February Student of the Month: Sebastiano Ricci
Year: Sophomore
Major: TV Puppetry

Q: What is your favorite memory here?
A: “Receiving the audience choice award for my short film, OCD, specifically to get to hear the entire audience’s reaction to my work.”

Q: What has been your favorite class?
A: “Media and Children. I love getting to learn about children’s television, the field in which I hope to pursue.”

Q: What are you future career ambitions?
A: “To become a professional puppeteer for Disney and Sesame Workshop. Definitely an odd career goal, but that’s what makes it special to me.”

Q: What will you take away from your time in the department?
A: “I hope to grow my production skills and grab a good eye for cinematography.”

Q: What advice would you give students to make the most of their time at Adelphi?
A: “To make the most of their time at Adelphi, I suggest students ignore other people’s negativity. Focusing on my goal and disregarding the haters really helped me stay determined on my track to success. At the end of the day, it’s about YOU.”

March Student of the Month: Jess Cooper
Year: Senior
Concentration: Media Studies

Q: What is your favorite memory here?
A: “A lot are just from working as a production assistant. Just learning the equipment and getting to know Jack and Tom and the students.”

Q: What has been your favorite class?
A: “Anything of Terrence Ross’s. He’s just a wonderful human being and I learned a lot from them.”

Q: What are you future career ambitions?
A: “I’m currently interning at Downtown Community Television. I see myself either as a Technical Assistant producing something or eventually writing a script.”

Q: What advice would you give students to make the most of their time at Adelphi?
A: “Look at communications not just as a one-sided thing. The good thing about communications is it all affects each other. Think about how making something will affect others.”
Professor Ross’s ‘Unheard Voices’ screens in NYC

Professor Terrence Ross had his film “Unheard Voices” screened at Anthology Films in the East Village on Feb. 21.

The film is a shortened version of his award-winning film, “When the Sun Came for Them,” which he produced with fellow Adelphi faculty member Cindy Maguire.

“Unheard Voices” features interviews with three nomadic Saharawi women from the Western Sahara. The whole thing was shot by three Adelphi alumni on two IPads in what is now present-day Algeria.

Ross says there was a great turnout for the event and it was nice to raise questions about “precious cultures.”

The longer version of the film, “When the Sun Came for Them,” won the Human Rights Silver Award at the World Human Rights Festival in Jakarta, the Special Jury Award for Excellence in Filmmaking at the Barcelona International Film Festival, as well as various other awards internationally.

Both films are part of Ross’s Shared Roots project, which seeks to provide ancestral history on different cultures.

Alumni 5 Under 5

Welcome to the Communications Dept. “5 under 5” section.

Here we check back on five alumni who graduated in the past five years and see what they are up to.

Janine Perez ’14
Marketing Manager at Random House Children’s Book

Anthony Murray ’16,
Editor at Anton Media Group

Taylor Adamczyk ’14,
Assistant Director of Media Relations and Communications at Webb Institute

Felicia Rodriguez ’14
Social Media Manager for L’Oreal USA

Andrew Ryan ’16
Videographer and Editor for Fios1 News
Campbell teaches sound design, talks film

Technical Director Thomas W. Campbell was part of two film related events this March.

On Saturday, Mar. 3 he taught Sound Design for Film to High School Students as part of the Youth Film Day sponsored by Hofstra University and the Gold Coast Arts Center.

AU Comm Dept. in the news....

Sebastiano Ricci was featured in Newsday, Garden City News, The Island Now and on Fios for creating his own major in puppetry

Paul Thaler was featured on News 12 The Bronx, The Bronx Times and The Riverdale Press for the success of his recent book Bronxland.

Ryan Serchuk was featured on News 12 Long Island for his work with Adelphi’s Bridges Program.

Burby publishes 2nd edition of ‘How to Publish Your Children’s Book’


Burby, who has published 38 books for children and young adults, is a senior adjunct professor in the Communications Department and faculty advisor to The Delphian.

This Second Edition is an insider’s guide to maximizing your odds of getting your work for children and young adults into print.

Burby has updated her original book to include information about how the children’s book industry has evolved in ten years, with new sections that offer information about narrative nonfiction, the young adult book industry, additional advice from published authors and agents, books that have been game changers, and details about boutique publishers, fan fiction, e-publishing and the submission process. The book includes a completely revised resource section.
Communications Department hosts Press Day

Several professors from the Communications department were on hand for Adelphi's annual Press Day event on Feb. 28.

Sal Fallica, Mark Grabowski and Liza Burby were just some of the panelists who spoke at the discussion.

Press Day is an event for high school students to learn more about journalism. Dozens of high schools from the area were in attendance for the event.

“Everyone seemed to have a good time, even with the seriousness of the discussions about some of the problems they face as student journalists,” Fallica said. “From my perspective there’s a lot of very good journalism happening in our local high schools -- and there are some very dedicated faculty and editors.”

The topic for this year’s Press Day was “fake news.” Speakers discussed the impact and meaning of “fake news” and the role it plays for contemporary journalists.

“Our keynote address and general discussion tried to point out that there’s a history to this concept of ‘fake news,’ that it just wasn’t made up recently,” Fallica said.

The event then culminated in the Quill Awards where high school students and newspapers are recognized for their work. Some of the categories represented at the awards were Most Outstanding Reporter and Most Outstanding Newspaper.

Kellenberg High School’s newspaper The Phoenix took home the honor of Most Outstanding Newspaper.

Jackson Free Press EIC Donna Ladd speaks to Adelphi students

An award-winning investigative journalist visited Adelphi to speak with students on Feb. 21.

Donna Ladd, editor-in-chief and co-founder of The Jackson Free Press, was on campus for a talk titled “Solutions Journalism in Crime-Prevention and Investigative Reporting.”

The discussion focused on the meaning of “alternative journalism,” the type of work it entails, how it differs from traditional journalism and why it matters.

Ladd’s most recent investigative reporting focuses on police and community strategies for reducing violence among young people of color in New York City.

Her work helped to land a Ku Klux Klan member in prison and put a mayor on trial.

Ladd also freelances for The Guardian and NBC News Think.

The event was co-sponsored by the Communications Department and The Delphian.