

TEMPLE TIMES

www.temple.edu/newsroom

August 28, 2009

Vol. 40, No. 1

New cultural passport program debuts

PEX passport gets freshmen into dozens of Philly arts, culture venues

By Hillel J. Hoffman
hjh@temple.edu

One of Philadelphia's top draws as a college town is the city's world-class arts and culture scene. Yet for many students, tickets for concerts and museums can be too expensive — especially during a recession.

A new Temple program for entering freshmen aims to fix that by offering freshmen free or steeply discounted access to a breathtaking range of arts and culture destinations in the region. Starting this fall, Temple's General



Ryan S. Brandenburg/Temple University

The Philadelphia Experience Passport (PEX) offers freshmen free or reduced rate entry to 37 Philadelphia-area museums, theater companies, concert venues, dance studios and more.

Education program will provide every Temple freshman a 2009-10 Philadelphia Experience Passport — also known as a PEX Passport — containing coupons for free or significantly reduced entry to 37 different museums, theater

companies, concert venues, dance studios, an independent film festival, the zoo, an historic home and more (for a complete list, see "An arts and culture menu for any taste" on page 4). The coupons in each PEX Passport represent

a potential total savings of more than \$450, including free entry at more than half of the participating destinations.

Although some other universities have similar programs, GenEd Director Terry Halbert says Temple's cultural passport stands out for the breadth of its offerings and its integration into the university's undergraduate curriculum.

"Philadelphia's cultural landscape has been burgeoning," Halbert said. "The PEX Passport gives you bite size chunks of all flavors — not just mainstream, established organizations like the Philadelphia Museum of Art or the Philadelphia Orchestra, but smaller, emerging, alternative groups like Theater Exile or Pasion y Arte, a Flamenco dance

Passport continued on page 4

Thousands join the 'Fight for the Cherry and White'

State budget uncertainty continues

By Ray Betzner
ray.betzner@temple.edu

In an unprecedented display of support, more than 8,500 students, alumni, employees, parents and friends have so far joined the effort to back the Pennsylvania Commonwealth appropriation for Temple by calling or emailing their state representatives and signing an on-line petition.

The public campaign is a key factor in securing the \$175 million Commonwealth appropriation as part of a final state budget for the current fiscal year. The appropriation is a significant part of the university's \$793 million operating budget.

"The Temple University community has rallied to support our students and higher education in the Commonwealth," said Ken Lawrence Jr., senior vice president for government, community and public affairs. "As a state-related university, Temple plays a vital role in educating Pennsylvania residents at a world-class research university at an affordable price."

Temple's supporters, who have not yet done so, can help make sure the university remains a priority for lawmakers by signing the petition, "Join the Fight for the Cherry and White" at <http://www.thepetitionsite.com/3/join-the-fight-for-the-cherry-and-the-white>.

The public effort to save Temple's \$175 million Commonwealth appropriation was just the latest in a series of actions involving the state budget in the last several months.

A prolonged state budget process

In his original proposal from last February, Gov. Ed Rendell proposed that Temple would receive about \$175 million for the 2009-10 fiscal year. But declining state tax revenues fueled by a deepening national recession have delayed the passage of the state budget which was due on June 30. This delay has caused uncertainty for a host of entities including Temple.

As tax revenues continued to fall,

Budget continued on page 2

Class of 2013 breaks GPA, SAT records

Most qualified class in Temple history arrives

By Hillel J. Hoffman
hjh@temple.edu

One hundred and twenty-five years after Russell H. Conwell taught his first class of seven students, the university he founded is welcoming nearly 7,000 new undergraduates — more than 4,100 freshmen and about 2,800 transfers — for the 2009-10 academic year.

Temple's Class of 2013 is the most highly qualified cohort in the university's history. The freshman class's estimated average SAT score of 1109 is two points higher than last year's all-time high, an estimated 93 points higher than the national average and 115 points higher than the Pennsylvania average. The class's high school grade-point average, 3.40, is also a Temple record, as is the number of freshman enrolled in the Honors Program, 435. The Honors Program freshman average GPA (3.85) and SAT score (1333) are also new highs.

About 40 percent of new freshmen and transfers identified themselves as either students of color or "other."

The conclusion of another extraordinarily busy enrollment cycle confirmed that, in the world of undergraduate admissions, Temple is still as hot as August. The university received 18,573 completed freshman applications, a shade less than last year's record high and 50 percent more than the university received as recently as 2000. More than 32,500 prospective



Ryan S. Brandenburg/Temple University

A vibrant Philadelphia arts scene was critical to freshman Owen Pelesh's decision to attend Temple. Pelesh already is in rehearsals for Temple Theatres production of Sweet Charity.

students and their families visited Temple's Main Campus in 2008, another all-time high.

Although the combination of an ongoing recession and Temple's value for the dollar contributed to a slight increase in in-state freshman enrollment (an estimated 75 percent of freshmen and transfers are Pennsylvania residents, up 1 percent from last year), most first-year students chose Temple for other reasons — usually after making a visit.

"My original plan for college visits was to see where I was accepted and then decide after visiting the campuses," said Naveed Khoshnood, a freshman from New Haven, Conn., enrolled in the College of Liberal

Arts. "By luck of the draw, I went to Temple's Accepted Students Day first, and its combination of a beautiful campus along with such a lively city hooked me in. Upon returning home I paid my deposits immediately, I knew I wanted to be an Owl."

For Angel Santiago, a freshman from Morrisville, Pa., in the Fox School of Business, brand-new, state-of-the-art facilities and advanced technology were a major draw.

"I didn't know what to expect when I visited Temple on Experience Temple Day in the spring, but I remember seeing the new Fox School of Business building, Alter Hall," Santiago said. "It was amazing to see the big stock ticker the high-tech classrooms where they

can stream every class."

Temple's and Philadelphia's strengths in the arts were critical factors for Owen Pelesh, a freshman from Media, Pa.

"I was targeting schools in cities that had a lot of exciting things going on in the arts," said Pelesh, who has already successfully auditioned for the first Temple Theatres production of the season, *Sweet Charity*. "Because I'm a theater major, I wanted to be somewhere where I could make connections. Temple's professors, such as Peter Reynolds, are all professionally connected in Philadelphia theater. After graduating, having connections may give me a leg up. In theater, half of it is who you know." ♦

New academic center focuses on diversity research

By Lisa Z. Meritz

lisa.meritz@temple.edu

Provost Lisa Staiano-Coico has announced a new Academic Center on Research in Diversity (ACCORD), which will facilitate intercultural dialogue, strategies and initiatives to address gaps in achievement — in the greater society and in higher education — related to race, gender, class, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, religion and other forms of distinction.

“Temple is committed to its continuing evolution as a community of inclusive excellence, open to high achievement for people of all backgrounds,” said Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Lisa Staiano-Coico. “Diversity at all levels enriches faculty, students and staff and creates more ‘Opportunities for Success’ — a key strategic initiative in our Academic Compass.”

In addition to achievement in higher education, the center will also focus on unearthing barriers and establishing bridges to breaking down socioeconomic stratification



Williams

and on identifying ties between biodiversity and the quality of life.

The Faculty Senate Committee on the Status of Faculty of Color initiated and developed the center. The committee, which includes Karen Turner, Faculty Senate president and associate professor of journalism; John Street, former mayor and adjunct associate professor of political science; Jackie Tanaka, associate professor of biology;



Amey-Taylor

Kimmika Williams Witherspoon, associate professor of theater; and chair Roland Williams, Jr., who is now the director of the center, will continue its involvement.

Williams, an associate professor of English whose expertise is on black images in literature and film, says that diversity is not just about color. “We’re concerned about all forms of distinction and how they affect achievement. Disputes about women

in science and gays in the military will concern the center as much as blacks in NASCAR,” he said.

Distilling the center’s *raison d’être*, he added, “Look what diversity has done for the Phillies. A great mix of people makes a great team.”

In running the center, Williams will be joined by Marie Amey-Taylor, recently promoted to assistant vice president, who will serve as the center’s associate director. Amey-Taylor brings to ACCORD more than 25 years of experience, designing and delivering diversity training and programming at Temple and throughout the world.

“I am excited by the challenge and opportunity to enhance Temple’s diversity mission and to support its desire to be the model — the gold standard — for applied diversity research projects and programs that capitalize on the university’s diverse faculty, students and staff,” said Amey-Taylor.

The center will lead research efforts examining such issues as “stereotype threat” in the classroom and “implicit bias” in both the classroom

and the workplace. Other initiatives will include theatrical workshops, student excursions, staff retreats and service to area youths. All the initiatives promote what Williams calls “meaningful contact,” because “face-to-face, differences vanish,” he said. In one such project this fall, ACCORD will host an undergraduate forum, “Our Changing Complexion and the Future We Face,” which will bring students together to talk about U.S. Census Bureau projections that estimate that citizens of color will make up most of the nation in the next generation. The forum aims to draw students out of their “comfort zones” and lead them to new ones.

Another fall initiative, a graduate symposium, seeks to boost Future Faculty Fellowships, scholarships that will help Temple develop more pipelines for recruiting outstanding and diverse graduate students.

“The center is a good fit for Temple,” said Williams, “because the university has kept its doors open to the world filling it with diversity and making it a ready laboratory for learning to deal with difference.” ♦

Changes made to TU shuttle system

In an effort to cut costs and promote sustainability, Temple has discontinued shuttle service from Main Campus to Temple Center City and the School of Podiatric Medicine, as well as late night and weekend shuttle service between the Main and Ambler campuses.

With the elimination of the Main Campus to TUCC to the TUSPM route, a special shuttle bus for TUSPM students taking courses at the Health Sciences Center will operate during the fall semester. Director of Facilities Management Tom DiNardo said students, faculty and staff needing to go to Center City have access to alternate transportation such as SEPTA’s C Bus and Broad Street Subway Line.

The Ambler-Main Campus shuttle will continue to operate between 7 a.m. and midnight on Monday through Thursday. On Fridays, the last shuttle from Ambler to Main Campus will depart at 4 p.m., while the last shuttle from Main Campus to Ambler leaves at 6:30 p.m.

DiNardo said that Temple will continue its popular OWLoop shuttle service around the Main Campus, as well as the TUr Door service, which began last spring. TUr Door, which operates daily between 5:30 p.m. and 6 a.m., will take students from the main shuttle terminal at 12th and Berks Sts. directly to their door if they live within the area bounded by Cumberland Street on the north, Girard Avenue on the south, 5th Street on the east and 20th Street on the west.

For more information on Temple shuttle service, visit the web at <http://www.temple.edu/facilities/shuttles.html>.

— Preston M. Moretz

State budget uncertainty continues

Budget continued from page 1

Rendell came back in June and said he would shave 13 percent off state-related schools’ appropriations in his proposed budget which the legislature must approve. That would have amounted to a loss of about \$21 million for Temple. In June, the governor also announced that he would not include the state-related universities in the Commonwealth’s application for federal stimulus dollars.

President Ann Weaver Hart, along with leaders from other state-related schools and local elected officials, appealed the governor’s decision to the federal Department of Education, which ruled that state-related schools are public and should be included in the stimulus plan.

August brought with it more budget talks in Harrisburg, but greater uncertainty for Temple and its students. There was an effort to defeat the bill that contained Temple’s entire \$175 million Commonwealth appropriation. The vote was delayed twice in the House of Representatives. The Temple community responded with a rousing display of support by calling

and e-mailing their legislators. The bill was approved on second consideration, but the state budget overall has yet to be resolved.

Also in August, word came that because of the budget stalemate, there was no state money to cover Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) grants at Temple or any school in the state. After reviewing the PHEAA situation, Temple announced that it would honor PHEAA grants for the fall.

Temple’s concern for students and families

Meanwhile, Temple’s Board of Trustees was also responding to the recession. Recognizing the slowing economy was having an impact on students and families, Temple’s trustees in April agreed to an historic budget for the 2009-10 fiscal year. That budget featured a \$40 million reduction in operating costs, a 2.9 percent increase in tuition (the lowest in 13 years), and a commitment to pump \$21 million into financial aid over three years.

Near the end of July, Temple’s leadership was faced with a dilemma: the university needed to post bills for the coming school year, but without

“Our strongest and best advocates are the people who have experienced and benefitted from a Temple education and can share their experiences with legislators.”

Ken Lawrence Jr.
Senior Vice President
for Government, Community
and Public Affairs

a state budget resolution, it was unclear whether tuition rates could be maintained. In the end, trustees decided to stick with the 2.9 percent increase, but warned they might have to revisit the issue depending on the state budget outcome.

“We believe this is in the best interests of our students and their families, many of whom are facing extremely tough economic circumstances,” said President Hart.

The trustee’s decision meant Temple’s tuition increase remains among the lowest of public schools in Pennsylvania, with the University of Pittsburgh at 2.9 percent and the State

System of Higher Education schools at 3.7 percent. The Pennsylvania State University announced an increase ranging from 3.7 to 4.5 percent depending on campus location and residency status.

Staying involved, making a difference

As budget negotiations continue in Harrisburg in late August, Temple leaders say it is important to remain vigilant and advocate for the university.

“Our strongest and best advocates are the people who have experienced and benefitted from a Temple education and can share their experiences with legislators,” said Lawrence. “I urge everyone to show their support for Temple University by signing the petition and spreading the word to friends and family.”

Information on the budget and its impact on Temple is posted to a new webpage, the Temple Public Policy Update, at <http://www.temple.edu/newsroom/TUGovtAffairs>. Instant updates on the Commonwealth appropriation and other legislative issues are also available via Twitter at <http://twitter.com/TUGovtAffairs>. ♦

TEMPLE TIMES

August 28, 2009

Vol. 40, No. 1

Senior Vice President:
Kenneth Lawrence

**Assistant Vice President
for Communications:**

Ray Betzner
rbetzner@temple.edu

Director, News Communications:

Eryn Jelesiewicz
eryn.dobeck@temple.edu

Internal Communications Mgr.:

Vaughn Shinkus
vaughn.shinkus@temple.edu

Editorial Assistant:

Kyle Bagenstose

Contributing Writers:

Jazmyn Burton
jazmyn.burton@temple.edu

Megan Chiplock
chiplock@temple.edu

Denise Clay
denise.clay@temple.edu

Renee Cree
renee.cree@temple.edu

James Duffy
james.duffy@temple.edu

Kim Fischer
kim.fischer@temple.edu

Hillel J. Hoffmann
hillel.hoffmann@temple.edu

Preston M. Moretz
preston.moretz@temple.edu

Contributing Photographers:

Joseph V. Labolito
joseph.labolito@temple.edu

Ryan S. Brandenburg
ryan.brandenburg@temple.edu

Betsy Manning
betsy.manning@temple.edu

Design/Production
Alexia Schmidt



The *Temple Times* is published bimonthly by University Communications during the academic year.

Submit news to vaughn.shinkus@temple.edu and calendar items, at least two weeks in advance, to TUCalendar at <http://calendar.temple.edu>.

For a complete beat list, visit www.temple.edu/newsroom/contactus.htm.

1601 N. Broad St.
301 University Services Building
Temple ZIP #083-43
Philadelphia, PA 19122
Phone: 215-204-8963
Fax: 215-204-4403

Wolgin arts prize finalists announced

Tyler competition is the world's largest juried individual fine art prize

The Tyler School of Art has announced the three finalists in the inaugural Jack Wolgin International Competition in the Fine Arts, which will award its recipient a prize of \$150,000, the world's largest given to a visual artist in a juried competition. The finalists, chosen from a panel of nominees by three distinguished jurors, are **Sanford Biggers**, **Michael Rakowitz**, and **Ryan Trecartin**, all of whom will present works in an exhibition to be featured at Temple Gallery from Oct. 1 through 31.

The jurors were **Melissa Chiu**, director of the Asia Society, New York, **Paolo Colombo**, art advisor to the Istanbul Museum of Modern Art and Managing Director of Dorje Film, Rome, and **Ingrid Schaffner**, senior curator at the Institute for Contemporary Art, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia. The recipient of the inaugural Jack Wolgin Fine Arts Prize will be announced at a reception at Temple Gallery in Tyler School's new 234,000-square-foot facility on Thursday, Oct. 22.

"We are delighted to welcome the finalists of the first Jack Wolgin Competition to Temple University's Tyler School of Art. Mr. Wolgin is an inspirational leader and patron of the arts, and this new prize will perpetuate his tremendous legacy," said Temple President Ann Weaver Hart. "We are confident that the Wolgin Prize will soon rank among the most distinguished fine arts honors in the world. By bringing the work of these great artists to Temple

About the Finalists

Sanford Biggers is a native of Los Angeles, California, and current New York resident, who uses the study of ethnological objects, popular icons, and the Dadaist tradition to explore cultural and creative syncretism, art history, and politics. An accomplished musician, Biggers often incorporates performative elements into his sculptures and installations, resulting in multilayered works that act as anecdotal vignettes, at once full of wit and clear formal intent. Biggers has won several awards and has participated in a number of prestigious national and international artist residencies and fellowships.

Based in Chicago and New York, **Michael Rakowitz's** art practice is characterized by its exploration of and symbolic interventions with problematic urban situations, as well as endeavors to make visible other urgent moments of silence, invisibility, and marginality. In 1998, he initiated paraSITE, an ongoing project in which the artist custom builds inflatable shelters for homeless people that attach to the exterior outtake vents of a building's heating, ventilation, or air conditioning system. Other recent

University, we hope the Wolgin Competition will open productive new dialogue among students, the people of Philadelphia and the international art world."

Prior to the prize reception, the three finalists will take part in a two-day artist-in-residence program, interacting with the students across disciplines at Temple, and on Oct. 23, a day after the prize reception, the recipient will present a lecture



Courtesy of Michael Rakowitz and Lombard-Freid Projects

Above: "The Invisible Enemy Should Not Exist (Recovered, Missing, Stolen Series)" by Michael Rakowitz (2007). Top right: "Cheshire" by Sanford Biggers (2009).

projects include the public work, Return, presented by Creative Time in New York, and The invisible enemy should not exist. His work has been exhibited in venues worldwide.

Ryan Trecartin lives and works in Philadelphia, PA, where he structures his art practice in varying collaborative ways. Trecartin has established a singular video practice that, in both form and in function, advances understandings of post-millennial technology, narrative

and identity, and also propels these matters as expressive mediums.

His work depicts worlds where consumer culture is amplified and absorbed to absurd or nihilistic proportions where characters circuitously strive to find agency and meaning in their lives. In addition to his work in video, Trecartin



Courtesy of Sanford Biggers



Courtesy of Ryan Trecartin and Elizabeth Dee

Left: "Re'Search Wait'S (Edit 1: Missing Re'Search Corruption Budget)" by Ryan Trecartin (2009)

also has a collaborative sculpture practice with artist Lizzie Fitch.

For more information on the Jack Wolgin International Competition in the Fine Arts and this year's finalists, visit www.temple.edu/tyler/wolginprize.

images, and whose work transcends traditional boundaries. Inspired by the diversity of Temple University and its unique connection to the thriving art communities of Philadelphia, Mr. Wolgin chose the Tyler School to host and administer the competition.

Considered for the Jack Wolgin Competition were artists from around the world, working in painting, sculpture, drawing, printmaking, photography, ceramics,

metals, glass, and fibers, all forms of media that correlate to the diverse curriculum available at the Tyler School. Nominees were selected by a group of nine prominent international art world figures from museums and educational organizations, representing the range of media eligible for consideration. The 14 nominees were then invited to submit an application, which was reviewed by the three-person jury. ♦

Pink dandelions and other summer pursuits

Creation of unique weed one of several student projects

By Jazmyn Burton
jburton@temple.edu

She tried everything from food coloring and magenta fabric dye to ammonia and mercuric acid. Days of experimenting left her fingers stained with pink poster paint, but

she kept trying. There were some roadblocks along the way, but on July 30, Nicole Wilson, a sculpture major in the Tyler School of Art, posted a special message on her blog: "I am happy to say that I have made a pink dandelion."

Conceived by Wilson and funded by a \$3,000 grant from Temple's Creative Arts, Research and Scholarship program, the Pink Dandelion Project sought to transform something that is commonly regarded as ugly into a beautiful work of art. The initiative was one of several student research and field projects undertaken this summer and tracked by visitors to the Temple University Newsroom website. Temple graduate and undergraduate students from all disciplines used the summer as an opportunity to advance their studies. (See "Summer was no vacation for many TU students," right.)

More artistic than scientific,

Wilson's dandelion project was ultimately exhibited in the Crane Arts Gallery in north Philadelphia.

"Normally dandelions are passed off, discarded, and treated as pests, although they have really great qualities. As with many things, their presence is devalued," Wilson said. "To make a pink dandelion would make the overlooked extraordinary. The creation of a pink dandelion is a very elegant and romantic image, however at the same time in its creation (there is) some sense of absurdity."

In addition to pondering ideas on what makes art beautiful, Wilson's experiment included attempts to genetically modify a dandelion that could produce pink offspring.

Unfortunately, the pink dandelion's lifespan was short and it's no longer living. But Wilson still regards the project as a success.

"The dandelion wasn't genetically modified so it won't reproduce a new breed of dandelions as I had hoped, but I can't think of a better way for the project to have ended," said Wilson. "I'm really happy with how the project evolved. It took on a life of its own and the general public became very interested and supportive of my work." ♦

Temple sculpture major Nicole Wilson's "Pink Dandelion Project" was one of many student summer projects.

Summer was no vacation for many TU students

For many Temple students, there was no rest over the summer months. Instead, it was high time to get a real taste of the working world, delve deeply into scientific research and pursue ambitions and dreams. Students' summer activities ranged from swimming the English Channel, to observing endangered wildlife and studying local waterways. Here are just a few examples:

Trista Felty, a fourth-year dental student, swam across the English Channel with friends Tori DeLollo and Kiersten Rosenberg in late June. It was a labor of love honoring Lauren Schulman, their friend who was recently diagnosed with MS. The foursome's 21-mile journey raised funds to support MS research, an idea borne of the hopelessness they all felt when they first learned of Lauren's diagnosis.

The Temple Community Garden, a new student organization, worked to raise funds and awareness of its main project: a charity vegetable garden on main campus at 11th and Berks Streets. Using salvaged material to build a raised garden, the group worked to complete construction by the end of August and have vegetables planted for a formal opening ceremony in September.

Tony Croasdale loves nature, but especially birds. In the interest of preserving good habitats for wildlife Croasdale conducted field work for the University of Alaska, Fairbanks. Based at a remote field camp in Minto Flats Alaska, just west of Fairbanks, he assisted a PhD student on a study of the affect of avian influenza on the fitness of ducks.

Allison Fang, a graduate student in earth and environmental science in Temple's College of Science and Technology, worked under Professor Laura Toran to study Crabby Creek, a rerouted stream in Valley Forge, Pa. The researchers were specifically looking at the exchange between groundwater and surface water as a result of varying sediments in the stream.

Variety of Welcome Week festivities kicks off the 2009-10 academic year

Each year, the Office of Student Activities rolls out the “cherry” carpet for new students during its Welcome Week festivities. This year is no different, as dozens of fun and unique events are scheduled to take place from Thursday, Aug. 27 to Sunday, Aug. 30.

On Thursday night, students are invited to “choose their own adventure” and meet their new classmates at the Student Center from 8-11 p.m. Each room will feature a different activity, and there will be free food and giveaways. Movie lovers can make their way to the Student Center Cinema for a free screening of “Star Trek” at 10 p.m.

The festivities continue on Friday as Temple Fest takes over Liacouras Walk and Berks Mall from 1-5 p.m. Temple Fest provides students with a chance to get the information

they need to know from student organizations, campus departments such as Student Financial Services and Diamond Dollars and local businesses such as PNC Bank and the bookstore.

Friday night provides several opportunities for the newest Owls to have some fun. First, hypnotist Dan “The Sandman” Sanders will put Temple students under his spell at the Student Pavilion at 9 p.m. Then, students can head over to nearby McGonigle Hall for the annual dance party from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

As upperclassmen begin to move back on Saturday, Welcome Week continues by offering students the chance to beautify their new Philadelphia home. The third annual “FreshServe” community service event will begin at Geasey Field at 1 p.m. and will provide students with

the tools and motivation to wash, sweep and paint local neighborhoods while meeting their new neighbors. At night, students are invited to see a free concert as Keri Hilson and The Dream take the stage in McGonigle at 10 p.m.

On Sunday, the final day of festivities, students can explore campus with a scavenger hunt from 12-2 p.m. and then meet fellow members of the class of 2013 at University Convocation at the Liacouras Center at 3:45. Finally, Welcome Week puts the cherry on top of the first weekend of the semester with a 100-foot banana split at 7 p.m. in Mitten hall.

These are just some of the many events planned for Welcome Week 2009. For a full list and more information, visit www.temple.edu/welcome.

— Kyle Bagenstose

Football season kicks off with inaugural Mayor’s Cup

While the first week of September marks the start of the new semester, it’s also the kick-off for the 2009 Temple football season. The team has been enduring sweltering practices in the summer heat in preparation for the season opener against city rival Villanova on Thursday, Sept. 3 at Lincoln Financial Field. The 7 p.m. matchup is the inaugural game of the “Mayor’s Cup,” a newly formed annual match-up between the two Big 5 schools that is stirring up quite a buzz.

Villanova provides a great first test for the team, as the Wildcats are ranked among the top ten division I-AA teams in several preseason polls. Villanova holds a slight edge in the all time

football series with Temple, 15-12-2, and also won the last game in the series 23-20, in 2003.

Fourth-year Temple head coach Al Golden has been busy promoting the intriguing match-up. On August 19, Golden was joined by Villanova head coach Andy Talley on Fox 29’s “Good Day Live” to promote the game, followed by a press conference at Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter’s office where the trophy for the Mayor’s Cup was revealed. Later that evening, Golden threw out the first pitch in front of a sold-out Phillies game crowd at Citizen’s Bank Ballpark.


The Owls seek to build off of last

season’s five-win campaign that saw them finish second in the Mid-American Conference’s east division and fall a win shy of bowl eligibility. The season was Temple’s best in 18 years, and the Owls return 21 starters and 49 letter winners from that squad.

The potential of this year’s team is not going unnoticed. ESPN picked Al Golden to be the MAC coach of the year, and Temple to be the surprise team of the year. *Sports Illustrated* predicted an International Bowl appearance with the University of Pittsburgh.

Individual game tickets, which start at just \$15, will be available via the Lincoln Financial Field Box Office and Ticketmaster at 215-336-2000

Dance dialogue



Ryan S. Brandenburg/Temple University

Boyer College of Music and Dance students Judibeth Contreras (above) and Lindsay Howard (left), both of whom choreographed and performed their own dances at the fall 2008 Student Dance Concert.

From the Bhangra and Jhoomar dance performed in India to the traditional dances of western Africa to American style Krumping and hip-hop, dance forms convey the story of a culture.

To create a cross-cultural dialogue through movement and music, the Boyer College of Music and Dance will present their annual Global Dance, an informal exchange of dance and music traditions from across the world.

The program allows new and returning students to share ethnic and cultural experience through dance forms and music that reflect their background.

When: Friday, Sept. 4 at 7:30 p.m.
Where: Conwell Dance Theater
Admission: if free, no tickets required

— Jazmyn Burton

Cultural passport is the freshman ticket

Passport continued from page 1

company. No matter how students choose to wet their feet, this is a great way to explore the city and begin a life-long exploration of art and culture.”

Halbert says the PEX passport is a natural extension of GenEd’s Philadelphia Experience theme. About half of Temple’s GenEd courses include out-of-the-classroom experiences in Greater Philadelphia.

“Our GenEd faculty have learned about these destinations and are embedding them in their work,” Halbert said. To help Temple instructors incorporate the passport into their courses, the GenEd program is running a series of workshops led by Philadelphia arts and culture expert Kenneth Finkel, an American studies faculty member who has taught several GenEd courses, and Deborah Block, director, performer and founder of the Philadelphia Fringe Festival — a PEX passport participant. The next workshop is Tuesday, Aug. 25, in room 111 of the TECH Center from 1 to 3 p.m.

About half of Temple’s entering freshmen will have received their PEX passport at orientation.

Freshmen who do not receive a passport at orientation can claim one at the information desk in the Howard Gittis Student Center by showing their OWLcard (limit of one per student).

To use the PEX passport, Halbert recommends starting by visiting the Temple GenEd web site at www.temple.edu/gened and clicking on the passport image. Visitors will find an interactive map of arts and culture destinations, descriptions of participating organizations and information on public transit. To gain admission at a participating destination, students simply show their passport and their OWLcard, after which a coupon stub will be torn from the passport. Each coupon can only be used once.

The PEX passport is valid for one year, starting on Sept. 1, 2009 — a date that can’t come soon enough for the delighted students who’ve received passports so far.

“I wanted to go to school in a city that had a lot going on in the arts,” said Owen Pelesh, a freshman in the School of Communications and Theater. “The edgier stuff is exciting. I’ll get to experience some cool things that I’ve never even heard of before. I’m going to go to

An arts and culture menu for any taste

Temple’s new Philadelphia Experience (or PEX) Passport program will get freshmen in for free or at steeply discounted prices at the following arts and culture destinations throughout the region in 2009-10. For more information on each outlet, including coupon conditions, visit www.temple.edu/gened and click on the PEX Passport image.

Academy of Natural Sciences
 African American Museum of Philadelphia
 Arden Theatre Company
 Azuka Theatre
 Ballet X
 Barnes Foundation
 Bartram’s Garden
 ComedySportz Improv
 Curtis Institute of Music
 1812 Productions
 Eastern State Penitentiary
 Fairmount Waterworks
 First Person Arts
 Flashpoint Theatre
 Franklin Institute
 Independence National Historical Park
 Independence Seaport Museum
 Institute of Contemporary Art

InterAct Theatre
 International House
 Kun-Yang Lin Dance
 Lantern Theater
 Mauckingbird Theatre Company
 Miro Dance Theatre
 National Museum of American Jewish History
 Painted Bride
 Pasion y Arte Flamenco Dance
 Pennsylvania Ballet
 Philadelphia Museum of Art
 Philadelphia Fringe Festival
 Philadelphia Art Alliance
 Philadelphia Orchestra
 Philadelphia Shakespeare Company
 Philadelphia Zoo
 Rosenbach Museum and Library
 Theatre Exile
 Wagner Free Institute of Science

every one of the places that’s in [the PEX passport].”

That’s good news for Philadelphia’s arts and culture outlets, many of whom are eager to build new audiences.

“What’s great about this program is it gives students a chance to try

something new at low risk that will resonate with them for the rest of their lives,” said Tobin Rothlein, producing artistic director of Miro Dance Theatre, a PEX Passport participant. “That’s important to us, because we want audiences who are passionate.”

◆

Comprehensive TU calendar goes exclusively online

Due to space and resource considerations, the *Temple Times* will no longer carry a printed listing of calendar items. A comprehensive, up-to-date calendar is published online on the TUcalendar at <http://calendar.temple.edu>.

Submissions

Events selected to be featured in the *Temple Times* and highlighted in the Temple Today email, the TUportal, RSS feeds and selected temple.edu web pages are derived from the TU calendar. To ensure your event is considered, submit your event using a single on-line form at <http://calendar.temple.edu>.

To be included in the TUcalendar, events must be open, at minimum, to all students, all faculty or all staff, and must be directly sponsored by a Temple academic or administrative unit. Invitation-only events will not be included. To ensure that your events are posted on time, please submit as early as possible prior to the date of your event.

Questions?

Contact the calendar editor at tucalendar@temple.edu.