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Immigration News and Events

International Essay Contest *Many Languages, One World*

The United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI), in collaboration with ELS Educational Services, Inc., (ELS) invites students, 18 years and older, who are enrolled in a course of study at a college or university, to participate in an essay contest on the theme "Many Languages, One World."

The essay should relate to ideas of global citizenship and understanding and to the role that linguistic abilities and felicity can play in fostering these. Entries, of up to 2000 words in length should be in an official language of the United Nations that is not the mother tongue of the entrant or the principal medium of instruction in his or her education. The official languages of the United Nations are Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

To learn more, visit the [contest website](#).



ALERT!

Recent Immigration Scams

The Slutzker Center has been made aware of recent incidences across the country in which international students and scholars

have become the target of immigration-related scams. These scams often involve a phone call from an individual claiming to be from the state police, the IRS, USCIS, ICE, or some other government agency. The individual may know specific information about you, such as your Social Security Number, Alien Registration Number, or the schools you have attended and degrees earned. Most often, the scammer will threaten you or your dependents with deportation unless you pay a certain amount of money.

Please be aware that no one from a US government agency would ever threaten deportation and demand money over the phone. If you receive a similar phone call, you should not give out any of your personal information. Ask the person for their name, who they are working for, and their phone number. Tell them you will call them back or simply just hang up. Then visit the [USCIS Report Scams](#) website for information on how to properly report the scam. Remember reporting scams will not affect your immigration status, applications, or petitions. Also, many states allow you to report scams anonymously.

For more information on how to avoid becoming a scam victim, please visit the [USCIS Avoid Scams](#) website.



Slutzker Center News and Events

Connections Halloween Party

It's Halloween time and the Connections Program hosted its annual Halloween-Pumpkin Carving party! The Connections program is offered by the Slutzker Center for International Services for all new first year and transfer international students. It prepares a group of mentors and fun monthly activities to help these new students find advice on topics such as settling into Syracuse, living with a roommate, opening a bank account, meeting new friends, getting along with your teachers, and handling academic work.

Our Halloween-Pumpkin Carving party was our most recent monthly activity and took place last Friday at the Slutzker house, where mentors and mentees enjoyed hot chocolate and carved pumpkins! The evening was full of happy faces, pictures, and many pumpkins!

"It was great to have so many things here in the house, I found it fun!!!" Ting (mentor).



Origins of Halloween

Straddling the line between fall and winter, plenty and paucity, life and death, Halloween is a time of celebration and superstition. It is thought to have originated with the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain, when people would light bonfires and wear costumes to ward off roaming ghosts. In the eighth century, Pope Gregory III designated November 1 as a time to honor all saints and martyrs; the holiday, All Saints' Day,

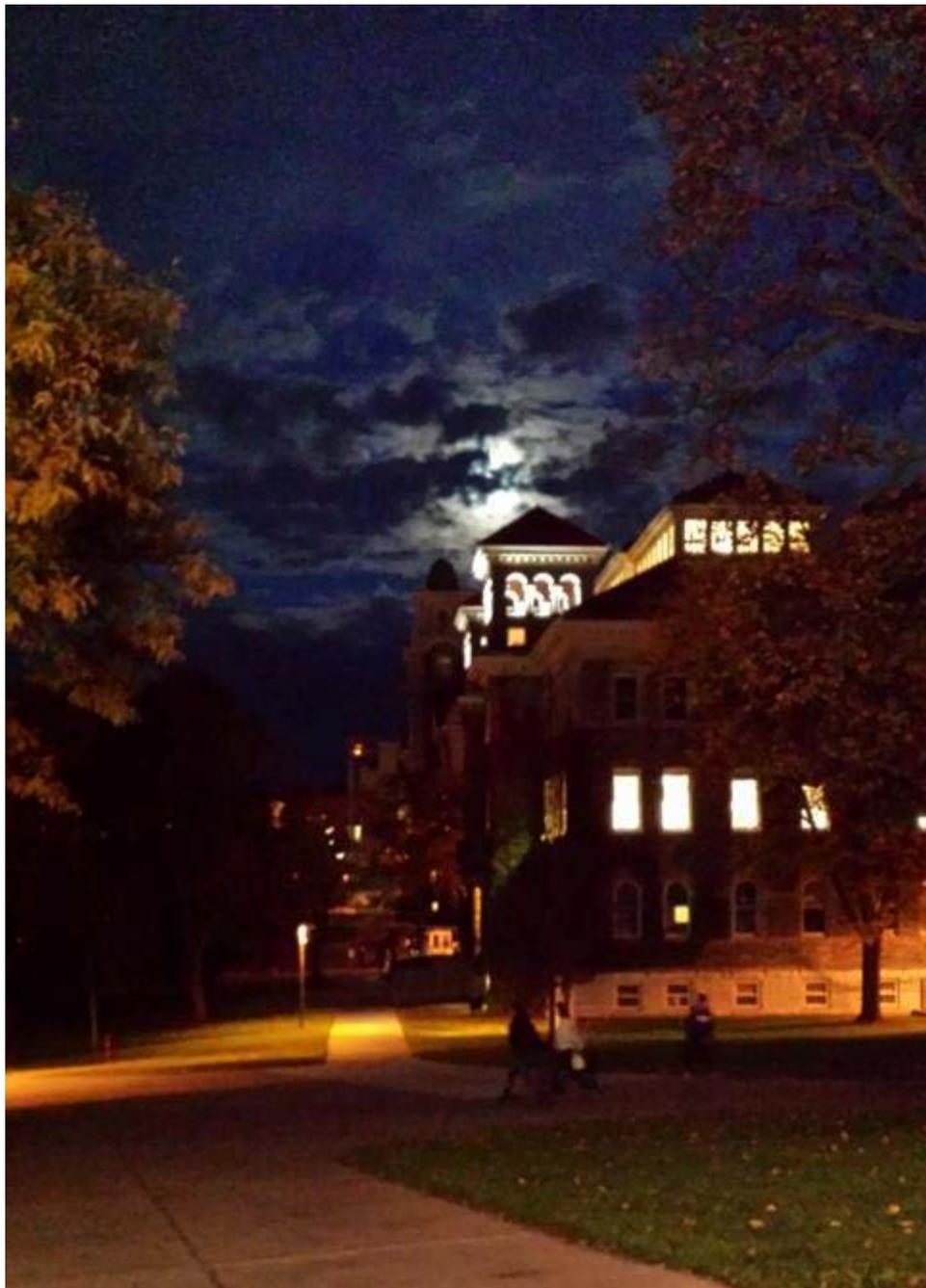
incorporated some of the traditions of Samhain. The evening before was known as All Hallows' Eve and later Halloween. Over time, Halloween evolved into a secular, community-based event characterized by child-friendly activities such as trick-or-treating. In a number of countries around the world, as the days grow shorter and the nights get colder, people continue to usher in the winter season with gatherings, costumes and sweet treats.

For further details about the origins of Halloween, please visit history.com.



Picture of the Week

Laxmikant Pathade took this picture from the slopes near the Hall of Languages facing towards Lyman Hall. He was hurrying to catch the Nob Hill bus, but couldn't resist capturing this shot. Laxmikant is a Chemistry PhD student from India who just started at Syracuse this Fall. He thought this would be a great picture to include in the Halloween edition of SCIS News.



For the chance to have your picture featured as Picture of the Week, please send it via email to lescis@syr.edu with the subject line of "Picture of the Week." Submissions can be from anywhere on the globe!

Syracuse University Events

Zipcar Special Offer for Syracuse University Students

Once you're stateside for university, you'll have a lot to do. Find all your classes, meet as many people as possible, and explore the world on and off campus. How can you best enjoy all this new found freedom? Check out Zipcar.

Zipcar is a car-sharing service with vehicles on and off campus that lets you reserve cars by the hour or the day. (Gas and insurance included.) You only need to be 18+ to join. Simply go



to zipcar.com/SU . Use the promo code FLUENT13 to join for only \$25 and get \$50 in free driving to get you started.

Zipcar accepts all foreign licenses so even if you don't have a car on campus, you can still get around.

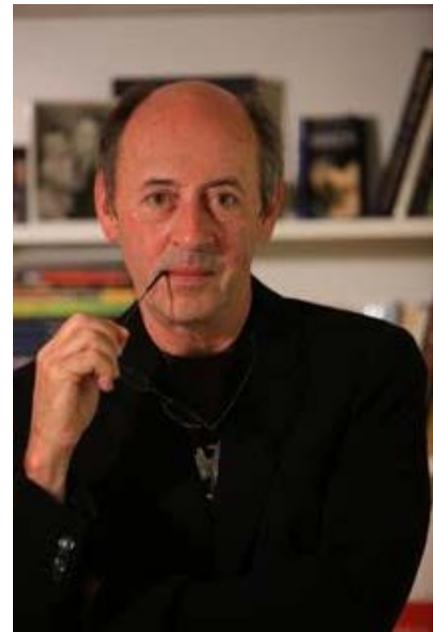
Any questions? Contact the SU Zipcar representative, Trish Kilgannon pmkilgan@syr.edu.

Billy Collins
Aimless Love: New and Selected Poetry
Hendricks Chapel
October 30, 7:30pm

Billy Collins is an American phenomenon. No poet since Robert Frost has managed to combine high critical acclaim with such broad popular appeal as Collins has. A former United States Poet Laureate (2001-03) and New York State Poet Laureate (2004-06), Collins sees his poetry as "a form of travel writing" and considers humor "a door into the serious."

Collins has published nine collections of poetry, and his work has appeared in a variety of periodicals including The New Yorker, The Paris Review and The American Scholar. He is a Guggenheim fellow and a New York Public Library "Literary Lion." Collins' most recent book, "Aimless Love: New and Selected Poems 2003–2013," was published in March.

This lecture is sponsored in cooperation with the Humanities Center as part of the 2013 Syracuse Symposium and is free and open to the public. Attendees are asked to begin arriving at 6:45pm to be seated. For more information, visit the [University Lectures](#) website.



Syracuse vs. Clemson
Men's Varsity Soccer
Varsity Soccer Stadium
November 1, 7pm

Attention all soccer fans out there. On Friday, November 1st there will be a Men's Varsity Soccer game vs. The Clemson Tigers on South Campus at the Varsity Soccer Stadium.

There will be buses going from College Place (across from Life Sciences) every 30 minutes or so, and you just want to take the 344 South Campus bus and get off at Manley Field House.

*All admissions are free of cost.

Filmscreening of "I Am"

by Indian Filmmaker Onir
Joyce Hergenhahn Auditorium, Newhouse
November 4, 6:30pm

An innovative entrepreneur, Onir writes, directs, produces and edits his own films. He also uses social media to crowdfund his films and build a fan base. The only openly gay filmmaker in India, Onir's Twitter bio proudly proclaims: "I AM GAY and refuse to be INVISIBLE."

"I Am" (110 mins, India, Hindi with English subtitles, 2010), the winner of two prestigious Indian National Awards, weaves together the tumultuous lives of four characters struggling with their identity and paints a compelling portrait of contemporary Indian society as it grapples with the vital issues of religious conflict, homophobia, sexual abuse and single motherhood. Shot in four different cities across India, it is a fusion of stories based on true events, where the protagonists share a desire to regain their lives and to regain an identity that has been taken away from them. It stars Juhi Chawla, Manisha Koirala, Rahul Bose, Nandita Das, Sanjay Suri and Purab Kohli.

The screening will be followed by a discussion with the filmmaker, Onir.



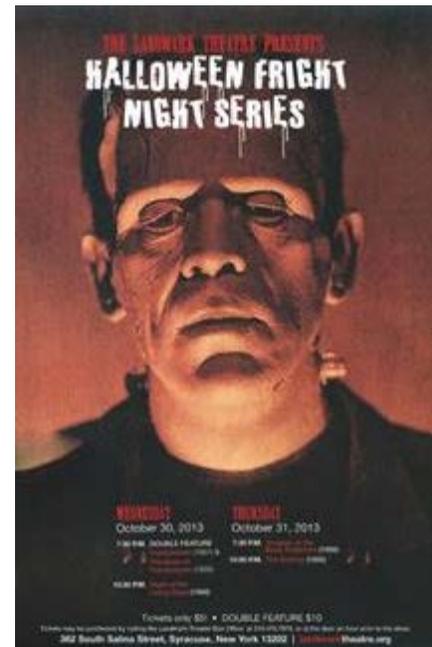
Cultural and Community Events

Halloween Fright Night Series
Landmark Theatre
October 30 & 31, 7:30pm

Movies are coming back to the Landmark Theatre! The Landmark Film Series kicks off with a classic Halloween series that is sure to thrill! They open with a classic DOUBLE FEATURE of the 1931 version of "Frankenstein" followed by "The Bride of Frankenstein" (1935) after a fifteen minute intermission! The late show on Wednesday, Oct 30, will be the zombie movie that started it all... "Night of the Living Dead" (1968)!!

Then on Halloween night, come dressed in your Halloween costume for a chance to win prizes and drink specials and prepare to be scared by the 1956 classic "Invasion of the Body Snatchers"!! And, finally, hot off the heels of his recent sequel "Doctor Sleep" comes Stephen King's horror masterpiece, "The Shining" (1980) at 10:00pm on Halloween night!

Tickets are \$5 per movie and can be purchased at the door an hour before showtimes or by calling 315-475-7979!



8 Bit Weapon & ComputerHer Concert
Everson Museum of Art
November 1, 7pm

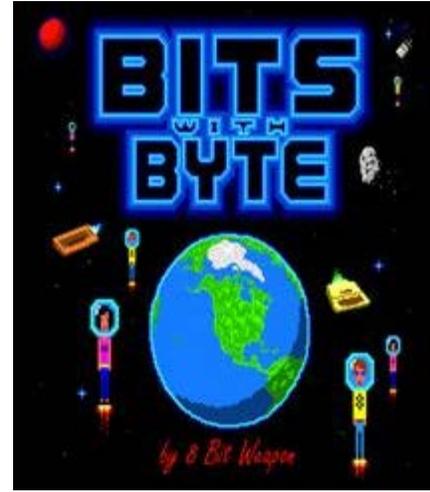
8 Bit Weapon is a husband and wife team, Seth and Michelle Sternberger.

Inspired by classic video game soundtracks and electronic music from the 70s and 80s, they use an arsenal of classic video game



consoles and vint

8 Bit Weapon has independently released 11 albums, their latest of which, Bits with Byte, features *The Art of Video Games* anthem. ComputerHer is the solo project of Michelle Sternberger. Michelle creates intricate electronic music using retro gaming consoles and 8-bit computers. With hard beats and colorful melodies, ComputerHer's spirited catalog of music depicts a world of energized lo-fi bliss.



For more information and to purchase tickets to this event, please visit the [Everson Museum](#) website.

Taste NY Harvest Fest
NY State Fairgrounds, Horticulture Bldg
November 2&3

Savor the opportunity to sample and purchase some of the best food and beverages from New York State.

This event an abundance of mouthwatering samples in a multi-day celebration of New York specialty food, wine and beer.

This year, they're looking forward to more of the same – and then some. Growers and producers from across the state will offer the public the opportunity to taste and purchase award-winning wines and beers as well as various food samples from all across the state, all for a new discounted price. From crisp tasty produce to fine wines, quality meats, baked goods, maple and honey products, salsas, marinades, baked goods and more, it's all there.

Advance sale tickets will be available in person, by phone or by fax starting on Friday, October 18th. Visit the [NY State Fairgrounds](#) website for more information.



Important Reminders

[Full-Time Course of Study](#)

[Meeting Your Health Requirements](#)

[HR notice for on-campus employees](#)

[Is it your last semester of study?](#)

[Transferring from SU to a new U.S. school](#)

[Protecting Your Property](#)

[US Embassy Announcements](#)

[Check your VISA Application Status in India](#)

[E-Verify Employers & Federal Contractors List](#)

[Copycat "Immigration Help" Sites](#)

[Optional Practical Training EAD cards](#)

[CPT/OPT Seminars](#)

[Address Change Reporting Requirements](#)

[Studying Abroad](#)

[Keeping Good Rental Records](#)

[International Student Arrests & Public Safety](#)

Quotes to keep you thinking

- “Often, the less there is to justify a traditional custom, the harder it is to get rid of it.” – **Mark Twain**
- “Our loyalties are to the species and the planet. We speak for Earth. Our obligation to survive is owed not just to ourselves but also to that Cosmos, ancient and vast, from which we spring.” – **Carl Sagan**
- “We can never judge the lives of others, because each person knows only their own pain and renunciation. It’s one thing to feel that you are on the right path, but it’s another to think that yours is the only path.” – **Paulo Coelho**
- “In our appetite for gossip, we tend to gobble down everything before us, only to find, too late, that it is our ideals we have consumed, and we have not been enlarged by the feasts but only diminished.” – **Pico Iyer**

Stay informed about the latest news, important reminders and updates



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