



## Get involved

**Sweet Treats Stop**  
1st Wednesdays  
9:00-10:00 a.m. —2nd floor,  
Student Life Center

**April First Friday Connection Breakfast**  
Friday, April 5  
7:00-9:00 a.m.—Life Center,  
Community Room  
Employees please register when you arrive. Sponsored by Grayson College. Hosted by Student Life.

**April First Tuesday Connection Breakfast**  
Tuesday, April 2  
8:00-9:00 a.m.—main foyer,  
South Campus  
Sponsored by Grayson College. Hosted by Student Life.

**Zombie "Survival" Games Tournament**  
Monday, April 22  
6:00-10:00 p.m.—Life Center—Grayson Room  
For tournament information, contact the Student Life Office. Registration and an entry fee required. Prizes awarded.

**Free April Late Night Food Event**  
Thursday, April 18  
9:00-10:00 p.m.—Life Center, Food Court  
Spaghetti, garlic bread, salad, dessert and drink. Complimentary meal provided by Great Western Dining Services. Sponsored by Student Life.

**It's My Life Student Leadership Series**  
Monday, April 22  
4th Monday of each month  
12:15-12:45 p.m.—LA107  
Community business leaders share leadership philosophy in today's competitive environment. Students and employees invited. Sponsors: CWL Advisory Board, SGA, Student Life

**Karaoke**  
Thursday, April 18  
11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.—Life Center Food Court—Community Room  
Students and employees are invited to participate or come and be entertained by GC's best! First six individual soloists receive a 2012-2013 long-sleeved Student Life t-shirt.

**Student Government Association**  
Mondays (1st Monday of each month)  
12:15-12:45 p.m.—The HUB  
Student club and organization members are invited as well as all students. SGA is the voice of students at GC. SGA promotes "students leading students."

**BSM Luncheon**  
Wednesdays  
11:45-12:30 p.m. —Baptist Student Union

**BSM Bible Study**  
Mondays  
12:00-1:00 p.m. —Baptist Student Union

**Fellowship of Christian Athletes**  
Tuesdays  
6:00 p.m.—Viking Residence Hall Main Lounge

**Evening of Excellence**  
Tuesday, April 9  
6:30-8 p.m.—Life Center—2nd floor and The Bridge  
This event honors GC students who have excelled academically and have provided volunteer services to the college/community during 2012-2013. Students, employees, family, friends, and the community are invited to attend. **Doors will not open until 6:30 p.m.**

**GC Fitness Center**  
GC students and employees are eligible to use the facility with a valid GC ID card. Electronic check-in required, along with the ID card. First-time users complete liability form. Call 903.463.2579 for days and hours of operation.

(cont. on p. 2)

## Grayson College's The Absolute Black & White XIII Exhibit opens March 21



The Absolute Black & White Exhibit features black and white works in various media like Marie Miller, Rose Miller, and Rachel Hendrix's "Untitled #39." The exhibit runs through April 26.

By Jamie Wagoner

Arts and Communications Administrative Assistant

The Absolute Black & White XIII is an annual exhibition featuring original works executed in black, white, and shades of gray.

The exhibit has been beautifully put together and hung by Steve O. Black and is definitely a "must see." You may come anytime Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m.

However, mark your calendars for Saturday, April 13, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. for the reception with a chance to meet many of the artists who have entered their work into this exhibit.

The Art Reception for the Absolute Black & White XIII will also include the 4th Incredible Edible Art Show from 6 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. (then we eat the exhibit), Art Guitars Silent Auction 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., and music by David Tercero's GC music students.

All of this is happening in the Arts & Communications Center at Grayson College. So please come show your support, and enjoy the festivities.



The art gallery is located on the first floor of the Arts and Communications Center.

## Phi Theta Kappa receives awards at Fort Worth regional conference

By Matthias Shelton

GC's Phi Theta Kappa chapter, Omicron Psi, attended the Texas regional Phi Theta Kappa convention earlier this month.

Attendees took part in a three-day-long conference that ended with an awards gala that celebrated and awarded leadership, community service, and academic achievement.

The convention, which took place in Fort Worth, was the third-highest-attended convention in the Texas region's history.

The conference welcomed speakers Jon Acuff, a best-selling author and motivational speaker, and Jason Moulenc, professor of philosophy and religion at Lone Star College-CyFair.

Phi Theta Kappa members took part in a service project, Operation Troop Aid, by preparing and sending 500 care packages to deployed U.S. soldiers.

Among other activities, attendees took part in several workshops that taught topics covering the four Phi Theta Kappa hallmarks: scholarship,

leadership, service, and fellowship.

Grayson College attendees also sold t-shirts at the convention's marketplace in order to raise money for Relay For Life, one of many community service projects that Phi Theta Kappa participates in.

As the convention came to a close, the convention hosted an awards gala in which awards were given to Phi Theta Kappa members, alumni members, advisors, and whole chapters.

Recognition was awarded to chapters for excellence in research and service projects, as well as to individuals for achievement in Phi Theta Kappa programs and distinction in chapter participation.

The Omicron Psi chapter of Grayson College was awarded a Five Star Certificate for reaching the highest level in Phi Theta Kappa's Five-Star Chapter Development Plan, a plan that encourages the development and growth of a strong and active Phi Theta Kappa chapter.

The chapter also received the Honors in Action Award of Distinction and the Texas Top Chapter Award.

Omicron Psi president, Katie Turner, and Vice President of Special Projects, Genia Shipman, were both inducted into the District II Hall of Honor as well as the Texas Region Hall of Honor.

The school's Phi Theta Kappa advisor, Mary Linder, received the Horizon Award for making a significant contribution to Phi Theta Kappa programs.

The upcoming international convention will take place in San Jose, California next month with Phi Theta Kappa chapters attending from all over the world.

Among the invited speakers is basketball legend Shaquille "Shaq" O'Neal and FORTUNE editor and columnist Geoff Colvin.

Among many convention activities, attendees at the international convention will be electing a new set of international officers.

Four members from Grayson College's chapter will be joined by several other chapters in the Texas region in order to campaign for Katie Turner as Division II Vice President.



DAAC and EMS students demonstrate attention to someone with alcohol poisoning

Check out

## THE VIKING

in full color online at

<http://www.grayson.edu/college-info/the-viking.aspx>, including archived earlier editions.

From the Grayson home page, click on "College Info" and then "The Viking."

**Men of Distinction**  
Thursdays  
12:00-1:00 p.m.—*The HUB*  
Tuesdays  
5:00-6:00 p.m.—*The HUB*

**Sisters of Destiny**  
Mondays  
11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. (2nd and 4th)—*The HUB*  
Wednesdays  
4:00-5:00 p.m.—*The HUB*

**Phi Theta Kappa**  
Wednesdays  
12:00-1:00 p.m.—*The HUB*

**Dental Assisting**  
Wednesdays  
1:00-2:00 p.m.—*The HUB*

**Speech Club**  
Every other Wednesday  
3:00-4:00 p.m.—*The HUB*

**Writers Unlimited/  
Sigma Kappa Delta**  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays  
12:00-1:00 p.m.—*GC Writing Center (Library, Rm. 110)*

**Mu Alpha Theta**  
Tuesdays  
2:00-3:00 p.m.—*The HUB*

**Welding Association**  
Every other Tuesday  
12:00-1:00 p.m.—*The HUB*

**Cultural Diversity**  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays  
1:15-2:15 p.m.—*The HUB*

**The Clay Club**  
Tuesdays  
6:00 -6:30 p.m.—*AC 120*

**Eta Sigma Delta  
(Culinary Honor Society)**  
TBA

**Student Ambassadors**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month  
12:00 -1:00 p.m.—*Bridge lounge-outside the HUB*

**MAS—Give More-  
Get More**  
Mondays  
2:30-3:30 p.m.—*The HUB*

**Delta Phi Delta Art Club**  
1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month  
11:45 a.m.—*AC105*

**Grayson Nursing Student Association**  
Thursdays (last Thursday of month)  
5:00 -6:00 p.m.—*The HUB*

**Psychology Club**  
Tuesdays  
12:15-12:45 p.m.—*CIS 202*

**Paramedic Student Association**  
Meetings as needed.  
5:00 p.m.—*HS 215*

**Vocational Student Nursing Association**  
Tuesdays  
12:00-1:00 p.m.—*South Campus*

**Cosmetology Club**  
Mondays  
3:45 p.m.—*CTC classroom*

**TIPSS (Culinary Arts & Hospitality Management Club)**  
4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month  
2:00-3:00 p.m.—*Culinary Arts Building*

**Criminal Justice Club (LAE)**  
Tuesdays  
12:15-1:45 p.m.—*CJ 101*

**Drug Alcohol Abuse Counseling Club (DAAC)**  
Mondays  
8:20 a.m.-9:00 a.m.—*HS 202*

**Radiology Technology Club**  
Contact Robbie Jackson, 903.463.8676 for meeting times.

**Veterans Student Association**  
Contact the veteran student representative in the Student Services office.

**Future Educators**  
Every other Tuesday  
2:00-3:00 p.m.—*CIS 200*

Visit the Student Life link on the college website for current activity and event information or call 903.463.8693.



## GRAYSON COLLEGE

# Student Ambassadors

Ambassadors are selling BELK coupons

Coupons are \$5 each  
Saving you \$5 on 1 item.

Limit of 5 coupons per person  
You could save \$5 on 5 different items!

The BIG CHARITY SALE is on  
**Saturday, April 27, 2013**  
6-10am



Friday, May 10, 2013  
10:00 - Noon  
Lunch provided • Live Band



# Grayson College High School Senior Day

Class of 2013

6101 Grayson Drive • Denison, TX 75020  
[www.grayson.edu](http://www.grayson.edu)

## Important Registration News

### Courses

- As of Monday, March 18, summer registration began. The schedule of summer classes is available on the web. See your assigned advisor (posted in Campus Connect under Demographics).
- Biology students who are enrolled in the first-level course will not be able to register in the next course until grades are posted on May 22.
- Developmental Reading, Writing, and Math students will enroll in the "ghost" course (0315) for the next semester until grades are posted.
- A full-time student is someone enrolled in 15 hours. Students still only have to have 12 hours to be considered full time for Financial Aid, but it takes longer for you to graduate. So, especially if you have at least a 3.0 GPA, consider taking 15 hours.
- Consider taking Friday and Saturday classes this fall (offered in both Academic and Workforce Education areas).

### Payment

- Payment plans are an option for students, especially if you think you are just not going to have enough money to return in the summer and/or fall. The plan will spread the cost of tuition out over time.
- "Purge" means you will be dropped from classes for non-payment.
- There are Foundation Scholarships available for Fall 2013 students. If you have less than a 2.0 and have to stop out because you are on Financial Aid suspension, you can still get scholarships if you meet criteria. See Financial Aid.



**→THINKING OF TRANSFERRING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF YOUR CHOICE?**

**→NEED HELP WITH APPLICATIONS, DEADLINES, FINANCIAL AID FORMS, ETC?**

**FOR ASSISTANCE, MAKE AN APPOINTMENT WITH PAMELA POLK IN THE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY CENTER (EOC) OFFICE / IN THE COUNSELING CENTER, HERE AT GRAYSON COLLEGE. PHONE: 903/463-8689; EMAIL: polkp@grayson.edu OR ppolk@se.edu.**

EOCSERVICES ARE FREE AND ARE OFFERED THROUGH A GRANT FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

## GC Softball

Mar. 29	1 & 3	Ranger College	Ranger, TX
Apr. 3	1 & 3	Hill College	GC Softball Field
Apr. 6	1 & 3	Vernon College	GC Softball Field
Apr. 10	1 & 3	Weatherford College	GC Softball Field
Apr. 13	1 & 3	Cisco College	GC Softball Field
Apr. 20	1 & 3	Temple College	Temple, TX
Apr. 24	1 & 3	McLennan Com. College	Waco, TX
Apr. 27	1 & 3	N. Central Texas College	Gainesville, TX

## Softball/Baseball season outlook

By Ronnie Rice

Recently I sat down with Coach Dusty Hart of the GC Baseball team, and Coach Theresa Barnett of the GC Softball team. Coach Hart stated how hard it is for his players get back in the "swing" of things, to get back into playing ball. Regarding his expectations for this season and this year, of course, he and the team want to win the title. He added that he and the team need to improve on a thing that every sport needs: trust and to play as a team.

Coach Barnett mentioned that the softball team is a young team and that they are in the process of rebuilding. She spoke about how quickly they will have to become a seasoned team.

Both Coach Hart and Barnett hope for good weather, and that their teams play well, but as the season goes on, they hope to become better and keep improving day in and day out. Good teams overcome any challenges and find ways to win, they believe.

We wish both the Baseball and Softball teams a good season!



# GC Baseball

Mar. 29	1:00	Murray State College	Dub Hayes Field
Apr. 3	1:00 DH	N Central Texas College	Gainesville, TX
Apr. 6	1:00 DH	N. Central Texas College	Dub Hayes Field
Apr. 10	1:00 DH	Weatherford College	Dub Hayes Field
Apr. 13	3:00 DH	Weatherford College	Weatherford, TX
Apr. 17	3:00 DH	Temple College	Temple, TX
Apr. 20	1:00 DH	Temple College	Dub Hayes Field
Apr. 24	1:00 DH	Ranger College	Dub Hayes Field
Apr. 27	1:00 DH	Ranger College	Ranger, TX

## "Just for Fun" Cooking Classes

SPRING 2013

May 2, 3, 4 @ 7:30pm  
May 5 @ 2pm

Arts & Communication Center  
903-463-8609  
[theatre@grayson.edu](mailto:theatre@grayson.edu)  
\$3 or Free with College I.D.  
Reservations Suggested due to Limited Seating

**GRAYSON COLLEGE  
BLACK BOX THEATRE**

## All in the Timing

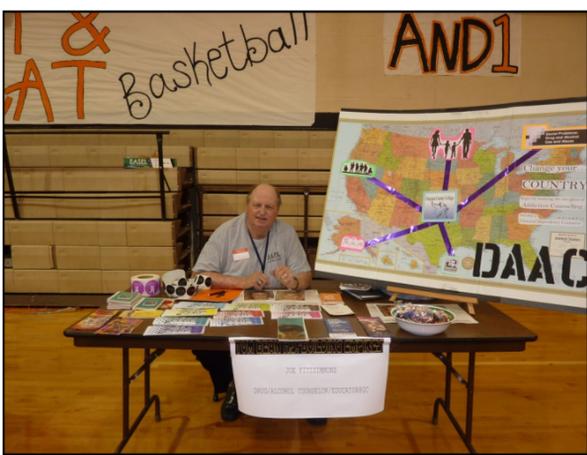
A Group of Short Comedies  
By David Ives

# Art Show:

## The Absolute Black and White XII Exhibit

Mar. 21-Apr. 25  
Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.  
2nd Floor Gallery  
Arts and Communications Center

## DAAC seeks students



GC's Drug and Alcohol Abuse Counseling program instructor Joe Fitzsimmons represented DAAC at the Tom Bean High School in February. DAAC promotes Changing Your World by studying to become a Licensed Drug and Alcohol Counselor at Grayson College.

## How we get here: insights from the Cultural Diversity Club

By Emmanuel Shox

Every year, thousands of students graduate from high schools in Africa, Asia, South America and Europe.

Some of them choose to continue their studies in their home country, while others decide to learn about their future employments somewhere else.

However, they do not always measure the difficulty of getting into that new territory, and some embassies are much more stressful than others.

One of the hardest countries to get into as an international student is the United States of America.

Exactly like any other person applying for college, the first step would be to get an acceptance letter from the school they are trying to be a part of.

If they are accepted, they need to file a visa request and will be asked a lot of questions, with some of them being quite personal.

For example, one will have to clarify the fact that they are HIV free or that they are not intending to orchestrate a terrorist attack.

In addition, sufficient financial support must be proven by the applicant or their tutor. It really depends on the country, but the average amount asked to be shown on a bank statement must be higher than \$30,000.

Obviously, the USA only wants to teach the best students in the world, so their GPA average must be quite excellent in order to have a fair shot.

If the passport is not going to expire soon and if there are no details showing that previous visa violations occurred, an appointment with the US embassy will be scheduled.

There are so many people wanting the same thing that one can be waiting for two months before getting a meeting date.

Cont. on p. 6 "Cultural Diversity"

## GC breaks ground for new Technical Center

By Shelle Cassell

Director of Marketing/Public Information

Grayson College Board of Trustees gathered on February 25 at the site of the new South Campus Technical Center in Van Alstyne to mark the official start of the construction process for an 18,000-square-foot building.

When complete, the facility will add four new training options for students from the southern rim of the county.

To be built east of the current building, the Technical Center will include classroom and laboratory spaces, each with the latest instructional technology.

The new building will be home for the Medical Laboratory Technician program and a second site for the growing welding program.



The 18,000-sq.-ft. Technical Center will host classes in Fall 2014.

An Occupational Safety and Health training lab is available for the OSH courses being offered in conjunction with Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

The new space at Grayson's South Campus will also provide space for an Electrician's program and a computer lab.

Construction funding is made possible through a \$2 million grant from the Economic Development Administration and matching dollars from Grayson College.

Classes are slated to begin in the new facility in Fall 2014.

Grayson College opened the current South Campus building in May 2004.

In addition to administrative services, students may take academic transfer courses and dual credit offerings for high school students.

The college's Licensed Vocational Nursing program is also at the South Campus.



GC administrators and Board members break ground on the South Campus Technical Center in Van Alstyne.

## Enthusiasm (cont. from p. 5)

**Let your body language do some talking.** Sit up straight. Sit near the edge of the chair with both feet on the floor. Look the manager in the eye. Use facial expressions to emphasize important points.

**Have a reason for wanting to work there.** Visit the company's website for news. Find out who they are, what they do, and why you want to work there.

**Participate in the conversation.** The interview should be a 50/50 conversation. Don't be a motor-mouth that never stops talking, but don't be a zombie either! Listen. Ask questions. Give generous answers.

**Become a storyteller.** The job interview is show time. Answer questions by telling a story and using concrete examples. Don't say you're "flexible"—tell the manager about a change in your job (or school-work demands) and what you did to deal with the change.

If you are planning your transition from student to professional, Grayson College Career Services can help. Assistance is available for resume writing, cover letters, completing job applications, preparing for interviews, job leads and more. Contact Gretchen Huff, 903-415-2544 or [huffg@grayson.edu](mailto:huffg@grayson.edu). The office is located upstairs in the Life Center, Room 204.

Source: *The Job Hunting Handbook, 14<sup>th</sup> Edition* by Harry Dahlstrom

**?** How is College different from High School?

Are you interested in Grayson College's Dual Credit program?

Are you graduating from high school and want to know what to expect in college?

Grayson College is offering informational sessions to answer your questions!

**Saturday, April 13**  
**10:00-12:00**  
 Grayson College, Denison, Texas  
 Center for Workplace Learning  
 Email [recruiting@grayson.edu](mailto:recruiting@grayson.edu)  
 Or call 903-463-2611

*We'd love to have you come see what makes Grayson College so special!*

**GRAYSON COLLEGE**  
 MUSIC DEPARTMENT

**SPRING 2013 CONCERTS and RECITALS**  
 Cruse Stark Auditorium, Grayson College, Main Campus  
 All concerts begin at 7:00 PM

April 20	Symphonic Orchestra Concert: Dr. Fred Freeman, Conductor and Grayson String Instructor
April 23	Grayson College Choir and Voice Studio Recital: Ms. Amye Derix, Choir Director and Voice Instructor
April 25	Sophomore Recital: Misty Hébert, Classical Guitar
April 29	Grayson College Brass, Woodwind, and Percussion Studio Recital: Mr. Jeremiah Stones, Brass Instructor; Ms. Inna Staneva, Woodwind Instructor; Mr. John O'Neal, Percussion Instructor
April 30	Sophomore Recital: Michael Brooks, Jazz Piano
May 3	Grayson College String and Guitar Recital: Dr. Fred Freeman, String Instructor; Dr. David R. Tercero, Guitar Ensemble Director and Guitar Instructor
May 7	Classical Piano Studio Recital: Ms. Tatiana Bays, Classical Piano Instructor
May 10	Sophomore Recital: Timothy Jenkins, Classical Piano

All of the events are free to the public

6101 Grayson Drive (Hwy. 691), Denison, TX 75020

Enjoy gourmet menus  
 ...at budget prices in GC's student-run restaurant.

**Six  
 Ninety-One**

Reservations for Wednesday and Friday lunch service: 903.415.2605

Culinary Arts Building

*Grayson Hair and Nail Salon*

**Tuesday-Thursday**  
 8:30-11 a.m., 1-3:30 p.m., 5:30-8 p.m.  
**Friday** 8:30-12 noon

2nd Tuesday \$2 haircuts and manicures!  
 Wednesdays Senior Citizens Day

**Call: 903.463.8744**

Free X-Rays and Dental Impressions!

Fridays: 8, 9, 10, 11 a.m.

**Call for appt.**  
 Wendy Renfro,  
 Director of Dental Assisting  
 903.415.2529  
[RenfroW@grayson.edu](mailto:RenfroW@grayson.edu)

## The funeral of the River God's son

By Victoria Sicking

Peace Corp Volunteer in Ghana

A river god in the Brongahafo region of Ghana went to a funeral and sent his child to deliver a message to the river god in Assin Anhwiam.

Unfortunately this river god was also gone to a funeral, but the child decided to wait in the river to deliver the message upon his arrival. . .

Sometimes during the dry season villagers find other means of earning extra money since their crops are not producing.

Some choose to do this through a unique method of "fishing." They place a net just upstream in the river and insert a small pump. They pump all the water in that area from the river and quickly pick the tilapia from the mud before more water from upstream covers them again.

On March 5 a few residents of Assin Anhwiam ventured down to the river in the night and did just this.

They repeated the process of picking the fish several times. They caught hundreds of fish.

Upon seeing the catch, those in Anhwiam believed they may have caught all the fish in the river.

Here in Ghana they say we should never call a river small, but this particular river was only about 8 feet wide and a few feet deep.

Things were different this night in other ways as well. During the process of pumping the river, a python leaped out from the water. Thankfully the fishermen were fast enough to kill it before it injured anyone.

However, they were not

frightened by the snake and continued excitedly with their work, but mind you, pythons do not live in water.

Just minutes after killing the python, something enormous appeared upstream.

Upon closer inspection it resembled a mudfish. Its skin was camouflaged, and it had human qualities like ears, breasts, and a belly button.

The animal was so large that it took 8 strong men to carry it into the village. Keep in mind the size of the river; still the villagers were only filled with excitement.

Proud and boasting of their catch, that very night they woke their families, slaughtered the fish, and split a portion of it among them.

In the midst of eating, they were approached by the priest of the river god.

I learned that every village with a river running through it has a priest to communicate with the god of that particular river.

The priest told them they had done something very terrible. Unfortunately because of his known habit of partaking in the local gin, the villagers did not pay attention to him.

The next morning, all those who had consumed parts of the fish had become swollen. If their bodies continued to do so, they would surely die.

They found the river god priest and asked him what to do. He informed them they must sacrifice two fowls.

Upon completion of the ritual, the priest announced that the god was not satisfied and that they must now sacrifice a white cow without any blemish.

They gathered money from the community to purchase the cow and made their sacrifice, but still the god was not

happy.

The priest announced that because this "fish" they ad captured was the only son of that god, he demanded they perform a funeral.

In Ghana, funerals are a very big deal. They begin with a wake-keeping on Friday that lasts until Saturday.

Saturday morning, the body is buried, and then the actual funeral follows. Funerals consist of drinking, dancing, and making donations to the family of the deceased.

So Friday, March 8, Assin Anhwiam cleared the land near the river, rented a P/A system, and started the wake-keeping for the son of the Brongahafo River God.

They dressed the remains of the fish and put it in a coffin. They sang and danced.

Then on Saturday morning, they lowered its remains back into the river to its final resting place.

*Saturday afternoon, a fellow teacher told me this story, and I convinced him to take me to the funeral site.*

*The net was still hanging in the river, and the feathers from the sacrifice still littered the ground.*

*I went to the not-so-big river and looked down in it. The surface was completely still, and the remains of this fish, so large it took 8 men to carry, were nowhere to be found.*

*The residents of Anhwiam are praying that the river god is now satisfied with their actions.*

*I was told the only way we will know for sure is if the rainy season brings about the usual amount of flooding of the river.*

*If the god is not satisfied, it is likely the entire village of Assin Anhwiam will be under water in the coming months.*

## Foundation of success

By Kay Dishner

Asst. Coordinator of the Writing Center



Knowing what to say and how to say it in every encounter of our day is the foundation of our success rate in any of our endeavors.

The basis of knowing instinctively the right words to think and say in the moment is knowledge, understanding and wisdom gained from time spent learning and practicing the skill needed to become wise in what to think, say and do in the time and encounters of our day.

For most of us, the time of our days is spent thinking and saying or doing what our mind tells us to say or do in the course of our work day, our sick day, our bad day or our good day; our success rate in any of it is dependent on our knowledge, understanding and wisdom to think and perform successfully in any of our endeavors.

In other words, we have to learn how to think and perform successfully in anything we want to do in our life, and no one is exempt from the process, not young or old, sharp nor dull, King or pauper; everyone has to learn all they know.

We are not aware of learning, for the most part, during our childhood because our parents and teachers do it for us, as in requiring that we simply do as told with no argument.

For most of us, education begins at six and ends at 18 to 21. Then is when we apply ourselves to learning knowledge to think with in order to produce desired results.

The problem comes in how we choose to apply ourselves to gaining knowledge, understanding and wisdom.

We can only think with what we have learned, and we choose

what we learn to think, say or do.

If we are dreaming of having a good job, a home, a family, a nice car and family vacations, we have to apply ourselves to learning everything we can learn to make us the very best at what we choose as our job in the workplace.

The dream is dependent upon the time and effort we choose to spend every day in learning and preparing to be the best at what we choose to do.

Your life will always be a reflection of what you know and how you choose to use it.

If you choose the path of knowledge to wisdom for your bodily life, your spiritual life and your emotional life, the way will require discipline and time management that will at times be rigid and tiresome, but will always result in a good outcome for the effort used to stay the course when the odds were against you.

If we can learn to take control of our time through discipline and honest commitment, we can begin living in security and peace that comes from "good" success, or success with peace and joy.

Before we can have success in any endeavor, we have to want or desire it enough to do the work it will require.

The time and work required of our mind, body and spirit in order to learn or relearn a skill set is the deciding factor in our commitment to any endeavor.

If we cannot carry out the commitment required, we fail in that endeavor.

So, as a result of failure or fear of failure, we learn to choose carefully how we spend the time of our day and what commitments we can live up to.

It is what you do with the time of your day that decides the life you will live.

If there is discipline and commitment enough to follow through to the end of learning and using a skill set, the peace of knowing will settle down in your life.

There is no security like that of knowing you are prepared with knowledge and skill to do the job ahead of you.

## Poets' Corner

**Editor's note:** The poem below contains words that some readers might find offensive.

Untitled 1

of course i still have it...  
what else would i do but keep it?

im pretty sure we are in the same time zone. always before i go to sleep i read and since i started this i can keep a more regular sleep pattern. i read half the damn novel last night (fathers and sons, turgunev). i try to pull a switch move on my thoughts, replacing all that shit running around in my head with a structured little story. yeah, sometimes it doesnt work right away and i read a page without comprehension because i was thinking of something else the whole time. i wait for a minute then start again.

[the clouds came overhead, the last bit of redish-orange left the sky and i fell asleep to the sound of rain beating down on the tin roof.]

it was raining here too, and i wrote in the first instance of rain in my book, finally. i hadnt written in nearly two weeks, but i did get a lot of music made in that time.

right... my condolences.  
dont forget what i said about keeping your sense of humor. you know shake-speare... all the worlds a stage.  
now playing  
life: a tragic comedy.

a quote from sartre about his love of books...  
"i loved beyond my years as one lives beyond one's means: with zeal, with fatigue, at great cost, for the sake of display."

in the little library in my hometown there was a special room filled with the classics. when i was about seven years old i would ride my bike there and read the books in that room. its funny, i dont have any memory of not understanding these, i think, because i didnt read for understanding. i remember the structure and rhyme of shake-speare...

75 pages into his autobiography i am convinced as kids we would have been bitter enemies. we would have been so much alike and yet fundamentally different. sometimes intent and motivation means more than action.

ive read your letter over and over... it feels like home.  
my memory brings back the tiniest details and the overall picture somehow without recalling many of the actual occurrences -they are strange things,

memory and the moment. i want you to realize you do not need to be fixed. you are not broken; only learning, growing, becoming... but always living, you cant forget the moment.

it washed over like waves  
a gentle wounding of pride  
a short wade in the tide  
its the waiting makes us slaves

speaking of forgiveness, i never thought you in need of it. i felt the opposite in fact.  
my thoughts have haunted me for years; ive a potent memory; curse of a poet.  
...i write letters to photographs, if only to alleviate my mind.

its 4:20am.  
today at the library i looked up from my book and everything more than twenty feet away was blurry. the thought of losing my senses scares me... going deaf most of all. for some reason ive thought about it a lot. out of being able to hear, see, and speak i always thought i could give up my voice the easiest and my hearing the hardest. beethoven's story hits me very personally. now ive gotten back an urge to sing that i used to have when i was younger. i dont know if im any good but it makes me feel good to sing the blues.  
the blurry eyesight today was upsetting; its from reading so much i bet... i laughed at the association of intelligence with glasses because now i realize people who read a lot get fucked up eyes along with the knowledge. but the thought of being deaf scares the shit out of me. it makes me want to cry.

its 5:00am  
i like this concept, that family is war. but in this crusade i feel like don quixote. i like the concept, its a romantic thing but the reality is ugly... like so many things right? no one ever says these things. i day-dream of being the patriarch of a close family; i teach them the things no one taught me; my sons are inseparable; my daughters are always protected.  
i began with proust today.

its 5:40am.  
i came to the beginning of my story. i stopped and wrote in the margin: "the beginning"  
i stopped.  
what follows is swimming in my head.  
im waiting.  
focus.

im reading; when i look up my vision is blurry.  
focus.  
who is that girl? what does she love? what does she fear?  
focus.  
the pen is in my hand. my hands are on my head. she sees me again, like always. what does she fear?  
focus.  
all the books, all the books, all the books are bees. they swarm; they sting.  
what does she love?  
i go back to the middle. i remember the end.  
write the beginning.  
focus.

hiiiiiiiiii,  
i was feeling off today/talkdirtytomebaby/but im better now.  
i need to stop watching the news right now/ iatesomeoftheirbrains/what with all the trauma on there.  
a mixture of sex and violence builds its strength in silence  
i started to write you earlier and if you can imagine i read the paragraph over and deleted it. well... then you would be imagining what happened. yes, off today. im better now i swear im just sleepy. how have you been? i miss you deeply. the weathers been wet lately, soon there will be flowers; the ones that last this time... the eager ones always die from a freeze.

i left some other time in the woods when you and i were children  
that time i left some other child found it and put it in his pocket  
the trees there grew smaller and the fires sucked in smoke  
that time it swallowed his hand his arm and it kept on going  
when i bent my gaze across his face i fell into his expression  
he carried me there on his brow he grew and met a woman  
they sang the story i danced across their harmony into her eyes  
i grow again again the smoke rises and the trees are tall  
im a child playing in the woods putting time in my pocket

its time to go. its been a long slow preparation and now its coming fast. i find myself looking down an aisle of dreams and realizing ive grown enough to reach the top shelf.  
i feel the fear. stay with me, here, in this land of letters.  
i write their story but they are my betters. each of my fragments falls from a pen, grows, becomes, envelops, restores to whole.  
am i too many people?

—Nathan Spurgin

## DAAC's Buzz Killer

(cont. from p. 1)

campus community including those who would be traveling to "party destinations" over Spring Break.

### Critical Signs and Symptoms of Alcohol Poisoning

- Mental confusion, stupor, coma, or person can not be roused
- Vomiting
- Seizures
- Slow breathing (fewer than eight breaths per minute)
- Irregular breathing (10 seconds or more between breaths)
- Hypothermia (low body temperature), bluish skin color, paleness
- Combative behavior

Do not wait for all symptoms to be present.

Be aware that a person who has passed out may die.

If there is any suspicion of an alcohol overdose, call 911 for help.

Don't try to guess the level of drunkenness.

## Enthusiasm: Key to a great job interview

By Gretchen Huff

Job Placement Specialist

Hiring managers agree – enthusiasm separates the winners from the losers. It can be more important than experience.

I once read that an employer said, "I can teach an employee a new job skill, but I can't teach a new attitude." Wow! That's a powerful statement and says it all.

You don't have to be a loud, back-slapping type...just be you. Here are a few ideas that everybody can use to show enthusiasm and a positive attitude during a job interview.

**Plan to arrive 10 minutes early for your interview.** It shows you're excited to be there. Managers will notice.

**Be extra polite and courteous.** Say hello, smile and be friendly to everyone you meet. You can bet the manager will ask what they thought of you, even after you've left the building.

**Offer a professional greeting and a firm handshake.** Stand up straight, look the other person in

## Summer and '13-'14 changes in financial aid

By Jeff Scott  
Financial Aid Counselor

### Financial Aid To-Do List

Register for your Summer classes:  
Complete and submit a 2012-2013 Summer Financial Aid Request form.  
Frequently check your Financial Aid status in Campus Connect.

### Beginning Summer 2013, all awards must be accepted online.

Follow these steps:  
Go to the Grayson Portal and click on Campus Connect.  
Click on the Accept/Decline Financial Aid Awards link.  
Choose the appropriate year; click GO.  
Click on the A (accept) or D (decline) next to all awards you want to accept or decline, scroll to the bottom of the screen, and click GO.  
On the next screen, scroll down, and click GO again.  
Frequently check your Financial Aid status in Campus Connect.

When accepting loans:  
Accept your loan on your Campus Connect.  
Go to [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov) and e-sign a Master Promissory Note (MPN) and complete your entrance counseling.  
Frequently check your Financial Aid in your Campus Connect.

### Applying for 2013-2014:

File your 2013-2014 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).  
Frequently check your Financial Aid status in Campus Connect for any notifications.  
Accept/Decline your 2013-2014 Financial Aid awards in Campus Connect.  
Frequently check your Financial Aid status in your Campus Connect.

If you are required to submit verification documentation:  
Submit the required documentation as soon as possible.  
Students must request the 2013-2014 Verification Worksheet from the Office of Financial Aid.  
In most cases you are required to submit your IRS Tax Return Transcript.  
Accept/Decline your 2014-2014 Financial Aid awards in Campus Connect.  
Frequently check your Financial Aid status in your Campus Connect.

the eyes, smile and extend a firm handshake, and say, "Mr. Smith, thank you so much for taking the time to interview me for your (job title) position."

**Show some curiosity.** Ask for a tour of the workplace. Ask questions about the things you see.

**Have a sense of humor.** We are drawn to happy, optimistic, humorous people. When appropriate, offer a clever quip or one-liner. Keep it short, positive and upbeat.

**Think, "Can do."** If a manager says you don't have a certain skill or enough experience, don't just shrug your shoulders. Most managers want to see whether you'll fight for what you want or just give up. So, tell the manager that you're a quick learner, a hard worker and that you always deliver more than what's expected.

Cont. on p. 3 "Enthusiasm"



**Career Connections Career Fair**  
*Thursday, April 4, 2013*

Upstairs in the Grayson College Life Center  
April 4, 2013, 10am-2pm.

For more information: contact Gretchen Huff,  
Job Placement Specialist, 903-415-2544 or [huffg@grayson.edu](mailto:huffg@grayson.edu)

**College Police**  
903.463.8777

Check out  
**Career Coach**

<https://grayson.emsicareercoach.com/>

The GC  
**Writing Center**

We're here to help!

**Hours**  
Monday – Thursday  
8:00 am – 8:00 pm  
Friday 8:00 am – 2:00 pm

Library • 1<sup>st</sup> Floor • Room 110  
To schedule an appointment with a facilitator call 903-415-2541

Receive assistance with writing assignments across the curriculum

**Personal counseling**  
**Grayson Counseling Center 903.463.8730**

**Math Hub Schedule**  
Mon.-Thurs. 8 a.m.-8 p.m.  
Fri. 8 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Sat. 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

**Room 113 Success Center**  
Dayna Ford, Coordinator

**Writing Center**

Mon.-Thurs. 8 a.m.-8 p.m.  
Fri. 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

Bring a copy of your assignment so the tutor can help you better!

**Room 110 Library**  
Kay Dishner, Asst. Coordinator

**Need a job?  
Need an employee?**

[www.collegecentral.com/grayson](http://www.collegecentral.com/grayson)

**Grayson College Career Services**

Assistance is available for:  
resume writing, cover letters, completing job applications, interview preparation, developing job search strategies & more!

*Preparation can make the difference  
in YOU getting the job!*

For an appointment, contact Gretchen Huff,  
Job Placement Specialist, [huffg@grayson.edu](mailto:huffg@grayson.edu) (903) 415-2544.  
The office is located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Life Center, Room 204.

## Body modification: not just for “rebels” anymore

By Brigette Cantwell, Justin Feaster, Chad Jones, Rachel Ross, Craig Spears, Heriberto Ruiz, Ben Goodwin, Julian Jonsy, Jeff Epley, Aaron Alexander, Arika Agee

In our culture today, people have learned to use many techniques to express themselves. A good example of this is how individuals use clothes, music, and even the people we call “friends.”

In America, the rate of getting a tattoo or piercing is increasing as we speak. According to *statisticbrain.com*, twenty-four percent of Americans between eighteen and fifty are tattooed; that is almost one out of every four people.

Billions of dollars are spent in the United States on tattoos.

Around fifty years ago, the majority of people who had tattoos were in the military. Today, people get a tattoo for almost anything, such as when they lose a loved one or when they have a baby.

Some people say that they feel adventurous and do not really have a specific reason for getting their tattoo. For many people, tattoos make them feel different or unique.

Others say tattooing is art. In a very popular quote that many repeat daily, there was a young man who said, “Your body’s an empty canvas, so you almost want to continue to add to it.”

Tattoos have a long history and are topics of such things as possible medical issues and the appropriateness of having tattoos in the workplace.

Believe it or not, some scientists say that certain marks on the skin of what they call The Iceman, a mummified human body dating from about 3300 B.C., are tattoos. If this is true, these markings represent the earliest known evidence of tattooing.

Tattoos found on Egyptian and Nubian mummies date all the way back from 2000 B.C., and classical authors mention the use of tattoos in connection with Greeks and ancient Germans. Tattooing has been around for thousands of years.

During the early 1900’s it was known that anyone with a tattoo was either a person on drugs, someone with a cocky attitude, foul manner, vulgar language or people serving in the navy.

In the 1850’s, tattoos were used as the bastion of many carnival freak shows. People would flock to circuses to see the Amazing Tattooed Lady.

Throughout the 1950’s and 1970’s, tattoos were still looked down upon, but became very popular in rebel biker gangs, with criminals, and with the mentally ill.

In our culture now, millions of people have tattoos, including celebrities such as Angelina Jolie and Kat Von D.

People who are opposed to tattooing cite the perceived elevated health risks as a deterrent. Tattooing requires that the skin be punctured, and in doing so, leaves the recipient open to some health risks. The majority of these risks are very small, but must be acknowledged.

The most commonly associated risks are allergic reactions, skin infections, granulomas, and keloids. The most serious risks are associated with blood-borne diseases.

These risk factors can be easily minimized or treated with medications.

Prior to getting a tattoo, people should know the answers to a few simple questions to ensure their own safety. Who is doing the tattooing? Go to a reputable tattooing studio, and make sure that the artist is properly trained and licensed.

Does the artist wear gloves? Make sure that the artist washes his or her hands and puts on clean gloves.

Is the artist using the proper equipment? Make sure that any equipment that will come in contact with the skin is removed from sealed packages before the procedure begins.

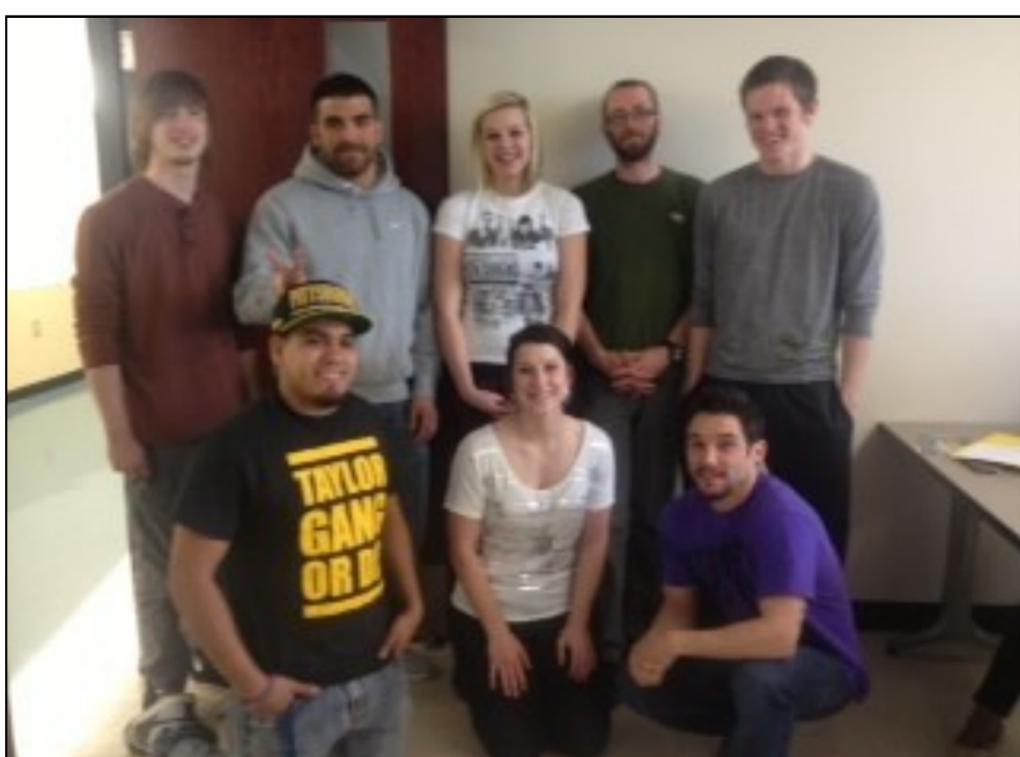
Ensure that all non-disposable equipment is sterilized between customers. There are also a set of rules that customers should follow after being tattooed to minimize the chance of infection.

If any of these questions can be answered “no,” people may be putting themselves at risk.

Treatments range from over-the-counter ointments to long-term medical visits for infections. Some diagnosed cases have required medical treatment lasting six months or longer.

If an infection occurs, healthcare providers may prescribe antibiotic treatment, which in itself may cause nausea or gastrointestinal problems.

Tattoo removal is also an option available to people having issues with tattoos. The



Left to right: Ben Goodwin, Aaron Alexander, Brigette Cantwell, Justin Feaster, Craig Spears, Heriberto Ruiz, and Rachel Ross, and Julian Jonsy investigate the significance of tattoos in our culture today.

removal of tattoos can be a long, painful, and expensive process.

There are several options available for tattoo removal, but the most popular and least invasive is laser removal. This process is completed in a single or series of visits.

The process requires the layers of skin with the ink in them to be burnt off. This process does not guarantee complete removal of the tattoo, however.

Another factor to consider with tattoos and piercings are their effect in the workplace. Some companies do not have policies against such things while others still maintain a strict set of rules.

Many businesses have become more casual with not just their dress code, but also with allowing their employees to have pierced ears, lips, eyebrows, and even nose piercings.

Tattoos have become more common in most work environments as well, to the point where some employees do not have to hide any body work that is visible on them at all.

Certain employers may have their workers wear long sleeves if there are tattoos that extend below their shoulders, but that is becoming increasingly rare.

There are even instances where employees may only have to wear a wristband just large enough to cover a small-

er tattoo that is somewhere on their arm or wrist.

However, there are still businesses that remain strict on their policies of having tattoos or piercings.

Piercings are harder to cover up than tattoos, and employees may have to take them out completely while they are “on the clock.”

If someone has a tattoo that extends down his or her arm and the dress code still does not cover it, that person is likely not to be employed at certain companies despite having the knowledge and experience required for the position available.

These scenarios are much rarer today because tattoos and piercings are more common now than they were decades ago. Also, there is feeling of misguided discrimination toward individuals who have all the requirements for employment at businesses or retailers.

Many feel that simply because one is pierced or tattooed does not mean that person is less qualified to do the task assigned for the position than someone who has no tattoos or piercings.

That is not to say people who are tattooed would get the job because they might otherwise be discriminated against. However, the employer sees past what the individual has inked or pierced on them and is looking solely for someone who is best for the job.

It all basically comes

down to who is the most qualified, despite age, sex, race, tattooed, not tattooed, or any other form of discrimination that would disqualify a person from getting a job.

Many younger people are trying to come to terms with self-identity and trying to define who they are early in their life. It is usually around the same time they can legally get a tattoo or piercing.

The problem with this, however, is that most people at age eighteen have no idea who they are and even still, do not yet know where to start looking.

When people encounter this dilemma, they think they need to find some way to set themselves apart from the crowd.

One option for the younger generation is to get a unique tattoo or to get more and more piercings. To some people this is a great way to express themselves, but sometimes it can have a lasting detrimental effect.



www.yurablog.com

## Cultural diversity (cont. from p. 3)

After passing through the huge American-movie-like security, the future student sits in a big waiting room with people attempting to get the same visa for the fourth time in a year.

Once an embassy official is ready to meet, the applicant's documents will be verified.

The goal for the US gov-

ernment is not to get more permanent residents, so the officials will want to make sure that the student plans to go back to their country once their education is completed. Whether it is the truth or not, people need to at least say it.

The officials will give their response immediately. If it is positive, the student will have to pay a \$75 fee, but the

hardest part is already done.

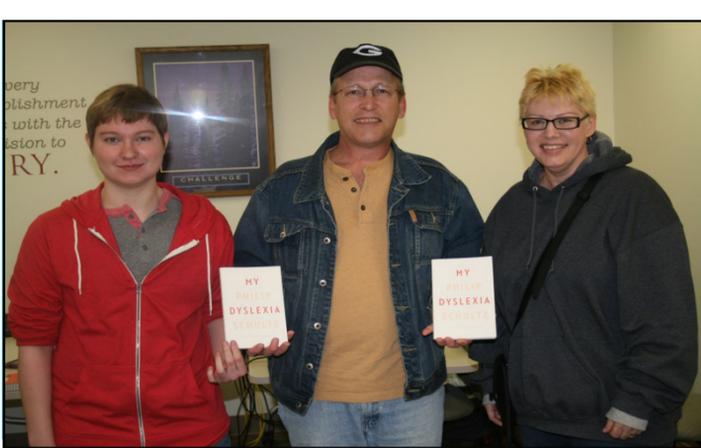
This process can be extremely laborious.

Still, there are about 700,000 international students in the US, contributing more than \$20 billion to its economy, and more than 20,000 students will try and get a visa for the love of cultural and intellectual exchange this year.



Newmastertattoos.blogspot.com

## Students attend author lecture at Collin College



Writers Unlimited students Emily Flanders, David Harmon, Jennifer Martz hold Philip Schultz' My Dyslexia, which the author lectured on March 5 at Collin College.

## Students attend Power of a Healthy Woman Conference at TWU March 2



Left to right are Honors College students Demarcus Grant, Ashley Snow, and Jamarce Palmer. Also present but not shown are Laura McMeley, Sara Perry, and Claudia Noriega

## Honors Sections Fall 2013

Engl 1301.HRS	Comp 1 Honors	McBee	LA203	TR 9:30-10:45 a.m.
Engl 2332.HRS	World Lit Honors	Sorenson	LA209	TR 8-9:15 a.m.
Govt 2305.HRS	Fed. Govt. Honors	Linder	LA110	MWF 10-10:50 a.m.
Hist 1301.HRS	US History Honors	Kumler	LA107	MWF 9-9:50 a.m.
Hist 2321.HRS	World Civ Honors	Machen	LA103	MW 1-1:50 p.m.
Psyc 2301.HRS	Gen Psyc Honors	Thompson	CIS103	MW 11-12:15 p.m.
Geol 1405.HRS	Environmental Geo	Lynn	Lect	T 11-12:15 p.m.
	Environ. Geo Lab	Lynn	Lab	R 11-1:50 p.m.