

# the reflector

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# news

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## We will continue to march on

*Calgarians take to the streets of downtown for second annual Women's March*

**Anna Junker**

News Editor

Thousands of Calgarians took to the streets of downtown Calgary on Jan. 20 to show their support for the second annual Women's March.

The march-goers held multicoloured signs depicting messages such as "A Woman's Place is in the Resistance," "Time's Up," "We Will Not Be Silent" and "We are the Granddaughters of the Witches You Weren't Able to Burn" along with reasons why each individual was marching.

The march began at 12 p.m. where Calgarians met at Bankers Hall, marched down Stephen's Avenue, chanting things like "women's rights are human rights," and gathered at the plaza in front of city hall.

There, the rally, which was emceed by Calgary comedian and feminist activist Adora Nwofor, heard poems, music and speeches from an assortment of presenters. There were Indigenous representatives, including Sable Sweetgrass, a transgender woman from Kainai First Nation and Leann Gomez, an 11-year-old speaker from Blackfoot territory.

Other speakers included 14-year-old Muslim activist Asha Nenshi Nathoo and LGBTQ2S activist Jane MacNeil, also 14-years-old.

The rally also ensured there was a sign language interpreter on the steps of the plaza for those who are hearing impaired.

The march coincided with

similar events across the country and hundreds across the world over the weekend.

Last year, women worldwide mobilized in protest over President Donald Trump's election in November 2016. The march is meant as a symbol of solidarity for those oppressed and discriminated against.

While 2017 began with the Women's March, it ended with the taking off of the #MeToo movement of women, started by Tarana Burke in 2006, speaking out in solidarity against sexual harassment and assault and the subsequent Time's Up initiative to end sexual harassment and provide a legal defense fund for those who need help taking action against their assailant.

Thanks to these movements, 2017 saw many prominent male figures in Hollywood, politics, media, among other areas, fall from grace.

This year's march was a chance to show the impact that speaking up and standing your ground has while furthering the discussion to create even more change.

In the United States specifically, this year's march was intended as a rallying cry to get more women and young people out to vote and run for office.

Other events throughout the year in support of women and human rights will be organized and all Calgarians are encouraged to keep an eye out for them and attend.



All photos by Anna Junker.



Chantal Chagnon (left) and Cheryle Chagnon-Greyeyes (right) speak and perform at the march.

Adora Nwofor speaks as the grand marshal of this year's march.

# The impact of water and writing

## MRU prof wins Governor General’s Literary Award for Poetry for latest book

**Jolene Rudisuela**  
Web Editor

Growing up in Toronto, nature to Richard Harrison was confined by the blocks of the city. But when the rushing waters of the Bow River swept through his Calgary home in 2013, nature became unavoidable. This experience is at the centre of Harrison’s book, *On Not Losing My Father’s Ashes in the Flood*. In late 2017, this collection of poems was awarded the Governor General’s Literary Award for Poetry — an award Harrison refers to as the “Stanley Cup” for literature. Many of Harrison’s belongings were carried away in the current, and when he couldn’t find his father’s ashes, he expected the worst. “My dad’s ashes were downstairs in the basement — I didn’t know exactly where they were, but even if I had known where they were, lots of things got toppled,” he says. “They could have been on a shelf and then fallen and then away they went.” Before the ashes turned up, Harrison spent two full days believing the last remains of his father had been lost forever. Harrison calls this event the “catastrophe” that after nearly 10 years of work, turned his book on its head. “It changed how I saw the world, it changed how I saw writing, it changed how I saw myself,” he says.

*On Not Losing My Father’s Ashes in the Flood* started out as a book of poems about poetry, but as his father’s dementia worsened, Harrison began to write about his own experiences dealing with his father’s illness and eventually, his emotions following his death. Ralph Harrison died on Nov. 1, 2011 and six years later to the day, it was announced that the book had won the Governor General’s Literary Award for Poetry. “A poem isn’t about what you experience, it’s about what you learn from that experience,” says Harrison. After the release of his book, Harrison began receiving a flood of support from the public. Following readings, he would have people come up to him with their own stories of loved ones who had passed away and he even signed copies of his book dedicated to late family members or friends. “People hold on to this urn or box or jar and they feel a connection with the deceased,” says Harrison. “I know it’s true of the art form that poetry has that bridge between memory and experience, between the dead and the living, and some of these poems found that bridge.” At the end of November, Harrison, along with the rest of the Governor General’s Award winners, met in Ottawa to receive their awards and celebrate

Canadian literature. In front of 500 people in Rideau Hall, the Governor General, Julie Payette, presented him with his prize, but Harrison says the ceremony was about so much more than the award. As part of the Governor General’s Literary Awards, the recipients went to the parliamentary gallery to be acknowledged for their accomplishments. The recipients all received a standing ovation from members of parliament, but Harrison says the most memorable part was hearing Prime Minister Justin Trudeau give the apology to LGBTQ2S civil servants who were persecuted by the government from the 1950s to the 1990s. Harrison says there were many people sitting in the gallery wearing their military uniforms, decorated with rainbow patches or flags, and openly weeping as

Trudeau gave the apology. “Those are... moments that I’ll never forget and they’re both very complicated moments because both of them are built on the fact that very terrible things happened in the past,” he says. “And we’re acknowledging them and we’re trying to find a way to move forward.” “What’s most important now, it’s those stories.” Harrison says the Governor General’s awards are significant because they acknowledge the work of Canadian writers, but they also acknowledge the ideas that these writers bring forward into the national consciousness. “To me, that’s the message in this— you’re part of the national discussion,” he says. “So thank you, I really appreciate that everyone is happy for this [award], but it doesn’t stop there.”



# News You Can Use

### MRU prof attacked

A Mount Royal University student and former captain of the men’s hockey team has been charged after allegedly breaking in naked and attacking a Mount Royal professor in her home. Matthew Brown, 26, is facing charges of assault with a weapon and break-and-enter after the Mount Royal faculty member was attacked with a broom handle, according to CBC News. Brown, who is currently studying business, has been suspended from the university and is not allowed on campus. The victim of the attack, a professor in her mid-60s, suffered a broken hand, requiring surgery, along with torn tendons and severe bruising. Despite both being from Mount Royal, Calgary police say the connection is a mere coincidence. Police believe the suspect may have been on drugs at the time of the incident.

### Kent Hehr resigns

Federal Sport and Disabilities Minister Kent Hehr has resigned from Justin Trudeau’s cabinet pending an investigation into allegations of sexual harassment. The resignation comes after a woman took to Twitter alleging inappropriate behaviour from Hehr which made her feel “unsafe” along with sexually suggestive remarks such as “you’re yummy” when she was alone in an elevator with him. The incident was alleged to have taken place while Hehr was at the Alberta Legislature, where he was a member from 2008 to 2015. The woman tweeted that others felt uncomfortable and were warned about being alone with the minister as well. Trudeau issued a statement, saying he had accepted Hehr’s resignation, calling it a “leave of absence.” “Harassment of any kind is unacceptable and Canadians have a right to live and work in environments free from harassment,” he said.

### CTV sexual misconduct

A Toronto CTV journalist has been suspended over allegations of sexual misconduct after a woman, who says she was a former employee of the broadcaster, detailed an alleged encounter with the reporter. In a blog post titled “Me Too in Canadian Broadcasting” Bridget Brown, who formerly worked at CTV Calgary, described an alleged sexual incident in 2006 with an unnamed CTV reporter. She says she was kissed without her consent by the reporter who also attempted to forcibly initiate oral sex and subsequently masturbated in front of her. Hours following her blog post, Bell Media issued a statement saying that Queen’s Park reporter Paul Bliss had been suspended until an investigation is complete, adding they take the allegations very seriously. Brown said the absence of #MeToo stories in Canada prompted her to come forward to start a conversation.

# THE REFLECTOR

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# features

## Creating safer nightlife spaces

*The people behind the action and activism*

**Rosemary De Souza**

Contributor

“Every single day young women approach us to thank us for our work,” said Kira-Lynn Ferderber through an email correspondence with The Reflector. They “share their own stories of experiencing sexual violence in the music scene, and also share strategies for solidarity and resistance,” she continued.

Ferderber has been teaching bystander intervention for 15 years. She has worked on anti-bullying campaigns in schools, given workshops in Canada and the United States, supported queer youth and “designed and delivered an education program as part of [an] initiative in Ottawa to bring sexual violence prevention to every major festival in the National Capital area.”

Ferderber is also a “part of the Ontario team that just created and launched ItsYourShift.ca — a free online training program to address sexual violence in bars, restaurants, and the hospitality industry.”

In a November 2017 email, Veronica Lawrence, co-founder of the Society for the Advocacy

the community at a given time, and then we work to develop and/or offer tools to help folks address those needs.”

### Behind the activism

On Nov. 29, 2017, Lawrence posted to Facebook about the outstanding effort from other organizations who are implementing safer nightlife spaces within their communities, giving a shout out to Good Night Out Vancouver, Dandelion Initiative in Toronto, PLURI, AASK Montreal and Ferderber.

“All of these initiatives started before #metoo, before this time of reckoning for sexual assault, and long before it was cool and encouraged to do this work,” Lawrence posted.

“It’s hard and exhausting work, and most of us aren’t getting paid. We are doing this because we believe it needs to happen, and because we love our respective communities.”

“Just like every big event has a fire safety plan and emergency exits, every big event needs comprehensive training on the prevention of and response to incidents of sexual violence,” Ferderber explained. “It’s not

culture!”

### Moving forward

Looking forward, “this is also a great year for solidarity in the entertainment industry,” Ferderber said, “as we see more and more people coming forward to share stories in the #metoo movement and say that enough is enough.”

**“We’ve spent years telling women and girls to stay home from the party, or to not expect safe working situations in the music industry, but we need a different plan.”**

*—Kira-Lynn Ferderber*

However, adding to this idea, Ferderber states that “we also are having an exciting conversation in Ontario and across the country about fair wages.”

“It’s time for the public conversation to unequivocally include the reality that economic justice is tied to safety, and the fact that supporting a fair and living wage is part of ending sexual exploitation in workplaces,” she said. “Keeping marginalized workers in poverty keeps them from being able to seek recourse when facing sexual violence.”

### How it should be

“The threat of sexual violence affects the freedom of so many young women and others who are looking to work and have fun just like they deserve,” said Ferderber. “We’ve spent years telling women and girls to stay home from the party, or to not expect safe working situations in the music industry, but we need a different plan.”

“Event organizers and members of the general public need to take a role in sexual violence prevention, by learning concrete and realistic things they can do,” she explained. “This can be as simple as offering free

water at festivals. It can mean individuals checking in if they see something that doesn’t look right.”

“White people especially need to make the decision to look out for the safety of women of colour around them and anyone who might be dealing with an unsafe situation.”

According to a 2016 updated

scene has changed a lot in the past couple of years,” according to Lawrence.

“We have seen the conversation about sexual harassment and assault get louder and more nuanced and many folks working in the scene wanting to be part of changing the culture,” she said. “We have seen a lot of folks step up and truly support survivors.”

“We have seen venues put up safer spaces signage, attend workshops, create all gender bathrooms, and commit to the learning process that makes a space more inclusive.”

However, “the need for support for survivors and for change is still very high,” Lawrence stated.

“There are still a number of predators out there who haven’t taken accountability, and there are still many more spaces we can help make safer.”

“There is a lot of work to do, and I hope we can look forward to seeing male allies in our community stepping forward and taking the lead, in addition to the incredible women and non-binary folk (and a few men) who are already working hard at this.”

To learn more about SASS, visit [sasscalgary.com](http://sasscalgary.com). To learn more about It’s Your Shift, check out their website at [itsyourshift.ca](http://itsyourshift.ca).



**The Society for the Advocacy of Safer Spaces (SASS) created these coasters to help attendees at festivals and venues understand their rights and responsibilities better. Photo courtesy of SASS on Facebook**

of Safer Spaces (SASS) in Calgary, stated that “there needs to be more education about how people can practically support survivors with tangible skills.”

“We continue to connect with both venue teams and survivors to determine what needs are in

enough for a bar or a festival to declare itself a safe space — they need to train the staff, and commit to creating an environment where girls, women, and everyone can have a great time.”

“This means quit booking bands that promote rape



**Nightlife spaces are not always the safest places for women, non-binary and queer folk. Luckily, some organizations are working to change that. Graphic by Andi Endruhn**



# Let's talk about Aziz Ansari

## How the babe.net story is about you

**Amber McLinden**  
Features Editor

I have experienced what Grace has experienced. If you're not sure what this sentence is meant to address, you must not have heard the news — our feminist pal Aziz Ansari has been accused of sexual assault, or breaching consent, or hurting someone's feelings, depending on who you ask.

There are a lot of people to ask. Read the headlines: "Aziz: We Tried To Warn You," "Aziz Ansari is Guilty. Of Not Being a Mind Reader," "Rethinking Consent in the #MeToo Era," "New York Times Editor Blasts Aziz Ansari Accuser: 'It's Called Bad Sex.'"

In case you missed it, which I'm not sure how anyone could possibly escape this story, an article was released by babe.net detailing a photographer's account of a night with Ansari, anonymously referring to her as 'Grace.'

You can read the piece yourself, but I'm going to tell you now: I'm

not here to detail an argument about why Ansari was wrong (he was). I'm not here to tell you how your sexual encounters should work (consensually). I'm here to tell you what happened to me.

Maybe not in the same way it happened to Grace. And definitely not with Ansari. Hey, the details were different — I was drunk, she might have been tipsy. I wasn't saying, "hey, let's take this slow." Actually, I wasn't saying anything.

At least that's what I remember, because it's hard to remember what happens to you when you're blackout drunk. But it happened. It was nonconsensual.

That's the word of the day. Nonconsensual. What happened to Grace was a breach of consent; a lack of understanding about what enthusiastic consent is. No, I'm also not here to tell you what enthusiastic consent is either. Instead, if you're someone

engaging in sexual activity, I suggest you look it up. It's rather important.

Just as Lindy West wrote in her article for the *New York Times*, "What's not true is the suggestion that complex conversations about consent are new territory, or that men weren't given ample opportunity to catch up."

But yes, it's happened to me. It's happened to many women, more than we admit, more than men believe. This is what happens when women bring up issues of nonconsent. Unless the experience is explicit, is clearly rape, nobody sides with us. Even when the incident is explicit, we still rarely get support!

When I experienced what Grace had, I sat with that guilt for a year. For a year, I spent time convincing myself it wasn't a big deal. It wasn't anybody's fault. We were drunk, that's all. I should have said no. I should have pushed his hands away.

I should have, I should have, I should have.

I lived with that guilt. I'm sure Grace lives with that guilt. Many of my friends live with that guilt, too. It took me over a year to finally look at the situation, in hindsight, and tell myself, "you didn't do anything wrong."

So it's no wonder to me why Grace didn't get up and immediately leave. Put yourself in her shoes. It's embarrassing, it's awkward, and we are constantly told to never make a man feel bad. We are socialized to please, no matter how strong, how feminist, how angry we really are.

Here is my advice, in the wake of Ansari and Grace and my own sexual assault. Be sympathetic. When I woke up that morning and opened Facebook after reading Grace's story, to see the headline, "Aziz Ansari is Guilty. Of Not Being a Mind Reader," suddenly, I was back to the place



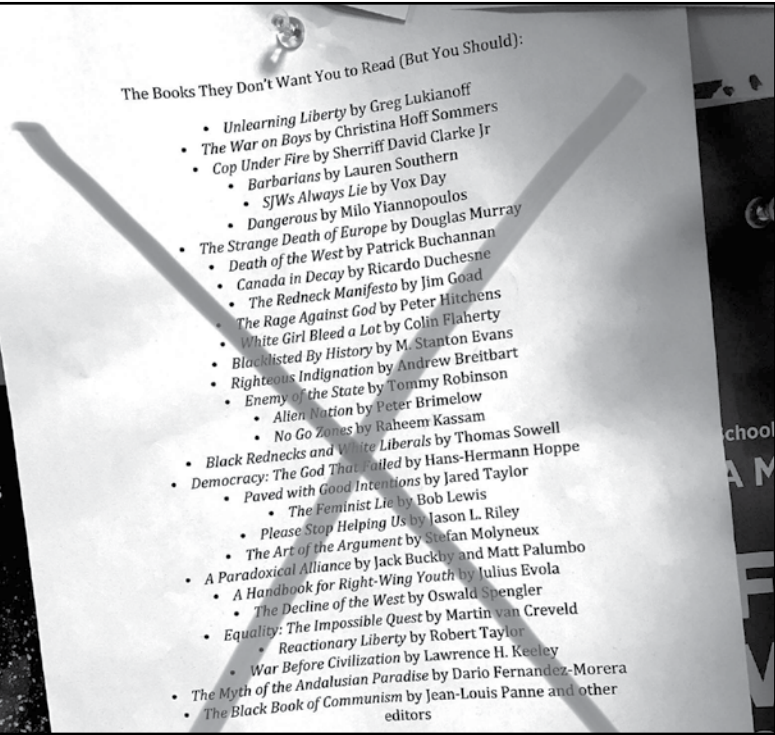
Original photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons. Photo illustration by Amber McLinden

I was the day after it happened to me.

Imagine, when you say in casual conversation, "I don't think Aziz did anything wrong," who is listening. Is it another Grace? Another me? You know us. You're friends with us. You see us every day, in your lives. Think about us next time you consider saying something, and spend time educating yourself about the topic. It's not just an opinion, it's somebody's real experience.

## "The books they don't want you to read (but you should)" response

**Sabrina Harmata**  
Staff Writer



No, we don't like these books. Here are some better ones to check out. Photo by Amber McLinden

If you spend as much time on campus as I do, chances are you notice a ton of posters on the various bulletin boards.

Among these posters is a list of books titled "The Books They Don't Want You to Read (But You Should)," which aims to "warn" people of the potential "dangers"

of being politically correct, and to encourage having no limitations to free speech. Instead of wasting your valuable time with this list, maybe educate yourself about real social problems by reading these books in their place:

***Shrill* by Lindy West**

*Shrill* explores the very real

daily harassment overweight people, especially women, face in present day society. Written in an autobiographical style, the book follows West's regular barrage of insults and unwanted "advice" that occur simply because she does not conform to societal standards of what a woman's body "should" look like. As a result of this non-conformity, strangers feel entitled to make comments about her body, even going as far as to encourage suicide. Balancing comedy and harsh reality, West exposes the dangers of reducing an individual to their body size, and raises awareness about the need for a change.

### ***We Were Feminists Once* by Andi Zeisler**

In her book, Andi Zeisler, co-founder of *Bitch Media*, expresses her thoughts on modern day feminism, saying it's been watered down by becoming a media trend. Zeisler brings to light the real issue with contemporary feminism: we haven't achieved very much, the problem has been depoliticized and the goal has shifted from one of community improvement

to one of fighting for individual expression. Women are still consistently paid less than men, we face daily harassment and our rights to birth control and abortions are constantly being questioned by people who really shouldn't have a say in what we do with our own bodies. Yet, feminism now has become about defending a woman's right to wear a crop top. Don't get me wrong. Women can wear whatever we want, but we should still be fighting for true equality until we get it. Otherwise, we'll always be stuck here. Annual women's marches aren't enough. To precipitate change, we need to keep actively fighting for it.

### ***Post-Traumatically Stressed Feminist* edited by Darci McFarland**

*Post-Traumatically Stressed Feminist* is a collection of essays, stories, poems and art all aimed at empowering survivors of trauma. These works ensure the writers as well as the readers know that they are not alone in dealing with PTSD. By bringing awareness to the situation, these

authors strive to destigmatize PTSD and reduce stereotypes around those who live with it. In reading this book not only will you educate yourself in the realities of PTSD but you'll open the door to other literature that intends to destigmatize other mental health disorders.

### ***Redefining Realness* by Janet Mock**

Janet Mock's book reveals the everyday struggles of living as a black, Hawaiian, trans woman in America. Mock unapologetically examines the truth about and the importance of finding and expressing your true identity, even if it's one other people don't agree with. Throughout her book, Mock explores personal experiences and relates them to the systematic oppression of trans women and trans people in general. *Redefining Realness* exposes the need for more awareness and societal change around the way we view gender, especially in this day and age when some states still ban trans people from using the bathroom that corresponds to their gender identity.

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# arts

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## The nominations for the 90th Academy Awards

*Snubs and surprises for the biggest award show on earth*

**Colin Macgillivray**

Arts Editor

Oh, Oscars season. One of the few times of the year where film-hermits and solitary cinema-snobs will grace internet forums and comment sections with their faultless opinions. It's the only time of the year where people seem to care about the world of film. But, when you're a self-proclaimed movie theatre maniac like myself, you've seen all the best and worst films of the year, from *Baby Driver* to *Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle*. But wait! What if you're out of the loop and want to impress your friends and/or future lovers with your knowledge of movies and you have no idea where to start? Well, strap in for a wild read, because here are the biggest snubs and surprises from the 90th Academy Awards nomination list.

### Surprise: Four nominations for *Get Out*

What a pleasant surprise this was. Jordan Peele's mysterious horror masterclass was a long shot to be nominated at the Academy Awards. It's a horror, unconventional and its February 2017 release date would be typically seen as death sentence for any film looking to pick up some major awards. Luckily, arguably the most underrated film of 2017 was able to pick up four nominations, including Best Picture. Peele was recognized for his direction and Daniel Kaluuya was able to pick up a Best Actor nod for his chilling performance. *Get Out* is definitely this year's dark horse, so don't be surprised if it manages to pull off an upset in one of the major categories. Here's a fun little fact. The last film to be nominated for Best Picture that had a February release date was *The Silence of the Lambs*. It went on to win five Oscars.

### Snub: The supporting actors of *Call Me By Your Name*

Harrelson is a great actor. He's already been nominated for two Academy Awards. Michael Stuhlbarg, the criminally underrated acting powerhouse has zero nominations to his name. Armie Hammer, who has proved to be incredibly capable in the last few years also has zero. You know what could have been fun? Swapping out Harrelson for either Stuhlbarg or Hammer! Even though it probably wouldn't make a massive difference in the end, it would be refreshing to acknowledge one of the two incredible performers for their outstanding work. It would even add a little bit more intrigue to the event.

### Surprise: Sam Rockwell and Woody Harrelson both nominated

This one has rubbed a lot of people the wrong way. There's no doubt in my mind that Sam Rockwell deserved the nomination. Heck, he'll probably take home the Oscar this year as he was absolutely brilliant in *Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri*. But, nominating Woody Harrelson, who's performance in the aforementioned *Three Billboards* was excellent, is a mistake. As great as both actors were, Rockwell was definitely a far more commanding presence throughout the film and would take home the Oscar over his counterpart every day of the week. This begins a beautiful segue into the next point.

### No surprise: James Franco

This one isn't too surprising, but it's worth mentioning. Franco was poised to pick up his second Oscar nomination for his performance as Tommy Wiseau in *The Disaster Artist*. He won a Golden Globe for the performance and was even nominated for a Screen Actors Guild award. But, sexual misconduct allegations that arose in the middle of Oscar voting definitely hurt the actor's chances. With members of the Academy taking a stand towards the actor's rumoured misconduct, perhaps the days of Hollywood sleazebags clutching gold are behind us. Plus, the Best Actor category is absolutely stacked this year, so Franco not getting nominated isn't even that shocking.

### Surprise: *The Boss Baby* is an Oscar nominated film

This is a travesty. I understand that, yes, you have to fill certain categories, but this despicable film has no business being anywhere near *Coco*, which is one of the best animated films in history.

### The biggest surprise of all: The academy got things right

Yes, there are definitely some more snubs that could have been added to this list, but those are mostly personal preference issues more than anything. Film freaks everywhere have to be incredibly happy about the nominations, because for the first time in a long time, the Academy acknowledged some of the new blood in Hollywood and nailed their nominations.



The Boss Baby was nominated for an Academy Award and the film community is largely ignoring the abhorring film. Never underestimate The Boss Baby. Photo courtesy of junkee.com



Fans of Jordan Peele's masterful *Get Out* weren't crying when the film was nominated for four Academy Awards, including a Best Picture nod. Photo courtesy of NPR.org



Franco's *The Disaster Artist* was poised to be nominated for countless Academy Awards, yet was generally snubbed amidst sexual misconduct allegations against the actor. Photo courtesy of CBSNews.com

## OUT'N ABOUT

### WowFest Magic Arts Festival:

From Feb. 2 to Feb. 4, magicians will be taking Calgary's Orpheus theatre by storm for an action pack weekend filled with illusions, comedy, juggling and of course, magic tricks.

### Eugene Onegin:

The Jubilee Auditorium will be home to the Russian opera Eugene Onegin from Feb. 3 to Feb. 9. Full of intrigue, mystery and romance, the opera would make the perfect pre-Valentines date.

### Skijordue:

What do you get when you combine horses, skiing and barrels and barrels of melted cheese? Skijordue! The horse-ski hybrid sport will be galloping into the Calgary Polo Ranch Club on Feb. 3.

### Art of Romance/ Art of Soul:

Love romance? Love jazz even more? Celebrate Valentine's day early with the Calgary Jazz Orchestra, who will be playing a romantic setlist of soulful jazz tunes of Feb. 11.



# Breaking out of the cold with Calgary's coolest

## Big wins for Big Winter Classic

**Kennedy Enns**

Publishing Editor



Duchess Says headlined the final day of the festival playing the Gerry Thomas Gallery. Photo by Liam Prost

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Another festival has come and gone in Calgary and Big Winter Classic offers a much needed break from the doom and gloom of January. Nothing helps beat the winter blues than being able to happily stand underneath heat lamps on an outside stage and listen to some great bands.

While you may have missed out on some of the great performances from the festival, we'll make sure you know who to catch next time they come through. Luckily for you, some of these great local bands you can catch year round.

Festival highlights included Sunday's final performance from Montreal experimental-punk group Duchess Says. Festival director Adrian Urlacher promised a "live and interactive show that will leave people on the floor" and Duchess Says delivered, literally. The night ended with the crowd sitting on the ground underneath a huge blue tarp, similar to a situation you would find in most elementary school gym classes. Urlacher called it a "perfect, experiential performance."

The last time Duchess Says came through Calgary they played Broken City during Sled Island and had the entire crowd sit on the floor as the lead singer painted on faces. While their methods were different this time, their set was filled with energetic mosh pits, crowd-surfing on a small child-sized bobsled and a large sasquatch costume. Even if you don't understand French, Duchess Says' live performance is not to be missed the next time they come to town.

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Canadian queer rock band Partner was another festival favourite. Their high energy live show had the audience dancing throughout their whole set, including getting the crowd to belt out the lyrics to Melissa Etheridge's hit song "I'm The Only One." They also played one of the few encores of the festival which was an original Christmas song, because as they confessed, they didn't practice anything else. Between the broken drumsticks, hopping off stage to join the crowd in a mosh pit and getting the audience to chant "chips!" Partner brought enthusiasm as well as a classic rock sense of fun to their set.

Oakland native Jay Som played a heartwarming set to the filled Gerry Thomas gallery. Playing the hits from all three of their indie bedroom pop albums, there was nothing sweeter than hearing a room full of fans chant back, "but I like the bus!" to lead singer Melina Duterte while playing "Bus Song" of their latest album *Everybody Works*.

Mount Royal University students also had the opportunity to play the festival including first-year journalism student, Jackie Klapak, in her band Mademoiselle.

Klapak says, "I love this festival because it feels like a 'palgary' festival. It's not as big or long as other festivals in Calgary which makes it feel really intimate. I love being able to support those that support me year round while also getting to rock out with larger acts that I obsess over from afar. I'm super nervous to be playing this because we're still a fresh band and figuring out what we're doing, but I'm also excited to showcase what we've got for this supportive and broad audience!"

Another MRU student who played the festival is third-year journalism student, Nathan Kunz, a member of the band The Night Terrors.

"BIG feels like a truly local Calgary festival. The energy at a place like Broken City when two bands are playing on two levels is so electrifying."

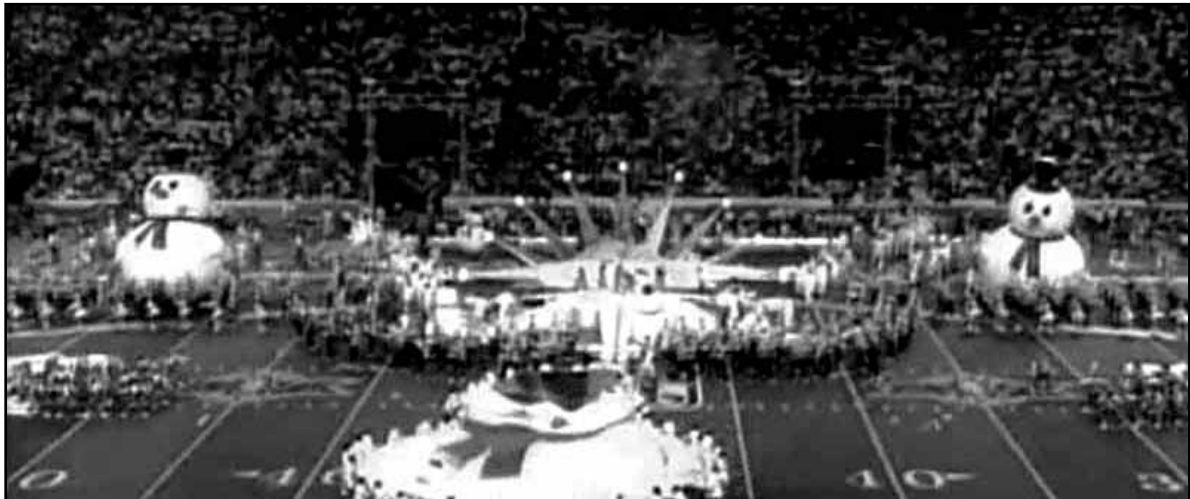
Even though Big Winter Classic has wrapped up, start looking forward to Sled Island! The first wave line-up will be announced by the end of February!



# The art of the halftime show

## How sport's greatest show came to be

Colin Macgillivray  
Arts Editor



Before the Superbowl Half-Time show became a must watch event, ridiculous shows such as 1992's dizzying display of all things winter slowly put the show on the map. Photo courtesy of KSTP.com

The Super Bowl is a lot like the holidays. It brings people together. Usually, there is an exorbitant amount of unhealthy, delicious food. Yes, there is needless fighting too, with family and friends turning against each other for the most ridiculous of reasons. But, just like how presents under a glowing Christmas tree will bring even the naughtiest of naysayers together, the Super Bowl halftime show somehow manages to connect hardcore sports fans with the most casual touchdown enthusiasts.

Yet, you must be asking yourself, when did the Super Bowl halftime show become must watch television? When did it become a grandiose display of artistic inventiveness? How did the pageantry and silliness of Lady Gaga jumping off of a incredibly tall staircase and catching a bedazzled football overshadow Tom Brady's legendary Super Bowl comeback?

It's because performance and pageantry can bring people together much more than big, beefy men throwing the pigskin around can.

Funnily enough, the glorious Super Bowl halftime show that we know and love today would be

ridiculed just 50 years ago, when the Super Bowl began to take off. With the early events being dedicated to sport and sport alone, the first few halftime shows being populated by local marching bands and drill teams. Not knocking marching bands down, but they're no Beyoncé in terms of sheer spectacle.

Themes also seemed to dominate the early years of the halftime show. Ranging from the relatively straightforward tribute to Duke Ellington at Superbowl IX, which was surprisingly, a tribute to legendary jazz musician Duke Ellington, to the outright confusing theme of Superbowl XVII which happened to be called *KaleidoSUPERScope*, whatever that means.

But, in 1992, everything changed. The halftime show, which had a haphazardly thrown together group of performers, was one of the worst ever. There were giant snowmen, a gluttonous amount of fake snow and members of the 1980 U.S. Olympic hockey team. It was weird. This disastrous show, coupled with the fact that the Fox Network aired a special-live edition of the hit show *In Living Color*, proved to be the catalyst

that turned Superbowl halftime shows into the must see events that they are.

But how did a terrible event that had low ratings change the Super Bowl halftime show? Well, after the laughable event, Rick Lewis, a forgettable employee from Select Productions, the production company that was in charge of the halftime show, pitched the brilliant idea of showcasing top-tier performers in concert-like performances. Little did Lewis know, his idea revolutionized modern marketing, sporting events and collaborative performance.

The 1993 Superbowl is known as one of the most watched events in American television history. The game itself was a blowout, as the Dallas Cowboys thrashed the Buffalo Bills 52-17 in a forgettable game. The reason why the Superbowl is the biggest event in the sporting world today is not just because of football fans around the world. It's because Michael Jackson performed at the 1993 Superbowl halftime show and united the worlds of sport and arts.

So, next time you're wondering why the Superbowl is such a big deal, it's not because of Tom Brady, it's because of Michael Jackson.



Although Tom Brady's legendary comeback was a hoot and a holler, Lady Gaga's performance became one of the biggest talking points following Superbowl 51. Photo courtesy of cnn.com

what people  
call low self-  
esteem...  
*awakebutstillinbed*  
self-released  
Score: B+



Perhaps the most niche genre still commanding a place at the table, latter-era emo (see: emo revival) is not only alive but thriving thanks to groups like *awakebutstillinbed*.

Their latest is a testament to the idea of going against the grain. Where many bands in the genre have made the switch to more indie or post-rock influenced works,

*awakebutstillinbed* have instead cranked up the extremities.

Fronted by Shannon Taylor, who flips from nascent sing-song melodies to emblazoned screaming on a dime, the San Jose band burns through nine tracks with fiery aplomb.

In short, emo ain't dead — it's awake, but still in bed.

-Alec Warkentin



Ephorize  
*CupcakKe*  
self-released  
Score: A

The world would be satisfied if CupcakKe only released bops like "Duck Duck Goose," a song (and music video) that took the world by storm. "Tap the head of the dick, duck, duck, goose" she sings, as she bounces her hand off the top of a dildo. Maybe CupcakKe is exactly what we need in 2018, with the same sexually unhinged lyrics that early female rappers pioneered before her, but are still taboo today. Her lyrics fall under a range of topics, though,

evening touching on things like self-help on tracks such as "2 Minutes." CupcakKe shows her multidimensional self to the world on *Ephorize*, both in her lyrics and her music, which extends from track to track. What might work against other artists seems to work exactly right for CupcakKe, leaving her ample room to surprise us, within means, with whatever she comes up with next.

-Amber Mclinden

Snares Like a  
Haircut  
*No Age*  
self-released  
Score: A

NO AGE	
SNARES LIKE A HAIRCUT	
1	
Cruise Control	3:32
Struck In The Changer	3:14
Drippy	2:39
Send Me	3:35
Snares Like A Haircut	3:45
Tidal	3:31
2	
Soft Collar Fud	2:26
Popper	2:44
Secret Swamp	2:46
Third Grade Rave	2:49
Squashed	4:20
Primitive Plus	3:38

Packed with lingering reverb and steady drum strikes, noise rock duo No Age's latest record, *Snares Like a Haircut*, combines rawness with bright tones to fantastic effect.

On their fifth full length effort, the LA based two-piece combine high intensity attacks with atmospheric instrumentals and slow driven tracks seamlessly. "Soft Collar Tide" rings and punches on top sloshing high hat strikes and snapping snares, while the title track, "Snares

like a Haircut" thumps in an instrumental soundscape that dips and dives across its three minute runtime. As the album closes, the duo shift again on "Primitive Plus," combining a sparse intro with an explosion of shaking and blaring instrumentals that bring the LP to a close.

Through a collection that finds place for calm and chaos, No Age create a consistently intriguing listen on *Snares Like a Haircut*.

-Nathan Kunz



# sports

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## Untimely heartbreaks at 2018 Crowchild Classic

*Two rough results for the Cougars may shape playoffs*

Dan Khavkin

Sports Editor



**Cougar's defenceman Kord Pankewicz battles against University of Calgary Dino forward Matt Alfaro for control over the puck during the Crowchild Classic at the Scotiabank Saddledome on Jan. 25. Photo by Lexi Wright**

The sixth annual Crowchild Classic took place on Jan. 25 at the Scotiabank Saddledome, where both the Cougar hockey teams suffered tough defeats at the hands of crosstown rivals, the University of Calgary Dinos.

The women's team dropped a defensive 1-0 game while the men, experiencing déjà vu, dropped a double-overtime loss for the third straight year with a 6-5 game in this year's edition.

Heading into the day, the women's Cougar hockey team were coming off getting swept at the hands of top-ranked Manitoba Bisons, having their historic five-game win streak and hot start to 2018 be snapped with defeats of 1-0 and 2-0.

MRU looking to bounce back, squared off against the Dinos in front of 2,500 in attendance for the first game at the 'Dome in the early afternoon. The Cougars suffered a rough loss.

Shots were 27-12 in favour of the Cougars but not one got past red-hot Dino goaltender Kelsey Roberts who picked up her sixth shutout of the season, making key

highlight reel saves all game long.

The Cougars dominated play but just didn't have the puck bounce their way.

"We stuck with our forecheck, we had shots on net but with not as much traffic needed to beat a goalie like that," fifth-year Rachel Pitz commented after the game.

Calgary's only marker came around the halfway point of the second period where they stuck to their theme of tossing low pucks on the net where one of 12 shots got past Cougar goalie Zoe De Beauville, who got fooled by a deflected point shot.

The rest of the game played out to be a chess match where the Dinos held on for the win and a big three points.

MRU was only a point ahead of Calgary in the Canada West standings heading into the rematch and to their fortune, returned the favour with their own 1-0 win the following night and had the trailing Regina Cougars get swept by Manitoba.

The women's Cougar squad have a tough schedule to end the year on. Travelling to B.C. and

playing the third ranked, the UBC Thunderbirds. Then, travelling to the prairies and visiting Saskatchewan, who have double the wins MRU has.

The men had a huge task ahead of them, being pit against a hungry inner-city rival looking to make the playoffs after forfeiting six games, breaking Canada West policy of playing with an eligible player.

The boys in blue clawed back after being down 2-0 early in the first period and scored three goals in a row.

Calgary then scored two of their own in a row and forced MRU to comeback and then take the lead with only 2:06 left, before the Dinos tied the game at 5-5 27 seconds later.

After Cougar keeper Cam Lanigan stopped three dangerous chances in the first overtime out of 23 total, the game went into double-overtime for the third straight year. The Cougars were edged 29 seconds into the 3 v.s 3 session to cap off an insane night in front of 10,478 fans in the 'Dome.

Cougar captain Jamie King played his heart out that night,

scoring two goals in his final Classic while also coming back from a wrist injury that sidelined him since the opening weekend of 2018.

"It was bittersweet, I told the guys I was sad this is the last time I can experience this with them but at the same time it was exciting. I was glad I got the chance to experience this one last time," he says.

"It was cool, the ups and down of the game is pretty crazy, when we scored the last goal the emotions were running high running on adrenaline there, it plays a big role and everything becomes that much more important when the school and the team is rallying around you," King commented on the effect the crowd had on the players.

Seven rookies played in the Classic for the first time. Hunter Zandee stood out from the pack collecting three points with a goal.

"It was a group collection to prepare for this... there's nothing you can really say to show how cool it is to experience a stadium full of

students screaming their heads off, they handled it well though and I was proud of them," says King.

MRU looked for revenge the next night but to their dismay, were swept by the Dinos dropping a 4-2 game away from home.

"Pissed off," King says about the team's attitude heading into the rematch.

"We don't want to get swept by our crosstown rivals but its not the fact its U of C, every game is huge for us because we want to get to third place and the only way to do that is to win."

Also to the Cougars' dismay, UBC swept second-placed Saskatchewan and clinched a playoff berth to create more distance between them and MRU for third place in the Canada West conference.

UBC and MRU are set to play two games in Calgary this weekend where the Cougars will look to clip a high-flying Thunderbirds squad who are on a six-game win streak. In the previous meeting of these two schools, the Cougars swept the 'Birds earlier this year.



**Josh Bly, a forward on the Cougar's men's hockey team, faces off against University of Calgary Dino Matt Alfaro during the Crowchild Classic at the Scotiabank Saddledome on Jan. 25. Photo by Lexi Wright**

# #S

**0** saves made by Anaheim Ducks goaltender Ryan Miller on Jan. 26. First time a goalie made no saves and win since Dec. 8, 2015.

**13** straight 30+ goal season for Russian superstar Alex Ovechkin, the third player to do so in first 13 years of his career.

**21** player in NBA history with 25,000 career points and Carmelo Anthony is the latest one to do it.

**24.650** time it took Calgary Flames superstar Johnny Gaudreau to complete the puck control relay at the 2017 NHL all-star skills comp.



# What’s going on in the UFC’s lightweight division?

## Also, what has Conor McGregor been up to?

**Hayden Koch**  
Contributor

All is not well in the lightweight division of the UFC. The bluster and bravado of the current (or former?) champion Conor McGregor isn’t going to prevent him from losing the title at UFC 223 in April.

Due in no small part to his mega-fight with Floyd Mayweather Jr. this past summer, McGregor has not stepped foot in the octagon since his second-round knockout victory over former champ Eddie Alvarez in Nov. 2016.

That victory made him the first simultaneous two-division champion in UFC history, as he at the time also possessed the featherweight title. In addition to making him even more popular, this victory seemed to push McGregor’s already inhuman level of confidence past a new level, emboldening him to take a fight with an infamously untouchable boxer.

Naturally he lost badly, but the absurdly huge paycheck made it well worth the time and effort he had to divert away from the UFC. However, the cogs in the

especially competitive lightweight division don’t stop moving for any one man.

In McGregor’s absence, two particularly menacing fighters have risen to prominence and both have been nipping at the Irishman’s heels for some time. Either interim champ Tony Ferguson (23-3-0) or Khabib Nurmagomedov (25-0-0) will be the new lightweight king by the end of UFC 223, which indeed is slated to be for the undisputed championship.

Ferguson, winner of *The Ultimate Fighter* season 13, is on a 10 win hot streak. The most recent of which was a triangle choke submission of Kevin Lee (16-4-0). This saw Ferguson winning the freshly minted interim lightweight title, which was seemingly created only to keep the contenders motivated as Conor lazily sat on the real title.

Of all the people who have found McGregor’s stalling to be frustrating, Ferguson is easily the most negatively affected. His utter dominance and frequent

activity would make him an obvious pick for a title shot in any realm of combat sports, yet he still only has the frustrating interim belt around his waist. He’s technically a champion, but no casual observer will see it that way.

Then comes Nurmagomedov, a fighter hailing from Dagestan, Russia. His 25-0-0 record is almost unheard of in the realm of mixed martial arts, yet for the most part he has held a low profile in the public consciousness.

This is due in most part to a series of injuries that have kept him out of the octagon. He has fought only four times since the beginning of 2014. Him and Ferguson have in fact been scheduled to fight on three separate occasions, two of which were cancelled due to Nurmagomedov sustaining an injury and then complications from cutting weight.

However, Khabib “The Eagle” seems to be firmly back in the game at the moment, giving Edson Barboza (19-5-0) a comically one-sided mauling to

win a unanimous decision victory last month at UFC 219.

His dominant performance spurred the scheduling of UFC 223, which if all goes well, will be the long awaited Nurmagomedov vs. Ferguson for the undisputed lightweight championship.

McGregor’s activity since his boxing loss to Mayweather Jr. in August has mostly comprised of endless gloating of his riches and insisting on social media that he’s still the best fighter in the world.

There was even some legitimate talk of another boxing match with veteran Manny Pacquiao, which surely would have been another lucrative event, but UFC president Dana White quickly made it clear that he wasn’t going to let that happen without a lawsuit or two.

McGregor and his team have occasionally gone on the record to say that he does intend to return to the UFC this year, but all indications seem to show that this wouldn’t be until at least late 2018, which makes the title fight in April look very awkward.

McGregor hasn’t been

officially stripped of his title yet, but obviously two undisputed champions cannot exist.

His rationale is clear; what’s the hurry to go back to a physically taxing sport when he has more than \$100 million in the bank from the Mayweather fight?

But the dominance of the two aforementioned fighters simply became too apparent to ignore during the second half of 2017.

The ability to retire young, wealthy and relatively undamaged is the kind of scenario that fighters rarely are blessed with. If McGregor wanted to do that it would be perfectly respectable and you could even go as far to say it’s the better move for him if he wants to keep his legacy relatively unblemished.

As it stands, however, he is set to lose his title to one of two incredibly dangerous challengers and should he decide to try to reclaim it later in 2018, he will undoubtedly be facing the biggest challenge of his career.

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# Cougars women's volleyball team's playoff push

*Season is coming down to the wire*

**Sajan Jabbal**

Staff Writer

Head coach of the Mount Royal women's volleyball team, Sandra Lamb and the rest of the team have had an average start to the season, but they're looking to bounce back and make a strong push for the playoffs.

Lamb has a long volleyball history and has been coaching MRU's volleyball team for over 20 years. She explains that coaching

this year is no different from any other.

"We're in such a competitive league, that every day and every weekend is such a challenge," says Lamb. "Getting these players to buy in and commit, that's an every year thing and that's what I love about these teams, they're willing to do that."

Keeping the girls focused is

important and with the season winding down along with the school year in full effect, it gets harder and harder every day.

"Keeping them focused is the task at hand, so at practice and in games, we're not putting any extra pressure on trying to make the playoffs, we just have to go in and battle and practice every day to get better and learn more."

As the season draws to an end, with only six more games remaining, Lamb understands the importance of every game, especially the next two, where they will play Manitoba in both games, who they are tied with in points, just one spot short of the playoffs.

"Everybody knows it's important," says Lamb.

"Everybody wants to make the playoffs, but we're not putting any more pressure on ourselves because of these games, we just want to make sure we execute the way that we can."

When it comes to the playoffs, one loss can end your season, but Lamb believes that she has the team to really excel come playoff season.

"We've had some really good matches," Lamb explains. "We're kind of that scary team, we've proven that we can beat some of the best teams in the league but we've also proven that we can be very inconsistent at times, so if we can just get into the playoffs

anything can happen."

If the Cougars make the playoffs, they will likely be matched up against the best team in the league, UBC. They sit in first place and have a record of 14 wins and just two losses, two points ahead of the second place team.

This team knows it going to be hard, but Lamb believes she has the team that can matchup against their best players.

"They're an older team, and they got probably the rookie of the year in their lineup," says Lamb. "Kiera Van Ryk is the one we need to contain; she's got a big left side and she gets a lot of points for them. We also have Alex Donaghy on our right side, so those two battling each other is always fun to see. I believe we can compete with them."

Before they look to the playoffs, the Cougars first need to win these next two important games and maintain a good record on the last four.



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(Top) Middle Carley Davies setting up to spike the ball against a marquee opponent in the UBC T-Birds. (Bottom) Outside-hitter Chantel Park in action against the UBC Thunderbirds at Kenyon Courts on the weekend of Dec. 2-3. Photos courtesy of Adrian Shellard