Winter at Xavier’s is indeed the season to be jolly, with fests galore. While all year round we fret about departments and inter stream politics, this is the occasion for us to break down these artificial walls and universally employ BMM students for Creatives volunteers. For those of you who might be confused in this hullaballoo of innumerable festivals, here’s a rough guide to the members of their respective workforces.

**Ithaka**
- Their collection of loose, multihued pants gives Govinda a complex.
- Their Facebook posts are a yard long. But everyone is grateful to them for cleaning up social media with Grammar Nazi activism.
- Every workforce member, from head to volunteer, has authored a Chetan Bhagat hate post at some point.
- Their play line-up is always diverse, creative and interesting and attracts students and select members of the metropolitan intelligentsia alike.
- Things to talk to them about: Kafka, Neruda, Shakespeare, existentialism, expressionism, the Mumbai theatre scene, tyrannical directors.
- They’re excellent conversationalists but if you join in, be prepared to hear, “Oh you haven’t heard of that? I see.” *followed by subtle puzzled look*

**Paradigm**
- Paradigm workers always start work post 4 pm. Science timetables, bro.
- If you ever use ‘geek’ and ‘nerd’ interchangeably, these are the guys that will correct you.
- There will be variants of ‘Mutant and Proud’ being thrown around very commonly. Most pop culture references will get you high fives here (except The Big Bang Theory).
- The three step process to summon a Paradigm person:
  1. Stand in the middle of the foyer
  2. Yell out ‘Hey, I read this Neil DeGrasse Tyson quote the other day.’
  3. Wait patiently and watch them scamper towards you faster than you can say ‘stars.’
- How they encourage people to apply: “It’s pan departmental, you guys. No, we won’t ask you to solve a numerical in the interview!”

**Econundrum**
- They wear similar, non colour-coded, uniform fest T-shirts to symbolize egalitarianism and their belief in a Marxist society.
- The festival garners more outstation participants than Malhar, and they brag about it every chance they get.
- Always the ones grinning on open house days. Or whining when their GPA plummets to a disgusting 3.8.
- They will never forgive Malhar Conclave 2014 for getting Raghuram Rajan first.
- Are often seen pursuing a certain hostel residing Eco professor on campus, begging for permission, praise and intellectual conversations with the same.

(Continued on Page 3)
A SPORTING CHANCE

With the massive chunk of popularity that cricket enjoys in our country, few, if any, consider football and tennis as something worth viewing at a stadium. However, with the recent ISL (The Indian Super League) and the IPTL (the tennis counterpart-The International Tennis Premier League), the winds of change are ablowin’.

The ISL features attractive yet familiar sounding names (Atletico de Kolkata) while the IPTL features attractive destinations such as Dubai, Singapore and Manila, with Delhi being the fourth and final venue for the event and the sole reason for Indians to go crazy over racquet and ball.

While the IPTL has been able to attract top notch talent such as Roger Federer and Novak Djokovic (owing to its presence in the off-season), the ISL has been able to muster a motley mix of local players and foreign stars in the twilight of their careers such as David Trezeguet and Alessandro Del Piero.

Figuring out different ways to use a sports stadium is one change which our nation has been lacking, but time and persistence will pay off. Both tournaments will hopefully raise nationwide support and participation levels in the two sports and promote athletic talent in the nation.

-Adityesh Mitra

WINTERY BITES

Chilly winds nip at your nose, the warm afternoon sun warms your toes. Winter is coming and even though Bombay winters are the mildest of the mild, there’s a certain something in the air that makes you happy and hungry. The Xavier’s Press tells you what the best winter snacks are and where you can find them.

1) Gaylord, Churchgate: Lying nestled on a tree lined avenue that leads to Marine Drive, this South Bombay restaurant boasts of colonial specialities like the Beef Wellington on their menu. But it’s their bakery section that’s amazing. Stop by for hot cinnamon rolls, Danish custard tarts, chocolate croissants or a warm slice of apple pie, all reasonably priced and freshly baked.

2) Café Excelsior, Fort: This little joint is a stone’s throw from Sterling Cinema, near our very own college. Here, in addition to a selection of delicious rolls and shawarmas, one can sample the delectable caramel custard, said to be the best in Bombay. With just the right amount of wobble and a golden brown, gooey caramel topping, this dessert is to die for.

3) Crystal Ice Cream, Marine Drive: As deceptive as the name sounds, they do serve more than just ice-cream. Their rajma chaawal, served piping hot, is a winter’s treat, as is their palak paneer, served with fresh chappatis.

4) New Martin Hotel, Colaba Causeway: A meat lover’s paradise, this is our place for hot, delicious Goan food that warms the cockles of your heart. Pork vindaloo, beef chilly fry...you name it, they’ll make it.

Eat your way through every winter day!

-Raadhika Vishvesh
## Cover Story

### Janfest
- They wear simple, gorgeous traditional clothes most days of the year and wait for the Birthday Concert to look beautiful in silk saris and kurtas.
- Will have the best study playlists in the universe.
- Effortlessly use Urdu words in conversational Hindi. Wait till somebody says ‘shiddat’, then run towards them because they’re awesome.
- They complain how the IMG is empty year round and now they can’t hear their favourite recording from the Janfest 1996 archives.

### Antas
- Working with a ‘Bollywood Janfest’ label is difficult, and you can see them trying to get out of it this year.
- They have all the best dance moves and know their thumkas and jhatkas better than anyone else. If you don’t believe us, you should have been to Dandiya Night,
- They have the most beautifully decorated foyer boards and displays.
- They bring a breath of fresh air and diversity in the midst of the numerous festivals that abound.

### Zeitgeist
- Most used phrase to describe “It’s not a FEST, it’s a MEDIA CONFERENCE”
- They finally start attending college a month before the fest but are never found in classes. They’re always in the BCR, poring over schedules.
- They have the best publicity videos and social media coverage. They smirk at the work of us lesser mortals who struggle with Photoshop.
- Their speaker line-up is always excellent, with something of interest for students of all fields.
- He who must not be named to a Zeitgeist volunteer is Arnab Goswami.

### Zephyrus
- Easily the best dressed of all workforces. Waistcoats. So many waistcoats.
- The only festival that is not constantly worrying about its marketing team.
- Conversations with the workforce usually consists of, “So after my MBA, I...”
- They have events that relate management to Marvels and Avengers and supernatural stuff, so managing these and understanding them is quite a challenge.
- They occasionally ask their workforce to sport strange costumes, even togas, for publicity.
- Their line-up of cool innovative, corporate and speaker events make it a diverse fest indeed.

- Rashi Pant and Raadhika Vishvesh

## Ithaka: A Winter's Tale

Attention all litbugs - fabulous events, plays and sketches that promise to take your breath away are coming your way with Ithaka: A Winter’s Tale. This year, Ithaka is all about the winter – conjure up a scene by a fireplace with a steaming mug of hot chocolate and some beautiful stories that will melt your heart. With four events: Flash Fiction, Suited to PerFiction, Almost Famous: A Variety Entertainment Event, Poets of the Fall: An Afternoon of Performance Poetry and for the first time since its initiation, a social initiative entitled “Smiles in A Blanket”, a bed sheet collection drive for those in need, Ithaka 2014 surpasses all previous Ithakas in both quality and quantity.

The sketches that have made the cut this year are 'A Monkey’s Paw', 'Bang Bang You’re Dead' and 'Framed', all with talented directors and casts brimming with vibrancy. The plays are exceptional too. A definite must-see is Ithaka’s awaited only romantic comedy, 'Payasam and Prejudice' (by our very own Editor in Chief, Raadhika Vishvesh). And of course, how can you forget to hobnob with an old woman who refuses to allow her character to be killed off by the author in "Old Woman's Death", engage with the story of a sociopathic man with a troubled life in ‘Kabira’, and delve into macabre eeriness of a stage version of Roald Dahl’s 'Skin’?

This Ithaka, come and hear a story!

-Krupa Josep and Malvika Patil
The lessons learnt outside the classroom are more important than any other. And such an endeavour is an Industrial Visit (IV), a trip that develops practical insight through interaction with industry veterans and site visits. The Chemistry Department’s IV, for example, was to Manali-Dharamshala and included visits to Pharmaceutical industries and a shawl factory. Shachi Sutaria, a TYBSc. student, told us that the display of the process was extensive but mostly, it was great exposure for aspiring future practitioners in the world beyond the laboratory.

The Economics IV, on the other hand, had a whopping 270 students in attendance, and included visits to Katraj Dairy, Gyan Prabodhini (development NGO and Educational Trust), The Bisleri/Coca Cola factory, and the CSR wing of Zensar Technologies and the Equal Community Foundation (an NGO conducting gender sensitization workshops). Rishab Devnani of the Eco Circle says, “We diversified the student experience by also including a host of non-profit institutions to understand the difference in management.” While the Chem IV had a couple of Arts students as participants, the Eco IV too had a few students from the science streams, thus promoting inter-disciplinary learning.

Other departments shall be organising seminars and visits in the coming months, watch this space for more!

-Jheel Gada

Several departments of our college proudly put forth their own publications. Though there are several more, we give you a chronological list of some that shall be published in the next few weeks.

THE ITHAKA JOURNAL: The theme this year is Indian Writing in English, so no longer can you claim the genre to be boring. Articles cover everything from the Indian Sherlock Holmes and graphic novels to a mouth-watering article about food. For the literary snobs, there is an engrossing Chetan Bhagat critique as well.

LIGNUM VITAE: The Department of Life Science and Biochemistry’s magazine, scheduled to release in early December, talks about the science behind every day things in an accessible way. Editor Roshni de Souza told us that the magazine is targeting the entire student populace, not just those with an affinity to the tranche of sciences.

ELEMENTAL: The Chemistry Department’s magazine, scheduled to release along with their XAC fest in the first week of January, aims at having a contemporary approach to science. Editor Nivedita Raut is more than willing to embrace anyone who believes they can write!

Watch out for these publications, and do contribute to as many as you can!

-Ishika Ramakrishna
‘Tis the season... to chug down steaming mugs of liquid heaven! For those of you folks out there who don’t usually experiment (with your caffeine!), try some of our recipes for winter-appropriate drinks! We guarantee they’ll make you smile.

Liquid After Eights
1. Combine two teaspoons of coffee powder, one of sugar and one of cocoa powder in your coffee mug.
2. Add two drops of water, then mix.
3. Next, either take peppermint essence and add a single drop, or grab some mint and add four chopped leaves.
4. Mix well, pour hot milk into mixture, and enjoy!

Masala Chai
This isn’t the most original recipe, but it’s a classic. And much like an Austen novel, it’s fun to curl up with.
1. When boiling your tea leaves in water to make tea, add a pinch of cinnamon (dalchini), cardamom (elaichi), nutmeg (jaayaphal) and pepper (kaali mirch).
2. Let it all boil, strain the liquid into your tea cup and add your usual amount of milk and sugar.
Tip: If you don’t have powdered cardamom, just one normal clove will suffice.

Best Cocoa Ever
1. Break a small bar of Cadbury Dairy Milk Chocolate in a mug and microwave it till it melts.
2. Add milk, a spoonful of Hershey’s syrup, a tiny pinch of cinnamon and microwave till blended.
3. Sprinkle with marshmallow bits and chocolate chips.

-A Christmas Tale

Late one December night, a man awoke screaming. There he lay, paralysed with terror, till he was sure the sun had risen. What shook him so? He tried to remember - hazy figures and scenes floated in his mind, none of which he could comprehend.

He stretched from his bed, old knees cracking, and shivering as he tossed off the bedcovers. Opening his bedside window he was greeted by snow and holly-scent, reminding him that it was Christmas Eve. He yelled instinctively at the school-free children snowball-fighting outside. But Christmas - that word jolted his memory, as another word inexplicably came to him: “Marley.”

The miser’s bones stiffened as he remembered what dreaming sight had startled him from mortal sleep. A churchyard gravestone - and on it was writ his very own name: Ebenezer Scrooge.

A rustle behind him made him jump, and he turned to see a faint apparition hanging near his bed. “Another one?” He asked dispiritedly, feeling dread rise in his chest. He made to step closer to the spirit. “And what are you? The Ghost of what? There aren’t any more tenses left!” Scrooge snapped.

The ghost raised an admonitory hand. “I have only a few moments – they did not let me meet you last night.”

“Who’s they?”
“Hush. I am-”

“Really, this is all very tiring.”
“You need to-”
“I think I’ll just spend money if you’re all planning on haunting me-”

“No! I am the Ghost of Misery! I have come to tell you to disregard all you learnt last night! Money is more important!”

Scrooge paused and stared at the spirit in disbelief.

“Misery, miser. Yes, I get it,” he snapped finally. “You can leave now.”

Turning, he leant out of the window to ask someone what date it was. He had amends to make.

-EXTRAS
A new kid has arrived in the world of virtual communication. Say Hello to Ello! Well, only if you are invited. Ello is a social networking site, launched in March 2014, by a group of 7 artists and programmers. Ello’s USP is ‘simple, beautiful & ad-free’. The site’s manifesto begins with the statement, “Your social network is owned by advertisers,” an obvious reference to our ad-congested Facebook news feeds. It claims to be an alternative to all those social networks which commodify user data.

Prakriti Bhatt, an SYBA student who joined Ello recently, said, “Ello is quite a refreshing change with its austere and clean interface. One of its hottest features is the ability to share a gif, something which only Google+ offered so far.”

Whether Ello will stick to its business model or succumb, may well be a ‘billion’ dollar question.

-Aathira Konikkara

NH7: A FESTIVAL OF THE PEOPLE

One of India’s up and coming events, the NH7 Weekender has expanded in the three years of its existence, and how! Promising to give the same billing to Indian artists, the indie music festival has only one rule- ‘No Bollywood’, according to one of its advertising videos.

The idea of NH7 has been to bring together music lovers of different genres to form what is truly a ‘music’ festival. Ultimately, the idea is to become the happiest festival in the country and to that end, the organizers are willing to wash portable toilets, every single hour! In the past, NH7 has witnessed globally acclaimed acts such as Megadeth, Karnivool and Mutemath, but this year local bands close to one’s heart like Indian Ocean, The Raghu Dixit Project and Bhayanak Maut are on the gig list. From November 21st to 23rd, Pune will be witness to what some have claimed defines itself ‘by fixing everything that is wrong with festivals in India.’

It comes as no surprise that NH7 has grown bigger and better every year, having now spread to Delhi, Bangalore and Kolkata. The XPress suggests that you pay this festival a visit, as it seems to hit all the right notes!

-Ashwin Chandrasekhar
XPRESS RECOMMENDS: BEST FOREIGN FILMS FOR THE WINTER HOLIDAYS

The holiday period is a great time to let your downloading software roll and search manically for subtitles. The XPRESS presents an eclectic list of films from across the world that’ll make you laugh, cry and ponder your way through winter.

1) Waltz with Bashir (Israel, Ari Folman): A realistic animated war film that takes you through Ali Folman’s journey to piece together memories of his time served in the Lebanon war.

2) Taste of a Cherry (Iran, Abbas Kiarostami): This minimalist film takes us through a day in the life of Mr Badii, who is looking for someone to bury him. Kiarostami is known for his excruciatingly long takes, sometimes annoying, but worth watching.

3) All About My Mother (Spain, Pedro Almodóvar): This film is replete with diverse and puzzling turns galore. Almodóvar ties in multiple plot lines around a mother who tries to look for her now transsexual ex-husband to inform him about his son’s death.

4) Old Boy (South Korea, Chan-Wook Park): This film may have a Bollywood style plotline, but delves deep into the idea of revenge. Fair warning: Old Boy is a tad gruesome.

5) The Discreet Charm of the Bourgeoisie (Spain, Luis Bunuel): Examining a set of families’ hapless attempt to dine together, this is an approachable absurdist film by a man who redefined bizarre for the world.

6) City of God (Brazil, Fernando Meirelles and Katia Lund): A story about gang violence, the movie is a coming of age film (through flashbacks) for a boy growing up in one of the most dangerous slums in Brazil.

-Ashwin Chandrasekhar

THE BEST AND MOST INEXPENSIVE CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

Festivals are happy times, but not always for your wallets. If you’re looking for budget friendly Secret Santa, Christmas or New Year presents, here are some cheap but thoughtful present ideas for you:

1. Put together a collection of songs and movies which you both enjoy on a pendrive. Your friends will love the gift. If they don’t, at least they can use the pendrive.

2. Pack a basket with small, inexpensive goodies, like chocolate, candles, stationery, etc.

3. If you have an artsy side, customize some of your friend’s possessions (ask their permission first, please). Jazz up their mobile cover or folders with a splash of paint and creativity. Even pencils can be monogrammed.

4. Make a colourful scrapbook with memories and old pictures, to remind your friend of the unforgettable year gone by.

5. Get a thick woollen sock and decorate it with sequins and cotton wool. Voila! You have a Christmas stocking to gift.

Remember, the best presents come from the heart!

-Nikita Mujumdar
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