

# Hillel International Launches Rhodes Chapter



BY KATIE BREWSTER '18  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Hillel International, the largest Jewish student organization in the world, has officially launched at Rhodes College. On Jan. 22, members of the Rhodes community and the Memphis Jewish Federation gathered together to celebrate the establishment of the chapter on campus. Hillel International serves over 550 colleges and universities, where the organization tries to pursue goals like social justice as well as simply forming connections between Jewish students.

The event in Hardie Auditorium was full of students, both Jewish and non-Jewish, who wished to mark the occasion. More surprising was the number of attendees from the larger Memphis community. Buses transported eager attendees over from the Memphis Jewish Community Center. During the lively Hors d'oeuvres Reception before the main program, people reunited with old friends and colleagues, introduced themselves to students and handed out business cards. Even those who helped arrange the event were surprised by the turnout.

"It is such an important day for Jewish people at Rhodes and in the Memphis community at large. I was not expecting the outstanding turnout we had. To have such a show of support from the community means a lot," Rhodes' first

Hillel President Merit Pinker '19 said.

"It's exciting to see people, even unconnected to Rhodes or Hillel, so invested in Jewish life at Rhodes," Pinker said. "And seeing so many Jewish students and knowing we have that support within Rhodes is also great."

As the college's first Jewish president, President Dr. Marjorie Hass made remarks in front of the group. She took the opportunity to thank the local Jewish community for not only helping bring Hillel to Rhodes but for welcoming her family.

"You have really embraced me and my husband, Larry, with so much love and welcome. Thank you very much for letting us be a part of this very historic and vibrant Jewish community," Hass said.

Hass called it fate that brought Hillel to Rhodes during her inaugural year.

"These plans were in the works long before my relationship with Rhodes began," said Hass.

Yet, Hillel has played a crucial role in Hass's life.

"My parents actually met at the University of Illinois Hillel. That Hillel is a beautiful building, my husband and I were then regularly attended there years later when we were graduate students," Hass said.

She continued to engage with the Initiative by helping develop the program at Muhlenberg College, where her son later attended. She also visited the mothership offices in D.C. Hass later

spoke about the history of Rhodes College and its Presbyterian roots.

"It has a long history of offering an education for mind for body and for spirit," Hass said. As a Presbyterian college, Rhodes has a "real appreciation for the life of the mind as a supporter of faith as opposed to seeing those two things in conflict."

Hass expressed a desire to inspire "hope and resilience" to inspire the student leaders of Rhodes even during dark times. She pointed to respectful dialogue and relationship building across all religions as a path to accomplishing this goal. She assured while Hillel will certainly support Jewish students, it will welcome all those who wish to learn about Jewish traditions and "not only learn what we eat but eat with us, since every good Hillel is a provider of Shabbat dinners and bagel brunches."

The launch notably also featured a speech from Eric Fingerhut, the President and CEO of Hillel International. After opening with a prayer, Fingerhut discussed how some people not well acquainted with the Memphis Jewish community might incorrectly assume a homogeneity about it. He pointed to the rabbis from a variety of denominations across the room who represent congregations with different beliefs from a range of socioeconomic and racial backgrounds.

"What we do in common is send our kids to college. Jewish young adults go

to college in extraordinary numbers. We believe it's well over 90% are on a four year college campus. And that other 10% we have not found are probably away on a gap year and they are just hiding from us," Fingerhut said. "There is a love affair between the adult Jewish community and higher education."

After acknowledging President Hass's comments about Rhodes as a former Presbyterian institution, he shared the different journey Judaism has had. While there are religious seminaries with trained rabbis and universities like Brandeis University, it is rare to have isolated, solely Jewish schools. Instead, Fingerhut said they encourage students to attend institutions with people with differing views and learn from those while still remembering their Jewish roots.

"And that," Fingerhut said. "Is the role of Hillel."

The group has already become active on the campus. Jan. 31 Rhodes Hillel celebrated Tu B'shvat, the celebration of the trees, with an outdoor prayer session, s'mores making, eating fruit in celebration and talking about the significance of the holiday. Their next event will be a Shabbat dinner on Feb. 2 in King Hall which will feature traditional Shabbat prayers and eating Kosher food together.

## NEWS, CONT'D

# Prof. Michael Nelson Publishes New Book on Trump's First Year



BY JUNIOR WALTERS '19  
STAFF WRITER

2017 was a whirlwind. A politically polarizing, socially tumultuous and generally confusing time for Americans, most of the tension and confusion can be traced back to the election of President Donald Trump in November.

To sift through the confusion, Professor of Political Science Michael Nelson, a prominent scholar and writer on the presidency, has written a new book that attempts to not summarize the polarizing moments of Trump's first year in office but to open a door to a clear understanding of what his presidency truly has meant thus far and will mean for the future.

"In part because of the news media's all-Trump-all-the-time coverage," Nelson said, "you could easily get the impression that Donald Trump is the entire government and that he's completely unlike any other president in history. But like all of his predecessors, Trump is forced by the Constitution to share power with the other branches of the federal government and with the right of the media to criticize and of grassroots critics to organize."

Nelson's confidence in the political structures of the U.S. did not necessarily reflect the sentiment of the nation. For this reason, Nelson began writing.

"I realized that everything else being written about Trump was either wildly positive or wildly negative," Nelson

said. "My goal was to write a book that will help readers understand his presidency."

Nelson perceived that Trump took office under unusually favorable circumstances, citing a growing economy, low unemployment rates and a general lack of national security issues. And yet, according to Nelson, "No elected president in history has been this controversial this fast."

"We never have to wonder what this president is thinking: his thoughts go straight to his right index finger and then directly to our phones via Twitter," he said.

Twitter has been a main conduit for Trump's communication to Americans, and Nelson is critical of Trump's use of

the platform "to attack rather than to inspire."

With today's students plugged into political happenings and social issues, Nelson hoped his new book will help young people and future leaders make sense of the times.

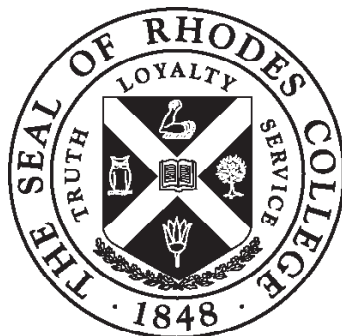
"If you don't know what to think about Trump," Nelson said, "Trump's First year will give you the information and analysis you need to make up your own mind – without me telling you what to think."

Trump's First Year was published in January by the University of Virginia Press through the University's Miller Center. It is now available online and in bookstores.

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## WITHIN THE GATES

# Dan Schrader: Digging through the Data

BY NOAH MESA '21  
STAFF WRITER

After working with the Admissions Office and Student Affairs as the previous Director of New Student Programs, Dan Schrader has transitioned into the new Director of Student Data and Assessment since the beginning of November.

This new position has included a different batch of responsibilities.

"I oversee the student data and the assessment of that," Schrader said. "It is a brand-new role for the college."

This student data will include "anything that follows the student" such as grades, disciplinary action and club participation as measured with Presence.

He has also been a part of the Rhodes' Academic Resource Team to encourage academic development along with other members of Student Affairs such as Ira Lawson, Melissa Campbell, Melissa Butler and Jamia Stokes.

"Another part of my job is academic support. If someone needs help with

study skills, time management, organization and memory skills," Schrader said.

Given that the position was new, Schrader will still continue to figure out how to establish his role within the Rhodes College Office of Student Affairs and the greater Rhodes community.

"At the core of it is making sure that students are served as best as we can," Schrader said.

His job will entail working with many different offices such as the Communications Department, the IT Department and Student Affairs. Essentially, Schrader will help different departments set desired goals and interpret data to decide whether those goals have been met.

One of his current projects has been deciding what will be the best architecture of all the student data. Rhodes College currently has used Banner as its primary student data collection and storage software—which was how Rhodes students received "Banner



Web"

Furthermore, he has become a part of the Southern Association of College and Schools Accreditation Committee (SACS) to ensure Rhodes College has been meeting certain benchmarks.

While he may not have any formal Computer Science or IT background, Schrader's previous position allowed him prior experience with the software which Rhodes utilizes since he worked

with data systems to provide relevant training.

Schrader reported many people have been coming to seek his services since November, as it will have an effect on the future of the college.

"Data collection is a big thing in the world right now," Schrader said. "Now that technology is playing a big role, many colleges and universities are making decision using data."

## Breakfast & Business Cards

BY KATIE BREWSTER '18  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The latest event to celebrate 100 years of women at Rhodes was the largest yet. Over 100 women woke up before 7 a.m. to attend the "Breakfast and Business Cards" networking event on Jan. 31. Co-hosted by the Department of Alumni Relations and the Department of Career Services, the event brought Rhodes alumnae together with female juniors and seniors, as well as a few ambitious freshman and sophomores who were unaware it was designed as an upperclassmen-only event.

The McCallum Ballroom was dressed up for the event with red and white roses arranged in mason jars adorning every table. As it was a seated breakfast, serving Aramark catering, the seating chart was arranged by Career Services ahead of the event based on who registered. They attempted to place students with alumnae in the same potential career path with which they were interested. Unfortunately, after more alumnae than students were no-shows, many of the introductions had to be made by casually sliding up to neighboring tables

and waiting for a break in the conversation.

Director of Alumni Relations Tracy Patterson '84 anticipated this dilemma and took the microphone to insist students were welcome, and expected, to get up and mingle. She took the opportunity to thank everyone who attended and announce some of the positions the esteemed women held around the room at organizations like ServiceMaster, FedEx, and a variety of nonprofits. There were also a large number of alumnae who continued to work at Rhodes as both Professors and Administration.

President Dr. Marjorie Hass took the stage midway through the breakfast to deliver a few words about the importance of networking events for women. She referenced a study that compared how men and women speak about their "story," how they got to where they were occupationally. Women tended to describe their journey as things happening to them. "We moved to this city, so I began working at this place. Then we had a child so I switched to this position which worked better hours. Then I got a raise so now I am here." Men, on the other hand, used more "I" in-

stead of "we" statements and said "I did this, I did that, I went for this." Men were more likely to frame it as things they had done and earned as opposed to thing that had happened to them. Hass told the women gathered to take heed of that study. These women actively furthered their careers by constantly taking initiative, like attending networking events like these.

Hass continued to take a few questions from the audience. In response to a question about her greatest obstacle to overcome, she talked about the period after she graduated. Within an incredibly short amount of time she was married, finishing her master's degree, taking care of a newborn and starting her doctoral program.

In response to the next question of "Do you remember your first networking event?" Hass had some critical things to say about the practices of job networking within the field of philosophy. A male-dominated field, the biggest national networking event has always been called "Smokers," even today. The field has had to assess practices that skew power dynamics against women. Hass's job interview for her first job

took place in a hotel room with a group of men sitting on the bed and asking her questions. This practice, once common, was only banned five years ago.

Director of Career Services Sandi George Tracy spoke after Hass to thank everyone for attending the event. She brandished thank you cards which she would provide to students who wanted to stay in touch with the women they met during the event. Notebooks with a cover proclaiming "100 Years of Women" were also distributed after the event ended.

Overall, the event provided a necessary opportunity for the women of Rhodes to advocate for themselves professionally, a task which Patterson promised can be done more frequently than just these occasional events.

"I was very pleased with the student participation and excited that so many understand the importance of connecting with the Rhodes network. I encourage all students to take advantage of the many opportunities Alumni Relations provides, not just in Memphis but around the country," Patterson said.

## BEYOND THE GATES

# Freedom Prep Academy Leaders Hold Panel to Discuss Disparities within Memphis



BY PRAMIKA SRIRAM '21  
CITY EDITOR

A panel of local leaders recently gathered at Freedom Preparatory Academy to discuss disparities within the city of Memphis. The panel was comprised of numerous minority business owners and representatives from Shelby County Schools. During the Jan. 25 panel, the group specifically focused on a recent study which found that black-owned construction companies received less than 1% of Memphis school contracts in the last five years. In sharp contrast, black-owned businesses account for more than one-third of Memphis' construction industry. The Shelby County school system has become the largest in Tennessee and as such has also been the fifth-largest employer in Memphis. Its policies and actions have a significant impact on the surrounding community.

Local business owners pointed to the merging of Memphis City schools and Shelby County schools seven years ago as the primary reason why many

minority-owned businesses have been continuously overlooked. Melvin Jones, the CEO of Memphis Business Contracting Consortium, said that before the merger "there was an infrastructure where African Americans felt comfortable enough approaching the school system" for jobs.

The panel highlighted the numerous benefits of making Shelby County Schools and the city of Memphis more equitable for minority business owners. The founder of Freedom Preparatory Academy, Roblin Webb, pointed out the benefits of contracting more minority-owned businesses.

"Kids get to see organizations led by people of color that look like them," Webb said.

Webb has ensured that Freedom Preparatory Academy has worked equitably with minority-owned businesses and noted it will be a priority for the school to continue to hire them. She believed investing in these small businesses will "ultimately stimulate the economy and our community." Other

local leaders strongly agreed with this sentiment, viewing hiring more minority-owned businesses as a method to combat the abnormally high poverty rates in Memphis. Additionally, hiring minority-owned businesses in poor areas will be likely to improve student performance in those communities, as poverty has been shown to be a detriment to learning.

The panel suggested and developed several strategies to alleviate the current disparities perpetuated by Shelby County Schools. The panel advocated for regular meetings with local business owners to encourage they actively pursue contracts with Shelby County Schools. The panel also advocated for creating benchmarks to measure equity and to hold local leaders accountable to meet those benchmarks.

While the disparity between the number of minority-owned businesses and their employment by Shelby County Schools has been large, similar disparities can be found across Memphis. The Chief Operations Officer of Shelby

County Schools, Beth Phalen, noted the breadth of the issue.

"It's broader than a Shelby County Schools issue. I think it's a community and city issue to help build these businesses," Phalen said.

Ms. Phalen discussed the results of a 2012 U.S. Census of Small Business Owners, which found that although more than half of businesses in Memphis are black-owned, they generate less than 1% of the city's business revenue.

The members of the panel strongly encouraged Memphis residents to be patrons of minority-owned businesses. As Memphis residents, Rhodes College students can encourage the growth of minority-owned businesses by promoting them and visiting them more frequently.

Local leaders will continue to be hopeful that change will occur in the future, as Shelby County Schools takes action to eliminate inequities. As the school system changes, the city of Memphis will also undoubtedly be altered.

## BEYOND THE GATES

# Exploring Memphis Through Food: The Bar-B-Q Shop



BY SAM BROWN '21  
STAFF WRITER

Although my latest excursion kept me close to campus, I travelled to the home of some of Midtown's best barbecue. Founded in 1981 as "Brady & Lil's Bar-B-Q Restaurant," The Bar-B-Q Shop has long been a small joint tucked away on Madison Avenue. With only a small sign out front directing customers to a parking lot behind the restaurant, blink and you could miss it. With a small but inviting interior, the Memphis-themed wall art and friendly waitstaff were a welcome sight. Immediately after entering, I knew I was in a

for a unique treat.

I sat down, opened the menu and saw one of the strangest dishes I have ever seen at a restaurant. Since it's conception, the speciality item at The Bar-B-Q Shop has been the Bar-B-Q Spaghetti, which was exactly what it sounded like. Pulled pork or beef brisket served over noodles with barbecue sauce and some beans and Texas toast on the side. The restaurant has taken pride in it as their speciality dish. Obviously, I had no choice but to push my typical food limits and try it for myself. To say that the barbecue made this dish work would be an understatement, as the dish was downright delicious. The

brisket was perhaps the best I have had for my short time in Memphis and the sauce was to die for. On each table, was placed both a hot barbecue sauce and a mild one. Go for the hot one. Even for those against hot foods, you will need to give this sauce a try. It was what truly made the meal.

The spaghetti was served with some insanely good Texas toast on the side. After glancing at the menu again, I saw that the restaurant offers Texas Toast Sandwiches which I could only imagine would be equally as delicious. The menu also included a variety of terrific looking appetizers including Bar-B-Q Nachos, Bar-B-Q Beef Bologna, Kiel-

basa Polish Sausage and different flavors of wings. They had a wide variety of sandwiches, rib plates and sides with the Bar-B-Q Spaghetti also being available as a side.

The Bar-B-Q Shop should be a go-to spot for Rhodes students looking for barbecue options (other than Central or Rendezvous.) The dishes were fairly priced and the drive was brief. The restaurant produced some of the best brisket I have ever had before and, quite frankly, you will not be able to get mouthwatering Bar-B-Q Spaghetti just anywhere. For this reason, I have awarded The Bar-B-Q Shop 4.5/5 stars.

## #TookEmDown901

BY JUNIOR WALTERS '19  
STAFF WRITER

Two parks in Memphis have changed to look slightly but noticeably different. Where once stood two statues memorializing Confederate icons and the "Lost Cause of the South" now will stand two unadorned pediments in spaces owned by a newly-minted urban nonprofit.

Memphis City Council officials voted to remove the statues on the evening of Dec. 20, and the statues were removed within hours under the cover of darkness. The announcement and subsequent action was swift and sudden and have prompted a victory cry on the part of local activists as well as a vicious backlash by area Confederate legacy organizations.

The removal of the infamous like-

nesses of Jefferson Davis and Nathan Bedford Forrest from city property marked an important moment for local activist organizations such as #TakeEmDown901 seeking to promote a reckoning with the city's Confederate legacy. The Davis statue was erected in 1909 and the Forrest memorial came nearly fifty years later in 1964, following a national trend of erecting Confederate memorials in time of heightened efforts in African American civil rights activity.

While both lived in Memphis briefly, their connection with the city was tenuous at best. Davis was born in Kentucky and represented Mississippi in the US Senate before leading the Confederacy. He briefly ran a life insurance company in town but spent most of his time traveling the South eulogizing Confederate

veterans.

Forrest settled in Memphis only after the Civil War, spending his final days as a failed businessman running a prison work farm. He notably was a founding leader of the Ku Klux Klan.

This was the historical legacy the statues stood for, a legacy defended by groups such as the Sons of Confederate Veterans, who along with the Forrest family almost immediately filed a lawsuit against the city.

In addition to the lawsuit, the city government has been slammed with all varieties of hate mail, trolling and condemnation. It takes little more than a quick scroll through Facebook comments or a Google search to find salient opposition to the statues' removals. A group called Confederate901 planned a protest rally in early January which

ended up being little more than an angry drive past the sites where the monuments previously stood.

Nonetheless, activists have remained unfazed and have already begun planning their next steps.

In a time where many Southern cities have begun wrestling with their troubling past in association with the Confederate cause, Memphis made a decisive move towards reconciliation with this past.

Though perhaps merely symbolic in nature, the city sent a clear message and removed two major physical remnants of the idolization of white supremacy in Memphis. City officials successfully navigated the complex realm of Tennessee's state laws regarding its own history and #TakeEmDown901 is now #TookEmDown901.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## EDITOR'S NOTE:

The opinions and views expressed in the content below are those solely of the writer and do not reflect the opinions and views of the Sou'wester or its staff. Additionally, the writer takes full responsibility for the accuracy of their work and its adherence to college policy. Letters to the editor are not edited.

## Let's Get Our Facts Straight



BY ALEX SCHRAMKOWSKI '20  
RHODES COLLEGE REPUBLICANS  
PRESIDENT

Hey Brandon [President of Rhodes Democrats],

I appreciate your intention to portray the way both sides view the issue of immigration. That being said, the way you portrayed both sides didn't include all the facts. We both sat in the Spence-Wilson room on Tuesday night and watched as President Trump addressed the nation during this first State of the Union. There are many parts of that speech we should definitely talk about, among the student body, our organization, and on campus as a whole, because he highlighted many achievements he made over his first year in office.

Before we get to immigration, it should be noted that the historic Tax Reform package that the GOP controlled house and senate passed last month has been, in no way hyperbolically stated, incredible. Nearly 1.12 million<sup>1</sup> American workers are receiv-

ing bonuses of up to \$2000 this year as a result of this historic tax reform initiative, including thousands of others who saw wage hikes to anywhere between \$11 to \$15. It's exactly what Republicans been saying for decades: if you cut taxes, everyone benefits; certainly not just wealthy Americans. Several years ago, the Obama Administration and Nancy Pelosi pushed through a proposal that gave an average of \$40 back to every American family, and just this month Nancy Pelosi and the democratic leadership referred to the \$1000 bonuses and wage increases as 'crumbs.' \$1000 isn't crumbs. It's hospital visits. Its grocery store visits. Its car repairs. Its money that comes back into the American economy and helps to lift up everyone, from America's most impoverished to America's struggling middle class. If Democrats refuse to acknowledge that as a success for the American people, it seriously brings into concern their ability to come to any agreement on an immigration policy that benefits both sides.

Immigration is an issue that I'm sure is

going to be the prevailing policy point for 2018. President Trump, contrary to what you mentioned last letter, has a bipartisan plan for immigration. Like he said on Tuesday, his plan is one where "nobody gets everything they want, but where our country gets the critical reforms it needs." It provides a path to citizenship for 1.8 million "Dreamers," something many on the left probably thought would not have happened under the Trump immigration plan. It does promote the building of the border wall, ending chain migration, and the immigration lottery, which many Republicans have also been in favor of. The key here, and what I'm trying to get at, is this: no substantive, positive change will occur for immigration policy unless both parties come to the table and discuss it. Moreover, no substantive, positive change will occur for immigration policy if Congressional Democrats or Republicans vote 'no' when small steps forward are offered. A room of Congressional Democrats that won't stand up and applaud for things that include fighting opioid

abuse, creating new jobs for Americans of all backgrounds, low unemployment across the board for Americans of all backgrounds, respecting the American flag, and other seemingly non-partisan issues will not be the same Democrats that can help fix our immigration system. It's time to stop with all-out 'resistance' and come to the table to make meaningful policy changes. Otherwise, Republicans will get nothing they want, Democrats will also get nothing they want, and Americans will be worse off for it.

### Sources

<sup>1</sup>"1.12 million": <https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/2018/01/26/did-your-company-pay-you-bonus-tax-savings-check-list/1065291001/>

Hello there!

For the rest of the academic year you will notice some political discourse in our Letters to the Editor section of the paper. Each month, Rhodes College Republicans and Rhodes College Democrats will select a topic to discuss for the entire month. They will take turns and write into the paper every other week—responding to what the other organization had written the week prior. We encourage you to respond to their discourse in a letter as well. Letters can be submitted to [rhodesnews@gmail.com](mailto:rhodesnews@gmail.com).

-The Editors

## SPORTS

# Lynx Look to Finish the Season Strong



BY SAM BROWN '21  
STAFF WRITER

With the end of the season rapidly approaching, the Rhodes College Men's Basketball Team will have high expectations for themselves for the remainder of the season. After losing two road games in a row at Sewanee and Centre, the Lynx have been looking to bounce back in the final stretch of the 2017-18 season.

"Our goal is honestly just to go 1-0 each time we step on the floor" guard

Kerry Love '20 said. "We want to give it our all, leaving no room for regrets. Obviously, we're chasing another conference championship—and maybe more in the long term—but the short term goal is just to win each game."

Known for their high tempo offense and full court press, the team has prided themselves with putting up upwards high scores, even over 100 points in a game. They had impressive scoring statistics in November with a 140-113 victory over Belhaven University and a 141-107 win over Howard Payne Uni-

versity. The team has kept their style regardless of who they play.

"We really try to focus on one game at a time," Love said. "Each game offers significant opportunities for us to learn and improve individually and as team."

The Lynx season has been one of ups and downs but that did not change the goal they will have for the rest of the season. With only five regular season games remaining, the Lynx will be looking to extend their season far past mid-February.

"We're definitely on the right path,"

Love said. "One thing we need to work on is executing on both sides of the ball. We need to be more efficient offensively against different defensive approaches and do our job more proficiently on the defensive end."

With these tips in the mind, the Lynx will be looking to make noise during the postseason this year. The Lynx road stretch will continue Feb. 2 and Feb. 4 at Berry and Oglethorpe, respectively. You will be able to catch them back at home Feb. 9 against Millsaps College.

## THE BACK PAGE

# 25 YEARS OF GSA

1993

2018

*All students, faculty, staff, and alumni are invited to celebrate 25 years of community, acceptance, & support for LGBTQ+ people.*

### Friday, February 2, 2018

**Student-Alum Luncheon** 11:00–2:00 **Catherine Burrow Refectory**  
*Grab lunch and mingle with LGBTQ+ and ally students, faculty, staff, and alumni.*

**Alumni Tours/Interviews\*** 2:00–4:00 **Queer Resource Room, Burrow 106**  
*We invite returning alumni to see new additions to the campus, and tell us about their time at Rhodes so we may keep the history alive. \*RSVP required.*

**Presidential Reception\*** 6:00–7:30 **Location TBD via email**  
*At this opening reception, join Dr. Marjorie Hass in celebrating 25 Years of GSA. Formal attire. \*RSVP required. Carpools available on RSVP form.*

### Saturday, February 3, 2018

**Queer in Your Career** 10:00–Noon **Barret Library 051**  
*Explore what it means to be LGBTQ+ in the workplace. Presentation by Career Services followed by an alumni Q&A panel and résumé building workshop. Business casual attire. Food provided.*

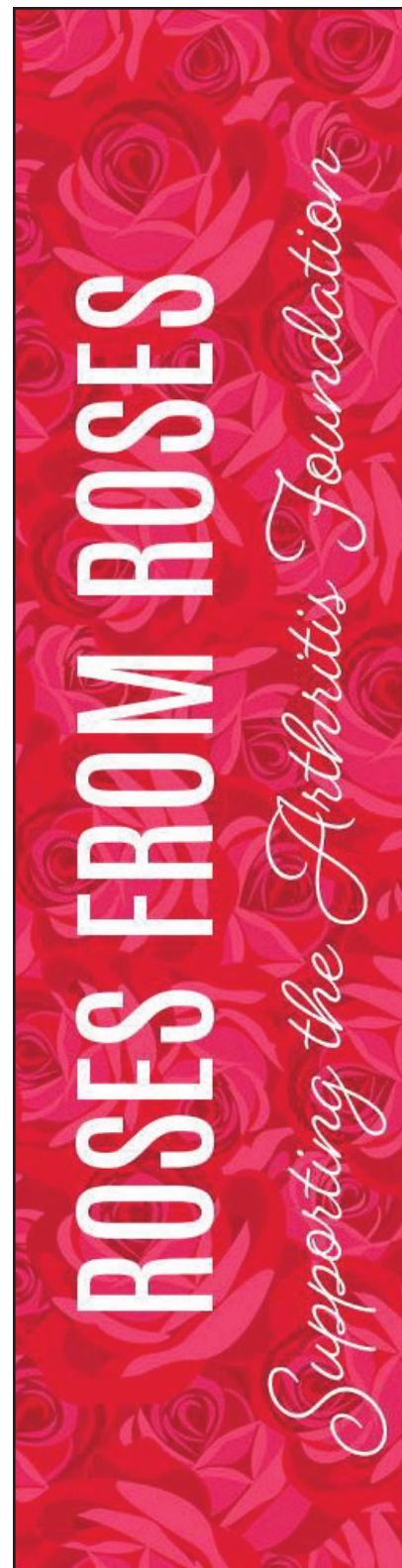
**Panel: LGBTQ+ Evolution** 3:00–4:30 **Blount Auditorium**  
*In this Q&A-style panel, we will explore how the support systems for LGBTQ+ students have evolved over time, and how they will continue to evolve into the future. Food provided.*

**25 Years of GSA Dinner\*** 6:00–8:00 **McCallum Ballroom**  
*Celebrate the occasion once more with a photobooth, bar, and complementary dinner. Listen to and draw inspiration from community leaders. Formal attire. \*RSVP required.*

### Sunday, February 4, 2018

**Leadership Planning\*** 10:00–Noon **Spence Wilson Room, Briggs Hall**  
*Current/former leaders are invited to discuss future directions for GSA and LGBTQ+ life. \*RSVP required.*

**RSVP: [sites.rhodes.edu/lgbtq/25years](http://sites.rhodes.edu/lgbtq/25years)**



## “It’s Goin Down” at Rites of Spring 2018

BY WARREN SOCHER '19  
SATIRE WRITER

On behalf of the Rhodes Activity Board, I am delighted to announce that for this year’s Rites of Spring, another “classic” artist has been selected in the spirit of middle school nostalgia to continue the trend of the last three feature artists, Waka Flocka, T-Pain and Asher Roth. Rhodes College is honored this year to host the premier hip-hop superstar Yung Joc, who will be performing his platinum 2006 single “It’s Goin Down” on loop for 90

consecutive minutes.

It is also alleged that U.N.K. will hit the scene to open up for Joc, performing “Walk it Out.”

Both artists publicly announced this concert in an interview with “Complex,” as this is the first time either artist has done a live performance since their last show at a middle school in Atlanta in 2010. Shortly thereafter, both artists were involved in some legal trouble which resulted in them being cryogenically frozen in a lab in New Mexico for the last seven and a half years, which is why they have been off

the radar. Yung Joc visibly expressed his excitement when he exclaimed that he was “dumb krunk” for his return to the rap game.

When RAB was criticized for only paying irrelevant artists to perform for Rites, they responded in a statement saying it is a general public safety concern for the student body when a popular or talented artist comes to Rhodes to perform. General pandemonium tends to ensue. The President of RAB posited a hypothetical: “For example, if we were to hire Travis Scott, it wouldn’t just be the artist showing

up. Travis most likely would bring a lightning storm as well as a genetically engineered T-Rex that he trained to say “straight up.” Former Rhodes President William Troutt expressed his discontent over his dark web blog “exprez901.net,” stating “Damn shoulda got Carti that joint New Choppa slaps. Also fricc jcole” (sic.) Before and after the show, exclusive vintage Bape gear will be sold outside of the BCLC. Sizes include XXL and XXXL only.