Comedic Timing

Since I'm still feeling the aftereffects of the foolhardy from last week, I wanna talk about an April fools joke that goes well beyond the day. For whatever reason, in life, I have always been at the weirdest places in the weirdest times - like fate is starting a career as a comedy act. Just recently I was out on a backpacking trip during a pretty rainy week in the smokies. Going into the trip, every weather app, station, and update pointed to a miserable week, but, like magic, for the first three days of the trip, we never encountered anything past 20-minute spritz-showers. That is, until the very last night of the trip where, after finishing our 20-mile trek we were out of the woods and were going to spend the last night at a decked-out campground. Only, right as we were all set up for the night and going to get food (we had access to our cars on the last night), thunder, lightning, and heavy rain all hit fast. Within 20 minutes, the mountains were being shut down for 75 MPH winds, and we had to pack our things and leave. This was really unfortunate at the moment, BUT, looking back on it now I find it hilarious how fate decided to wait until the last minute to hit us with severe weather.

Anyway, maybe it isn't a comedy, but these upcoming events are nothing to laugh at. Learn about the incredible world of writing (and maybe pick up a new hobby) at the Artists Collective Writing Workshop. Fledgling mathematician? Or just somebody who knows their numbers? Apply to be an EOF Summer Institute Online Math Coach. Those looking to pursue a career related to humanitarianism should sign up for the UNMA Career Talk. Celebrate Robeson week (and get your mind back in the travel-state) by attending the upcoming Black and Abroad event. We've taken a lot of steps to get where we are, those wondering how these steps will soften the blow of any future pandemic should drop by How Rutgers’ Coordinated Response to COVID-19 is Informing Preparation for Future Pandemics.

Take part in an incredible non-profit founded by one of our own by applying to be a Backpack Tutoring Volunteer. Share your talent with the broader community by applying to teach an SASHP Masterclass. Show some love to this month’s Honors Alumni Spotlight. Start the spring experience with the newest addition to the Flavors of Rutgers Recipe Book.

Warm Regards,
Justin Confalone
Your newsletter editor
Artists' Collective Writing Workshop

Writing is one of those things that everybody should try to make a hobby out of at least once as the ability to get thoughts down on a page in any form is therapeutic. Well, this is your call! Any should-be, would-be, and could-be writers should stop by the upcoming Artists Collective Writing Workshop. This event will feature writing exercises to help spur your creativity as well as an important discussion on the different styles of writing and how each of them may best apply to you. Those interested should register here for this event - taking place today, Apr 5 at 7pm EST.

Online Math Coaches Wanted

Okay, this one requires some explaining. The Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) program institutes a yearly summer program to help EOF scholars make the transition from high school to college. Anyone who would like to offer their skills to students in the EOF program should apply for the (paid) position as an EOF Summer Institute Math Coach. After taking several (compensated) training modules, coaches will be able to directly aid students in easing into the RU math curriculum. More information can be found here.

UNMA Career Talk

Considering a career in NGO work, finance, law, international development, or diplomacy? Stop by the upcoming UNMA Career Talk. This event will feature four professionals partnered with the UN & Global Policy Studies (UNMA) department who will answer questions about their career and recommend next steps for prospective students. This event takes place this Thurs, Apr 8 at 4pm EST. Registration can be found here.
**Black and Abroad**
Join the Paul Robeson Cultural Center for their April talk: **Black and Abroad**. Paul Robeson was a true humanitarian that crisscrossed the globe, spoke over a dozen languages, and spoke truth not only to systemically racist power structures, but to any system that wielded power for the marginalization and oppression of others. Many of these systems are still in place today, but, as any would-be globetrotter would, there is more to the experience of travel. Learn all about how to navigate the various factors that affect what it means to be Black & Abroad by attending this incredible event - taking place today, Apr 5 at 6pm EST. Register [here](#).

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**How Rutgers’ Coordinated Response to COVID-19 is Informing Preparation for Future Pandemics**
In this webinar, William Gause, David Alland, and leading scientists at the center will describe how they are leveraging Rutgers’ extensive expertise in global pathogens and its world-class biocontainment facilities into a leading center to fight COVID-19 and prepare for future pandemics. Look, I understand we’re all stressed about the possibility of something like Covid happening again, so ease your worries by attending this event on Thurs, Apr 8 at 5pm EST. Register [here](#).

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**Backpack Tutoring Volunteer App**
Can you believe a fellow SASHP student started their own nonprofit? Want a part in the incredible work that Backpack Tutoring is doing? Say no more! Those interested in helping in this nonprofit’s mission should apply to be a Backpack Tutoring Volunteer. Backpack Tutoring is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that provides virtual, free, 1-1 academic help, and is in the process of creating lesson plans and practice materials for K-12 students. There are positions open for interviewees and for K-12 lesson plan creation. Find out more by emailing backpacktutoring.nj@gmail.com.
SASHP Masterclass Application

Want to teach a bunch of students about a hidden passion, talent, or skill of your own? Say no more! The SASHP is still accepting Masterclass applications. Cooking demonstrations, workouts, dance classes, camping safety, anything (within reason) goes in the masterclass series. The possibilities are endless and your lesson can cover any area or skill that you enjoy! Apply here.

April Honors Alumni Spotlight

This month’s Honors Alumni Spotlight goes out to ‘20 alum, Devin Barzallo. After graduating with a dual degree in biological sciences and psychology, Devin went on to attend medical school at Case Western Reserve University. As to why he loved his time at RU, Devin said that he was given total autonomy to tailor his education to his personal needs/interests. Read the rest about this awesome alum here.

Flavors of Rutgers Menu Item: Iced Melon Moroccan Mint Tea

Ya, you read that right. This one wowed me too when I was looking into potential recipes for this week. Find the right balance between crisp and sweet and sweet and tangy by trying this week’s Flavors of Rutgers Menu Item: Iced Melon Moroccan Mint Tea!
ICED MELON MOROCCAN MINT TEA

***Makes 5 Servings

2 cups water
12 fresh mint leaves
4 individual green tea bags
1/8-1/2 cup sugar
(depending on your preferred sweetness)
2-1/2 cups diced honeydew melon
1-1/2 cups ice cubes
Additional ice cubes (as needed)

DIRECTIONS

1. In a large saucepan, bring water to a boil. Remove from the heat; add mint and tea bags. Cover and steep for 3-5 minutes. Discard mint and tea bags. Stir in the sugar.
2. In a blender, process honeydew until blended. Add 1-1/2 cups ice and tea; process until blended. Serve over additional ice.