



Illustration by Liz Crosby

# The Return

MVNU Art Gallery Makes a Comeback  
After a Year of Covid Isolation

# Artists' Work Featured at The Buchwald Center

By Liz Crosby

The Buchwald Center was bustling with activity recently as the MVNU art and design seniors prepared their artwork to be shown in the gallery. The graphic design senior show, entitled Adapt, and the senior art show, entitled Co-Write, both took place in the Schnormeier Gallery. The art and design exhibitions are the highlight of a student's time at Buchwald. The show contains one year's worth of work and demonstrates what a student has learned during their four years at MVNU. The content and process of art is very different than the content and process of design, but each show exhibits the unique process of both majors.

The art show Co-Write displayed the work of Olivia Huth and Josiah Six. Although unintended, the two bodies of work collectively addressed the theme of consump-

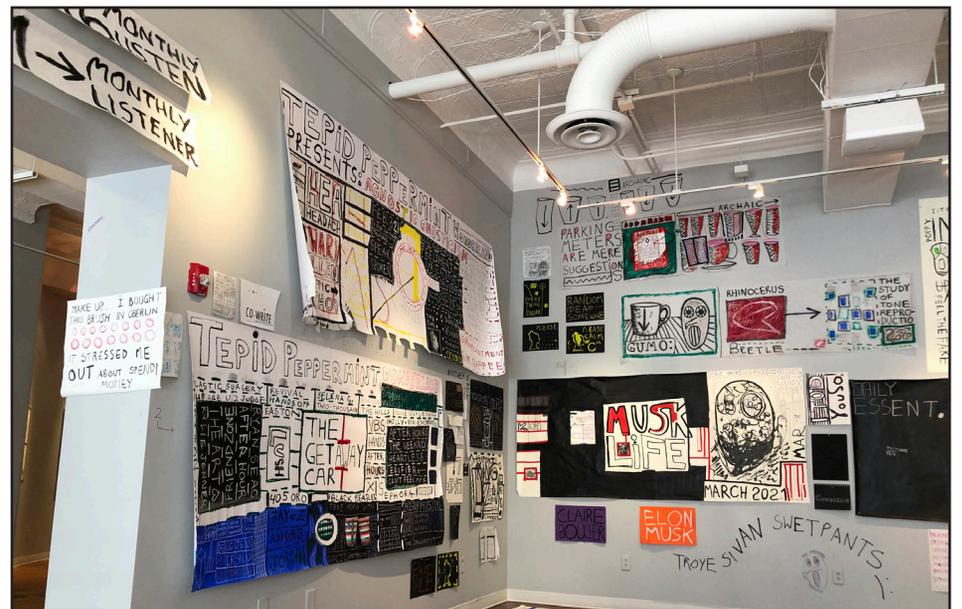
tion. Their advisor, Professor John Donnelly, commented "There is an underlying similarity in their work that was not pre-planned. Both students addressed the documentation of their daily journey. For Huth, it was through her purchasing habits; but for Six, it was the consumption of music, literature and things like that." This can be clearly seen in Huth's oil paintings of receipts and plastic shopping bags and Six's collages of written lyrics, thoughts and other disconnected words. Students and faculty members could read an abbreviated artist statement on the show cards and posters distributed around campus.

The graphic design exhibition showcased the work of eight senior graphic design majors. Their combined body of work demonstrated the ability of the students to generate creative design solutions to highly specific client-oriented prompts. Rather than paintings,

each student composed posters, banners, book jackets, product packaging, promotional items and informational booklets, etc. The process of making designs is labor intensive and ongoing. Sketches and drafts were repeatedly dissected in classroom group critique in order to strengthen and refine the ideas. During senior year, the students focused on creating a cohesive brand for themselves

which includes a personal logo, a design statement and a branding standards manual. The gallery also had computers where visitors could explore the websites of each designer. However, the keystone of each student's collection is their process book and portfolio: a large printed book displaying their entire body of work. These will be useful when the students begin entering the job

(Continued on Page 4)



Shown above and below are the artwork of senior Josiah Six recently on display at the Buchwald Center. Photos by Liz Crosby



## THE VIEWER

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Facebook: MVNU The Viewer  
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Co-Editors:  
MacKenzie Holder  
Zoe Bricker

Writers:  
Leslie Uphouse  
Abigail Brown  
Hannah Barco  
Mike Basco  
Allison Prouty  
Ellie Perry  
Dana Hicks

Graphic Design:  
Liz Crosby

Adviser: Alan Reed

Editorial Policy:  
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# Emergency Management and Homeland Security Program Coming To MVNU in Fall

By Allison Prouty

Mount Vernon Nazarene University will be welcoming a brand-new degree program this fall. Students will now be able to major in Emergency Management and Homeland Security. This comprehensive program will prepare students to work with non-profit, private and governmental agencies during crises. Dr. Thad Hicks, Professor of

Emergency Management & Criminal Justice, said that “The crises that pop up, that’s our job -- to bring order out of chaos.”

Over the past several years, the demand for people who can effectively manage emergencies has been rising. Crises such as political unrest, natural disasters, and even the COVID-19 pandemic have led to this need.

Dr. LeeAnn Coutts, Dean of the

School of Natural and Social Sciences, said that the courses offered for this major will help prepare students for any career in emergency management. “They will be doing this in real life situations,” she said.

Students in this major will take classes such as Introduction to Emergency Management and Homeland Security, Phases of Emergency Management, Grant Writing, Principles of Management,

Politics and Policy and a capstone project. There will also be elective courses like Hazardous Materials, Crisis Communication, International Development, Trauma Healing and Crisis Intervention.

For more information about the Emergency Management and Homeland Security major, contact Dr. Thad Hicks at thad.hicks@mvnu.edu or call him at (740) 601-1252.

## Student Service Learning Trip Opportunities To Return This Summer

By Leslie Uphouse

The MVNU Campus Ministry office modified and reinstated trips after noticing positive progress on campus with COVID-19 protocols. There are three trips happening this summer with teams heading to Cleveland, Columbus and Cactus, TX. Students who attend these trips combine service and learning through community outreach and receive opportunities to help address poverty, sex trafficking, HIV/AIDS and assist refugees.

Those who pick Cleveland will join Katie Booth to work with MVNU alums James and Emily Laker. It costs \$250 to go and spans from April 27-May 4. The second trip to Columbus is led by Dr. Hank Spaulding, and students will work with Lower Lights Ministries in the Franklinton neighborhood. The cost is \$125 and goes from April 27-30. Pastor Stephanie Lobdell will oversee the last trip to Cactus, TX, and students will work with multicultural refugees

from Central America, Myanmar and Africa. The trip costs \$750 and ranges from April 27-May 4.

Due to COVID-19 protocols, the number of spots for the trips are significantly less than years prior. Students who filled out an applica-

tion and were accepted will attend trip training for four weeks beginning this month.

To help cover costs, students can send support letters to family and friends as well as apply for grant funding through MVNU. “I’m

excited about these trips because I didn’t think we’d be able to do anything,” said Pastor Stephanie Lobdell. “I’m excited to get some engagement outside our normal bubble and out into the world!”

**SUMMER 2021 SERVICE LEARNING TRIPS**

**CLEVELAND, OHIO** 4/27 - 5/4  
Cost: \$250  
Leader: Katie Booth  
Participate in the redemptive, restorative, and reconciling work of God in Cleveland with MVNU alums, James and Emily Laker.

**CACTUS, TEXAS** 4/27 - 5/4  
Cost: \$750  
Leader: Pastor Stephanie Lobdell  
Compassionately and holistically empower all the people of Cactus, a community of 20+ cultures, primarily immigrants and refugees from Central America, Myanmar, and Africa.

**COLUMBUS, OHIO** 4/27 - 4/30  
Cost: \$125  
Hank Spaulding  
Compelled by the love of God, Lower Lights Ministries invests in the restoration of the whole person and reconciliation of communities through transformative relationships and leadership development in Franklinton neighborhood of Columbus.

SCAN ME

SCAN HERE TO LET US KNOW YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN A TRIP!  
FOR MORE INFORMATION: [CAMPUSMINISTRIES@MVNU.EDU](mailto:CAMPUSMINISTRIES@MVNU.EDU)

## PB&J Club a Positive Influence

By Allison Prouty

MVNU students are becoming role models to Mount Vernon children through the PB&J CoSMO group. Brianna Chenevey, CoSMO Coordinator, said that the goal of PB&J Club “is to be a positive influence in the kids’ lives. Most of these kids are coming from situations that aren’t the best,” and the members of PB&J Club achieve this by bringing the children food, playing games with them and teaching them Biblical lessons. Chenevey said that some children have “changed their attitudes towards school and towards adults in general” as a result of their interactions of the PB&J Club.

During club meetings, MVNU students pack boxes of food for the children. The food is donated by MVNU faculty and staff, which Chenevey said, “it’s really cool that it’s not just us students that are invested in these kids; it’s the faculty, staff and professors that are truly invested in this.” The boxes contain a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, fruit, a juice box, string cheese and snack foods like pretzels or crackers. An encouraging note and a Bible verse are also included in each box to help inspire the children.

PB&J Club meets Wednesdays at 4:45 p.m. at the Central Complex on MVNU’s campus where students pack the boxes then carpool to the Vernon Ridge apartment



Members of the PB&J CoSMO group are front row, from left, Rebecca Bash, Brittany Starrett and Brianna Chenevey. Back row -- Caleb Steele, Brian Dunbar, Sarah Harmon, Joe Compargette and Michaela King.  
Photo by Allison Prouty

complex. Students usually return to campus around 6:15 p.m. One chapel credit can be earned each

week through CoSMO. The club is open to all students, regardless of major.

## Breakfast and Bible Study

By Mike Basko

Last semester, Mount Vernon First Church of the Nazarene began hosting a college service every Sunday. The worship team is made up of MVNU students who are using their musical talent to glorify God. This semester, the church added another event for students: Breakfast and Bible Study. This Bible study takes place before the college service every week and invites students to engage in conversation over the Word of God. A delicious homemade breakfast is also provided for attendees so that students are not only fed spiritually but also physically.

MVNU student Ben Smith was appointed by the lead pastor of First Naz to lead the study. He said that the purpose of it is, “really to connect college-age kids to the Word of God.” He wants to see the students build relationships and disciple each other through the study. His eventual goal is to spread discipleship throughout the

community, and it all starts with the students interacting with each other.

Zane Risser, the student ministry director for freshmen, is another leading member of Breakfast and Bible Study. He is excited to see the new study blossoming at his home church. He said, “The purpose really is to connect, but really the big

purpose is to dig into the Word, see how it applies, and let God use us to minister to others.” Risser’s goal for the Bible study is to get people saved and disciplined and then have those believers disciple others, because he believes that will cause a spiritual revival on campus.

Breakfast and Bible Study is bringing students together to

discuss God’s Word. Regarding the heart behind beginning this study, Risser added, “Everything we’re doing is for the Lord. I pray that that’s our intention.” All MVNU students are welcome to enjoy “Every Sunday, 10:15, breakfast, people, and good old scripture,” stated Risser, at Mount Vernon First Church of the Nazarene.

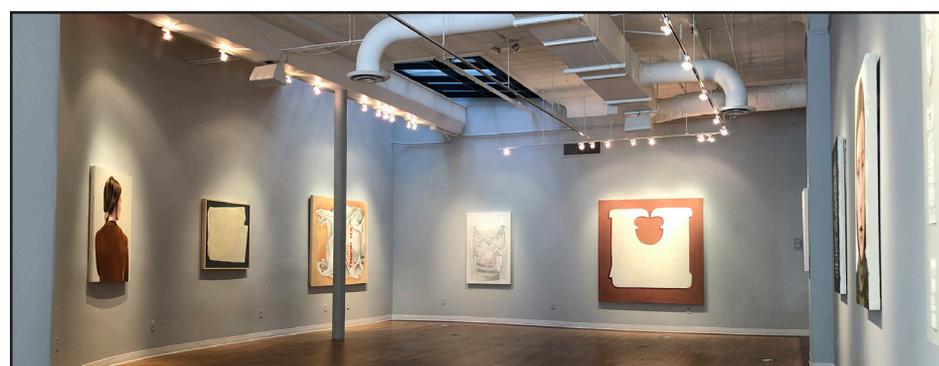
(Continued from Page 2)  
market.

The graphic design show Adapt was named for the COVID-19 challenges of 2020-’21. Due to social distancing restrictions, classes were often held online in Zoom meetings rather than in the Mac Lab in the Buchwald Center. Fortunately, due to the declining cases, the Schnormeier Gallery was able to host this annual event for the public. Both the art and design show required guests to wear masks

and gloves and asked all visitors to maintain social distancing by

following directional stickers on the floor.

## Senior Art Show



Also featured at the Buchwald was the artwork of senior Olivia Huth.  
Photo by Liz Crosby

# Play Therapy To Return to MVNU in Spring 2022

By Abigail Brown

The psychology department at MVNU will be offering a Play Therapy course in the spring of 2022. This elective program will involve a three-hour course in play therapy and a one-week experience in volunteering at “Give Kids the World” in Kissimmee, FL.

“Give Kids the World,” is a non-profit retreat center for children struggling with life-threatening illnesses. The resort allows the children and their families to create memories at their theme parks. “Everything at GKTW is free to the families who have typically been granted a wish through Make-A-Wish or a similar foundation. We

describe it as a mini Disney World,” said Professor of Psychology, Dr. Colleen Bryan.

The Play Therapy course will teach college students how to think like children. Dr. Bryan stated, “Children often don’t have the words and the means by which to tell adults what they are thinking or feeling. They don’t have the brain capacity or maturity yet to put their feelings into words. Play becomes that medium.”

After completing the three-hour play therapy course, students will use what they have learned and put it into practice. This will be the psychology department’s sixth trip to Kissimmee. “It would have been our seventh trip, but sadly GKTW

had to shutter their doors for the first time in 35 years last June when Covid stopped all travel and similar experiences,” said Dr. Bryan.

Dr. Bryan is excited to say that “Give Kids the World” has re-opened and anticipates a full village again by next spring.

## SGA Hosts Formal Dances

By Leslie Uphouse

As students wrap up their spring semester, various end-of-the-year events on campus take place to celebrate reaching the finish line. This semester, the MVNU Student Government Association, known as SGA, hosted two formal dances during March and April for students. Both events were black tie or formal in dress code and followed COVID-19 protocols.

Freshmen and sophomores attended a murder mystery dinner party hosted on March 26 or 27. The event took place in the Ariel Arena gyms and included a catered meal from Pioneer College Caterers and professional photos. The murder mystery was compared to a giant game of Clue, where every table was assigned a character with information passed around about all other characters and backsto-

ries. There were three rounds total that allowed tables to share clues or guesses, and the end goal was to find out the murderer.

Juniors and seniors were invited to a social event on April 10 at the Ariel Foundation Park Schnormeier Event Center. It featured a dinner catered by Stein Brewing Company and Everlasting Cup. There were individual performances from students, line dances, slow dances and karaoke in between songs. “It was a wonderful setup with pretty lights dividing the different sections,” said Laura Beth Fraley, a senior. “It was super classy, fun, and very needed.”

Despite the challenges with COVID-19, SGA has done a fantastic job planning and hosting events while abiding by restrictions and guidelines, and students and staff are grateful for all the hard work they put in this semester,

## Cougar Kindness Being Spread at MVNU

By Allison Prouty

The Cougar Kindness board is uniting the MVNU community, one note at a time. Bekah Kalas, a freshman student, said that she was inspired to create the Cougar Kindness board after seeing the impact that a similar note-sharing board had at a weekend camp that she worked at in high school. She brought it to MVNU to help spread “kindness and positivity around campus.”

Anyone can write an encour-

aging note to anyone on campus, including residential students, commuters, CCP students, faculty and staff. Kalas said that she would “love to see the board completely full all the time” with notes. “When you spread kindness, you feel [kindness] back,” Kalas said, and she encourages everyone to leave someone a note. “There’s going to be some really awesome things coming from it.” The board can be found in the Hyson cafeteria lobby, and paper is provided for writing notes.



Freshman Bekah Kalas poses by the Cougar Kindness board urging students to share notes of encouragement.

Photo by Allison Prouty



MVNU's Campus Safety has been busy investigating numerous reported thefts on campus. Photo by Leslie Uphouse

## Campus Thefts On the Rise

By Leslie Uphouse

MVNU is home to around 2,500 commuter and residential students, and the small, close-knit atmosphere implies a sense of community, safety and security. But recently, a number of thefts on campus has been reported. Some of them include missing bikes, toilet paper, a TV, a car, belongings from cars and laundry. "The bike I had for over five years was stolen," said Jacob Glaze, a junior. "Campus safety did find a couple bikes, but mine was not one of them. It was never recovered."

A security forum in February revealed an arrest of someone in possession of laundry and other stolen items. Some of the stolen items were recovered and returned, but some, like Jacob, did not get their possessions back at all. At the forum, several students expressed concerns about not reaching out to campus safety because of the timeliness of the matter, which has forced other parties to get involved.

To address the recent thefts and concerns at the forum, MVNU Campus Safety worked on improving communication through a monthly newsletter and using the NIXLE system when a serious crime is committed. The most recent newsletter sent to students talked about their duties and intro-

duced new staff members. Campus safety listed duties to include jumping vehicles, helping with low tire pressure, emergency call responses, and room lockouts. They can also give escorts from dawn to dusk and do registration, IDs, background checks, fingerprinting and badge printing.

Tony Edwards, director of facilities and safety operations, said many students have been extremely helpful in reporting suspicious behavior so far. In response to the recent activity, he said more cameras are being installed and door-locking systems are being added to lounges on campus. They also hired an additional officer to patrol student residential areas during the evenings and early mornings. When asked what can be done to improve security, Edwards said, "The single best thing is for people to secure their valuables. Most of the stolen items, if not all of them, were crimes of opportunity, unlocked or unattended."

Students are encouraged to speak up and say something to Campus Safety if they see suspicious activity. "Campus Safety does an incredible job keeping the campus secure, but we cannot be everywhere at once," said Edwards. "With over 300 acres and 75 buildings on and off campus to patrol, we need everyone's help to keep the campus crime free."

## Music Department Hosts Spring Cabaret

By Abigail Brown

The Music Department at MVNU hosted this year's spring Cabaret, "Smile," on April 9 in the R.R. Hodges Chapel Auditorium.

The performance featured 10 students from all different majors and backgrounds. Sophomore communications and media major Mallory Thomas stated that, "This year's cabaret is a collection of unique songs from different genres and

eras. Each student was assigned a song, and we [have] been working all semester to develop a story associated with our song."

The performers' hoped that the audience connected with the music and left with a "smile." "It was surely an enjoyable evening as the students have worked hard to share a story within their song(s) that we all hope connect to the audience," said assistant professor of music Elizabeth Barrett.



Randy Johr performs "Hellfire" from *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* at the spring Cabaret on April 9. Photo by Diana Tocheff



## Ups and Downs for MVNU Softball Team

By Hannah Barco

MVNU's softball team worked hard in the offseason to prepare for their games come spring season. Their hard work can be seen in their actions on and off the field. "Winter practices were great, and I think they really solidified our fundamentals as a team. Once we finally got outside, we began to really see our team come together. When we play as a family during competition, losing isn't really an option.

"That excites me!" said Samantha Collier, senior outfielder. The softball team has really grown together this season and is fortunate to be engaging in competition this spring seeing as the 2020 season was cut

short due to COVID-19.

The Lady Cougars have seen both losses as well as some very important wins. "Stop and go. We have been playing well, and I am extremely proud of the team and their ability to adjust," said head coach Jeana Howald. Despite the stop and go of the season (due to COVID exposure and weather delays), the softball team has secured some very important wins.

"I had high expectations for our team this year. I expected to sweep the lower teams such as Bethel, Goshen and Grace. When we didn't meet those, I was a little worried; however we were able to pull out two big wins against Taylor and some wins against Indiana Wesleyan University (IWU) and Marian

that I was very pleased with," said Courtney Knepper, senior third baseman. In the years the seniors have been on the team, they had never beaten Marian, thus fulfilling a goal that the seniors had for themselves. Beating Marian was definitely something that lifted the team's spirits and helped lead them to a win against IWU.

The softball team has worked well together and has come to have a great amount of competitiveness within them. "Our team is extremely competitive this year. When we have a fire inside of us, there's not much we can't accomplish. I do think we need to do a better job of creating momentum and manufacturing runs, though," said Collier. Although Collier noted her team's

competitiveness, she as well as Knepper both know that the team can always stand to be even more fierce when it comes to competing.

When the softball team secured some very important wins, it boosted their spirits in relation to tournaments that are coming in the beginning of May. If the team continues on their track of winning some very important games, we may see the MVNU softball team go far in tournaments.

"If this team has a common mindset and goal, I see us shocking the Crossroads League in May," said Collier. This team has the potential to go far in tournament play as long as they stay competitive, work together and everyone plays their best.

## The Closing of Two Incredible Careers

### Mike Basko

After a record-breaking season for MVNU's women's basketball team, the career of a superstar came to a close. Over the course of the past four years, Taylor Gregory has accomplished very much, from being named the newcomer of the year in the conference during her freshman year to leading the team in her senior year to two victories in the NAIA tournament, which led the Cougars to the round of 16 for the first time. She ranks second all time in points and rebounds in MVNU history, as well as being first in blocks. She has been named to the all-conference team all four years she has played and made All-American her senior year.

Even more impressive than Gregory's success on the court is her attitude off of it. Coach Amanda Short said of her, "Taylor is a player any coach would love to have on



**Jevon Knox**

their team. She is one of the best players the MVNU women's basketball program has ever seen. But more importantly, she is a person of high character." Short also added, "She has grown so much as a leader and as a person, and I am so blessed to have seen that the

last four years. I am so excited to see what God has in store for her future."

Gregory is not the only MVNU basketball legend whose career came to a close this season. Jevon Knox has led the men's team throughout the past four years. The three time All-American has amassed 2,000 points in his career. He was also a member of the second recruiting class at MVNU, which coach Jared Ronai said really shifted the trajectory of the program.

Knox was also an inspiration to his team outside of games. Coach Ronai said of his leadership, "Jevon was the best leader I have had here as a coach, and we have had some other very impactful leaders. He was a different kind of leader than most imagine a leader being in the athletic arena. He led with humility and care that helped his teammates grow and get better."

The impact of both Taylor Greg-



**Taylor Gregory**

ory and Jevon Knox will be felt for years to come. They are both exceptional players but also amazing people. The MVNU basketball program is fortunate to have had both of them represent the school for the entirety of their legendary careers.

## A Successful Season For Tracksters

### By Hannah Barco

MVNU's track and field team had an interesting indoor season, leading into their outdoor season this spring. So many protocols had been put in place due to COVID that it has affected the team in different ways.

"This season has been very different. We are not allowed to have fans, nor can our teammates be there to cheer each other on due to how the meets are set up," said Kyler Dickey, junior thrower. Although the team has been held back in a way, Kasey Keith, senior thrower on the women's team, as

well as Dickey, are both grateful that they even had the chance to participate in their indoor season.

With indoor nationals behind them, Dickey had a chance to look back on his performance. Being ranked at 10th in the nation heading into nationals, he went in with a great outlook and came out with an experience to remember for next year.

"This was my second indoor season being the conference champion in shot-put. This one was different than last year, though. I struggled at the beginning of that meet. I was actually third going into finals, and I was able to battle back and placed

first on my last throw" said Dickey. Heading into the outdoor season, Dickey is ready to move further up the ranks and better perform to the best of his abilities.

Now that the indoor season is over, track and field is heading into a different level of competition. "In our outdoor season, we compete against some powerhouse Division II teams such as Tiffin, Ashland, Findlay, and other bigger teams than us," said Dickey.

Not only will they compete in these meets, but they have conference meets and nationals to look forward to as well.

With having the new facility, the

team has been able to practice in an environment designed for track and field specifically, therefore, better preparing them for their specific sport.

"We as a track team have never had our own facility. Last year, we threw and ran inside the gyms which worked but did not allow us to get the same training as the indoor facility does," said Dickey.

With an indoor facility meeting their needs and a great finish to their indoor season, the MVNU track and field team has the skills and opportunity to perform well in their conference and hopefully get a chance at nationals.