

A Price on Life

By: Jacob Kelleher MCAS '21

After last November's panel and original documentary to raise awareness about the immediacy and complexity of human trafficking, the class of 2020 chose to focus their social justice project, *A Price on Life*, on exploring the power of art as a tool for healing, empowering, and sparking conversation. In collaboration with the literary magazine *Stylus*, the Heights, the Philosophy Department, and the English Department, *A Price on Life* presented an art exhibition and poetry reading to the Boston College community this spring.

The decision to focus on artistic expression for this semester's events arose out of the class's desire to avoid over-simplification. Human trafficking is incredibly dehumanizing, both in the crime itself and the way that people speak about it. The media and even organizations

Reed Piercey's UGBC Election

By Jack McErlean MCAS '21

Following a successful campaign, Presidential Scholar Reed Piercey, MCAS '19 has been elected as the president of the Undergraduate Government of Boston College (UGBC).

Reed's presidency builds on a history of work in UGBC, which began when the International Studies major was a freshman. His membership in the Undergraduate Leadership Academy (ULA) placed him in the Diversity and Inclusion Programming Board (DIP), where he helped to plan events for UGBC. In his sophomore year, he ran and won the position of Honors Senator. As a junior this year, Reed has worked in UGBC as a senator before securing his position as president next year.

While Reed's demonstrated involvement with UGBC alone is impressive, he has also been involved with (and started) numerous other activities on campus throughout his college career. With a passion for service ignited by his work with the

suicide hotline Samaritans through the volunteering club 4Boston, Reed has worked to implement the student-to-student counseling service "Lean on Me" at Boston College. This service "automatically and anonymously matches peers to create a crowd-sourced texting network of instantaneous support across organizations," and Reed hopes that it will improve the availability of mental health resources for students on campus.

In addition, Reed has co-founded the club Writer's Circle, a creativity-focused workshopping group. He has also worked as managing editor at the Middle East publication Al-Noor, and as a McGillycuddy-Logue fellow in the Office of International Programs.

Reed is stepping down from all these positions (with the exception of heading the Lean on Me chapter) next year in order to focus on his presidency. "While I'm used to being involved with a lot of clubs on campus, I want all of my focus to go towards being the best

UGBC president that I can be next year. I've seen those in the same position struggle to juggle club involvements in the past, so I think it would be best for the presidency to come first," he says. Reed will remain the chapter head of Lean on Me, which is contained within UGBC.

With Ignacio Fletcher, MCAS '20 as a running mate, Reed's campaign was founded on the slogan "We ARE BC," with each letter in "ARE" representing a particular campaign item. First came "A" for advocacy, which Reed has promoted by calling for more seats in UGBC's senate allocated to Montserrat, an organization for first-generation students. The president-elect hopes to address internal issues along this vein, stating that UGBC wants "to see more internal support between the branches of UGBC, which is crucial in the advocacy of these groups. For example, CSD [the Council for Students with Disabilities] events have had poor attendance from the broader

By Sara Samir '21

This past March, the GPSP held its first Women's Summit, bringing in current scholars and female Boston alumni. Overall, it was a great gathering of passionate women with very similar interests. Thanks to the ambition, dedication, and diligent planning of Alison Wawrzynek, a Class of 2014 GPSP alum, and recently graduated Scholars, Mariah Larwood, Rachel Simon, and Ali Mills, this event came to fruition.

The event started off strong with a featured alumna keynote speaker, Dr. Amanda Parsons. After graduating in the Class of 1997, Amanda went on to pursue an MD and MBA degree at Columbia University, after which she worked at McKinsey & Company. Currently, Amanda is the Vice President of Community & Population Health

at Montefiore Medical Center. Through her eloquent words, she shed light on her career and life path, constantly connecting it to her womanhood. Her confidence took over the room, as everyone was engaged in her anecdotes and advice. She is a true inspiration for all of us women in the GPSP--she embodies the values of the program and exemplifies how to apply them to all aspects of life.

Following Amanda's speech, we divided into small group discussions. Topics of focus centered around what it means to be a woman, what we love about womanhood, struggles of womanhood, and the ways in which we can make use of our female power to enact change in the world and become successful in whatever life paths we take.

Another highlight of the event was the Alumnae Panel, titled

"High-achieving Women at BC and Beyond"--Dr. Betty Bagnani moderated the panel composed of Rebecca Izzo '07, Colleen Sinnott '13, Kelsey Sp-07F60C01Ej TT2pols.s

Wall Street Alumni Event, and Council Dinner

Photo by Donna Alvarez

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Awards

University Honors

Order of the Cross & Crown

The Order of the Cross and Crown is the Morrissey College of Arts & Sciences honor society for seniors who, while achieving an average of at least A-, have established records of unusual service and leadership on the campus.

John Knowles (Marshall)
Jacob Ciafone
Chris Reynolds

Commencement Awards

Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences

The Frank J. Bailey Sr. Award

Established by his daughter Kathleen Bailey, GPSP Co-Director and lecturer in political science, for a student with “a

Islamic studies”

Austin Bodetti

Francis A. Brick Award

Given to the student who has been outstanding in character, loyalty, leadership, and scholarship during their four years at Boston College.

John Knowles

Doherty Honors Project Award

This award honors Paul Doherty. It is for the best undergraduate thesis.

John Knowles

Edward H. Finnegan S.J., Award

An award in the memory of Rev. Edward H. Finnegan S.J., given

Boston College the spirit of the College motto “Ever to Excel.”

Chris Reynolds

David Karp Award

An award in honor of David A. Karp, Professor of Sociology from 1971 to 2012. While leading the Honors Program, he inspired generations of students to strive for insightful sociological listening and beautiful writing that is the hallmark of his work.

Christopher Yu

William A. Kean '35 Award

An award to the graduating senior judged by the Kean Award Committee to be the outstanding English major

John Knowles

Bishop Kelleher Award

An award donated by Francis Cardinal Spellman in honor of the Most Reverend Louis F. Kelleher, given to an undergraduate student for the best writing in poetry published in a Boston College undergraduate publication.

Walker Halstad

John McCarthy, S.J. Award for Humanities

An award given to seniors in the College of Arts and Sciences for the most distinguished Scholar of the College projects.

John Sipp

John McCarthy, S.J. Award for Social Sciences/Political Science

An award given to seniors in the College of Arts and Sciences for the most distinguished Scholar of the College projects.

Christopher Yu

Cardinal O'Connell Theology Medal

A gold medal, the gift of the late William Cardinal O'Connell, given to the student whose overall performance in theology courses has been outstanding.

John Sipp

Phi Beta Kappa

Phi Beta Kappa is the most prestigious academic honors society in the United States. Annually it elects to membership the most outstanding seniors (and a handful of truly exceptional juniors), based on superior scholarship and good character.

Austin Bodetti
Jacob Ciafone
David Fu
John Knowles
Chris Reynolds
John Sipp

Scholar of the College

Scholar of the College is a special designation conferred at Commencement on seniors who have successfully completed particularly creative, scholarly, and ambitious independent research projects while maintaining an overall cumulative grade point average of A- or better.

Austin Bodetti

John Sipp

Christopher Yu

Non-University Awards, Honor,

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