New York Institute of Technology Source for Campus News Since 1966

# The Campus Slate

Tuesday, April 12th, 2011

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# NYIT Career Services Hosts 28th Annual Job and Career Fair



See page 4.

Students reviewing their resumes before meeting the employers

## Middle East Uprising Affects the Local NYIT Campus in Bahrain

By: Ethan Debehar

In our continuing coverage of the events unfolding in Middle East, our biggest concern is about the safety of our fellow students and faculty members in the local NYIT campuses. Since our last front page article published on March 8, 2011, the situation turned out for the worst and many protesters in several countries lost their lives. Anybody that follows the media knows that our Air Force is involved in securing the "No Fly Zone" above Libya, to protect the citizens of that country from Colonel Kaddafi. Also, to a lesser degree, but again in the media we can read that peaceful protesters are being killed in several other Middle East countries such as Yemen, Jordan and Syria.

**See Page 8**



http://www.arrakeen.ch/

The
Campus Slate
*Est. 1966*

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# Our Writers and Contributors



**John Hanc,**

**Faculty Advisor**

John Hanc, an associate professor of journalism and communications at NYIT, is the Slate's faculty advisor. A working journalist as well as educator, Hanc is a long-time contributor to Newsday and a contributing editor to Runner's World magazine. His work has also appeared in The New York Times, AARP Bulletin, Family Circle, The Boston Globe Sunday Magazine, Men's Fitness, Smithsonian and Yoga Journal.Hanc's ninth book, Not Dead Yet (St. Martin's Press), is being published in May, 2011. It is the memoir of professional bike racer Phil Southerland, a Type 1 diabetic. His previous book, The Coolest Race on Earth: Mud, Madmen, Glaciers and Grannies at the Antarctica Marathon (Chicago Review Press, 2009) was an honorable mention in the category of Memoir/Autobiography in the 2010 American Society of Journalists and Authors writing competition.



**Amanda Beekharry, Editor-In-Chief**

Amanda is an advertising student in her senior year at NYIT. She works at an advertising agency in Garden City for three years. Her biggest hobby is dancing. She has been dancing and performing with an Indian dance group located in Queens for over four years.



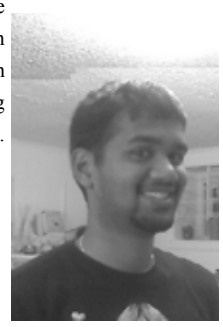
**Kyle Reitan, Managing Editor**

Kyle Reitan, a junior in the 5 year Communication Arts Program at NYIT is excited to be part of The Slate. Reitan, a freelance writer for numerous publications, including AOL's Patch.com has an interest in reporting. See Reitan in action on NYIT's LI News Tonight, or out on an emergency call as a volunteer EMT for the Miller Place Fire Department.



**Maciej Krasienko, Layout Editor**

Maciej is a sophomore undergraduate in the Advertising program at NYIT. He is also in the Carleton Group and is an aspiring graphic designer. His interests are cars, tennis, soccer and music.



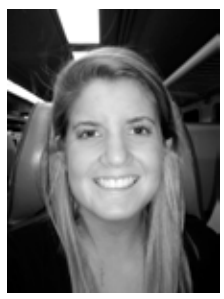
**SanJ Singh, Web Site Editor**

SanJ Singh is a newly switched Communication Arts student and is also the Operations Manager of the WNYT radio station located at the NYIT Old Westbury campus. He also works in the bookstore on the lower level of Salten Hall.



**Rajay Edwards, Web Site Editor**

Rajay is a Communication Arts student and in his last year at NYIT. His hobbies are playing basketball and working out. He enjoys relaxing and just listening to R&B music on his days off.



**Laura Green, Social Media Manager**

Laura Green is a senior at NYIT and will be completing her degree in Advertising this May. Her true passion is business and is looking forward to go to graduate school in that field, with the goal of opening her own business in fashion. She enjoys hanging out with friends and family, going to the beach and shopping.



**Sujith K. Abraham, Ad Designer**

Sujith is a junior doing Pre-Med. He loves to watch and play basketball. He also enjoys working for youth groups such as Men's Ministry and IVCF. His favorite cuisines include Indian, Chinese, and Italian.



**James Fuller, Ad Sales/ Business Manager**

James is a senior at NYIT and graduating this May. He is a finance major and played on the NYIT soccer team. He lives out east on Long Island.



**Ethan Debehar, Videographer**

Ethan Debehar is a senior in the Communication Arts program. He is part of WNYT radio station and a member of DiGamma Omega Xi Inc. He loves film and TV news. He just finished interning at LI News Tonight. His interests are music, cars, and The Yankees.



**Douglas Guerra, Columnist**

Douglas is a Communication Arts major and is in his senior year at NYIT. He currently shoots and edits video, and maintains a video technology blog. His interests include science fiction, social commentary, and dark humor. Check out his column, The Babble Belt, in The Campus Slate this semester.



**John Santamaria, Staff Writer**

John Santamaria is a sophomore Communication Arts student studying to earn a combined B.F.A and M.F.A in the department's 5 year program. He is a big sports fan rooting for the Mets, Red Sox, Jets, Knicks, and Islanders and one day hopes to become a sports broadcaster. John has been very active on campus serving as a reporter for LI News Tonight, member of WNYT radio, and summer orientation leader. Prior to NYIT, he was sports anchor of the morning television show for his high school while also writing sports articles for the school's newspaper.



**Jackline Toek, Staff Writer**

Jackline Toek is a junior and a Finance Major. She was born in Torongo, Eldama/Ravine Kenya where she grew up with her siblings. She likes to run, play soccer and field hockey, listen to music, and make new friends.



**Matthew Schlichtig, Staff Writer**

Matthew Schlichtig is in the second half of his junior year at NYIT. He is studying under an Interdisciplinary Studies major with the concentrations of Math/Physics, Business and Technical Writing.

# Letter From The Editor




Dear Campus Slate Readers,

Spring seems to be in the air at last! The weather is getting warmer, the winter jackets are being packed away till next year, and most of all, the end of the spring semester is quickly approaching. The time has come where some of us will be registering for the Fall semester, preparing for Commencement or looking for a job or internship. Remember that there are various resources on campus that can help including the Student Solutions Center, Career Services, Office of Counseling & Wellness, etc.

Japan has had a rough spring season so far. Thousands of lives have been lost due to the most powerful earthquake ever to hit the country followed by a massive tsunami and a nuclear crisis. The damages are expected to cost billions of dollars to repair. The people in Japan are in need for support and assistance after such a devastating disaster. The NYIT community has been making efforts to help those affected by this destructive event. You can read more about the steps NYIT is taking to help Japan within this issue.

This spring, students in the Communication Arts Department are looking forward to the third annual Xtreme Gala. The Gala is an end of the year party where Communication Arts students are invited to attend and view a showcase of work by their peers who specialize in advertising, broadcast, design, public relations, or film. Learn more about the Gala and what Communication Arts students can expect this year.

We also have some updates in sports and on the *Babble Belt* blog in this issue. You can also visit www.thecampusslate.com for the latest news and information.

Our next issue of *The Campus Slate* will be released on May 3. *The Campus Slate* is undergoing some changes and will soon become a **monthly** publication. To introduce this monthly format, we will be having an event on May 3 during free hour. Details about the event will be announced soon but make sure you save the date! If you have any story ideas that you would like to see covered in one of our future issues, please email slate@nyit.edu.

Enjoy reading!

Amanda Beekharry

Editor-In-Chief

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# NYIT Career Services Hosts 28th Annual Job and Career Fair

By: John Santamaria

On Thursday April 7, 2011, the Career Services Department of NYIT hosted its annual job fair at the Old Westbury Campus Sports Complex hosting over 80 employers. Students had the opportunity to meet with potential employers in their search for a job, internship, or even just to work as a volunteer. "We're trying to heighten the awareness of companies for the students who don't know all of the employers," says John Hyde, NYIT's Dean of Career Services. "My job is to help the students find the company that is right for their needs."



Engineering association talking with an NYIT student

Many well known companies such as Aflac, Prudential, and Cablevision attended but it's not always the big names that have everything students are looking for. A smaller company, Netsmart Technologies located in Great River feels they need to advertise their company and NYIT's job fair was the perfect place to do it. "NYIT is a technology school and we are looking for students to work as developers and in information technology," says Kathy Thyfault of Netsmart Technologies Human Resources Department. "We chose to come to this job fair because of the school's program offerings and find our company needs."

For the first time, the job fair also hosted other colleges to discuss graduate school opportunities. "We know our undergrads are looking at other opportunities for graduate school and we want them to be aware of those options," says Dean Hyde. Local schools such as Dowling, CW Post, Hofstra and Fordham University were at the event. In a time where the unemployment rates are high and finding a job isn't as easy as in the past, students believe any experience they can get will help them in the long run. "I am looking for an internship, it's better to start looking now and getting experience," says junior Nicole Larrea who is a Business Administration student, "I hope to get a job when I graduate next year and I can't expect to wait around, you always need to be looking."

NYIT's Career Service Office is located at Salten Hall if you are looking for more information on a possible job or even to have someone review your resume. The Career Net which can be founded at www.nyit.edu/cs is also another tool into that job or internship search along with attending various career services events throughout the year. The Office of Career Services is looking to plan job events in the Fall semester and if you would like to make suggestions on what you want to see at a future event, give your suggestions to the office.



Restaurant Associates were one of the companies at the event


John Hyde, Dean of Career Services, talks to employer

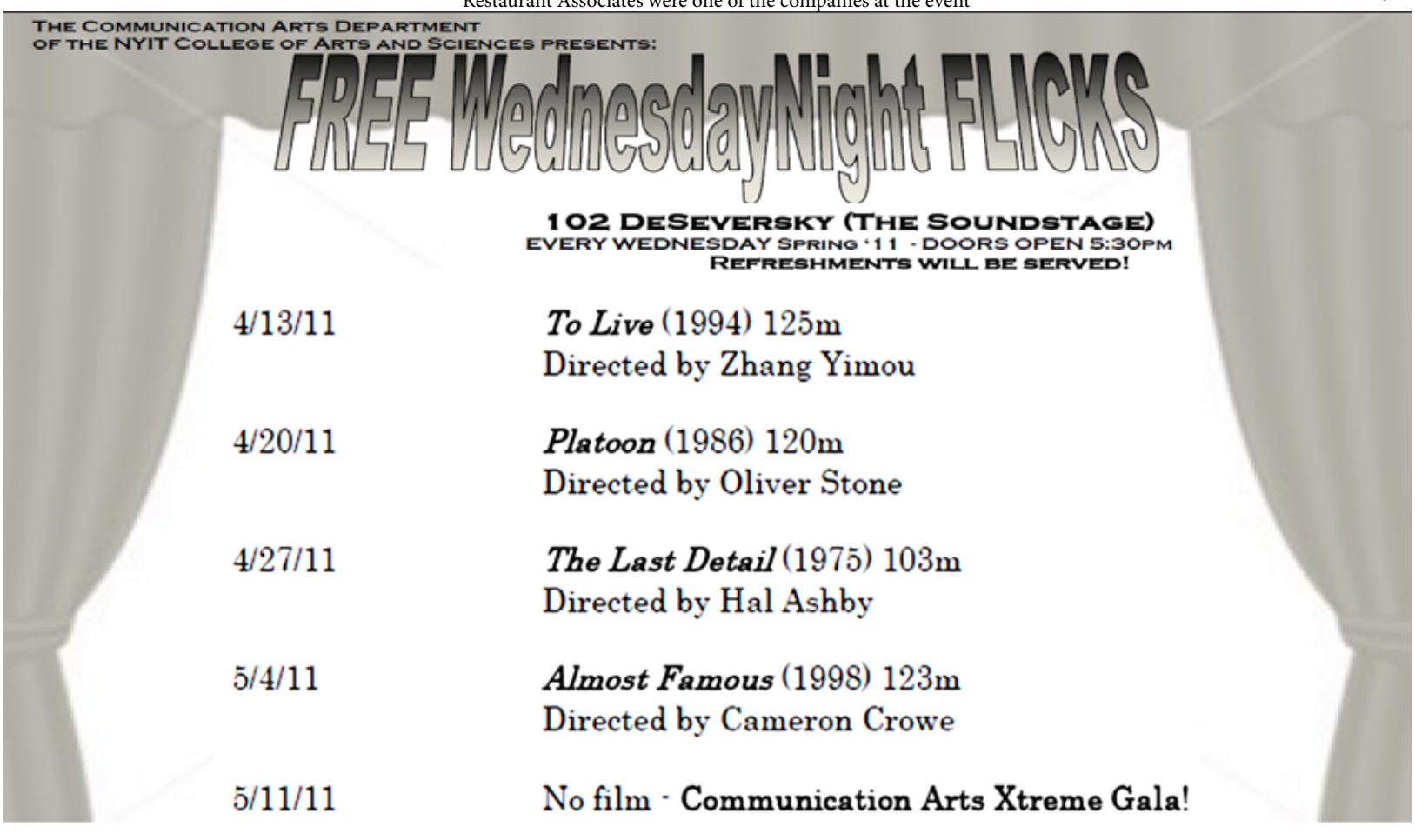


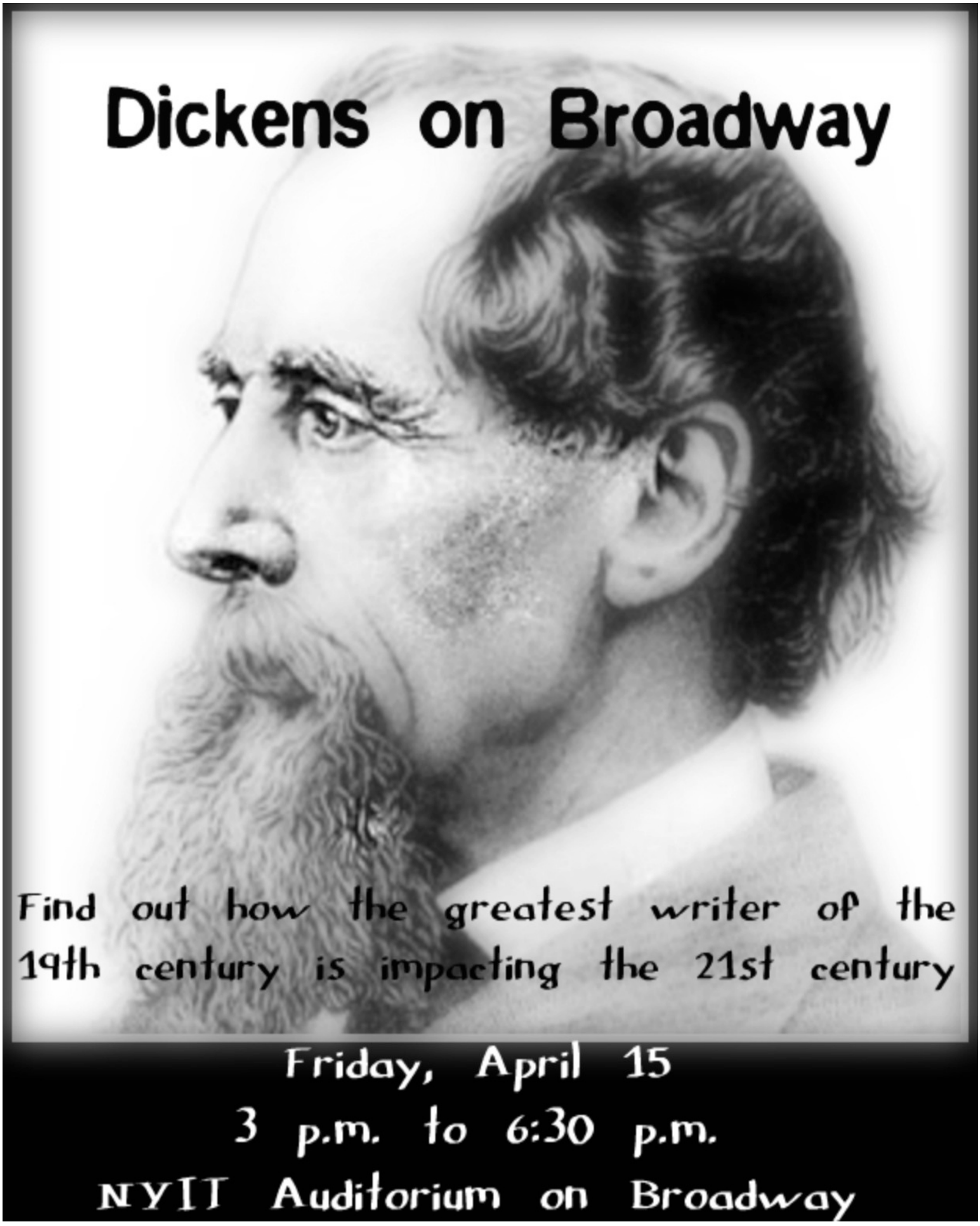
The Long Island Children's Museum



Information on graduate school was offered for the first time

Photos by John Santamaria




Dickens on Broadway
Find out how the greatest writer of the 19th century is impacting the 21st century
Friday, April 15
3 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
NYIT Auditorium on Broadway

# InterVarsity Christian Fellowship

# SPRING CONCERT

## Pastor Todd Bishop



## THE UP AFTER



Wednesday May 4th 7PM

Salten Hall SC1 & SC2

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# BABBLE BELT

BY Douglas Guerra



**Thoughts**

**Opinions**

**Ideas**

**Facts**

**Check it out in every issue of The Campus Slate and at www.thecampusslate.com**

# NYIT Efforts to Aid Japan

By: Matthew Schlichtig

While no single group could possibly resolve the issues involved, the massive earthquake three weeks ago in Japan has motivated many at NYIT to help with the recovery. On both the Old Westbury and Manhattan campuses, an educational event on April 4th called the Round Table Discussion on how NYIT could get involved was moderated by Dr. Robert N. Amundsen, Director of Energy Management and Professor Stanley Greenwald of Environmental Technology, both in the area of Engineering & Computer Sciences.

The Round Table Discussion, an educational event held to inform people about the occurrences in Japan, involved a panel of four professors at the Old Westbury campus, moderated by Dr. Amundsen. Professor Yuko Oda in Fine Arts spoke about her experiences in Japan and her contact with friends and family during this crisis and how we could be of help. Professor Sarah Meyland in Environmental Technology discussed the environmental impacts of nuclear power. Finally, Dr. Herb Fox of Mechanical Engineering informed people with regards to why we need nuclear power.

The March 11th earthquake was of the highest magnitude in Japan's history. While Japan gets its fair share of earthquakes, this occurrence was on a much higher scale of magnitude than the residents are accustomed to. The damages varied from place to place. Some areas were heavily damaged, while others like Tokyo remained physically unaffected. "If they are in a damaged area, people could be homeless. If people are in Tokyo, things are functioning normally," says Dr. Amundsen.

While some areas may not be physically affected, the people themselves are another story. Some people are homeless and have to worry about how they are going to survive. Others are worried about the radiation emitted from the damaged nuclear power plants. The casualties have risen to roughly 20,000 people so far and as many as or more than 300,000 people have lost their homes. Countless people have been affected by this tragedy. According to Dr. Amundsen, the damage has forced Japan to shut down their 6 nuclear reactors.

With no nuclear reactors, power can only be shared between neighborhoods, meaning power is turned off for 3 hours for a given neighborhood. Afterwards, the next neighborhood will not have power for the next 3 hours. If you were to apply this situation to Long Island, this would mean Queens would not have power for a few hours, and then Manhasset would not have power for a few hours. The residents of Japan have to deal with a complicated situation. For example, schools and businesses in an affected neighborhood will be unable to work as efficiently due to lack of power for portions of the day. Businesses not notified of power shortages could incur difficulties with work scheduling and loss of revenue. Schools will face similar problems as well.

Japan has accommodated their people with emergency shelters for everyone. There is a large enough supply of food and water to provide to anyone in need of help, according to Dr. Amundsen. But this does not mean Japan is getting back to post-earthquake conditions so rapidly. While residents are receiving aid, the situation may last for a long time. "They have set up emergency shelters and they have enough for everyone, but the problem is this could last a long time," says Dr. Amundsen. Given the time it could take to repair the damage caused, this could mean citizens from damaged areas may have to move to unaffected areas while the damaged portions are rebuilt, meaning the lives of citizens in physically unaffected areas like Tokyo could still be affected.

Meanwhile, another NYIT effort to support Japan was done through the sales of artworks in the "We Are One" art sale located in Manhattan, organized by Professor Yuko Oda and other individuals. The "We Are One" art sale took place on April 11th from 2:00-9:00 PM at NYIT's Gallery 61 on 16 West 61st Floor marking the one month anniversary. The fundraiser on the Manhattan campus was intended to raise money by selling genuine Japanese artwork. Professor Yuko Oda contacted Japanese artists living in New York to create paintings and other artistic pieces to sell at the fundraiser. NYIT's New York Manhattan campus Gallery 61 space was used to display the Japanese artwork. People viewed the artwork from 2:00-9:00 PM and began purchasing artwork at 5:00 PM until the fundraiser was over. Many artists donated their artwork to the "We Are One" art sale so people could purchase them for $100-$200 each. All money raised went to the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund to help repair damages.

Millions of lives have already been affected, and depending on how Japan handles the situation, many more individuals may have yet to be affected. Funds from the "We Are One" sale and contributions from around the world will help Japan return to normal. If you need more information on the "We Are One" art sale or want to contribute to this cause, additional information about the relief effort can be found at http://nycweareone.org/.






# Middle East Uprising Affects the Local NYIT Campus in Bahrain

By: Ethan Debehar

In our continuing coverage of the events unfolding in Middle East, our biggest concern is about the safety of our fellow students and faculty members in the local NYIT campuses. Since our last front page article published on March 8, 2011, the situation turned out for the worst and many protesters in several countries lost their lives. Anybody that follows the media knows that our Air Force is involved in securing the "No Fly Zone" above Libya, to protect the citizens of that country from Colonel Kaddafi. Also, to a lesser degree, but again in the media we can read that peaceful protesters are being killed in several other Middle East countries such as Yemen, Jordan and Syria. But Bahrain, where our sister NYIT campus is located, has mostly vanished from the news. At one point we learned that foreign troops, Saudi and Qatari, entered the small island nation, to help the King against the protestors, but since Libya took over the news, we hear less and less from Bahrain.

The events in Bahrain are directly affecting our fellow students. We received several communications from NYIT students in Bahrain about their daily lives under the Martial Law declared by their government, closing of all the schools, including NYIT of course, and expressing their concerns for their own and families. In Mid-March, the King and his government declared a state of emergency after 10,000 demonstrators protested the foreign soldiers in their country.

The authorities tore down the famous Bahrain landmark, the Pearl monument in the middle of Pearl Square that had become a symbol of anti-government protests. The 300 ft high monument was designed to honor the early days of the six gulf states, including Bahrain and Saudi Arabia, whose economy was based on pearls, before the discovery of oil.

The following letter from a NYIT student to the editor of Gulf Daily News published on March 17 expresses beautifully their immediate and future concerns of our fellow students in Bahrain.

*Let›s fix the damage before it is too late! Posted on » Thursday, March 17, 2011*
*I am one of many Bahrainis worried about our people's safety and our country's future.*
*When I was in school, no-one ever asked me if I was Sunni or Shi'ite. I wasn't even sure what these words meant until sixth grade or so, because truthfully, no-one cared.*
*The only thing that mattered was we were all Bahrainis - whether Sunni, Shi'ite, or any religion other than Islam.*
*Ever since the protests started, Bahrain was divided into two groups labeled "Sunni" and "Shi'ite". We are all responsible for what is happening. What worries me the most is that no-one realizes that the ones most affected by these events are their own children! If these children are born and raised with their heart filled with hate for their fellow citizens, how will they ever learn to live together? How will they ever learn to work together?*
*If they are prejudiced at such a young age, how will they ever learn to grow out of it? If they see how their parents are, how much would that affect them mentally and emotionally? Not that it matters, but I am a Sunni and am proud to say that two of my best friends are Shi›ite.*
*My point is you can›t judge a person by his/her religion, but judge them for their hearts and minds. There is the good and bad everywhere and it doesn›t depend on something that is not even relevant!*
*People, I beg of you, don›t think about yourselves, but about your children›s future, your country›s economy and how it would be impossible for us to live together if this continues.*
*Yes, there is a lot of damage already, but we can always fix it before it›s too late.*
*Sunnis and Shi›ites may differ a little religion-wise, but aren›t we all the children of God? Don›t we all bleed the same color? Don›t we all feel the same emotions? Don›t we all love our country?*
*--A 19-year-old NYIT student*

The Bahrain Campus Dean/Local President, Dr. Dorothy Milligan Lewis, gave us a short description of the current situation in and around NYIT campus. Dr. Dottie, addressed as such according to local customs, described the state of emergency, the curfew and the closing of the all educational institutions by the government until further notice.

In here we can quote part of her below message:

On Mon, Mar 21, 2011 at 8:08 AM, Dorothy Lewis wrote:

*Hi Ethan,*

*Last Tuesday, the King imposed a state of emergency for three months.* Basically a curfew was imposed for certain areas in Bahrain, around the Pearl Roundabout. The curfew began as 4 pm to 4 am and now has been eased to be from 8 pm to 4 am. On Wednesday, the Ministry of Education announced the closing of all educational institutions until further notice. And, on Saturday, they announced that all employees of educational institutions sho*uld return to work on Sunday March 20. Students, however, will stay at home until further notice, added the ministry›s statement. And, as you have probably seen the very large monument, a symbol for the anti-government demonstrators, at the Pearl Roundabout was taken down on Saturday. The government said it would help heal to get rid of the bad memories.*

*As you can see, things have been moving very rapidly here. Students are not on campus, so I am not able to put you in touch with any others at this point. Also, most of the faculty are guests in this country and it is not appropriate for them to provide their personal opinions on the political situation.*

*We are very much committed to continuing to ensure the safety of students, faculty and staff on our campus.*

*The faculty has been very busy rearranging their course delivery methods. Many are being very creative by using social media sites, join-me.com, turnitin.com, blackboard, etc. Students have been informed about developing an emergency disaster recovery plan for courses, something I would recommend for all universities. We are committed to having the students finish their semester.*

*If you have specific questions, please let me know.*

*Best regards,*

*Dottie*

According to Lon D. Kaufmann, Associate Professor of Design and Assistant Dean of the NYIT Bahrain campus, many students refused to express their opinion, understandably concerned for their own safety. By now, most of us who follow the media, know that most, but not all, the protestors are of the Muslim/Shia majority ruled by the Muslim/Sunni King and his government. The NYIT students are mixed and most of them do not want to get involved with the media. However, we learned that some of NYIT students actively participated in demonstrations.


www.gulf-daily-news.com


www.gulf-daily-news.com


www.gulf-daily-news.com

Two NYIT-Bahrain campus students put together a video about Bahrain that apparently is getting a lot of attention. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DPQfkuzcH4c. One of them, Hussam, is in the NYIT-Bahrain basketball team and is past president of the Student Leaders Organization on campus.

The protests started to impact other aspects of life in Bahrain. Foreign embassies started to instruct their citizens to leave Bahrain. Others like the U.S. embassy issued warnings where not to go and when. The Ministry of Education instructed to close all the educational institutions until further notice and as a result NYIT-Bahrain campus closed for 3-4 days, opening only after the decree was cancelled. In the meantime the NYIT instructors started to implement contingency plans, sending the educational materials to the students via internet and other means. The banking sector is being affected at a large scale. Bahrain is losing its edge as the finance hub of the Middle East as major banks and financial firms started to move their assets and operations out of the island nation. "Bahrain has suffered irreparable damage to its reputation as a financial hub, one that will take a long time to repair," said Ayesha Sabavala, a Middle East economist at the Economist Intelligence Unit, based in London.

Events in Bahrain are unfolding daily. Anybody that participated to anti-government protests is target of harassment and arrest, some even killed by snipers during demonstrations. Bahrain is a little island with no more than 1 million people, however, the events of the last few weeks can lead to a much broader Sunni-Shiite conflict, putting mainly Iran and to a certain degree Iraq on one side of the equation and almost all of the other Arab countries to the other side, triggering centuries old animosity between the two main groups of the Muslim world. Bahrain is 70% Shiite ruled by the Sunni

minority and Sunny rulers that came from neighboring Qatar in the 18th century and ruling the Shiite majority since.

According to the NY Times article dated April 1, thousands of the Iraqi Shiites demonstrated in central Bagdad in support of their brethren in Bahrain. They charge the U.S.A. and other western countries of a double standard with respect to help other popular uprisings in Egypt, Libya, Yemen, Syria but not Bahrain's Sunni dominated Government and the Sunni Royal family. In Jordan and Syria demonstrations and protests against government policies are continuing. Even in Egypt, where the relative calm returned after the ouster of President Mubarak, thousands of demonstrators again filled Tahrir Square demanding the governing military to move faster to get rid of the remaining despised aspects of the old regime and establish new rules.

# Interview with an NYIT student in Bahrain

By: Ethan Debehar

Note: The student didn't want to disclose their identity

- How is the current situation affecting your NYIT campus in Bahrain?

Yes it has been affected…the classes have been stopped and even after classes resumed people are scared to go to school

- How are the students coping with all what is going on at the protests?

Personally, I am terrified I don't know what is waiting for me on the way every day when I step out of the door.

Generally, there are check points everywhere by the military and snipers on helicopters everywhere. We sleep and wake up on the sound of the gunshots. People are scared to leave their houses.

-Is the campus currently operating on a normal schedule? I just learned about the martial law and the school closing. Do you have any idea when it will open?

Starting tomorrow classes will resume but personally, I am thinking twice.

-Are the students and the faculty in any danger from the political situation and unrests?

A few weeks ago, a group of armed government- hired thugs as well as the Bahraini police attacked the campus of University Of Bahrain in Sakheer, but unfortunately the Bahraini media is not showing the truth and blamed the protesters for the violent attack. We never know, we might be next.

-Do you know anybody that actually participated in the protest?

All my family and most of my friends

-Is anybody that you know personally hurt?

Yes

-What do you think about the Shia/Sunni separation, especially in your country?

It is pathetic and absolutely unaccepted, unfortunately the government labeled the protestors as «Shais» as majority of the protestors belong to the «Shais» but there are many «Sunnis» too. The protestors' demands were reasonable and are legal.

The Bahraini media is called «the one-eye TV» because of the hidden truth that it doesn't show for example: while the snipers are aiming from helicopters on UNARMED civilians (all hit in the head).

The local TV says: "the streets are safe and the military is on the process of «purifying» the Pearl Roundabout (which is demolished), Salmaniya Hospital, etc. But the streets are safe and the neighborhoods are safe and everything is wonderful and pleasant."

Since February 14, day 1 of the protests 20 martyred and the local TV as well as the government still denies. They only talked about 2 people that were from the army that died in the chaos (there are no Shias in the Bahraini military).

-Do you know if the student body at NYIT is mostly Shia, mostly Sunni, or mixed?

Majority of the Bahraini population are from the «Shias,» but as NYIT's student body, I think they are fairly equal.

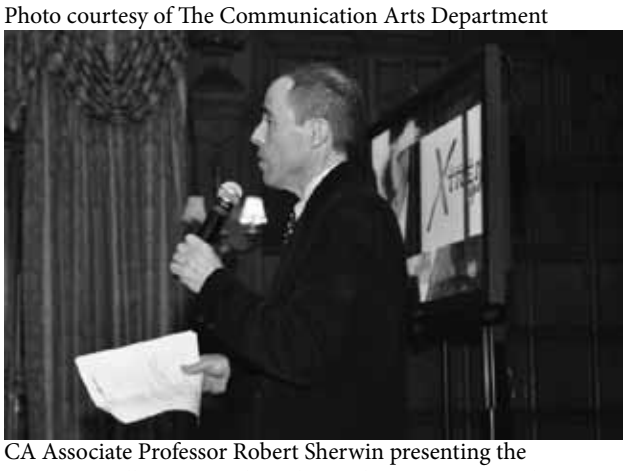
- Can you separate the Shia from the Sunny by his/her looks, clothing, accent, etc.?

-Yes, Shias have a different accent (Bahrani). As a Bahraini it is easy for me to figure out who is what by looks as many Shias are very poor.

# The Third Annual Communication Arts Xtreme Gala Is Coming

By: John Santamaria

Photo courtesy of The Communication Arts Department



CA Associate Professor Robert Sherwin presenting the Xtreme Excellence Awards to the graduating seniors at last year's gala.

It's almost the end of the school year and for the NYIT Communication Arts Department, the preparation is ongoing for the third annual Xtreme Gala on May 11th. This is a night that the students and faculty look forward to from the start of the school year and this night couldn't come sooner. "People I've talked to say it's a great night and I can't wait to get the taste of the Gala," says freshman Communication Arts student Aaron Soodek. From 7-10pm the students and faculty of Communication Arts will enjoy a night of celebration in the de Seversky Center's grand ballroom to enjoy one of NYIT's best parties of the year.

The Gala will have plenty of activities for the Communication Arts students invited to attend this annual showcase of work by the department's talented student TV and filmmakers, broadcast journalists, designers, public relations practitioners, and advertisers. "It's very exciting to see all the work that we've done over the year," says sophomore Communication Arts student Christopher Paz. Also included in the night will be the department's students of WNYT Radio, the official internet radio station of NYIT who will DJ the event. All students in the department's Communication and Advertising programs both at the undergraduate and graduate levels will be enjoying a night of celebration to end the school year. "It's an event to look forward to and have one last great outing together with friends and professors before heading out into the field and explore where our education, work, and artistry takes us," says senior Communication Arts student Robert Marzano.

This is an event free of charge and only for the students of the Communication Arts program along with the department's faculty and staff. The night will begin with dinner and a social hour from 7-8PM, from 8-9PM a David Salten memory of whom the Gala is sponsored by, specialization video mashups, Xtreme excellence awards for graduating seniors, freshman/transfer recognition, memorable moments, and a senior sendoff. The final hour will feature music by WNYT Radio, dancing, and dessert to end a great night for all involved. Fellow students around campus may be wondering why Communication Arts throws this type of party. "The idea behind the end of the year party is just that, it's a party," says Associate Professor Robert Sherwin. "It's the celebration of the learning and productivity of a year's study in this department and of all those students lives we have touched in the past year," Sherwin added.

The Xtreme Gala is also a place where students who are not graduating can see the work of graduating students, and see where their hard work may one day lead them. The event is also a breeding ground for different ideas, suggestions, and even comparisons amongst students and faculty. The Gala would not be possible without the extraordinary contributions by Dr. Salten. In establishing the "Creativity Fund" for the Old Westbury Communication Arts Department, he has effectively brought about the possibility to have an event of the Gala's magnitude. Without his Creativity Fund, many of the events that have taken place at NYIT in the past may not have occurred.



"Students and faculty gathering at last year's gala to celebrate the end of the school year."

Photo courtesy of The Communication Arts Department

From 1969 to 1990, Dr. Salten served as executive vice president and provost at NYIT. His leadership in innovative program development and effective staff and student recruitment, as well as his emphasis on excellence, resulted in a larger and more vibrant academic community. He was instrumental in expanding the school campuses both in Manhattan and in Old Westbury to continue growth of the institution. The Salten Hall building located at the Old Westbury academic quad is named after Dr. Salten who was an important person in the history of NYIT.

In addition to celebrating the year of creativity among the NYIT students, the department will also be honoring a longtime faculty member. Dr. Adrienne O'Brien has been a faculty member at NYIT for the past 35 years and earlier this year she announced her retirement. O'Brien will be honored for her years of hard work and dedication to the NYIT community. She is excited to attend the event and she feels it's a great way to make an exit. "What a great way to make an exit, being honored by students who are celebrating creativity," says O'Brien. O'Brien was married to Dr. Salten who co sponsor the annual gala (see page 11 for more on Dr. O'Brien).

It's a night of celebration not just for the graduating students, but for all the students and faculty on another great year of Communication Arts at NYIT. "Oh! The reaction of each senior as they see their work on the screen is just as wonderful as is the moments we all experience as each senior is called up for recognition for all they have accomplished," says Associate Professor Jim Fauvell, "It is so much fun to see everyone sharing their best stuff for all to see." The entire event is made possible by the David Salten Creativity Fund and Dr. Adrienne O'Brien along with the hard work of faculty and students of the Communication Arts program.

Find out more information on the Gala through the Communication Arts Department located at the de Seversky Center.

Any full-time Communication Arts student can send an email to Christine Parker atcparke01@nyit.edu to RSVP for this year's Communication Arts Xtreme Gala.

CommArts XTREME gala

# NYIT Faculty Member To Be Honored At Communication Arts Gala

By: John Santamaria

For more than 35 years, Dr. Adrienne O'Brien has been a member of the NYIT faculty as a professor of Communication Arts. Earlier this year, O'Brien announced her retirement after a successful career in many capacities. She will be honored at this year's



Communication Arts Xtreme Gala on May 11th for her career at NYIT which was very successful. Many of the current NYIT students in the Communication Arts program know her as the professor they had for COMM 101, but there's more than just this course about the career of Dr. O'Brien.

Dr. O'Brien came to NYIT 35 years ago to head a new Master of Arts program. For more than a decade she served as the first Dean of NYIT's School of Media and Arts which besides Communication Arts, also included Fine Arts, an accredited Interior Design program and the Education Department. Her leadership brought new degree programs to the school, and emphasized scholarship and community service. She believes college students have a richer learning experience when it is related to the real world. "She's a professional working woman with a gifted mind and an incredible work ethic," says Associate Professor Robert Sherwin.

Among Dr. O'Brien's many achievements was the creation of the B.S. degree program in Advertising which was originally based at NYIT's Central Islip campus, and now offered as part of the Communication Arts Department at NYIT's Old Westbury and Manhattan campuses. Among the degree's innovate features was its Agency Workshop capstone class. This became a student run advertising and public relations agency known as "The Carleton Group" which started in 1990. It is now one of the longest running agencies of its kind at any college or university in the United States. This student agency is offered every semester through the Communication Arts Department on the Old Westbury campus.

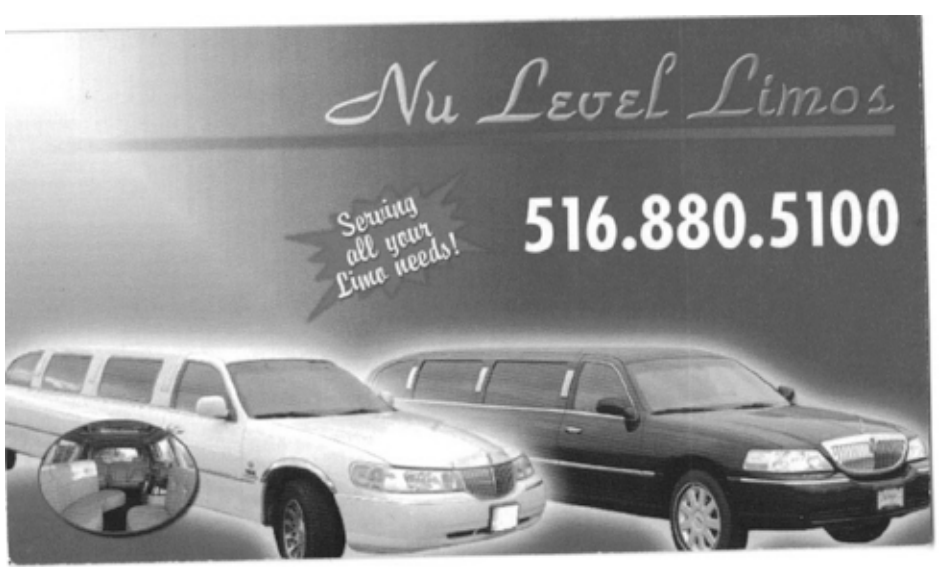
Dr. O'Brien is a Hunter College graduate with a degree in history and later completed two Master degrees in political science and educational administration. Both of these degrees came at Villanova University. Her most recent accomplishment is a 2010 Telly Award for writing, producing and editing a seven minute mini-biopic on her husband Dr. David Salten, "The Man Behind the Hall." Salten died in 2006 and from 1969 to 1990, Dr. Salten served as executive vice president and provost at NYIT. He was instrumental in expanding the school campuses both in New York City and on Long Island to accommodate the growth of the institution. The building "Salten Hall" located at the academic quad is named after Dr. David Salten. This winning video introduces the former NYIT VP and Provost to another generation of students at the annual Xtreme Gala, which is an event to reward creativity that both he and Dr. O'Brien, his widow, sponsor through the school's Creativity Fund."What a great way to make an exit, being honored by students who are celebrating creativity," says O'Brien.

Dr. O'Brien received an NDEA award while pursuing doctoral work at the University of Southern California and completed her Ph.D. at Syracuse University. She also served three terms on the Girl Scouts of Nassau County board of directors and she accepted the Girl Scout's highest award – *The Juiliette Low Award of Distinction*--three years ago. She also served more than 14 years as VP and on the board of *Women on the Job* and is currently on the advisory committee of *The Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nassau County*. Local groups have honored her including *NYIT's Patrons of the Arts and the Public Relations Professionals of Long Island*, who presented Dr. O'Brien with its *Lifetime Achievement Award*. Long Island Business News also named Dr. O'Brien as one of its *Top 50 Long Island Women* twice in the last ten years.

Many of her colleagues in the Communications department credit O'Brien for where they are in their career today and many of these faculty members were hired by her. "Dr. O'Brien hired me, she always challenged my thoughts and my goals for the department and kept me thinking about the future," says Associate Professor Jim Fauvell, "If it was not for her, I would not be here at NYIT."

"I have known Dr. O'Brien since 1974 when I started as an adjunct professor in the Communication Arts department and in 1984, as dean, she hired me as a staff member," says Associate Professor Dr. Anthony F. Piazza. "I consider Dr. O'Brien to be my friend and mentor; she contributed to the halls of higher education with her intelligence, creativity and her sincere desire to improve the outcomes of a college education. I will miss her sharp mind, business acumen and enthusiasm she has for higher education," Piazza also added.

Dr. O'Brien has touched the lives of many by her sharp mind and dedication to the NYIT community and with her creativity in the media. All of these things plus more will be mentioned in her honoring on May 11th at this year Communication Arts Xtreme Gala.






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# Let’s Add “Thankfulness” To The Curriculum

By: Douglas Guerra

It amazes me how thankless some people can be. When we’re kids, our parents (hopefully) give us that old “what do you say?” phrase, to which we reluctantly reply, “thank you.” That lesson stays with us for the most part, but we seldom remember to thank some of the most important people in our lives:

Teachers

As a senior, I have been reflecting a lot this semester, and I have taken it upon myself to contact several teachers from my past. Teachers have shaped me in so many ways – some of which I did not realize until several years later – and to think that they continue to devote themselves to many more students, is actually bittersweet. Hypocritically, I have given many teachers a hard time, but I think that is exactly why acknowledging them is all the more important. It is truly sad that despite the workload, dedication, and sociability that comes with (good) teaching, so little respect is returned. I’m not just referring to any handful of students making an effort to thank their teachers; no, this is much bigger than that.

There’s a distinct memory of mine from as far back as fourth grade, as a matter of fact, this memory would become the blasé mark of each grade I went through until I graduated high school. Each year, the students would ask themselves “what’s next?” We didn’t mean what experience awaited us – we meant what was to be cut next. It was the little things; art changed from a room to a cart, then general music went on wheels as well; the roofs were fixed – temporarily – and the music department could barely afford instrument repairs. Being in a private institution, things work a little differently around here at NYIT, or most private colleges for that matter, but of all the cuts made in the past, I had seldom ever seen a teacher cut. Times have changed.

It should be common knowledge by now, but every state in the country has been faced with troubling budget gaps, with many states making notable proposals to cut school budgets. In all realism, it is always easier to look at these situations as nothing but numbers and data. With a gap to close, it is certainly understandable that cuts must be made *somewhere*; I won’t pretend to know alternative areas to cut funding from, but let me make one opinion clear: the social attitudes that follow political decisions are so disgustingly incorrect at times, that it almost makes the political decision incorrect. Here’s something even my parents have said:

“Teachers don’t work as hard, they have the summers off.”

This just kills me because I’d certainly think my teachers were each worth much more than the average teacher salary ($41,293 to $64,428 for New York State) just for dealing with *me*, let alone the other students and entire classes that pass through those nine school months. This semester has brought just as much realization as it has reflection. There are unions, and benefits to be looked at as well to be fair; I do not doubt the opposition’s claims that such groups can be obstacles to compromise, but the idea that teachers are living in luxury with easy jobs is nothing but false.

Then, putting the heartfelt aspect of this aside for a moment, we have the educationally detrimental impact. For New York City, six thousand teachers are expected to be cut by Mayor Bloomberg come next school year, and the resulting increase in class size could bring the average to 24-29 per class. In the tight-knit suburbs of Long Island, this may not seem quite as dramatic, but in the city, where the class room experience is often louder, more obnoxious, and harder to control, this is a serious consideration. New York City’s 2007 goal was actually set at 19.9 students, though the current goal is 22.9; the national average, by the way, is 18.6.-23.3 based on 2008 data (the latest available).

Teaching is a labor of love, not of money, and most prospective teachers are aware of this going in. It is a stressor going into the field that could perhaps be seen as worth enduring for a career they are passionate about. I have a few friends who have spoken to me very personally – and at great lengths – to describe their feelings about the profession. Some are harsh and realistic, while others are observant of the perceptions surrounding the teaching profession, and it’s only fair that I include both views here.

*“I don’t know many people who happily want to go into a demanding field that is so under-appreciated and underpaid. It limits the talent, and thus good teachers are harder and harder to find.”*

*“Teachers don’t work just 8 hour days. They work every day working on lesson plans, unit plans, grading etc… There are already pressures from parents, co-workers, associates, administrators, the state, and the country. We work constantly... To cut salary is ridiculous.”*

*“It’s an altruistic not-for-profit profession by nature, and yes we should get paid infinitely more - and respected - anyone who’s been in control of a full classroom for 5 minutes knows it’s one of the most difficult jobs out there if you want to do it right.”*

It is probably most important to highlight a key phrase here: “good teachers.” Like any profession, there are those who give others a bad name; I would never deny that there are lazy teachers who sit on tenure for years, or, as a friend of mine puts it “enter the Teach For America program, and exploit low-performing schools as a stepping stone to law or medical school.” Surely, I told him, this could not be the case for all teachers.

Having many friends of his own who are going into teaching, he said that they are definitely dedicated and passionate, though he sees teaching as a profession in need of shrinkage, due to a declining birth rate. That is actually true, according to the 2010 Census, which reports a drop in birthrates, despite a growing population. If teaching is then to be considered a “saturated market,” the task of finding a qualified, dedicated teacher becomes even more difficult. That of course, made us reminisce about our old high school teachers, and how we were actually very lucky for so many of them to be dedicated, truthful individuals, who did much more than they ever had to for us.

And, with that said, it brings me back to why I’m here. To graduating seniors out there, where would you be without your professors, mentors, and significant others who taught you – who molded you into who you are? Many of them have come and gone in our lives, but there’s always a select few who inspire, motivate, and change you. They can be the positive light in a dark, negative world, and offer the intellectual stimulation you may not find elsewhere in life. Teaching has enormous impact on the individual; I sincerely hope that you come to realize this if you haven’t already, and pay your respects in whatever way possible. The friend quoted with calling teaching an altruistic position, had also explained how his decision to teach has been motivated by the role models they acted as when he was a child. “My teachers became my male role models growing up,” he told me, vehemently elaborating that they had filled a role that his alcoholic father had not. Today, he pursues his career knowing the following words to be true to himself:

“Down the line, no matter what happens to the kids, if you do your best to help them - even if there’s only one moment that they remember you showed them you were there for them, when everyone else wasn’t - they *will* remember that forever.”

# Classifieds

**Passover “Model” Seder – Thurs., April 14; Room 307, Anna Rubin Hall 12:30 – 1:50 PM**

Join us for a “rehearsal” celebration of the important Jewish holiday of Passover (celebrated this year starting the evening of April 18). Passover marks the freedom of the Jews from the slavery of the Egyptian Empire over 3,200 year ago. We’ll read from the holiday books, sample the ritual foods and finish with a full lunch. An opening presentation will discuss the important songs and music associated with Passover.

The Seder will begin promptly at 12:45 pm. **Reservations are a must!** Volunteers to help set up are needed—please come at Noon to Room 307.

Contact Jeffrey Feinsilver, Wisser Library or Marcia Singer, Student Services
jfeinsil@nyit.edu msinger@nyit.edu

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# Bears Lacrosse Wins a Tough Conference Battle at President's Stadium

By: Jackline Toek

This past Wednesday at President's Stadium, the NYIT Bears Lacrosse team won 17-13 over the Dominican Chargers in conference play. This was a game in which they made a comeback to win. The Bears were led by freshman Cory Triola who scored 7 goals in the victory. Also, in his first appearance in goal, freshman Scott Spencer earned the win for the Bears after he subbed in for starter Billy McGee in the second half. Spencer made seven saves in 33:57 minutes played and faced three goals.

The Bears took an early 3-0 lead in the first quarter with goals from Chris Lubin, Ryan Amengual, and Cory Triola. The Chargers later came back to take a 6-3 lead and later took a 10-6 lead into halftime.

After having a break, Cory Triola came back to rescue the Bears from the Chargers by scoring back-to-back goals to make it a 10-8 contest. Both goals were set up by Chris Lubin. Although the Chargers continued to dominate the game, a different Bears' squad was on the field in the second half. The Bears rallied to tie the game at 12 with back-to-back goals from Chris Lubin. Lubin's pair of scores were 38 seconds apart. Yet, Dominican would have the final say in the third quarter as a goal put the Chargers up by one, 13-12.

The Bears then owned the fourth quarter as they kept the Chargers at bay while scoring five goals for the win. NYIT evened the score with 12:28 to play on a shot from Keith Clancy. Once again, Lubin set up Triola twice for two goals within a minute to take a 15-13 lead over Dominican. Sophomore A.P. Nist and Amengual then closed out the match for NYIT. Nist scored on a man-up opportunity at 4:50 and Amengual had the final tally mark with 3:24 minutes remaining. The Bears return to action on Saturday, April 16th against Chestnut Hill College. Faceoff is slated for 1 p.m. at President's Stadium. All results for the NYIT Lacrosse team can be found at www.nyit.edu/athletics.







NYIT ATHLETICS

# April 2011

# Sports Calender

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 12 | Men's Tennis | • St. Thomas Aquinas | NYIT Tennis Complex | 4 p.m. |
| 15 | Men's Tennis | • University of D.C. | NYIT Tennis Complex | 4 p.m. |
| 16 | Softball | ● C.W. Post (DH) | NYIT Softball Complex | Noon |
| | Men's Lacrosse | Chestnut Hill College* | President's Stadium | 1 p.m. |
| 22 | Baseball | ● North Dakota | President's Field | 3 p.m. |
| 23 | Baseball | ●North Dakota (DH) | President's Field | Noon |
| | Men's Lacrosse | Seton Hill University * | President's Stadium | 1 p.m. |
| 24 | Baseball | ●North Dakota | President's Field | 1 p.m. |
| 25 | Softball | ● Adelphi (DH) | NYIT Softball Complex | 3 p.m. |
| 26 | Softball | ● Queens (DH) | NYIT Softball Complex | 3 p.m. |
| | Baseball | Manhattan | President's Field | 3 p.m. |
| 29 | Softball | Philadelphia (DH) | NYIT Softball Complex | 3 p.m. |

● Great West Conference game *East Coast Conference Games ● **East Coast Conference games**





