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LYRIC THEATER PERFORMS OPERA

OLIVIA KLEINAU ('23)

This Friday, Sept. 29, Lyric Theater will host its second perform "La Serva Padrona" at 7:30 p.m. in the CFA Recital Hall.

On Sept 30th there will be a showing at the David A. Howe Memorial Library in Wellsville, N.Y. at 7 p.m. With another performance at 2 p.m. on Oct. 1, in the Palmer Opera House in Cuba, N.Y.

Giovanni Battista Pergolesi's "La serva padrona" is written in Italian and will be performed in Italian by the Lyric Theater.

"We're going to have supertitles so you will be able to see the translation above them the whole time so you'll



La Serva Padrona Actors during a dress rehearsal

COURTESY OF SAVANNAH STITT

have an idea of what's going on," explained Professor Amanda Cox, director of the opera.

"La serva padrona" has a limited cast of only three actors, with one of them being a silent role.

"We actually cast it in the spring, we had them

audition in late April," Professor Cox adds. "They got their music at the beginning of the summer. It's really hard to memorize a foreign language especially when there's two of you and all of this music."

Jonathan Hutmire ('24)

is cast as the bachelor Uberto, with Peter Meyer-Pflug ('24) as the servant Vespone, and Evelyn Simanowski ('25) as the maidservant Serpina.

Despite not knowing Italian beforehand, Simanowski was required to learn proper

pronunciation as a vocal major. She practiced all summer in order to prepare for her role and make it sound as fluent as possible.

"Attendees can definitely look forward to the comedy aspect," Simanowski says. "I think all too often Opera is so serious and taken far too seriously. It's good even if this is your first opera to interact with it and know you can laugh and it can be funny, I think that's most what I'm looking forward to." *

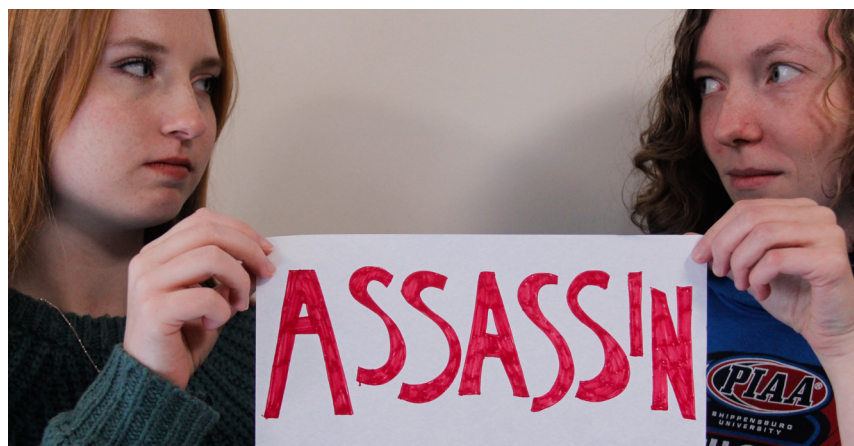
Campus Assassin Game

JIANA MARTIN ('26)

On Monday, Sept. 11, the Campus Activities Board's (CAB) first campus-wide game of Assassin began.

CAB Director, Senior Joey Schunemann, was the brains behind bringing the game to life. He stated that inspiration for this activity came from watching campus-wide games of paintball Assassin featured in the TV show "Community." "I had a dream of everyone getting into a chaotic frenzy creating a movie-like representation," Schunemann explained.

At the beginning of the game, assassins received a fellow student's name, their target, and a stress ball, their weapon. The goal of the game was simple: kill your target, acquire their target, and move down the hit list



Assassin Game Promotional Image

COURTESY OF SAVANNAH STITT

until you are the last one standing. Besides a handful of safe zones like the bathrooms, dorm rooms, dining hall, and classes and chapel when in session, targets could be killed at any moment. This meant that students had to always be on guard and ready to run.

With \$150 flex dollars on the line, alliances were formed, deals were made,

and friends and enemies gave tips.

Senior Alexa Binney enjoyed the short amount of time she survived. A friend aided her assassin, causing her to be killed on the first day. She was glad to be killed early since it allowed her to resume a daily routine without being on high alert. It also made it easier for her to freely track the game's

progress.

"It was fun to speculate," noted Binney.

For future Assassin events, Binney suggested altering the killing method by, for example, using clothes pins. This was not her first time playing a form of Assassin, but she enjoyed taking part in a larger-scale version and would participate in future games.

The men's cross-coun-

try team created one of the main alliances that survived the longest. One of the team members, Junior Sam Lyon, was a part of this alliance, and he collected 12 kills this way. His toughest kill entailed a stakeout in the Campus Center with help from his cross-country teammates. As a part of the plan for one of the cross-country members to win, Lyon was eventually killed. In the end, the whole team was eliminated.

This was Lyon's first game of Assassin and he hopes the campus does something like this again. He enjoyed the community building because it allowed him to meet new people as well as reconnect with old friends.

"I had a blast. I've always wanted to do something like that," Lyon said, "and the event did a great job of bringing people together."

See **Assassin Game** page #2

INSIDE THE LANTERN

ISABELLA BRATTON ('26)

Houghton's student-run literary magazine, *The Lantern*, is distributing their first issue of the 2023 Fall semester this week - Sept. 25 to Sept. 29.

The Lantern gives Houghton students the chance to submit their artwork, short stories, and poetry to be printed. Themes from last year included: Creation, Journey, Greif, Hope and Sonnets, and Community. This issue's theme is "Challenges."

The process to create each issue takes a lot of time and effort.

One of *The Lantern's* editors, Sophomore Lee James ('26) states, "A lot of it isn't very difficult; it's more in terms of time it takes."

James explained the process, saying that first the team decides on a theme for the issue. Then they send out an email asking for submissions, and wait a few weeks. After sorting through the submissions, the editors format it all into one document. The issue goes through a couple rounds of editing, and is then sent

to be printed.

The role of the editors can vary as well. Some of them help run their Instagram account [[@h.u.lantern](#)] such as James, who also helps with the formatting, submitting works when there are low student submissions, and coming up with ideas for the themes of the issues. The team is also working on updating *The Lantern* website and Facebook page.

James explained that they take into consideration what the student body would be interested in when choosing the theme, and it can also depend on the season. Sophomore Warren Torraca ('26), the newest member of *The Lantern* editing team, explained that they try not to repeat themes.

Sophomore Emma Dainty ('26), has different roles as Head Editor. Some of these include filling out charters to be recognized as a club, submitting a print order, and dealing with budgeting and finance. She explained that her transition into the position took a lot of organizing. Dainty is doing her best to make it as easy as possible

for the future Head Editors to transition into their job.

Someone doesn't need to be an English or writing major to submit work to *The Lantern*. Torraca, a math major, previously submitted works as a student and recommends it to others who enjoy expressing themselves through literary art.

"It's for anyone who enjoys literature, and it's interesting to see people express themselves," Torraca says.

Dainty also encourages anyone who has interest to submit something, even if it's just work from past classes.

The Lantern's first Fall 2023 issue has been distributed and can be found in various places around campus. ★

Puzzles

Perplexing Puzzles to Confuse and Confound

Send your completed puzzles to star@houghton.edu to join our Leaderboard

(Answers will be printed in next week's STAR)

Sudoku

			6		1			
	7					6	8	
		6	8		2	1		7
4		2	3					
5		7		6		8		4
					5	3		2
7		4	5		6	9		
	6	8					4	
			4		8			

Difficulty: Easy

ASSASSIN GAME from page #1

With 104 participating students, Schunemann is happy with how the event turned out.

"Overall," Schunemann said thoughtfully, "the reception was great."

Schunemann received various forms of feedback regarding adjustments to the rules and randomizing the list better. If CAB organizes another Assassin game, there will be changes and improvements.

Two finalists remain, and it is yet to be announced who the official winner is. However, plans are in development for revealing the champion. ★

2		1						
	8					6		7
6			3					9
5				9			1	
			7		6			
	9			4				3
3					9			1
8		5					4	
						5		2

Difficulty: Medium

		7					1	
3	4							
	9		2		4		7	3
7		4	3	8				
				5				
				1	2	6		4
5	1		6		7		4	
							6	9
	8					1		

Difficulty: Hard

Stress, Rest, and Sabbath



CHRISTIAN WELKER ('24)

A new semester has begun with all the stresses and anxieties we have come to expect, from the first-year students who are still learning about college life to the seniors who are starting their long sprint to the finish line, looking so near and yet so far at the same time.

Rest assured, this will not be a "Just give it to God" article. The Sparrows and Lillies don't have a German test in an hour or a concert a week from today.

I firmly believe that the Lord is and always will be the ultimate

source of peace for his children. However, I'm also willing to admit that in places like this, it often feels as though the very act of giving up your stress to God is a requirement that brings its own anxieties. It's hard to lean on the peace of God while counting how many Around the Tables you still need to go to, or dragging yourself out of bed to get to church on the one day you would have been able to sleep in more, or even sitting in Chapel, worrying about the test you have during your 12 o'clock class that

"God doesn't limit rest to going to church on Sunday and then sitting around doing nothing in the afternoon. Rest and Sabbath can be wherever you can fit it into your schedule."

only helps drive it away. Professors talk about how students need to take Sabbath more and then give you 60 pages of reading and a paper to do before Monday morning. However, something I learned in my time at Houghton is that God

your schedule. A Sabbath for me is Tuesday evening Nerf Nights in Roth. On the surface, it doesn't seem relaxing to charge up three flights of stairs, blast random guys with toy guns, and then run back down to start over. However, it's a time when I can put due dates and projects to the side for an hour or two and enjoy fellowship with my hallmates. We don't tend to think of times like that as Sabbath because it doesn't feel like God is there. Yet it provides the mental rest that we need as we continue on in the week.

These small moments are Sabbaths that students can take wherever and whenever they can. It doesn't have to be weekly. If something needs to be done by Wednesday morning, you would be much more likely to find me in a study room than the trenches of Roth's first floor, but having those times that you can set aside for your physical

and mental health is important. Without times like these, you run the risk of burning yourself out or making yourself sick right before the big paper is due.

Is it good to rest on a Sunday after church? Of course! But it's also good to take some time on Wednesday to watch your favorite TV show, spend Friday evening playing games with friends, or even just lay down on a bed or couch and relax between one class and the next. It may not add up to a whole day of rest, but taking a Sabbath where you can will help as we continue throughout the semester.

Rest can be found in the Chapel, but it can also be found in study rooms or dorm rooms, in the woods or on the quad, or anywhere where a student closes their textbook for a few minutes and thinks:

"You know what? I earned a break, and I'm going to lay down." ★

Christian Welker is a Senior History and Writing Major with the bad habit of piling too many responsibilities onto his plate. In his free time he loves to write, read, play nerf, or just go take a nap.

Have an opinion
you want to share?

CONTACT
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SPEAK OUT!

Letters to the editor
should be less than 600 words

SUBMIT TO
star@houghton.edu



The mission of the Houghton STAR is to preserve and promote the values of dialogue, transparency and integrity that have been the ideals of Houghton University since its inception. This is done by serving as a medium for the expression of student thought and as a quality publication of significant campus news, Houghton area news, and events.

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The Houghton
STAR

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VICTORIA ARNDT // Opinions Editor



Review

It's All in God's Hands

Rebecca Dailey '25

College is perhaps the most formative four years of any person's life. For some, it is a chance at freedom; for others, it is a continuation of their schooling. However, I believe all of us can agree that this is the final gateway before adulthood. High school is the stepping stone before that, one last hurrah as teenagers, even as we pursue colleges, enter applications and scholarships, and perhaps hold part-time jobs. Many of us became caught up in the unknown variable of COVID-19, forever changing the way we look at our schooling. I graduated high school in the class of 2021, and the next stop on the train route was community college.

Community College was not my first choice, but at the time, I didn't see any other option. I was not able to look at college campuses, nor did I really want to, simply because I wanted my high school experience to have ended normally. God, however, had a much more interesting plan. After some last-minute scrambling, my school-issued email decided to shut down, so I missed a lot of important messages, including knowing the bill was ready to be paid. That first fall semester was spent online in mostly asynchronous classes and a few Zoom meetings where I feigned attention while working on other assignments. The spring semester of the same school year was much the same, with the exception of one class. Even then, the teacher, more often than not, would cancel classes, and I taught myself anyway.

The second year came, and for the first time in almost three years, I was able to step foot in a physical classroom. I became frustrated by the lack of application my classmates had when it came to assignments. Due dates would often get extended while I rubbed the sleep from my eyes, having stayed up the night before. Perhaps the biggest nightmare was my children's literature professor. He made it very clear how he felt about

religion, especially Christianity. He enraged me, and I passive-aggressively protested and made my position clear. It was around the same time that I began looking for four-year schools to continue my degree. Fast forward through four in-person classes in the spring and waiting for them to mail my physical degree in the mail, I was more than happy to be finished. I didn't even bother going to graduation, nor did I get involved around campus. I didn't even stay in the dorms, but even nightmares come to an end.

Houghton University was one of a handful of colleges I had considered. Some very quickly lost their place on the list for various reasons. I looked at one other campus, but none of it sat right. Stepping onto Houghton's campus was the most surreal moment I've ever had. Everyone, and I do mean everyone, greeted me and dozens of others who were touring the campus. I was barely home that very same weekend and put my application in; Houghton was the only school I put an application in for.

We can fast forward to right now as I write this as the semester begins. It has been a whirlwind of classes and new friends, and I couldn't wish any other way. I have so far joined multiple clubs, took part in the Open Mic Night at Java, auditioned for HeartSong, bonded with the girls on my floor and throughout Gillette, still have time for homework, and I'm thriving. Every day is a new adventure with new friends and excitement. I once wrote in my application essay, "Every story has a purpose, but that purpose can only be acted upon when it is read and shared, creating the world of possibilities that I believed God wanted for us." The possibilities are extraordinary because they are endless, but God knows. After all, he brought me here, and I can't wait to see what he has for all of us. ★

The STAR Staff is dedicated to reporting campus news and being the voice of the students on the Houghton Campus. We are excited to work with you this semester and encourage you to bring any news-related concerns to us!



Savannah Stitt

Photos and Media Editor

Savannah is a senior studio art major concentrating in photography and serves as the photo and media editor for the STAR. She enjoys working on personal creative projects, spending time with friends, and is obsessed with thrifting and Noah Kahan.

Meet the STAR Staff



Christian Welker

Co-Editor-in-Chief

Christian is a Senior majoring in History and Writing. He currently serves as one of the STAR's Editors-in-Chief. In addition to working with the paper, he works at the University Library and participates in Lyric Theater. When not doing school activities, he loves writing, reading, and playing video games.

Josh Carpenter

Co-Editor-in-Chief

Josh is a Senior who is double majoring in Communication and Writing. After graduating from college, he plans to become a professional writer with the aspiration to later become a novelist. Writing fiction has always been his passion, which has intensified over time through his exposure to inspirational writers, such as Yukio Mishima, Alexandre Dumas, and Fyodor Dostoevsky. One of his all-time favorite books is "The Brothers Karamazov" by Dostoevsky.



Abigail Bates

News Editor

Abigail is a sophomore majoring in Writing and Political Science and works in the Writing Center. In her spare time, she likes to read, mainly fictional works from a wide variety of genres, write her own fictional stories or short pieces, and learn unfamiliar concepts. Abigail also likes to drink tea, go for long hikes and paddle board on the West Coast.



Caleb Tiedemann

Columns Editor

Caleb is a junior majoring in English and plans to explore a future career in law after college. He works as the columns editor and, when not reading or writing for his major, can be found working in the dining hall, the library, or watching a movie from his nearly endless collection.



Victoria Arndt

Opinions Editor

Victoria Arndt is a Junior studying Communication and Writing. She works for the Houghton STAR as the Opinions Editor. When not studying for classes or hanging out with friends, she enjoys writing, watching movies and television, reading, and listening to music.

