

AUIS VOICE

Volume 11, Issue 4

March 2017

WELCOME TO THE SULAIMANI FORUM!

AUIS Gets Accredited!

It has long been the aim of our university to get accreditation in all of Iraq. Since its beginning in 2007, this single obstacle has concerned every student and faculty member in AUIS. And after many promises, hard work, and dedication from the AUIS staff, on February 23rd it was declared that AUIS had been awarded full accreditation by Iraq's Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research. First and foremost, we send our deepest congratulation to our university; thank you for achieving this wonderful accomplishment! The implication of such accreditation can't be taken lightly. It opens up many doors for AUIS students, from new employment opportunities to graduate education at practically any university in the world. AUIS is right now the first private university in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq to receive such accreditation, working each year to match the meet the standard set by the Ministry of Education.

From its beginnings AUIS has served as a new model of education in the Kurdistan region and Iraq. With its emphasis on the Liberal Arts, our university steps away from the mold set by most universities here. It has been said again and again that just because one is



AUIS Building B

an engineering major, one doesn't have to be ignorant of history, philosophy or literature. A student who merely knows a narrow line of thinking, can't seriously be expected to improve his society by much. Because whether we like or not, the issues that are facing our region and country today have a lot to do with history and literature. Without a firm knowledge of what other countries have experienced, we won't learn their lessons and will probably repeat their mistakes. It is with this idea in mind,

that AUIS provides many classes on history and literature that every student has to take regardless of their major.

AUIS has also constantly shown the diversity of Iraq. With 1,600 students and 240 faculty and staff members, the university includes Kurds, Arabs, Turkmen, Sunni and Shi'a Muslims, Ezidis, and Christians. Together, as a body, our students have constantly shown that even though we may have differences in opinion, culture, religion and views, we still get along on campus.

This fact has been reiterated many times by the countless of events such as Open Mic Night, Unity Picnic, and many hikes, where students shared good memories and had a fun time, regardless of their differences.

One other distinctive factor of our university is its championing of freedom of speech, with the AUIS Voice being at the forefront of that concept. This newspaper serves independent from AUIS, and has issued its fair share of controversial articles. We can only promise to do more since we now represent a nationally accredited University.

This milestone accomplishment, serves as a beginning of a new era in AUIS. Hopefully, this era will include even more community service, wonderful events, and a culture of critical thinking. As new students come rolling in from new parts of Iraq, the values that AUIS holds dear including freedom of speech, diversity, community involvement and critical thinking, will reach more people. Perhaps then we can see more progress in this region, and the country as a whole; making AUIS a model not just for Iraq but whole of the Middle East.

Saman Fuad



Recently, a gentlemen's club in Kurdistan has garnered international attention. Mr. Erbil aims to "bring gents from Kurdistan who share a common interest for designing and styling their own fashion while also remaining passionate for bringing about positive change." Find out more on page 2.



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Last Wednesday, February 22nd 2017, it was published in the journal Nature that NASA's Spitzer Space Telescope, with the help of ground-based telescopes, discovered 5 more planets in the TRAPPIST System. Read more about this discovery on page 4.



After Real Madrid suffered four consecutive draws in the last months of 2016, the La Liga giant's vulnerabilities appeared. Spanish journalists became skeptical of the ability and experience of Real Madrid manager Zinedine Zidane to orchestrate Los Blancos. Read more on page 5.

Mr. Erbil: The Gentlemen's Club



A group picture of Mr. Erbil's Gentlemen's club

Recently, a gentlemen's club in Kurdistan, the first of its kind, has garnered international attention. Mr. Erbil, which was founded in February 2016, aims to "bring gents from Kurdistan who share a common interest for designing and styling their own fashion while also remaining passionate for bringing about positive change." Its founder, Omer Nihad is an alumnus of The American University of Iraq Su-

laimani, who graduated in 2012. In fact, he is one of the founders of our very own AUIS Voice, the first independent student newspaper in Iraq.

The club held its first gathering, named Gents Gathering, in 2016 which was met with great support and positive feedback. This, in turn, motivated them even more. In Omer's words, they "wanted to not only bring attention to the necessity of women's rights, the protection of our environment, and our

failing economy, but also to figure out ways to resolve these issues within our region." Omer continued to point out that they wanted to become a model for Kurdish youth; to show them how they can stay and make a change instead of leaving the country.

Along with this awesome club, Omer has also founded, Rishn (Kurdish for "bearded"), the first beard care and grooming company in Kurdistan. The idea came to Omer when his friends, or as he puts it "fellow Beardsmen" were asking for advice on what to use for their beards and how to take care of it. Having noticed how hard it is to get grooming products for their beards, Omer noticed this niche in the market and decided to start his company. Rishn became a local hit when it first opened, and now has customers all over the globe from the UK, USA, and Iran.

The source of their recent fame, of course, has been social media. From CNN to Reuters, these Beardsmen have been interviewed and shared all over Facebook, with over thousands of shares on Facebook. In an attempt to give back on social media, Mr. Er-

bil's Facebook page has started to do a series called "Thursday's Inspiration Girl" where they show their support for women who are active in the Kurdish community, whether it's producing a local product or just working towards women's rights.

Another one of their primary concerns is the Kurdish economy. They have tried to create many local businesses with the goal of being more dependent on local goods and providing jobs as well as goods that are hard to come by. This is where Rishn has actually taken huge initiative by providing hand-crafted products such as beard oil, mustache wax, and other grooming tools all produced in Kurdistan. Its vision is to have a luxury barber shop where all of the goods are made in Kurdistan.

Having been featured on more than a hundred media networks, Mr. Erbil has truly showcased a side of Kurdistan many people don't see. With their new garnered fame, they also have pressure on them. Mr. Omer humbly said, that "none of us is perfect in our group and we are doing our best to educate ourselves to better serve our country."

Saman Fuad

Piazaka: The Kurdish Onion

Long before the time of Jon Stewart and Stephen Colbert, who have become iconic in keeping us up to date with news in a satirical manner, there was The Onion. The news outlet began as a local venture founded by two college students, whose main focus was sarcastic and dark humor. Fast forward 25 years into the future, and the site draws in more than 25 million unique users monthly. It's a farcical newspaper that features reports on issues ranging from local communities to world news. What really sets their articles apart is their use of dark humor, which carries a flat and monotonous articulation but simultaneously avoids coming across as ostentatious. Here are a few examples of their captivating and frankly hilarious headlines; "Fun Toy Banned Because Of Three Stupid Dead Kids", "Bush: 'Our Long National Nightmare Of Peace And Prosperity Is Finally Over'", "Wealthy Teen Nearly Experiences Consequence", and last but not least "CIA Realizes It's Been Using Black Highlighters All These Years".

Although it may come as a surprise to many, but there is actually a Kurdish version of the Onion, cleverly renamed 'Piazaka'. The anonymous founders published their first WordPress blogpost on April 19, 2014. Unlike the Onion, their focus remained on local news to appeal to the Kurd-

ish audience. The Onion was covering world news, while Piazaka could focus on the Kurdish region and its culture. The charm and appeal of their articles lie in their unapologetic yet harmless ability to turn Kurdish cultural traits and headlines into comical and relatable write ups. Their article, "Mountains Change Relationship Status to 'It's Complicated'", was witty and hilarious. To further emphasize the point, here are a few quotes from the article itself:

"Despite centuries of being an exclusive couple, the Mountains revealed to our reporter that things with the Kurds 'aren't going so well...They used us...it was all love and sweet words at the beginning, but now it's just plastic water bottles and oil wells. This is no way to treat your 'only friends.'" An anonymous source close to the Mountains, claimed that they "saw this one coming a mile off." They went on to say, "I mean, like, seriously, The Kurds are all like 'no friends but the mountains' but everyone knows they've been hanging out with hills, plains and valleys."

Some of their other headlines include: "American Woman Upset By Lack Of Male Attention At Home", "Five Dead in Restaurant Cheque Massacre", and "American University English Teacher Admits Motivation For Being in KRG is Purely Financial". For anyone unfamiliar with their articles,

 **the ONION®**

I strongly advise you to check out their blog for a few good laughs. Sadly though, this venture only lasted for a few months. The last article published on the blog by Piazaka dates back to June 30, 2014. Perhaps it was their initial lack of exposure, or maybe their use of the English language as opposed to Kurdish or Arabic one that did not allow for a wider target audience to be reached. Whatever the reason may be, it is a shame to not get any new updates, but nonetheless we thank them for the vastly entertaining articles. Goodnight Sweet Piaz.

Avan M. Kurbani



An onion

No More Parties at AUIS?

A few weeks ago Botan Sharbazheri, President of the Student Association, dropped the bombshell that tickets for private events will not be sold on university campus. The news effectively cancelled AUIS student Zhin Maref's plans for a Newroz party that was due to be held in late March, to the disappointment of many students. Students started to make posts in support of Zhin, and there were even promises of hashtags like #WeWantZhinsParty taking off. One student called for fairness, saying, "We want fairness, everyone including Zhin can make an event for any activities especially parties." Another unhappy student, who claimed there are personal problems between Botan and Zhin, said "events are optional and whoever wants to go to any of them they are welcomed. The thing is I don't get it, no one can force any students to pay money to go to a party, so what is the big



A sad man at a party

deal?" It was all a bit mad.

What these students are forgetting (or rather, choosing to ignore) is that they are allowed to organize whatever event they want for whatever profit they would like outside campus. However, Zhin and his army of keyboard warriors know full well that the problem here isn't a lack of "fair-

ness" or "forcing people to pay money". Rather, the problem here is that they want to use the university as a medium to advertise for their own event, which they have nobly labeled as an "AUIS Event". This is convenient for them because they get to advertise for free and to a pool of nearly 2,000 potential customers. It's almost the perfect business

plan.

Zhin himself had things to say about the matter:

"Due to some decisions made by the university, we are not able to sell tickets inside the campus because private student events have been cancelled this semester."

"All we have ever tried to do was create events that will help students disregard their stresses and exams for an evening, regardless of what some others might think."

I have to admire his courage for making such claims THE SAME NIGHT that The AUIS Voice hosted a hugely successful Open Mic Night, completely free of charge. The university CLEARLY supports student events and would like students to enjoy their university experience. To suggest otherwise is irresponsible and unreasonable.

The university isn't a free advertising board. University events are fun, but making money off of them is unethical. Events like AUIS Voice's Open Mic Night or the Hiking Club's hikes are great examples of events that are both fun and non-exploitative.

Artin Barawi

Legal Ranj: Transgenders in Kurdistan

On one of his most recent shows on Rudaw, Ranj Sangawi shed light on the issues that Kurdish transgenders face and how they are being treated within their households and in society. The selection of guests who were on the show added to the discussion's gravity; among them was a mullah who had surprising comments from a religious perspective on gender transition. These kinds of issues are rarely talked about because they are usually received with a great deal of negative criticism and bigoted views.

The show hosted a number of transgenders and a few others who were eagerly willing to transition but have not

been able to do so due to financial shortcomings or social problems. With their identities and appearances censored, they all shared their unfortunate journeys in life as transgenders in Kurdistan. They were all victims of physical and mental abuse as well as sexual harassment at home, school, and their work place.

One of the victims explained how he had been brutally tortured by his family and that he even considered a forced marriage to be a solution and a chance for him to escape the devastating life he was living. Another surprising fact that they shared with Ranj was that not only

were they discriminated by the mullahs (telling them that they were sick and they were going to burn in hell), they were also belittled by the police when they sought for security. The host and the rest of the guests were shocked and devastated to hear that the victims and their security had not been taken as a serious matter by authorities, even when they had felt the most helpless.

Dr. Shaxawan Saib, who was one of the guests, explained "it is crucial for people who are struggling with their sexual identity to undergo procedures to transition their gender to that which corresponds with their mental state".

Coming from a religious personality, the comments made by Dr. Mohammed Penjweni were quite unexpected. "They [transgenders] should be able to feel secure and their families need to be a source of comfort, not threat or danger".

One of the most encouraging things about this interview has been the amount of positive feedback that people have been giving on social media. People seem to finally have an idea about what being transgender is and what it is like to be one in Kurdistan.

Bana Bamoki



Snow White and the Seven Marbles

First of all, apologies to the fans of fiction in general, and Disney in particular, this article is not about Snow White. This article is about something that is far more fascinating. We all love fantasy and imagination. If you don't, this article isn't for you; as you will not appreciate the news. This article is about a dream coming true, and marks a point in mankind's history where fantasy is fiction no more.

TRAPPIST-1 Star, our Snow White, is an ultra-cool star that is located in the constellation Aquarius, 39 light-years away from Earth. The star is so cool (pun intended) that liquid water does not evaporate on very close orbiting planets. But unlike the fairy tale, the 7 marbles are the main focus of our story, not Snow White. Two of the marbles, which are Earth-size planets orbiting TRAPPIST-1 Star, were spotted in 2016 by a Belgian operated telescope in Chile, named TRAPPIST; after which the TRAPPIST System is named. Last Wednesday, February 22nd 2017, it was published in the journal Nature that NASA's Spitzer Space Telescope, with the help of ground-based telescopes, discovered 5 more planets in the TRAPPIST System. It was also announced in a news briefing in the NASA Headquar-

ters in Washington that the TRAPPIST System is the first known system of seven Earth-size planets around a star.

Aside from being Earth-sized planets, the planets are all possibly

environments, places that are conducive to life," said Thomas Zurbuchen, associate administrator of the agency's Science Mission Directorate in Washington. Apart from finding potential

could see all the other 6 planets. What is even more astonishing is the fact that one can see the geological features and clouds on the neighboring planets; as the neighboring planets appear bigger than Earth's Sky-Moon. The downside of this tightness, however, is that the planets could be tidally locked to their star. In other words, the same side of the planets face the sun all the time, hence each side of any of the planets is an everlasting day or night; with extreme weather conditions such as strong winds and extreme differences in temperature between the two sides.

The discovery is expected to give humans a remarkable boost in their interstellar explorations, and to make a dream come true. Finding a second Earth used to be a matter of if; now it is a matter of when. Most of us have imagined aliens out there on other planets, now we have 7 planets that potentially support a form of life. Regardless of whether this discovery proves to be a blessing or a curse, it sure is a milestone in our path towards exploring the universe.

Rawand Wrya



A picture of TRAPPIST - 1

rocky planets and they all possibly have liquid water. Three of these planets are within a habitable distance from the TRAPPIST-1 Star; with a surface temperature ranging from 0 degrees centigrade to 100 degrees centigrade. In other words, all 7 planets can potentially support life, and three of them are within the habitable zone for humans. "This discovery could be a significant piece in the puzzle of finding habitable

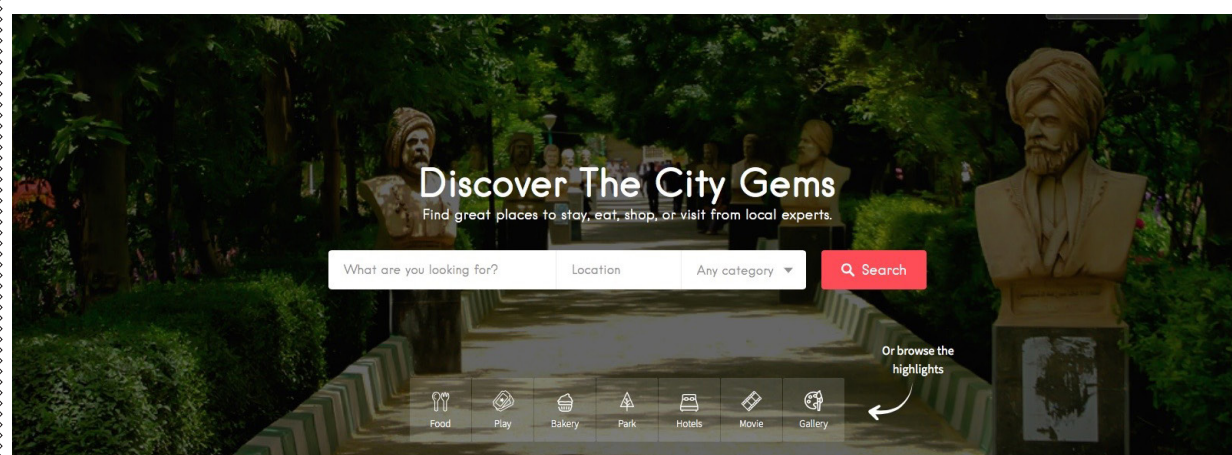
planets for humans in the future, the discovery is a crucial step towards finding aliens. "Within the next decade we could know if we are alone in the universe. And that is quite incredible."-According to Cambridge astronomer Dr. Amaury Triaud.

NASA also revealed that the planets are extremely close to each other to a degree that if you were standing on the surface of one of the planets, you

Suly.today

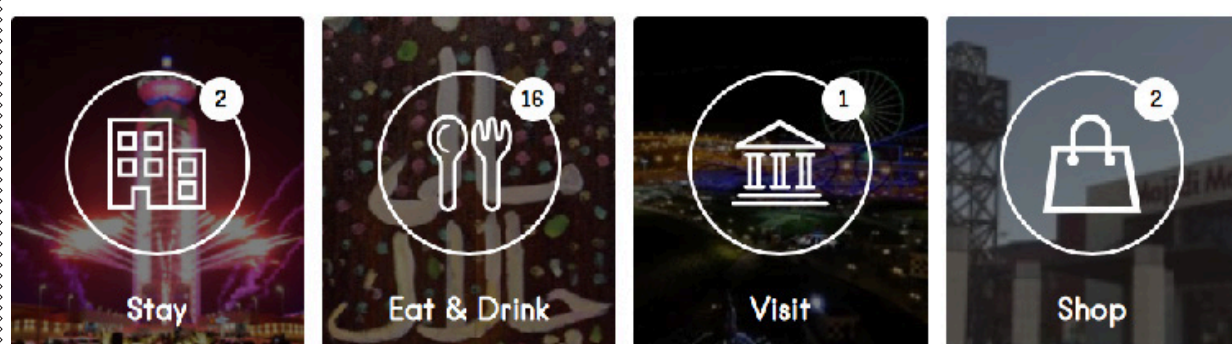
Suli.today is a website created and run by current AUIS students Rezhwan Barawi and Bilend Mohamed, and their friend, Yad Ferhad. The website is a great place to look up reviews for restaurants and cafes and upcoming events in Sulaimani. You can also suggest places that

aren't currently on the website. The website has only recently been up and running and currently has reviews on 21 places in Sulaimani, but will look to expand its list in the future. Next time you aren't sure where to hang out with your friends be sure to check out Suli.today!



What are you interested in?

Explore some of the best tips from around the city from our partners and friends.



AUIS VOICE AND TAG INVITE YOU TO A CHARITY FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

There will be food, music, and lots of football!

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GOT ANY QUESTIONS? EMAIL ARTIN BARAWI AT
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Zidane's Real Madrid Revival

After Real Madrid suffered four consecutive draws against Villarreal, Las Palmas, Borussia Dortmund, and finally Eibar in the last months of 2016, the La Liga giant's vulnerabilities appeared. Spanish journalists became skeptical of the ability and experience of Real Madrid manager Zinedine Zidane to orchestrate Los Blancos. It was actually the beginning of applying squad rotation in consecutive matches. Pundits questioned this tactic and claimed that it would result in a poor run of form.

However, the results have been the exact opposite. In each La Liga fixture, the team starts with almost eleven different players, yet they manage to maintain the chemistry and fluidity of play during matches. Even without the key players, including Ronaldo, Bale, Modric, and Kroos, the team is able to keep high possession stats and score lots of goals. In their recent La Liga

clash against Espanyol, the starting line-up was completely different from the formation that kicked off against Napoli in the first leg of Round of 16 in the UEFA Champions' League. Players like Nacho, Isco, Kovacic, and Casilla were in top form. Impressively, during the entire match, the Merengues controlled the tempo of the game. The players of the Catalan club could not even threaten Kiko Casilla's net, let alone score a single goal.

Zizou's squad can easily encounter injuries and stamina problems. Zidane's tactics are also very deadly when it comes to using the right substitute cards at the right times. The Frenchman's players are at the peak of their confidence and strength. The performance against Espanyol shows Zidane's willingness of changing the age-old team's style of play to a newer and more efficient one.



Zidane coaching his Real Madrid squad

Although the team is facing two difficult tests against Valencia and Villarreal, Zidane's team seems well prepared to

win and solidify itself at the top of the table.

Ahmed Aram

Forgotten Footballers: Batigol

"He'd go 80 minutes without touching the ball and in the last 10 he'll score a hatrick – That's exactly what a goal scorer is all about" – Diego Armando Maradona.

The man that Maradona just described is Gabriel Omar Batistuta. The Argentine nicknamed Ángel Gabriel in his native country was, and still is, the holder of the all time top scorer of his national team with 56 goals in 78 international matches. The striker started his career in Rosario Santa Fe based club Newell's Old Boys, with 11 goals in 29 matches. After a season at his hometown club, his performance

wasn't unnoticed; it secured him a move to both Argentine giants River Plate and then Boca Juniors; scoring 4 goals in 21 games with the first and 19 goals in 40 matches with the latter.

Then came the chance to move to Italy to join Fiorentina in 1991 to play for them until 2000 with 332 matches and scoring 207, a record making him Il Viola's all time top scorer. In 1995 he was nicknamed Batigol after becoming the Capocannoniere (Serie A's top scorer) with 26 goals. However, not winning the Scudetto (Italian league title) made him think about leaving for a while but he was

convinced by the board of Fiorentina to stay. It took another five years for him to leave the club, during that period he won the Italian cup in '96 then followed by the Supercoppa Italiana (the Italian Super Cup) in the same year. His dream was to win the league with Il Viola which he expressed once, saying "Winning one Scudetto with Fiorentina is better than ten with Milan or Juventus." In his last year with the team they managed to qualify to the UEFA Champions League, Batigol took the advantage to make his legend known in the grandest stage of European football with a goal to remember

against Manchester United in Old Trafford (I highly advise to go and watch the goal on YouTube). His legacy in Florence is the same as Machiavelli and the Medicis to Fiorentina fans.

After the long while in Il Viola it was time to move on, the destination is the Italian Capital Rome to join AS Roma. In Roma, the long wait for the Scudetto was over. He managed

to create a strong partnership with Francesco Totti which led eventually to securing the title under Coach Fabio Capello. Batistuta only spent two and half years at the capital scoring 33 goals in 83 matches. In the winter Mercato (transfers period) of 2002/03 season, he was loaned to Inter. It was the downfall of the legend of Gabriel Omar Batistuta, playing 12 matches and scoring twice. Batigol's adventures in Italy were over.

He was on the move again and the destination was the Qatari capital Doha to join Al-Arabi football club. In his first season he managed to break the record of the most goals scored in a single season in Qatar with 25 goals to win him the golden boot. However, in the second season he only played three matches due to constant injury which led him to announce his retirement, leaving a legacy behind.

Some Facts:

- He is 1.85 cm (6.1 ft.).
- Fiorentina fans built him a life size bronze statue in front of the club's stadium.
- His signature goal celebration is pointing his fingers like a machine gun and shooting randomly (as shown in the picture).
- He prefers the number 9 or 20 with the national team and doesn't have a preference with any of the clubs.

Isa Mohammed



Gabriel Batistuta celebrating a goal

Movie Review: La La Land



Emma Stone and Ryan Gosling on the set of La La Land

Warning: Contains spoilers

La La Land, which is written and

directed by Damien Chazelle, is a beautiful romantic, musical, and performing art movie. Released in late 2016, it is a

modern movie with an old touch. Even though the movie was quite long in duration, the engaging nature of the story and natural chemistry between Ryan Gosling and Emma Stone made it an enjoyable watch.

The cinematography is very good, the lighting and the location gave the movie a unique romantic feel, and even though I'm not a huge fan of musical movies, the music was really good and made the story more endearing to me.

Of all the good things that I mentioned about the movie, the ending was really sad and unexpected. This is because the movie doesn't follow the clichéd stories of a girl and a boy falling in love and ending up together.

The events are well described by the director. And as we can see the director has a really unique way that he uses in his movies. For example the in

movie 10 Cloverfield Lane he puts focus solely on the main characters and tells their story with very little involvement of secondary characters.

Nowadays there aren't a lot of movies that have a message for the audience. Mainly there are 2 things that you learn from this movie and can follow in your life. Firstly, it teaches the valuable lesson that you have to always keep trying to achieve what you always wanted to be. Secondly, teaches the audience to be willing to sacrifice their love for another person, if the other person is happier in a different relationship.

Verdict: On a scale of 1-10, I would give the movie a 9 because the characters, costumes, and script were well set up and made the movie worth watching it more than one time.

Sara Aso

TV Show Review: Black Mirror

Warning: Contains spoilers

Black Mirror, a British TV series created by Charlie Brooker, has a dark science fiction/conspiracy theme. This series has aired for three seasons already, with the fourth one on the way. its first two seasons were broadcasted on the British Channel 4 in 2011, and its third season was commissioned by Netflix in fall 2015.

This series revolves around the dark side of technology that are either available now or might be available in the near future. In its first episode, it shows the power of the mass media of today and the way it can get out of hand and change the people's opinion without them even realizing it, how that can have serious consequences on us and

other people's lives.

Charlie Brooker states in his interview with the guardian "If technology is a drug – and it does feel like a drug – then what, precisely, are the side effects? This area – between delight and discomfort – is where Black Mirror, my new drama series, is set. The 'black mirror' of the title is the one you'll find on every wall, on every desk, in the palm of every hand: the cold, shiny screen of a TV, a monitor, a smartphone."

There are two things that can make this series unique and remarkable compared to other TV series in their structure. Each episode of black mirror is a standalone work, meaning that you can watch the episodes in any order you want, you can watch only one particular episode or binge watch all of them yet

it won't affect your understanding of the plot. The cast of each episode is also different than the previous ones, so at least you won't get bored of seeing the same faces.

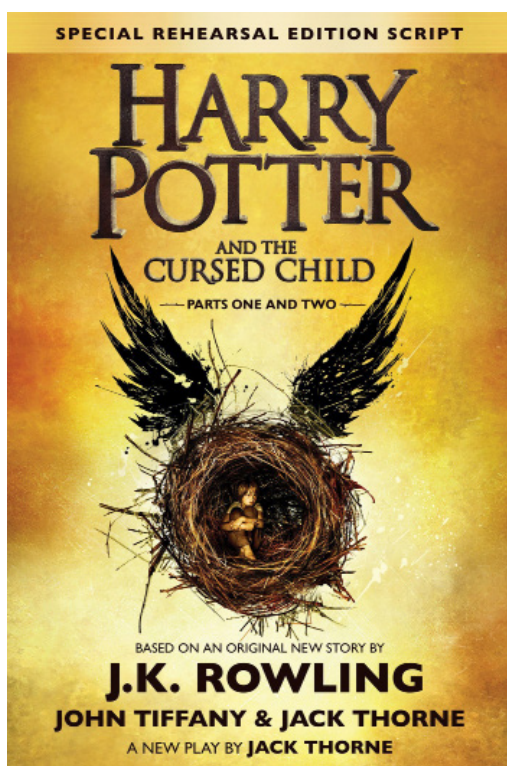
I think Black Mirror is a two-way street. The more you look for the little details and symbols in the series, the more meaning you will get out of it. There are references to the previous and coming episodes in about all of the episodes, which is fun for people who love finding references and hidden details like me. The series is available on Netflix to stream, and I strongly recommend watching it.

Mahmud Adnan



Book Review: Harry Potter and the Cursed Child

Warning: Contains spoilers



Some are saying that the script of a play based on a story by J.K. Rowling is somewhat thin and disappointing, while others are hailing it as a noble addition to one of literary history's most beloved series. Harry Potter and the Cursed Child is a play script written by playwright Jack Thorne in collaboration with theatre director John Tiffany, and based on an original new story by J.K. Rowling.

The story is set 19 years after The Deathly Hallows. Harry is now 37, married to Ginny Weasley and father to three young Potters: Albus, James and Lily. Ron and Hermione have an only daughter, Rose. Harry Potter is also a wizard in bed. If this feels strange, then the setting at least does not. The story opens at King's Cross-station, heading for platform nine and three quarters, where Albus is about to board the Hogwarts Express, and this happens to be the beginning of the curse. This feeling of strangeness only grows as the old cast (Ron and Hermione, Draco Malfoy) enter, pursued by their own kids:

Rose and Scorpius, respectively. Rowling and Thorne may be kicking it old school (and schools don't get much older than Hogwarts), but the plot will be driven by the next generation: Albus, mainly, but also his unlikely best friend, Scorpius, who are paired in nasty Slytherin House, as opposed to Harry's own Gryffindor (where Rose ends up). Albus quickly learns he is no Harry 2.0, unable to perform the apparently straightforward task of getting his broom up, much to the mocking delight of his fellow Hogwartians. A fast-forward swiftly establishes Albus as an increasingly surly, alienated teen whose relationship with his father is in furious free-fall. Harry Potter and his disappointing son, Albus, mumble bitterly on Platform Nine and Three-quarters the next year, as all eyes turn adoringly to his famous dad. The ministry of magic finds a time-turner, which can go back in time. Cedric, who died when they participated in a game with Harry Potter, and is the son of Amos Diggory, shows up and

ask Potter to use the time-turner and save his son. Harry refuses because he knows how dangerous it is to change history. Albus Potter and Scorpius Malfoy steal the time-turner and go back in time several times, and they successfully save Cedric. When they go back to present, Scorpius realizes that his best friend, Albus does not exist because in the new world that they created by changing history, Harry Potter lost The Battle of Hogwarts and died, and the new wizardry world is ruled by the dark lord, Voldemort.

The most fascinating thing that I noticed while reading this book was that Harry always wanted to grapple with a past that refuses to stay where it belongs, his youngest son Albus must struggle with the weight of a family legacy he never wanted. As past and present fuse ominously, both father and son learn the uncomfortable truth: sometimes, darkness comes from unexpected places.

Danyar J. Sitaki

Open Mic Night



On Wednesday February 22nd, AUIS Voice hosted Open Mic Night at Blackhall Restaurant & Café that, as usual, turned out to be a huge success. This event brought together the AUIS community to witness the endless amount of talent we all have to offer. The event was a chance for students, staff and faculty to recite poetry, share short stories, play music and sing, or just hang around with companions in an outgoing atmosphere. The atmosphere was a bit quiet at first, but as soon as a couple of people went on stage, many performances swiftly followed. Here are some cool pictures we took from the Open Mic Night.

Dalia Ashti

AUIS VOICE

Editor-in-Chief: Artin Barawi

Deputy Editor-in-Chief: Saman Fuad

Editors: Avan M. Kurbani, Arish Latif, Dalia Ashti, Biza Barzo

Head Designer: Rezhwan Barawi

Designers: Bilend Mohammed, San Zewar

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