

The Wolfpack

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The Wolfpack ►► BONAGANY

SBU plans wealth of activities for 2014 Family Weekend

by Alicia Maldonado, '16

Parents will have a chance to discover some of what your student loves about St. Bonaventure University during the annual Family Weekend, Sept. 26 to 28.

Abby Cohen, the associate director of the Center for Activities, Recreation and Leadership (CARL), is one of the planners for the Family Weekend events. She created a schedule that is filled with activities that represent Bonaventure academics and its social life, and she's doing her best to make sure that it is a weekend of fun, laughter and family.

"I hope freshmen students get excited to show parents and family what they love about Bonaventure," Cohen said. "Students can introduce their families to friends, roommates and their favorite spots on campus. This causes parents to leave with a reassurance that their kids are in a good place."

One of the most popular Family Weekend events is Bonagany. This is a street festival that celebrates the collaboration between St. Bonaventure University and the neighboring village, Allegany.

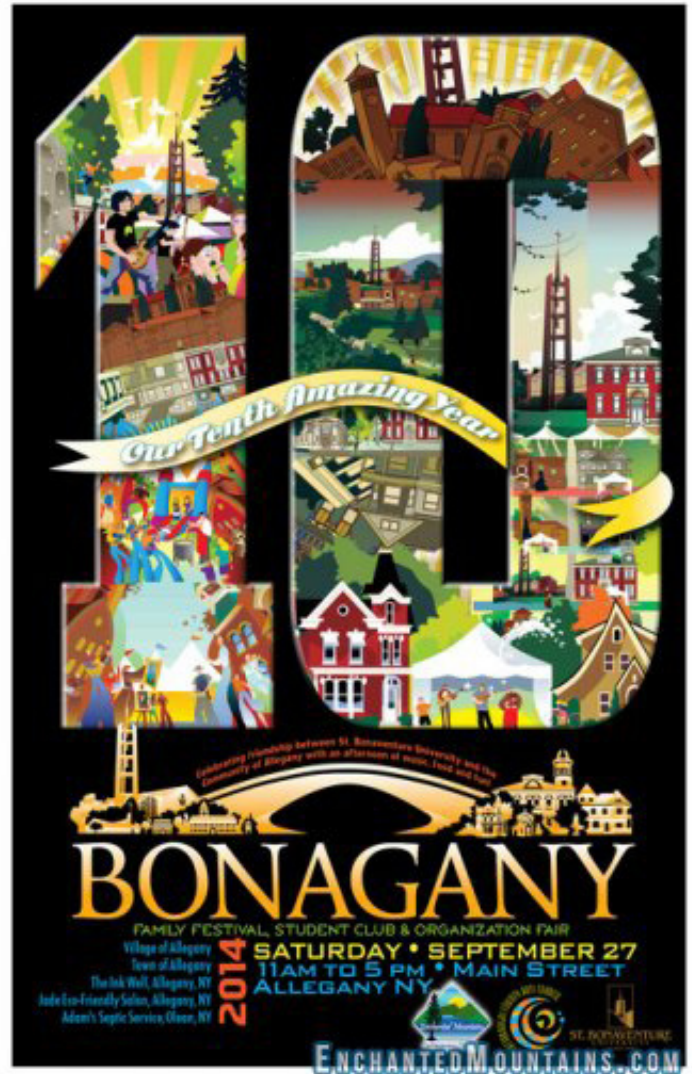
Bonagany runs on Sept. 27 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The street is a mixture of student-run activities

and local vendors. Many of these vendors sell artwork, jewelry and accessories. The student-run tables will be staffed by members of campus clubs like the Hip-Hop Team and the A.S.I.A club. There will also be live music, performances and food.

Other activities will introduce families to the University's new Marra Athletics Fields Complex. The complex converted the former grass field into an easily playable turf field with new bleachers and field lighting. The women's rugby team will play St. John Fisher University at the complex on Sept. 27 at noon, and the men's rugby team will face Army at 7 p.m.

Dueling Pianos, a show featuring world-class pianists, will be presented in the Hickey Dining Hall from on Sept. 27 from 8 to 11 p.m. The two pianists will battle head to head with songs that are requested.

For a detailed Family Weekend schedule, see <http://www.sbu.edu/parents/family-weekend>.





Teaching and Learning Center celebrates 25th anniversary

by Amelia Kibbe, '17

St. Bonaventure's Teaching and Learning Center (TLC) will celebrate its 25th anniversary this fall. Those in the TLC, which helps students with all subjects, has new plans to broaden their audience.

Jean Ehman, director of the TLC, explained the idea for the center began as a way for students to help their peers.

"Dr. Gordon De La Vars was the first director of the TLC," Ehman said. "It opened 25 years ago this fall, and I recall there was a committee of faculty members who collaborated to see what resources the students needed to make academics more fruitful, both on the teaching end and on the learning end. We ended up with a peer-to-peer tutoring system."

Since its beginning, the TLC has made its home in the basement of Doyle Hall. Today the TLC offers tutoring to students in almost all classes, free of charge. Any student is eligible for tutoring. In recent years, the TLC has also incorporated a writing lab, which helps students with any stage of the writing process.

"We offer academic support services for all students," Ehman said. "It comes in terms of peer tutoring for almost every subject. In addition to this, we also offer some small-group tutoring. Our writing lab is across the curriculum. If students are having difficulty in any phase of the writing process, we are eager to help them."

Ehman explained the goal of the writing lab is for the students to learn from their mistakes.

"We hope that the sessions are educational and not just editing," she said. "We want the student to learn what is correct and what is not. Students walk out with a paper they have written. I guess the best word to describe what we do is 'coach.'"

She added midterm time is a great time for students to take advantage all the writing lab offers.

"The honeymoon is over for freshmen," Ehman said. "So if a student does not think he or she has a firm foundation on how to make things work, October is a good time to start. Being

organized, which leads to time management, is key to academic success."

The TLC also offers assistance for students with disabilities through Disabilities Support Services. A student must provide documentation, then the TLC will arrange for assistance as needed.

To celebrate its 25th anniversary, the TLC has incorporated some new initiatives to expand its program.

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"Through a survey we took, we netted a rich conglomeration of what students thought about the TLC, what their needs are..." Ehman said. "That helped us mold where we want to be in our next quarter century. We have always been at the ready to help students who are on the verge of or in an academic jam. Our emphasis this fall, in addition to helping those students, is to try to reach students before anything goes south."

Ehman said one method for increasing the number of students who use the TLC is outreach programs. Graduate students will be out and about in Café La Verna this week to talk to students about how they could benefit by using the TLC. In the next few weeks, TLC instructors will also be in the lobby of Robinson Hall to explain to the freshman class what the TLC has to offer.

Early in October (date to be announced) the TLC will host a pass-port event for freshmen called "The Good, the Bad, the Bonaventure." Freshmen will be given the opportunity to talk with older students about their best experiences and the stumbles they took. "Basically, this fall, we are looking to help students who are doing fine but who want to excel," Ehman said.

For more information on the Teaching and Learning Center, call 716-375-2066, or email TLC@sbu.edu.

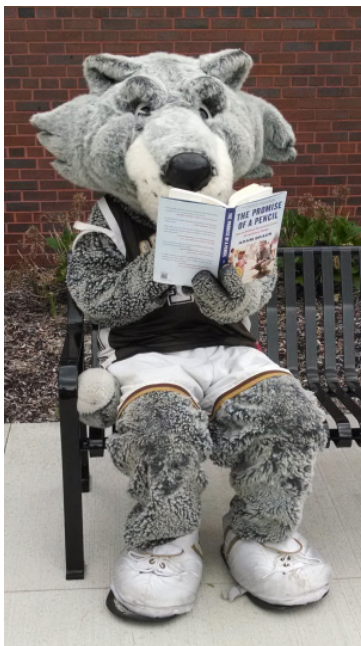


From the cover: Students compete in selfie contest

Throughout the summer of 2014, the Class of 2018 was given the opportunity to participate in the All Bonaventure Reads (ABR) Selfie Contest.

Created by the First-Year Experience (FYE) department at a web seminar last semester, this contest was the first of its kind at St. Bonaventure University. Chris Brown, Director of the First-Year Experience, said the goal of the contest was to get the students engaged with both the book and with St. Bonaventure in the month and a half between Orientation and Welcome Days.

The students were invited to take a selfie — a picture of themselves— reading their ABR book, “The Promise of a Pencil,” by Adam Braun, and post it to Twitter, Instagram or Facebook with the hashtag #ABRselfie14.

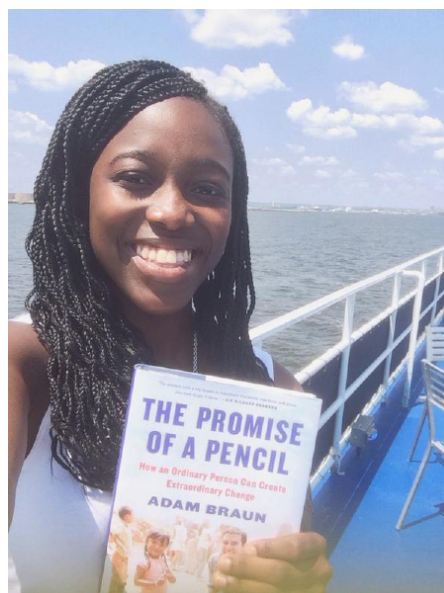
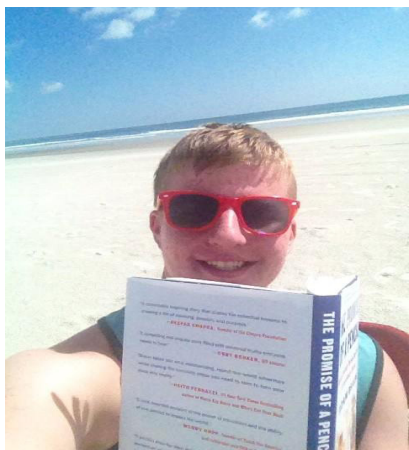
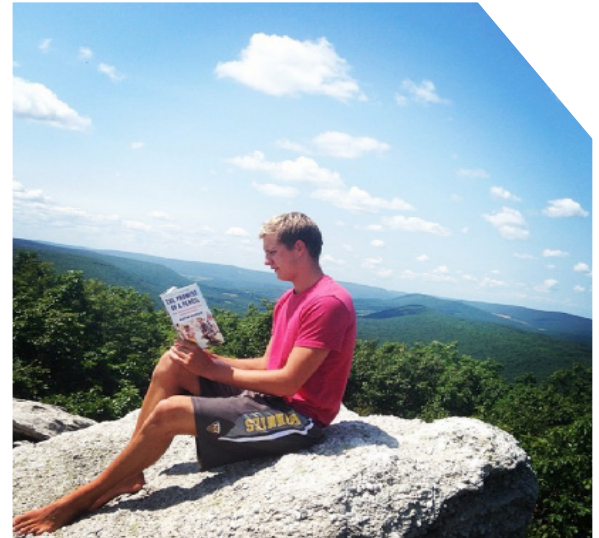


Adam Braun himself responded to some of the selfies online after an orientation leader tagged him in a sample selfie.

Freshman Emmy Kolbe said, “I thought it was fun! It was a cool way to be creative, and looking at everyone’s selfies made for some good entertainment.” She only wishes that more people took the opportunity to submit a picture. “If more people had done it, it might have brought people together.”

Bona Gear will be given to the winners of the ABR Selfie Contest. These students will be announced Monday, Sept. 29 during the address by Adam Braun to the St. Bonaventure community in the Reilly Center Arena. Braun’s address starts at 7 p.m.





Organizational Fair opens opportunities for freshmen

by Elyse Breez, '17

Joining student organizations provides unique and fun opportunities to connect with other St. Bonaventure University students, gain leadership qualities, sharpen communication skills, and gain professional experience. Through the annual Organization Fair, students – especially freshmen – are encouraged to get involved beyond the classroom.

The Organization Fair, sponsored by the Campus Activities Board (CAB), allows all recognized student organizations to showcase their club's activities, events, and to recruit new members. This year, more than 60 clubs and organizations were promoted.

Abby Cohen, associate director for the Center of Campus Activities, Recreation and Leadership, organizes the fair each year. "I send emails to all the club student leaders and their advisers and encourage them to sign up to have a table," she said. "It is free for offices and clubs to have a table and it is a great way to recruit new members."

Chris Brown, First-Year Experience (FYE) and Orientation director, called the Organization Fair one of his favorite events within the FYE program.

The Organization Fair is designed to assure students that there is a club for all areas of interest. Emmy Kolbe, freshman journalism and mass communication (JMC) major, noted

everything "From sports to religion and from writing to community service is available; the fair allowed me to see how easy it is to get involved."



Because of the fair, Kolbe said she was able to join several of Bonaventure's on-campus media organizations, such as the campus newspaper, The Bona Venture; its online news source, The Intrepid; The BonaWire, the social media club; and The Buzz, the campus radio station.

"The organizational fair was a great reminder of all the clubs and organizations Bonaventure has to offer," freshman JMC major Bryce Spadafora said. "You learn about so many groups during the first few weeks that it gets a little overwhelming, but the fair is a great reminder of what

exactly each group is about." Spadafora joined St. Bonaventure's comedy club, The Laugh Pack, and Chattertons, the slam poetry club.

"It doesn't matter if you are a first-year student or a senior, anyone can benefit from the club/organization fair!" Cohen said. "Students of all years are able to join a club. It is worthwhile to look into a club to meet new people with common interests, support a cause you are passionate about or use membership as an opportunity to enhance your leadership skills."



Freshman class helps nearby organization, Saint's Place

by Shannon West, '18



Chris Brown, director of St. Bonaventure University's First-Year Experience and Orientation, charged freshmen during Orientation to bring donations of school supplies when they returned to campus in August for Welcome Days. These supplies were to be given to Saint's

Place, an organization supporting refugees resettling to the Rochester, NY, area. For the freshmen, their efforts were inspired by "The Promise of a Pencil," the All Bonaventure Reads (ABR) summer reading assignment.

The University has been associated with Saint's Place for 15 years, aiding immigrants coming to the United States from countries ravaged by war. Saint's Place provides items like household goods, appliances and clothes to set up apartments for each newly arrived family. Recognizing the children of those immigrant families need an education, Saint's Place offers an after-school tutorial program for refugee children and parents who do not speak English.

"Many of those who come from other countries do not speak English," said Sr. Suzanne Kush, C.S.S.F., director of the Franciscan Center for Social Concern. "Some of these children have lived most of their lives in resettlement camps so their access to education is not equal to the level of education available to children their same age in the United States."

The tutorial program helps the families strive toward a level of competency so they can become a part of the community. The donations brought in by freshmen this past summer helped Saint's Place provide for those students'

education. During Welcome Days, students packaged the school supplies donated by the class of 2018 into more than 100 school bags that will be distributed to refugee children. Plus, extra-large boxes of additional supplies will be used to support the tutoring services at Saint's Place. The Promise of a Pencil helped the freshmen reflect upon the importance of an education and an awareness of the lack of education that exists in the world.

"One of the things that 'The Promise of a Pencil' book has done is make people aware of how lucky they are and how they have opportunities that aren't necessarily awarded to everyone across the globe," Brown said.

Braun's organization, Pencils of Promise, is now a global movement that contributes toward children's education. Braun's vision of providing education goes hand-in-hand with the mission of Saint's Place. Many of the refugees served by Saint's Place come from countries and regions Braun mentioned in his book. The connection with education, offering children school supplies and building schools fits with the tutorial program at Saint's Place.

"The freshman class members really did out-do themselves this year," Kush said. "This was the best response from any class ever we have asked for something. This class was extremely generous. We never would have been able to take what we did. Not only have we given our physical support by fixing apartments for families, but we were also able to add to their education."



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