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STUDENT-RUN NEWSPAPER FOR UNIVERSITY OF THE INCARNATE WORD

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# Basket-brawl leads to suspensions

Four players on the men's basketball team at the University of the Incarnate Word received suspensions following a Feb. 19 fight against a visiting foe that went viral.

Four players on the visiting team, Texas A&M University-Commerce, also received suspensions following an investigation into the melee that started after TA&MU's 76-72 overtime victory over UIW in Alice P. McDermott Convocation Center.

The Southland Conference, which includes UIW and TA&MU as Division I

members, announced the suspensions Wednesday, Feb. 21, following an investigation by the conference and the two universities.

The conference, based in Frisco, Texas, said the eight players were suspended immediately for their "flagrant unsportsmanlike actions."

The brawl, which broke out during the handshake line, lasted more than a minute and spilled across the floor as players and coaches from both teams attempted to stop the melee. It's unclear what sparked the fight.

Video of the brawl garnered nationwide attention. Fight clips from the game, which was being broadcasted live on ESPN+, have shown up on ESPN, Bleacher Report, CBS Sports, Yahoo Sports, Fox News, Sports Illustrated, and USA Today – just to name a few.

UIW guard Elijah Davis received a three-game suspension while guard Alex Anderson, center Gaby Beny Til, and forward-center Marcus Glover were each suspended two games.

This was the second time this season the two teams had met. The Cardinals



The Monday brawl went viral. lost 76-71 Jan. 31 at Commerce, which is more than an hour's drive east of Dallas.

**JUMP TO PG 2 "BRAWL"**

# Ex-UIW professor faces child pornography charges

By David Peters  
LOGOS STAFF WRITER

A former University of the Incarnate Word animation and gaming professor is no longer an employee after allegations of possessing child pornography came to surface late last fall.

Troy Robert Mishler, 40, was charged Jan. 5 in Bexar County with possession of child pornography which is a third-degree felony in the State of Texas, according to court documents.

"Troy Mishler is no longer employed by the University of the Incarnate Word," according to a statement the Logos received from Michael Valdes, media and public relations manager for UIW's Office of Communications & Brand Marketing. "As this is an ongoing investigation being conducted by local



Troy Mishler

law enforcement, the University will have no further comment on the case."

According to a Jan. 5 news release from the City of Live Oak, the Live Oak Police Department received a report accusing Mishler of allegedly con-

fessing to church members in Omaha, Neb., of being addicted to pornography and admitted to watching child pornography. This confession alarmed some church members, who reported Mishler to Nebraska state authorities.

"That's how we got our notification," said Live Oak Detective Jason Andrada.

Andrada said church members reported the incident to Nebraska's version of Child Protective Services and the authorities reported the incident to Texas Child Protective Services who in turn reported it to Live Oak police who have jurisdiction over the case.

According to the affidavit, Mishler traveled to Omaha last Nov. 2 to attend a church conference. On Nov. 4, Mishler admitted to two members of the church to watching child pornography,

as recently as five days before the conference.

Marcia Collier, an investigator for the Texas Department of Family Protective Services, made a report of possible sexual child abuse and possession of child pornography with Live Oak police on Nov. 13, according to court documents.

On Nov. 22, authorities said Mishler's separated spouse met with them about this case. During the conversation, she confirmed he last watched pornography before the church conference. She said she knew he had a habit of watching child pornography when he was younger but did not know he still watched as an adult. She also told authorities he likely watched child pornography on his **JUMP TO PG 2 "PROFESSOR"**

# UIW schedules Irish 'Ceilidh' celebration March 7

The University of the Incarnate Word plans to host its first-ever Irish Ceilidh – pronounced kay-lee – this spring to celebrate St. Patrick's Day and the Irish heritage of its founders.

The Ceilidh – a traditional Irish celebration – has the double duty of marking St. Patrick's Day and honoring the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word.

The event will be 7-10 p.m. Thursday, March 6, in the McCombs Center's

Rosenberg Sky Room, which will be transformed into an Irish pub with a live Irish band, Irish and Irish-American food, games and dancing. Pre-registration is required.

Dr. Thomas M. Evans, UIW's president, shared how he and his wife, Lisa, were inspired to plan this event after they visited Ireland.

"Lisa and I were blessed to visit Ireland last year," Evans said. "While there, we were thinking about how

many Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word that we know and love are from the country. So, we were inspired to celebrate them, bring a little bit of the Irish spirit back to UIW and share that with our Cardinals."

Meghan Kuentz, who already plans the annual "Light the Way" holiday-lighting festival, was brought in on the plans as she is special events manager for UIW's Office of Communications and Brand Marketing.

"When Dr. Mrs. Evans began talking about the plans for this event, I was brought back to my time in Ireland and how magical the atmosphere is at a ceilidh– the rhythm in the music, dancing, and all of the banter and laughter," Kuentz said. "We are doing everything we can to ensure that the guests coming to the Ceilidh feel like they have been transported to Ireland for the night."

# NEWS

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## Brawl Cnt.

UIW's team, now at 8-18, has five games left in the regular season.

In a statement, Southland Commissioner Chris Grant said: "The Southland Conference Board of Directors has set clear expectations for sportsmanship and behavior of our student-athletes, coaches,

and spectators during and after competitions. Unfortunately, these expectations were not met on Monday night (Feb. 19), and the Southland Conference will not tolerate any unsportsmanlike behavior. I would like to extend our appreciation to A&M-Commerce Athletics Director Jim

Curry and [UIW] Athletics Director Richard Duran for their unwavering partnership and diligent resolution of this matter."

In a statement following the announcement Wednesday, Duran said UIW "respects the decisions made by the Southland Conference. We will honor

the suspensions handed down effective immediately. We would like to thank the SLC office for handling this matter in a fair and efficient manner. I appreciate Texas A&M-Commerce's Athletic Director Jim Curry for partnering with me."

## Professor Cnt.

work-issued laptop, or cellphones.

Although the university has a firewall, she said Mishler would know how to disable the firewall because of his background, all according to the affidavit.

On the firewall-breaching possibility, Valdes said: "After extensive forensic analysis and detailed review of university information security logs, there currently appears to be no evidence that Mishler breached a UIW firewall."

The woman told authorities that Mishler used a desktop at home until over a year ago and stopped using it, while storing the hard drive of the computer in the laundry room of their home.

Subsequent investigation led to a search warrant Nov. 30 at Mishler's home for computers and electronic storage devices that may have evidence of child

pornography. This warrant was executed the same day. Authorities seized two computer towers, a laptop computer, two USB thumb drives, and two cellphones, according to the affidavit. At his home, Mishler admitted watching child pornography, detectives said.

"I wish I could help more," said Andrada, citing the ongoing investigation. "(It's) not just our evidence, but also to protect Mr. Mishler and to ensure he gets a fair trial if it comes down to that, so we just want the proceedings and all that fair for him as well and do it the right way."

According to court documents, Mishler admitted to viewing child pornography as recently as two years ago, and to being addicted to pornography in general. He said he started watching child

pornography when he was in his teens.

Mishler told investigators his UIW laptop would likely contain evidence of child pornography. The laptop is still in the possession of Live Oak police, Andrada said.

On Dec. 12, a forensic examiner with the Comal County Sheriff's Department received the devices and on Jan. 4, the examiner observed more than 100 photographs and nine videos showing child pornography from one of Mishler's computer towers. Investigators observed prepubescent, which appeared to be 10 or younger, engaging in sexual intercourse with adults.

Since Mishler's arrest, according to court documents, Mishler has since made a \$125,000 bond. He is currently awaiting indictment - a court procedure when he is formally told of the charges he faces - in

District Court 187. Meanwhile, he is on full house arrest. He's not allowed to have firearms. He also was ordered to have "no contact." Mishler has hired two lawyers -- Kerrisa Chelkowski and Sam Lock -- as of Jan. 8.

If Mishler is convicted of a third-degree felony, Texas Penal Code 12.34 specifies the person can be sent to prison for two to 10 years, and be fined up to \$10,000.

Mishler worked at UIW Aug. 1, 2019, through Jan. 8, 2024, according to the university.

"The University's hiring and employment practices comply with all state and federal laws," Valdes said. "The University is committed to providing a safe working and learning environment for students, faculty and staff and will continue to take the appropriate steps to do so."

## Library offers cash incentive for doing survey

By Aaron Rios  
LOGOS STAFF WRITER

Are you someone who uses the campus library who has suggestions for upgrades or improving its services at the University of the Incarnate Word?

Well, now you can through the latest LibQual survey between Feb. 26 and March 10.

And you also might win a \$100 Visa gift card for your trouble.

The LibQual survey is conducted usually every three years, said Tracy Mendoza, dean of library services, who estimates the survey might take 10 minutes. She's based at J.E. and L.E. Mabey Library on the Broadway Campus.

"(It's a) nationally normed survey by many other institutions that measures how the library is functioning with the resources they provide, and it allows the students of this institution to be able to give their opinions on certain things that may need improvement or how the library workers help them," Mendoza said.

She pointed out some of the changes brought about at the library from past surveys such as the Scholars Corner study area and changes on its website. Feedback also resulted in students' ability to reserve a time slot in the back area so students can book a perfect time and place to study quietly. That way, they don't have to worry if there'll be any open seats available in

the library if they need to get work done after their classes.

"In response to conversations with students and faculty and in response to several comments on our last LibQual Survey, we have enhanced discovery and support for teaching, learning and scholarship in several ways," according to a statement on the library website.

Some of the changes cited on the website from feedback resulted in the Health Professions libraries having new landing pages, new search tools for resources, repurposed space for primary archives, tools in the Scholarship Toolbox series for faculty, graduate student-focused workshop in the fall and spring, and an

open access collection of faculty publications.

The survey includes a place for open comments, so it allows you to make your voice heard if you feel the library needs upgrades in certain areas. The tagline for this survey is "Your Library, Your Voice." "The library serves all students, and hopes to see a good number of students to participate in this survey because it is for the benefit of them," Mendoza said.



Tracy Mendoza

## Volunteers offer tax-preparation help

By Kaitlin Martinez  
LOGOS STAFF WRITER

Volunteers began giving free tax-preparation assistance this month to eligible families through the annual Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program at the University of the Incarnate Word.

UIW community members - students, faculty and staff - and others making \$66,000 or less a year in their households are eligible to seek help from volunteers certified by the Internal Revenue Service through April 13, said Dr. April Poe, coordinator for the program offered through the H-E-B School of Business and Administration.



Dr. April Poe

The program helps working families take full advantage of all the tax credits they are eligible for, including the Earned Income Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit and education credits.

From 9 a.m. to noon on Saturdays through April 13, trained volunteers meet those needing and qualifying for help who have scheduled appointments in Room 126 of the Joyce Building.

There are a limited number of appointments, so e-mail vita@uiwtx.edu as soon as possible to secure one.

"Please bring forms of identification, as well as any tax documents you have received in the mail," Poe said. "It is best that you make an appointment for the day you'd like to be seen as there is no set time for completion on any given appointment."

Being prepared with proper documentation makes the whole process easier, efficient, and less time-consuming with the help of modern software and access to national databases, Poe said.

The VITA program was first offered in

1984 at UIW, then Incarnate Word College. Since then, VITA volunteers have met with taxpayers on Saturdays to complete simple returns from the current year. Participating volunteer students - mostly accounting majors - also earn valuable community service hours required for graduation as they give back to the community.

"It's part of the curriculum for accounting students," said Poe, who chairs the department for accounting, business law, and management information systems. "It gives students exposure to real-world situations and allows them to learn more about their field of study."

## 'Pardi Gras' packs activities for students

By **Marisa Allen**  
LOGOS STAFF WRITER

University of the Incarnate Word students made mask posters, played lawn games, ate cotton candy, and got free T-shirts Tuesday, Feb. 13, at the annual Pardi Gras.

The event marked UIW's version of Mardi Gras, which is French for "Fat

Tuesday," which traditionally is a day marked by the practice of consuming rich, fatty food before next day's Ash Wednesday - the beginning of Lent and its fasting season observing six weeks of penitence before Easter.

The Campus Activities Board and Office of Campus Engagement co-hosted Pardi Gras, which was split

into two parts. The first session from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. took place at Westgate Circle where student organizations participated in the mask poster contest, handed out candy and beads, and networked with students.

"I liked the mask competition," said communication arts major Eileen Munoz. "It was cool to see all the different styles and artworks."

The second session featuring games, cotton candy and T-shirts took place 4-6 p.m. at Dubuis Lawn.

There were a few differences between this year's Pardi Gras and last year's Pardi Gras. Aside from the poster contest, snacks and shirts looked a bit different.

"Instead of having po'boys, we have king cake," said Victoria Gonzales, coordinator for Campus Engagement. "Last year we had sweatshirts, but this year we have T-shirts. Same design, same everything."



Marisa Allen/LOGOS STAFF  
'Pardi Gras' featured a pile of festive beads, cotton candy, and 'axe-throwers' such as John David Gamez.



## UIWtv picks anchors for spring broadcasts

By **Theresa Servin**  
LOGOS STAFF WRITER

UIWtv made its first spring broadcast Thursday, Feb. 15, after holding auditions late last month and early this month for this semester's anchors.

This semester there were many applicants in comparison to previous semesters, most of which were freshmen and seniors, UIWtv leaders said.

"Auditions went great this semester, and we were excited to see new and returning faces," News Director Emma Galle said. "Everyone who auditioned did great -- and myself and the rest of the UIWtv officers had such a hard time deciding who made it. Overall, we're happy with our list but sad that we had to cut some truly amazing talent."

Applicants do not get the script ahead of time, even on newscast days. Auditions usually last about 10 minutes. The factors that go into choosing the anchors are mostly about who has the most potential for improvement and who is most passionate about what they are doing, according to UIWtv's leaders who are work-study students.

Making the cut were news anchors Matthew Falletich, Miranda Ramirez, Janelle De Jesus, and Emily Reyna; entertainment anchors Rebekah Rodriguez and Ren Victoria; and sports anchors Hannah Cash and Aaron Rios.

You can see the anchors on future broadcasts Feb. 29, March 21, April 4, and April 25. The shows are scheduled at 12:30 p.m. Thursdays.



Paige Heller/LOGOS STAFF

UIWtv anchors Janelle De Jesus, Miranda Ramirez, Aaron Rios and Rebekah Rodriguez will be on the air doing shows this spring.

While most of the on-air talent come from the Department of Communication Arts, not all are. And there remain plenty of opportunities for students - regardless of major - to volunteer and earn community service hours required for graduation.

Getting experience with UIWtv can be an important steppingstone towards future endeavors for those interested in a career in broadcast journalism, said Cash, a senior communication

arts major from England who's on the golf team.

"I want to go into sports broadcasting when I graduate in May, and UIWtv is the perfect opportunity for me to improve my broadcasting skills and prepare me for my future career," Cash said. "We have such a great Comm Arts community, we all support each other in anything we do."

Reyna, a news anchor, is a nursing major. Although she has been a UIWtv

anchor more than two years, she said nursing is ultimately where her heart is.

"I quickly fell in love with (anchoring) and with the UIWtv team," Reyna said. "I had never met such a welcoming (group) of people and hard team workers until I got into UIWtv. It's amazing getting to work with such creative and compassionate workers working hard to get news out into our school community. I feel so blessed to be a part of it."

## Students meet employers for jobs

By Audrey Patton  
LOGOS STAFF WRITER

Representatives from nearly 30 employers met prospective students from the University of the Incarnate Word Wednesday, Feb. 7, during the School of Business and Administration Networking Reception and Career Fair.

Students bearing resumes approached the companies at their tables set up nearly three hours in McCombs Center Rosenberg Skyroom to learn about possible internships, part-time and full-time jobs.

The Office of Career Services helps set up job fairs on campus. Next up is an All Majors Career and Job Expo scheduled 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 29, in the SEC Ballroom. Career Services Director Brian Richardson said he hopes UIW students take advantage of these opportunities to meet future employers.

"There are only a few times each academic year that students get a chance to talk face-to-face with employers that are interested in hiring Cardinals for the internships

and jobs they have available," Richardson said. "These employers invest resources to be on campus because they believe in the talent that UIW has to offer and that is worth every moment of this event."

Caleb Blansett, a student manager for Southwest Advantage – one of the companies at the event – complimented the event.

"We had an amazing experience here at UIW today," Blansett said. The students and staff were not only sharp, but welcoming and friendly too. (I'm) glad to work with some Cardinals in the future."



Audrey Patton/LOGOS STAFF  
Students stop by Southwest Advantage's table Feb. 7 to converse with representatives about possible jobs during the H-E-B School of Business and Administration Reception and Career Fair.

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## Greek presidents share objectives

By Ellah Tellez  
LOGOS STAFF WRITER

What drives the student presidents leading five Greek organizations at the University of the Incarnate Word?

They shared their answers with the *Logos*.

**Alpha Kappa Alpha:** Amelia Barry, a senior majoring in accounting, has been at the helm of AKA since fall of 2021. Her journey into presidency was fueled by a desire to create



Amelia Barry

a strong sense of community among minorities while leading them in impactful community service endeavors. This semester, Barry aims to strengthen the sorority's ties to the community through more service events, including support for Booker T. Washington Elementary School's fight against hunger. She is also focused on fostering a robust

community of women within the sorority, promoting unity and social justice.

**Alpha Sigma Alpha:** Paige

Heller, a junior majoring in communication arts, assumed the presidency of ASA in October 2022. For Heller, the presidency is not just about the title but a profound commitment to caring for and supporting her sorority sisters. Her goal this semester is to showcase the unwavering support system within the sorority, emphasizing that, no matter how challenging life gets, they have a group of girls devoted to love and care for one another. Heller envisions creating a haven where every member feels they have someone to lean on and trust.



Paige Heller

**Omega Delta Phi:** Izcalli Guadarrama, a fourth-year music education major, found himself in the role of president for ODPPhi after trans-

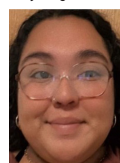
ferring to UIW in the fall of 2022.

Although this responsibility was thrust upon him unexpectedly, Guadarrama embraced the challenge, believing in the fraternity's values and potential. Despite the initial hurdles, he has successfully led ODPPhi to rebound and grow. This semester, he aims to make ODPPhi more visible on campus, attracting new members and fostering a sense of community through various events and initiatives.



Izcalli Guadarrama

**Alpha Sigma Tau:** Ophelia Sanchez, a senior majoring in interdisciplinary studies with minors in literacy and special education, took on the role of president for AST in 2021.



Ophelia Sanchez

For Sanchez,

the presidency is a culmination of her training within the sorority, and she envisions using her leadership skills to support her sisters in the best possible way. This semester, her focus is on building stronger connections among her sisters and expanding the sorority's reach before she graduates in May.

**Alpha Phi Omega:** Markus Mc

Guire, a senior majoring in communication arts with a focus on multimedia production, has been an active member of APO since the fall of 2021. Drawn to the fraternity's emphasis on leadership, friendship, and service, McGuire assumed the role of president to help the chapter grow and spread its values across campus. This semester, he is gearing up for increased marketing efforts to attract new members. APO plans to host various community service events and a spring banquet in April.



Markus McGuire



Andrew Rios/LOGOS STAFF

Sister Martha Ann Kirk, right, explains Heritage Center exhibits Feb. 13 to University of Texas-San Antonio students about the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word.

## Heritage Center tour tells Sisters' story

By **Andrew Rios**  
LOGOS STAFF WRITER

A University of Texas-San Antonio dean's request led to his students learning about the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word's mission Friday, Feb. 16, at the CCVI Heritage Center.

Sister Martha Ann Kirk, a longtime member of the order, led the UTSA group's tour of the center at 4503 Broadway, adjacent to the campus.

Dr. Glenn Martinez, dean of UTSA's College of Liberal and Fine Arts, requested the tour for students in his "Health Equity and Latino Health" class. Martinez wanted his students to learn about the Sisters' pivotal role in health care in San Antonio, starting with their response to cholera outbreaks in the late 19th century.

The Chapel of the Incarnate Word was transformed into a huge classroom as Kirk began her presentation – a history lesson and tour there before going in the Heritage Center.

For the Sisters, founders of the University of the Incarnate Word, the Heritage Center is more than a place.

According to a website, the CCVI Heritage Center is "primarily a sacred space that holds and honors the stories of those who have participated in the mission of Jesus through the ministries

of the Congregation of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word (CCVI). It is meant to be a place of welcome and outreach, formation and evangelization."

The physical spaces that make up the center are centered around the exhibit, "A Life for God and a Heart for Others." They include Incarnate Word Cemetery, the Archives of the Congregation, Brackenridge Villa (the first motherhouse for the congregation), Our Lady of

Lourdes Grotto, and the Blue Hole -- the headwaters of the San Antonio River.

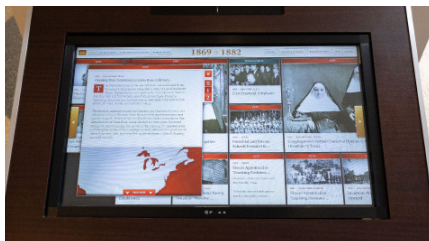
Together, with the other sites, they tell the story of the congregation. Their stories express the core values that have inspired hundreds of Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word, and others, for nearly 150 years to live lives of dedicated service. These same values still call thousands of lay co-ministers, collaborators, students, friends, and visitors to respond, especially through the Sisters' various ministries, "to Christ suffering in our world."

During the tour, Michael Menzies, a teaching assistant to Dean Martinez, said the UIW tour was among five areas the class plans to visit this semester.

"The campus is beautiful," Menzies said. "The rich history it has is so nice to look at and for my students to experience along this journey in our class."

### FYI

The Heritage Center exhibit is open 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.



# OPINION

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## Mariachi Cardenal looks to grow, record album

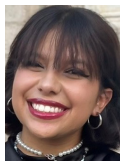
By **Janelle De Jesus**  
LOGOS EDITOR

Mariachi Cardenal, founded in 2023, has opened doors for diverse musicians at the University of the Incarnate Word.

This organization stems from Latino culture, and its success today would not be possible without students Refugio Valenzuela, Yoshi Murillo, and Professor John Lopez.

After transferring from Palo Alto College, Valenzuela, who goes by "Cuco" to friends, said he was inspired to start a mariachi group by the Texas State University Mariachi during a trip there. After arriving at UIW, he decided his band needed a mariachi group, too.

Valenzuela, who plays the trumpet and vihuela, reached out to Murillo to



Janelle De Jesus

see if there was any interest. To his surprise, 14 other students wanted to learn mariachi music as well. Just like that, the senior was adding to UIW's music legacy.

After starting the mariachi band, Valenzuela said, "I wrote out an arrangement to the bolero, 'La Gloria Eres Tu,' and we were able to perform it in front of all the music faculty during the semester's last departmental recital."

Valenzuela realized he had started something worth celebrating. A week following the recital, Dr. Javier Clavere, the dean of the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, told him how happy he was to see students taking the lead in forming an ensemble and discussed ways to grow Mariachi Cardenal.

A few weeks later, Clavere, a concert pianist, bestowed a paper copy of an official job position for mariachi director to Valenzuela, who thanked the faculty, especially Clavere and Dr. Kevin Salfen, a music professor who also serves as associate dean for CHASS, for their support.

Since the beginning of last fall's semester, mariachi group has been under the direction of Professor Lopez, a retired professor from Texas State who

had created the Latin Music Studies area there that was home to award-winning salsa and mariachi groups during his 25-year tenure.

Mariachi Cardenal members see their involvement as being a part of something bigger than themselves. The group calls for a certain amount of technical and musical skills that expands on standard concert bands. Not only does it take incredible skill, but it also expands on Hispanic and Latino culture, which is one of the biggest parts of Mariachi Cardenal.

"Being in mariachi has really immersed me into a world of music that I had never embraced before," senior Joshua Stevens said. "There is a certain quality to mariachi that is not found anywhere else, and I am able to discover what that sound is and how it pairs with my natural playing abilities."

"Being a part of Mariachi Cardenal has made me appreciate my heritage and culture," Valenzuela said. "As a fourth-generation mariachi musician, it is an amazing feeling to continue the traditions of mariachi in our predominantly Hispanic community. I have been given countless opportunities that I would not have received elsewhere such as assisting with the Mariachi Region 29 clinician this past January. I have also had the opportunity to meet and perform with numerous students who are truly devoted to learning and performing mariachi music."

Being involved with the band also has

improved Stevens' Spanish-speaking skills.

"I am growing in my use and understanding of Spanish," Stevens said. "With many members being bilingual and the songs being sung in Spanish, I have been able to learn a lot from the group. The group has been really supportive with my exploration of speaking Spanish, I now feel more confident in my Spanish class."

Mariachi Cardenal has room for growth and is always looking to expand through members and the mission of their band and the university, Valenzuela said. The band has the potential to do great things within the community, he said, and he even envisions the group participating in mariachi competitions around the nation. He hopes UIW starts offering a mariachi or Latin music degree.

However, Valenzuela hopes his personal legacy for the group will be to leave behind a "tema" – a theme song that is unique to each mariachi group. But there are also plans for an album.

"Recently, we were approved to collaborate with the student-run record label, Broadway Bird Records, to work on an album set to be released in the upcoming fall semester," Valenzuela said. "So, please be on the lookout for that."

E-mail: De Jesus at [jidejesu@student.uiwtx.edu](mailto:jidejesu@student.uiwtx.edu)



Mariachi Cardenal performs at UIW.

## Eight restaurants to try in San Antonio

By **Paige Heller**  
LOGOS ASSISTANT EDITOR

Hanging out with friends and family, going on adventures, or after a long work shift, everyone needs to eat.

Here are eight food places to try in San Antonio – several of them close to the University of the Incarnate Word Broadway Campus.

### NOLA Brunch & Beignets

A New Orleans-style brunch restaurant, 720 E. Mistletoe St., that serves items such as beignets, seafood inspired dishes, and pancakes. Not only does NOLA have a wide variety of options for food, but drinks as well. They offer wine, different types of coffee, sodas, and juices. It's a great spot for brunch with friends and family or to go study at.

### Cheesy Jane's

Bringing a classic '50 feel to your meal, Cheesy Jane's, 4200 Broadway, is a mom-and-pop spot that serves burgers, hot dogs, and other classic meals. Not only do they have classic meals but classic shakes in more than 20 flavors such as Oreo, peanut butter and jelly, and double chocolate.



Paige Heller

### Tycoon Flats

A relaxed but energetic place with two locations – 2926 N. St Mary's St., and 1017 Austin Highway – with outdoor seating and sports playing on TVs.

Tycoon Flats offers beer, wine, and a wide variety of burgers such as eggs benedict and mushroom burgers as well.

### CommonWealth Coffeehouse & Bakery

One of the best coffee shops in town with its earthy aesthetic and great staff. CommonWealth, 118 Davis Court, has great coffee along with a great menu featuring croissant sandwiches and yogurt parfaits. This is another great studying spot for students.

### Surfing Crab

From coast to city, this is the place to get your seafood fix. The boils are filled with flavors with more than six different seasoning options to choose from along with different types of seafood such as

mussels, lobster, crab, clams, and many others. If you don't necessarily like seafood, this restaurant, 9137 Interstate 10 in The Colonnade Shopping Center, also has options such as fried rice and wings.

### Alamo Café

Mexican cuisine like no other. Alamo Café serves Mexican food that hits the heart with happiness. The flautas are crispy and the tacos filled with great pico de gallo. There are two locations: 10060 I-10 and 14250 San Pedro Ave.

### Curry Boys BBQ

Good Texas barbecue with a twist. Curry Boys BBQ, a James Beard award nominee, serves classic barbecue such as brisket, chicken, pulled pork, and other options with a Thai curry. The meals also come with jasmine rice, vegetables, cilantro, and other delicious ingredients. Not only is the food great but the aesthetic and vibe that comes with this restaurant being in a bright hot pink house, 536 E. Courtland Place, and a beautiful outside seating area with string lights. Also offers beer and wine for drink options.

### Bamboo

Chinese food on a different level.

Bamboo, 226 E. Fest St., offers modern Chinese meals such as lemon chicken lomein, combo fried rice, and others. Bamboo also offer tasty appetizers such as cheese rangoons, fried pork dumplings, and fried wontons. To go with the great food, Bamboo also offers flavorful cocktails.

If you are a local or tourist in San Antonio, I recommend trying one of the places listed above. Between brunch, burgers, barbecue, and seafood, this city has many great options for all your cuisine cravings.

I have always loved the food I have gotten from all these places and so has everyone else I have asked. If you end up trying a place or have a place that I should try, e-mail me with your thoughts.

E-mail: [pheller@student.uiwtx.edu](mailto:pheller@student.uiwtx.edu)

## Family member seeks Israel hostage's release

**By Morgan Huizar  
LOGOS STAFF WRITER**

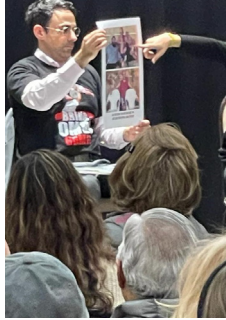
On Jan. 29, the Logos interviewed Moshe Lavi, a family member of an Israeli hostage.

Dr. Lisa Epstein, director of the Jewish Community Relations Council, invited the Logos to the meeting at the Jewish Community Center, 12500 N.W. Military Highway

In a small private conference room, the meeting started with a 45-minute conversation between San Antonio Mayor Ron Nirenberg and Lavi about the events that have transpired since Oct. 7, 2023.

On Oct. 7, Lavi's sister, who lives in Israel with her family, was enjoying the day at home when members of Hamas forced their way into their home, taking the entire family hostage. Lavi described the traumatic events as the worst experience they had ever gone through.

When the events first started, Lavi said he was in the United States on a work visa. Around 1 p.m. (Israeli time), the Hamas group took his sister, niece, and brother-in-law, Omri Miran, hostage for



Moshe Lavi shares photos.

about five hours. About five hours later, the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) came in and saved his sister and his niece.

"Unfortunately, by the time they had arrived, Hamas had already taken my brother-in-law hostage," Lavi said.

Lavi presented Nirenberg a dog tag symbolizing peace and their family. He also displayed a photo of Miran, 46.

When the mayor asked Lavi if he had

heard anything from Miran since Oct. 7, Lavi responded: "Yes, we got signs that he is still alive, and we expect him to come home that way."

When the mayor asked Lavi what makes him confident in saying that, Lavi replied: "Because Hamas took him, and we expect them to return him safe and sound."

Last Oct. 8, the families of the Israeli hostages started a website called Hostages and Missing forums in hopes of raising awareness of people all over the world and bring their loved ones home.

The Logos asked Lavi how he is personally dealing with the situation, knowing his family has been displaced.

Specifically, Lavi was asked: "Can you talk about what that means and where they are now?"

"Currently, 130,000 Israelis are displaced both from Southern and Northern Israel," Lavi said. "The South because of the conflict with Hamas and their accomplices in the North. On the second day of the conflict, Hezbollah, a Lebanese group, began indiscriminate firing against Israeli communities in

the north of Israel. A lot of families are now displaced inside Israel. They live in temporary housing in hotels, and it's been (more than) four months now, so you can imagine how it's been for those families.

"There has also been disassociated income because some people can't work anymore -- most of them also within the context of a traumatic experience of surviving Oct. 7 and having a country in a war. So, it has been difficult for our family and many other families, and we do our best to keep strong and stay together spiritually and mentally whenever we need it."



Omri Miran is a hostage.

## Lunar New Year brings families together

**By Theresa Servin  
LOGOS STAFF WRITER**

A Lunar New Year program was held Tuesday afternoon, Feb. 6, at Grossman International Conference Center on the University of the Incarnate Word Broadway Campus.

The first new moon of the lunar calendar fell on Feb. 10, kicking off the 15-day Spring Festival in China. The occasion -- the biggest holiday in Asian culture -- marks the start of the agricultural season.

The Chinese zodiac calendar is best described as a 12-year cycle represented by 12 different animals, in this order: Rat, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Goat, Monkey, Rooster, Dog and Pig. This is the "Year of the Dragon."

Many cultural traditions are associated with the Lunar New Year. About 10 days before the start of the new year, a thorough housecleaning is done, to remove any remnants of "bad luck" that

may be lingering within. This tradition is known as "sweeping of the grounds."

Families gather on Lunar New Year's Eve and Lunar New Year's Day and receive red envelopes which contain money (lai see). Fireworks and dancing are prevalent throughout the holidays, culminating on the last day with The Lantern Festival. Houses are illuminated with colorful lanterns, and traditional foods are served. One favorite is the dumpling (Jiaozi).

Besides the ceremony at Grossman, Kelsey Dwyer, the new adviser for the International Students and Scholar Services, organized the Lunar New Year Bazaar, which took place Tuesday, Feb. 20, on the Broadway Campus.

At the Grossman program, students shared what their families normally do to kick off the Lunar New Year and the days following it.

"Lunar New Year's Eve is a tradition where family comes together," said Biao Ma, a doctoral student from

China studying education. "Family dinner is the most important part of Lunar New Year for us and something we do no matter where you are. Asian countries see food as sacred. Everything is about eating and is a top priority. This is why food presentation and eating all the best dishes is so important."

Ginger Chang, a senior communication arts major from Taiwan, also said food is a focus for the celebration in her family.

"We have family dinner daily, and this is where every mom shows all their best dishes and compete for who has the best dish," said Chang, who wraps up



Photo by Joe Servin  
Biao Ma, left, Kelsey Dwyer and Ginger Chang celebrate.

her year studying at UIW in May. "Every dish has a meaning, and something that we do together as a family is to make dumplings a week before the New Year. We do this together because we make them for the entire family. It's fun and even the kids get to make the dumplings in any shape that

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## Baseball sweeps visiting Villanova

By Hannah Cash  
LOGOS SPORTSWRITER

The Cardinals opened their spring baseball season with a weekend sweep against visiting Villanova University at Sullivan Field, sponsored by HEB.

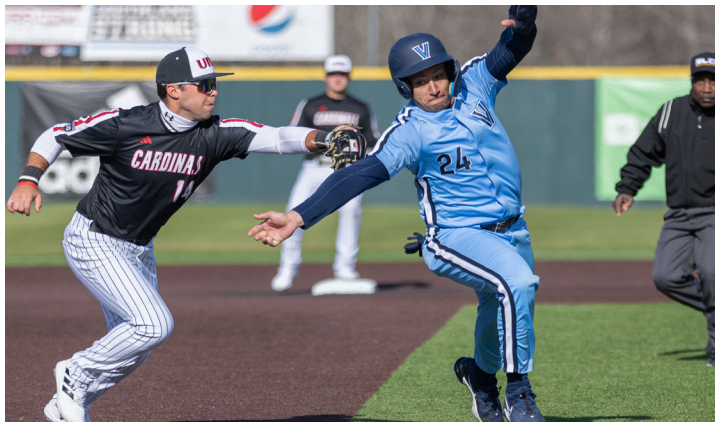
The home team won 12-7 Friday, Feb. 16; 7-6 Saturday, Feb. 17; and 9-6 Sunday, Feb. 18.

The Cardinals lost their first game of the young season 9-3 on the road Tuesday, Feb. 20, at No. 8-ranked Texas A&M University in College Station, but returned home Wednesday to beat the University of Illinois-Chicago 22-7 in seven innings. The team is at home this weekend for another series beginning Friday, Feb. 23, against Alcorn State University.

After losing a handful of record-setting players last year, the University of the Incarnate Word's roster is fairly young which means Head Coach Ryan Shotzberger expects some of his players to step up and make the jump they are more than capable of.

"The best teams are player-led, not coach-fed, and our group is doing a great job at taking initiative and moving forward," Shotzberger said.

With the departure of Steve Hayward, the Southland Conference Relief Pitcher of the Year, Shotzberger is focusing on finding a new leader this year. It looks like shortstop Grant Randall is wanting to become that person his teammates can rely on.



Andrew Rios/LOGOS STAFF

Cardinals infielder Ryan Hernandez runs Villanova catcher Josue Valdez down at Sullivan Field, sponsored by HEB.

"I want to lead by example and become the leader of the program," said Randall, a 5-foot-10 senior from Norman, Okla. "Whenever work is voluntary, we all want to show up. We have a group of guys that want to be here and want to play."

Although UIW finished second in the regular season last year, a preseason conference poll had the Cardinals finishing fourth. All nine teams in

the conference will play a 24-game round-robin conference schedule against the other eight teams, with the top seven teams in the conference qualifying for the double-elimination conference tournament.

The Southland tournament begins May 22 at Southeastern Louisiana University's Pat Kenelly Diamond at Alumni Field in Hammond, La. The tournament champion will have an automatic berth

in the NCAA Tournament.

Asked what he envisioned for the team in this season's schedule, Shotzberger said: "Opportunity. I see an opportunity for this team to be the first. The first to go to a regional, the first to win a conference championship, the first to do a lot of things."

## UIW football reaps harvest from transfer portal

By Jonah Guerrero  
LOGOS SPORTSWRITER

After a disappointing end to a 9-2 season in not making the FCS playoffs, the University of the Incarnate Word's football program has gotten heavy reinforcements through the transfer portal alone.

Since the season ended in November, the Cardinals have brought in more than 20 new players, 15 being from the transfer portal alone.

In back-to-back gridiron seasons, UIW had surpassed expectations beyond anyone's imagination, especially on the offensive end. The 2022 squad averaged 54 points a game, but the 2023 average fell to 34.

Quarterback Zach Calzada, a transfer graduate student, led the offense, finishing the season with 2,598 passing yards, 19 passing touchdowns, 66 percent completion percentage, 57 rushing yards, and five rushing touchdowns.

Calzada transferred from Auburn (Ala.) University, after having played earlier at Texas A&M University - both



Jonah Guerrero

FBS schools with well-regarded football programs. But coming off injuries, Calzada said he wanted to make a statement with his opportunity to play at UIW.

"I could've definitely stayed FBS," Calzada said in an interview with Greg Luca, a writer for the San Antonio Express-News. "But the opportunity here (was) absolutely amazing. That's what really brought me here, the opportunity to go win a national championship, to win a Walter Payton Award, (and) to put a school that's rising on the map."

Graduate student wide receiver Brandon Porter was another offensive standout, finishing with 11,072 receiving yards and 67 catches, leading the team in both stats. His seven touchdowns was second only to graduate wide receiver Caleb Chapman's eight.

On the defensive end, star performances came from junior defensive back Ronald Wilson who collected four interceptions - two for touchdowns - along with 35 total tackles, and four pass deflections. Junior defensive end Steven Parker recorded seven sacks in back-to-back seasons, 36 total tackles, three forced fumbles, and a blocked kick.

Fans are going to have to wait and see how much the new players will contribute to keep UIW on the winning side, but several of them have FBS experience.

Two players in particular are line-backers Jonathan Thomas and Jordan Norwood. Thomas transferred from the University of Nevada. Norwood played at Liberty University in Lynchburg, Va. The then-No. 23 Liberty Flames finished with a 13-1 record - their only loss being 45-7 Jan. 1 against the eighth-ranked Oregon Ducks in the Vrbo Fiesta Bowl at State Farm Stadium in Glendale, Ariz.

Another player on the defensive side of the ball I like is safety Matt

Kordas. Transferring from Iowa Western Community College, Kordas was a part of one of the best junior college football programs in the nation, coming off back-to-back NJCAA National Championships.

Other notable offensive transfers include lineman Mason Williams from Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green after being a two-year starter at Harvard University; and three wide receivers, two of them coming from FBS programs: Jalen Walthall, from the University of Hawai'i, and Mason Pierce from Marshall University in Huntington, W.Va., who earlier recorded more than 500 total scrimmage yards in 2022 when he was at McNeese State University in Lake Charles, La., a Southland Conference school. The third receiver is Anthony Stiel who is transferring from Eastern Washington University in Cheney, an FCS school.

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## Women look to qualify for basketball tournament

By Morgan Huizar  
LOGOS SPORTSWRITER

The women's basketball team at the University of the Incarnate Word has a 15-9 winning record thus far under fifth-year Head Coach Jeff Dow and could qualify for postseason play.

Winners of the past three games in a row, the most recent victory was at home Saturday, Feb. 17, in Alice McDermott Convocation Center, where the



Morgan Huizar

women came back to beat the Northwestern State University Demons from Natchitoches, La., 63-57.

To date, the Cardinals have been led by sophomore Aliyah Collins, a 5-foot-5

guard from College Station, Texas, who is averaging 13.7 points per game on 44.9 percent shooting, 1.8 rebounds and 2.8 assists coming off the bench.

The captain, senior Nina De Leon Negrón, is the second-leading scorer. The 5-foot-6 guard, who is from San Juan, Puerto Rico, is averaging 10.8 points per game on 35.2 percent shooting from the floor, 6.6 rebounds and 3.5 assists. A seasoned veteran,

she once played for Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tenn., and plays for the Puerto Rican national team in the offseason.

Another notable achievement this season was senior guard Destiny Terrell's 500th career rebound recorded Feb. 10 in a 67-40 at Houston Christian University. Terrell, 5-foot-9 from Dallas, had nine rebounds against the Huskies along with six points and two assists in that game.

During after-game news conferences, Dow often cites Terrell's contributions to the team. She was on the 2022 team that won the Southland Conference tournament and advanced to the NCAA tournament in Columbia, S.C., where UIW lost 55-51 to Howard University.

Continued winning could qualify this year's team for the conference tournament, March 10-14, at the Legacy Center in Lake Charles, La.

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Andrew Rios/LOGOS STAFF

Sophomore Aliyah Collins of College Station drives for a layup against Lamar University at Alice McDermott Convocation Center.

## New coach leads volleyball to record wins

By Nina De Leon  
LOGOS SPORTSWRITER

Last fall, the University of the Incarnate Word women's volleyball team had its best regular season in program history since turning Division I in 2013.

In her first year, Head Coach Gabryel "Gabby" Ording led the Cardinals to a 15-15 record before losing 3-2 to No. 7 New Orleans last Nov. 21 in the first round of the Southland Conference Tournament played in Corpus Christi.

Those 15 regular-season wins were the most in UIW volleyball history. It also was the first time since 2009 that the team started 5-0 to begin the season. The Cardinals also capped off the season with 1,434 kills, the second-highest number since turning D-I.

"People here are really welcoming and supporting of me," Ording said. "The girls have shown that they can be successful at a different coaching style."



Gabryel Ording

Ording became the eighth head coach in UIW's volleyball history in January 2023. Before coming to UIW, Ording was an associate head coach for conference rival Southeastern Louisiana University where she helped the Lions see two of their winningest seasons since 2002, including the conference championship.

Becoming head coach after being an assistant can be challenging at times, Ording said.

"You need to have a firm belief of what you are doing and stick with it," Ording said. "Over time, you can kind of mold it a little bit, but as a head coach you have to be more solid from the start. The time management as an assistant coach is a lot different because

I still find myself at times doing everything because I've done this before. You have to narrow your thought process, when as an assistant you are just following, definitely still learning."

During the fall season at UIW, two Cardinals - Mariela Nieto and Annamaria Alvarez - were named conference players of the week. Florida native Allison Palmi led the team in kills with 352 kills. Junior Risa Sena was second with 279. Natalie Kimmel led in assists (698) and aces (48), and was second in digs (237). She was also the second leader of digs of the team with a total of 237. Anuhea Faltau was second in assists with 487.

When players face up adversity and struggle mentally because they are not performing as good as they desire, Ording said she empowers them to become a better teammate and make sure to support others so don't just think about themselves. She also sees

herself as a coach that tries to spread positivity most of the time.

"I can't not be positive with my team," Ording said. "I take them to the locker room, talk to them a little bit, get them going when they are not doing their job. Outside of that, (it's) positive reinforcement, because those guys know what they are doing. There is nothing different."

After one year at UIW, Ording said she is trying to build a winning mindset and culture.

"The goal for next year is to be higher in conference," Ording said. "We want to get 100 percent past the first round. That's the standard. We are just trying to establish that culture and keep bumping the standards up. I am excited to build off what we did last year, excited to recruit and hopefully win conference sooner than later."

## 'Fade' shines light on class, race

By Eli Cohen  
LOGOS STAFF WRITER

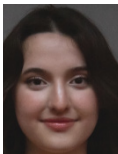
"Fade," a work by noted playwright-TV writer Tanya Saracho, opens the Department of Theatre Arts' spring season at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 23, at the University of the Incarnate Word.

Guest artist Kayla Hernandez Friend is directing the play's four-member cast.

This play is a story about play about class and race within the Latinx community, as well as at large, and how status does not change who you are at your core.

The central plot involves Lucia, a Mexican-born novelist getting her first job in TV writing on a white male-dominated set. Lucia, feeling out of place on set, quickly becomes friends with the janitor, Abel, the only other Latino around. As Abel shares the stories of his life with Lucia, she finds herself weaving those stories into the scripts she completes.

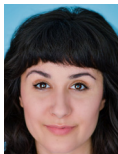
Andrea Bersosa Avilez plays Lucia.



Andrea Bersosa Avilez



Evan Santos



Kayla Hernandez Friend



Michiko Villa



Nicholas Ramirez

Her understudy, Michiko Villa, will play other roles. Nicolas Ramirez plays Abel. His understudy, Evan Santos, also will play other roles.

The writer, Saracho, was named "Best New Playwright" by Chicago magazine. A native of Sinaloa, México, she's worked on "How To Get Away With Murder" and HBO's "Looking," among other shows. Currently, she serves as the creator and showrunner of the series, "VIDA," on Starz. She is also developing a television series called "Brujas" with Big Beach, which deals with the intersection between Brujeria

culture and feminism.

Saracho's "Fade" is billed as "a powerful story about heritage, identity, and status."

Friend, the guest director for the UIW production, is a Lilly Award-winning producer, director, composer, and playwright who currently serves as the artistic director and creative producer for Moxie Arts NY, a nonprofit theatre and film production company dedicated to engaging audiences with stories centering women, created by artists of historically excluded genders.

Friend is also a founding member of the Latiné Musical Theatre Lab, a member of the Artistic Advisory Board for The Public Theater of San Antonio, a member of the Dramatists Guild of America, and a lyricist/composer with Maestra Music. In a statement from the Theatre Arts Department, Friend said she "is thrilled to be making her UIW directorial debut and thankful for the incredible artists and creatives who have made this space and this production a welcoming home for all."

### FWI

"Fade" will play out in Cheever Theatre, the smaller black-box venue for the Department of Theatre Arts.

A black box theater is a simple performance space, typically a square room with black walls and a flat floor. The simplicity of the space allows it to be used to create a variety of configurations of stage and audience interaction.

Shows are scheduled at 7:30 Friday, Feb. 23; Saturday, Feb. 24; Thursday, Feb. 29; and Friday, March 1. A 2 p.m. matinee is planned Sunday, Feb. 25.

Because of the smaller venue, a limited number of tickets are available as Cheever has a 60-seat capacity, said Brooke Arnold, the box-office manager for the department.

UIW students, faculty and staff still get a free ticket with UIW ID, and prices for others remain the same: \$12 adults, \$9 seniors, \$8 students, and \$7 a person for groups of 10 or more.

For more information about Theatre Arts productions, tickets and purchases, call (210) 829-3800 or e-mail theatre@uiwtx.edu



Photo by Kyara Cabrera Meneses  
Nicholas Ramirez and Andrea Bersosa Avilez rehearse a scene from the play, 'Fade.'

## 'Red Dress Fashion Show' expects to draw crowd

By Emma Galle  
LOGOS STAFF WRITER

Fashion majors and guest high school students from the area will be showing off their unique designs at 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 24, for the annual Red Dress Fashion Show.

The competition in the SEC Ballroom at the University of the Incarnate Word challenges these aspiring designers to create a red garment to be modeled in front of a panel of judges. Winners of the top high school and college designs receive UIW scholarships.

The fashion show gives the high school participants an opportunity to learn more about UIW and get a look at the campus. It also introduces them to the fashion department and other students currently in the program. This year, there will be students participating from the North East Independent School District, Northside Independent

School District, East Central Independent School District, and Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City Independent School District. Some students also are expected from Corpus Christi.

Last year there were about 90 designs with many of the designers walking the runway themselves in the ballroom. Since many family members and friends attend, the ballroom hit maximum capacity. The event only runs about 30-45 minutes, so onlookers are encouraged to arrive early.

While the event is also held to raise awareness of women's heart health, the show is an opportunity to give back by donating pet treats or a toy. The pet items go to Daisy Cares, a local non-profit for pets in need.

Students also help produce the show along with faculty. One of them will be emceeing the event.

The show also encourages students to show off their creativity and try new

techniques.

Fashion major Adrianna Martinez said her love of horror inspired her dress design.

"I had wanted to go with a vampire aesthetic," Martinez said. "I got to play with some embroidery (and) dyes for the first time. I also tried different sewing techniques for different textures or effects."

When the show is over, fashion major Kyrianna Forge, a UIW senior, hopes to be among the winners who probably have spent countless hours meeting the deadline for their designs.

"(It) has been very stressful trying to get it done - a lot of late nights and long hours, but I'm glad to get it done and finally submit something to the show," Forge said. "It's a lot of work, but at the end of the day, it is worth it and makes you love what you made even more."



College and high school students will model red designs this Saturday.



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For more information, contact: University of the Incarnate Word Army ROTC  
Office: 210-436-3415, Cell: 210-638-1784, Email: [cvarela@stmartyx.edu](mailto:cvarela@stmartyx.edu)

## Outstanding student participation in important competitions

The UIW Campus Bajo student community continues to stand out in regional competitions, demonstrating their academic excellence and professional skills.

During the most recent edition of the Ethics Marathon 2023, students placed first in the competition. This achievement highlights the commitment and ethics of our students in the accounting field.

In addition, during the closing of the SPS Challenge 2023, an annual program organized by Shaeffler, one of the Mechatronics Engineering teams won third place in the competition. This event is a platform for the presentation of projects and offers students the opportunity to be evaluated by the company to be considered for future job opportunities.



## ALPES 2023 Award for Student and Faculty Excellence



At the end of 2023, The Alliance for Higher Education, ALPES, awarded a student and a faculty member from Centro Universitario Incarnate Word (CIW) the Excellence Award during their XXVI Student and Faculty Excellence Awards Ceremony. Congratulations!

During the event, Dr. Lizandra de Jesús Ramírez, CIW professor, was awarded for her excellent work in training professionals rich in human values.

In addition, José Luis Martínez, a graduate of the Master of Business Administration (MBA) program, was awarded for his effort and perseverance in achieving the highest qualification.

The university was also recognized for its 20 years of forming and educating students in Mexico City.