In late March of 2015, as AnnaClaire Chin explained to her English 105 class, she had just returned to campus after spending the semester abroad in South Korea as a recipient of a Fulbright Scholarship. 

The grant typically goes to students who have recently graduated, graduate students or established young professionals, making Beers’ acceptance as an undergraduate student even more notable. 

Fulbright U.S. Student Program, the grant she was awarded in a bill by Senator J. William Fulbright and later signed into law by President Harry S. Truman in 1946 with the intent to use excess war money to "fund the promotion of international good will through the exchange of students in the fields of education, culture, and science.’’ 

Since its establishment, the program has grown to become one of the largest U.S. exchange programs under which more than 100,000 students have been selected to exchange ideas with their peers around the world. This year, recipients are funded for individually designed study/tour packages through English Teaching Assistant Programs or International Good Will Scholarships among many other opportunities. 

"The Next Big Thing: The acts of grief" - students enrolled in the Actively Moving Forward (AMF) Support System course at John Brown have found a way to help heal those who have lost loved ones.

Beers explained that every person grieves differently and the difficulty of grief is different for everyone, "we each grieved differently, there is still a progression in the healing steps in grief, and for most of my life, I didn’t have an inkling and don’t always know how to deal with it."

"We each carry different loads. I don’t know why some people’s loads are heavier than others,” Beers said.

Beers explained how every person grieves differently and the difficulty in knowing how to support peers and friends through different types of loss.

"I contend that each of our personalities play a role in it, no one circumstances of how much time I can spend? Am I irrational or external thinker? What kind of support system do you have? Do they know about the grief that you face?"

"All of these factors allow one to perceive grief,“ Beers said.

"A process and a direction and different people need different support. Even though every person grieves differently, there is still a progression in the healing steps in grief, and for most of my life, I didn’t have an inkling and don’t always know how to deal with it."

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Kenya University shooting hits home

A day long siege at Garissa University in Kenya resulted in the massacre of 147 and more than 79 injured, reported CNN. This is the highest death toll in Kenya since the 1998 al Qaeda bombing on the U.S. Embassy in Nairobi; many are saying the issue lies in security not being tight enough.

Junior Jonathan MacLachlan lived in Kenya and attended school at Rift Valley Academy in Kijabe, Kenya for three years. “A bunch of Christians were persecuted if they didn’t state the Islamic belief of faith,” MacLachlan said. “Going to school in that is a thing that strikes home, especially because terrorists organization, Al-Shabaab, that carried out this attack occasionally declares any threat to our school. Being at an American school actually makes us a bigger target,” MacLachlan said.

MacLachlan lived in Lithuania and China. She has also been proactive in her work with JBU ministry in the country. However, MacLachlan said, “I remember shopping in Siloam, even Siloam Springs, it’s sometimes where that day a little bit.” MacLachlan said.

“Of the two relatively short essays have to be as close to perfect as possible. Sarah was very patient through this process.” Once her essays were perfected, Hubbard was then referred by the University, reviewed by the U.S. Fulbright Commission and finally recommended by the U.S. to the University of choice, The Turkish Fulbright Commission. Final determination the day. Close friend said Senior Kelsey Rea has walked closely with Hubbard during her application process and has seen nothing but passion and dedication create from Hubbard during each step of the way.

“I think I will be more nervous as it gets closer and I begin to get more details, but right now, I am very excited.”

“I am very excited at the beginning, and I begin to get more nervous as it gets closer.”

Sarah Hubbard is set to teach at a University in Turkey starting in late September for nine months. She expects to have a 40 hour work week. 40 hours used for prep and extension work.

“In short, she was a strong candidate before she began the application process.”

faculty members, including Professor Grace Davis-Elkins and Warren Rea, said. “Sarah is a go-getter. She’s been doing conference presentations since she was a freshman, and also sought out personal experience teaching English as a second language in both Lithuania and China. She has also been proactive in her work with BIBLICAL ADVOCATE. She was student teaching when she received the news that she had officially chosen for the grant. “I was absolutely thrilled and got to be with a best friend, that I care for so much, that is so pure, and I’m so incredibly proud of her.” In the last September, Hubbard will embark on a nine month journey teaching at a University in Turkey through the grant. Though she does not know full details, at this point, she expects to have a 40 hour work week with 20 hours devoted to teaching at a university and 20 hours used for prep and extension work.

“I am very excited at this point,” said Hubbard. “I think I will be more nervous as it gets closer and I begin to get more details, but right now, I am very excited.”

“During the aftermath of the attack, Garissa University students take comfort in one another during their application process.”

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Seniors commemorate final year through worship

LAUREN DROGO
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The John Brown University educational planning program strives to help students develop the necessary skills for their desired field through interactive classes and showcases during their final semesters. For those emphasizing in worship arts, their final project is a senior worship arts presentation that will be their chance to share with the student body who they are as an artist and all that they have learned during their time at JBU.

Each senior goes through a hearing where they discover whether they have been preparing for the presentation properly, a meeting with their advisor to decide on a theme for the presentation and start rehearsing in order to execute their planning perfectly. Josiah Mason, a senior worship arts major, gave his worship presentation in March of this year. His theme is focused on a few of his passions.

“I am really passionate about the LGBTQ community and especially LGBTQ Christians who have been pushed out of the church,” Mason said. “I also share a passion for the unapologetic and sexually abused — a passion that both my wife and I hold actually.”

His presentation was based on the theme he took from the Sermon on the Mount.

“I decided to focus on the scriptures centered on attitudes and, how they are the best way for people to reach out to marginalized people groups,” Mason said. Mason would love to pursue a worship leadership position in a big, metropolitan city alongside of his wife after graduation.

Allan Eldridge, a senior worship arts major, is choosing to focus her presentation on the journey that we go through from lamentation to praise. “This is something that I wanted to do because I was struggling with it,” said Eldridge. “I want to reach a large number of people who are struggling.”

“I decided to broaden my original idea of just focusing on my own issues to one that others can relate to,” said Eldridge. “This is about lamenting over someone else’s pain.”

Eldridge came to love music recently and plans to pursue a career in music, whether that is through a worship leadership position or in music production. “I played a lot and noticed that Christians sometimes forget that God is with us every single day, and I wanted to remind them that He is always there,” said Jo.

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The end of another school year is approaching, and that means that it is once again time to find out who will be Mr. and Ms. JBU. The nominees have been nominated and the voting will end as of April 14th. If you would like to participate and vote, you cannot do so until next year; of course, you need to be a “senior graduating in May” in order to be eligible for nomination, said SGA member Carlos Lopez.

The nominees for Mr. JBU included: Karl Anderson, Ashleigh Spurgeon, Patten Conroy, Peter Sprangled and Nick Edmond.

For Ms. JBU, the candidates were: Cori Hunt, Krista Musumeci, Olivia Bollens, Keairstn Hobbs, and Anna Frank. All of the nominees are seniors and will be graduating in May. Some, like Anderson, felt excited about the future ahead, worried about the work yet to be done, “[…] but confident that in all, God is faithful and in control.”

Although there will be only one winner from both Mr. and Ms. JBU, a sportsmanship honor will be displayed by the SGA.

Krista Musumeci, also a senior government major, said she would love to see her roommate Cori Hunt win because of her abundance in “innovation.”

The winners will be announced on April 25 at the Junior and Senior Banquet in the Arkansas Air and Military Museum. Everyone is invited unless you are a sophomore or freshman.

Several of the nominees will be there, including Cori Hunt, vs. “I did not campaign for the office, but I’m honored to have been nominated.”

“Johann’s theme is focused on a few of his passions.”

Mason’s theme is focused on a few of his passions.
LEAH GUY

CONTRIBUTOR

I used to go to a little Christian school. Now I go to a bigger Christian school.

But more about me has changed than just that. I think differently about alcohol, and my sister and cherishing on your nails than I did when I was 8. I have different opinions on John Piper and the Methodist church and the education system than I did when I was 11. My respect for others and for ability and the same thing. I haven’t done much about it.

In a thousand and one ways, we belong in the church. I was born, raised, and here’s it in this way, we have a base and a rest for our souls. And the things these people are saying are about me, and they are like an enemy minefield at times. I feel like an outsider in church. Sometimes I hear people talk about others who believe hell is not a place and who think the death penalty is infallible. And the things these people are saying are about me, and they make me feel like a stranger. An unwelcome stranger. An enemy, even.

When we treat our own family members, why do we ever expect strangers to join us? We all have our own little enemy minefield of bits and this way, we have a base for our souls. And the things these people are saying are about me, and they make me feel like a stranger. An unwelcome stranger. An enemy, even.

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Book review: “Trust Our American Dream”

This sounds obvious, but it’s something we all need to remember when we forget the actual power of our group project partner, our networking contacts, and the number of things that can be gained from your leader. JBU is small, and The Daily Clarion is a group of people who are constantly keeping people—who you love and cherish—from living out their life, so generosity in all things is a must.

“Senior gives advice to young student”

The little girl, Jenny Wren, asks, “Is it better to have a good thing and lose it, or to never have had it at all?” Old Riah responds, “Some babies are saddest when they lose everything, but I think that’s all this life is—saddest when they lose everything, but I think that’s all this life is—saddest when they lose everything, but I think that’s all this life is—saddest when they lose everything, but I think that’s all this life is—saddest when they lose everything, but I think that’s all this life is.”
Alfonso Mendez came to Walton University in 1986 as a member of the Walton Program’s first class of students. As a successful Walton alumus, he now provides encouragement for graduating seniors.

“’You’ll be fine as long as you have God in front of you’,” senior Ethel Elias recalled Mendez telling Walton students at a meeting in October. Mendez’s success was not instant. Once Mendez graduated from JBU in 1988, he returned to his homeland in Costa Rica and started working as an assistant coffee company employee. “I started with the only job I could find at that time,” he recalled. Jobs were hard to find, and when Mendez graduated, because of the coffee crisis, Interam Coffee had never heard about either the Walton program or John Brown University. It was hard to go back and tell his friends that he had started in Walton at that time.

Five years after being hired with an assistant position, Mendez became the general manager of the company.

“I’ve worked with coffee ever since,” Mendez said. In 1995 Mendez started Internam Coffee. Mendez said that he saw that clients needed an expert to tell them how to get the coffee they wanted. “We provide them with flavor profiles of coffee, and they just pick whatever is in their opinion is best,” explained Mendez. Internam Coffee now provides all the coffee for the Walmart brand, Sam’s Choice. “It’s actually coffee from Costa Rica and Sumatra but I sell it as Walton,” he said. JBU’s Walton Program director Ronald Johnson remembered when Sam Walton told Mendez’s class that, if they ever developed a product, they should consider Walton a client. “As a student I acknowledged that this experience profoundly influenced me,” he took his word, and, once he returned to his homeland in Costa Rica to set up the company, he started a contract with Walmart. That change that he had and that we shared with him became true,” Mendez said. Deans of the Student Business Center Joe Walton was not surprised at Mendez’s success. As Mendez’s former professor, Walenciak saw a lot of potential in him. “I saw a lot of potential in him. He would be able to see opportunities easily,” said Walenciak.

This week the Walton Program endowed a scholarship, the Next Century, the University’s new plan to improve campus and continue serving students. As a successful graduate, Mendez’s words of advice to students going back to their countries:

“Sometimes people (legitimately) didn’t have any money,” said Rich. “It was hard to do a second ask.”

“You have to know how to face rejection, especially strained rejection,” said Sanchez. “I was surprised by the readiness of other Christians, especially at Walton University.”

“Wouldn’t the call center work gratifying,” said Sanchez. “It was good to help bolster the scholarship fund, and it was good practice for me for marketing in the future.”

“When I was doing a second ask during the call, I would try to tell them that (scholarship) money. It was like a big stick.”

Senior Troy Sanchez reported to Walton alumni that she had been an active member of the JBU call center for the Walton Program’s call center.

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Zambian student with big plans

A lively “Lulu” Siamaambo, a freshman nursing major at John Brown University, is driven to improve health care in her home country, Zambia.

Siamaambo says that, as a nurse in her country, she wants to work with children and pregnant women because of their high mortality rates.

According to 2014 data from the CIA World Factbook, Zambia has the 17th highest infant mortality rate in the world, with an estimated 56.62 deaths per 1,000 live births per year of infants under the age of one. In comparison, the U.S. has an estimated 6.17 deaths per 1,000 live births, about 10 times less.

As for mothers, Zambia ranks 26 out of 184 countries in maternal mortality rate, according to 2010 CIA World Factbook data. It is estimated that 440 mothers and 51,000 women die due to pregnancy out of every 100,000 live births. This mortality rate is about 25 times higher in Zambia than in the U.S.

Siamaambo said that high mortality rates are caused by poor health care in her country. She explained that, in a hospital, there might be only one doctor, which could see up to 100 patients per day. Being understaffed, nurses may do the doctor’s job, even if they’re not qualified.

Accessibility is an issue as well. “Some people walk more than 10 days to come to a hospital,” Siamaambo said. “As for nurses, they go through training without a doctor, either because they can’t afford to go to the hospital or are afraid of lack of privacy and frank advice.”

“The mines in Zambia have a reputation of being mean,” Siamaambo said. “Besides poor medical care, pregnant women may face multifaceted unemployment, drinking disorders, or HIV/AIDS.”

Siamaambo said that, in her country, “being pregnant is probably a death sentence.”

When pregnant women die, any surviving children may be orphaned. According to 2010 UNICEF, Zambia has an estimated 1.6 kids traveling in the streets, of which 640,000 are orphans due to AIDS.

Over Christmas break, Siamaambo, her brother, and five children traveled to Zambia to visit family. There Siamaambo helped care for children and their mother’s orphanage called Haven.

Siamaambo’s mother, Cecilia Siamaambo, started the orphanage when she came across a burial where a child was being buried with her mother. Siamaambo explained that, in Zambia, it is customary to bury the mother with the child, since the child’s maternal mortality rate is pretty high. Siamaambo said, “Kalulu commanded that, the baby had to be taken to the burial place, and began to care for him. After that, people started bringing babies to her door, and an orphanage was founded in her honor.”

Siamaambo said she goes to the orphanage and works to improve the health care system from the inside. Siamaambo hopes to raise awareness by making a documentary.

Siamaambo, her brother, Andrew, and Kumalo’s older sister, Jacoba, are working together on an already finished documentary.

Andrew Kumalo said the documentary will tell the story of Zambia’s high infant mortality rate while also showing how the people of Haven orphanage are saving lives.

“It’s one of those goals that, if you’re not in it, a lot of people just don’t care,” Kumalo said of Zambia’s infant mortality rate.

Kumalo also hopes to use the documentary to promote Haven and show donors where their money is going towards.

“Some people walk up to a year or two to die, and this documentary is still in the planning stage, he said. However, it is in progress.

Kumalo arrived in Zambia on April 15 and will be back in the states May 2. He said his goal for this trip is to begin working on the documentary for filming.

“Next thing, when I go home, is probably to finalize and show them what permissions we need,” Kumalo said.

What’s your favorite compliment to receive? That I’m brutally honest.
After the drills, we’ll have 10-15 minutes,” Pascoe said. “Then we’ll do conditioning for about 30 minutes, then and do warm-ups for the next 30 minutes, then work on drills for the next 30 minutes, and that’s our plan for the day. The practices are fairly consistent each week, said practices stay focused on the tasks at hand and the long-term goal of improving each player’s performance.

Senior Luke Pascoe, with no experience playing tennis for six years, has become an integral part of the team. His dedication and hard work have paid off, as he has been a crucial member of the team this season. Pascoe notes how the team has come together and improved their skills through regular practice and hard work.

Junior Alex Baker, who has been playing tennis at JBU for three years, also emphasizes the importance of practice. “As a senior, I’ve played against them four years, and they’ve always been a very strong team,” said Baker. “In the past they’ve been a really strong team.”"
Olayemi leads by example

MAX BRYAN
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The Golden Eagle men’s basketball team has some shoes to fill at point guard.

Samson Olayemi, the Eagle’s starting point guard, will be leaving at the end of this year. In his two years of playing for John Brown University, Samson Olayemi has made a name for himself as a tough player who has a knack for creating scoring opportunities for his teammates and playing hard-nosed defense. This past year, he led the Sooner Athletic Conference with 5.2 assists per game.

“He’s a really good passer,” said teammate Max Hopfgartner. “He’s also a really good defender, so you have to really worry about him on defense. On offense, he looks for open teammates; he really pushes the ball. I really like playing with him.”

Olayemi’s love affair with basketball goes back to gym class in his hometown of Manchester, England. There, he was introduced to the sport and eventually developed a passion for the game.

“I started playing basketball at the age of 15,” said Olayemi. “I used to play a lot of soccer growing up. But in gym class, I was introduced to basketball. Then, a couple of my friends played basketball when they went to high school, so I tried to play the sport. I fell in love with it and it pretty much just transitioned from soccer to basketball.”

Olayemi’s love for the game followed him across the Atlantic in 2010 when he moved from Manchester to Connecticut. His talent won him a basketball scholarship to Central Maine Community College, where he played until being recruited by JBU in 2013 through former JBU Basketball player Kali Jones.

“Jonesy was an immigrant from England as well,” said Olayemi. “We used to play against each other in England, but then we both moved to America at the age of 18. I connected with me. I fell in love with the sport. I started playing basketball.”

Since joining JBU’s basketball team, Olayemi has taken on responsibilities as a team leader, both on the title of Captain and by example. He has impressed his teammates and coaches with his work ethic and leadership.

“Samson is one of the hardest workers we have on the team,” said head coach Jason Brecht. “He always seems like he’s gonna show up and have a good practice like so every day. You always know what you’re gonna get out of him. He’s a captain, so he’s one of our leaders. He wasn’t exactly the loud mouth kind of leader, but was one that really led by his actions. That played quite a big role in who we were this year.”

Olayemi said, “Olayemi continues to impress. His work ethic and leadership inspire so many people.

“I think he’s a great guy,” said teammate Nate Anderson. “If there was conflict within the team, that’s where he was really most about taking it out. He made everybody else feel like they agreed. On a less serious note, he can make you laugh no matter what.”

While he has definitely left his mark in JBU basketball, Olayemi also realizes that he has developed as a person. He really worried about him on defense. I really like playing with him.”

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Samson Olayemi in the Sooner Athletic Conference. JBU men’s basketball team.

“Samson Olayemi leads by example. He’s a student of the game. Olayemi’s love for the game followed him across the Atlantic in 2010 when he moved from Manchester to Connecticut. His talent won him a basketball scholarship to Central Maine Community College, where he played until being recruited by JBU in 2013 through former JBU Basketball player Kali Jones. “Jonesy was an immigrant from England as well,” said Olayemi. “We used to play against each other in England, but then we both moved to America at the age of 18. I connected with me. I fell in love with the sport. I started playing basketball.”

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Samson Olayemi in the Sooner Athletic Conference. JBU men’s basketball team.
The boys of IV started band together and grew to love each other's style of music enough that they decided to join together for The Next Big Thing. The combination of bluegrass and metalrock can best describe the musical stylings of IV.

"The name IV is an act of rebellion toward old gods and authority figures, who held those roman numerals in their names."

Though they may have different musical styles, they share a passion for music and a love for performing.

David Carlson and Josh Hawkins went to school together in Germany and always wanted to make a band, so when The Next Big Thing came around and the whole group lived together in one of the townhouses here at JBU, it just made sense for them to sign up.

"We got into this for two reasons: One, to make good music, and two, to have fun. Whether we win or not is not even part of the list. We want to make a good show, make good music and have fun."

CLAREMORE

“We all found out in the first five minutes working together that we all hated country music, and that pretty much solidified us as a group!”

Claremore classifies their music as alternative rock. Most of their influence comes from bands such as Anberlin and Switchfoot.

"The focus isn’t about it being a big deal for us. It’s about it being high energy and a lot of fun.”

JONATHAN LEONARD

For as long as Jonathan can remember, he has been singing and playing instruments. The Next Big Thing is a great opportunity for him to refine his sound.

He classifies his style as “acoustic pop,” playing and writing with his friends have influenced his style.

"Not a lot of people know me or my music, so I am really excited to see people’s reactions.”

MOLLY DEVINE

“Grew up surrounded by campfire music, and if you didn’t play an instrument, what would you do? Everyone else was playing an instrument.”

Molly Devine wanted to participate in The Next Big Thing last year but couldn’t because she was on medical vocal rest. From this, the JBU community never knew what her voice sounded like.

"The Next Big Thing seemed as good a time as any to be like ‘Hey JBU I actually have talent.”

THIN MARGINS

After the dissolving of Chipper’s first group and the need for a new one in time for a show in Nashville, Thin Margins formed and has been making music ever since.

They had from Little Rock, Ark. and all chose to attend JBU in order to stay together as a group throughout college.

Their style was heavily influenced by groups such as Bastille, Walk the Moon and Panic! at the Disco.

"Anywhere we can play our music, we will play.”