

THE ADVOCATE

William Aberhart High School
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EDITORIAL

On Global Cinema

by JORDAN BUNKE

It is a well-known fact that films are able to convey a broad spectrum of emotions. It wasn't until recently that I experienced a film that struck me on a personal level. Many films that I had seen in the past had provoked serious questions about worldview and identity, but had not drastically affected my very demeanor. The film in question is *Blue is the Warmest Colour*, a French indie movie by director Abdellatif Kechiche and stars Léa Seydoux and Adèle Exarchopoulos.

The film is about a French girl as she goes through a pivotal phase in her life and her transition from youth to adulthood. What struck me about the film was that it completely subverted my expectations; a far cry from the Hollywood standard predictable storytelling. In relation to the prevalent trends in popular cinema, the film was extremely unconventional and unorthodox in its approach. It was, however, definitely a French film. The film was riddled with markers of authenticity, from the frequent smoke breaks to the education protest in the first act; there was a consistent French character throughout. Without being heavy-handed, the film portrayed its cultural roots in a nuanced but evident way.

From the opening shot, I had my doubts about the film. From the Palme d'Or Award that it was accredited with at the Cannes Film Festival to the noiseless opening, I was certain that yet another pretentious French movie awaited me. However, in an equally subliminal way, the film acted as an educational tool in understanding French culture, LGBTQ+ dynamics, and life itself. Without spoiling the film, the dynamic between the film's protagonist and her love interest was

decidedly unexpected and refreshing. What the film made me realize was that the breadth of potential for the film industry is not being fully explored in the mainstream. Films in recent memory that do use their audience to effectively educate and tell the stories of the world's social groups include Brooklyn, the Saoirse Ronan film about Irish immigrants in America and the Hungarian film about the Holocaust entitled Son of Saul.

By expanding the possibilities of the industry, film producers and executives can shift the trend in the industry from mindless blockbusters to films that are more resonant and culturally relevant. There is no good reason why Transformers films continue to generate upwards of \$1 billion at the box office.

**Freedom of Expression**

by ADITYA KHATU

Last Thursday at Mount Royal University, a controversy erupted around freedom of political expression. It's ironic that it was about Donald Trump who is running for president, as Canadians have no horse in that race. A student at the school wore a hat with Trump's slogan "Make America Great Again". Zoe Slusar, the former vice-president of student life at MRU confronted this student and the encounter was captured on video. She can be seen saying, "You're not allowed to share hate language in a university". She explains her distaste towards the slogan by saying "Make America Great Again means make America all for white people: no immigrants, no people of different sexual orientation." The video ends when another student takes the hat away and refuses to return it. Slusar later gave this statement to CBC: "He is allowed to wear the hat," she wrote. "As a student, I disagree with what the hat represents. I have diverse friends (culturally and sexually) who would drop a class if the person wearing the hat was sitting in the room with them, because they would feel unsafe. Given the deeper issues of intolerance and oppression represented by the hat, I disagree with it."

Here's what I have to say about this issue. The right to an individual's political expression is protected by the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Zoe Slusar is clearly persecuting an individual due to their political beliefs, which if not recognized as a crime, should be taken seriously. Don't get me wrong, I'm not supporting Donald Trump, I just believe that citizens of a first-world nation like Canada shouldn't have to worry about expressing their political beliefs. Evelyn Beatrice Hall once wrote, "I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it" to summarize the beliefs of Voltaire. The ideas of Voltaire shaped the modern democracy we live in today. A democratic system cannot be functional when political beliefs are being oppressed. Regardless of your personal opinion, the opinion of others should be respected. It's a basic concept that's understood in modern societies. The foundation of democracy requires a difference in opinion. That's just how it works. A democratic system cannot be functional when political beliefs that differ from yours are being oppressed.

Slusar repeatedly says that the hat worn by the student represents the hate speech spoken by

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Trump, which is a meaningless statement as he is running to become the President of the United States. All this information is gathered from his website and his interviews. This isn't a criminal or a member of a hate group. This is a man who may very well hold the most powerful position in the world. If the student was wearing a hat that had the other candidate's slogan for the position, Hillary Clinton, there wouldn't have been an issue. The only problem here was that Trump's beliefs didn't align with Slusar's, so she felt a need to "correct" them.

As Canadians, we are internationally recognized for our righteousness and kindness. It makes sense that we wouldn't tolerate supporters of such an evil man right? Wrong. Slusar's idea of Trump being evil was based on information spread by the media, not from Trump himself. The issue here isn't even about Trump or his policies. A big part of our Canadian identity is our strong commitment to obeying laws that keep our country in order. It takes strength to allow diversity in political beliefs (which Slusar, who was in supposedly in favour of diversity, was ironically against it when it came to politics) and in situations like this we must find the strength to separate our own beliefs before dispensing judgement. Donald Trump isn't going away anytime soon, and we mustn't resort to publically attacking and taking property (the hat) of those who hold different opinions than ours.



Spectator to the Times

by MACKENZIE CLARKE

Music is one of the most important and powerful things in life. It is something that every human being can relate to, in some manner, undeterred by genre. Though the style of music has changed over time, the basic human experience remains. That's why there is such a wide variety of music played in between the classes at Aberhart. The selection of music is so diverse that many students will not recognize a given song, simply because it was released far before our time. However, regardless of the time period, these songs and their meanings continue to be relevant. Music has always been there, a spectator to the times.

The music of the fifties, for example. The "first decade of rock n' roll" was not merely a musical revolution, but a social and generational metamorphosis, as well. It is, essentially, the first time that teenagers were acknowledged in popular music; where songs were focused largely on the feelings and thoughts of this age group. Teenagers then and teenagers now still face a slew of the same challenges. We are caught between childhood and adulthood; often expected to behave like adults, while being treated like children. We attend school and make friends, all with the ultimate goal of discovering what we want to spend the remainder of our lives doing. These primitive sentiments are expressed in a plethora of songs from the 50s. *Too many rules* by Connie Francis, *Don't treat me like a child* by Helen Shapiro, or *I'm not a Juvenile Delinquent* by Frankie Lymon and The Teenagers are all perfect examples. These specific songs have similar upbeat tunes, but convey the absolute frustration of the typical adolescent experience.

In many ways, we can think of 50s music as a ridiculously exaggerated expression of present-day issues. For example, any love birds are depicted by *Fools Fall in Love* by The Drifters, while the heartbroken can relate to *Mr. Blue* by The Fleetwoods. Even the idea of wearing too much make-up is expressed in *War Paint* by Barry Mann. However, these ideas are expressed in such a satirical manner, that one can't help but smile. The songs from the 50s can be added to any modern playlist as a source of happiness, to be listened to for pure amusement. Just remember, if you ever receive the urge to muzzle someone, simply play them *You talk too much* by Joe Jonas (not the Joe Jonas you're thinking of...). After all, for

every situation, there is a suitable song.



ORANGE PULP

One Vote Fits All

by YUSEF ZIA

The representative democracy: the relatively efficient government system used by most developed Western nations. It can be very effective in ensuring that progress in the government continues, while making sure citizens are fairly represented. However, no system is perfect, and representative democracies are no exception.

Every voter has their own social and economic values, and both must be considered when choosing a representative. It is very rare for a person to be fortunate enough to have a representative that they agree with socially and economically. In most cases, voters have to sacrifice some of their values for the sake of others. The Canadian federal voting system for example, involves the voting of a select few nominees to represent the people of each riding if they are elected. The nominees usually represent the ideals of each of the political parties, and their values seldom differ from those of the rest of their party. This means that all Canadians have to choose between a handful of people, and have to prioritize either their social or economic values. If one believed in less government involvement or a flat tax

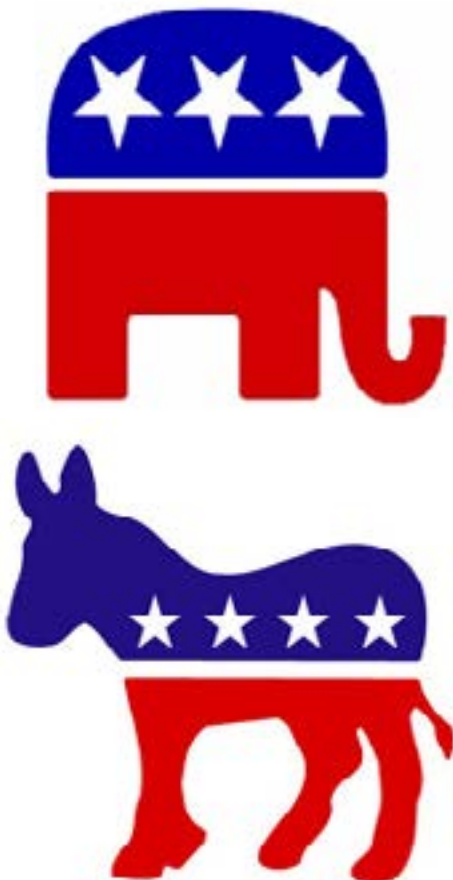
rate as well as a more lenient immigration policy, they would have no major party to support that has the same economic and social beliefs and values.

Instead of supporting our own interests, we are forced to support those of a well-established political group. Due to this, we often end up tolerating policies we wouldn't necessarily agree with otherwise, because we support other policies. The nature of social and economic policies is quite different, and values of both between individuals can vary immensely.

Taking a look at the American election system, there is even less choice in the hands of the voter. One could either support the Democrats, or the Republicans. All other parties are too insignificant to affect the elections. There is a great political divide in the US, creating a thick line between the Democrat and the Republican. There is very little diversity regarding political policies, and it is typical to see unshakeable loyalty for each party. Some voters in any democratic nation will support their respective party at almost every turn, in order to undermine opposing parties. This full support

only strengthens the divide between parties, and rarely allows newer, more unique ideas to be considered. Voters begin conforming to their party, when the party should be adjusting to its voter base.

If social and economic issues were regarded separately, many (but of course not all) of the compromises voters have to make would no longer be a problem, since deciding between economic and social issues is a dilemma many citizens face. However, the more separate parts of government there are, the less efficient government would be due to the required intercommunication to pass new bills. It is important to find a balance between efficiency, and having everyone's voice heard. With the system representative democracies currently have, citizens need to recognize the importance of shaping their parties for them, instead of shaping themselves to their party. The blind loyalty that some voters have for their parties gives the party much more power than it should democratically have. In all nations, people should know the importance of pushing for their own values, rather than compromising for a party permanently.



MOVIE REVIEW

Sully

by RAZA HYDER

*Tom Hanks as Captain Sully ©WarnerBros*

"Everything is unprecedented until it happens for the first time." That was the case for Captain Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger on January 15th, 2009, US Airways Flight 1549. Everybody knows about "The Miracle on the Hudson" and how Captain Sully saved all the passengers and crew aboard, but no one knew what happened after the incident. Thanks to the amazing director Clint Eastwood, the world gets to see and experience the results of this miracle.

The story of *Sully* explores how the Captain suffers from PTSD and how he becomes famous instantly. Sully has several horrific nightmares of deadly crashes of planes that he was flying. They are all 'what if' scenarios he dreams of if he hadn't crashed onto the Hudson River. As he deals with the trauma, there is also a positive outcome. Sully receives a lot of praise from the media and the world for saving all 155 souls from what could have been a deadly crash. Many reporters come up to him and say, "People call you a hero!" which he responds to "I don't feel like a hero. I was just a man doing his job". Sully feels the weight of the question: "Did I make the right choice?" That is where the N.T.S.B. (National Transportation Safety Board) comes in. They want to question the Captain and his Co-Pilot if they truly did have no other choice than to land in the Hudson. They question when was the last time he drank, how many hours of sleep did he get,

any problems at home etc. Sully shoots several good points at the N.T.S.B. when they present to him the simulations. The only thing is, they forgot the human factor of the whole event: no one has ever prepared for something like this. With dual engine loss at 28 100 feet just after take off, they tried to find a safe location to land but there was no time and the Hudson was their only option.

Director Clint Eastwood made a fantastic visual film. The majority of the film was shot with Arri Alexa IMAX cameras and like Tom Hanks and Clint said: "This is a movie made for IMAX". I have seen several IMAX and IMAX 3D films but this one stands out as giving such an authentic experience to it. The scope is truly breathtaking as you fly through the skyscrapers in New York City and crash into the freezing Hudson River. Although it is not in 3D, this film doesn't have to be. Most 3D films haven't been very good 3D anyways, but in "Sully" you are in the cockpit and you are right there on board with the passengers.

Tom Hanks has always given 100% to all his roles. Every time you see him on screen you think "Oh another great Tom Hanks movie!" But throughout the films he has done, you see all the variations of the characters he has brought to life and you see different people other than just thinking "Oh it's Tom Hanks" No it's Forrest Gump, Woody, Walt Disney, Chuck Noland, Jim Lovell, Captain Miller, Captain Phillips (he has played three Captains) and now Captain Sullenberger. As Sully, Tom brings to life an anxious man who is trying to prove that he only had one choice and that it was the right

one. Fun Fact: The crew made a fake moustache for Tom to wear but he grew his own and it worked for the film. However, when the time came to film a reunion, the real Sully shaved his moustache so he wears the fake one in the film. Many will know Aaron Eckhart as Harvey Dent from *The Dark Knight* and he is one to watch. Aaron plays Sully's Co-Pilot Jeff Skiles and he has perfect comedic timing. While talking with the N.T.S.B., he makes some good points like Sully and adds some smart humor. The friendship between Sully and Jeff is portrayed very much like to their real life counterparts as Sullenberger remarked. Most of audiences have agreed that the passengers reactions to the plane being hit could have been a lot more realistic then simple whimpers. Some of the passengers' acting was realistic, but there wasn't even one person that screamed.

Sully has remained #1 in North America for two weeks with \$70.5 Million Total. It will potentially move down this weekend, as "The Magnificent Seven" should do well.

Overall *Sully* was a deeper look into what happened after the "Miracle on the Hudson" that was very well told. The visualization was incredible and the story after the incident was interesting to see unfold. It was a perfect weekend to release it, as it was a good story about a plane for New York City.

Sully was released in North America on September 9th, 2016 and is now playing in theatres and IMAX.

*Tom Hanks and Aaron Eckhart confronting the N.T.S.B in Sully ©WarnerBros*

DEAR ABE

Dear Abe,

I was really hoping you could start writing an article, an article to answer people's questions. It would be just like the original Dear Abby article that started in the 1950's. Maybe it would make people laugh, and maybe it could address people's issues with a note of seriousness. It should be amusing, but it should also be respectful and sympathetic towards all submissions. Submissions could include anything from how to decide what to eat for breakfast, to how to deal with bullies, to what to do with yourself when your homework is piling up so high that you can't even remember how to have a social life and you are honestly so overwhelmed that all you can even consider doing is watching Netflix until your eyes bleed out of your head and you start hoping that you don't have to do any of the homework because now you can't see. (Sorry, the first two weeks of school have been stressful.)

Now I know that this is a lot to ask, because you are probably drowning in schoolwork just like everyone else (hopefully it's not only me). Please consider it though. It could make people's days brighter. The help doesn't have to be life changing or revolutionary, but even if you could make some people smile or feel supported every two weeks, that would be lovely.

I have set up an email address for you where people can submit their questions. It's dear-abe@columunist.com. You have to delete everyone's messages every two weeks to ensure confidentiality. They also won't have to sign their real names.



POLITICA NON GRATA

Almost Free

by MONIQUE VIGNEAULT

The UN General Assembly punched out this year's Global list of dirty laundry last Tuesday and most of us can't help but find the list incredibly jarring.

(Yes, jarring. I couldn't have chosen a snootier word to use. And that: pretentious-middle-aged-woman at the museum last Sunday, is how you use jarring in a sentence. A person whispering in an empty museum being 'jarring' is not to the same magnitude of global conflicts. Good day ma'am!)

Among the to-do-list's bullets are attainable goals such as stopping international terrorism, solving the ongoing conflict in the Middle East, finding a solution to the refugee crisis and the simplest of all these problems: the threat nuclear weapons of mass destruction that too many irresponsible political leaders have access to. Y'know, all in a day's work.

Being a young journalist, my concerns not only lie in these justifiable worries but also on the free press surrounding the reporting of these topics. Journalists worldwide from North Korea to the borders of Middle Eastern countries are risking their lives to tell the real story. (It's like a political version of Cameron Crowe's 'Almost Famous', minus Penny Lane and the classic rock bands actually, that's a terrible comparison. It's not like that at all.)

The problem: Not enough people seem to care. Journalists are being stripped of freedom of speech and sentenced to hard labour or worse conditions and in many instances, spend a lifetime in these sovereign countries. Nobody knows this worry better than American journalist Kim Barker, who in 2002 risked her life to write inside updates for the Chicago Tribune on the war on the Taliban. Now, after a four year 'Taliban Shuffle' from Pakistan to Kabul, Barker wrote a comical, yet emotional memoir by the same name and was even the basis of Tina Fey's box office flop 'Whiskey Tango Foxtrot'. (Hey Tina, I liked it. It was funny.)

Barker is an inspiring example that despite all this war, all this conflict, that we can make a positive impact on the world by doing what we love; in the case of young journalists, it's going behind borders to understand this complex, frightening, fragile, yet startlingly beautiful world we live in.

To the few of you readers who do read this column; give journalism a chance, because down here. - It's all happening.

PLAYLIST

glue70 - *Casin*

Bondax - *Gold (Snakehips Bootleg)*

Aminé - *Caroline [E]*

Blackbear - *Califormula (Tarro Remix)*

Two Door Cinema Club - *Are We Ready?*

Smash Mouth - *All Star*

Muse - *Feeling Good*

ESCONDIDO - *Try*

Parade Of Lights - *Feeling Electric*

Mazzy Star - *Fade Into You*

THE ADVOCATE

THE ADVOCATE is the official newspaper of William Aberhart High School. We publish on a bi-weekly basis and encourage letters to the Editor of THE ADVOCATE.

THE ADVOCATE is meant as a forum for student expression and is published to inform and entertain the students and the entire school community.

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Crossword



Across:

1. Haile Selassie's empire, no longer used
4. Harvey [_. _ . _ .], Gotham D.A.
6. [ACRONYM] Nowhere to be found
8. Slim
10. Scent, fragrance
12. Language family to which Finnish and Hungarian belong
13. Cliff, rock face
16. To cook over a fire, or in a modern context, to viciously shame someone
17. A piece of epic poetry, whether it be from the western Czech Republic or not.
20. Hellenic character 13
22. The Triple Crown of Acting + a gramophone
23. Extremely large, but prone to tips and what lies beneath them.
24. Make [_. _ . _ .]; hurry up
25. An unfortunate plight; the pillar and the stones

Down:

2. A proper Balkan mess
3. Very angry; beyond furious
4. An irrefutable set of principles or truths proposed by a certain group; tenet(s)
5. The titular city of a Wes Anderson movie
6. Plain, not striped or checkered or anything else (also consistent)
7. Long dead French idol of Twin-klegaze Astropants
9. Uncommon, and that's an understatement
11. The royal house of England during the time of Elizabeth I's reign
14. Holy bird of Hinduism; Thai heraldic emblem
15. [_. _ .] Rand; think globes and body language indicating indifference
18. Fastening hands and feet together
19. George S. [_. _ . _ . _ .]
21. Come together



HOROSCOPES

by TWINKLEGAZE ASTROPANTS



Aries (March 21 - April 19)



You will discover procrastination isn't an answer; it's the only answer. To what you ask? Life I say. Everything in life is rushed, pizza, rush hour and dominoes. Even these horoscopes. Yes readers I am not perfect. Mind blown.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20)



You will be inspired by Pokemon-go to create something similar but for food. After beating a Schwarma with your recently caught taco, you decide to challenge the champion-Gordon Ramsey. His fierce escargo has never been defeated. It will always crawl its way to conquest.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20)



You will finally overcome your addiction to duct-taping yourself to trees. It's an extreme version of tree hugging. You will discover that you have won hippy of the year award for your meager attempt at growing dreads. Years later you'll speculate with your goatee and dreads flowing majestically like a constipated unicorn, beautiful and bunged up.

Cancer (June 21 - July 22)



Being the spontaneous sidewalk lick that you are, you'll have a great urge to slobber all over Deer-foot because you're hungry for meat. And then a car will come and lick you but it won't be that good.

Leo (July 23 - August 22)



After you recently memorized the periodic table to spite your ex because they thought you were too nerdy. You'll go up to their house and spray paint all the halogen and alkali symbols to show how reactive you are and how unstable they are.

Virgo (August 23 - Sept 22)



You will want to achieve stardom by becoming the first male solo synchronized swimmer for the 2020 Olympics. You will wear a bathing cap with flowers and they will call you the daisy crusher. Your dream is that. Your major competiton will be them Petunia Peddler. An extreme cyclist turned solo sychronized swimmer. Beware him, he is fierce of flower.

Libra (Sept 23 - Oct 22)



You will shave off your eyebrows in the name of naked face hooliganism and run around advertising naked faces are free faces. You will cause anarchy among the hipsters with their beards, avnd all barristas will cease to exist. This is now meant to run on and fill empty space. Dear reader I wil insert my thoyughts now and cloud your gaze, with my superior and biased view. My crystalball will ball over you while you bawl. Will we have a brawl?

Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)



After completing your personal mission to visit every local zebra fish vendor an epiphany will strike you. To achieve a hundred percent on your Napoleon report you must swallow a burning pencil. Symbolism.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)



After placing your pet, Reuben the watermelon in his aquarium, you'll have peach cobbler for dessert even though your cousin Alfredo, repairs shoes. You will consider it a hidden revenge against him for duble knotting your shoelaces. It was very knotty of him.



Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)

Maybe even this acronym, is meta. It's like a duck inside a duck. It's duckception. Sorry I'm a quack adduckt. But you've got that one thing in one direction. But you can't turn lef tbecause it's not a a one way onto a one way, which is the one rule of the one all powerful.



Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

After munching on some dried out yogurt. You'll decide to quit watching Dragon Ball Z and think that Superman really did beat Gooky. I watch a lot of anime because Gucci. Hardcore cosplayer. Then you will go to a aprk and embrace the ideals of western nerdiness: Larping. The question I ask you is whether you'd be a dragonslayer or a yodeling hobgoblin?



Pisces (Feb 19 - March 20)

For the science fair this year, you'll decide to calculate the average resistance both socially and aerodynamically of the weeaboo run. The run people do after they've watched Naruto all their lives. Next you will do survey of how many people wear head bands and go for the 2008 look of frosted tips. If you don't get my reference; you be no weeaboo. Who? You! Peek- a-boo! Don't be a poo!

When you're done, please pass this on or recycle. Thanks!

The Advocate's Policy on Letters to the Editor

The Advocate encourages signed letters to the editor and prints both positive and negative comment.

Anonymous letters will not be published.

Letters to the editor are published as written by the author.

Spelling and grammar are not corrected.

Occasionally, letters will be edited for length and/or inappropriate language.

Editorial responses are not printed.

We reserve the right not to print letters that do not bring new light to an issue.