



## UWG THEATER STUDENT KALLIE YENNEY DIRECTS HER SECOND PLAY

**BRITTANY MERSFELDER**

*Editor-in-Chief*

“The Arts make a bridge across this world in ways nothing else can.” A famous quote from Julie Andrews. Kallie Yanney, 22, is building her bridge into the seat of a director for the second time in her college career. She will be graduating in December of 2023.

Yenney has been acting since high school and was in “Heathers” and the “Veri\*-zon show” here at University of West Georgia. She has participated in the Fringe festival play called “Destinations and Tableaus.”

“With acting, you have freedom of one character to discover who that is while also making the director’s vision come to life,” said Yenney. “With directing you are focusing on each character to tell a story as well as every aspect of the theater; the lights, the sound, the set; directors have to have hands in each aspect.”

Yenney is a senior Theater major in our School of Arts and Humanities. She has big aspirations for herself when she graduates next year.

“I want to gain an internship or an apprenticeship in a different state after graduation,” said Yenney. “It would be wonderful to be in the mountains while working side-by-side with another director. I plan to act on the side as well.”

The play that Yenney will be directing is called a cabaret. This type of play involves both combinations of scenes and songs.

“I am partnering with the opera class



Image Courtesy of UWG Theater Company

to create the Cabaret,” said Yenney. “Dr. Neely is helping assemble the songs for the Cabaret. Dr. Neely, Amy Cuomo and I will choose the scenes and create a theme for the play.”

For the Fall semester, a popular comedy show called “The Play That Goes Wrong” will begin showing Sept. 28. This play encompasses Murphy’s law and brings it to life.

“If it can go wrong, it will,” said Yenney.

For a more dramatic option, the company will be putting on “Fahrenheit 451.” This is directed by Shelly Elmen. It is a thought provoking show that will have you on the edge of your seat.

In the Spring, the company will be putting on “Into the Continuum.” This play will be directed by Johnathan Kit.

“It is a beautiful piece,” said Yenney.

Yenney’s Episodes will be showing in March at the Townsend Center after the completion of “Into the Continuum.”

Auditions for “Cabaret” will begin at the end of November and early December. If you are interested in auditioning for any of the shows, the days for auditions will be uploaded on the UWG Theater website.

“For any upcoming directors or actors, always take advice and not criticism. The criticism will tear you down,” said Yenney. “Don’t be afraid to try new things and be open to the possibilities.”

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## STOLEN SONG PROMPTS COLLABORATED REMIX BETWEEN UWG STUDENTS JAY PRUITT AND COLIN CHAMBERS FOR NEW ALBUM “PAINTED”

**JANNETTE EMMERICK**

*Feature Editor*

UWG undergraduate and music artist Jay Pruitt released the album “Painted” on all major streaming platforms after copyright struggles and with help of another artist who remixed the stolen song “Pain.”

Over the summer, Pruitt prepared to release a new album titled “Painted” onto streaming platforms. Out of the eight original songs featured in the album, the fourth track titled “Pain” received a copyright strike which led to the discovery that someone had stolen and uploaded his song as their own before the album’s debut.

“The album was supposed to be released on Aug. 1, shortly before the release date, my distributor sent me an email back saying they could not release my album because of copyright infringement,” Pruitt says. “The original version of ‘Pain’ was stolen by another UWG student.”

During the initial stages of creating the music tracks, Pruitt had shared



Image Courtesy of Jay Pruitt

“Pain” with his friends for feedback. One of those listeners shared the song with the student who ended up uploading the track and obtaining the copyright to “Pain” despite not creating the song.

“When they released [the song before the debut], the platform automatically grants them a license to the track which is a legal document,” says Pruitt. “So they ‘legally’ stole my song.”

Copyrights play an important role in protecting the intellectual property of creators, especially in the digital landscape but the system is not foolproof as exhibited through rampant art theft.

Regardless of the situation, Pruitt still wanted to release the album while dealing with the copyright legalities. Pruitt met UWG student and fellow music artist Colin Chambers, under the pseudonym Lin Vale, through mutual friends associated with UWG’s eSports community.

“That same day [the song was found stolen], I met Lin Vale.

He remixed my song for me,” says Pruitt. “Lin Vale saved my album.”

Chambers currently attends UWG as a Management Information Systems (MIS) student at Richard’s College of Business and produces Electronic Dance Music (EDM) as a hobby.

“I want to do more collaborations with him if he wants,” says Pruitt. “I know that it was definitely a challenge because I didn’t give him the individual files, only two instrumental files (.wav), instead of stem files which are for each individual instrument. He did an amazing job.”

“Painted” features eight original songs and one cover song of Lana Del Ray’s “Thunder.” Pruitt also released the original version of “Pain” as a single separate from the album now that the stolen song has been taken down.

“I wrote lyrics to my song ‘Satellite Dreaming’ and just when I thought ‘I have a new single,’ but then more inspiration came and I wrote three more songs,” says Pruitt. “Then I kept writing more.”

The album incorporates alternative sounds and deals with themes of domestic violence and healing after trauma which ties into the title song “Painted.”

“When everyone thinks of Van Gogh, they mostly think of his beautiful painting ‘Starry Night,’ but what they don’t see are all the depressing and sad paintings that he’s created,” says Pruitt. “So ‘Painted’ is actually in reference to bruises.”

Despite difficulties present in both personal and occupational spheres, community, adaptability and creativity prove to be invaluable necessities to keep persevering.

Pruitt and Lin Vale can be followed on Instagram at @officialjay-pruitt and @linvale\_edm respectively.

# LIVING WEST

## THE BANDANA PROJECT



### THE UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA INTRODUCES A NEW STUDENT ORGANIZATION: THE BANDANA PROJECT

**SAMIRA BARNETT**  
*Contributing Writer*

The Bandana Project is a national organization designed to spread awareness on mental health and suicide prevention. Kendal Sparks founded the UWG chapter after her own personal experience. As a current college student who struggled with mental health, it led to an awakening of how important mental health is not only as an individual alone, but for the community as well.

“Starting The Bandana Project was an effort of mine to break the social stigmas pertaining to mental health,” said Sparks. “My goal is for students to be informed and aware of the resources available to us as students on campus.”

The goal of this movement is to provide a community for students who struggle with mental health. The organization is operated by students, making it different from other mental health organizations on campus. Members of the organization will sign a waiver and have a green bandana tied

Image Courtesy of The Bandana Project

to their backpack. This bandana will symbolize that they are safe to approach and willing to support or help anyone who is struggling with mental health.

Some of the partners include the Suicide Prevention Hotline, the UWG Counseling Center, University Police Department, Tanner Medical, Health and Community Wellness Department, Willowbrooke Psychiatric Center and Piedmont Healthcare.

“The campus partners will be included on our resource cards,” said Sparks. “These will be carried by each member with a green bandana on their backpack, ready to distribute.”

The Bandana Project is an all-inclusive organization. To join the organization, there is a semesterly \$30 due. The dues are required to help fund events and members receive a t-shirt.

“Each event will be very interactive, very intimate and a safe space whether in Love Val-

ley or a classroom,” said Sparks.

Each month there will be three events including the general body meeting for members, the member social and a community service project. The purpose of the member social is to network with individuals around campus and to connect with existing members. This movement is all about having fun whether on or off campus while making a difference.

The first member social will take place Aug. 27, at noon, just before the start of suicide prevention month in September.

“We want all of our members committed to not only help themselves but those around us,” said Sparks. “Community is so important, especially as college students who often feel alone and not heard.”

“As the first official active season this semester, we want to get the word out on this beautiful movement,” said Sparks. “Our mind is our greatest weapon, it’s a powerful tool we can’t function without.”

### UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA HOUSING AND RESIDENCE LIFE EXPERIENCING WIDESPREAD AIR CONDITIONING ISSUES

**ANNA ROBERTS**  
*Contributing Writer*

As students return to campus from a long summer break, UWG Housing and Residence Life (HRL) provides little to no reprieve from the heat. The air conditioning units for the residence halls across campus are malfunctioning and forcing students to turn to store bought fans, portable air conditioners and even room changes.

The Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) systems in Bowdon, The Oaks, and Centerpoint Suites all have several units that provide air conditioning for the entire building. When one unit needs repair, it can affect multiple dorm rooms in the building.

“It’s been more annoying

than anything,” said Village resident Taelyn Bates. “It was working fine all year. Then after the 4th of July, I came back and it was extremely hot. In Georgia, in the summer, you need air conditioning.”

In The Village and Arbor View, the microchips inside of the units that read the temperature around the thermostat are malfunctioning causing the rooms to be extremely hot.

“Every time [maintenance] comes to look at it they tell me that these units were built wrong and that the temperature reader should have been placed in our rooms,” said Bates. “That still doesn’t fix my problem of it being hot in my room but freezing in other areas of the house. I had to purchase my own fan from Walmart just to get some sort of airflow.”

Many maintenance request forms are being submitted, there is nothing they can do because of global chip shortages.

es. The hallway sensors wrongly indicate that they have regulated the temperature and stop pushing air through the rooms.

Residents pay on average \$3,200 a semester to live on campus residence halls and this is a major issue regarding their comfortability. Students have reported that their maintenance requests go days without hearing a response.

HRL has contacted the manufacturer of the HVAC systems and the manufacturer has sent a team to HRL. Additionally, HRL has purchased over 80 portable AC units so that when systems are down, residents still have working air and are offering room changes to residents who want them.

Students’ frustrations grow as they wonder if they will continue having similar issues through the winter. The University of West Georgia Housing and Residence Life released no further comment at this time.



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# FOOD & HEALTH

## WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE SUWANEE TASTE OF BBQ FESTIVAL

**BRIANNA WELCH**  
*Contributing Writer*

Suwanee Town Center is hosting Project Green’s fundraiser the Taste of BBQ Festival on Oct. 8 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. to sponsor children whose parents are unable to afford summer camp. All of Project Green’s profit from this event will be used to help sponsor these kids to The Back to Basics Summer Camp for Kids. This family friendly event hosts live music, fun activities and delicious foods for guests to feast on.

“The best way for us to be able to raise more money is via the sales of the sampling tickets,” said Patrycja Siewert-Towns, the coordinator of the non-profit event Suwanee Taste of BBQ and is the founder of the nonprofit Project Green.

There will be live music by local artists and an artist market. Additionally, the city of Suwanee will



Image Courtesy of Patrycja Siewert-Towns

have a farmer’s market operating at 10:30 a.m and will run through the afternoon.

“We also have a huge kid’s zone with bounce houses, little trains for children, little play areas, basketball,” said Siewert-Towns. “It’s definitely a family friendly event. You could make a whole day out of it.”

Entrance to the event and parking is free. Food sampling tickets cost \$1 and can be purchased from Project Green. The vendors will have full plates for purchase at their regular prices.

“If they’re not there for the BBQ, donate \$5 and

if you’re there for the BBQ, please buy the sampling tickets.” said Siewert-Towns.

While the BBQ companies’ menus are a mystery at the moment, Siewert-Towns says to expect brisket, pulled pork, ribs, stew, corn, potato salad and many other classic dishes that are typically served at BBQs.

“Black Tie BBQ is very good,” said Siewert-Towns. She also claims that Smoking Girls BBQ is another delicious establishment to check out.

“We want everybody to be able to enjoy it even if you’re not going to come and buy any BBQ,” said Siewert-Towns.

## CHIP’S BURGER BAR RESTAURANT REVIEW

**DOUGLAS SALTER**  
*Contributing Writer*

Carrollton Square now hosts a spot to relax and have a great burger while supporting a locally owned business. At Chip’s Burger Bar, Adamsons Square’s newest addition, patrons can enjoy burgers, milkshakes and premium cocktails close to home.

The atmosphere of the restaurant is lively with two floors which offer different experiences. There are neon lights hanging throughout the restaurant and there is a beautiful wall of artificial turf on display.

The upstairs portion features a late night atmosphere with a full bar, games and couches. There’s a large neon sign displaying Chip’s logo. Overall, Chip’s is a great place

for everyone to hangout at after a long day of work or school.

I began my meal with an appetizer of fried pickles with Chip’s sauce. The pickles came out very fresh with a unique sweet taste from the well-seasoned pickle. The Chip’s sauce itself is sweet and spicy. The sauce had an impactful blend that combined well with the original taste of the pickles.

I selected the signature “Chip’s Burger” for my main course. The Chip’s Burger has cheddar cheese, a fried egg, green onions, lettuce, tomato, topped with more fried pickles and chips sauce. As good as the fried pickles were by themselves, they were even better on the cheeseburger. The fried egg is a unique item to put on a burger but balanced well with the burger for a big surprise of good flavor.

The sandwich came with a side of fries and a

choice of sauce. I couldn’t resist getting the Chip’s sauce and had to order more. The fries were golden and crispy with incredibly salty flavor with a pinch of sweetness from the potato itself to tie everything all together.

Last but not least: dessert. I ordered a classic vanilla milkshake. The milkshake was creamy and sweet. It was one of the best milkshakes I have ever had.

In review, if the food was average to above average, I would probably not come back. However, the food and service were great. Price wise, it would cost on average \$10 to \$20 per person, not including gratuity.

It has been said by the locals that this spot could be seen as having a locally owned version of Five Guys in our town. Overall, I give Chip’s Burger Bar a 9/10 and will certainly be coming back for more.

ENTERTAINMENT



**HOT GIRL  
MEG IS  
BACK AT IT  
AGAIN**

**ALANNA KING**  
*News Editor*

Photo courtesy of AP Newsroom

Megan Thee Stallion is ending this summer on a sizzling note with her album “Traumazine.” The rap star has been making music since 2016 and her 2019 project “Fever” earned her a place in the game. Her latest release, “Traumazine,” features legendary artists such as Future and Key Glock along with Murda Beatz on production. The hour-long album gives fans everything they expect from Meg: aggressive lyrics and heart-hitting beats lie side by side with seductive love songs. Pride is always a theme in Megan’s work and she doesn’t shy away from it in “Traumazine.” Her intro track, “NDA,” hits the ground running with her notable intense lyrics and a beat to match. She talks about her superiority to others in the industry. She mirrors this in “Not Nice,” where she denies plastic surgery claims and refuses to back down and play the nice girl. She talks about the racism in the music industry, saying, “I guess my skin not light enough, my dialect not white enough.” “Gift & a Curse” is more than just a power twerk

anthem. She addresses current political turmoil rapping, “my mother\*\*\*\*ing body, my choice,” to let her audience know exactly where she stands. “Pressurelicious” features long-standing rap legend Future but otherwise the song doesn’t add much to “Traumazine.” The track repeats similar lyrics and beats as her other songs on “Traumazine” and past projects. “Ungrateful,” which features Key Glock, leaves a similar taste in my mouth but can be redeemed by its smooth rhythm. “Who Me,” featuring Pooh Shiesty also falls into the dud category for this album, with the feature artist taking up most of the song and doesn’t give Megan’s audience what they’re looking for. On the flip side, Megan explored new sounds on “Traumazine,” with spacey “Star” being the most genre-bending on the album. The track features alternative R&B’s Lucky Daye, who offers melody, singy lyrics and a groovy beat. This feature was unexpected but not unappreciated. Megan also gives fans a possible Halloween anthem with fellow female rapper Rico Nasty on “Scary.” This

track comes complete with theremin elements and horror movie references throughout. This interesting addition to Traumazine could pop up soon with the upcoming fall season. In songs “Her” and “Sweetest Pie” featuring Dua Lipa, Megan gets housey with the soft, poppy touch her audience wants. Of course, Megan can’t resist a good seductive track. “Red Wine” proves that she can be gangster and sexy at the same time, and “Consistency” pairs Megan’s sexually charged lyrics with Jhene Aiko’s notable softness. On “Anxiety,” Megan lets down her guard, rapping, “Excuse me while I get into my feelings for a second, usually I keep it down, but today I gotta tell it.” The artist talks about her struggles with her mental health and the pressures of the industry. On “Flip Flop,” she opens up about dealing with the death of her parents. While the album contains some classic, albeit overdone, Megan Thee Stallion features, she also steps away to explore new avenues, which I applaud. Hot Girl Meg has proven that she will not back down and she’s not done yet.