

The Trinity Voice

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A new era

Abraham Fraifeld
STAFF WRITER

This year marked the beginning of a new era for the youth music programs in Central Florida and the Trinity music program. The untimely passing of Jonathan May dealt a blow to the May and Trinity family, the Trinity music department, and the Floridian arts community as a whole.

"Since Jonathan's death, there has been a very large hole created in the fabric of the school," said Fine Arts Chair Janine Papin. "I don't believe that we'll ever be quite the same because the hole will always exist. I feel his loss when I'm in rehearsal, I miss his conducting, I miss his input. I hope that the bind and glue that Jonathan brought is eventually brought back together."

May left a lasting legacy at Trinity. His mission was to spread the arts around the areas in which he lived, and his dream lives on through his former students and the various orchestras he was involved in. Even in death, May's

vision has impacted the Floridian arts community.

"He had a really specific educational and philosophical approach," said Jonathan May's wife and Trinity strings teacher Maureen May, who started the Metropolitan Area Youth Symphony (MAYS) after her husband's death. "My goal with starting [MAYS] was just to make sure that his educational approach was furthered. My main goal is to include people from all around Florida. We've got people from eight different counties, and are up to around two-hundred people."

This is not the first orchestra the May family has taken a leadership role in. According to Maureen May, Jonathan May "taught at Stetson and worked part time for the Florida Youth Symphony Orchestra (FYSO). Then he branched off and started the Florida Young Artists' Orchestra (FYAO)."

Trinity students take part in multiple community orchestras.

"We've got students that par-

Fresh insight on the Trinity music program a year after the tragic passing of Jonathan May



Ed Malles

Since the beginning of this school year, Trinity students have been looking at the back of a different head during all-school chapels.

ticipate in all the outside groups. There are actually three youth orchestras in the Orlando area...all of them have Trinity students in them," said Maureen May. "It's really great to see that the arts community here is so huge and so vibrant, and it's getting bigger and bigger and more exciting all the time."

Trinity's music program features a new face in new strings teacher

Dr. Alvaro Gomez. Dr. Gomez is among the most well-known and experienced musicians in the Orlando area. According to a press release issued by the Florida Young Artists Orchestra, "As a conductor, Gomez made his debut in 1975 with the Chilean Philharmonic Orchestra. He has been a guest conductor with orchestras

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Security keeps watchful eye on campus after hours

Alex Nebel
STAFF WRITER

"It's close to midnight and something evil is lurking in the dark.

Under the moonlight you see a sight that almost stops your heart.

You try to scream, but terror takes the sound before you make it.

You start to freeze as horror looks you right between the eyes, you're paralyzed."

Maybe most students imagine Trinity Prep after hours like Michael Jackson's "Thriller," but the campus is actually not as scary as it seems. In fact, it's pretty safe.

Basic security information

Overseeing Trinity's security is Business Manager Steven Wennerstrom, who handles non-academic duties such as managing money and security.

The gates usually close at 10 p.m. and open at 5 a.m., which allows students on the weekends to grab any items they left behind. The last teacher leaves around four or five depending on their role on campus, although theater teachers and athletic coaches usually leave around 10 p.m.

Wennerstrom manages the security department. He is responsible for finding a director of security, who is in charge of hiring guards that must pass through Wennerstrom and the school before being employed. The job of the guards throughout the day is to con-



Alex Nebel

The 9th grade lockers leave an eerie glow on the campus at night.

stantly be checking for unwanted strangers, watching the parking lots, helping out in the Grille, and opening and locking doors if need be. They are not armed.

The moment it starts getting dark, lights around campus turn on. Three years ago, Trinity added cameras to the campus. Now there are 12 exterior cameras, each of which costs around \$2000 apiece.

Trinity has 24-hour security on campus and a nighttime security guard making rounds around the campus every 90 minutes. If they

aren't roaming campus, they are sitting in their office at the corner of the Dickinson Athletic Center watching the video cameras placed around the school.

Better safe than sorry

In the case that an intruder comes on to the campus, the guard will call the police and put the school on lock-down.

"The security guards and the Orange and Seminole County Police have a good working relationship," said Wennerstrom. Most "Trinity criminals" are after the

soft drink machines. If one were to enter the campus without using the front gate, he usually enters across the creek and through the fence near the Trinity House.

Although Trinity is not like "Thriller," it does have its scary moments. A month ago there was a bomb scare at a local Walgreens on Aloma. Damian Perez Santiago, Director of Security Administration, took action and "locked down the front gate and called the police and Kathy Finnucan," said Wennerstrom. "He really handled the whole situation well."

“We have a dream...”

Part 2 of a series about Martin Luther King Jr. and the impact of his legacy on campus.

Nausheen Rajan

STAFF WRITER

According to the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, reprints of a 1950s comic book about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. were credited with providing inspiration for the Egyptian protests that forced a peaceful leadership change.

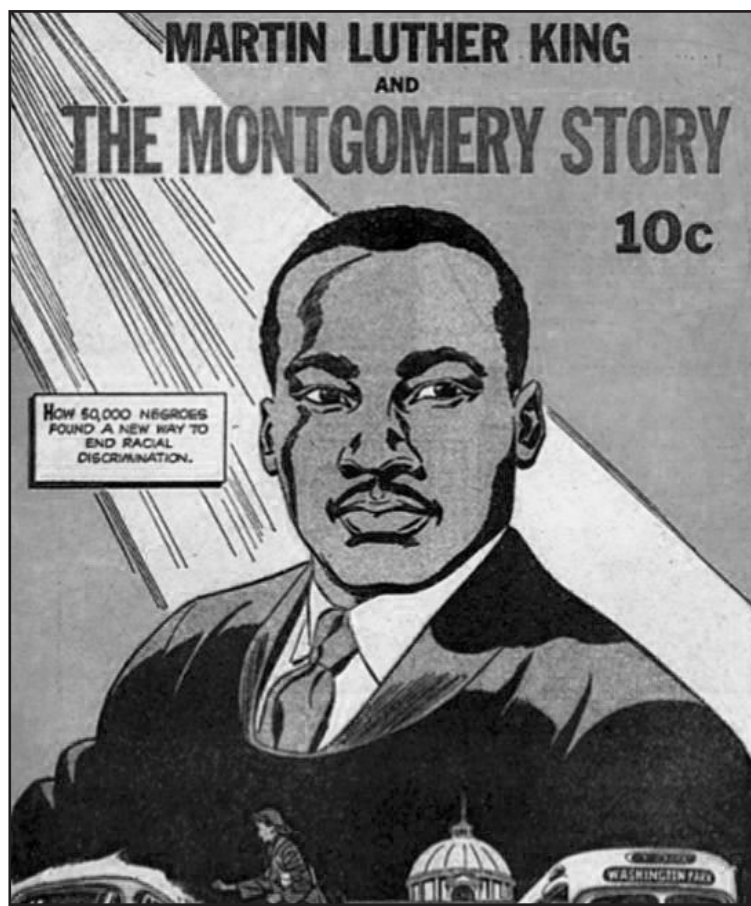
The comic book about Dr. King was produced around 1958 by the Fellowship of Reconciliation shortly after the Montgomery Bus Boycott, which sparked the 1950's Civil Rights movement.

Dalia Ziada, the Egyptian director for the Washington D.C.-based American Islamic Congress, distributed the reprinted copies in Cairo's Tahrir Square on behalf of her organization. Nasser Weddady, the organization's civil rights outreach director, said people were inspired by reading the comic book in print form and online.

“I don't know if we can specifically measure the impact, but we certainly know it was significant,” said Dr. King's son. “This is the first time we've seen a major nonviolent revolution within the Islamic nations, and it's quite amazing. Clearly the teachings of my dad and Gandhi were quite meaningful.”

The lessons of Dr. King are prevalent in bringing peace to conflicting regions of the world even today. Although Dr. King's principles are being used to promote peace in more complex scenarios, there is not much of a difference in where King stood yesterday battling for Civil Rights and in where others stand today with the Arab revolution.

College counselor Lester John-



Courtesy of the Atlanta Journal Constitution

son said, “All movements battling for rights have tangible benefits to other communities of color and to other newly ascendant groups and individuals.

Martin Luther King Day, whether universally observed by all or not, remains powerfully purposeful, meaningful, and instructive inter-generationally.” Johnson agrees along with many others that we all subconsciously follow the principles of Dr. King every day, whether we realize it or not.

“The benchmarks of fairness, tolerance and equal opportunity are values to which I aspire always. Other traits like courage, self sacrifice, and appreciation for the power of language and words are all things that I embrace and respect,” Johnson said. “So, if valuing these traits are King-like, then my answer is yes, I'm an adherent of King's world view.”

Dr. King's dream might have been slightly different than our dreams today, but the point is we, as a nation, strive for world peace.

Johnson, for example, said, “My dream is that we figure out a way to achieve compromises for the greater good and move ever forward and not be stymied and blocked by our divided, messy, and contentious democracy.”

And although varying strains of racism, classism, sexism, etc. exist and will continue to exist, “you should not let a reaction to the sign of a darker hue skin,” or any other matter stop you from living your life. As Johnson said, “These are facts of life for me and quite a lot of folks, so I am not much different than any other individual in this society.”

Upper school history teacher Samuel Stewart tends to follow the lessons of Dr. King as well.

“What I want to know is what

unique qualities an individual brings as a person? That is what I judge,” said Stewart.

Stewart tries to not discriminate against people based on anything other than the content of their character. Although he may set aside factors such as race, ethnicity, religion, gender, and sexual orientation, Stewart uses these factors as a tool to understand a person better.

“I do encourage social justice in a society,” said Stewart. “Now I know that in Glenn Beck's world that social justice is “code” for socialism, but I appreciated Dr. King's concern with poverty and the effect that capitalism can have on a society.” Stewart does appreciate Dr. King's opposition to the Vietnam War, imperialism, and the military industrial complex. It was these positions, Stewart believes, that caused him to incur the wrath of many so-called liberals in the late 1960s.

“I think that Dr. King is primarily remembered for his opposition to segregation and racial discrimination,” said Stewart. “Many people forget, or don't realize, that his sense of justice went much further than that.”

Students however, believe that MLK Day is less of an inspiration like it should be and more of a required responsibility. Junior Neelima Gaddipati is among the students who believe that there is still a lot of racism that society both faces and creates in its daily life.

“Prejudice by race is prevalent in our community, although it is subtle,” said Gaddipati. “The jokes we make to each other about racial stereotypes may seem funny, but they can really affect the people listening. It's important that we accept each other based on what we bring to our community, rather than the color of our skin.”

Senior Anna Malles on the other hand generally has faith in how

our society is progressing but fears that we tend to overlook our history and what exactly our forefathers had to accomplish and overcome to bring us the stability we know today.

“A few years ago on MLK day, I joined with my youth group and the neighborhood surrounding Ivey Lane Elementary [a large public elementary school for underprivileged city children] in beautifying the campus,” said Malles. “We planted trees and flowers and that day I truly felt that I was honoring Dr. King's memory.”

“I was personally upset by the fact that we didn't have an assembly like we did last year. When the speaker did the ‘I Have A Dream’ speech, the entire school was silent and paying [complete] attention,” said junior Lara Grauerholz-Fisher.

“It was amazing that MLK's speech could bring such a noisy auditorium to be dead silent, and I really felt like the student body was captivated as silence fell over the crowd,” she said Grauerholz-Fisher feels that discrimination isn't gone, and people are willing to believe that everything is fine when it isn't.

“We still need to keep fighting for rights, even if the focus has shifted to something else,” said Grauerholz-Fisher. “There are always issues to care about.

Grauerholz-Fisher's dream for the nation is that one day equality will be universal and everyone will feel proud of who they are. This goes for everything from marriage equality to class differences.

“I think that when you're fighting for something, it's important to stay really positive about it,” said Grauerholz-Fisher. “A while back, my mom and I were talking about how language reflects that. Would you rather fight against terrorism or fight for peace? Fight against illiteracy or fight for education?”

Orchestra

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in China, Europe, North and South America, including leading the All-State Orchestra for the Florida Music Educators Association.”

Dr. Gomez took over Jonathan May's posts as conductor of the Trinity Symphony and conductor of the FYAO symphony in the last half of last year. Dr. Gomez started teaching Strings 5 this year and was recently named the new FYAO artistic director, both posts Jonathan May previously held.

“Jonathan and I were very good friends for numbers of years. He was a great man, a great musician, and a great father,” said Dr. Gomez. “Taking over his posts is a grave responsibility. With every step that I take in my new position, Jonathan's accomplishments come to my memories. I try to imitate what he did. I know now what I have to do to make the orchestra the best.”

Maureen May once worked for FYAO as well, but recent developments pushed her to branch off from FYAO and found MAYS. She had a very specific vision for the arts community in Orlando, and believed that the best way to fulfill it was to start a new orchestra, MAYS.

She explained that when Jonathan May decided to split from FSYO, he told the Orlando Sentinel that the split was the result of “difference of philosophy: one is a strong musical director with a supporting board; the other is a weak

musical director and a strong board calling the shots.” She followed this up by saying, “Jonathan's quote could not be more accurate if it were explaining why Michael Miller and I started the MAYS. Jonathan May trusted for years in multiple orchestras. Like the FSYO before it, the FYAO had Mr. May's influence; but neither orchestra retained his vision or spirit. The overwhelming support the MAYS has received from the community, including musicians and teachers, parents and students, has confirmed to us that there is not only room for three orchestras in the area, but a need for such diversity.”

FYAO also tries to honor Jonathan May's legacy and continue in his footsteps.

“The board decided to take the mission statement written by Mr. May and to follow it in every decision. A year later the orchestra is still following that mission statement,” said an FYAO manager who has been on and off the board over the past ten years. “The only guideline was the best interest of the orchestra. Every choice made by the board was made with that in mind. There was never any personal agenda in the choice of Dr. Gomez as a conductor. We simply felt that he was the best man for the job.”

Unfortunately, though, the split has resulted in tensions between students in the two orchestras. Sophomore FYAO members Natalie Nehme and Madison Feldman took the shake-up to heart.

“It should have been one orchestra,” said Nehme. “It feels like we're competing against each other when we should have been all playing together. Now it feels like we are just two groups and we're completely separated.”

Feldman echoed this sentiment. She said, “It makes it extremely awkward. This is not what Mr. May wanted. He wanted everyone to be in one big group. It's so sad because when he passed away we all split up...it was an emotional shock.”

MAYS member Jay Raleigh agrees that the situation is a bit strange.

“It just feels weird being in two separate orchestras,” he said. “There's a sense that it's not all about the music anymore.”

Despite the split, it seems that the Orlando community has room for another orchestra; both orchestras have plenty of talented musicians and have played several successful concerts.

“So far this year we've had four concerts,” said Raleigh. “The most memorable one for me was our production of the Mozart Requiem, which is a difficult piece to play. We teamed up with the Lake Howell Choir and it was an amazing production in Knowles Chapel.”

“I do everything in my power to try to improve the work of FYAO, and we're sounding better,” said Dr. Gomez. “I'm very happy with the last concert we played. I couldn't do what we did without Jonathan's teaching.”

Jonathan May's passing has been tragic and troublesome on multiple levels.

As Maureen May explained, “Obviously, the biggest change in the department for me is that my husband's positive presence is absent and I no longer get to work every day with my soul mate; not a day goes by that I do not miss that.”