

Spring 2018

Uprising, Issue 5, [Spring 2018]

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EDITOR IN CHIEF
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Rachael Engleman

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ASSISTANT TO THE

EDITOR IN CHIEF

Izacc Quisling

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Kenzie Dorsey, Hannah Oakie,
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ART DIRECTOR

Ashley Grego

ASSISTANT ART DIRECTOR

Isaac Hackman

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Jessica Gambish, Lucas Gremler,
Elizabeth Skow

FASHION DIRECTOR

Darcy Bertolino

STYLIST DIRECTOR

Mallory Hoffmann

VP OF PUBLICATIONS

Nicola Veltri

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Pedro Calderon

HEALTH & LIFESTYLE DIRECTOR

Lexi LaPearl

CONTRIBUTERS

Madison Bradford, A.J. Forbes,
Denise Kassis, Morgan Miller,
Cam Murphy, Lexi Stephens

MODELS

Delaney Basala, Olivia Chapman,
Kevin Culver, Nyazum Gwamna,
Cassie Hendrix, Elinor Loring,
Whitney McGill, Kathleen McHenry,
Nyawargak Ngut



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As I sat down to write this letter, I thought for certain that it would be much simpler than this. I assumed I would share my semester-long editorial experience with all of our dedicated readers which would thoughtfully end with a corny quote about how Uprising impacted my time at UNI. Though undoubtedly true, Uprising provided me with more opportunities than just editing. It brought me life-long friends and experiences that I feel should be shared with all of you.

This year was the first year we were able to put out two publications in one school year. I am so proud of the growth and success of our fall magazine leading up to the release of this issue. Each semester our group continues to exceed all expectations and I can't wait to see what an issue of Uprising will look like 10 years from now.

The funny thing about fashion-journalism is that it has a way of forcing you to get involved with social issues, both on and off campus, that most people would have completely avoided otherwise. I was so impressed by our entire editorial staff, who stepped outside of their comfort zones to write some of the most sensitive pieces that we have published yet.

I can honestly say that working closely with the Uprising staff has positively impacted my college experience at UNI. Although I will no longer serve as editor-in-chief in the upcoming school year, I hardly consider this a "farewell letter." I am extremely grateful to have been editor for such an influential organization such as this one.

With that, it is with a gracious heart that I thank all of you for continuing to support this magazine the way you do. As our exceptional editorial staff prepares themselves for next year, I will humbly leave UNI knowing Uprising will most certainly maintain its excellence for many years to come. I present to all of you, issue five.





Spring *Awakening*

PHOTOGRAPHY ISAAC HACKMAN
DESIGN CRAIG MILLER







AFTER A COLD WINTER PASSES, a bright and vibrant spring arrives. Flowers begin to bloom, water begins to pour, and the sun begins to shine. Much like the outdoors, we as people also begin to “bloom”. Spring Awakening captures the blissful transition from winter to spring, highlighting nature as it comes to life and the excitement for the opportunities that this season will bring _____

Melodie Anstey

ARTIST TO WATCH:

Melodie Anstey is a 21-year old artist from Griswold, Iowa. Anstey will graduate next May with a Bachelor's degree in Studio Art with emphases in ceramics and drawing. After graduation, she hopes to land a job where creativity plays a big role. Uprising correspondent, Ashley Grego, sat down with Anstey to discuss her artistic background.

UPRISING: What first got you involved in art? What were your motivations?

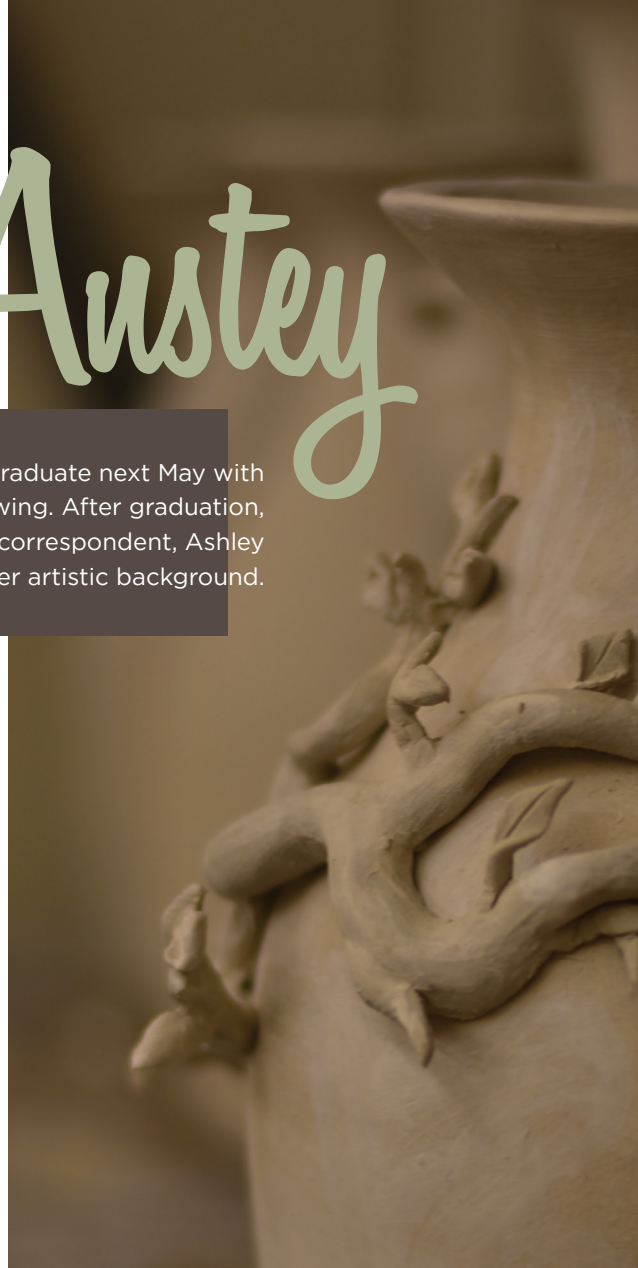
MELODIE: My high school art teacher first introduced me to the art because of my childhood fascination with drawing horses. He taught me to appreciate all forms of art. Everything from drawing, to ceramics, to photography. I am a very competitive person, and because of this I tried very hard in high school to improve my artistic skills so I could be as good as the rest of my classmates, if not better. My classmates and I had an unspoken competition on our hands, whether they all knew about it or not. I guess I fueled the fire long enough for it to ignite a passion within me that led me to where I am today.

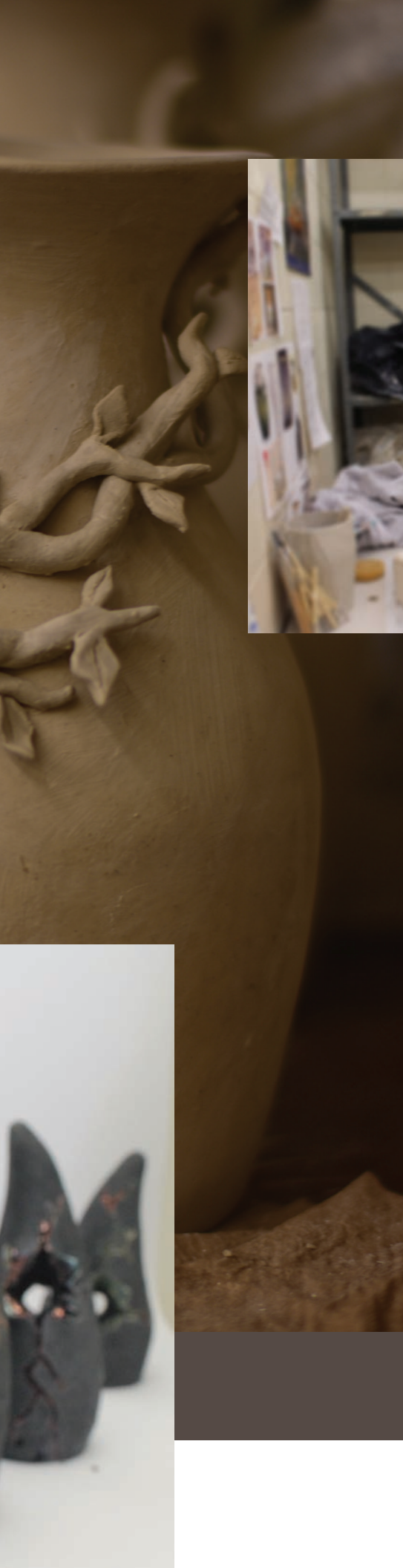
UPRISING: When was the moment you realized that you wanted to study art/become an art major?

MELODIE: Going to college, I was leaning towards being an undecided major because being an art major sounded too risky, too impractical. I wasn't sure if I was even good enough to go to college for art, but then again, I didn't really care to consider the alternative. It wasn't until the end of my senior year of high school, after one of my drawings won 'Best in Show' at an art show, that I knew I could do it. I could go to college for art and I could make it in the world with an art degree, despite what society may think.

UPRISING: How would you describe your artistic style?

MELODIE: This is a hard question to answer. I feel like it changes every day. It can depend on my mood, what season it is, what is currently influencing my life, etc. I don't really enjoy saying I have one certain style because I like to jump around and play with various ideas. Overall, I think I lean towards lovely, detailed, realistic subjects, or in the case of ceramics, usable, functional work. There is something so satisfying about the perfect mug that fits just right in your hand when you drink from it. I enjoy my work being put to use by someone else because then I feel as though the creative process never really stops.





but not least, Gustav Klimt is also a favorite of mine. His works are so iconic. They inspire me to be bold and colorful.

UPRISING: What is your typical creative process? How do you get to your final piece of work?

MELODIE: I always start in my sketchbook. I'll visually imagine an idea in my head and then try my best to convey it on paper. Most of the time, my final product will deviate from my original idea to some degree. In ceramics, I'll often think of a good idea in my head, but there are numerous obstacles in the process that will cause me to slightly alter my original idea. Sometimes it's for the best, sometimes it's not, but I always manage to reach the finish line. Honestly, I just zone out and get to work, sometimes putting 20, maybe 30 hours or more into a project. When I'm finished, I look back at what I've accomplished, and I'm exhausted, but it is so worth it.

UPRISING: What are some of your personal favorite pieces of art?

MELODIE: There are so many! My favorite painting of all time has to be *The Kiss* by Gustav Klimt. I cried when I saw it in person in Vienna. Also, anything Michelangelo. I love him and Renaissance art. All of Bernini's sculptures are fantastic, especially the ones in St. Peter's Basilica. I fell in love with George Stubbs' painting called *Whistlejacket* because of its simplicity and photorealism. *Judith Slaying Holofernes*, by Artemisia Gentileschi, is also one of my favorites. Monet's *Morning on the Seine* series is wonderful. There are so many more I could mention, but I'll stop there.

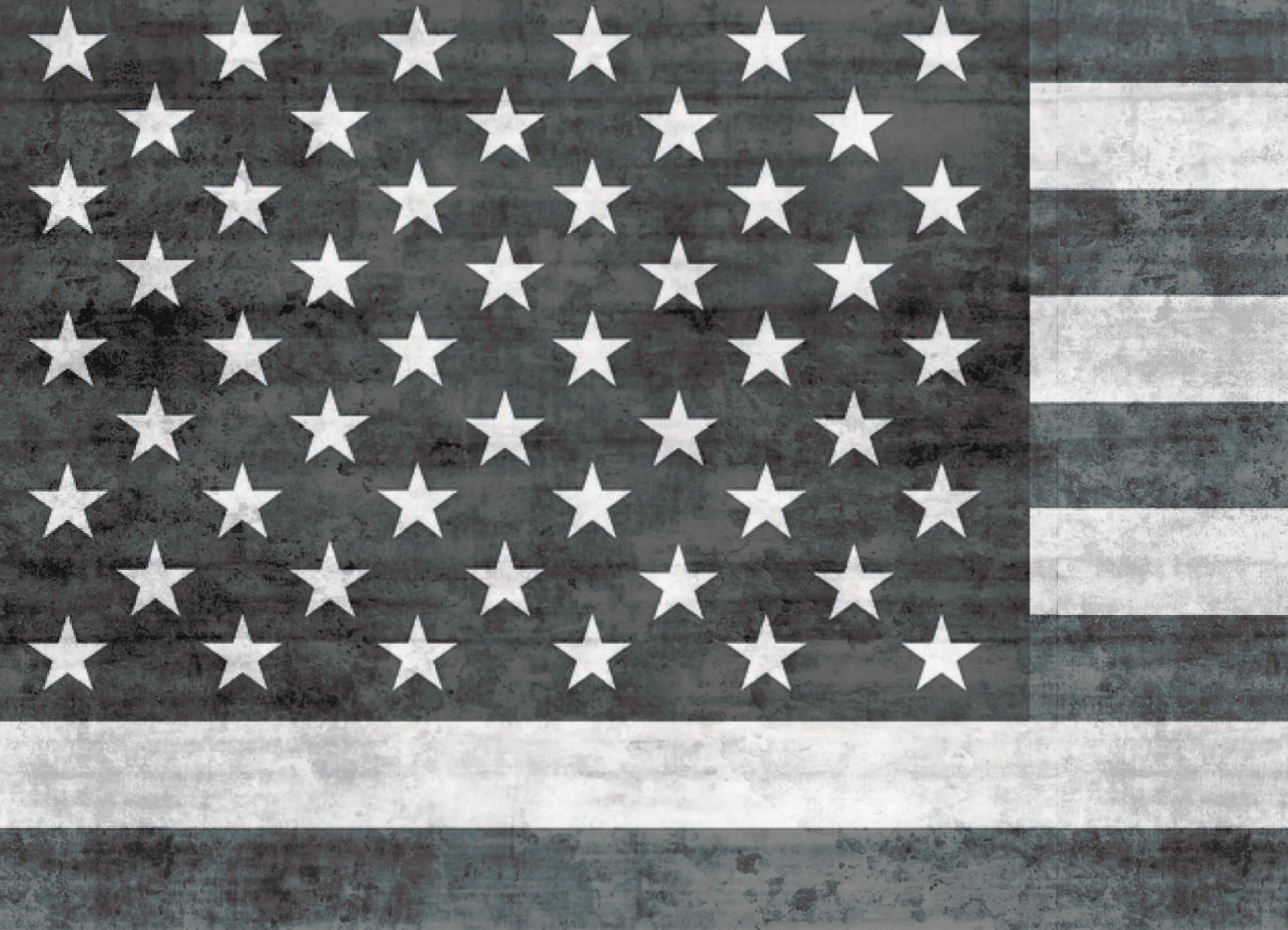
UPRISING: What do you plan to do with your art in the future?

MELODIE: The future is such an uncertain thing, I almost hate to plan it out. I fly by the seat of my pants, most of the time. My art changes all the time, which can make it more difficult to know where I will go with it. I guess some things that I like to daydream about are writing and illustrating books, working for Disney in some way, or having my own studio where I can make what I damn well please for clients who appreciate my work as much as I do.

UPRISING: Are there any artists in particular that you gain inspiration from?

MELODIE: I really enjoy the work of Vanessa Hogge. She does some really great floral work on porcelain that she posts on Instagram. I strive to be as detailed as her someday. Another artist that I am inspired by is Eyvind Earle, the background illustrator of Disney's *Sleeping Beauty* in the 1950s. He has such a strong sense of personal style and his work is very botanical and detailed. And last,

Check Out Melodie's Art Instagram Page:
[@melodie_aart](#)



WORDS PEDRO CALDERON
DESIGN LIBBY SCHWERS

Rakim Mayers is a 29-year old rapper, actor, producer and fashion icon raised in Harlem, New York City. Known for his heightened fashion sense, gold grills, and iconic braids, he has become a superstar in modern-day pop culture. He refers to himself as Pretty Flacko, but you may know him by his stage name: A\$AP Rocky.

"I always thought I would [be famous]. I always imagined I would. I always felt it could happen, but I never knew how it would feel," he said in a documentary series titled *SVDDXNLY*. The entire Mayers family had heavy influences on his persona. He recalls wanting to be an ice cream truck man in his early childhood. To him, the ice cream man appeared to be one of the coolest, most-admired people around. Mayers'

father later crushed his dream by telling him that the ice cream man was actually a bum in all reality. His mother and sister picked up early on that he was different; a real go-getter. Rakim and his sister, Ericka B., were named after the New York hip-hop duo, Eric B. and Rakim, who were popular in the late 1980's. Rakim's brother, Ricky, introduced him to rhyming when he was 8-years old and freestyle rapping eventually became a hobby for the two. Ricky was shot and killed when Rakim was 13-years old. This event motivated him to pursue rapping more seriously in order to avoid a similar fate. His career began in 2007 when he joined the Harlem-based collective, A\$AP Mob.

The A\$AP Mob was originally founded in 2006. "A\$AP [Mob] had a lot of sh*t in common. Fashion, Texas music, purple drank, and just being open-minded... and to be from Harlem," he stated.

Rakim joined the crew the following year and took the name A\$AP Rocky. Rocky became particularly close with fellow group members A\$AP Ferg and A\$AP Yams. They published his debut mixtape *LIVE.LOVE.A\$AP* in 2011. It gained enough mainstream attention to eventually land A\$AP Rocky a record deal. He has since signed with Polo Grounds Music, RCA Records, and Sony Music Entertainment. Standout track "Purple Swag" is a street anthem for New York City and pays homage to Houston rap legends.

A\$AP Rocky has had incredible co-signs since the beginning of his rap career. Drake had Kendrick Lamar and A\$AP join him on on his 2012 Club Paradise Tour. Another big move for Rocky was being an opening act on Rihanna's 2013 Diamonds World Tour. While touring the U.S., A\$AP devoted his time to producing beats. Along with his DJ

A\$AP ROCKY: RAPPER, ACTOR & FASHION KILLA

and producer, Hector Delgado, they recorded instrumentals that were featured on Rocky's debut album, *LONG.LIVE.A\$AP*. Delgado and A\$AP made all of their beats from scratch so they didn't have to pay royalties. Rocky adopts styles from Midwest and Southern hip-hop, drawing specifically from cities like Houston and Memphis, while blending New York styles as well. To date, Rocky has only released two studio albums: *LONG.LIVE.A\$AP* & *AT.LONG.LAST.A\$AP*. His second album featured many big names including Future, Juicy J, Kanye West, and Lil Wayne. On January 18, 2015, just seven days after the album's release, Steven "A\$AP Yams" Rodriguez passed away from sleep apnea at 26 years old; a tragic loss for the Mob and rap culture at the time. A\$AP Yams was a co-founder and mastermind behind the A\$AP Mob, helping shape the sound and style which has made them

a success. A\$AP Mob has collectively released two volumes of their *Cozy Tapes* series.

A\$AP Rocky is also known to venture into other industries including fashion and film. His style has been influential for high fashion streetwear since he first rose to fame. He has personal relationships with big names in the fashion world such as Alexander Wang, Jeremy Scott, Raf Simons, and Rick Owens. Mayers often name-drops high-end clothing brands in his songs including Ferragamo, Louis Vuitton, and Yves Saint Laurent. Rocky has also received endorsements from companies like Adidas, Calvin Klein, Dior, and Guess. In 2015, A\$AP Rocky made his acting debut in the movie "Dope" in which he plays a slick Los Angeles drug dealer by the name of Dom. Rocky admits that there are a lot of similarities between himself and his

character in the film. Just like Mayers, Dom is charming, smart and stylish.

Some of A\$AP Rocky's major hits include tracks like *F***in' Problems* (feat. Drake, 2 Chainz, & Kendrick Lamar), *L\$D*, *RAF* (with Playboy Carti, Quavo, Lil Uzi Vert & Frank Ocean), *Peso*, and *Fashion Killa*. This year, Rocky has been spotted at the 2018 New York Fashion Week and he just released a single with Gucci Mane and 21 Savage for the new basketball film, *Uncle Drew*, starring Kyrie Irving. The track, *Cocky*, is produced by London on da Track. A\$AP Rocky has recently confirmed that his third studio album is complete. The album is rumored to be titled *Tested*.

Watch A\$AP Rocky's five-part documentary, *SVDDXNLY*, on Youtube to hear some of his unreleased music and for one-on-one interviews about his road to success.

THE ALL-AMERICAN BOY BAND

BROCK HAMPTON



Believe it or not, BROCKHAMPTON is not an individual music artist. Instead, they are 14 young rappers, vocalists, producers, designers, photographers, and videographers that navigate seamlessly between different sub-genres of hip-hop. Although the group did not label themselves as BROCKHAMPTON until 2015, most of the members communicated with one another on the popular Kanye West fan forum, kanyetothe.com. Originally known as AliveSinceForever, the group took the name of the street that group member, Kevin Abstract, grew up on and rebranded. Their career took off when the band's members moved into a house in South Central L.A. together which they call "The Factory".

Considering each member offers a variety of talents, it can be difficult to identify who is who. The group's founder, and perhaps most popular member; Kevin Abstract, is a 21-year old Corpus Christi native. Abstract's lyrics illustrate his journey of how he deals with newfound fame as well as expressing his own sexuality. In his verse on the controversial *SATURATION II* track, *JUNKY*, Abstract directly addresses critics who are skeptical about the content of his lyrics saying, "Why you always rap about bein' gay? Cause not enough n****s rappin' be gay."

Abstract is not ashamed of who he is and is brutally honest in saying so. As talented as Kevin Abstract is, BROCKHAMPTON is not a one-man show. Ameer Vann, Ashlan Grey, Bearface, Dom McLennon, HK, Jabari Manwa, Joba, Jon Nunes, Kiko Merley, Matt Champion, Merlyn Wood, Robert Ontinient, and Romil Hemnani are the creative minds that make up the rest of the group. Whether it is producing, rapping, or supplying vocals, each member is incredibly versatile.

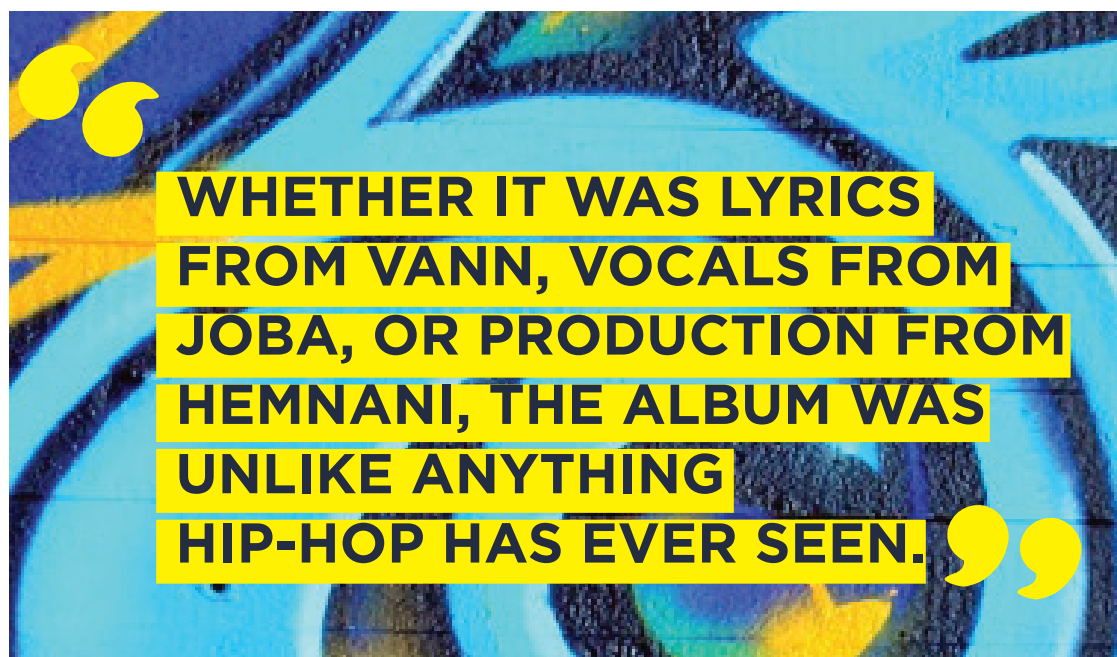
With one mixtape and a three-part trilogy under their belt, the group's talent is undeniable. Although their

debut mixtape, *ALL-AMERICAN TRASH*, was well-received, it was their *SATURATION* trilogy that created a cult-like following for the boy band.

The first edition came in June of 2017, which was jam-packed with incredible new sounds that left listeners in disbelief. *SATURATION* delivered outstanding hip-hop tracks like *GOLD* and *STAR*, as well as heartfelt vocals on *FACE* and *MILK*. Whether it was lyrics from Vann, vocals from Joba, or production from Hemnani, the album was unlike anything hip-hop had ever seen before.

critics and fans dumbfounded as BROCKHAMPTON concluded their legendary trilogy. Highlighted by timeless classics like *RENTAL*, *ZIPPER*, and *BOOGIE*, the group showcased yet another dimension of their collective talent.

BROCKHAMPTON's fourth album, *PUPPY*, is currently in the works. Fans are looking forward to what is yet to come from hip-hop's newest competitor; the All-American Boyband: BROCKHAMPTON. For more information about group members and their music, visit www.jointheuprisingmagazine.com/music



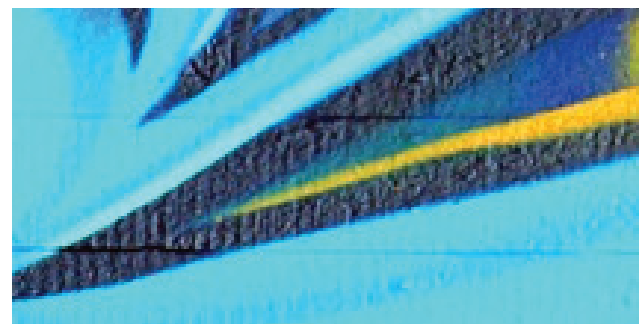
Often coined as the best album of the trilogy, *SATURATION II* solidified BROCKHAMPTON's hip-hop career going forward. Released in August of 2017, the group held nothing back, shaking the genre to its core.

They showcased their unapologetic side with this album, using tracks like *JUNKY* to fearlessly tackle homophobia as well as rape culture. Their smash hit, *SWEET*, was an all-time fan favorite.

The third and final album of the trilogy was eventually released in December. *SATURATION III* left



WORDS NICOLA VELTRI
DESIGN SADÉ BUTLER



PHOTOS JORDAN ALLEN // DESIGN ELLEN HOLT



color
POP



In 2017, hundreds of fashion trends emerged around the globe. From 90's jackets to scrunchies, vibrant, contrasting colors were common in everyday looks. The use of these bright colors brought about an unusual fluidity that connected shades most people would not add to their own closets. The Color Pop editorial is reflective of the team's colorful creative process.









FASHION
FOR

WORDS
JORDAN ALLEN

PHOTOS
JORDAN ALLEN

DESIGN
RACHAEL ENGLEMAN



WARD

THE GENERATIONAL TREND OF *RESELLING*.

From the lit-up streets in Tokyo to the crowded sidewalks on Fairfax Avenue in California, a new streetwear fashion trend is sweeping the globe. Streetwear, also known as “hypebeast” clothing, is all about name brand clothing worn by members of various urban youth subcultures. Most of these well-known brands include: Supreme, Off-White, Vlone, Golf Wang, Bape, Yeezy, and many more. Since these brands release a limited quantity of products at a time, it makes them hard to obtain and even more valuable to collect. As today’s youth continues to get involved with these trendy brands, they are also modernizing reselling culture. Jack, a co-owner of Boneyard Chicago, gave us the low-down on the reselling business and how to do it the right way.

“Reselling is buying limited, high-end products, and flipping them for more than face value,” says Jack.


Not only are teenagers and young adults reselling, but there are also many shops around the US creating their business solely on reselling streetwear products. Jack first began reselling beanie babies when he was ten years old. This helped develop his love for reselling drove him to start the business he has today.

Boneyard Chicago was born after Jack started buying and selling vintage clothing. Over time, Jack’s clothing store evolved from its vintage focus, and transitioned into streetwear emphasis.



RESELLING:

**BUYING
LIMITED,
HIGH-END
PRODUCTS,
AND
FLIPPING
THEM FOR
MORE THAN
FACE VALUE.**



**Boneyard Chicago
917 N Ashland Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60622**

**INSTAGRAM:
[@boneyard_chicago](https://www.instagram.com/boneyard_chicago)**

“I bought a Bape hoodie from my buddy to see what all of the buzz was about, and then next thing I know, people started blowing up our DMs. The inspiration is in the customers. It’s all about what the people want.”

Jack keeps his high turnover rate by offering the best price possible for his customers’ products. By paying close attention to the type of people coming into his store, Jack is able to find out what brands he needs to get more of.

“Being in and out of the scene is how I stay in the loop. What my customers come in wearing is my biggest key on what to get next.”

When Boneyard is able to offer a fair price on products, they do exceptionally well. More people would rather purchase in-store to receive the product that day, instead of waiting for their online purchase that won’t come for weeks. Boneyard Chicago is a successful business because of three things: good customer relationships, fair prices, and promotion.

“I consider my business to be the best around because we have a high standard and I’m very critical on what items I’ll buy.”

If Jack thinks a product is not authentic, he won’t take it. Jack only wants the best of the best in his store, so there is no room for error by buying a fake product. Jack mostly uses Instagram to promote his store. Uploading photos of the products he gets in for the day also helps with his product turnover rate.

Jack added, “I also promote through customer relationships. Those customers will have a good experience and then end up spreading word of our store by mouth. It’s important to make the people feel like a family and not exclusive.”

Most young people don’t have the money to start a business like Jack does, but are able to create online businesses, making just as much money as companies known for reselling. Generation Z is building business empires from inside their very own bedroom with apps made specifically for reselling clothes such as: Grailed, Depop, StockX, and Mercari. This generation sees themselves as creators, and influencers, generating a look for themselves no one has ever seen. This is why there is a younger audience appealing to these name brands, and Jack sees this in his customer demographic. Although Boneyard Chicago’s target consumers range from 10-30 years old, the customers that drop the most money and are in there the most are ages 10-14 years old.

Reselling was a sixteen billion dollar industry last year and is predicted to increase in sales by at least six percent this year. Today’s youth has taken over the reselling industry, to the point where it has become a part of their own identity and culture. These young adults have created opportunities to build themselves into fashionable entrepreneurs thanks to this new form of retail. They understand their youth is not a disadvantage, but what makes their success possible.





SHADES OF GREY

“I think my life is like 50 shades, because as far as I know it’s all just grey”

Lauren Thompson lives in a world only defined by its contrasts between light and dark. She has no sense of depth perception.

As a first year student at UNI, Thompson strongly believes in getting involved on campus. "I always wanted to be as involved in everything as I could because I graduated from a small high school where everyone was involved in everything. The first organization I decided to join was my sorority, Alpha Phi. I wanted to show everyone that I was a normal person." Lauren continues to amaze her friends, family, and peers with her motivation and determination to maintain an optimistic mindset regardless of her disability.

Lauren Thompson was born and raised in the small town of Earlham, Iowa, a town so small that you have to refer to other cities around for people to get an idea of where it is. Doctors in Iowa City first diagnosed her with partial blindness when she was just two months old after her eyes had trouble focusing on one object. Despite their worries, Lauren's parents have remained an active support system throughout their daughter's life, encouraging her to maintain a high-spirited lifestyle.

"Since I was little, my parents always pushed me to do normal stuff. I chased boys at recess with my friends, rode my bike (which I crashed into the garage once), played outside, everything. I did all the things that everyone else did."

Adjusting to the college lifestyle is often a challenging experience for new students. While chatting with Lauren, she mentioned that she was worried about getting lost and not being able to find her classes. Living on campus has made it easier for her to get involved with activities at UNI. Lauren says she would love to have a service dog, but her cane suffices the short walks to class and meeting up with friends.

"I can see when I am walking. I can see the sidewalks and the contrast between that and the grass, except when it snows. I can see the buildings, but because of my lack of depth perception I can't tell how far away I am from something. This is why I sometimes trip over things. I can see different shapes, but I can't distinguish between colors," she said.

Beauty isn't just about what is presented on the surface, it means a variety of different things depending on who you ask. Lauren defines beauty as, "Even though it is super

cliché, the first thing I notice about people is not what they look like. It is if they are willing to talk to me and if they treat like I am normal. If someone is outgoing or welcoming, then I'm like, 'hey, cool.'" Guaranteed a conversation full of laughter, Lauren is one of the easiest people to socialize with. Her confidence and drive to create a relationship with anyone around her is her strongest, most beautiful attribute. Although inner beauty is something that is important to Lauren, she also cares about her physical appearance.

"I still want to dress cute, and do my makeup on days where I don't wake up 5 minutes before class."

Lauren has always had a passion for fashion and loves makeup. She is able to create a full face of makeup with the help of her friends in order to assure that no mistakes were made. Most people assume that individuals with a disability are incapable of most things we would consider 'normal'. Lauren challenges all of the preconceived notions about having a disability.

"I wish people knew that not all blind people are the same...I think I am pretty normal. I wish people wouldn't be so nervous to start up a conversation with me."

"I get a lot of little kids that ask, 'How many fingers am I holding up?' and I'm like, 'Excuse me, I don't know!'" She continued by saying, "It's really hard to offend me. Someone once asked me if I was able to have kids, and I was like, 'What do you think?' People will say, 'Oh, that's a

stupid question.'" Although some questions tend to answer themselves, I don't think someone could ask me a "bad" question; if you're curious about something then I will answer it. I don't really [get annoyed] because I think more than anything, people don't have to ask questions. If you do have a question, I would [answer it] instead of just them assuming that I can't do something. I think people should just start conversations. If it goes badly, then maybe that person shouldn't be your friend. My greatest piece of advice is to put yourself out there, get involved, and talk to people."

Proving the world otherwise with her limitless beauty, Lauren Thompson strives to overcome obstacles by maintaining a positive outlook on the world. It's not about what is seen by the naked eye, but rather one's willingness to create a supportive community that is accepting of the differences that make you extraordinary.

“
Her confidence and
drive to create a
relationship with
anyone around her
is her strongest,
most beautiful
attribute.
”



Created in the

After Hours

AFTER HOURS IS AN EXPERIENCE AND A LIFESTYLE THAT IS ROOTED IN KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI. Easton Koch is a 21-year old student athlete and self-taught entrepreneurial designer who launched his brand, Easton K. Clothing, in 2017. Koch will be graduating this May with a degree in Entrepreneurship and Business Administration from William Jewell College. After graduation, he plans on growing his brand beyond Kansas City. The Uprising team sat down with Koch to discuss the story behind Easton K. Clothing and how it was created in the “After Hours”.

UPRISING: What made you want to create your own brand?

KOCH: “Kansas City hasn’t really offered a whole lot [fashion-wise] that’s connected with me or my friends. I think my initial thought was that it was giving us something we could latch on to and be

excited about because it supported the lifestyle we were into. We always dreamt of living in New York or Los Angeles and I just got sick of that.”

UPRISING: Who were the influences behind you building your brand?

KOCH: “Mainly just my friends. There’s a handful of people in Kansas City whose opinions I value more than anything. So really just sitting down with them, pitching them different ideas for silhouettes, and deciding which fabrics work best with each other. There’s also a couple brands I’m pretty influenced by so I just kind of study my favorite aspects of each and mold it into my own thing. I f*ck with Japanese fashion heavy right now so that’s where I get a lot of my ideas for silhouettes and outfits and all that. Then, just developing a branding strategy that represents me but works [efficiently] at the same time.”

UPRISING: Who is your target market and why?

KOCH: “I’m inspired by people who hate the idea of being ordinary. People who really don’t give a shit about what anyone else has to say about them. People who know what they want

brand that inspires both your consumer and your team to engage in, reflect, and help shape community & culture’. How does this transition to what you want to do with your brand?

KOCH: “There are a lot of people in the Midwest who are dope people. People who should probably be getting a lot more recognition for what they’re doing than what they are. I want my brand to inspire those people. Bring them together and do exactly what the mission statement says, ‘shape community and culture.’ On some ‘let’s unite and make this place better than what it is’ type of shit. “

“CLOTHES ARE ABOUT EXPERIENCES AND CONNECTIONS. HAVING CLOTHES THAT WALK WITH YOU, AGE WITH YOU, GROW WITH YOU.”

out of life. Those are the kind of people I want to see my clothes on. Age, gender, race, occupation; none of that matters to me. People who are uniquely themselves. That’s who I’m targeting.”

UPRISING: According to your mission statement, you aim to create a ‘lifestyle

UPRISING: What is your ultimate goal for your brand, what heights do you expect to reach with it and what legacy do you want to leave with your brand?

KOCH: “I’m not really too worried about my legacy or anything like that right



now. I think this thing could be pretty big and I think it could open up a lot of doors for people in the Midwest, but I'm not too concerned with reaching any certain level of success. I'm more concerned with making sure that I do this thing the way I want to do it and stay on path with the way I see it happening. If that brings fame and success, then that's what it does, but I'm really just focused on the short-term right now."

UPRISING: Some designers claim basketball players try too hard to be fashion forward. Do you think you fall into that stereotype?

KOCH: "Hell no. I'm trying to be the opposite of fashion forward. There's nothing about being fashion forward

that is interesting to me. I definitely think the stereotype is true, yes, but for me personally, clothes are about experiences and connections. Having clothes that walk with you, age with you, grow with you. It's not as much about trying to stay on top of trends and being fashion forward. Being fashion forward is like checking GQ every day to see if you're allowed to wear seersucker in 2018. That shit is so lame. I haven't read a fashion blog in years."

UPRISING: Have you ever thought about doing collaborations? If so, who would you want to collaborate with and why?

KOCH: "Yeah, I think I'm doing a collab tee with Rhys for his next project. Collabs are tight. The main collaboration I'd want to do would be with like an old band I listen to or something like that; just doing some merch. But I don't



If I can promote causes, beliefs, and ideas that I support, then I'm going to do that and you should see a little bit of that starting to creep into the brand with this next round of pieces I'm releasing."

UPRISING: What are your thoughts on big-box retailers like H&M and Forever 21, fashion brands that have a tendency to make trends die fast?

KOCH: "Honestly, f*ck that shit. Not even counting all of the damaging things they assist in like slave labor, environmental harm, etc. I personally hate that shit because it's promoting the exact opposite of what I think is so f*cking cool about clothes. There's no story behind it or personal connection to anything. It's like clothing for people who can't decide what they want to wear and the people who run these corporations know this so they take advantage of it. On the bright side, fashion consumers are ultra-informed about how social media works today. As a clothing consumer in 2018, it's not too hard to figure out where things are manufactured, what type of manufacturing practices are used, and so on. My hope is that we see less support for fast fashion brands as this type of information becomes more public."

UPRISING: What would your advice be to up-and-coming designers trying to build their own brand?

KOCH: "Do it the way you want to do it and don't worry about being too similar to somebody else. You're not going to create anything original, and if you do it's probably going to be super whack. If you want to do denim, then do denim. Even though there are thousands of denim brands out there, there are so many ways you can make your denim brand more valuable to these consumers than what the other thousand denim brands do. Make the product you want to make and let your brand be what separates you from everyone else."

With his After Hours clothing line, Koch aims "to craft a product that stirs a sense of rebellion in our consumer, believing, as we do, that a fearless physical appearance is one's most reassuring asset."

know, there's a shoe brand out of New York called Greats that just collaborated with one of my favorite up-and-coming menswear brands called Death to Tennis. I think doing something like that would be really cool too."

UPRISING: Do you ever think you would use your brand for political reasons? Virgil Abloh was an advocate for Planned Parenthood and designed t-shirts to help support the cause. Do you see yourself doing something like this further down the road?

KOCH: "So this is actually something I've been looking at adding to the brand for a while. I think it's important to say something. Even if it's not a political conversation you're starting, it's important to start a conversation regarding things you're passionate about. Otherwise, what's the point? I've built this platform that people care about and all I'm gonna do is make clothes and that's it?"

Check out Easton K Clothing:
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LA BODEGA

A\$AP Rocky's style has heavily influenced the fashion industry. His ability to create artwork that relates to all types of people, inspires others to follow in his footsteps. Drawing inspiration from his recent Vogue shoot, we decided to create our own Bodega editorial. Bodegas are common traditional minority marketplaces in big cities across America. "Different ethnic minorities are coming together and living together cohesively—and this has been going on for decades." Bodegas aren't just "ghetto" shops found in the city. Instead, they symbolize unity among different cultures.





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warning:

The following article contains detailed interviews about sexual assault and rape at the University of Northern Iowa. This content may not be suitable for all readers. Uprising Magazine would like to thank the survivors who were brave enough to share their stories with us.



Speak Up:

#METOO

WORDS Mili Saliu & Sarah Ritondale

DESIGN Madelyn Stillman

Sexual assault, in all of its forms, has been an issue that has plagued society for years. From an inappropriate touch to non-consensual sex, people have finally had enough. Voices from all over the world have been speaking out against sexual assault. #MeToo is a modern social movement that encourages survivors to speak up and show the rest of the world that they are not alone.

The #MeToo campaign originally began in October of 2017 when the hashtag was first used by actress Alyssa Milano. Milano tweeted, "If you have been sexually harassed or assaulted write #MeToo as a reply to this tweet," in response to sexual assault accusations against Hollywood producer, Harvey Weinstein. Her goal was to exploit the magnitude of sexual assault all over the world. It wasn't long after the tweet was posted that other celebrities joined in. The tweet has acquired over 68,000 replies, 25,000 retweets, and 53,000 likes.

"The #MeToo movement has helped victims come forward and stand in solidarity against their oppressor," explains Dr. Alan Heisterkamp, the Director of the Mentors in Violence Prevention Program (MVP) at the University of Northern Iowa.

MVP is a program that works to serve all types of gender-based violence in search of solutions to help prevent sexual harassment and assault on campus. The program uses a bystander approach to pursue their main objective to raise awareness for gender violence and to encourage leadership in the community.

UNI's discrimination, harassment, and sexual misconduct policy defines sexual assault as, "Any intentional sexual touching, however slight, with any object by a person upon another person without consent and/or by force."

The Center for Violence Prevention at UNI does their best to bring awareness to this issue with the goal of preventing these events before they occur. However, sexual assault is still an issue on college campuses across the nation. According to the National Sexual Violence Resource Center, one in five women and one in 16 men are sexually assaulted while attending college. Research shows that over 90% of assaults on college campuses are left unreported.

The #MeToo movement has affected many people worldwide and UNI is no exception. Senior, Jamie Crispin, told *Uprising* editors her story:

"I was a freshman here at UNI and it was the first three day weekend we had. My roommate and I were from the same high school, so we invited some high school friends up. One of the guys that came up was from a different high school and I didn't know him that well, but we seemed to get along with everyone and he was nice to me... I didn't think anything of it... we all slept in the same room and one of my friends was already asleep in my bed so I decided to sleep on the futon. That's when he laid down next to me, but I honestly did not think anything of it. I am comfortable with all of my other guy friends, so it didn't seem threatening at the time. He never came across as

threatening to me and I fell asleep. I woke up to him on top of me holding my shoulders down, raping me. I'm typically a pretty feisty person who fights back, but I froze. I could not scream. I could not speak. I just cried... I lost track of time. I have no idea how long it lasted."

Because of this experience, Crispin has come to understand the way society coerces women into thinking they need to be in charge of protecting themselves at a young age. She speaks of the innocent actions that we learn as children that later progress into more serious issues.

"...we're taught when we are five years old that if a guy is picking on you and chasing you around the playground that he likes you and that's a stigma that everyone grows up with... it's just kind of printed into our brain that this is all the woman's fault and never the guy's. I think society needs to reverse that and teach boys that it is not okay to pick on girls" Crispin explains with passion. "In middle school it's not okay to comment if [girls] are wearing shorts or a tank top... it just needs to change overall."

Tom Heiar, an MVP facilitator and on-campus violence prevention advocate, believes women need to stop being blamed for something they cannot control. Heiar attended graduate school at University of Wisconsin-Lacrosse where he studied masculinity and hypermasculinity. He studied college-aged men and how they define their masculinity. Heiar found that men are not being involved enough. He feels that UNI does a very good job at trying to prevent these events from happening, but believes that they could still push things another step further.

"I think we need to end the idea of rape culture as well as victim blaming because we still see that everywhere," shares Heiar. "I see it on social media all the time with victim blaming and people saying it's up to women to dress a certain way, to not flirt too much, to know self defense, to know who to talk to and who not to talk to. People don't bring men to the table and have those conversations on knowing what consent means and being knowledgeable about the fact that silence does not mean yes."

It's a common misconception that the perpetrators of sexual assault are people the victim doesn't know. However, according to the National Sexual Violence Research Center, in 8 out of 10 cases the victim knew the person who sexually assaulted them prior to the incident. Therefore, a lot of the times these cases are overlooked.

Another student spoke with *Uprising* to help raise awareness.

"It happened when I was 19. I was on a trip with my family and his family. Our parents were friends and I had known him for 5 years. I considered him my best friend. We were

all in the hotel, in different rooms, when I went down to his room to go hang out. We had always been kind of flirty, but we had never been a thing. He had a girlfriend at the time, and because he was my best friend, I was still being flirty because that's just how we were. This time was different, he made a move on me. For a second it was okay before deciding it wasn't. I told him no. I told him to stop, but he didn't. He left handprints on me and he bit me so hard I was bleeding. When I ran to my mother for help, bruises and blood all over me, she told me that he was a good boy and that he probably didn't mean to do it. While being completely unvalidated and unsupported, I tried to talk about it with him during the trip. He was so wrapped up in his head about cheating on his girlfriend that he didn't even realize he had sexually assaulted me."

Unfortunately, this was not the student's first experience with sexual assault. The trauma dates back all the way to age 11, when she was molested by her babysitter and then again, at age 15, when she was an exchange student in Turkey. The survivor recounts many instances where she was groped, grabbed, and stalked. During her senior year of high school, she was raped, not once, but twice.

These assaults led to complications in all aspects of her life.

"I couldn't go out to drink, and I still can't really go out and drink. I feel too endangered," shares the survivor. "It has created a negative relationship with sex. I can't have a normal sex life because I feel guilty when I partake in sexual activities. I feel like I'm hurting my body even though it's consensual and I know it is okay. That has been really distracting because I'm a 21 year old woman in college. I should be able to go out and have fun and date with no problem."

The UNI student believes if the people she turned to first would have shown more support, things might have been easier for her going forward.

The survivor stated, "The first two people you go to can either build you up or tear you down." However, she accentuates the importance of getting help and confiding in others.

"Don't let people isolate themselves. The first sign of depression is exhaustion."

Even today, three years after her breaking point, she still struggles with her past and is just now opening herself up to professional help in order to find ways to cope and gain control of her life.

In the case of Jennie McClain, a UNI alumna, her assaulter was her boyfriend of five years.

“It happened throughout our whole relationship. He would want me to do things to show him that I love him or he would do that because he said he loved me. If I said no, he said that turned him on, that he likes seeing me cry in that instance. Anytime that I brought up that I didn’t think it was a safe or a healthy relationship he would just make fun of it just [sarcastically] saying things like ‘oh yeah I’m abusing you,’” McClain shares.

Some schools across the nation make women believe they are dressing in an inappropriate manner, causing a distraction. McClain explains how growing up with this mentality is wrong and how the people that should be restricted are the people that are being distracted.

“I think they should stop making it only the girl’s fault. Girls are told not to wear spaghetti straps because their shoulders are distracting, shorts must be a certain length because their butts are distracting, and some schools don’t allow leggings or yoga pants because that’s distracting too. I feel like it’s not about what people wear. There’s obviously something wrong if someone can’t wear certain clothing without constantly being sexualized.

“They shouldn’t focus on the victim, they should focus on the person doing it.”

UNI has worked very hard to create a safe environment for students so they will not face ridicule or judgement following an assault. The Center for Violence Prevention strives to ensure that students will receive help after going through traumatic events such as these.

“If we say we are a welcoming environment that advocates for the safety of all students and reinforces the message that any type of harm or abuse is unacceptable, then we must create a campus culture that says, ‘You are safe here, however, if you have been harmed in any way, we will believe you,’” explains Heisterkamp.

“We want to help create a climate where victims of sexual assault are supported and receive services for which they are entitled, as opposed to feeling they can not share what happened to them because no one will believe them or they are made to feel responsible for a crime that has been committed against them.”

The #MeToo movement has allowed people to feel a greater sense of acceptance. UNI provides several resources to help people receive medical and emotional help post-assault. However, a lot of problems still reside with their peers. This is what #MeToo is bringing not only to UNI’s campus, but for victims all over the world.

“I really appreciate the #MeToo movement,” says Crispin. “I had a really difficult time coming forward about the time I was raped. That kind of gave me a reason to step forward and share my story with people because a lot of people didn’t know at the time and I didn’t want to be judged in a harsh way. Because of the #MeToo movement, and because there were so many other powerful women coming forward with their stories, it gave me the courage to do the same.”

Vanessa McNeal, a national speaker, film producer, and business owner who has been advocating for sexual assault awareness since her first film documentary, *I Am*, was released in 2015, also stands behind the movement.

“I think that it’s about time,” McNeal states. “It’s long overdue and I think that this is just the very beginning. We have so much work to do and I think if this movement has told us anything, it’s that there is such a pervasive problem and so much to do about it.”

All three survivors agree that coming forward has helped them with their healing process. It is time to show the world that sexual assault is a problem and that it is something that needs to be talked about.

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President Donald Trump has spoken out about his personal views on Planned Parenthood by saying, “It’s like an abortion factory, frankly.” Unbeknownst to President Trump, Planned Parenthood offers a wide variety of services aside from abortions. These services include cancer screenings, STD testing, birth control, emergency contraception, and information on overall health for Americans all over the United States. This includes those who may or may not have adequate health insurance to cover the costs.

President Trump signed a law on April 13, 2017, permitting each state the right to discontinue funding for facilities that provide abortion services. Planned Parenthood is just one of more than 600 abortion clinics nationwide at risk of losing public funding. Without organizations such as Planned Parenthood, women may face life-threatening alternative methods in order to undergo an abortion.

Planned Parenthood’s 2016-2017 annual report showed that abortion services made up only 3% of administered services while STI testing and treatment services made up 47%. Looking at these numbers, it is apparent that Americans are content with utilizing their facilities to receive proper medical care.

Medical care for pregnant women is often overlooked as being one of Planned Parenthood’s services. This is because the media is quick to cover the efforts the organization makes for those who are not ready to have a child, as opposed to those who choose to be pro-life. Women are able to experience a healthy pregnancy thanks to the

resources and information provided at Planned Parenthood facilities. Prenatal care is one of the pregnancy services that is offered. Not all women can afford prenatal care from a gynecologist, making Planned Parenthood a suitable alternative.

Many people remain uninformed of the other available health services at Planned Parenthood because abortion tends to be their most newsworthy service. Their facilities offer support for those within the LGBTQ+ community including information on sexual identity and orientation which may be vital for those seeking help.

“DEFUNDING PLANNED PARENTHOOD WILL NOT STOP ABORTIONS. IT WILL STOP SAFE ABORTIONS FROM BEING PERFORMED BY MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS IN A SAFE AND STERILE ENVIRONMENT.”

Alongside information about sexual identity, sexual education is yet another service provided by Planned Parenthood. The information is easy to access through their website and video series. Their website allows users to learn about reproductive health, sexually transmitted diseases, and birth control methods. Their website acquires over 73 million views each year.

Cancer screenings are another lesser known service offered by Planned Parenthood. Having a

safe and sterile environment is vital to those who are in need of accessible health care. Anyone is able to schedule an appointment to be screened for various types of cancers. These screenings save thousands of lives each year, if caught early enough, and allow people to form a plan of action. The Cancer Survivors Network for Planned Parenthood is a group founded by individuals whose cancer was detected at a Planned Parenthood facility. The group offers outlets to share stories about their cancer experiences. The main goal of the network is to openly support the facility and the screenings they provide.

Trump's plans to defund Planned Parenthood, due to his own personal beliefs, does not solely defund a facility that offers safe abortions. He is defunding a facility that offers affordable, safe, and legal general health care. Defunding Planned Parenthood will not stop abortions; it will stop safe abortions from being performed by medical professionals in a safe and sterile environment.

If Trump continues to support laws that defund Planned Parenthood, many Americans risk losing access to reduced-cost health care. The American people have the right to safe, secure, and affordable health facilities. "Planned Parenthood believes sexual and reproductive health rights are basic rights," and so should you.

LINK TO YOUTUBE VIDEO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uyxfERV5ttY>

“TRUMP’S PLANS TO DEFUND PLANNED PARENTHOOD, DUE TO HIS OWN PERSONAL BELIEFS, DOES NOT SOLELY DEFUND A FACILITY THAT OFFERS SAFE ABORTIONS. HE IS DEFUNDING A FACILITY THAT OFFERS AFFORDABLE, SAFE, AND LEGAL GENERAL HEALTH CARE.”



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*Credits Austin Burke (design), Sierra Ovel (model) and Dr. Mitchell Strauss (photography)

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WORDS CRAIG MILLER, WHITNEY MCGILL,
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DESIGN SADÉ BUTLER

I've always been interested in art and fashion. Alongside the fact that I am male and grew up in a fairly conservative town, this made me stand out. It took me a long time to become comfortable expressing that part of who I am, despite comments and judgements from others. I see society becoming more and more accepting of men in creative roles, and it gives me hope for all the talent that will come from future generations.



One the toughest hardships that I had to go through was being pick on because I didn't fit the stereotypical black girl persona. In the sixth grade I was always be picked on because of my hair and the way I talk. Most of the kids that would pick on me was other African American girls. My hair was not the straightest and it was really at that time period, it was hard to style. I didn't like putting artificial hair in my hair either because I didn't look like myself. Granted my so called hair look better, but at the same time I felt fake. Another topic that girls made fun of me was the way I talk. I didn't talk like the other black girls, and that I talk like a white girl. Therefore the girls would call me an "Oreo" meaning black on the outside and white on the inside. They would also change my name from Whitney to "Whitency". At that time period I was hurt and embarrassed therefore causing me to change the way I talk. I would try to talking to the mirror and change the way I sound but it never sounded right and it didn't sound like me either. At that time I did not realizing that I was setting myself in a stereotype.

The moments of bullying had always stuck with me because it cause a conflict of what I should say or not to say. Therefore causes me to be more



I have experienced diversity when a male colleague told me that I was "an excellent, great photographer" and "even better than him" but then proceeded to say, "but you'll never go as far because you're a girl and won't get the same connections as me."



Here's the thing about life. It's a big ol' crazy shit show with intermissions of bliss. I was diagnosed with cancer at age 10 and had 3 years of chemo therapy and radiation sure that part of my life sucked it sucked a lot! But people seem to think once you've finish treatment and all your hair grows back you're healthy and normal again. That couldn't be more false. Everyday I still face the side effects of a disease I supposedly "beat" 11 years ago. Chemo brain is real and that entire experience has changed who I am as a person. I simultaneously hate and thank cancer for who I am today.

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