

PIONEER

THEATER OF THE
OPPRESSED PHOTOS
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"13 Reasons Why" Author Dropped From OKC Event, Organizers Cite Sexual Harassment Claims

A PIONEER EXCLUSIVE

BY NATALIE NELL, Pioneer Staff Writer

Jay Asher, the author of the young adult novel "Thirteen Reasons Why," won't be speaking in Oklahoma City, after all. Officials at the Oklahoma Writers Federation said Asher's invitation to speak at the group's May conference was rescinded after the organization learned of allegations of sexual harassment against the author.

"Mr. Asher has denied the accusations, but in the end understood our decision to go in a different direction," said Jennifer McMurray, OWF publicity director.

Asher's book, "Thirteen Reasons Why" is a number one New York Times and international bestseller. Last year, the book was turned into a hit Netflix series. The story is about a teenage girl who committed suicide and a classmate who mysteriously receives tape recordings by the girl that explain her reasons for taking her own life.

Asher, in an interview with BuzzFeed News, said he didn't think people would believe him. "It's very scary when you know people are just not going to believe you once you open your mouth," he said.

Asher had also been expelled from the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators. Lin Oliver, the SCBWI executive director, said Asher violated the organization's harassment code.

The Associated Press reported Oliver wrote in an email the claims were investigated, and Asher was no longer a member and will not appear at any future SCBWI events.

However, Tamara Taylor, a spokesperson for Asher, said Asher was never expelled from the SCBWI, but left voluntarily.

Asher told BuzzFeed News he understood the situation the SCBWI was in and that they had to protect themselves, but he was "harassed by these people" for almost ten years and "couldn't take it anymore."

Deadline.com provided Taylor's full statement: "In April 2017, Mr. Asher voluntarily agreed that he would no longer attend SCBWI conferences. This was in response to hurt feelings of a group of authors with whom he had



consensual relationships that ended poorly."

Taylor said the authors were female co-workers of his, and they each chose "voluntarily" to enter in romantic relationships, including some "pursuing" him.

"Mr. Asher was married at the time of these relationships, as were many of the women. He is deeply sorry for the pain these alleged 'consensual decisions' caused his family, and others."

Taylor also stated Asher has taken legal action and demanded Oliver and the SCBWI remove their "false" statements.

Dana Tuley-Williams, system librarian at the Keith Leftwich Memorial Library at Oklahoma City Community College, said that as librarians, they evaluate books for their quality as an academic resource, and an author's personal actions doesn't really affect the accessibility of the book.

Williams said there was one situation more than ten years ago where an author wrote a

memoir and made up large portions of the story.

"He was exposed as a fraud and there was a lot of uproar about it," she said.

James Frey wrote "A Million Little Pieces," which detailed "his" recovery of being an alcoholic and a drug addict. It was a pick on Oprah Winfrey's Book Club.

"What some libraries did was move his book from the biography section to the fiction section," she said.

That's the only situation Williams can recall where a library took action based on negative actions of an author.

"I've worked here 17 years and we've never had an incident like [Asher's]. But the James Frey book I think we did end up moving it to fiction. If we begin scrutinizing the personal lives of authors, we're going to be very unhappy," she said. "Many of the great authors were not good people."

"Thirteen Reason Why" checked out 21 times the last five years at OCCC, which according to Williams, is a lot for an academic library. "Thirteen Reasons Why" is available in three formats: ebook, audio and print.

"It's been checked out enough that I'd like to look at the condition of it. Generally after 21 uses it gets pretty worn out," she said.

Williams says the young adult genre is very popular at the Leftwich library, and that many people don't know that it carries best-sellers or "pleasure reading" books.

"We'll base our purchases on book reviews, popularity, and of course curriculum, because it's the priority for the college," she said.

Currently, one of the most popular books at the Leftwich library is "Killers of the Flower Moon" by David Grann. It's a non-fiction book about the Osage Indian murders in North Eastern Oklahoma that took place about one hundred years ago.

Williams said anytime a movie comes out that's based on a book, they become very popular at the library. "We're not just academic stuff here, we have our ebooks and our print books," she said.

Editorial/Opinion

OPINION | DREAMERS DESERVE THEIR CHANCE



The Dreamers Deserve the Chance to Stay

America is a nation founded by immigrants, but today we are becoming a country which no longer accepts the huddled masses of the poor.

The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services recently removed part of its motto which said “a nation of immigrants” without explanation.

It's not a surprising move after the Trump Administration pushed for \$18 billion to build a strong border wall on the Mexican frontier, and to deport more illegal immigrants. Many of which were documented until the removal of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals.

Andrew R Arthur, a representative of the Center for Immigration Studies said, "That the 'son of an immigrant' is the director of USCIS should be unexceptional to those who understand that this is a 'nation of immigrants.' Logically, a circumstance under which the 'son of an immigrant' is director of the agency charged with adjudicating the vast majority of immigration benefits of the United States just reinforces the fact that we are 'a nation of immigrants,' doesn't it?"

I believe it does.

How ironic is it that we learn the history of pilgrims, European settlers, and imperialists such as Christopher Columbus: Yet today we are closing our doors to people who want the same opportunities as their predecessors.

It's quite clear President Trump has a bias towards white immigrants. Ac-

cording to CNN, “Trump began to ask why we want people from Haiti and more Africans in the US and added that the US should get more people from countries like Norway.”

He's left thousands of people from Salvador, Haiti, and other impoverished, or as he said, "shithole" countries to fend for themselves.

The Pew Research Center found, “current DACA recipients come from around the world, but more than nine-in-ten were born in Latin America.” Almost 80 percent of which are Mexican.

Of all those affected by the administration's contempt of immigrants, those whose place in America should go unquestioned, are the DACA recipients.

The almost 700,000 children brought to the United States who kept their end of the deal to stay in school or work, and keep out of trouble, have been left in an undecided mess. After the DACA case was not heard in the Supreme Court.

CNN reported, “A federal judge in California ruled Monday that the government can’t revoke DACA recipients’ work permits or other protections without giving them notice and a chance to defend themselves.”

Within these conditions, there are people who argue DACA recipients take positions in schools and work reserved for ‘real Americans,’ which is why some push for a border wall. However, National Public Radio wrote in a ‘Fact Check’ article that DACA recipients are not taking jobs. “On a large scale or in the long run, there is no reason

to think DACA recipients have a major deleterious effect on American workers' employment chances. What's more, some economists believe DACA is actually a boost to the economy," NPR said.

We can argue about the ethics surrounding illegal immigration, but I'm sure no matter what political affiliation you belong to we can agree: Children have little choice in what happens in their lives, especially children from underdeveloped countries.

Dreamers have lived in the United States for the required time to be citizens, and most have lived here since they were infants, yet we're going to allow them to face deportation? America is all they know. They paid for their college legally, and worked here legally to help build not only their lives, but also the American economy.

After six months of failed legislation to keep or remove DACA, Dreamers are still waiting to see if their lives will suddenly be taken away due to the lack of diligence in congress.

We need to call, fax, or text our senators. Text 50409 to ask them to create a clean Dream Act so these Americans don't lose everything they've worked for. We can also share fundraisers to help those facing deportation raise money for lawyers.

I believe in Dreamers who want to stay in this country because they are Americans. They deserve their place here, no matter how they recieved it.

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Opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the PIONEER, the college or the publisher.

The PIONEER welcomes letters to the editor and encourages the use of this publication as a community forum.

All letters must include the author's name, address, phone number and signature.

E-mail letters should include all but the signature. The PIONEER will withhold the

author's name if the request is made in writing.

The PIONEER reserves the right to edit all letters and submissions for length, libel and obscenity.

Letters should be no more than 250 words. Students must list a major. OCCC staff and faculty must list a work title.

Letters to the editor can be submitted to the PIONEER office, located in room 1F2 on the first floor of the Art and Humanities Building, mailed to 7777 S May Ave., Oklahoma City, Okla. 73159, or submitted via e-mail to editor@occc.edu with a phone number for verification included.

The PIONEER ONLINE also can be accessed at <http://pioneer.occc.edu>.

Celebrating Women's History Month

Nelly Bly: Trailblazing Investigative Reporter



BY JENNA LOWRANCE
Pioneer Staff Writer

On May 5, 1864 in the town of Cochran's Mills, Pennsylvania, Nelly Bly was born Elizabeth Jane Cochran. At the early age of six, Cochran suffered a tragic loss: her father died suddenly. Three years after her father's death, Cochran's mother, Mary Jane, remarried. However, her mother's new relationship was abusive and resulted in a divorce.

The National Women's History Museum said, "due to family financial crisis Cochran was unable to continue in attending Indiana Normal, her hopes in becoming a teacher were crushed and in 1880 Cochran's family moved to Pittsburgh where Cochran assisted her mother with duties in running a boarding house."

According to the website, Nellie Bly Online, in January of 1885, Cochran read an editorial in the Pittsburgh Dispatch that admonished women for attempting an education or career, and suggested women should stray no further than the home. This article infuriated Cochran to the point she felt the need to write a reply.

At the time, George Madden was editor at the Pittsburgh Dispatch. Madden was impressed by Cochran's reply. He offered the opportunity to write a rebuttal piece to be published. Cochran accepted the chance and further impressed Madden. Madden published her article titled, "The Girl Puzzle," and offered her a full-time job as a columnist under the name Nellie Bly.

Instead of writing articles about gardening, fashion, or society like other female journalists usually wrote about, Bly wrote hard-hitting stories about the poor and oppressed. Some of her articles covered the lives of poor women who worked in Pittsburgh's bottle factories or the inherent disadvantages women had in divorce proceedings. During her six-month trip to Mexico she wrote about her travels and how President Porfirio Diaz imprisoned a journalist for criticizing the government.

After Bly's return from Mexico, she moved to New York City in hopes of landing a job at a major newspaper, but found that as a woman getting the job was hard. After four months of rejection she managed to talk her way into John Cockerill's office, the managing editor of the New York World.

An article titled "Daring Dames" notes that "the editor of New York World challenged Bly to investigate one of New York's most notorious mental hospitals, Blackwell's Island. Bly pretended to be a mental patient, was committed and lived in the facility for 10 days to accurately expose the conditions at the asylum."

"What a difficult task, I thought, to appear before a crowd of people and convince them that I was insane. I had never been near insane persons before in my life, and had not the faintest idea of what their actions were like," Bly wrote in her book, "Ten Days in a Mad-house."

Despite Bly's concern about her abilities, her story was a huge success. The story resulted in significant changes in New York City's Department of Public Charities and Corrections. The website biography.

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Reviews/Opinion



"Black Panther" Offers A Unique Look At African History, Culture

BY KARALEE LANGFORD, Pioneer Staff Writer

On the 16 of February, a Friday night, Marvel's "Black Panther" would be making its debut to the public. I had taken my seat 30 minutes before the show actually started, placing myself in the middle of a relatively empty theater.

As the lights dimmed and the movie screen lit up, an excited energy filled the air. I realized how quickly the theater had filled up with people anxious to experience the journey "Black Panther" would take us on.

Annoyed as I was at the person who was sitting next to me, obnoxiously chowing down on a bag of popcorn, I could not help but immediately be thrown into the story. The characters quickly revealed themselves. From the opening backstory to the first shot of kids playing a game of basketball, as the viewer, I was completely hooked. I wanted to know more about Wakanda and the five tribes that protect it.

About seven minutes into the movie we meet the Black Panther, prince of Wakanda T'Challa, played by actor Chadwick Boseman. From the very start, it was remarkably noticeable this character had a mind of his own and a heart even bigger, which immediately connected with the viewers.

Throughout the story T'Challa battles for his life, the lives of his family, and the existence of the Wakanda nation. To most, the African nation of Wakanda is a poor and desolate place. However, hidden from sight and guarded by the five tribes lies the true source of Wakanda's power, vibranium.

As the story unfolds, King T'Challa partners with his trusted General, Okoye (Danai Gurira), his tech savvy sister Shuri (Letitia Wright), and his ex-girlfriend Nakia (Lupita Nyong'o) who is one of Wakanda's best operatives. They are working to capture the notorious arms dealer Ulysses Klaue (Andy Serkis), who stole a portion of Wakanda's most precious vibranium.

The movie takes on the stereotypical role of the hero's journey. T'Challa is forced into a situation that he didn't ask for, he makes unlikely allies along the way, Everett K. Ross (Martin Freeman), who help him navigate the task at hand. There is the hero's downfall when we saw T'Challa being pushed beyond his limits.

But a moment of victory when he finds that inner strength and rises above.

T'Challa is both mentally and physically challenged, pushing his limits and discovering just

where his loyalty lies.

There is plenty of action and adventure throughout the film. Director Ryan Coogler helped co-write the film with Joe Robert Cole exceeding expectations in adapting the iconic comic book into a film.

Along with Hannah Beachler's astonishing production design and Ruth Carter's lavish costume choices, the film is rooted in African history.

Yet, somehow the story also takes on a more modern theme creating a symmetrical film dynamic.

Ideas of self-government, colonialism, and the dispersing of a people from their original homeland are threaded throughout the production.

In turn, setting the film apart from the prototypical superhero tale.

Because of the film's many motifs a sense of urgency and purposeful actions control the center of the plot. This creates a platform for which the viewer can relate and connect with each character, adding more depth to the film as a whole.

Ryan Coogler wasted no time in creating an infrastructure for the viewer to feed off of.

Combining ancient African history and culture yet constructed in contemporary film linguistics,

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Black Panther Soundtrack is Moving, Popular

BY THOMAS MASSENAT, Pioneer Staff Writer

When the accompaniment album for Marvel's "Black Panther" was released, it beat "The Greatest Showman Soundtrack," becoming the best selling record in America, according to Billboard charts. Since rap has gained a growing mainstream audience over the past three decades, it's fitting that a hip-hop record boot out the heavily rock-influenced musicals score.

Nielsen Analytics claims 154,000 copies of the album were sold within its first week. Streaming data suggested the album streamed over 190 million times during this time period. In other words: It's a big deal.

Reviews of the album have been mostly positive, Pitchfork gave it a 7.5 out of 10, putting it above average by their standards.

This soundtrack distinguishes itself from other film soundtracks. Especially other Marvel movies.

Past Marvel films thrived upon rock favorites: AC/DC is to "Iron Man", as Led Zeppelin is to "Thor." Or they preyed upon nostalgia of its audience members, like in "Guardians of the Galaxy" and "Guardians of the Galaxy 2." This new approach, using contemporary hip-hop

artists to create an entirely original score, has been met with appreciation from fans.

Musician Kurtis Mayo, 20, said, "it felt like a mainstream party rap record that had a cool aesthetic. [It has] these big 808, thuddy, tribal beats. I thought it was cool."

Many people herald this film to be a pioneering blockbuster for its primary use of mainstream rap.

Mayo says, "there are a couple of soundtracks that I think could really be compared to it. 'The Man with the Iron Fists' soundtrack is a big action movie, with a rap soundtrack. It wasn't quite like that." Indeed, the two aren't a perfect comparison. "The Man With the Iron Fists" had a domestic total gross of \$15,634,090. "Black Panther" has a domestic total gross of \$411,711,738. And that's as of only February 26.

This film's success can be explained by viewing the film, and subsequent soundtrack, as being part of a larger cultural movement. A movement to celebrate black culture.

The films cast consisted of primarily African American actors, which is a grand departure from Marvel's usual formula.

In the "Iron Man" trilogy, Iron Man's friend,

supporting character Rhodey, also has a powerful suit of his own.

In the "Guardians of the Galaxy" series Zoe Saldana plays a green alien character, who's known as the team's resident bad-ass.

In "Captain America," the Captain's loyal sidekick, the hero Falcon, has a wing harness that grants him the power of flight.

All this to say Marvel is no stranger to placing strong African American characters in their movies: This is simply the first where they aren't second fiddle. Ticket sales for the picture demonstrate: It's about time.

There are few movies with so much cultural significance, or latitude. This film broke ground in its powerful portrayal of an imagined African nation and its people.

Its beautiful layers of African tribal visual design and a soundscape that equals its visual creativity, make this movie a cultural landmark. This movie is going to inspire the way people dress, think, and listen.

I anticipate mainstream rap fans will be hearing more African tribal inspired production in the coming months.

Email your news tips to: editor@occc.edu



Brady Rangel (left) and audience member, Ivan Barnes, performing a scenario that involves oppression leading to mental depression and anxiety.

'Theater of the Oppressed' Explores Tough Issues

STORY AND PHOTOS BY RAHUL CHAKRABORTY, OCCC Feature Writing Student

It was a secret he kept for 10 years, from the time he was 14, until now. "I didn't say anything about what my stepdad did to me for good reason too because I just, just didn't want to be another case of sexual misconduct that got dismissed by the legal system," Ford Filson said.

This was how Filson, 24, spoke about his experiences of sporadic sexual misconduct.

He took a while before he looked back at the camera. He paused the interview again, reaching for a glass of water.

"The first time he asked me to take off my clothes and expose myself, then he asked me to give him oral pleasure. Later he tried to bond with me, passing it off as a friendly behavior," Filson said.

His step dad's conduct had petrified him, he was afraid to even talk to his mom about how he was treated. He said he felt it was an issue that could break the family apart.

"I was afraid that I won't see my mom again [or] she might do something that might cause her to go to jail."

According to the National Center for Victims of Crime, one in five girls and one in twenty boys are victims of childhood sexual abuse. The research states 28 percent of U.S. youths ages 14 to 17 had been sexually victimized. Data covering the forcible rape rate per 100,000 inhabitants in the United States in 2016, by state, ranked Oklahoma 11 on the list, with 52 reported victims. However, many cases like Ford's, stay unreported. Often times, guilt, shame, and fear of causing a family issue terminates their courage to speak out.

For Filson, the internal conflict was painful. On the verge of drowning in destructive mental depression, he found a way to free himself from the psychological oppression.

He did it through Theater of the Oppressed.

This Spring, the Oklahoma City Community College Theater Arts Department is organizing "Theater of the Oppressed." With no entry fee,

the production expects to portray different forms of oppression in our current society.

The concept came from Brazil, in the 1970s Augusto Boal, a theater director and playwright, initiated a new form of theatre called the "Theater of the Oppressed."

"He was working in and around the provinces and states in Brazil and found out that in traditional theater people didn't have the access to the creative process," said Brent Noel, director of Theater Arts at OCCC. "As a spectator, they would either accept or reject but they couldn't change what's happening in a scenario. So, he said that kind of theater is contrary to the fact that it is oppression as well! Since one group talks and the other group listens."

Those were the reasons Boal created the concept, Noel said.

"Theater of the Oppressed" doesn't portray a Greek tragedy or a tale of romance. Its unique style of depicting social and political issues gives opportunity for the audience members to participate and engage in a dialogue. Often that results in a possible solution to those scenarios.

"The oppressor's point of view is always - let's keep how things are, bring no change to it, it's working very well," Noel said. "We were all kids once upon a time and we all have made beliefs, we used to pretend and there was always a sense of freedom and reality in that. Just by having your ideas and voices heard, there is a certain amount of humanity you regain, being able to say this is how I see the world."

Brady Rangel, a student at OCCC and one of the actors of the theater production, said his diverse life has often caused him to connect with both the oppressor and the oppressed.

"I have been on both sides, I did mix with a group that could easily be considered as a bully, but after a couple of years I was being bullied," he said.

For Rangel, putting himself in the shoes of both the oppressor and the oppressed allows him to discover more ways of coming to a solution for

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Audiences Central to Theater of the Oppressed



Above, the audiences were on stage, with the actors. The only form of theatre that includes audience participation. Center: Taijza Wilson, left, Alexandra Espinoza, Ford Filson, Miranda Lo-Presti, Kat Adams, Brady Rangel and Doug Carlton perceive anxiously, as the audience debates on an oppressive scenario. Right: Theatre director Brent Noel explaining an exercise, performed by Courtney Smith, to the audience.



Thunder Falls to Golden State, 112-80

BY NATALIE NELL, Pioneer Staff Writer

The Oklahoma City Thunder last Saturday were dominated by the Golden State Warriors 112-80 in a prime time showdown in Oakland, California. The series between the two rivals is now 2-1, with OKC winning the first two times.

"For the first half, considering the way our offense was going, we did a good job of staying the course," head coach Billy Donovan said. "[We were] trying to be physical, trying to really grind the game."

The first half was back and forth, during the second half Golden State picked up momentum, and having a home advantage, captured the win. Commentators said the intense atmosphere felt like a playoff game.

"It was a struggle for us because we just couldn't generate any points," Donovan said.

The Warriors scored 32 points compared to OKC's 21 points in the third quarter, and

then 28-14 in the fourth.

Thunder forward Paul George said Golden State had a shooting rhythm in the third quarter, giving them many opportunities. "If you get multiple looks at the basket, eventually shots are going to go in," he said. "They got hot, and that was the game."

The first two games OKC had guard/forward Andre Roberson by their side. But Roberson ruptured his patellar tendon following a nasty fall at a Detroit Pistons game in January. He had a successful surgery days later, but has been out for the rest of the season.

"Sometimes you have nights like that where nothing falls. We'll get ready for the next one," Russell Westbrook said.

The next matchup is Tuesday, April 3 at 7 p.m. in Oklahoma City. The game will be broadcast on the TNT network.

OCCC Enrollment Declines, Student Financial Problems Named as Reason for Drop

BY KARALEE LANGFORD,
Pioneer Staff Writer

Oklahoma City Community College is losing more students. This semester alone, the school lost 406 individual students, school officials told members of the Board of Regents last week.

So far, 264 full time students, and 142 part time students are no longer enrolled at OCCC. In addition, the school is down 84 new students and down 523 returning students.

Schools officials believe that the majority of students could not attend because of financial problems.

Because of this drastic decline of enrollment, OCCC regents said they would be putting forth their very best effort to reach out to those students that may need some extra help.

Members of the board recognized the unfortunate death of one member of the OCCC community, Alejandro Rendon Sanchez.

His widow, Teresa Rendon, continues to raise thousands of dollars in scholarship money for promising latino students who attend OCCC.

In his honor, the school's community room will be named after him.

Vice President Greg Gardner said the college is launching a new program called Subaru You. OCCC could be receiving sponsorship of mechanical engineering through the Subaru car company.

New programs aren't the only thing changing soon at OCCC.

Currently, an updated version of a text bot that can answer questions students may have about OCCC, is being developed. This technology will be used assist the schools recruitment of students.

Future and current OCCC students can look forward to texting any questions they may have about the school, instead of calling to receive those answers.

The computer program set up to receive these questions will respond as if a human was texting back.

The goal of this new development is to engage the student as well as create an easy and convenient way for the student to quickly receive answers.

Members of the board also acknowledged the faculty and staff who have gone above and beyond to help a students in need.

One specific example that was given contained a student's constant fight for funds in order to pay for textbooks.

The student saw no other option but to drop out of school because he could not afford the books for his classes.

However, had it not been for some of OCCC's outstanding faculty members who stepped in to help, OCCC would have one less student attending classes.

Audiences, Emotion Part of Theater of the Oppressed

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certain oppression scenarios.

The idea involves various forms of theater exercises that often carry the show toward certain oppression stories which then initiates a dialogue. The exercises, at the start of the show, also requires audience participation. And often such involvement may reveal someone's bias towards a certain scenario.

"It is important to the theater since it clarifies how we see the world," Noel said. "It is always up to the audience to decide what we shouldn't be saying and here is what it means. It should be asking a question 'what does it mean to you?' That becomes an opportunity to give the audience empowerment."

Ahmed Jasim is a former broadcasting major from OCCC. To him oppression, such as sexual misconduct or domestic violence, is considered to be pretty common in households across the Middle East. He was born and brought up in Qatar, one of the wealthiest countries in the Middle Eastern world.

"There were four of them including a family friend," he said. "Often one of them would take me to the middle of nowhere and rape me at the back seat of their truck. I was too young to protest and too prettified to share it with my parents."

Jasim was only 13 when he was raped the first time. The assaults kept happening for next couple of years, before his family shifted to a new neighborhood. His attackers blackmailed him using mischief he had caused in the neighborhood.

"I haven't shared it with anyone yet, none of my family members yet know that our neighbors raped me day and night. I felt my family would be off casted or maybe I won't be allowed in the society anymore," he said.

Tanvir, who asked the Pioneer to change his name, was sexually assaulted by his priest when he was eight years old. Tanvir is from Bangladesh, a country in Southeast Asia. For his family, the priest was a blessing, and no one believed Tanvir.

"It's hard to talk to people in a third world about such assaults because

either they get buried because the society won't believe, or it's the sense of shame that prevents you from going up to your guardians and talk about such issues," he said.

Such oppression is an epidemic in the Eastern world, Ahmed Jasim believes. To him there isn't a proper solution to such situations, except for going through psychology treatment or filing a case.

"Often the cases are dropped by the local police or the medical treatments are super expensive to even consider as an option," Jasim said.

Kat Adams is a theater major at OCCC and is one of the performers from the production. Kat was victimized by her ex-boyfriend and his friend.

"I woke up and found that he had his hand inside my pants, I freaked out. For a longtime I didn't understand that it really was an oppression, until the rehearsals for the 'Theater of the Oppressed' began," Adams said.

The rehearsal process involves different discussion sessions, involving performers sharing their stories of oppression. "When I saw there were more victims like me, I understood that I was molested too," Adams said.

Noel said the production asks questions such as how do we engage in dialogue? How to engage in a discussion? Not necessarily solve them but just come together and see things together.

"You may have different viewpoints then me, but just listening to you gives me access to know your viewpoint and your humanity better," Noel said. "Such discussions and dialogue could be an approach towards fixing situations that often society overlooks."

For Ford Filson, the whole month of rehearsing for the show has been therapeutic. Being among people who have also experienced similar oppression, has allowed him to feel free.

"It helps me to be more open and brave," he said.

For Noel the performances are chance to bring meaning to what he calls a senseless word. "How can we come together and discover that with dialogue, should be the goal," he said.

NOTICE: NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN

The President's Award for Excellence in Teaching is presented during the spring of each year to a full-time faculty member who exemplifies teaching excellence. The office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs administers the process of receiving nominees and developing recommendations to the President.

To be considered for this award a faculty member may be nominated by a fellow faculty member, a current or former student, or a staff member. Nominees will be asked to complete a reference sheet supplying personal and professional information. After a review of all nominations, a selection committee appointed by the office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs will recommend three candidates to the President, who will make the final selection.

Criteria for selection include:

- a high degree of professional competence exhibited by knowledge and expertise that is extensive and current;
- effective teaching methods that demonstrate quality, creativity, and resourcefulness, as well as clear, accurate and effective communication;
- enthusiasm and a strong commitment to teaching in general and a genuine concern, commitment, and fairness to students; and
- contribution to the teaching profession at the institutional, state, or national level.

The recipient of the President's Award for Excellence in Teaching will be announced during commencement exercises. At that time, the recipient will be presented a plaque and cash award of \$1,000 to commemorate this honor.

The award is for the 2017-18 school year. All nomination forms must be returned by Wednesday, March 14, 2018 at 5:00 pm, to the office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Nomination forms can be printed by visiting this link: <http://www.occc.edu/academicaffairs/Award-Criteria-Nomination-Form-2018.pdf>. Completed nomination forms can then be sent to the Vice President's office via email, campus mail, hand delivery or postal mail. Our office location is AH-1A3.

Nelly Bly: The Reporter's Reporter

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com said Bly’s stories led to “changes that included a larger appropriation of funds for the care of mentally ill patients, additional physician appointments for stronger supervision of nurses and healthcare workers, and regulations to prevent overcrowding and fire hazards at the city’s medical facilities.”

Bly went on to even more success.

In November, 1889, Bly embarked on a journey to travel around the world in an attempt to break the faux record of the fictional character Phileas Fogg.

“What gave me the idea? It is sometimes difficult to tell exactly what gives birth to an idea. Ideas are the chief stock in trade of newspaper writers and generally they are the scarcest stock in market, but they do come occasionally,” she wrote in her book titled “Around the World in Seventy-Two Days.”

It was reported that Bly completed the trip in 72 days, 6 hours, 11 minutes and 14 seconds and set a real-world record, which was later beaten in 1890.

Bly retired from journalism when she married Robert Seamen in

1895. After her husband’s death in 1904, she took over his Iron Clad Manufacturing Co.

Once again Bly faced financial issues and decided to reenter the newspaper industry. She covered World War I and continued to write about major issues that affected women.

Nellie Bly died from pneumonia on January 27, 1922. The next day, Arthur Brisbane, writer and editor, published a tribute in his New York Evening Journal column remembering her as “the best reporter in America.”

Although she is not alive today, her stories and accomplishments stay with us.

Nellie Bly is one of many women in history who has left an imprint and inspired the un-inspirable.

Women’s History Month provides the opportunity to recognize and remember the women throughout history and the impact they had on creating the world we know today. It allows us to recognize women like Nellie Bly, and so many more.

Word of the Week

Sponsored by the
OCCC Communication Lab

Taradiddle

(British/Noun): a petty lie; fib

“Even parents with the very best of intentions find themselves telling taradiddles to their offspring.” - Ben Schott

Hours M – Th: 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.
F: 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Sat: 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

CLASSIFIEDS

LAST ISSUE’S SOLUTION

S	T	E	W		S	T	A	R	E		U	R	S	A
H	I	V	E		T	A	P	E	S		M	A	I	N
R	A	I	N	F	O	R	E	S	T		L	I	F	T
U	R	L		A	R	O	S	E		W	A	N	T	S
B	A	S	I	N	E	T		R	H	E	U	M		
			A	N	Y		O	V	E	R	T	A	K	E
G	R	I	M	Y		G	N	O	M	E		K	E	N
L	I	M	B		B	A	S	I	S		W	E	E	D
E	L	M		B	R	I	E	R		E	A	R	N	S
E	L	O	Q	U	E	N	T		W	A	T			
		R	U	L	E	S		B	I	T	T	E	R	S
B	A	T	I	K		A	G	R	E	E		M	E	I
E	L	A	N		T	Y	R	A	N	N	I	C	A	L
T	A	L	C		W	E	A	V	E		R	E	D	O
E	S	S	E		O	R	D	E	R		K	E	Y	S

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WEEKLY CROSSWORD

ACROSS:

1. Beauties
6. Blend
10. A ceremonial staff
14. Drink garnish
15. Employ
16. Ailments
17. Scatter
18. Norse god
19. Coagulate
20. Arranged diagonally
22. Wander
23. "Phoey!"
24. Glare
26. Indian dress
30. Mire
31. Dawn goddess
32. By mouth
33. Nonsense
35. Come to pass
39. Eclat
41. Take up the cause
43. A watery discharge
44. Smack
46. Rind
47. Central
49. Mistake
50. Countercurrent things
51. Salted roe of surgeon
54. Ear-related

56. Not closed
57. Denial
63. Indian music
64. Anguish
65. Burn slightly
66. Buttocks
67. Feudal worker
68. Basic belief
69. Rational
70. Marsh plant
71. S S S S

Down:

1. Pear variety
2. Countertenor
3. Ethiopian monetary unit
4. Not odd
5. Stitched
6. Salesrooms
7. News
8. Colored part of an eye
9. Fail to fulfill a promise
10. Used to see small things
11. Yield

12. Split
13. A chemical compound
21. Jewish scholar
25. Coil
26. Fly high
27. Eyebrow shape
28. Dash
29. Shed light on
34. Encouraged
36. Prompted
37. Previously owned
38. Depend

40. Dogfish
42. Bit of parsley
45. Strong and proud
48. A dealer in fabrics
51. Marine ____
52. 3-banded armadillo
53. A strict vegetarian
55. Hindu social division
58. Headquarters
59. Fastens
60. Hotels
61. Curved molding

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