Friday, February 16, 2018 The Baylor Lariat



PI BETA PHI PHI KAPPA CHI THE TORTOISE AND THE HARE

arts Clife



Pi Phi and Phi Chi revived a classic tale with their high energy and enthusiasm. The most breathtaking element of the performance was easily the costumes, but the singing and danging didn't disappoint in the least. Even still, we think Baylor expected much more out of such a creative theme.

DELTA DELTA DELTA BACK TO OUR ROOTS



Tri Delt radiated happiness in their garden-themed performance. They were altogether fun, creative, organized and theatrically impressive. Their hard work absolutely blossomed into a performance to remember.





Beta Theta Pi invites you to its "five-star" Beta Bistro, but you might

REVIEWS

BEN EVERETT Sports Writer

BAYLEE VERSTEEG Multimedia Journalist

After months of hard work and countless hours its time for those polished Sing acts to shine. The curtain rose Thursday night, opening a new year of All University Sing, one of Baylor's most cherished traditions. The Lariat staff knows the dedication and time each member of every act has put in to put on these performances while still being committed to academics, working jobs and participating in extracurriculars. Nonetheless, these Sing reviews intend to highlight the superb acts. This is innovation and vitality are recognized.

PHI GAMMA DELTA

FOOS'N AROUND



With an unexpected, entirely original theme, Fiji pulled off an absorbing performance as a personified foosball table. Sharp wit and lots of laughter rectified mediocre song and dance execution.



TEXAS REVOLUTION



Sigma Chi performed with raw emotion in an attempt to portray the Alamo. Better than average vocals carried a performance that felt dull at moments. Slightly contradicting was the lighthearted dance moves that contrasted a somber theme.

KAPPA KAPPA GAMMA

WORKIN' AT THE CARWASH



Kappa hailed from the 1960's sporting jumpsuits, platform heels and glittery eye shadow in a car was performance that was bubbly from start to finish. Although the dancers on stage gushed with energy, they didn't get much attention from the crowd.

ALPHA DELTA PI WHEN LIFE GIVES YOU LEMONS



find yourself being stingy with the tip. Dressed for the role, but otherwise unprepared, Beta engaged the audience with recognizable songs and creative sequences of choreography.

KAPPA ALPHA THETA ALLEY CATS



Theta bowled a Turkey with their endearing enthusiasm and creative execution of their theme. Despite drawing laughter from the crowd, Theta could have spared themselves some criticism with cleaner dance moves.

ZETA TAU ALPHA DESKTOP DAYDREAM



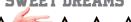
The schoolgirls of ZTA were characteristically preppy, bringing a powerful energy to their overall performance. Of all the dream sequences presented in Sing 2018, however, Zeta's seemed particularly unimaginative.

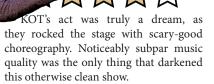




Crisp song selection and hot costume design helped Pi Kapp channel their inner "greaser" all too well. Sloppy dance moves, however, made us wonder if the floor was as greasy as their hair.

CWEET DELANG





DELTA TAU DELTA WIZARD SCHOOL



Delt pulled off a "Harry" performance, and it was clear the audience had as much fun as the performers did on stage. They were anything but magical when it came to choreography, but it was no "Cruciatus Curse."

ALPHA TAO OMEGA LIFE AIN'T HALF DAD



Equipped with vests, fannel and fanny packs, ATO was undeniably adorable. Although their singing and dancing were a little off at times, they executed their theme with no risk of rocking the crowd to sleep.

ALPHA CHI OMEGA SKY FULL OF STARS

Alpha Omega Chi definitely shot for the stars with their out-of-this-world depiction of human-alien contact. However, glittery costumes and a consistent storyline did not make up for undistinguished vocal and dance performances.





ADPi pulled off a very clean performance that featured an excellent tap dancing number and adorable umbrella props. The lemonade stand missed a mark by being all sweet and no sour, as ADPi executed a too-easy performance and took no risks.

CHI OMEGA SHINY TEETH AND ME



The Chi-O tooth fairies flashed their pearly whites in near perfect synchronization. Their opening sequence was professional and their vocal performances never fell short. However, despite their upbeat songs, the Chi-O tooth fairies missed out on a great theme.

KAPPA CHI ALPHA SINGING IN THE RAIN

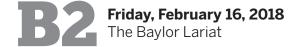


A little rain didn't keep these brightly clad ladies from leaping with joy. Spot on vocals and peppy choreography made up for an otherwise uninteresting performance due to a humdrum theme choice.

SING ALLIANCE SWEATIN' WITH SING ALLIANCE



Sing Alliance channeled just about every '80s workout trope. They were energetic, colorful and just the right amount of quirky to win the hearts of the audience. Unfortunately, like any work out video would, their dance moves were a little too repetitive.



Arts & Life ——

RYAN BRINSON AUTHOR. CREATOR. CLUB NIGHT JUDGE.



Jessica Hubble | Multimedia Editor

Accomplished author, editor, former Sing performer returns to Waco Hall as Club Night judge

MEREDITH WAGNER Arts & Life Editor

A passionate All-University Sing enthusiast to this day, Baylor alumnus Ryan Brinson's former participation and perpetual love for the production has led him to a multilayered creative career, and ultimately right back to the stage where it all began.

Brinson, who is a former Sing Alliance member and former editor-in-chief of the Baylor Roundup yearbook, made his debut as a club night "judge" Thursday night for Sing. And rightfully so – Brinson's accomplishments both in Sing and in life are plentiful. Brinson's achievements can be summed to a single character trait which he seems to exercise and embody both in his career and his everyday endeavors. Positivity is the foundation upon which Brinson has established himself in life and in work, which brought him to the conclusion some months ago that he, unashamedly, really likes his hands. More than anything, BLEEP is a tangible expression of the positivity Brinson tries embody in his everyday life.

"All sorts of magazines in general have a tabloid slant to them now, and I have no interest in any of that," Brinson said.

When Brinson interviews creative thinkers and doers for his magazine, including individuals such as model, actor and musician James Maslow and NASA astronaut Wendy Lawrence, he said he thinks to himself, "How can I promote this person in a completely, 100%, obnoxiously positive light?" Thursday as a club night "judge," for which he hopes to combine his positive outlook and his past Sing experiences to be critical yet constructive, analytical yet understanding.

Brinson's duties as a Club Night judge don't carry weight when it comes to determining the overall winner of Sing. Rather, Club Night judges provide constructive feedback to the groups before they are truly examined by a different panel of judges Friday and Saturday night.

"I remember getting those sheets back from the [club night] judges. Some of those judges didn't do so great at giving feedback," Brinson said. "I know what they need to hear as

Brinson moved to New York after graduating with a master's degree in communications from Baylor in 2010.

"I do have a regular nine to five, which is just a necessity living in the city," Brinson said. "I just moved here because it was my favorite place in the world."

With the financial security from his marketing job at a law firm, Brinson said he is able to live and thrive in a community he deeply cares for, undertaking work in his free time that he, given his passion and enthusiasm for it, hardly considers work at all.

"I'm a writer by trade," Brinson said. "I just wanted to be able to remember it all, so I started writing it down."

Writing it all down turned into more than a hobby. Brinson recently self-published a book titled "I Really Like My Hands Today," which is a compilation of essays he has composed over the years. The book shares its title with the final essay in the collection and captures the essence of his work – perhaps even the sweeping, overall theme of his life.

"When I was putting it all together, I realized everything I wrote was about finding the stuff about myself and my life worth celebrating," Brinson said. "Through a really silly story about a pair of gloves, I somehow landed on that concept."

Brinson said this concept ultimately derives from a sense of appreciation for the mundane.

"I just think the little stuff in life, a lot of times, matters a lot more than the big stuff," Brinson said.

Brinson applies this attitude to another of his accomplishments, BLEEP magazine, for which he shines a spotlight on all things arts and life in New York City and beyond. When Brinson founded the online publication in 2011, he knew little of what it would become, except that he loved doing it.

"It's never been a big money-maker. It's never been any sort of status-maker. It just kind of naturally evolved," Brinson said.

With a spirit and love for writing and design, BLEEP was born from the few hours Brinson had to himself after clocking out of work each evening. Similar to Sing, Brinson said the spirit of his magazine revolves not around concepts of achievement or attention, but learning from and connecting with those around him.

"If I've learned anything from the people that I've interviewed, it's that you don't do it for the applause," Brinson said. "You don't do it to get the trophy. If that's the reason you're doing it, it will become hollow. It's about connecting with people, which is the same thing with Sing."

I REALLY IKE MY HANDS TODAY

& OTHER ESSAYS BY RYAN BRINSON

Photo Courtesy of Ryan Brinson

In the end, if Brinson can help "see a new light through," he said he will. This is not to say that Brinson distorts his interviewees' stories in order to appeal to his readers, but rather captures the essence of being a creator in today's world, highlighting the triumphs that derive from a succession of failures and recoveries.

"They're talking about their hustle, their drive, their focus, the way that they're able to zone out criticism and disappointment," Brinson said. "That's the part of it I love. I've interviewed people who are considered established – people with trophies on their shelves. I've interviewed people who are just getting started. There's insight to be found in most everyone."

To internalize this insight, Brinson said he asks himself, "What is it about them as an artist that relates to [myself] as a writer?"

Brinson said he intends to draw from these lessons learned

a group, as opposed to giving random comments."

Ultimately, Brinson said, "I am determined to be as obnoxiously optimistic as I am for the magazine when it comes to judging these groups."

Brinson recalled his experiences on the same stage organizations performed on Thursday night.

"I was the first person who sang a word in our act. I remember stepping out there; that spotlight hit me. It was a rush of adrenaline that I had never really experienced," Brinson said. "There were so many of those kinds of moments in the acts that followed. You just can't steal those away."

Transferring to Baylor from a small private school after completing three years of his undergraduate degree, Brinson said Sing makes Baylor truly special compared to other schools.

"[Students] don't realize how one-of-a-kind it really is. I came from another school and I had this other experience to compare it with. It's just not comparable," Brinson said. "Other schools say they have a version of [Sing], but it is not anywhere close to the caliber of what Baylor produces and expects of their students."

More than allowing Brinson to indulge in his creative tendencies and love for performing, Sing served as the binding force for his group of similarly talented and passionate friends.

"My best friends that I met specifically in Sing Alliance are my best friends today," Brinson said. Through weddings and children and everything in between, Brinson said with confidence, "the biggest takeaway from my Sing experience, despite my Mario costume covered in sequins – as it should be – are those friendships."

Brinson said the lessons he learned and the leadership experience he gained from Sing helped equip him for a successful creative career. His only hope now is that students currently participating in the tradition will grow in a similar direction and understand what truly matters through the process.

"It's not if we placed. It's not if we made it to Pigskin. It's not if everything went right," Brinson said. "It's the people.
 Son It's the friendships that have lasted the test of time. It's the feeling of being on that stage, the stage that so many groups in years past have performed on."

As emotions, tears and fury flood the Waco Hall stage in the coming weeks, Brinson calls to performers to additionally understand their ability to spread joy.

"You're bringing people joy, and that emotion is just as viable and just as meaningful as any other," Brinson said. "I hope the guys and gals performing this year can realize that."

Between his nine-to-five marketing job, his self-started online magazine and his self-published book, Brinson recalled time and again that Sing has been a grounding force in his life – one he appreciates to this day, especially as he visits from New York to watch yet another year's performances.

"It's been a wild ride, and I feel lucky to have been on it."



Arts & Life

REPRESENTED TO THE SECOND

Previous Sing winners tackle 2018 as group act

BAILEY BRAMMER

Editor-in-Chief

Members of the Pi Beta Phi sorority and the Phi Kappa Chi fraternity are no strangers to Baylor's All-University Sing, and they're also no strangers to winning. Pi Phi took home first place in 2016 for its performance "Meet Me in Ze Alps," and Phi Chi won first place in 2015 for its act "Dust Bowl Days," in addition to placing second in 2017 for its performance of "Fool's Gold."

An organization that participates in Sing is given the opportunity to pair up with another organization every four years to produce a group act. This year, Pi Phi and Phi Chi have combined their winning experiences to put on the largest Sing act in history, "The Tortoise and the Hare."

Overton senior Morgan London, Pi Phi Sing chair, said she and the other Sing chairs in her sorority tossed around the idea of partnering with Phi Chi because the two had already paired up in 2014 for the act "Romeo and Juliet."

"We knew that if we wanted to pair, we could," London said. "We met with Phi Chi Sing chairs to discuss how the process might work if we did decide to pair and get a feel for how it would be. After the second meeting, we decided that it would be beneficial for both organizations to pair, and here we are now."

While putting together a Sing act with just one organization can be tough, Fort Worth junior Zach Purczinsky, Phi Chi Sing chair, said producing the largest Sing act in the show's history with more than 260 participants makes for a challenge of its own kind – a challenge, nonetheless, that nine Sing chairs have happily embraced.

"Wrangling that many people has been a challenge, but since we have nine Sing chairs, it has been manageable," Purczinsky said. "Triple the people we are used to also means triple the amount of costumes. Since we hand-dyed and hand-altered all of our costumes this year, it was a long, strenuous and stressful costume designing time. It has been rewarding because we are able to pull something off that we have never been able to do before."

The Texas Zeta chapter of Pi Phi at Baylor began as the Alpha Omega club, which was one of the participating groups in the first All-University Sing in 1953. The club was the first act to take the stage in Waco Hall and performed three songs: "I Believe," "It's You That I Love, Just You" and "Baylor Forevermore."

Each Sing act must also overcome the hurdle of choosing a theme. London said when the groups first met, they tossed around ideas, but they didn't finalize their theme until they had confirmed they would be partnering.

London also said there are certain aspects of the performance that Pi Phi and Phi Chi do completely differently, but that they've made their partnership work to produce an act that everyone involved can be proud of.

"We have made it a point to keep all traditions active and available to the entire group throughout the process," London said. "There have also been times where one group's strategy works better than the other's, so we change things up so that it's most beneficial. We also have collaborated and made unique decisions since our situation is different from any in the past."

Aside from the challenges of producing an act of such volume, Purczinsky said he's seen passion from both Phi Chi and Pi Phi, and that he's confident their act will wow





Jessica Hubble | Multimedia Editor

BREAKING OUT OF THEIR SHELLS Phi Kappa Chi and Pi Beta Phi paired together this year for "The Tortoise and the Hare." The groups are both usually Sing front-runners.

the audience.

"We definitely had more involvement from both groups this year," Purczinsky said. "Our groups told themselves that we're going to do something special. They saw the potential and immediately 'hopped' on board ... win or lose, I can't wait to perform for my fellow students and alumni and do something that I love."

It is typical for only one or two partner acts to take the stage each year. In 2017, Alpha Chi Omega and Pi Kappa Phi paired up for "The Art of Espionage," and while the group did not place in the top three, it did move on to Pigskin Revue. only group act this year. Phi Kappa Chi and Pi Beta Phi took the stage Thursday night to debut the largest group act in Sing's history and will be performing at 6:30 p.m. today and Saturday, as well as on Feb. 22, 23 and 24.

"The Tortoise and the Hare" is the



ABOUT THE FLATS

11th Street Flats is one of the newest student housing developments within walking distance to Baylor University. With 44 units ranging from 2-4 bedrooms, The Flats are upscale, luxurious and spacious! Every unit has hardwood floors or stained concrete (ground floor), granite counter-tops and high-end furniture – perfect for the student who wants spacious, loft-like living in a small community.

The Flats is unlike anything else in the Baylor housing market,

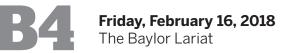
providing separate apartment units in a community feel that is all walking distance to Campus. You will fall in love with the high-end finishes and large floorplans.



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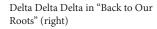




















Delta Tau Delta in "Wizard School" (top) Zeta Tau Alpha in Desktop Davdream (bottom)





Pi Beta Phi and Phi Kappa Chi in "The Tortoise and the Hare" (top)



Beta Theta Pi in "Beta Our Guest" (top) Sigma Chi in "Texas Revolution" (bottom





– Arts & Life ——



Generations of Theta family passes down Sing traditions

BROOKE HILL

Copy Editor

Baylor is a school of family traditions, and All-University SING marks one of the most elaborate of them all

For Dallas junior Madison Wachel, Sing has been passed down in her family through generations; her grandmother, mother, aunt and older sister have all participated at one point or another.

"Sing has just always been a part of my life," Wachel said. "I grew up coming to Pigskin for homecoming, and then I would always come down for Sing, especially when my sister was in it, and she was a chair. I kind of just grew up watching the show. It's really special that now I get to perform in something my mom was in and my friends' moms were in."

Madison's older sister Meredith Wachel said Sing was integral to her Baylor experience and that it allowed her to connect with students that performed in the past and would perform in the future.

"Sing is kind of the thread that holds my Baylor story together," Meredith Wachel said. "From the first memories of Baylor to all the time I spent in college practicing and planning Sing acts, to the times I now come back to Baylor, it's what connects most of my Baylor experiences together."

Sing is unique in that it is an event that almost every student on campus has a connection to, whether they are personally in an act, know someone in an act or just enjoy watching the show.

"I think it's an important tradition because it's something that unites so many Baylor students together. Sing is an experience that's similar for all of its participants across many generations and groups. It is one of the experiences that was the same for my mom and aunt in the '80s, and for my sister and me now."

themes and song preferences no later than the due date in May. Once Sing season comes around, the Sing chairs dedicate countless hours each week, working on their respective jobs.

"I don't think I would have been as involved in it if I didn't have the legacy for it, just because it is such a time commitment. It's special to me, so that's why I'm OK with the time commitment," Madison Wachel said.

Madison's mother Linda and her sister Meredith's history with Sing set them up to encourage Madison in a unique way.

"It's really cool to have that support system because I think my mom and my sister really understand what's going on and how much work goes into it," Madison Wachel said.

In addition to participating in Sing during her time at Baylor, Linda Wachel is now able to relive her experiences as she watches her girls perform.

"It's fun to hear the concepts for the themes in the early stages of planning and to be trusted to keep the secret," Linda Wachel said. "Then to watch these ideas develop over months and months of preparation is truly fun. Seeing my girls in their element, doing what they love, is the very best memory a mom can have."

Over the years, Linda Wachel said Sing has progressively improved in content and in size. She noted that the stage makeup has especially taken a turn for the better. When she participated in 1982 act, "Desperado," and 1983 act, "Waiting for the Train," the performers would draw fake eyelashes on their faces using eyeliner, whereas now, performers are able to simply purchase fake eyelashes from the store.

"I think the Sing acts get more and more professional each year," Linda Wachel said. "I would say the process seems to be more organized now ... the meetings, the budget, the guidelines, all seem to be more formalized, similar to that of a true Broadway



ALL UNIVERSITY SING **Baylor** March 24-26, 1983



Meredith Wachel participated in Kappa Alpha Theta's 2012 performance "What Goes Bump in the Night" and 2013 performance "Go for the Gold" as a backdrop chair, whose job is overseeing the painting and creation of the backdrop and props that accompany the dancing on stage.

Madison Wachel has been a Sing chair for Kappa Alpha Theta for two years. For its 2017 act, "Miss Spectacular," she was the backdrop chair.

"I think my favorite Sing memory is probably making Pigksin last year with all of my Sing chairs," Madison Wachel said, "watching our hard work [pay] off and hearing our name get called, because they called our name first."

For Theta's 2018 act "Alley KATs," Madison Wachel is the choreography chair, which means she oversaw the creation of all of the dance moves and formations. She said Sing chairs begin discussing the following year's act almost immediately after Sing comes to an end, submitting their

show.

Linda Wachel said Sing provided her family members with the opportunity to continue to show off their love for dancing and performing during their college years.

"Sing is special to me because it is something my whole family enjoys," Linda Wachel said. "My girls and I were all active in drill team in high school, so Sing provided an opportunity for us to dance and perform in a college setting. It was really neat to see both of my daughters, Meredith and Madison, share their love for Sing and find something that they are so passionate about."

Madison and Meredith Wachel's grandmother, Kay Gean Whitaker, performed in Sing in the late 1950s as a member of Delta Alpha Pi, the local club that later became Kappa Alpha Theta. Though Whitaker passed away 10 years ago, one of Whitaker's friends recently reminisced with Linda Wachel about the acts they had participated in together, such as "Annie Get Your Gun" and "South

Photos Courtesy of Linda, Madison and Meredith Wachel

BLAST FROM THE PAST TOP: Linda Wachel (left) with friend Nancy Roundree Fuller (right) smile in their costumes from Theta's 1983 act "Waiting for the Train." BOTTOM: Meredith Wachel (far right) poses with her frineds for Theta's 2013 Olympics act.

Pacific."

"When you think about the acts that my mother participated in, they used to just re-enact parts of a professional show rather than start from scratch and develop a theme or concept with a variety of songs and dance moves like we will see this

week," Linda Wachel said. "Today's Sing performances require so much more creativity."

The legacy that Whitaker started for her family members still holds a special place in their hearts today.

"I know my mom would be thrilled to have had the opportunity

to see both of her granddaughters singing and dancing and following in her footsteps on the Sing stage," Linda Wachel said.

Linda and Meredith Wachel said they are looking forward to seeing all of Madison's hard work pay off in Baylor's 2018 production of SING.

the . Larlat WE'RETHERE WHEN YOU CAN'T BE



– Arts & Life -

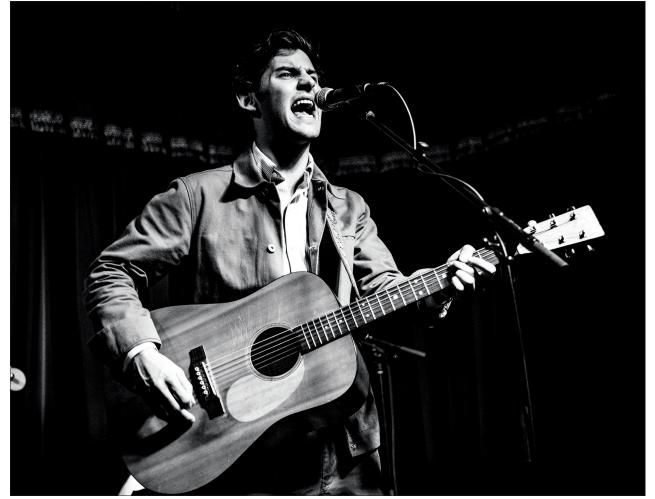


Photo Courtesy of Thomas Csorba

AMERICANA Houston native Thomas Csorba performs with his guitar. Despite extensive experience creating and performing music, Csorba recently had his first guitar lesson.

Local musician to embark on American tour, finalist in contest

SCOTT VISY

Contributor

Despite three records, millions of listens on Spotify, hundreds of concerts, and playing guitar for over five years, Houston native Thomas Csorba just had his first guitar lesson.

Csorba is one of Texas's young rising artists but said he feels like he is just now getting good at

playing guitar. "It's a weird feeling. I've been playing shows and making records for five years, but I'm just now learning how to play guitar well," Csorba said. "I have to unlearn a lot of bad habits and take a few steps back in order to get better."

Although Csorba is always seen on stage with a guitar, serenading audiences with his sharp voice, his desire to play music stems from elements other than melody and rhythm.

"I didn't really want to play music if I didn't get to write lyrics," Csorba said.

After deciding he wanted to write music, Csorba looked to the artists that inspired him growing up – Willie Nelson, Waylon Jennings, Merle player and understanding music theory a bit better will inform my songwriting in ways I haven't yet experienced."

After five years of playing music in various states and sharing his creations with family, friends and strangers, music has become more than just a hobby to Csorba – it has evolved into his career, his passion and his life.

Song writing did not simply propel Csorba into the music

industry; it is also his passion and prowess. The imagery his lyrics paint in "Harvest," the vivid story-telling captured in "Leaving This City" and the emotional pull of "Blank Yellow Sheet" usually leave the listener feeling a strong connection to Csorba and his lyrics. However, the young artist thinks his new songs are the best he

has written to this date. "There are some songs that I'm excited to play for people that they haven't heard yet. I think the stuff that I have been working on for the last six months is the best that I have worked on," Csorba said.

The key to Csorba's approach to song writing is simple: literature – lots of literature. His song "Murmur of Yearning," which has yet to be released, was inspired by one of his favorite poets. Walt Whitman, Csorba

WHAT TO DO IN WACO THIS WEEKEND

FRIDAY, February 16

McLane Stadium Tours: "A 90 minute guided tour of the stadium with stops in featured areas such as the Baylor locker room, President's Suite, on the field and more"

• 12:00 p.m. at McLane Stadium, 1001 S. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.

Common Grounds Concert: Noah

Gunderson with Aaron Gillespie. "Live acoustic/folk music." Tickets are \$22 the day of the show.

7:00 p.m. doors, 8:00 p.m. show at Common Grounds, 1123 S. 8th Street.

Live Music at The Grape, Wine Bar & Bistro:

Live music every Thursday and Friday • 7 – 10 p.m. at 2006 N Valley Mills Dr.

SATURDAY, February 17

Waco Downtown Farmer's Market:

"A variety of vendors featuring the best local agricultural producers and artisan vendors within 150-miles of Waco."

• 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at intersection of 5th and Washington Ave.

Zack & Jim's 25th Anniversary

Blowout: "Entertainers for the evening are Mike Stanley Band, Roger Creager, Koe Wetzel and Saints 11." Floor tickets are \$8, Balcony is free.

• 7:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. at the Extraco Events Center, 4601 Bosque Blvd

Cultivate 7twelve Sound Sessions:

"Dave Wild plays solo piano."

• 8 p.m. at Cultivate 7twelve, 712 Austin Avenue.

SUNDAY, February 18

Baylor Concert Band: "The concert band, a 74-member ensemble of woodwind, brass and percussion players, will present their annual winter program Sunday afternoon." Free and open to the public.

• 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. at Jones Concert Hall in the Glennis McCrary Music Building

Mardi Gras Celebration! "Mardi Gras will kick off Thursday, February 15th and end Sunday February 18th! Everyone will receive a set of beads at the door."



Photo Courtesy of Thomas Csorba

Haggard and Townes Van Zandt – and chose to pick up a guitar to accompany

his lyrics. He sat down by his computer, pulled up his sleeves, and simply typed "guitar tutorial" into YouTube. His journey began with a few basic chords.

"Today, it's so accessible," he said. "Anyone can play guitar. That's why it's not as big of a shocker now when someone says they know how to play guitar. So I think being a better guitar said poetry is one of his favorite forms of literature, but he tries to read a variety of publications.

For example, the occasional agricultural themes Csorba applies to his lyrics, especially in his song "Harvest," derive from Wendell Berry's printed thesis "The Unsettling of America," which examines agriculture and agribusiness. To Csorba, musicians

THOMAS >> Page B8

 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. at Skate World Waco, 401 Towne Oaks Dr.

INTELLIGENT LIFE

Right A comic strip featured weekly on our pages. >>

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Below Also featured on each issue of the Lariat is our weekly crossword puzzle. Answers can be found under "Puzzle Solutions" under the drop-down Arts & Life tab at baylorlariat.com.



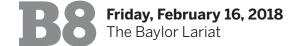
PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

PREMIER	CRUSSV	VORD/ By	Frank A. Lon	go (CENTER
ACROSS	40 Shows up	86 Promise to	124 Draw upon	28 Ricochet	72 Black crows
 Symphony, 	41 Sequence in	marry a cute	125 Fix, as Fido	29 Animal park	73 "Point taken"
e.g.	heredity	marsupial?	126 Less-played	30 Soup	76 Patriotic
5 Sing like	42 Robber,	[painter]	half of a 45	enhancer	women's gp.
Bing	e.g.	91 Novelist	127 Morales of	32 Apiary insect	79 Some Scots
10 Pampers	43 Bat hangout	Hermann	movies	33 Guthrie with	82 F followers
product	46 Finals, e.g.	94 Waikiki	128 As stated in	a guitar	84 Program
16 Mensa stats	48 Seven-figure	necklaces	129 Lorne of	37 Saying	87 Unoriginal
19 Scheme	income	95 Rene of "Get	"Bonanza"	38 In that case	88 Actress
20 Big artery	earned in a	Shorty"	130 A bit off	39 "Mr. St. Nick"	Meyers
21 Flowery	Nebraska	97 Poland's	131 Old-time	actress Ortiz	89 Swift sleds
22 Almond, e.g.	city? [actor]	Lech	comic Ed	40 Animator's	90 Pale-faced
23 31-day	54 Scheme	101 Sounded like		frame	92 Hoodwinks
period honor-	57 DVD- —	a kitten	DOWN	43 — terrier	93 South
ing TV's	59 Little barks	105 Pale-colored	1 Sphere	44 Roadie's tote	Carolina
Joy? [actor]	60 "The King —"		2 Childishly	45 Hindu trinity	river
25 Greek letters	61 Guilty	for a room?	silly	member	96 Holy Mlle.
26 With	feeling	[writer]	3 Herald, as a	47 See	98 Euphoria
47-Down,	64 One doing	107 Final, e.g.	new era	26-Across	99 Desert of the
Christmas	penance	108 2004 Chevy	4 Shut tightly	49 Wolflike	southwest
evergreen	68 Olympic	debut	5 College	carnivores	U.S.
27 Fall back into		111 Storm center	locales	50 China's	100 — -Z (total)
illness	Eric	112 Demolition	6 Perches	Chou En- —	101 Botch the job
28 Place with a	70 Ethyl ender	stuff	7 Sarah —	51 "And how!"	102 Pretext
lot of refuse-	71 Prohibition	113 — -cone (icy	Jewett	52 Ukrainian	103 Not as cold
disposal	of quick	treat)	8 Hitter Mel	port city	104 Big bird
chambers?	insights?	114 Products	9 "I'll pass"	53 Fifteen times	105 Relax
[swimmer]	[investor] 74 Suffix with	applied to	10 One capful,	six 54 Quick-to-	106 Disagreeing 108 Following
30 Old space station	iournal	back-of- the-neck	perhaps 11 Often-purple	build home	109 Think a lot o
31 Slash	75 Item in a file	sunburns?	flowers	55 Poe maiden	110 Tickle pink
32 Ovine noise	cabinet	[actor]	12 Major worry	56 Brunch fare	115 Snake tooth
34 And others.	77 Ideal	117 City in	13 Argentine	58 Line of Apple	
in a list	conditions	north-central	plain	computers	Voltaire
35 Brutes of	78 Imply	California	14 Web biz	62 Actress —	117 1,502, in old
fantasy		119 Adding result	15 Relax	Dawn Chong	Rome
36 Smears gunk	81 Sikorsky of	120 "Finally!"	16 Apprise	63 Elfish sort	118 Duck
on rugged	aviation	121 "C" grade	17 Apple or	65 "Tsk tsk!"	varietv
mountain	83 Dir. from	or what eight	pear relative	66 Kabuki sash	121 Exec's deg.
ranges?	N.D. to La.	answers in	18 Emphasis	67 "Platoon"	122 Suffix with
[hockey	85 "Not — goes	this puzzle	24 Flower	site, in brief	iournal
player]	by"	have?	cluster	69 Ovum	123 Cousin
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NOTES:



Arts & Life ——

THOMAS from Page B7

are unable to produce quality content unless they are wellinformed.

'You have to read a lot, listen a lot – not just to music, but also to people. You're putting out a social commentary," Csorba said. "To critique something, you kind of have to remove yourself from the thing you're critiquing – to take a step back and look at the world and the situation from a more objective perspective."

After keeping from the stage for over a month, Csorba said he is eager to be on tour again. Csorba has a total of eight concerts booked throughout the southern United States in the month of February.

"When I write a good song, I think, 'Man, I can't wait to go share this with people because I think this is going to mean something to them," he said.

Csorba played 66 shows in 2017 but is breaking new ground in 2018. On his February tour, he is returning to cities like Austin, Dallas and Fayetteville, and traveling to new cities like Birmingham, Ala. and Chattanooga, Tenn.

Though he was born and raised in Houston, Csorba said Waco feels like home. He first came to Waco to study at Baylor but said he can see himself living in Waco for at least a few more years.

"I see myself being here a while," he said. "I want to be a part of building the music culture here in town. Playing in new venues and stuff like that is really helpful."

Csorba is scheduled to play next Friday at Balcones Distillery in Waco. Csorba said this is one of his most adventurous shows because Balcones does not have a builtin sound system and is not considered a traditional music venue. However, he said he's excited by the opportunity.

"When good people are involved, you can put on some really, really great shows. These shows are all about the people – not the size of the room," he said.

Likewise, Balcones is excited to host Csorba's concert, according to Casey Hooper, Balcones Distillery's Creative and Merchandising Director.

"We love supporting local

JUDGING CRITERIA

For All-University Sing each year, a panel of 12-16 judges are selected, spanning four different areas of expertise: theater, dance, music and campus life/administration. These judges undertake the task of scoring each Sing act based on its performance throughout the two-week timespan.

30 ENTERTAINMENT VALUE	Audience r
20 MUSICAL QUALITY	Quality of singin
	Any movement,
20 CHOREOGRAPHY	~ · · · ·
15 CREATIVITY	Costuming, back
15 THEME DEVELOPMENT	How well the gr

response and general showmanship ng done by soloists, ensembles and large groups whether dance or otherwise used in the presentation kdrops, props, special effects and lighting design roup conveyed the stated theme to the audience.



musicians and artists," Hooper said. "Waco is still a small community, and we enjoy working with those who are as passionate about their art as we are about our whisky."

Although Csorba has played a vast majority of his shows with just his guitar, he said he thinks the full-band setup is going to be more common for him, especially on this upcoming tour.

"The manner in which I have been writing recently is much more conscious about how I'm going to play [my songs] live, which is something new," he said. "And I want to play as many full-band shows as I can, so I've been writing in a way that will be more fun for the listener and the band."

Csorba was selected as one of five finalists this week in Southwest Airlines's "On the Rise to Luck" competition. The winner will get to play a show at Luck Reunion, a music festival hosted by one of Csorba's idols, Willie Nelson. The rest of the lineup at the festival includes some of the greatest Folk/Americana acts in the country. The contest lasts until Feb. 23, and you can vote for Csorba once per day on www.southwest.fm/ thomas-csorba.

Csorba's career is the perfect example of why one's passions should always be pursued. He illustrates, through his story and his music, that you don't have to be a child prodigy to become successful, that you can wait to pick up a guitar until you are 15 years old and that you need not be afraid of the unknown. Thomas Csorba's ability to capture the hidden truths of life in a chord progression and a lyrical stanza make clear to his audience the uniqueness of his talent, the flair of his imagination.

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