Well, December 2nd is here and that means the holiday season has officially begun! Call it basic, but the holidays have always been my favorite time of year. Something about the sense of warmth, nostalgia, joy, and color the season brings has always created an incredible atmosphere. And, regardless of when, what, or how you celebrate, I think we can all use some joy in our lives right now. The pandemic, finals, and everyday anxieties have been pretty constant issues. So let’s use the holiday atmosphere as a way to lift the mood a little bit because honestly, we all deserve it!

Add some extra joy to your schedule by checking out the next couple weeks of events! Kick back with some good headphones and enjoy some of Rutgers’ finest as they perform at the Artists Collective Coffee House. Watch the crazy-popular Hamilton while making something unique of your own at the SASHP Peer Mentor (Snow)Flakes & Films. Looking for a second of quiet when constantly around family and roommates this finals season? Sign up for a personal meeting room at one of RU’s student centers. Check out this month’s featured honors alum Antoinette Armocida. Taking advantage of last week’s tutoring announcement? Why not become one yourself by filling out next semester’s Spring Tutoring Application. In the spirit of the holidays, I wanted to shout out one of our recent blog posts on “Making the Best of the Holidays: Covid-19 Edition.”

Warm Regards,
Justin Confalone
Your newsletter editor
Artists’ Collective Coffee House

So, to elaborate on the Giving Tree story, a dude walked up to the mic without saying a word and in the most deadpan voice imaginable, read the entirety of The Giving Tree with a straight face then walked away... You can have that by attending the upcoming Artists Collective Coffee House. The event will likely feature singers, dancers, and just about any performance imaginable, so kick back, wear your finest headphones, and enjoy this Fri, Dec 4 at 7pm EST. This is gonna be an awesome event, so check out their social media for the link.

(Snow)Flakes & Films

Destress before finals with an evening of Hamilton, paper snowflakes, and good company at the (Snow)Flakes & Films event. Run by the Peer Mentor Program, this event is open to all students and takes place next Thurs, Dec 10 at 7pm EST. Scissors, paper, Disney+ subscription, and a love for Hamilton, snowflakes, and/or people are required to join. The Zoom link can be found here.

Personal Study Room Reservations

Looking for a quiet space of your own this finals season and/or missing RU? Rent a room at one of the Rutgers student centers for any academic endeavor (i.e., online classes, academic sessions, exams and meetings with professors and other Rutgers staff). 1-2 people may rent a room together once a day for a total of 3 hours as long as a current RUID is given. Reserve a space here.
Honors Alumni Spotlight: December

This month, take some time to learn about SASHP alum Antoinette Armocida ‘20, who majored in philosophy and religion. Antoinette calls herself an “untraditional student,” who attended RU later in life than most. She wants to use this spotlight to encourage all SASHP students to “lean-in” to all that is offered. Read more about Antoinette’s journey here.

Spring Tutoring Application

Students in good academic standing looking to do some good for their peers should sign up to be an SASHP spring tutor. Tutors can volunteer as little as two hours a week (depending on availability) and are free to share their knowledge of any class they have completed with a B+ or better. Apply here.


“While experts agree that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic may mean that your typical holiday gathering will look different this year, there may be some safe ways to create a sense of normalcy this holiday season,” writes author Maggie Brancato. Read the rest here.

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