

**SENIOR ART,
CONTINUED**

Watson's installation included a lounge chair, lamp and photobook so patrons can sit down and view her art. Watson added that her photography explores the notion that everyone lives equally intricate lives. She said she wants viewers to feel nostalgia when viewing her work and develop an understanding that every person and place has a story and meaning. "It's about home and about place and people and just getting to know where you're from and how we all connect as humans," Watson said. "I think it's super important, especially right now because there's a lot of division in the world, to just understand that we all have families and places that we love and places we grew up and we're not all so different." Watson said she fell

in love with photography about three years ago, after taking an introductory photography course. She dedicated her installation to her grandfather, who she said also loved photography and influenced her passion. Sheroubi said he first picked up a brush and began creating art at a very young age, and that, with both his parents being artists, art was very accessible to him. He said his motivation to pursue art comes from his love of questioning. "I like questioning anything and everything," Sheroubi said. "There is no boundary you cannot question, really, in art." Sheroubi said his inspiration comes from experience, travel and curiosity, and that curiosity is the main focus of his pieces. He said he doesn't have any specific feeling he wants

viewers to take away from his art, and as long as viewers make up their own conclusion, that's good enough for him. Sheroubi said he plans to get involved in the Jonesboro community after he graduates and start a non-profit organization focused on presenting art workshops to underfunded schools. He said he also wants to start a skateboard company, stemming from his passion for skateboarding. Lyon said, after graduating, she'd like to continue creating art for her series on furry subculture, titled "Beneath The Fur," as well as create more similar series for other misunderstood, taboo groups. She said she's also interested in attending graduate school. "People in the general public are more likely to see the opinion of an outsider

as more valid because they don't have the biases that someone within the community would have," Lyon said. Sheroubi said having exhibition and art gallery experience is invaluable as an artist. Lyon said featuring her work in an exhibition validates her work and will help her with future exhibitions. Watson said having experience in an exhibition helps her be taken more seriously as an artist, and that exhibitions are also great opportunities to network with other galleries and potential clients. Sheroubi said being featured in an exhibition is also a great addition to a resume, especially if the exhibition is hosted by a legitimate organization like the Bradbury Art Museum. Boillot said the most important thing incoming first-

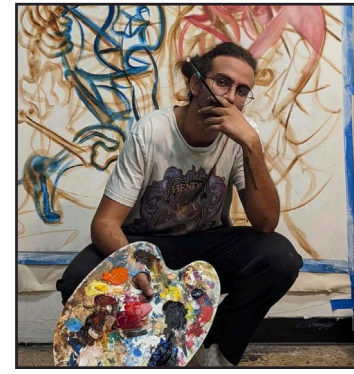


PHOTO CREDITLINE
Youssef Sheroubi (left) and Cassie Watson (right), two of the senior artists featured at the exhibition.

years interested in entering the senior art exhibition in the future can do is attend current exhibitions. She said speaking with previously featured students is also helpful and to navigate an exhibition is by engaging with people who have exhibition experience. "I think you are not setting yourself up for success as a freshman if you don't see what a successful senior show looks like," Boillot said. The Bradbury Art Museum is at 201 Olympic Drive in the Fowler Center at A-State. The Bradbury Art Museum is open Tuesday through Saturday from 12 to 5 p.m.

**OLIVER,
CONTINUED**

"Having the opportunity to travel with students and see how that shapes them, how that changes them, how their worldview shifts, whether you're in Chicago, or you're in Berlin. You always take something away from that with you. It's really a privilege to watch those wheels turn." Honors Brainy Break is an out-of-state study opportunity during spring break. Students involved in the honors and band programs have said they will miss the Olivers. Scout Weatherford, a senior majoring in biology and chemistry from Marmaduke, Arkansas, said her favorite memory with Oliver was when she presented her "infamous 'Lord of the Rings' PowerPoint and had her chuckling so hard." The PowerPoint saw Weatherford ranking various "Lord of the Rings" characters

based on "how good they are at 'making muffins.'" Claire Greene, a senior biology major from Conway, said her favorite memory with Oliver is the first time she met her. "Our conversation was very informative and lighthearted but it was the first time I felt like someone spoke to me like an adult. Mrs. Oliver emphasized that I am in charge of my future, wherever that may be, and seemed excited to share what her program had to offer." Milan Davidson, a sophomore music education major from Beebe, Arkansas, said her favorite memory with Dr. Oliver was the pre-concert pep talks. Rachel Ivy, a sophomore music education major from Russellville, said her favorite memory with Dr. Oliver was when he cheered his students up at a football game while it was pouring rain.

The students said whoever replaces the Olivers will have big shoes to fill. "Prepare yourself to be the new Honors Parent," Weatherford said. "Rebecca was not just the director of the Honors College. She fully loved us honors kids and was fully present in our crazy college world. She was our honors mom, a safe person in our home away from home." Oliver said the new honors director would need to "be open to having tough conversations and be open to hearing about the good, the bad and the ugly of their day." "Always drop what you're doing for students. Always make time for them," she added. Dr. Oliver said the new band director would need to foster the community aspect of the music program. "This position is one where



PHOTO COURTESY OF TIMOTHY OLIVER
Timothy Oliver, Ph.D., (third from left) with his fall 2022 wind ensemble students. you have a lot of resources in this program. It's not just one of the sense of there's a lot of great students. There's a lot of great colleagues," he said. "There's a history and tradition within this program. It's not just one that started a few years ago, and so leaning into those things, they are all very powerful strengths for this program." While there is a search for successors, neither faculty member knows any information about replacements.

**THEATRE,
CONTINUED**

So, I kind of ran with that and made it as campy as possible." Gavin Wilson, a junior theatre major from Berryville, Arkansas, plays the Bandit King, a character who causes trouble for the lead family. He also plays various other roles. Wilson said the cast developed a good rapport and chemistry, which helps in shows that rely on improvisation. "Everyone in this cast gets along great. We hang out outside of the rehearsals and I think our dynamic with each other has

significantly helped increase the show's gusto," Wilson said. Kori Denison, a senior theatre major from Southside, Arkansas, said "The Trail to Oregon" brings something unlike anything performed on the A-State stage. Last year, faculty in the Department of Theatre decided to select two students to help choose the shows performed this season. The faculty chose Denison to be on that committee. "We picked 'The Trail to Oregon' because it's so goofy, it's

very silly. It's also a little dirty, but we thought it would really appeal to college students. It's our generation of humor. It was written by people not much older than us," Denison said. The cast will perform "The Trail to Oregon" April 21 and 22 at 7:30 in the Simpson Theatre at the Fowler Center. Students get in free and tickets can be purchased at the box office or online. "The Trail to Oregon" may not be suitable for all audiences, due to profanity and mature themes.

**EARTH DAY,
CONTINUED**

Also happening that day, International Programs will host an Earth Day celebration for all students at the International Studies Building on the back patio from 9 a.m.

- noon. Students may stop in for food, gift bags and activities. Also, transportation will be provided for students to a picnic in the park from 11:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. held at

Craighead Forest Park. Food will be provided, and students are welcome to bring snacks for themselves or to share. A competitive scavenger hunt will also take place.

FINALS WEEK IS COMING SOON:

Finals start on April 27 and end May 3. In the case of inclement weather or emergencies, exams will be moved to May 4.

Scan this QR code to find a complete guide to the finals week schedule.