The Tony Award-winning musical “Into the Woods” will be performed at the UTEP Dinner Theatre starting April 22 and will run through May 8. Photo by Annabella Mireles/The Prospector

Get lost in the world of theatre

BY VICTORIA RIVAS
The Prospector

UTEP’s Dinner Theatre is ready to transport its audience to a magical world filled with fairytale characters and evil spells with its upcoming production “Into the Woods.”

Based on the Broadway musical that premiered in 1987 and not on the 2014 film starring Meryl Streep, Johnny Depp and Emily Blunt, “Into the Woods” is set to enchant the public with its beautiful lyrics and plot.

The Tony Award-winning musical follows a baker and his barren wife who wish to have a child and follows a baker and his barren wife who wish to have a child and follows a baker and his barren wife who wish to have a child and follows a baker and his barren wife who wish to have a child. They are joined by Little Red Riding Hood, Jack and the Beanstalk, Rapunzel, and Cinderella through their adventure.

“Into the Woods is a whimsically enticing adventure following the intertwining path of unlikely characters on a journey deep into the darkness and light found only in the woods and features an amazing score by America’s foremost composer of musicals,” said Gregory Taylor, director of the UTEP Dinner Theater.

For more than seven weeks, the cast has been rehearsing, and the production team has been working on the costumes and sets to entertain the public with a rare but modern classic production, according to Taylor.

“The beautiful music and intriguing lyrics by Stephen Sondheim are what set this show apart. Also, the very funny book by James Lapine, which cleverly weaves all the different fairy tales into one beautiful story,” Taylor said.

UTEP’s Dinner Theatre decided to replace its spring production of “Something Rotten” with “Into the Woods” to honor the life and career of composer and lyricist Stephen Sondheim, who died on November 2021.

“When Stephen Sondheim passed away in November, everyone around the world started to announce tribute concerts and productions to honor his life and career achievements,” Taylor said. “I felt as El Paso’s main producer of musical theatre that we should also do something to mark the occasion. I did not want to wait a year to do something, so we decided to replace a show that was already scheduled for this season with a Sondheim show.”

“Into the Woods” has already been produced by the Dinner Theatre 32 years ago in 1991. It was directed by Kerri Harrison and was a great success.

“It is also the most popular and successful of his musicals where he wrote both words and music. All those pieces came together to make ‘Into the Woods’ the best choice for our tribute production,” Taylor said.

See INTO THE WOODS on page 4
BY ALBERTO SILVA FERNANDEZ
The Prospector

Music serves as a therapeutic escape during harsh times

Music is everywhere, thanks to smartphones and free music streaming apps like Spotify, people have access to a wide variety of music at their fingertips. Today, you cannot walk ten feet on campus without seeing someone with their headphones on, as they listen to music during their downtime or as motivation for an assignment. For someone who grew up surrounded by music, from contemporary and conceptual art, we are talking about the artists and their feelings, their struggles and contexts. For the sake of this opinion piece, I will use the term "modern art" to talk about all three types of art, but to be clear, I am referring to art from 1860s to the present. Modern art has been deeply criticized because it is different. An Art Radar Journal entry says that "the fact that any technique and material can be used to make contemporary art implies that the artist does not focus on how realistic or well the artwork is executed." Artists have access to so many materials and techniques that it drives people away from the classic oil paintings with gold leaves.

Artists are now working with photography, installations, printmaking, performances, and more. But this time, they are not working for a patron, they are working for their artwork and for themselves. One must look at these pieces and try to empathize with the artist and find possible meaning behind the piece. Why is it that we can appreciate Van Gogh’s sadness in “The Starry Night,” but not the longing and mourning for love in Felix Gonzalez-Torres’ "Perfect Lovers." I recently learned about Felix Gonzalez-Torres, which I believe to be an notable example of how if there is a meaning and intention behind the object, it can become art, even if it does not follow the ground rules for art techniques. Modern art is rebellious because of it.

"Perfect Lovers" is a piece composed of two perfectly synchronized clocks, hanging on the walls of the Dallas Museum of Art. Dated in 1988, Gonzalez-Torres wrote a letter to his late partner that said “We conquered fate by meeting at a certain time in a certain space... We were synchronized, now and forever.” These two simple clocks that Gonzalez-Torres bought at an ordinary store, look the same as many hanging in other people’s houses, but now they share a different meaning. It is a homage to his partner, who passed away from AIDS.

Alberto Silva Fernandez, a graphic designer who owns the podcast “Hablamos Arts” talks about how contemporary art, despite being made from ordinary objects, it can portray a message and be considered art.

"Intention is what differentiates art from a commercial product,” Villarreal said.

"It doesn’t need to be the peak of talent and skill, but a way in which a person communicates great ideas. It is the thought that gives the object a meaning, not the object itself. Yes, we should be critical, critical thinkers and look for the meaning behind what we have in front of our eyes, what it is made of and why, what it stands for and what it makes you feel.”

— Alberto Silva Fernandez, in the editor’s note and may be reached at albertosilva.f@gmail.com on Instagram; @albertosilva_f on twitter

Maria L. Guerrero Duran is the web and copy editor.
Director Erica Marin. activated as well. And one of these tests for equality and basic human adult labor, but also child labor.” More information can be found of

Institution called Smithsonian In- with protests against Vietnam,

June 26. Te exhibit highlights la- Marin said.

Revolución en los Campos” until the exploitation of farmworkers, “

Huerta: Revolution in the Fields/ organizers, was the injustices and

Some of the criteria the judges were looking for in these films included visual attributes, such as editing and cinematography; audio attributes, such as music, sound, re-

Some of the options considered would be to adjust your expectations and how you’re ap-

Renovas's film “Mexican Dream” replicates the story of border crossings, initiating a twist with immigrants traveling to Mexico from places like Honduras and Cuba, according to Renova. His film shows Mexico reacting just like America does, showcasing hypocrisy.

I wanted to create a message, you know, to the people in Ciudad Juarez. Why, why are we Mexicans - we also treat the people that come from the outside the same way when we want to be treated differen-

Although this was Renovas's film festival as a director, Renova has collaborated with others as a first assistant director in the El Paso Media Film Fest and wishes to

continue producing films. Fernanda Ponces piece “The Art of Living” won the Best Storytelling-

Ponces win comes just weeks after June Camponis win for Best Director” at the Oscars, making Campon the seventh woman to be

The Dolores Huerta exhibit is located at the Museum of History at 510 N. Santa Fe St. and will run until June 26. Photo by Carolina Urbair/The Prospector

The Dolores Huerta exhibit is located at the El Paso Museum of History at 510 N. Santa Fe St. and will run until June 26. Photo by Carolina Urbair/The Prospector.

Photo courtesy of UTEP's Student Engagement and Leadership Center. UTEPs Student Engagement and Leadership Center (SELC) hosted the first student film festival April 9 at the Union Cinema. The winners included (from left to right) Edgar Alvarez for the Miners Choice Award, Fernanda Ponces Best Storytelling, and Martin Renova for Best Cinematography and Overall Best Picture.

El Paso Museum of History presents Dolores Huerta exhibit

BY KRISTEN SCHEAFFER

The El Paso Museum of History is hosting an event called “Dolores Huertas Revolution in the Fields/ Revolution en los Campos” until June 26. The exhibit highlights la-

The Dolores Huerta exhibit is located at the Museum of History at 510 N. Santa Fe St. and will run until June 26. Photo by Carolina Urbair/The Prospector.

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INTO THE WOODS from page 1

Taylor promises the public a funny and clever show filled with beautiful songs and colorful costumes and backdrops. “The Dinner Theatre set, costume and make-up designers have pulled out all the stops for this one. It will be a beautiful production to watch,” Taylor said.

The production premieres at 7 p.m. Friday, April 22, and runs until Sunday, May 8. Although they have added dates due to popular demand during previous productions, it is still too early to know whether the Dinner Theatre will add new dates.

Ticket options for the “Into the Woods” production include:

- Dinner Performances (reserved tables) at 7 p.m. April 22, 23, 29, and May 6, 7
- Discount Dinner Performances (reserved tables) at 7 p.m. April 27, 28, and May 4, 5
- Matinee Discount Dinner Performance (general admission) at 2:30 p.m. May 18.

The menu for dinner performances includes chicken cordon bleu with béchamel sauce, wild rice, spring vegetables, and a garden salad with house dressing. Beverages include coffee and iced tea. Dessert consists of a tiramisu cake. Tickets are available at the UTEP Ticket Center and online at tickemaster.com. Prices range from $22.50 to $53.50 plus fees, and students can use their valid UTEP ID to receive a student discount. “Into the Woods” will recognize the public’s favorite fairy tale characters and portray them in a different light. However, although the show is based on fairy tales, it is different from page 1

two small children, Marcus has applied to different work study positions at UTEP, but says he was not given a fair chance because all the interviewers focused on his inability to see and not all the skills that he has. “My need for employment is impossible. People’s perspective of a blind person is very limited. No one knows how to help because there’s nothing in the book,” Marcus said.

One of the positions that he applied for was a janitorial position in the dorm rooms. While he was explaining to the interviewer all the attributes that he could bring to the position, the interviewer asked how he’d manage broken glass? Marcus responded that he would just simply pick it up. “I have picked up plenty of broken glass and have not cut myself,” he said. “The ignorance of the sighted person does not know the capacity of what the blind individual can do is discrimination to a certain extent.”

Marcus later applied for a work study position, the interviewer then asked him, “you do know that you will have to make copies on a copier.”

“In other words, you are blind, so you are not qualified to do this work,” Marcus said. “That is discrimination because if I have the knowledge which I proved to her, her next response should have been if you are hired and because you cannot see, we will make accommodations for some things that you will need assistance with.”

Marcus has also faced obstacles in the classroom and is currently facing the challenge of not graduating with his master’s degree due to his innability to see and not all the skills that he has. “Always ask visually impaired individuals how you can help them, don’t assume what they need. If you ever see an obstacle in a pathway on campus notify CASS and we’ll ask facilities to take care of it,” Alcala said.

Marcus said UTEP has a lot of work to do to help the visually impaired. “These situations that I have experienced and endured have broken my heart,” Marcus said. “I am normal just like you. I look for fairness and the opportunity to prove myself. There are many things that need to be corrected for fairness and the opportunity to prove myself. There are many things that need to be corrected in this school. My heart goes out to the next blind individuals that come here to UTEP. Hopefully, they will not leave with a broken heart.”

To find out information on CASS visit their website at www. utep.edu/student-affairs/cass.

Sophomore Alyson Rodriguez assists UTEP student Almicar Marcus. Photo by Annabella Mireles/The Prospector

like to prove that I am capable of doing the job, I just cannot find support here at UTEP.”

CASS has many plans on how to help visually impaired individuals at UTEP. It plans to collaborate with more UTEP faculty to help make materials more accessible to blind students. CASS also wants its whole staff to be trained in how to use more assisted technology such as JAWS, which is a screen reader.

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Imperial Legacy leaves its mark on fashion

BY KATRINA VILLARREAL
The Prospector

Faith and Marcus Smith are a sibling duo conquering the fashion world together. From New York Fashion Week to LA Fashion Week, the Smith siblings created Imperial Legacy to show fashion has no limit.

Imperial Legacy was created in 2012, but Marcus Smith explained the idea of creating a clothing line dates back to 1995. He explains how while at work 11 years ago, he drew a design, and one of his coworkers came up to him and said he should put it on a T-shirt, so he went and told his sister, Faith, that they should focus on creating a fashion business.

“Fashion has always been my thing, but as far as actually putting forth the effort to make everything happen, it was in 2012, and we just kept moving from there,” Marcus said.

Faith said they displayed their fashion at Gladys in Downtown El Paso. The two have found a great balance within each other to where if one of them needs help with something, the other will be there to help. Faith handles the business side of Imperial Legacy, and Marcus handles the design side of it, but they dabble in both areas. They both also balance Imperial Legacy with their other jobs; Faith is a teacher at Andrews High School, and Marcus works at a mental health case management firm.

“I had a sketchbook back then drawing stuff up for potential clothing company that never actually at that time came into fruition,” Marcus said.

They explain having their own fashion label has always been something they wanted to do and their influences and inspirations come from their mother, father and aunt. “Everything we’re doing is building on the legacy that we were given,” Marcus said.

Their mother was always supportive, their aunt was the one who got Marcus into fashion by taking him to clothing stores and showing him which colors work best. Their father was a woodworker and showed them how to create, and they integrated that into the items they design.

“That’s what always motivates us is knowing that we want to give our dad the world and knowing that our mom and our aunt are looking down on us. We just want to make them proud,” Faith said.

When it comes to defining fashion, the Smith siblings explain fashion is whatever makes you feel comfortable and confident. “I feel fashion is you; however, you feel your most confident, your most beautiful, your best self, that’s fashion to me,” Faith said.

Imperial Legacy offers different options for everyone. It released their “Cruella” collection in December 2021, and Faith explains it is an all black and white collection that it’s an all black and white collection.

They do everything from shoes, including heels and flip-flops, cut-erwear, jewelry, hats, and tote bags because they want to be able to dress their customers from head to toe. When designing shoes, Marcus goes by the alias “Soutam Outlook.” “Everything is a piece of walking art — not just fashion. It’s more than fashion,” Marcus said. “So, if you wear Imperial Legacy it’s because you want to be heard without saying anything, and that’s what it is.”

Imperial Legacy showcased their work at New York Fashion Week in February. Faith explained that she conducted a lot of research during the pandemic and found the Council of Fashion Designers of America opened its platform for emerging designers to join Fashion week. They went through five onboarding sessions to be considered. These days, they get asked to showcase their work.

“There’s a lot of requirements and stipulations,” Faith said. “Now we’re at the point where we don’t have to apply anymore.”

The Smith siblings’ goals are to be internationally known and sold globally the way Versace, Guess and Gucci are. They also want to uplift the community and show children that they can be whatever they want to be.

“I have a career as a teacher, but I have a whole second business that is flourishing,” Faith said. “Being able to know that you can be whatever you want to be, we’re examples of that.”

“I want to project to these children here and for the youth here in general that it doesn’t matter where you start, where you come from, stick to it, and you can make it happen,” Marcus said.

The advice Faith and Marcus would give aspiring fashion designers would be to listen to your heart, make it happen, “Marcus said. “It’s all black and white collection.”

“Their work is just black and white, but it doesn’t matter. This is what you want to do; focus and make it happen,” Marcus said. “It can happen, it will happen, but you have to put forth the effort.”

VMR@utep.edu
The event will be held in the War Eagles Air Museum and tickets are $75. Artwork from various artists such as Tino Ortega, Chicano Apodaca, Voodoo, Babak Tavakoli, and many more will be sold.

“We’re following the blueprint of Chicano Park in San Diego,” Ortega said. “Lincoln Park is considered to be Chicano Park number two. We want to make this an artist’s destination, a focal point in the city where people can come to appreciate and expand on art to build the community as a whole. To me, it’s about expressing our culture and being able to have that visual representation of where we come from. I feel like we sometimes forget where we come from. It’s nice to have a little bit of history and to be reminded of who we are,” Ortega said.

The gallery is open from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday throughout Saturday and is closed Sunday through Tuesday. For information about Galería Lincoln visit its Instagram and Facebook pages @galalatinolinc. To purchase tickets, visit www.eventbrite.com/e/art-gala-auction-tickets-300939108067 or call 575-589-2000.

Maria L. Guerrero Duran is the web and copy editor and may be reached at mlguerrerod@miners.utep.edu; @mariaguerrero both on Instagram and Twitter.

Alyson Rodriguez is a contributor and may be reached at alysonrod1127@miners.utep.edu; @alyson_rod1127 on Twitter.

EXHIBIT from page 5

“Dealing with water in the Southwest is such an important topic. I think it’s really good to bring us in the future, especially as we keep having these megadroughts, as global climate change keeps exacerbating weather patterns or just not getting the water that we used to get,” Carey-Whalen said.

During the exhibit, the public can learn about El Paso Water’s plan for a more sustainable future, by hoping to increase water sources by about 50 percent by 2050. The methods discussed are the expansion of desalination plants to use brackish water, and more advanced purification methods to treat wastewater.

Carey-Whalen said he has lived in El Paso for 10 years and recognizes the job that El Paso Water has been doing. According to Carey-Whalen, El Paso is home to the largest inland desalination plant, and deals with two major problems in the area, not having enough water and the salinity of water. The desalination of water is going to allow El Pasoans to get more drinkable water from brackish water.

The exhibit also focuses on the actions that have been taken to help the natural environment survive through the scarcity and pollution of water.

The restoration of native habitat in the Rio Bosque Wetlands Park has increased biodiversity, and now more birds, coyotes, bobcats and beavers can be spotted in the region. Not only has the fauna recovered, but flora too. Comparative images from 1997 to 2019 are part of the exhibit to show how the restoration project has brought life back to the river channels in the region.

To make the exhibit more dynamic and entertaining for the audience, visitors can find booklets, objects such as a view master with travel reels, native American ceramic jars, 3D maps of the region, and interactive displays. A touchscreen is included with information on topics regarding how water has influenced art, its relation to spirituality, description of deep ocean environments and among other fun facts.

“We want everyone to visit the exhibits. So many of our problems aren’t gonna be solved by technology; they’re gonna be solved by people. We gotta put people in the same room and figure out how can we help,” Carey-Whalen said.

The Centennial Museum and exhibit are open to the public from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Saturday, with no admission fees.

For information about the exhibit visit Centennial Museum’s website and the Smithsonian Institution’s website.
Sports

BY EMILY AUTUMN VELASQUEZ
The Prospector

Movies and sports are immensely popular among the public, but when the two are combined, blockbuster films are made. Some of the most talked-about movies in history are movies that are based on a sport.

“Rocky” a 1976 film that was inspired by the life of boxer Chuck Wepner. Wepner was a former boxer from Philadelphia that begins to train with former bantamweight contender Mickey Goldmull when he gets presented with the opportunity to fight world heavyweight champion Apollo Creed.

“The Karate Kid” a 1984 film based on martial arts that revolves around the life of Daniel LaRusso, a kid who just moved to Southern California with his mother. Daniel struggles with some of the other kids who are known for their skills in the dojo. Daniel is fortunate to befriend a handyman in his neighborhood, who is an expert in martial arts and goes by Mr. Miyagi. Daniel begins his training with Mr. Miyagi in preparation to take on the kids of Cobra Kai.

“Remember the Titans” a 2000 film based on a true story about the struggles faced in a Virginia town that treats football like religion, but they are put to the test when they are forced to integrate an all-white school with an all-black school.

“Friday Night Lights” a 2004 film based on a true story that explores the journey of a team based in a small Texas town that takes the game of high school football to the next level to the point where the town closes on game days and will travel wherever the team is playing.

“Coach Carter” a 2005 film that covers the journey Ken Carter takes when he knows returning to his hometown to help put the basketball team back into shape. Coach Carter gets his team into winning shape quickly after strict rules and discipline, but when the players begin to slack off, he forfets the season. Ignoring the scrutiny from the players and their parents, he stands by his policy that the only way they will see the court is if they are successful off it too.

“Glory Road” a 2006 film based on a true story that explores the hardships that the 1966 Texas Western team faced because of race in their historic season that led to them to win the NCAA Championship under the guidance of Don Haskins.

“The Blind Side” a 2009 film based on a true story exploring the journey of Michael Oher, a home-less African American teenager that faced hardships throughout his life. Oher gets the attention of Leigh Anne Tuohy and her husband, which leads them inviting him into their home and their hearts. The Tuohy family introduces Oher to the life of football, and it leads him becoming a star player and receiving a full-ride scholarship and eventually the National Football League.

“42” a 2013 film based on the life of Jackie Robinson, played by the late Chadwick Boseman, the first African American to play in Major League Baseball. Robinson faces racism in the league but does not allow it to stop him from playing, the game he loves and silencing the haters with his talent on the field.

“I, Tonya” a 2017 film based on a true story about the life of figure skater Tonya Harding. In 1991, Tonya became the first African American woman to complete a triple-axs during a competition. But this success is quickly overshadowed in 1994 when her husband conspires to injure Tonya’s competition to ensure her success. Tonya’s life and legacy instantly come into question when she is involved in one of the most infamous scandals in sports history.

The movies made revolving around the sports world are iconic pieces of time that tell true and raw stories of those immersed in the game.

All movie descriptions were written with the help of imdb.com.

BY KATRINA VILLARREAL
The Prospector

Fantasy football has been around since the early 1960s and has been a big part of the football season since then. Many football fans bring to- gether some of their closest friends to create leagues and teams for the season. Football fans can play for free through the different apps available for fantasy football.

As mentioned, fantasy football began in the 1960s when part owner of the then Oakland Raiders, Bill Winkenbach, created a league called the Greater Oakland Pigskin Pogonostics. According to a report by CBS Sports, Winkenbach also created the first fantasy league for baseball and golf; he was known as “the father of Fantasy Sports.” Fantasy football has evolved since the 1960s with the number of players available to draft, along with the number of points awarded to fantasy football players. In an article by CBS Sports, back then players would draft two quarterbacks, four halfbacks, two fullbacks, four wide receivers or tight ends; two return men, two kickers, two defensive backs or linebackers, and two defensive ends. As far as points, CBS Sports states that 25 points were awarded for all offensive touchdowns, 25 points for field goals, 10 points for an extra point, and 200 points for special teams or defensive touchdowns.

Today, Fantasy Football players draft a total of 16 players, nine starting and seven bench players; one quarterback, two running backs, two wide receivers, one tight end, one flex player (can be a running back, wide receiver or tight end), one defensive team/special teams player, and one kicker. Of the seven players that would be bunched, fantasy football players can draft from any position and can switch out the players as the new fantasy week begins. As far as points go, fantasy football players are awarded points based on how the players in each position perform during the game.

Fantasy football was not as popu- lar as it is today, since back then

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Looking back historical sports championships

BY DANIEL ALEC LOPEZ
The Prospector

In the United States, there are typically sports championship games that are usually played after the conclusion of the season, whether that is the Stanely Cup, the Super Bowl, the College Football National Championship, or the NBA Finals.

However, there are championships that have been more watched and remembered in comparison to others. The first championship that attracts a lot of viewers is the Super Bowl.

According to techradar.com, in the 2015 Super Bowl matchup between the Seattle Seahawks and the New England Patriots, ended up with 114.4 million viewers.

The game also ended up as a top-rated game because of the ending that included quarterback Russell Wilson throwing an interception at the goal line, resulting in a victory for the Patriots.

According to techradar.com, two years later when the New England Patriots overcame a 20-3 deficit against the Atlanta Falcons, that game ended with 113 million viewers.

The next championship game that brings in a lot of views is the NBA Finals.

Fast forward years later, in 2016, former Cleveland Cavaliers player Lebron James secured his third NBA title when facing the Golden State Warriors in a hard fought seven game series, with the Cavaliers coming out on top.

The NBA Finals averaged 31.2 million viewers according to fadeawayworld.net.

In 2010, when the Boston Celtics and the Los Angeles Lakers faced each other for a second time, the first time being in 2008, the viewership in this match up totaled out to 28.2 million viewers.

Most of these statistics provided above were calculations based on per household, then added up in total to get the actual number. How they are calculated is based off of a program called Nielsen, it is a program that identifies how many people are watching through the advertisers according to variety.com.

According to fadeawayworld.net, Jordan’s first ring that came in the 1991 NBA finals against the Los Angeles Lakers, that viewership totaled out to be 23.91 million viewers.

According to fadeawayworld.net, in 2019, when the New England Patriots faced the Los Angeles Rams, that game totaled 107.7 million viewers.

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According to fadeawayworld.net, in 2019, when the New England Patriots faced the Los Angeles Rams, that game totaled 107.7 million viewers.

The next championship that brings in a lot of views is the NBA Finals.

Fast forward years later, in 2016, former Cleveland Cavaliers player Lebron James secured his third NBA title when facing the Golden State Warriors in a hard fought seven game series, with the Cavaliers coming out on top.

The NBA Finals averaged 31.2 million viewers according to fadeawayworld.net.

In 2010, when the Boston Celtics and the Los Angeles Lakers faced each other for a second time, the first time being in 2008, the viewership in this match up totaled out to 28.2 million viewers.

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