

# WRITING PORTFOLIO

---

# THE SENTINEL

THE KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY NEWSPAPER

# BRITTANY MAHER

---

Editor-In-Chief



Ms. Guyana Elizabeth Dundee came in first place at the Ms. KSU International Pageant.

Matt Boggs | The Sentinel

# MS. KSU INTERNATIONAL PAGEANT CELEBRATES CULTURAL DIVERSITY

Brittany Maher Editor in Chief

**The International Students Association hosted its annual Ms. KSU International Pageant Friday to celebrate the diverse array of cultures, countries and students on campus.**

Eighteen contestants graced the stage, representing 18 different countries including The Bahamas, Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Finland, Germany, Guyana, Haiti, India, Italy, Mexico, Nigeria, Philippines, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, England and the United States. Each contestant showcased their respective countries along with their talents.

The winners of the Ms. KSU International Pageant include

Ms. Guyana, Elizabeth Dundee in first place, Ms. Italy Audrey Faulkner in second place and Ms. Bahamas Blaire Johnson in third place.

International Festival Coordinator Amy Hydar's goal for the pageant was to encourage people to learn about cultures all over the world in a fun, unique way.

"You get to learn about the countries from a first-hand perspective," said Hydar. "It's unique from other pageants in that it's all about culture and the contestants actually take the time to reflect both their talents and their countries."

The planning for the pageant begins two months before the competition. "I scout out

exchange students that come into the International Student Center and encourage them to enter in the pageant," said Hydar. "Once they enter, they practice with the executive board twice a week for two months."

The pageant's contestants recount their experience preparing for the pageant as both fun and stressful.

"For the pageant, it's a lot of fun because you get to meet a lot of different girls from different countries," said Ms. Philippines Monique Guinocor, a sophomore nursing major.

"It was stressful at times," said Ms. Nigeria Deborah Matthew, a freshman mathematics major. "I actually fell off my chair while I

was doing my hair for the pageant."

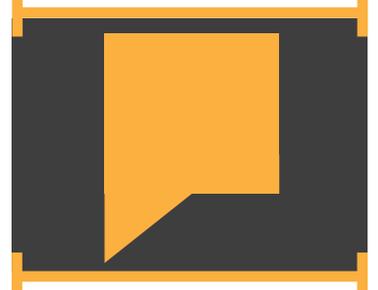
For those who attended the event, the pageant offered a new perspective into the multicultural lives of KSU students.

"It's an opportunity to showcase different cultures, talents and charisma," said Ruth Lauture, a senior marketing major and first-generation Haitian-American. "Regardless of their status, what's most important is the ability to educate the audience through interpretive dance, storytelling, singing, etc. These young ladies have the opportunity to shed light of their country despite what's portrayed in the media."

Not only did the event give contestants the opportunity to

showcase their talents, it also gave them the chance to veer away from stereotypes related to their culture.

"It's important to honor international students," said Lauture. "They've come a long way to build a better future for themselves and their family. I give them all the credit for leaving their comfort zone, and being away from home. You get the opportunity to hear one's experiences and the common stereotypes associated with their country. The pageant is more of an educational experience that was both entertaining and amusing."



**CONTACT US**

**WANT TO SUBMIT AN OPINION ARTICLE?**

**EMAIL: OPINIONEDITOR@KSUSENTINEL.COM**

**MUST BE IN AP STYLE & INCLUDE HEADSHOT.**

**LETTER POLICY**

- 1.) The Sentinel will try to print all letters received. Letters should be 200 words long. Exceptions are made at the discretion of the editors. We reserve the right to edit all letters submitted for brevity, content and clarity.
- 2.) The writer must include full name, year and major if a student, professional title if a KSU employee, and city if a Georgia resident.
- 3.) For verification purposes, students must also supply the last four digits of their student ID number and a phone number. This information will not be published. E-mail addresses are included with letters published in the web edition.
- 4.) Contributors are limited to one letter every 30 days. Letters thanking individuals or organizations for personal services rendered cannot be accepted. We do not publish individual consumer complaints about specific businesses.
- 5.) If it is determined that a letter writer's political or professional capacity or position has a bearing on the topic addressed, then that capacity or position will be identified at the editor's discretion.
- 6.) While we do not publish letters from groups endorsing political candidates, The Sentinel will carry letters discussing candidates and campaign issues.
- 7.) All letters become property of The Sentinel.
- 8.) All comments and opinions in signed columns are those of the author and not necessarily of The Sentinel staff, its advisers or KSU and do not reflect the views of the faculty, staff, student body, the Student Media or the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia. Columns are opinions of only the columnist. They do not reflect the views of The Sentinel, but instead offer a differing viewpoint.

The Sentinel is the student newspaper of Kennesaw State University, and receives no student activity fees. The Sentinel is published weekly (Tuesdays) during the school year. First three copies are free; additional copies are \$1.00. No part of The Sentinel may be reproduced without the express written permission of the Editor in Chief.

# AN ODE TO INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY



Brittany Maher Editor-in-Chief

Each year on March 8, we celebrate International Women's Day. All around the world, this day represents an opportunity to commemorate the achievements of women while celebrating our unremitting progress.

To me, this day embodies a chance for young women like myself to say "thank you." It's a time to show appreciation to the girls and women who have made us feel stronger, more capable and have paved the way for women today to be successful in any endeavors we choose to pursue.

As Editor-in-Chief of The Sentinel, I am lucky to be in a position where I consistently feel respected as a female leader by both my peers and superiors and I'm grateful to

those who came before me to make that possible. I'm also grateful to the people throughout my life who make me feel special and worthy of such achievements – the people that remind me every day that anything I want in life is within reach.

In honor of International Women's Day, I want to say thank you to my teachers, advisors and editors whose wisdom gives me the confidence to work hard and pursue my goals. Thank you to my co-workers and fellow female professionals who encourage instead of compete with one another to realize our unique potentials, to our female friends who listen and support us no matter the circumstances and thank you

to the studious, hard-working, independent young women we are surrounded with in our classrooms at KSU.

I want to say thank you to influential female writers like Maya Angelou, JK Rowling, Jane Austen, Ayn Rand, Sylvia Plath and Emily Dickenson who refused to conform, refused to apologize for their thoughts and opinions, and transformed the world through their words.

I want to say thank you to the women who offer their unconditional love and support – our grandmothers, mothers, aunts and sisters who remind us every day to be better women whether it's through helpful advice or by example - these are women who raise us to be warriors and the women who are never yielding in strength,

severity, or determination.

I also want to say thank you to the men who respect us, value our thoughts and treat us as friends, colleagues and equals.

As we move forward, I hope that our daughters can continue to grow up in a world that values them as equals and treats them with love, dignity and respect.

"Each time a woman stands up for herself, without knowing it possibly, without claiming it, she stands up for all women."

-- Maya Angelou

This year's International Women's Day theme is "Make it Happen." Tweet @ksusentinel with the hashtag #MakeItHappen to share your thoughts on the influential women in your life.

## OWL YAKS



Owl Yak is a compilation of The Sentinel's favorite student comments from the anonymous Yik Yak app. Check each week to see if you made it (Just don't tell anyone!)

"I see no problem in making pancakes at 10:30 at night."

"Will the rec center ever open?"

"Twenty years old, and I still don't know how to file my taxes."

"I'm getting to class ten minutes early just to cram for the test."

"RIP boiling water. You will be mist."

"Well...whoever is doing KSU Alerts put a little too much whiskey in their coffee this morning."

"When you get back from break to find that your roommate has the heat cranked up so high that your bar of soap is now liquid."

"There's nothing like accidentally setting your alarm for p.m."

# THE SENTINEL

SEPT. 23 2014

VOL. 48 ISSUE 5 | SINCE 1966

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY | THE SENTINEL

WWW.KSUSENTINEL.COM

SNEAK PEEK

## I SAW THE SIGN

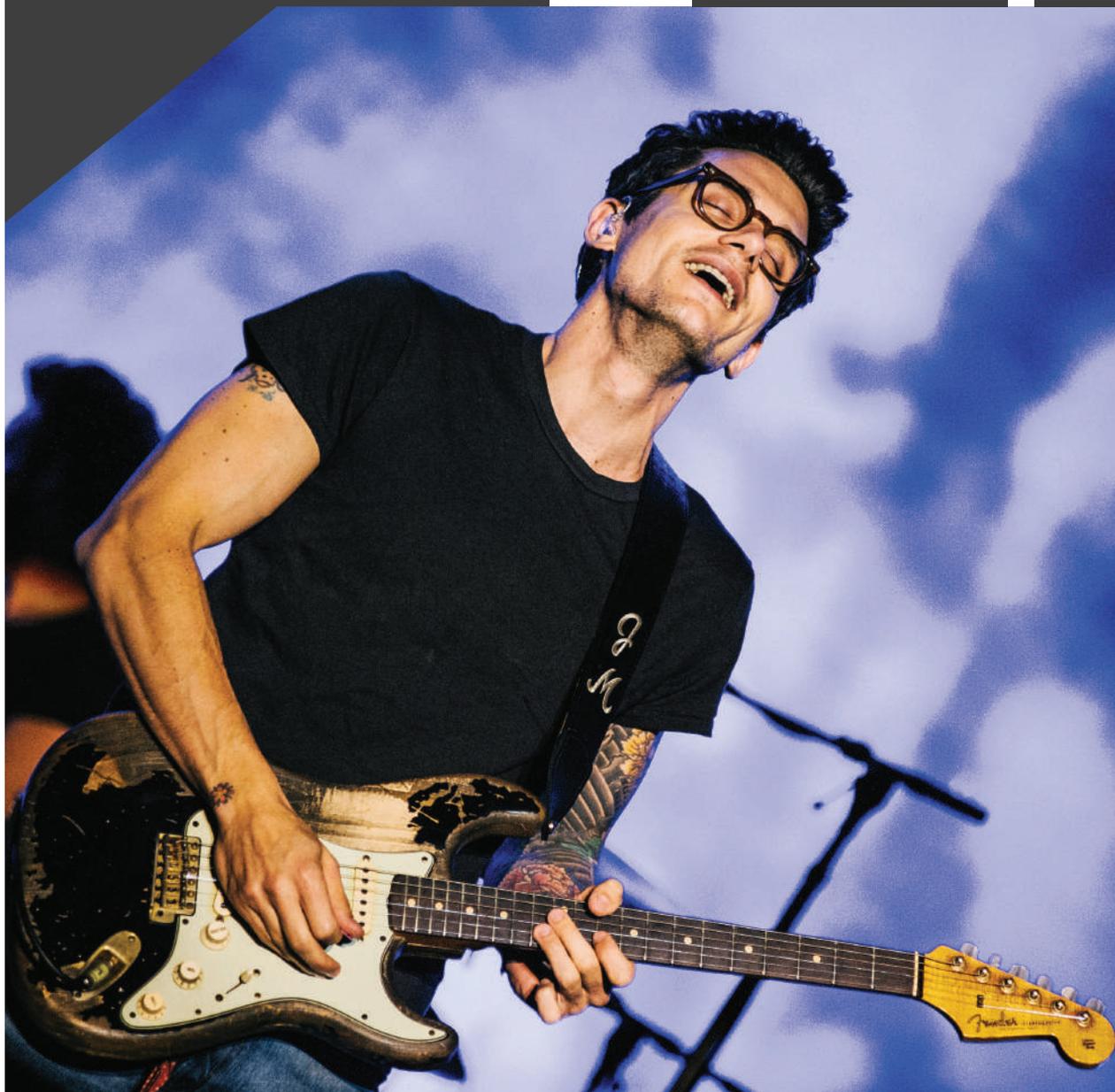
Story Starts On Page 6



Story Starts On Page 14

## NO LONGER IN THE CLUB

Story Starts On Page 17



John Mayer soothes listeners on the Electric Ballroom stage

Matt Boggs | The Sentinel



Lorde

Matt Boggs | The Sentinel

# MUSIC MIDTOWN CREATES MULTI-GENRE MAGIC

**Brittany Maher** Editor-in-Chief

**From the minute Piedmont Park opened its gates late Friday afternoon, vast crowds of music lovers filled the park's green meadow fields, eager to kick off Music Midtown 2014.**

The two day festival brought an even more diverse lineup this

year, crossing multiple musical genres and enticing a wide variety of music fans across Atlanta – all coming together amongst the high-volume crowds to dance and sing along to their favorite artists.

Spread out over three stages, mainstream pop, rock, and

hip-hop ignited the massive musical gathering. Beach balls and beer cans were passed around jubilantly throughout the afternoon until sundown when the vibrant city lights illumined the park, acting as a backdrop to a vivid display of glow sticks, stage lights and the

multi-colored Ferris wheel that towered over the park.

The sunny Friday afternoon was filled with a variety of performances from the soulful melodies of Ron Pope and the equally electric soul of Mayer Hawthorne to the raspy, upbeat vocals of Bear Hands and Banks.

From one side of the park, Iggy Azalea amped up the bass and exhilarated the crowd with her electro modern hip-hop, displaying well-choreographed dance moves.

**Music Midtown continued on pg. 9**

# ARTS AND LIVING

## Music Midtown continued from pg. 1

Run-DMC, on the other hand, brought back nostalgic beats - MCing classic 80's rap and hip-hop all while encouraging the crowd to jump along with the rhymes and keep their hands in the air. Rev. Run and Darryl "D.M.C." Matthews McDaniel's even signed Run's classic black bowler hat to give to a lucky fan in the audience.

After sundown, Lorde gave a deeply expressive performance - whipping her long, curly hair to the big sounds the amplified throughout the park. Smoke bubbles filled the air and an array of lights lit up the stage as her powerful vocals and electro-pop music that left the crowd dancing into the night.

The night concluded with headliners Jack White and John Mayer. Jack White put on a high-energy show and left the crowd

buzzing as they shouted along to his deep folk rock melodies. Across the lawn, John Mayer gave a warm and bluesy upbeat feat filled with both electric guitar solos and acoustic soul that palpated throughout the audience.

Tickets for Saturday's show sold out less than one hour after gates opened that afternoon. With even more people filling the park, the day kicked off with a long and exciting list of performances including Sleeper Agent, Magic Men, Aer, Vic Mensa, Third Eye Blind and Needtobreathe.

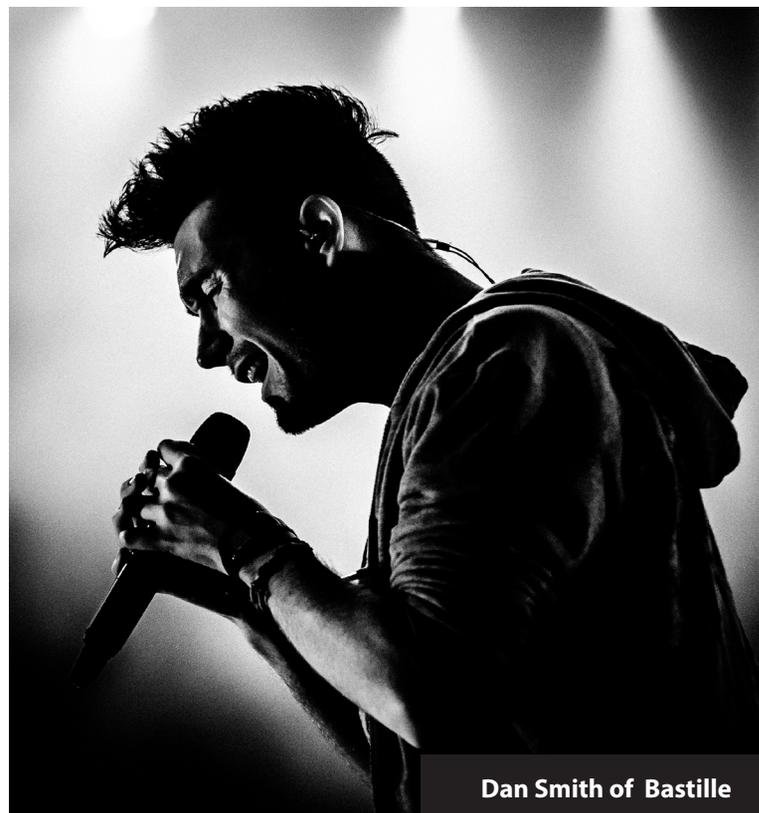
B.O.B, an Atlanta rapper, represented the city in an Atlanta Falcons jersey and brought in some local flair. Lana Del Ray sang out light, haunting melodies while Gregg Allman humbly boasted his robust and profound voice to the classic sounds of Southern funk.

The Strypes, Fitz and the

Tantrums, and 21 Pilots offered a pleasant mixture indie pop, experimental alternative and blues-rock to the festival. Bastille delivered a strong set infused with copious amounts of electric vitality and did an unlikely cover of "No Scrubs" by TLC.

Day two came to a close with Zac Brown Band, who got their hometown crowd singing along with their cheerful southern rock and Eminem, who drew in a massive crowd of frenzied fans ready to rap along with the hooded, fast-paced lyricist's widely known verses.

The weekend energized the city and brought out concert goers from all walks of life. From college kids to moms in minivans, one thing is certain: Music Midtown transcends both a variety of musical genres as well as a variety of music fans.



Dan Smith of Bastille



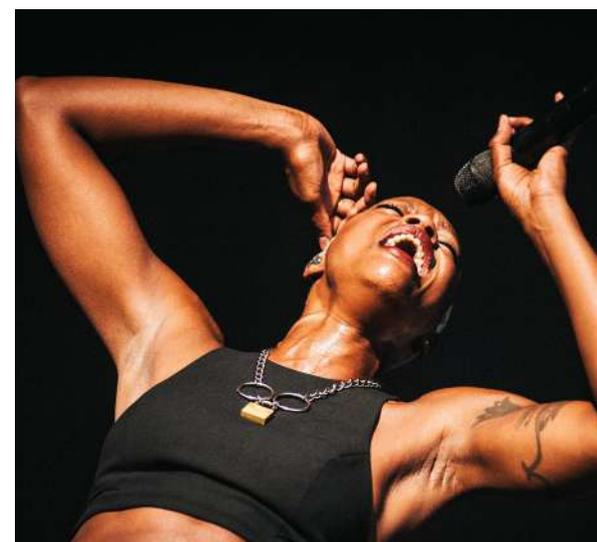
Carter Schultz of Aer



Josh Dun of Twenty One Pilots



B.O.B



Noelle Scagg of Fits and the Tantrums

Photos by Mattt Boggs

# THE SENTINEL

AUG. 26 2014

VOL. 48 ISSUE 2 | SINCE 1966

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY | THE SENTINEL

WWW.KSUSENTINEL.COM

SNEAK PEEK

KEEP TALKING

Story Starts On Page 5

WHAT HAPPENED TO ROBIN WILLIAMS?

Story Starts On Page 11

FRESHMAN SHOW NO MERCY

Story Starts On Page 13



Dr. Papp and Vaughn Williams take the ALS challenge in front of the student center.

Matt Boggs | The Sentinel

# ALS CHALLENGE ACCEPTED

**Brittany Maher** Editor in Chief

Over the last few weeks we've seen it take over our Facebook feeds: short videos of family, friends and celebrities in front of a shaky camera unabashedly explaining that they've been nominated for the ALS challenge. The clip almost always ends with a gasp for air as a cold bucket of ice

water is poured directly over the person's head while they call out their list of chosen nominees. And by now, nearly every student at Kennesaw State has probably been tagged in this viral trend of charity.

With the fall semester at KSU in full swing, we've seen the ALS Challenge take off amongst

students, faculty and a variety of student organizations. From Student Life and Resident Life all the way to Kennesaw State President, Daniel S. Papp and Athletic Director, Vaughn Williams – KSU is no stranger to the cause.

For those who still may not know all the details, the Ice

Bucket Challenge is an effort to raise funds for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), commonly referred to as Lou Gehrig's disease.

The rules are simple: Get challenged, accept the challenge to either donate \$100 by hitting the "donate" button the ALS website or dump ice

water on your head. But let's be clear: Even if you don't want to pay \$100 dollars and instead choose to drench yourself in ice water, you're still supposed to donate to ALSA, just not the full \$100.

**ALS continued on pg. 2**

# NEWS

ALS continued from pg. 1

Although the ALS Association has received copious amounts of praise for the viral phenomenon, there is a wide range of viewpoints concerning the trend. As with most trending topics, the more coverage, the more ways people begin to look at it. With the variety of circulating opinions, often comes backlash - including a counteracting criticism to said backlash.

"It's for a good cause, and I respect that," said junior,

Marketing major, Garrett Odem. "But I'll admit it does get kind of annoying seeing it constantly pop up on my (Facebook) timeline."

Others see it as what some would refer to as "Slackivism," which the Oxford Dictionary defines as "actions performed via the Internet in support of a political or social cause but regarded as requiring little time or involvement."

"I don't see the point of pouring water on your head," said an anonymous student. "Why don't people just donate when they get tagged and

## “GET CHALLENGED ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE”

move along with their day?"

Despite the differing opinions of the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge, the campaign has raised over \$79.7 million since July 29, Time reported. With this in mind, the ALSA still remains positive that the campaign will remain strong, as do many of its followers.

"It's a good way to help out the cause. It's a fun and creative way to raise money," said Paola Nunez, sophomore.

The mission of The ALS Association is to lead the fight to treat and cure ALS through global research and

nationwide advocacy, while also empowering people with Lou Gehrig's Disease and their families to live fuller lives by providing them with compassionate care and support, according to the ALS Association website.

For donation Inquiries visit [donations@alsa-national.org](mailto:donations@alsa-national.org) or dial 888-949-2577. Want to share your thoughts on the subject? Give us a shout on [facebook.com/KSU Sentinel](https://www.facebook.com/KSU Sentinel) or follow us on twitter @ [KSUSentinel](https://twitter.com/KSU Sentinel).



Matt Boggs | The Sentinel

