



THE NUTMEG MAGAZINE



ISSUE 14

SPRING 2020 EDITION: "ON THE BRIGHT SIDE"

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**NUTMEG MAGAZINE**

# EDITORS NOTE

No one could have expected that we would be spending most of our spring semester in a quarantine, much less in a world-wide pandemic due to the Coronavirus. Although Nutmeg Publishing and UConn students were not physically at UConn, and sadly could not report on spring semester events because of cancellations, our staff still wanted to publish a magazine for the Spring 2020 semester and all our constituents. The Spring 2020 edition: "On the Bright Side" is meant to feature UConn's young artists and highlight our Nutmeg staff's interests during quarantine. Some feature spreads include our collaboration with UConn Poetic Release in which their members submitted poems on living in our world during quarantine, various food and drink recipes created by our staff, as well as UConn students submitted artwork. Of course, this magazine would not have been possible without the hard work of the Nutmeg Publishing staff and all the art and poetry submissions we received. Personally, I would also like to thank all the healthcare workers and essential workers that have been working during this pandemic. All their hard work and dedication does not go unnoticed. To the UConn 2020 graduating class: your four years of hard work does not deserve to end with just a virtual commencement. Although the future is uncertain, the class of 2020 and our generation must speak our truths, hold ourselves and others accountable and carry the values that make us all huskies.

-Meira Tompkins



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# DMD SENIOR EXHIBITION

Each year, seniors in the UConn Department of Digital Media & Design spend their last undergraduate year at UConn working with a faculty advisor to conceptualize, create, and finalize innovative digital projects. Usually, the hard work and incentive of these seniors and their projects is commemorated and celebrated at the DMD Senior Exhibition in Jorgenson, but the Department of Digital Media & Design held the 2020 Senior Exhibition online because of the quarantine and social distancing in place due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite returning home to finish their year-long projects in quarantine, these seniors displayed their continuous effort and immense creativity with each of their very individualistic projects. All of these final projects were portfolio-ready, professional pieces of digital artwork that explored a range of messages and perspectives while presenting engaging animations or experiences.

For some of these seniors, their projects were inventive digital experiences. These ranged from 3D games to video games to interactive web experiences with a variety of themes. In one project, a 3D game encouraged players to delve deeper and further explore the virtual environment with intriguing clues. Another senior created a 3D interactive experience that immersed players in the world of a marine biologist who misses his family while doing the research of his dreams. While some of these projects were digital experiences created to entice and excite players, others purposefully relaxed players. One senior created Wonder, an interactive web experience in which users are immersed in a relaxing virtual environment with wildlife, changing seasons, and ambient noise. The artist Cynthia Reinert, an eighth semester digital media and design major, explained that the project was created as “an outlet for users to release stress.” Even though all of these seniors had different purposes and ideas for their projects, each of their projects expressed their novel ideas while demonstrating their unique artistic style.

Other seniors created projects that showed their ideas through enticing 2D or 3D animations. Some of these animations were more explorative stories about discovering earth in the galaxy or the scale of the universe, while other animations were more about the day-to-day life of human beings. A 3D animation titled Perfect Fit was one project that showed the journey of two incredibly expressive Legos working together to find their way. Although this story was about Legos, it is also applicable to humans in that “we can achieve more working together than we can on our own,” in the words of the artist Justin Woods, an eighth semester digital media and design major. This 3D animation highlighted the importance of helping each other when problems arise and working together to meet goals. All of the animations created by these seniors contained powerful messages in their stories, and every one of these seniors displayed their various skills and distinct techniques through their one-of-a-kind projects. The digital media and design majors for the class of 2020 impressed us all with their projects!



WRITER: LILY HOERNER

DESIGNER: MEIRA TOMPKINS

# STUDENT ART SUBMISSIONS

For the spring 2020 semester, UConn students were sent home to finish the semester in quarantine due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Since this was no ordinary semester, Nutmeg Publishing decided to bring the creative community at UConn together in a piece about artwork and poetry submitted by students during quarantine. Students submitted pieces that ranged from drawings to photographs to paintings to poems, and some of the pieces even touched upon living in the midst of a pandemic.



One student submitted a digital drawing of a strong black woman wearing her usual makeup and a face mask. The artist Stephen JuMo, a sixth semester fine arts major, explained that the woman "stands solid and firm" and "does not let the terrible times get the best of her." As this was an unprecedented time for UConn students, Stephen's piece leaves students with an important message: even when the status of our world is uncertain, we can still be sure of who we are and have confidence in that. While Stephen showcased his digital drawing skills in his piece, other students demonstrated their talent and creativity through other forms of art. Fourth semester digital media and design major Meghan Foley demonstrated her well-rounded artistic abilities by submitting a variety of pieces: a painting of birds in a blue sky, abstract black and white pieces, photographs, collages, and typography pieces. While some of these works were class assignments, others were created solely for the pleasure of producing art. The collage of nature was Meghan's favorite piece, as "it was really fun to make." Students like Meghan and Stephen kept themselves entertained during quarantine with creative work that they enjoyed. Other students might want to follow their example and discover their own creative avenues and hobbies, as the end of the semester was a dull and scary time with everyone searching for anything to do.



Meghan Foley  
@meghanfoleyart



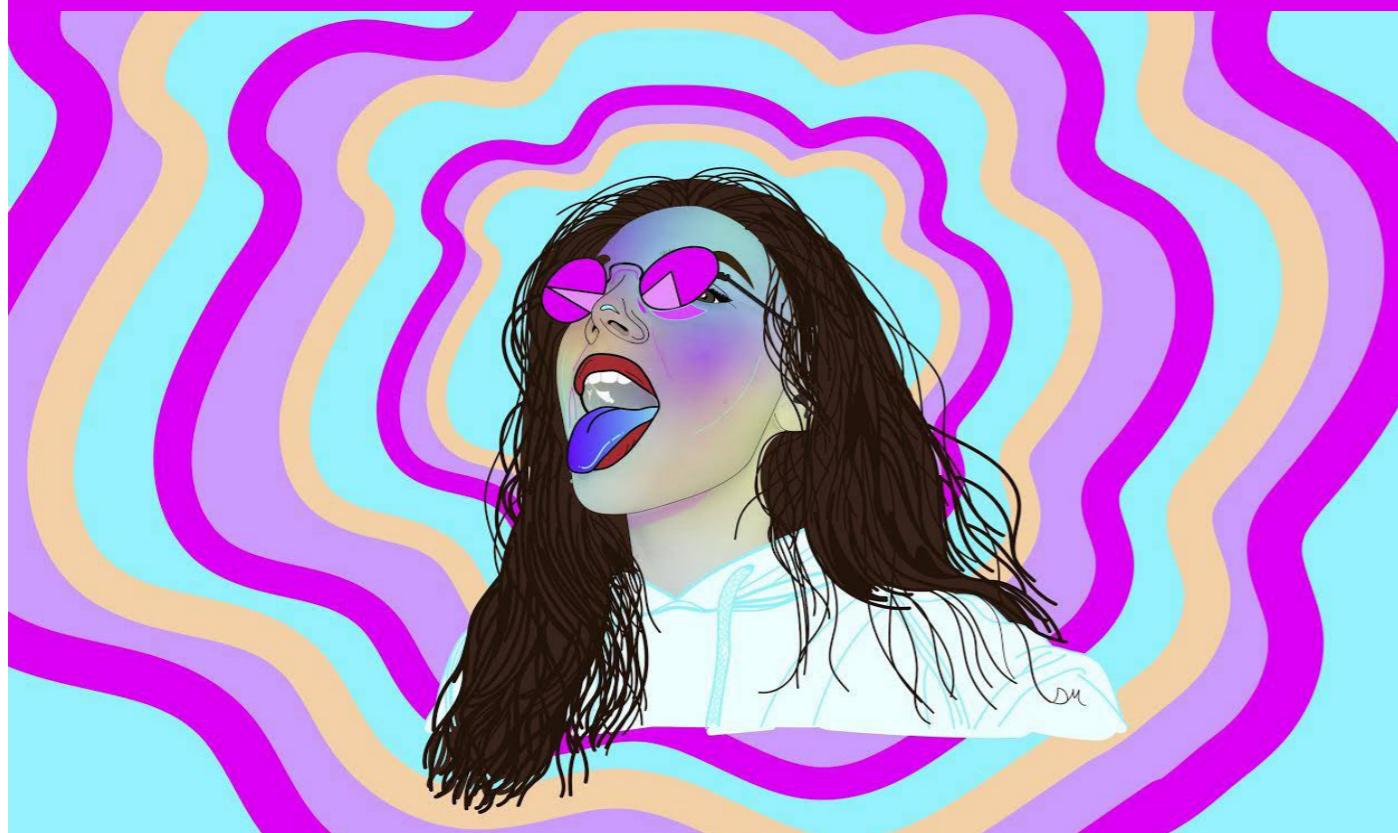
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**a** **i** **o** **ü**

**Who uses typography?**  
All of us.  
Typography allows the written word to be **read**.

**As** one of the first and fundamental forms of communication, writing and typography trace their roots even back to the Upper Paleolithic times when cave paintings used symbols as a form of language. As each civilization advanced, so their need for communication became more complex. From Egyptian hieroglyphics with symbols and ideograms to Ancient Greeks who used the alphabet created by Phoenicians, taken over by Romans afterwards. The Romans have also styled the Uppercase Alphabet, which we still use today.

Widewalls, Bojana Kadešević, The History of Typography and its Journey Through Art  
<http://www.widewalls.ch/Typography-History-Art/>

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Meghan Foley @meghanfoleyart

DESIGNER: MEIRA TOMPKINS

# UCONN POETIC RELEASE

All the pieces students submitted revealed the importance of creative work, despite what art form students used to express their imaginations and artistic skills. The Tier II student organization, Poetic Release, encourages poetry as a form of art and hosts workshops and readings for its members to support each other's work. Poetic Release could not hold their regular workshops or readings for the latter half of the semester, but this did not stop members of Poetic Release from engaging in their creative processes. Several members of Poetic Release submitted poems and prose as their pieces of art. These students used different techniques for sounds, rhyme schemes, and line breaks in writing their poems, and the poems displayed each of the students' unique, personal poetic style. Two poems spoke of the realities and difficulties of living in the world during quarantine, while one piece of prose expressed a more optimistic view and voiced the hopes and joys of society returning to normal once again. Each and every one of the pieces these artistic and talented students submitted expressed the importance of art and expressiveness during the time of the pandemic. Nutmeg Publishing was happy to bring together this creative community during such an uncertain time!

**Into Dust**  
by Lauren Granville

we live in a loophole  
that is full of doubt  
upturned, each moment -  
time is inside out.

we live in a war zone  
that is full of pain  
upended, our lives  
will never be the same.

we're living through a time  
that will be written into  
books,  
gruesome at its best  
and more painful than it  
looks.

so please, I ask you  
do not forget us  
keep our stories going  
when we turn into dust.

WRITER: LILY HOERNER

PHOTOGRAPHER: MADISON BUSICK

DESIGNER: MEIRA TOMPKINS

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routine for a day when  
social distancing is only  
a march memory

in the morning i will look out my open window. perhaps the sky will be clear or perhaps the rain will be washing away yesterday's chalk, but it does not matter. i will go outside no matter the weather, mouth open and breathing in the springtime, holding someone's hand. i will pick dandelions from the garden and hug my neighbor to thank her for the empanadas she made us the night before; i will invite her inside to a house that smells like blueberry muffins and the opposite of fear. when my dad asks me to go the grocery store with him after lunch, i will say yes just so i can run my hands along the produce, just so i can pick out the brightest apples while i wait for my number to be called at the deli counter. after we get home and leave fresh bread on the counter, i will get back in my car and ride with windows all the way down to pick up my best friend. we will drive for three hours, all the way to Maine just to sit with shoulders touching on Cadillac Mountain watching the setting sun burn a hole in a watercolor sky. on our way home, we will stop in all the small towns and buy a sundae from every ice cream shop we see. we will look up at stars that feel closer than ever and each cherry will taste like a different flavor of hope.

-- Kayla Simon



PHOTOGRAPHER: ERIN WU

DESIGNER: MEIRA TOMPKINS



## Misplaced Vulnerable

By Shawn Alexander

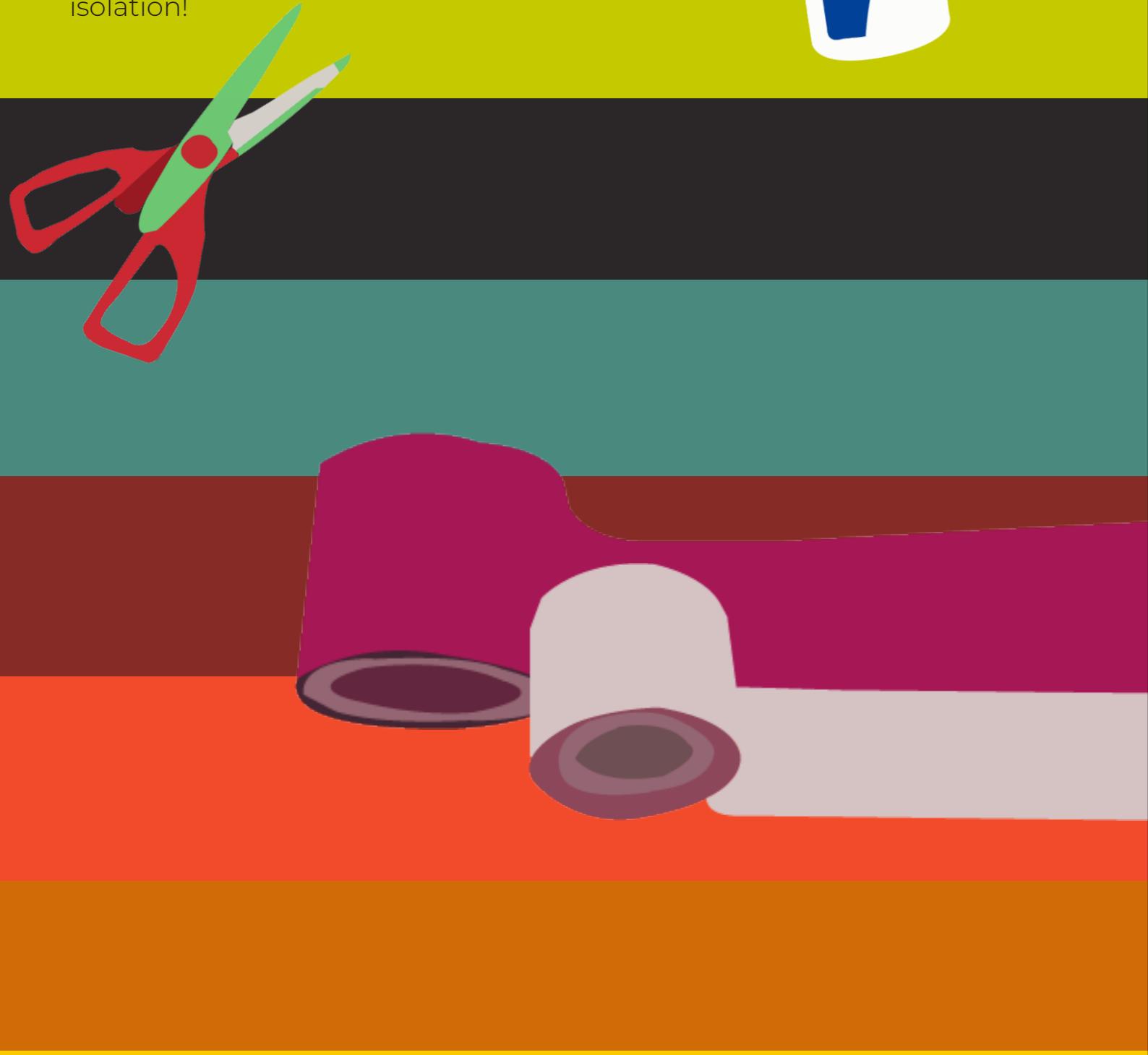
space  
anything for peace of mind  
i need my piece, of mine  
i aim to continue coasting  
basking in the light  
the warmth of life  
what keeps me sane is ignorance  
i won't worry about the details  
the ones I can't control  
control over nothing is everything  
i find solace in solitude  
it's sacred here  
i pray for peace, a full soul, silence  
im whole whilst alone  
i dream of answers to questions ive  
forgotten  
happy mediums  
true love  
comfort  
i was born on a sunny day in spring  
with a heart of gold  
quiet tired  
in place still  
small warm  
hollow soft  
sound is my god and I pray irrever-  
ently  
watch me grow old and repeat history

PHOTOGRAPHER: MADISON BUSICK

DESIGNER: MEIRA TOMPKINS

# GUIDE TO SCRAPBOOKING

Whether you choose to create spreads of your memories or things to look forward to after the pandemic ends, scrapbooking can be a great new activity to keep yourself entertained during self isolation!



## Besides your photos, here's what you need to get started:

### Collage materials

This category includes magazine clippings, ephemera, fabric, and stickers.

Tip: Collaging tickets, wrappers, and cards that you saved can add a personal touch to spreads focused on your memories of special events.

### Tape or glue

Use tape or glue to attach your pictures or decorate.

Tip: Look for patterned or textured tapes like duct tape and washi tape. This is also a great time to use any leftover glitter glue you have.

### Scissors

Cut pictures and paper into different shapes. Tip: Experiment with pinking or craft scissors to create crinkled cutouts.

### Paper of your choice

Choose sturdier paper, such as scrapbooking paper, construction paper, colored copy paper, or card stock, for your background.

Lightweight paper, such as newspaper, wrapping paper, or tissue paper, is better for collaging.

Tip: Choose the colors of your papers based on the pictures you're pairing with them. Use background paper with a contrasting value and pattern to help pictures stand out.



### Creating Your Spreads

Now that you've gathered supplies, how you assemble them is up to you!

Tip: Don't be afraid to try a new lettering style or use unconventional materials. You can find more inspiration for scrapbooking on Pinterest.



WRITER: NAILAH HUQ

PHOTOGRAPHER: NAILAH HUQ

DESIGNER: MEIRA TOMPKINS

# *Garlic Parmesan Knots*

## Ingredients:

- Biscuit Dough
- 3 tbsp Butter
- 1 tbsp Parsley Flakes
- 1 tbsp Italian seasoning
- 1 tbsp Garlic powder
- Grated Fresh parmesan cheese

## Steps:

### Shaping the Dough:

Open the dough and cut the dough into six equal pieces. For each piece, cut it in half again.

With each piece, roll the dough out into 5 inch strips.

After, tie the dough into a knot.

### Creating the Topping Mixture:

Melt the butter in the microwave.

Mix parsley, italian seasoning, and garlic powder into the mixture.

Grate the parmesan cheese into the mixture. (If you use processed parmesan it will not mix as well).

### The Final Steps:

Paint the mixture on the knots, applying evenly to each knot.

Bake at 400 degrees for 10 minutes.

Plate and serve! If you have extra butter mixture, apply on the baked knots.

# OWEN'S AUTHENTIC MARGARITA



The margarita is a legendary summer classic and my personal favorite drink of all time. Margaritas are often regarded as the most popular cocktail ever created and can be found on bar menus all across the globe, but very rarely are they crafted properly. After years of experimentation and testing, this has become my signature margarita recipe. Using great tequila and orange liqueur is extremely important, so be sure to buy the best that you can afford. My liquor selections complement each other very well for this drink, so try to use those if you can find them.

1 ½ oz Maestro Dobel Diamanté Tequila (this tequila makes a huge difference in the overall taste)  
1 oz Combier Original Orange Liqueur (if unavailable, substitute with Luxardo Triplum or Cointreau)  
1 ½ oz Fresh Squeezed Lime Juice (roughly one lime's worth per drink)  
¾ oz of Agave Simple Syrup

To make the agave simple syrup, mix one part light agave nectar and one part warm water together in a separate dish.

Combine ingredients into a shaker full of ice. Shake with extreme vigor until the drink is frothy and strain into a rocks glass full of fresh ice. Garnish with a lime wedge.

Optional: If you like salt on the rim of your glass, purchase coarse-ground margarita salt and a grapefruit from your local grocery store. Slice the grapefruit in half, dip the edge of your glass in the grapefruit, and then dip it in the salt so that it adheres to the rim of the glass and gives a nice additional hint of citrus.

**WRITER:** OWEN BONAVENTURA

**PHOTOGRAPHER:** OWEN BONAVENTURA

**DESIGNER:** MEIRA TOMPKINS

# HARD LEMONADE



WRITER: OWEN BONAVENTURA  
PHOTOGRAPHER: OWEN BONAVENTURA  
DESIGNER: MEIRA TOMPKINS



There's nothing more refreshing than fresh squeezed lemonade in the summertime. This cocktail is perfect for those hot days at the pool or beach.

To make the simple syrup, boil one cup of water in a saucepan and then add  $1\frac{3}{4}$  cups of sugar. Stir until dissolved, and chill in the refrigerator.

Combine ingredients in a shaker with ice, strain into a rocks or high-ball glass with fresh ice. Garnish with a lemon wheel.

## Ingredients:

1  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz Vodka

1  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz Fresh Squeezed Lemon Juice (be sure to strain out the seeds)

1 oz Simple Syrup (add more or less depending on how sweet you like it)

1 oz water



2 1/2 oz Woodford Reserve Bourbon (I also really love Blanton's Bourbon)  
1 teaspoon of sugar or 2 sugar cubes (or  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz of simple syrup)  
4 or 5 fresh mint leaves  
Crushed Ice

## CLASSIC MINT JULEP

This cocktail has been an icon of the American South since the early 1800s. Originally used as a medicinal drink by farmers, it combined bourbon whiskey, sugar, and muddled mint, which were all readily available ingredients in the South. Eventually, it gained prominence in the horse racing circles when sterling silver julep cups used to be given as prizes to first-place jockeys. In 1938, it earned the designation as the Official Drink of the Kentucky Derby, and still remains so to this day. It is one of the most beloved drinks to help you cool off during a day at the races, or to keep you relaxed on a warm summer's night.

Muddle the mint and sugar together in the bottom of a shaker. Add crushed ice and bourbon, then stir for 10 seconds, mixing in the muddled mint and sugar. Pour the whole thing into a rocks glass (don't strain) and garnish with a mint sprig.

WRITER: OWEN BONAVENTURA

PHOTOGRAPHER: OWEN BONAVENTURA

DESIGNER: MEIRA TOMPKINS



## PINEAPPLE-*INFUSED* VODKA

This drink is one of the simplest and most refreshing drinks that you will be able to enjoy all summer long. It is perfect for summer parties, picnics, and get-togethers. The vodka acts as a preservative for the pineapple, so it will last for several weeks. My family makes several batches of this drink every year and it is a constant favorite of everyone that tries it.

**1.75 liter of your favorite top-shelf Vodka  
(Stoli is the original vodka used for this drink, but I prefer to use Ketel One. Tito's also works very well.)**

**Three Fresh Pineapples**

**Optional: 1 liter of Malibu Coconut Rum**

Slice the pineapple into medium sized chunks and place at the bottom of a large glass sangria jar with a spigot. Pour the vodka on top of the pineapple, ensuring to cover all the chunks. Allow it to sit for roughly two weeks, giving it a stir daily to keep the pineapple evenly coated in the vodka. When you are ready to serve, dispense into a shaker full of ice, shake vigorously until it develops a froth, and strain into a rocks glass with fresh ice or cold martini glass with no ice. Garnish with a pineapple wedge.

Disclaimer: do NOT attempt to eat the pineapple from the jar afterwards... although vodka-infused pineapple might sound delicious, it tastes absolutely horrible- and here's why.

The infusing process does two things: it extracts all the sugars out of the pineapple to give the vodka the great pineapple flavor, and it also turns the pineapple into a filter that takes out all the impurities of the vodka. This makes the vodka taste very smooth and sweet, but the pineapple tastes really awful.

This drink is traditionally made with vodka only, but for an extra tropical kick, try adding some Malibu Coconut Rum to the initial mixture, or when you're ready to serve. It adds a little extra sweetness.

## CLASSIC GREEN TEA SHOTS



**WRITER: OWEN BONAVENTURA**  
**PHOTOGRAPHER: OWEN BONAVENTURA**  
**DESIGNER: MEIRA TOMPKINS**

Are you really a UConn student if you haven't had a few rounds of green tea shots with your friends at the bar? They taste like green tea, only better than any green tea you've ever had. These easy-drinking classics are a refreshing way to have some fun in the summertime and remind you of your roots in Ted's, Tav, and Huskies.

**1 oz Jameson Irish Whiskey**  
**1 oz Peach Schnapps**  
**1 oz Sour Mix**  
**1 oz Sprite**

Makes two shots. Combine ingredients in a shaker over ice, shake vigorously, and strain into shot glasses. Knock them back and make another round.



# styling a gold clip two different ways



PHOTOGRAPHER: ANIQA ISLAM

DESIGNER: MEIRA TOMPKINS

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#1: the classic - in your hair  
#1: the classic - in your hair  
#1: the classic - in your hair

PHOTOGRAPHER: ANIQA ISLAM

DESIGNER: MEIRA TOMPKINS



# ONLINE ACTIVISM / PIRG

As the second month of quarantine - and everyone's lives being turned upside down - draws to a close, it's clear to see how easy it can be to slip into fatigue and lack motivation to find creative ways to stay active. That's why it is more important than ever to reach out to your community and to give and receive support from your neighbors and friends. UConnPIRG is a leading example of making meaning in these new times. UConnPIRG is a student directed and funded advocacy group, and is known for constantly making waves in state activism on a variety of fronts such as climate change, affordable college, and public health. Despite changing circumstances, its members are still going strong, finding new ways to fight for a good cause and to involve UConn students in their work.

For example, they have been focusing on launching online campaigns and raising awareness to #PledgeToStayHome and #FlattenTheCurve. Also, this past Earth Day, UConnPIRG sent out emails to students about a Netflix watch party for an environment-focused film, launched social media campaigns, and encouraged people to write letters to the editor about environmental issues they were passionate about. It is truly amazing to see this organization take a difficult situation as an opportunity to create new means of online activism so we can all contribute from home.

I was able to speak with eighth semester political science and English double major Emily O'Hara (she/her/hers), the UConnPIRG Chapter Chair and ConnPIRG State Board Vice Chair, as well as sixth semester digital media and design major Kyleigh Hillerud (she/her/hers), the UConnPIRG Communications Director and ConnPIRG Stateboard Chair, about how the organization, as well as they themselves, continued to stay involved and promote change during a global pandemic.

**Nutmeg Magazine:** How is your organization staying in touch, active, and motivated during this time?

**Emily O'Hara/Kyleigh Hillerud:** We've done our best to maintain meetings while also expanding social events for our chapter members. At least once a week, our Social Chair hosts a coffee hour during his office hours and organizes a social event for those who would like to watch movies, video chat, or play games. Our weekly CORE meetings are still at 7PM on Mondays, which meant that we were able to hold our elections, vote on governing documents, and campaign selection even while social distancing. Additionally, all of our cabinet members are hosting office hours for students to touch base one-on-one.

**NM:** How are you encouraging people to be activists at home? Why is it important?

**EO/KH:** First and foremost, we're encouraging students to care for themselves and their families before they take on further responsibility. However, if students are willing and able to organize, we're encouraging them to take digital action. We're still organizing through our five PIRG campaigns that we set out to run at the beginning of the semester, but now more than ever we're encouraging people to share how they #PledgeToStayHome. We recently transitioned from this digital organizing initiative to our #InsideTogether campaign, encouraging people to stay connected even while we have to be physically distant. Also, we've launched a website through our Hunger and Homelessness campaign to provide resources for local needs.

We're also communicating with different groups about how to advocate for vote-by-mail; the right to vote shouldn't force an individual to risk their health and the health of those around them. Right now, it's imperative that we ensure that people at UConn and across the state are equipped to take care, stay well, and stay safe -- so we have to continue to organize.

**NM:** What causes are you focusing on currently? Can you say a few words about them?

**EO/KH:** We are still focusing on getting out the vote, being a resource for students through our Hunger and Homelessness campaign, as well as promoting sustainability in a time of quarantine. Our New Voters Project has been putting pressure on the governor via social media to move back the CT primary so that people are not risking their lives voting. They've also been working with the Secretary of State Denise Merrill and her office to pressure the governor to sign an executive order to vote via mail in this upcoming primary election. Our Hunger and Homelessness campaign has been compiling resources such as information about the student first fund, UConn swipes, local food pantries, and shelters in the area for students in need. We have been promoting and challenging students to remain sustainable in this time of quarantining, some ways we are doing this is challenging students on social media to show us how they are remaining sustainable.

**NM:** Any other points you would like to bring up in regards to stay-at-home activism during the time of COVID?

**EO/KH:** Now more than ever, if you're able, it's important to contact your elected representatives to encourage them to advocate and legislate to protect their constituents. We're pushing for greater testing and greater personal protective equipment specifically, but for any issues related to COVID-19 policy: call or write to your representatives.

**WRITER: JULIANNE HARRIS**

**PHOTOGRAPHER: MADISON BUSICK**

**DESIGNER: MEIRA TOMPKINS**





JANM