



PHOTO. 4B
Take a look at Pack Pride Day!

Black History Month kicks off on campus with poster competition results Local nonprofit Black owned business receives donation at event

KRISHNAN COLLINS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Multicultural Center kicked off Black History Month with a poster competition to raise money for Black owned, locally operated radio station KLEK-FM and to get artists to showcase this year's theme: Black Activism. Three different contestants participated in the poster competition as the posters were presented on Zoom Monday in a virtual, BHM kick off event. During the virtual event, the three digital posters were auctioned for sale and the event resulted in a \$500 donation to KLEK-FM at the end of the kick off competition.

"KLEK does not happen without people like each and every one of you supporting it," KLEK General Manager LeGanzie Kale said. "It truly takes a village. We're Jonesboro's community radio station. The key word is community. In order to be the community's radio station we have to have support from the community." Multicultural Affairs Assistant Director Joshua Smith directed the proceedings on the Zoom call. "They (KLEK) have been a titan for this community," Smith said. "Playing the music that we love, talking about the issues that we love and just keeping us informed. We're grateful for them and honored



Joshua Smith

Screenshot by: Krishnan Collins | Editor-in-Chief
Multicultural Affairs Assistant Director Joshua Smith announced the winners of the BHM poster competition Monday. that we get an opportunity to be a blessing to them today as well." Yubin Lim won first place in

holding his fist into the air as his silhouetted body was filled with different names from the Civil Rights Movement and social justice movements over the years. "These are really historic, memorialized people's names," Lim said. "I just wanted to put their names to remember. They we need to remember it. We need to educate our children, our students. Don't forget our history." Lim is a senior graphic design student and did not grow up in the United States, but she said she still wanted to participate in the event. "As a student who didn't grow up here, I'm not a Black history expert, but I really wanted to participate in this event," Lim

said. "I'm an international student and I love my history so I love other history and other cultures. My inspiration was the black lives matter (movement)." Jennifer Pearce won second place with her digital artwork titled, "Martin's Dream." Pearce's piece included Martin Luther King Jr. in the top left corner of the piece looking down at poet Amanda Gordon on the right side of the piece. Gordon spoke at President Joe Biden's inauguration. Although Pearce was not able to attend the virtual event, she did give a statement to be read on the Zoom call.

CONTINUED:
BHM, 4A

Women's Leadership Center participates in Cards of Caring project

COURTNEY EDWARDS
NEWS WRITER

The A-State Women's Leadership Center plans to give local nursing home residents a special, socially distanced Valentine's Day. The WLC is partnering with the student organization, The Art Student Union, in accepting donations of Valentine's Day cards, letters and art to give to the residents at Liberty Park Senior living. Many nursing homes in Arkansas are not allowing visitors, even though most residents and staff have received the first COVID-19 vaccine. This means the residents have not had much contact with family since the beginning of the pandemic. Senior Meghan Cantara, an intern for the WLC, is leading the caring cards project. She hopes to uplift the spirits of any lonely residents. "The main goal of this project is to just try to reach out to the senior citizens that live at Liberty Park Senior Living and brighten their day by hopefully making them feel

less lonely with some cards, letters and art," Cantara said. The WLC hosts many community projects every semester. However, the pandemic has put many of their ideas on hold. The interns and mentors for the WLC have had to find ways to support the community while also maintaining COVID-19 safety protocols. Many of their projects planned for last spring had to be cancelled. Still, the WLC is trying to maintain their purpose: giving girls and women confidence to reach their goals. They usually do this through speaker events, mentoring, and partnering with other community programs such as the Jonesboro Hispanic Center or Women's Foundation of Arkansas. Now, this is all done mainly virtually. Program Coordinator, Madelyn Carson said one doesn't have to identify as female to contribute to the WLC. In fact, they have had LGBTQ+ students involved in the program. Although the interns are usually female, they have auxiliary positions open to males as well. "We're open to non-binary



PHOTO COURTESY OF MADELYN CARSON
The A-State Women's Leadership Center is giving Valentine's Day cards to residents at Liberty Park Senior living. Carson said the auxiliary program may be a better fit for someone with a busy schedule. According to Cantara, the program will host meetings to discuss project ideas, then interns will pick projects to volunteer for. The interns then host meetings with everyone interested in helping to discuss the goal and how to reach it.

Cantara chose the Cards of Caring project to hopefully bring happiness to the community while still adhering to social distancing guidelines. "Since many of our reach back projects last spring were canceled because of COVID, we wanted to find ways to host events that could be done with little face-to-face interaction but still support our community," Cantara said. Although many projects have either had to make adjustments or be cancelled completely, some of the WLC's projects will be able to continue. Red Wolves Reach Back is a project to collect items for Reclamation House, a group living facility for women. In fall 2019, they collected 8,000 items and are hoping to reach that goal again this semester in March for Women's History Month and International Women's Day. The WLC usually hosts an annual conference. According to Carson, they are hoping to host a conference in fall 2021, but they are unsure as of right now whether it will be an in-person event or not. "In a normal year, we would have 500 people coming in

and out of campus from high school girls all the way up to professional women from across the state," Carson said. "Last year, we had interests of people in Texas and Memphis for our free conference open to the community about professional development and women supporting women." For the Caring Cards project, Cantara says they are looking for generally uplifting messages or simply, "Happy Valentine's Day" for their donations. She even said if participants happen to know someone who lives in Liberty Park Senior Living, arrangements could be made to send a card specifically to that person. There is a dropbox set up in the College of Business for cards, letters, and art that will be open until Feb. 10. Donations can also be sent to P.O. Box 970 State University, AR 72467. There are applications available at www.astate.edu/wlc for the intern position. If one is interested in the auxiliary program, Carson advised them to seek a recommendation from a professor in the College of Business.

CONTINUED
BOARD PARTY, 4A

Student Diversity and Recruitment hosts Vision Board Party

AN NGUYEN
NEWS WRITER

Student Diversity and Recruitment hosted a vision board party in Centennial Hall on Jan. 28. The purpose of this party was to motivate students

by setting the goals they want to achieve then using their creativity to design a vision board displaying those goals. Raven Jackson, vice president of SDR, said the boards consisted of something the students could visualize, or something that they could put in their room

or office to spread positivity and help them manifest their goals using the law of attraction. "I want to stay consistent with all of my schoolwork and stay balanced with everything that I'm involved in," Jackson said. "And I want to make sure that my relationship

with Christ stays strong." Gabriela Huerta, SDR president, said that her goal for 2021 is to have a more productive school year. "I feel like something that is getting in the way of a lot of people is being socialized with other people, students and

faculty members," Huerta said. She also expressed her concern of not being able to build personal connections with her professors via Zoom during the pandemic. For the party to reach more students, the board members used Instagram, sending out

emails and also got the word out themselves. To limit as much contact as possible during the event, the organization advised participants to bring their own magazines and supplies.