New courses hit catalogue for spring 2022

Zoe Stratos
opinions editor

The stress of scheduling is in full swing for college students across the country. Whether you are a science, business or liberal arts major, there are always new courses popping up during registration.

Other new and irregular courses will be on offer this spring, along with the latest Bridges curriculum.

A special topics psychology course will be available for students to take: Introduction to Counseling and Psychotherapy, taught by Roger Brooke.

Labeled as a 200-level course, Intro to Counseling and Psychotherapy is new to Duquesne’s curriculum and Brooke “leapt” at the opportunity to teach it.

“We have thought from time to time that it would be nice to teach a course on counseling or psychotherapy,” Brooke said. “We tend to resist doing so because it’s not easy. It was difficult to think of how we could put it together, but we decided to do so partly from pressure to time that it would be nice to teach a course on counseling or psychotherapy,” Brooke said.

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“The legacy of Alex Trebek

Mary Liz Flavin
news editor

Despite the first bitter winds of winter sweeping through A-Walk, students were filled with anticipation as they waited for a dazzling array of festive lights to appear across campus. Amid the excited crowd, the voices of carolers rang out in celebration. With a flip of the switch, President Ken Gormley kicked off the holiday season at the Night of Lights event on Nov. 12.

Led by Gene Forish, director of music and liturgy, the carolers began the evening with a medley of holiday tunes. Before the lights appeared, several speakers addressed the crowd including Dean of Students Adam Wasiak, the Rev. Bill Christy and Student Government Association President Jessica Schmitz.

The crowd was in awe of the decorative lights that lined A-Walk. Trees were strung with white lights and the fountains were aglow. Various holiday decorations were illuminated as well as part of this initial event.

Students were also invited to take a plate at the Holiday Feast, lend a hand in Santa’s workshop, or venture on a horse-drawn carriage ride—harkening iconic elements of the Christmas season.

Liam Grinnen, senator and co-chair for government operations in SGA, helped out with the carriage ride by making sure everyone got on and off safely.

“I’m a huge fan. Little kids especially seem to enjoy it because they can hop up in the carriage and learn to ride a horse at the same time,” Grinnen said.

Not only did smaller kids enjoy the ride, but Duquesne students like Celia Dugger and her friends joined in on the festivities as well.

“We went on the horse and carriage ride and it was really fun,” Dugger said.

The horse and carriage was not the only ride students could partake in. Featured on A-walk was the “Holiday Express,” a miniature train that carried students from the Union to the end of the walk and back around. This allowed students to catch a glimpse of all the decorations and lights in a fun and festive way.

Mitchell Fleischman, a freshman, went with a group of friends to the Night of Lights.

“We were walking over to get food and we weren’t expecting it, and we were like ‘wow, it’s the lights.’ Usually I would hate Christmas stuff before Thanksgiving, but this was done really well,” Fleischman said.

After taking a look at the lights, students were invited to the holiday dinner located on the fourth floor of the Student Union. An array of food such as mac and cheese, chicken, ham, salad, bread rolls and more were spread out buffet style for many to enjoy. The dessert table and hot drinks stand filled with cupcakes, cookies and hot cider left students in the holiday spirit.

Duquesne student Cassie Waskiewicz said the event was much needed after this semester.

“We were pleasantly surprised, it was really good,” Waskiewicz said. “I went back for seconds, this was definitely much needed after the past few weeks.”

Not only did students enjoy the festive dinner and other holiday themed activities, but staff did as well. Jazmyn Palmer, a cashier for the event, said this was a nice way for students and families to come together before the holidays.

“I actually enjoyed it,” Palmer said. “I love how they had Santa Claus and a horse and carriage for the kids and parents. I love how its alumni and family throughout the event, I don’t think I’ve seen that at a college.”

Once students finished their meals they could walk to the Africa Room where it had been transformed into Santa’s Workshop. Here, members of the Student Orientation Staff helped kids and students alike with various crafts such as make-your-own reindeer mix and a coloring station filled with holiday characters of their choosing.

In addition to the workshop, students took turns wearing an assortment of Christmas and holiday themed props where they posed for pictures. Reindeer antlers, Santa hats, and green boas adorned the table by the pop-up photo station located on the third floor by the Information Desk.

“Overall it was really nice, it got us all into the Christmas Spirit,” Dugger said.
August Wilson class brings back classics

Zoe Stratos
opinion editor

see CLASSES — page 1

If Duquesne’s “Night of Lights” wasn’t enough to get you into the holiday spirit, Highmark’s Light Up Night is fast approaching — and it’s bigger, brighter and better than years past.

For its 60th anniversary, Highmark Light Up Night will be making its grand return on Nov. 20 with live entertainment, holiday shopping, family fun and — of course — the gorgeous display of holiday lights located Downtown.

Cosponsored by the Building Owners and Management Association together with the Golden Triangle Association, the first Light Up Night in 1960 marked the first time in the city’s history when Downtown stores simultaneously revealed their festive store windows, and all exterior decorations were lit up.

Because of Pittsburghers’ love for the holiday spirit, Light Up Night grew from there, making room for celebrity appearances and growing attendance over the span of six decades.

According to the Downtown Pittsburgh Holidays website, Light Up Night has grown from 25,000 attendees in 1997 to a staggering 500,000 in 2016 — billed as “The Biggest Party of the Year.”

For this year’s event, festivities will be scattered throughout the city, starting in the U.S. Steel Tower Plaza for the dedication of the Pittsburgh Cèrèche.

At 5 p.m., the City-County Building will host the annual tree lighting along with Zambelli rooftop fireworks; at 6 p.m., the Highmark tree lighting along with Zambelli fireworks will be at the intersection of Stanwix Street and Penn Avenue; and at 9:30, the Allegheny Overlook on Ft. Duquesne Boulevard will be the spot to watch the BNY Mellon and Zambelli fireworks finale.

In between the scheduled light up events, live music will be playing at six different venues around the city, including the Highmark Main Stage on Stanwix Street and Penn Avenue and Heinz Hall.

But even before the Saturday festivities begin, Friday, Nov. 19 — known as the Grand Opening Day — will feature the start of the Peoples Gas Christmas Market in Market Square, as well as the UPMC Ultimate Holiday Tree Experience lighting at PPG Place.

Sensory bags help students combat stress from semester

Nicholas Zotos
staff writer

With the holiday season approaching, anxiety associated with final exams is still present. Students have been figuring out new ways to combat this stress.

On Nov. 14, in the Student Union NiteSpot, Duquesne pharmacy students Amanda Koar, Kahlee Hall and Madelyn Arndt hosted a Service Sunday event where they made sensory stress relief bags.

The sensory stress relief bags were made with the intent on helping students during finals week, and to also provide an outlet for many individuals to volunteer.

“We had a large number of people show up. It was a great turnout. After we are done making these stress bags, we will hand them to students outside during finals week, and to also provide an outlet for many individuals to volunteer,” Koar said.

The contents of each bag corresponds to an individual’s senses — in other words, there is a small bag for smell, a packet of Green Tea Mix for taste, and numerous key chains for manual dexterity.

“The aim of each bag is to encourage students to take a break from their phones,” Arndt said. “Often times, we think that scrolling social media is a form of relaxation, but in reality it’s not. We want our fellow students to engage with each item and use them to decrease anxiety.”

Arndt said that to keep students engaged each bag included in the bag corresponded to a sensory perception.

The event coordinators are a part of a group of students interested in joining The College of Psychiatric and Neurologic Pharmacists (CPNP.) This organization, which represents over 2,000 healthcare professionals, seeks to advance the quality of care in treating patients living with psychiatric, neurological, and substance use disorders.

All three event coordinators are highly about this organization and how their event, making sensory stress relief bags, mirrors the organization’s effort in decreasing numerous psychiatric disorders.

While this endeavor may be beneficial for the many students receiving these bags during finals week, it was helpful to the volunteers as well.

“I’m excited to help out because finals week is stressful,” Hall said. “It’s nice to do something to help others. I think everyone here is having a great time and we all would help out again if we had the opportunity.”

Approximately 15 students attended the event. It was scheduled for an hour, but due to the high turnout, the event ended in half that time.

Now that the bags are prepped and ready for finals, they will be distributed to the general student population in three weeks.

“Anyone can receive a bag,” Arndt said. “We want all students on campus to engage with this effort. When finals begin, make sure to receive a sensory bag and take some time to relax.”

We want your input!

The Duke’s news section would love to hear from you about stories that you want to see in print. Know a talented professor or accomplished student? See something on campus that just doesn’t make sense? You can send your tips and story ideas to Editor-in-Chief Colleen Hammond at hammonde@duq.edu.
Football defeats CCSU in final home game

Brentaro Yamane  
staff writer

At the end of the third quarter of Saturday afternoon’s football game between Central Connecticut and Duquesne, light snow was falling from the sky as Mariah Carey’s hit single “All I Want for Christmas Is You” began to play through the speakers at Rooney Field. All the Dukes wanted was an early Christmas present, which would come in the form of a win against the Blue Devils in the team’s final home game of the year.

And that’s what they got.

With 6:29 left in the fourth quarter, quarterback Darius Perantes scrambled left out of the pocket and threw a 30-yard pass to wide receiver Cyrus Holder in the left side of the end zone. Holder was covered, but he was able to fight off the coverage and get in front of the defender. He came down with the ball and it landed in James’ hands, putting Central Connecticut’s Kyren Petteway at their own 34-yard line. Mitchell and his offense ran a play-action pass.

He heaved the ball down the field into double coverage. Duquesne’s Jeremiah Josephs could have intercepted the pass, but he tipped the ball and it landed in James’ hands, putting Central Connecticut on Duquesne’s 17-yard line.

After an incompletion, a four-yard run (and subsequent timeout) and another pass to Petteway, the Blue Devils needed 13 yards to find the end zone and win the game.

On the final play of the game, Mitchell completed a six-yard pass to Petteway, which was enough for the touchdown.

But, with no timeouts left, the clock ran out and Duquesne held on for the win.

“We always believe we have a chance to win no matter what it says on the scoreboard,” Holder said. “We know what it feels like as we play 60 minutes, then it’ll end up in our favor, and we did it today.”

Duquesne will wrap up its season with a road contest at Wagner on Saturday. Due to a head-to-head tiebreaker that favors Sacred Heart, the Dukes can’t clinch an outright Northeast Conference title.

However, with a win against Wagner and an SHU loss to Long Island, Duquesne would clinch a share of the NEC title.

Men’s basketball falls to Weber State

The Duquesne men’s basketball team dropped its second consecutive home game, losing to Weber State, 65-59, at UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse on Monday.

With 1:03 remaining in the game and the score even at 59, Jackie Johnson III mistakenly tried to call a timeout, but Duquesne had already used all of its timeouts.

Johnson’s error resulted in a technical foul and subsequent successful free-throw attempt from Koby McEwen, giving the Wildcats the lead. After a Kevin Easley Jr. turnover and foul with 18 seconds left, Weber State increased its lead to four.

But, with no timeouts left, the clock ran out and Duquesne held on for victory.

“We made no plays when it mattered. Part of it is [that] we didn’t really know who to go to,” Dambrot said. “Ultimately, that’s on me. I have to determine who that go-to guy is. We’re gonna be a work in progress.”

Johnson III led the way for Duquesne with 27 points, while McEwen paced Weber State with 21 points.

Despite the adversity, Dambrot relishes the challenge in front of him.

“I hate it, but I love it,” Dambrot said. “It’s a hell of a challenge. This is what I do.”

The Dukes will head to St. Thomas for the U.S. Virgin Islands Paradise Jam tournament, where they’ll battle Northeastern in the event’s quarterfinal round on Friday.

Depending on the result of Duquesne’s game against Northeastern, other potential opponents in the tournament include Colorado, Colorado and Colorado State.

Creighton and Colorado both earned-at-large bids to last year’s NCAA Tournament. Colorado State earned a No. 1 seed in last year’s National Invitation Tournament, placing fourth in the event.

-Luke Henne, Sports Editor
Making the most of the holiday season: Giving back to the "Burgh"

Or ganizations and charities in the Pittsburgh region are gearing up for the winter months ahead in hopes of helping disadvantaged communities in and around the city. Whether it be volunteering, donating or spreading the word, Duquesne students are able to get involved. All of the following organizations began operations for the season, and here's how you can "do good" in our community:

**WINTER SHELTER - OPERATED BY PITTSBURGH MERCY**

Located at 620 Smithfield St. Downtown, the Winter Shelter works with many organizations to help house the homeless community in Pittsburgh. They and began its operations this week. Some of the services offered by the Winter Shelter include a place to sleep, shower and laundry facilities, hygiene kits, health care needs and more. Different from years past, the Winter Shelter is abiding by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Allegheny County Health Department guidelines to keep everyone safe from Covid-19, but is still looking for donors, employees and volunteers to help.

Though they take in-kind donations year-round by appointment, right now, the Winter Shelter is looking for new hats, gloves, scarves and gently used winter coats, sleeping bags and tents. Monetary donations can be made through their website, over the phone or mailed to the Pittsburgh Mercy Development Office.

**PRESE NTS FOR PATIENTS**

In its 37th season, Presents for Patients aims to bring holiday cheer to those living in long-term care. At St. Barnabas Charities, a non-profit organization in Wexford, Pa., $30 donations offer each patient a red fleece blanket embroidered with the Presents for Patients logo. In Allegheny County alone, there are a myriad of options that help rescue, rehabilitate and rehome animals in crisis. They help animals ranging from cats, dogs and even rabbits find their forever home. Special events coming up this holiday season include: Sunday Nov. 21, your pet can pose for a photo with Santa. For a $10 donation, you can receive a photo with all proceeds benefitting Animal Friends. On Saturday Dec. 4, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., find the perfect gift at Holidays with Heart. The Animal Friends campus will be transformed into a festive marketplace filled with local crafters and vendors in addition to adoptable animals. Find the perfect gift for you and your new furry friends at this event. To learn more about the adoption process or what other events, you can go to Speak@ ThinkingOutsideTheCage.org or call them at 412.847.7000.

**TOYS FOR TOTS - MARINE CORPS**

Scattered around the outskirts of Pittsburgh, the Toys For Tots nonprofit provides new toys for disadvantaged children at Christmas time. Local collection campaigns began in October and will continue until mid December. Through the Toys For Tots website, donors are able to contribute monetarily, or with a “virtual” toy. New to the Toys For Tots campaign is the virtual toy box, in which individuals can select an age range and toys they would like to give. Anything donated through the virtual toy box will be distributed throughout the country to children who need it. Just as before, toy boxes can be found in local communities like North Versailles, Leetsdale, Springdale and others just outside the city where donations can be dropped off.

**HOLIDAY MEALS FOR THE HOMELESS - OPERATED BY THE SALVATION ARMY**

There are several ways to give back to the community to fill hearts and stomachs alike. Holiday Meals for the Homeless, a partnership of Salvation Army, is a nonprofit organization that seeks to sponsor Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners for families less fortunate. Along with this, the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank seeks volunteers who can help through the process of boxing food donations, as well as finding means of distribution through food pantries, soup kitchens and shelters. And, locally in Pittsburgh, 412 Food Rescue ships meals from a mobile app right to someone’s doorstep. Go to https://www.visitpittsburgh.com/blog/ giving-back-in-pittsburgh/ for more information.

**THE ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION: JINGLE BELL RUN**

The Arthritis Foundation Jingle Bell Run will take place Saturday, Dec. 4 at North Park. During this event, runners are encouraged to wear their favorite holiday clothing and participate in the festive holiday contest as they participate in a 5k. Running isn’t the only thing people can participate in, there will also be a Holiday costume contest and dog costume contest, a kids fun run 100-yard dash and an opening and closing ceremony. Get your tickets soon, because prices are rising. All proceeds go towards the Arthritis Foundation, more information can be found at https://events.arthritis.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive. eventevent[De-1249]. Contact Deb Hartman at dhartman@ arthritis.org or call 412-218-1987 for any questions or concerns.

**The Duke Staff**

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**Rockin’ around the Christmas tree:**

Duquesne's annual Christmas Ball dance returns

The Duke Staff

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**Rockin’ around the Christmas tree:**

Duquesne's annual Christmas Ball dance returns

**The Duke Staff**

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Prepar ed for the winter season will be a “ball” with the Duquesne Program Council’s annual semi-formal Friday, Dec. 3. The Christmas Ball will be celebrating its 40th year after being canceled last year due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The event is held at the Omni William Penn Hotel, as it has been years past. Individual tickets are $25, and group prices for a table of 10 are $200. Expenses go toward transportation, dinner and dancing. Tickets can be purchased at the Center for Student Involvement in Room 305 of the Student Union.

Outside guests are allowed to purchase tickets for the event if accompanied by a Duquesne student.

Buses will park at the shuttle drop-off outside of the Union and depart at 6 and 6:30 p.m.

At the venue, dinner is served at 7 p.m. with the dance floor opening up at 8 p.m. Four shuttles will return students to campus at 9:30, 10, 10:30 and 11 p.m.

DPC member Kirsa Danis became a part of the planning committee for the Christmas Ball this year after going to the event her first year at Duquesne.

"It is amazing to be a part of the planning process this time and hopefully everyone has fun with the experience. I have talked to so many young people who either have not been to the event or do not know what it is. The planning details are figured out, and I hope that people will get to have an experience they will remember,” Danis said.

Sophomore Naara Román has been making plans for her first semi-formal to be "a night to remember.”

“While we did not have an event last year, I was so happy to hear that the Christmas Ball would be back. My friends and I are all prepared with our dresses and cannot wait to experience this year. It was all of the hard work we have done this semester,” she said.

Since the ball’s cancellation in 2020, the program council has been doing what it can to ensure the safety and security of the student body. As a safety precaution, masks are to be worn in the banquet hall while dancing.

Danis said she felt “very excited” to experience a Christmas Ball again.

"The last time I went with friends my freshman year, it became one of my favorite memories. It was also a great excuse to wear my prom dress again," she said.
Talking football; students create podcast to enhance broadcasting skills

EMILY AMBERY
staff writer

The North Shore Station Podcast is upping the ante on all things NFL featuring hot takes, best bets and weekly segments with up-to-date information and commentary. The podcast is hosted by Duquesne Sports Information and Media majors, seniors Dominic Ferro, Lucas D’Orazio and sophomore Camden Oyler. Started with a tweet, The North Shore Station Podcast began recording episodes in September 2020. They are now in their second season of recording with both audio and visual podcasts available to fans.

“I listen to a lot of sports podcasts and find them entertaining, and I thought it would be a good skill builder to start a podcast,” Ferro said.

 “[Ferro] put up a tweet that said, ‘If I were to start a football podcast, what would you want me to talk about’ and I DM’ed him and said, ‘I would want to hear me as a co-host,’ and then we got Camden as someone who knew about production and got started,” D’Orazio said.

Ferro and D’Orazio also recalled doing an hour-long radio show for a sports writing class which encouraged them to organize the podcast.

The North Shore Station records on Sunday or Monday nights in the Duquesne DSTV Studio. Each episode is released on the Wednesday night follow-

Camden Oyler “on the sticks” while producing North Shore Station Podcast, a broadcast that talks NFL hot takes and commentary.

ing recording.

“The best part is] getting to grow with this as a whole, if you look back at the beginning to what it is now is pretty amazing,” Oyler said. “The growth we have had, even just from a production standpoint: we have gotten experience with talking on camera, running camera work, setting both visual and audio up and using the Tricaster equipment.

Oyler runs the production for the podcast, referred to as “On the sticks” by the other hosts. The podcast features four segments, with the exception of special guests and live questions. The four segments are: a recap of the previous NFL week’s biggest wins and biggest losses, preview of the upcoming week and the betting spread and then each shares their “lock of the week.”

D’Orazio supports the Cleveland Browns, Ferro roots for the Pittsburgh Steelers and Oyler is a fan of the Washington Football Team. With a diverse range of support, the hosts entertain with light-hearted arguments and fun rivalries.

The hosts each share their biggest wins and biggest losses for the previous NFL week and discuss defensive and offensive performance in addition to individual player performance.

Each host shares the bet they believe is most likely to win and puts it in as their “lock of the week.” At the end of the season, the host with the highest number of winning locks chooses what the host with the least number of winning locks must do as the loser. Oyler is currently in the lead followed by Ferro, leaving D’Orazio in last place.

“The way that we have been able to put this all together from the basic idea of ‘let’s just sit around and talk about football for an hour each week,’ it’s pretty cool what this has grown into,” Oyler said.

The North Shore Station’s most recent guest was Matt McGloin, former Penn State and NFL quarterback. McGloin Zoomed into the podcast and shared his expertise on both college football and the NFL.

“The best part about doing the podcast is talking on your feet, it helps boost your confidence both professionally and socially, it really helps improve broadcasting skills,” Ferro said. “I love to talk, and I get to talk once a week about the stuff I love the most, which is NFL football.”

In the future, the podcast aims to have more guests like McGloin. North Shore Station also hopes to grow its social media presence and get fans more active in the show. Currently, the podcast sends tweets on recording nights alerting fans to send in questions to be answered live on the podcast.

“Having a place every week where we can come and practice our skills in broadcasting and build a portfolio of recordings is helpful when going into the sports talent industry,” D’Orazio said. “It is nice to not only say to people or employers, ‘Here is me talking; but also in my mind knowing that I have the confidence to do this.’

For more information on The North Shore Station podcast or to listen, follow @NorthShorePod on Twitter, @NorthShorePodcast on Instagram and North Shore Station Podcast on YouTube.
"The secret to happiness, of course, is not getting what you want; it's wanting what you get." — Alex Trebek

Who is Alex Trebek?

In last week’s article about the Duquesne men’s soccer team, the article said that the team’s A-10 tournament semifinal match against Rhode Island would take place on Friday (Nov. 12).

You just read. Now tweet our thoughts. Yes yours. @TheDuquesneDuke

The Enduring Value of “Jeopardy!” in the Anti-Intellectual Epoch

Simon Jaronski

On Nov. 8, 2020, a little over one year of its most beloved national icons, the Canadian-American Alex Trebek, who hosted “Jeopardy!” for a whopping 37 seasons, had become a ubiquitous presence in many households — something we can always return to on our respective quests for personal fulfillment.

Unfortunately, we live in a time of profound hostility toward intellectual culture. Much too often, intellectualism has been conflated with snobbish elitism, or relegated to the milieu of the New Yorker - reading, $7 ethically sourced coffee-sipping types. Even worse, many identify it as a feature of the vanguard of some malicious contingent of cultural warriors hellbent on redefining Americanism in line with their uninclusive vision of inclusivity. Merv Griffin’s “Jeopardy!” — which aired in its current form in 1984, simultaneously engages and moderates both of these polar phenomena, capturing the best of both. This may seem to be an audacious claim, but bear with me.

On the one hand, the show excels and celebrates the virtues and merits of an intellectually oriented lifestyle: a hearty accumulation of factual trivia is an unequivocal plus, even if it does not portend economic viability, so to speak. Indeed, Trebek and the show have become a mooring table hosting skills became synonymous with civic prowess. It is a show which celebrates intellectual achievement, grand or banal, like no other. It stands out in a sea of kitschy game show histories, operating with the force of tradition and the undying love of audiences behind it.

Viewers’ trust allows us to continue doing what we love, so let us tell your story. Your trust allows us to continue doing what we love, so let us tell your story. Your trust allows us to continue doing what we love, so let us tell your story. The Keynote speaker for the event, Kelly McBride, senior vice president at Poynter, kicked off the conversation stating that American journalism is equivalent to that of an ecosystem; she, as a “forrester” has been called upon to tend to this ecosystem. Local news is the intricate root system of American journalism,” McBride said.

There is truth to McBride’s provocations, in fact; local news, as well as our readership, feed off of one another in a symbiotic relationship which cannot survive without the other two.

The panelists reviewed common contributors to the issue ranging from the search for an emotional hook to weakened relationships with the communities they cover. The healthy functioning of a republic demands that citizens maintain an enlightened neutrality sidesteps the ideological polarities to buoy the show without its intellectual character to the show that makes it so utterly endearing, including mine.

The death of Trebek, who in so many ways was the ‘institutional’ embodiment of the program, drew its viability into question. By immediately lusting after a successor fit to pick up a book after watching three bronzed contestants fight for a Caribbean villa, or after seeing someone correctly guess the price of an exercise bike — courtesy of “The Price is Right!” — in a perverse paean to commercialism. And it is precisely this historic impartiality which makes the recent political squabbles that consumed the show in the summer of 2020 seem so far away.

The enduringly valuable “Jeopardy!” is merely one part in a greater scheme of reification — a vitiated staple of American culture which can simultaneously serve as a consolidating agent in an era of fracture and dissonance. Its proper object as a collective interface — the effectuation of pride in knowledge, everywhere — should begin within the family unit, and continue to flourish within every form of community. And to boost, the show’s neutrality sidesteps the ideological pretensions of any partisan. As the great political theorist and traditionalist conservative icon Russell Kirk once opined: “Had the New England farmer who read good books as much a right to be considered an intellectual being as any coffee-house Bohemian?” We would do well to re-examine the role of the ‘commoner-intellectual’ in society. The legacy of Alex Trebek urges us to do so.
“All Too Well” short film nods to Swift’s past

Emma Polen
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Along with the re-release of her 2012 studio album Red, Taylor Swift released “All Too Well: The Short Film” Nov. 12. While the video could still be considered just a music video for the 10-minute rewrite of the breakup ballad, it highlights how talented Swift is at telling a story with her lyrics.

It is important to recognize the brilliance behind the casting, Sadie Sink and Dylan O’Brien, who play young Taylor Swift and Jake Gyllenhaal, are about 10 years apart. Swift was 20 when she dated Gyllenhaal, who was 29 at the time.

The first shot of the video shows Sink and O’Brien side by side, sharing an intimate moment. Seeing the two together makes a viewer uncomfortable, knowing the previous roles played by these two well-known actors.

Sink is known for her role in “Stranger Things” and O’Brien for playing more mature roles in recent years. This leaves fans to appreciate the age difference as intentionally agonizing to watch.

In another intimate moment, young Gyllenhaal kisses young Swift with his face upside down to hers, which is representative of the “Spiderman kiss.” Gyllenhaal plays the villain in the most recent Spiderman movie, Spiderman: Far From Home.

Coincidence? Nope.

The infamous scarf from the original rendition of the song plays a more important role in the short film, which feels like deja vu. When young Swift first enters Gyllenhaal’s home, she drapes her red scarf over the banister. At the very end of the film, Gyllenhaal’s watches Swift through the window of her book reading -- and he is wearing the red scarf.

Another confirmed non-coincidence is the 1989 Mercedes Benz young Gyllenhaal drives in the video -- paying homage to her 5th studio album, 1989, which was the year Swift was born. In a comment on a fan’s TikTok about the car, Swift stated that the choice was intentional. She said, “Can’t stop won’t stop being cryptic and weird- that’s just the beginning, it’s gonna be a fun week.”

After her break-up with Gyllenhaal in the short film, young Taylor is seen typing on a red typewriter. She appears to be upset, and she rips the piece of paper from the machine and throws it to the floor while Swift sings, “I’m a crumpled up piece of paper lying here.”

In the portion of the video called “13 Years Later,” Taylor, now played by Taylor Swift, walks through her home. In the left-most corner under the stairs is the same red typewriter. This attention to detail proves how Swift’s past experiences in relationships shaped her success years later.

In the final portion of the short film, Swift herself is reading to an audience from a book she wrote, titled “All Too Well.” The book is not real, but its cover resembles Lewis Carroll’s Alice in Wonderland. Both books have a white tree on a light blue background. The illustrated cover of “All Too Well” also includes a red scarf, comparable to the red hearts on Carroll’s cover.

Rumors on social media suggest that Swift may actually be in the process of publishing this book based off of the imagery in this scene. In an interview with Jimmy Fallon, Swift admitted that she often hints at upcoming releases too early, saying “Can I hint at something three years in advance?”

Though the artist notoriously plugs the number 13 into every reference she can, fans noticed that it has been 11 years since the breakup, not 13. Because of this, fans speculate that the last scene may be foreshadowing an actual book release in the next two years.

Five days after its release, the video was still No. 1 Trending in music on YouTube. With all these new Easter Eggs in mind, go back and appreciate the genius behind Swift’s writing, directing and, of course, her music.

Aquarius
Mountain Mamma take me home <3

Pisces
Wait, “nebby” isn’t a word?

Aries
Blaming my actions on the moon.

Taurus
Is it chivalry to hold open that door or do I want to stop walking for a second.

Gemini
Should Green Day sing at my funeral?

Cancer
I feel like a Turkey Bowl should be an arena filled with turkeys and not football.

Leo
Chicago? In New York?

Virgo
Wait why are we cursing the earth?

Libra
So NOW you want to be proactive...

Scorpio
My Life Story (sponsored by PowerPoint).

Sagittarius
Friendgiving but the only food served is a singular turkey sandwich.

Capricorn
Folding laundry but make it a sport.

Capri’s Kind Words

There are loved ones to hold tight. There are recipes to enjoy. There are autumn leaves that crackle below our boots just to rejuvenate once more in the spring.

Like the weather, you are a seasonal masterpiece that takes on so many wonderful forms.

Cherish these memories as they forge into something new each foot forward. Cherish your strength for recognizing each moment as a stepping stone to the next.

Relax. You are exactly where you are meant to be.

— Capri Scarcelli