap places with them.

This leads to a playstyle that involves tricking opponents into believing you are somewhere you are not, all the while you are safely out of danger. When you factor in the ability to swap places, you can continue the tricks even after the enemy has guessed correctly.

Each character has just as much care put into their abilities as Loki.

As a hero shooter, one wouldn't expect much of a story, but Marvel Rivals is also a comic game, so there is a surprising amount of depth to the lore of the game. Each stage has its own self-contained plot that is expected from a PvP shooter, but it also ties into the overarching plot like a superhero comic.

A newcomer to the game this season is the Midtown stage. It's a convoy map, meaning that the goal is to either move

A newcomer to the game this season is the Midtown stage. It's a convoy map, meaning that the goal is to either move a vehicle to the other end of the map or to keep it from moving depending on if you're on the attacking or defending team.

The plot of this map is that Herbie (the robot that helps the Fantastic Four) has fallen in love with Iron Man's artificial intelligence, F.R.I.D.A.Y. After being ignored by the Fantastic Four, he has gone off on his own to save her.

This plot is perfectly functional by itself, but it also ties into the current plot of the season, Dracula invading New York. The reason that Herbie needed to save F.R.I.D.A.Y. is because she was shot down by Dracula's forces, and the reason the Fantastic Four ignored Herbie was because they were attempting to solve the problem at hand.

The plot doesn't stop there, however. The reason Dracula was able to invade New York is because Doctor Doom had allowed him to traverse the multiverse. This is so that he might distract the Marvel heroes and stop them from interfering in his plans to overcome his alternate self and take over the multiverse (the overarching plot of the whole game).

All of this leads to a very layered and involved story that truly feels like an event from the comics.

Those who enjoy playing hero shooters should think about playing Rivals, and doubly so for those who enjoy Marvel comics. The gameplay and plot perfectly recreate the feeling of various heroes and villains participating in large-scale events.

# Sinclair Helps Student's in Need

## A Way to Stay Full

By Dion Johnson, Multimedia Specialist

**A**ccording to the Center of Budget and Policy Priorities, SNAP (Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program) helped an average of 41 million people a month with low income in 2024.

It's through SNAP that many families are able to afford nutritious groceries. That being said, the process of applying for SNAP benefits can be a daunting task, especially those who have never done it before. Fortunately, Sinclair offers to help people apply.

In partnership with the Dayton Foodbank, Sinclair's Counseling Services assist students in determining eligibility for the SNAP program and receiving assistance to get connected with benefits. Brenda Smith, Sinclair's Case Manager, has been working with cases like this for five years.

"We do whatever we can to help," Smith said. "If that means we have to sit down and walk them through with the county, we can do that."

Smith also pointed out that there are services such as United Way of the Greater Dayton Area that are there to help when Sinclair cannot. It's important to note that Sinclair cannot apply for SNAP themselves. Instead, they help people who come in through the application process to make it easier. While these services are just a Google search away, it helps to have someone in-person that's willing to walk them through the process.

Walk-ins are welcome on the following days from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Dayton Campus, Building 13, Room 426:

- March 12 and 26
- April 9 and 23
- May 7

If you have any questions, call the Counseling Services department at 937-512-3032. Students in need of assistance with housing insecurity, homelessness, food insecurity or access to medical/healthcare can also sign a Student Assistance Referral Form. A member of the Sinclair team will reach out and provide special support services.



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# Breaking the Stigma Around Dissociative Identity Disorder

## Reaching out for understanding

By Aqua Neff, Creative Director

**M**arch 5 marks the day for dissociative identity disorder (DID) awareness. “We are not just a statistic, and we are definitely not crazy,”

says Morri, an alter, or separate identity, in Theodore Smith’s system. People living with DID are tired of dealing with the stigmatization around the disorder. It’s not just what mainstream media depicts.

“It’s not a silly game or having best friends in your head who do your homework...People in my life think that this is fake all the time.”

Dissociative identity disorder was first recorded in 1584 in France. A nun named Jeanne Fery had experienced severe childhood trauma leading her community to believe she was possessed. The term “multiple personality disorder” was coined in 1885 after Louis Vivet was the first to be officially diagnosed with the disorder. However, the term has changed and goes by the name we call it today.

This disorder is feared by many, Theodore’s friends and family believing that his alters would come out to harm them. “It’s just not true...My alters are here for a purpose, to protect me and the rest of our system. Most of the people who are afraid of it caused it in the first place.” Morri was speaking about his parents who unfortunately contributed to the challenges he faced during his childhood and the circumstances that led to his disorder.

Identity disorders have multiple subcategories as well, the most well-known being DID, OSDD-1a and OSDD-1b. Each one is classified with different levels of amnesia and distinct identities. “We have OSDD-1b, less or no amnesia but distinct identities. However, we’ve only been able to communicate so well with therapy.”

Within the DSM-5, DID is categorized as “at least two or more distinct personalities. Each personality varies in behavior, sense of consciousness, memory, and perception of the outside world.” People who have DID, commonly refer to themselves as ‘systems’.

These systems have coalesced to form communities similar to therapy groups. They have meetings and find comfort in relating to each other's struggles. As the disorder requires intense or repeated abuse in the early stages of life, system groups tend to take on a form that closely resembles groups for PTSD.

“I wish people could see us for how we really are, you know? It’s not often that a non-system even tries to understand what we go through. At the least, we just want to be tolerated”

Morri went on to talk about his experiences with his alters, and how they help to care for their body and protect him from harm.

Treatment-wise, systems usually have two options. Final fusion is therapy to merge all alters into a single identity or functional multiplicity. Therapy to lower amnesia to communicate and navigate life easier without necessarily merging all alters into one. “Obviously I go to therapy, but between final fusion and functional multiplicity, the second just works better for us.”

When asked how people could learn and get involved, Morri said, “Just listen to systems in your life and don’t automatically judge them. Only 1.5% of the population is diagnosed with this disorder, but that’s the same percentage of redheads. Be loving and open to the conversation, because our suffering has led to this. I promise your loved ones are worth it.”

People living with DID are not as different from everyone else as it may seem. Just because they live life differently does not mean they cannot live a full and happy life.

# Charity Earley

## A way maker in times of hardship

By Esperance Amuri, Online Editor

**W**hen mentioning the figures who gave their all for the freedom of black Americans, the list would be incomplete without Charity Adams Early's name on it; the same goes for women who made history in the United States. She paved the way for Black women in the military and the community and ensured they got the education they needed.

According to the National Women's History Museum, Earley was born on December 5, 1918, in Kittrell, North Carolina, and grew up in Columbia, South Carolina. Her most notable position was leading the Army's first African American women's unit on a World War II overseas tour.

Her parents were both well-educated and strived to encourage a love of books and learning in their children. Earley started primary school as a second grader due to her outstanding intelligence. After elementary school, she was among thirteen students who passed an exam to advance directly to high school, but her parents chose not to let her skip ahead.

Earley graduated at the top of her class as valedictorian from Booker T. Washington High School, gaining a scholarship that enabled her to attend Willburfoce University in Ohio, ranked as one of the best African American higher educational institutions at that time.

Apart from majoring in mathematics, Latin, and physics while minoring in history, Earley was well-active at the University. She ensured she joined as many school groups as possible and those matching her interests there, including the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). Earley also took courses in education while there so she could become a teacher. She graduated in 1938 with a Bachelor's degree in Arts.

Upon returning to Columbia, South Carolina, Earley taught math and science at a junior high school from 1938 to 1942. When she was not teaching, she took graduate courses at Ohio State University (OSU) in the summer and later declared vocational psychology her major.

When the United States expanded its military forces in 1942, the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps (WAAC) was created, later known as the Women's Army Corps (WAC), as the United States went to war with Germany and Japan. Earley heard about this and decided to apply for a place in the organization.

Earley was accepted into the first officer candidate school in July of that year and began training at Fort Des Moines, Iowa. After earning her commission in August, she remained at the training center until 1944, serving as a staff training officer, station control officer and company commander. In September 1943, she was promoted to major, becoming the highest-ranking female officer there.



Charity Earley. [womenshistory.org](http://womenshistory.org)

According to the U.S. ARMY, after being promoted, Earley became the commanding officer of the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion, nicknamed the “Six Triple Eight,” which was turned into a movie in honor of all the African American females who served in this during World War II directed by Tyler Perry.

This was also the first unit of WAC African Americans to go overseas. Its first mission in Birmingham, England, was to organize and distribute undelivered mail to U.S. service members. Earley’s battalion worked seven days a week, three shifts, clearing all the backlogged mail from the previous six months in only three months despite being given nine months to do it.

Later, Earley’s unit relocated to the postal facility in Rouen, France, where they were once more entrusted with sorting up to 65,000 pieces of mail daily that had not been delivered. The unit cleared over 17 million pieces of backlogged mail by the end of WWII, ensuring the members serving in war stayed in touch with their loved ones back home, significantly boosting morale.

For her outstanding service in the WAC, Earley was promoted to lieutenant colonel in December 1945, the highest rank available to soldiers in the WAC. She later requested to be discharged from active duty in 1946. She was also presented with a scroll of honor for distinguished service to the military by the National Council of Negro Women Inc.

Upon being discharged from the services, Earley was invited to many places and groups to talk about her experiences in wartime. She also managed to get her Master of Arts at OSU and started working at a Veterans Administration in Cleveland, Ohio, as a registration officer. She worked in this position from 1946 to 1947; then, she turned to different roles in academic administration.

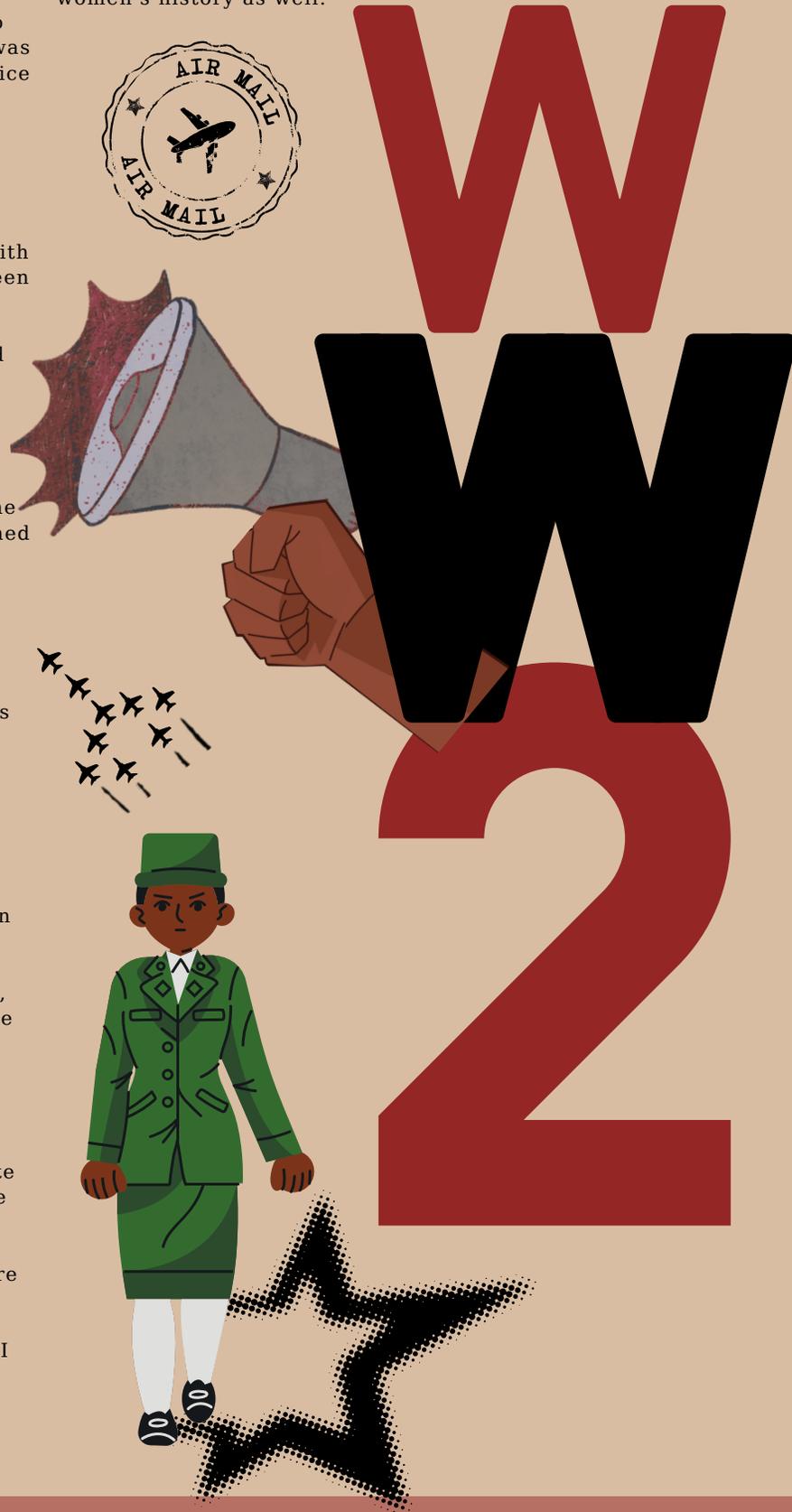
In 1949, Earley married Stanley A. Earley Jr., and they relocated to Zurich, Switzerland. There, she studied German at the Minerva Institute. Earley later enrolled in classes at the University of Zurich.

She spent the remainder of her life in the United States, serving as a dean at Georgia State University, Tennessee Agricultural & Industrial State College (now Tennessee State University), and numerous other organization boards. She returned in 1952.

Earley founded the Black Leadership Development Program (BLDP) in Dayton, Ohio, in 1982 to help educate and train Black Americans to be community leaders. She died in 2002 at the age of 83 in Dayton. However, the Smithsonian National Postal Museum honored her work with the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion before her death.

The institution also recognized her achievement in WWII in a ceremony held in Washington, D.C., in 1996.

Earley’s story screams resilience, courage, and self-determination. Although she could have been discouraged by many things, she chose to persevere despite it all. Her story teaches that achievement is possible as long as hard work and determination are combined. She will forever be remembered not only in African American history but in women’s history as well.



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