

Homecoming 2025

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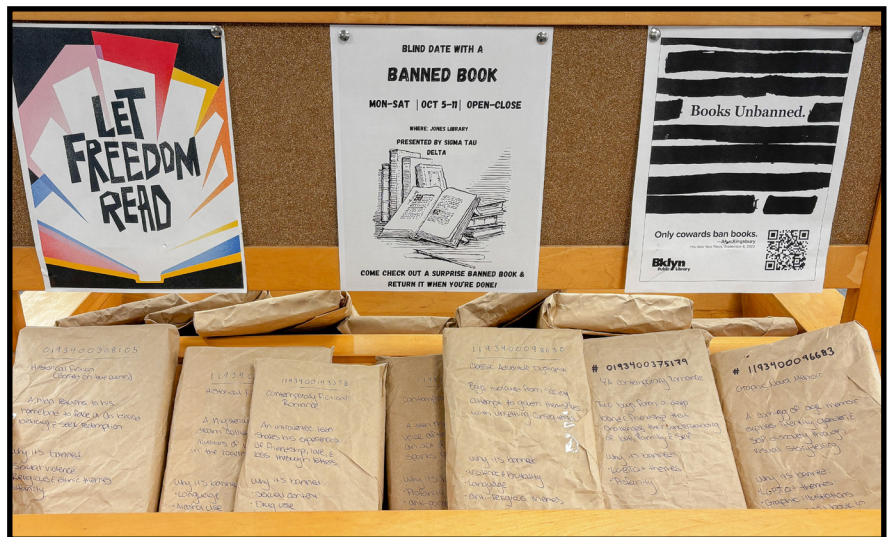
Jones Library offers 'Blind Date with a Book' to recognize Banned Books Week

Autumn Jones
Editor in Chief

For the week of Oct. 5–11, Jones Library staff are making a statement against national censorship. The library is hosting a “Blind Date With a Banned Book” event in honor of Banned Books Week; library staff have selected a few banned or challenged books and wrapped them in plain-looking brown paper. The only information you’ll get about the book is a brief synopsis of what the book is about, as well as why it was banned or challenged.

Sigma Tau Delta, the English Honor Society, is working in collaboration with the Jones Library for the event. Senior Rowyn Roberts, president of Sigma Tau Delta, helped coordinate the event with Valerie Rupert. “The goal is to get people to read banned books and raise awareness during this week about censorship in our country,” Roberts said. “We want to let people know that even if a book is banned, it won’t stop others from reading it.”

Banned Books Week is a week to highlight the importance of free speech



and open access to information; libraries, teachers, authors, publishers, and readers around the world celebrate the freedom to read and seek information.

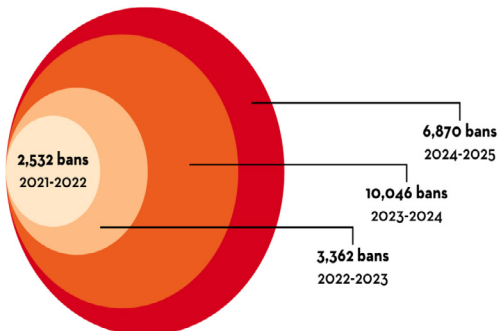
For a book to be banned, it must first be challenged. According to firstamendmentmuseum.org, “challenging” a book is the “attempt to ban a book from a library, school district, institution, organization, government entity, retailer, or publisher based on its content. Challenges can either result in the book being banned or they can be overturned, and the book remains in circulation at the organization.”

During the 2024–2025 school year, pen.org recorded 6,870 instances of book banning across 23 states and 87 public school districts. When combined with their records from July 2021, there were over 22,810 book bans across 45 states and 451 public school districts.

All of the books for this event are located in the library near the circulation desk. You’ll find a book that sounds interesting, then take it to the desk for checkout—the books must be returned by the end of the semester.

“This event is for everyone,” Roberts said. “Banning books affects everyone: students, staff, and community members.”

The circle of censorship keeps expanding
Instances of book bans by school year, 2021-2025



Data from PEN America Index of School Book Bans, July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2025

Chart from PEN America.

Student Art Exhibition open through Nov. 7

Scarlett Houser
Contributor

Brevard College hosted the opening night of its annual student art exhibition on Oct. 2, with many different awards to win and acknowledgments to be made. Art students in Sims have been scrambling to get this show ready for the public eye for the past few weeks, either helping out in the gallery, getting their own pieces ready, or helping others out. But how exactly?

For this specific exhibition, students were allowed to bring in three pieces of art, ranging from any material and of a reasonable size. The students are encouraged to enter art made in the past year to the present, as they would want their most recent work to reflect their skill.

"Most of my pieces were from my classes; it's hard to get time to make art for myself with the rest of my normal classes to handle," art major Ray Love said. A lot of the work entered ends up

being school assignments from their classes, for example, a charcoal drawing from their Drawing II class. Students still take extra time out of their school days or after their classes to prepare for this exhibition every year.

The awards in the exhibition are part of the excitement to enter, as there are student juried awards, judge juried awards, and many more. The winners of some of these prizes have the honor of getting their artworks displayed in different locations around the campus for all the student body and staff to see.

"One of these days I'll get my work hung up somewhere around here," said Phoebe Turner, an art major. The excitement of recognition of their hard work uniquely inspires each artist, getting their artistic juices flowing. The up-

perclassmen's work has also been a point of motivation for the younger students, seeing the quality of their work.

A chain of respect in the Sims building is built around the older crowd and their influence on the younger students to keep working hard and not to give up. They encourage the underclassmen to put themselves out in the world, submitting their artworks to every exhibition they can, even if they don't know if they will get accepted. But in the end, it's not all about the prizes or the recognition; sometimes art is about growth and becoming the person you want to be.

The Juried Student Exhibition will be open through Nov. 7 in Spiers Gallery in Sims Art Building. Gallery hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

THE CLARION

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"Grandma's Kitchen" by Karis King, first place.

Environmental Stewards Club holds clothing swap

On Oct. 8, the Environmental Stewards Club hosted a clothing swap in the academic quad. Students could bring in clothes they wished to get rid of, and can take or exchange clothes with people who are “selling.” The swap was a way for people to get rid of their unwanted clothing and for people to find new purpose in them, free of cost.

Angie Martino, a senior History major, attended the event. “It was very nice to see people on campus engaging in this form of textile sustainability,” they said. “It was so fun to have people be excited about my old clothes and to know that, like, that shirt is going to have a new life and not go to a landfill.”



Photos by Angie Martino.

Upcoming campus events

BREVARD COLLEGE STUDENTS

CANS FOR VIOLATIONS

OCTOBER 15TH, 2025
TORNADO ALLEY

15 cans per one \$30 parking violation

BREVARD COLLEGE
1 Brevard College Drive

October 25
10am - 5pm

SIDEWALK ART CONTEST

- Free to Enter
- \$500 of Cash & Prizes
- Live Music & Fun Activities
- Includes 1 Box of Vibrant Chalk
- Open to all Brevard College Students

Scan QR to Register by October 22

Or register using this link: <https://forms.gle/t5aWn1DNJg82qZtEA>

For more info, contact: Sean Parrish parriss@brevard.edu

'When in doubt, overdress': The rise of eccentricism in fashion

Zoe Hughes and Mikayla Zvekan
Managing Editor & Contributor

Eccentricity has continued to push the limits of fashion—breaking rules and testing exactly how many accessories one can wear at once. From its roots in drag culture to its contemporary explosion, it has fought to uphold creativity and individualism through its continuous growth in the fashion landscape.

Eccentricity is nowhere near a “new” way of life or dressing yourself; its beginnings actually started as way back as the 19th century, according to the University of Cambridge. Constricted by social norms of the time, European aristocrats and artists alike started to use their clothing as a means of breaking free.

With industrialization becoming more widespread, clothing became more uniform. Flamboyant new fashions and exaggerated tailoring were all used as a way to stand out from their norm-abiding counterparts, and as a way to reclaim their individuality.

The narrative shifted, though, at the beginning of the 20th century, and the focus of eccentricity

was less high-class and more accessible to the younger generation. An explosion of subcultures began, the youth using eccentric fashion to express themselves artistically or politically, rejecting whatever was deemed as the norm.

Eccentricity isn't just the clothing and accessories that one dresses themselves with; it is a way to join the fight against conformity.

Until very recently, people had certain clothes for certain events and places—dressing up for the theatre, work, travel, and eating out was commonplace. Occasion wear was important for a couple of reasons: to show respect to the performers, chefs, etc., to differentiate between work and leisure, for modesty when in public, and just to have fun wearing fancy clothes.

Dressing for the occasion began to decline in the second half of the 20th century. A main contributor to this was the countercultural movements of the 1960s. Occasion wear was meant to prioritize the institution over the individual, so counterculturists saw dressing casually and eccentrically as a way to stick it to the man.

This began a chain reaction in the American fashion landscape. Pushing dressing for the occasion to the side led to a rise in more casual fashion, especially in the workplace. Casual Fridays became a standard among businesses, and the flu pandemic made a dress code pretty much obsolete.

Since the death of dressing for the occasion, eccentric fashion has been able to spread its wings. If dressing for the occasion is putting the institution over the individual, then eccen-

tricism would be the reverse of that, allowing individuals to express themselves however they please, no matter what the institution is.

Dressing for the occasion restricted certain pieces for specific occasions, but since the decline, these pieces have been used in many different and creative ways. As a result of this shift, combining aesthetics and genres and subverting expectations in fashion has become very popular today.

With the rise of the digital age and social media influence, coupled with the innate human desire to fit in amongst peers, conformity has begun to seep into modern fashion trends. In response to this, eccentricity has gained even more influence in the creative minds of the fashion industry.

Some of these individuals hail from social media, bringing eccentric fashion right to the consumer from their phone via Instagram and TikTok. Other eccentric role models come from the high fashion sphere, using their brand influence to bring these designs into notoriety.

Eccentricity is the common thread among fashion throughout the ages. Fashion is inherently self-expression, and as social norms become looser, individual expression becomes more abstract.



Alexander McQueen Fall/Winter 2025 Collection, Alexander McQueen website.



Social media fashion influencer Wisdom Kaye showing off Chrome Hearts collection, Instagram.

Fashion Friday

Zoe Hughes, Autumn Jones, Emma Murray



Nettie Stokes

Evy Higdon

Gina Drouse

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Calliope Taylor in 'No Exit'

Abigail Callahan
Staff Writer

The Brevard Theatre presented “No Exit” last week at Morrison Playhouse in the Porter Center. The play focuses on a depiction of the afterlife in which three deceased characters are punished by being locked in a room together for eternity.

Calliope Taylor, a junior theater major concentrating in film and directing, plays Estelle. Taylor said she is the polar opposite of her character, Estelle, with whom she had fun playing.

“Her motivations are so different from mine,” Taylor said. “I’m a very family-oriented kind of person. I am playing a character who was willing to take her newborn and do unspeakable things to it, and trying to get into the headspace of somebody who would do that while still giving my character grace to play her was hard. It’s such a contrast.”

In the last few minutes of the play, the saying “Hell is other people” is spoken, which Taylor interprets as the theme verbatim. “If you’re going to surround yourself with people, you kind of decide whether or not those people are going to make your life better, or if they’re going to make your life hell,” she said.

Taylor connects to her character Estelle by finding sympathetic aspects in her troubled character. “There are a lot of things about Estelle that I think are terrible,” she said. “She’s not a good person in any way, shape, or form, but when we were trying to think of their backstories, I had a moment of trying to find any redeemable qualities in her.

“I think she is just a very troubled person,” Taylor continued. “She was trying to find safety in herself, and so when the mask slips, that’s what we get to see. There’s a lot about her that I can’t relate to, but I feel that



Calliope Taylor as Estelle. Photo by Alecia Janerio via Flickr.

moment of caring about what other people think of you is something that everyone can relate to.”

Collaborating with her castmates was a new experience for Taylor. This was her first time acting in a long time, and her first-ever main stage. “Getting to learn more about the acting side of theatre was enlightening because line work is goofy and rehearsals are hilarious; it would be so much fun for other people to see that,” she said.

One of Taylor’s hopes was that the audience would feel the discomfort of the play. “It’s supposed to make you feel gritty and gross like you’ve done something wrong, and that you could be here with us at any point,” Taylor said.

A pivotal scene for her is when Estelle loses control over her life. “Everything that she has built up for herself is being unraveled, and she’s watching it happen, powerless to do anything about it,” she said. “I’ve just felt like it is such a powerful moment, and if we were to experience that in our everyday life, it could very well break us.”

In the end, “No Exit” challenges the audience to confront the complexities of human relationships and how others can shape our personal hells or heavens. Through Estelle’s unraveling and the raw interactions between the characters, the play reminds us that while “Hell is other people,” it is also a reflection of ourselves and the choices we make in connection with those around us.

For Taylor and her castmates, bringing this dark, uncomfortable truth to life on stage is not only an artistic journey but also an exploration of what it means to be flawed, vulnerable humans who are inextricably linked to one another.



BC hosts Homecoming festivities this weekend

Brevard College will welcome alumni and friends back to campus starting today through Sunday, Oct. 10-12, to reminisce over shared bonds, unforgettable experiences, and the everlasting BC Spirit.

"We're twice as excited to welcome alumni back to campus this year, after canceling last year's festivities in the wake of Hurricane Helene," said Daniel Woodall '16, manager of Alumni Affairs at BC. "While the spotlight is on the classes of 1974 and 1975 for their 50th reunions, we have special events planned that will provide a terrific opportunity for all of our graduates to reconnect with old friends they may not have seen in years."

The college will host its Distinguished Alumni and Athletics Hall of Fame ceremonies this evening at the Porter Center for Performing Arts. Honored at the event as Distinguished Alumni will be Brigadier General Hoyal B. Kye '51, Stacey Hawks '08 and McKayla Robinette '20. The event will also feature the induction of John George '80 (Cross Country and Track & Field) and Jim Hickey '83 (Cross Country and Track & Field) into the Brevard College Athletics Hall of Fame. Tickets to the event are sold out, but other events are still available.

The Juried Student Art Show is open at the Spiers Gallery in the Sims Art Building from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. to kick off the weekend. (See article on page 2.) Also today, BC will host a Welcome Home Party at Oskar Blues Brewery beginning at 6 p.m.

This year's Homecoming football game will pit the Tornados versus the Southern Virginia Knights at Ives-Lemel Family Field at 3 p.m. on Saturday. Tornado Tailgating will precede the gridiron matchup in the Fieldhouse parking lot, in addition to the BC Family Picnic starting at 1 p.m. Also on Saturday, Brevard College women's soccer will take on Mary Baldwin College at 11 a.m. at Ives-Lemel Family Field. The BC volleyball team will square off against Meredith College in Boshamer Gymnasium with an 11 a.m. start time as well.

A general walking tour of the BC campus will be provided for alumni today at 2 p.m. Additionally, Dr. Jennifer Frick-Ruppert, VP of Academic



Affairs and Dean of Faculty, will give a walking tour titled "Exploring the Natural World of the BC campus" on Saturday at 10 a.m. Frick-Ruppert is an award-winning author and expert on Southeastern biodiversity.

On Sunday, Brevard College Campus Minister Sharad Creasman '06 will lead all three church services at Brevard First United Methodist Church beginning at 8:30 a.m., 8:45 a.m., and 11 a.m.

Homecoming weekend will conclude Sunday with a Fall Choral Concert, free to the public, at 3 p.m. Sunday, followed at 4 p.m. by a Celebration of Life for Dr. Anne Chapin, a longtime art history professor who died Jan. 26, 2024 after a battle with brain cancer. Both the concert and the celebration of life will be at the Porter Center for Performing Arts.

For a full schedule of Homecoming 2025 or to register for events, click or scan the QR code at right.



Banned Books

WORD SEARCH

A Clockwork Orange

All Boys Aren't Blue

Breathless

Crank

Damsel

Forever

Last Night at the Telegraph Club

Nineteen Minutes Sold

The DUFF: Designated Ugly Fat Friend

The Perks of Being a Wallflower

T U L O N Q O K R N M H N P Q T Z I L V G O P C T V E Q K M
G H H A Q X E R U R U O D H V R K Q L O Y J Z Y J W Z F Y O
N G E T S B K A R N D P B O M O U Q P Z N Z Q Y M J J Z A V
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W N W W D U K Y R M V F O Z E L K A R S K K I T L C S I M F
V P U H Y C Y D K H Z T H G R W E N A R Z B Z A F O L F I F
T V J X L U F I U B Y K B J P W C J N T V W A W P R W U Y M
Y F C L J E F G P N T P T F K H M Q K U L H A O Z B I E B D
Y Y O M N Q P R N B O K L U W C S L N K L W H T T N F E R E
A Q V V D A M S E L C E C Z Q V B Z J P H J T M L G L T N M
P T O C U C B I F V N C X X A O O D P H K G W D Q S H Y L D

The Clark legacy continues

Madeleine Pollock
Copy Editor

This year, Brevard College welcomed freshman cyclist and English major Elli Clark of Mono, Ontario, who follows in her brother's footsteps as the third Clark sibling at Brevard College.

"The whole thing has been very exciting," Elli said. "The team environment is very energetic and family-like, so I've been enjoying it a lot more than I was expecting to."

The oldest Clark sibling, Tyler, first came to Brevard in 2018, and was followed by his younger brother Owen, who is now a senior. Tyler and Owen have contributed immensely to the cycling team, both having won three national collegiate titles each throughout their years.

"It's a bit similar to when I came and my brother was already here," Owen said. "There was a one-year overlap. Because of that, it almost feels like I'm passing the torch."

The team is currently in Grand Junction, Colorado, competing at The Collegiate Mountain Bike National Championships, where Owen will be competing. Elli is attending as well, but in a supporting role, as she broke her hand at a conference race at Ride Rock Creek in September. "It's a little weird, and I feel like I'll probably wish I were racing more than watching," Elli said. "But I like cheering on the team so much."

Looking ahead, the team will be taking on the conference Cyclocross season and Collegiate Cyclocross National Championships in Fayette-



Back: Tyler, left, Owen, right. Front: Elli.

ville, Arkansas, in Dec.

As this is Owen's final year, cyclocross nationals will be his last race with the team. "This fall has been so hectic so far that I haven't really processed it being my final year, but even for this being my final mountain by Nationals, it doesn't seem like it actually is."

Elli's ability to race Cross Nats will depend on how her hand heals. "I'm hoping to at least be back for Cross Nationals or one of the races beforehand, but I don't really have a timeline, so I kind of am expecting to find out more at my next checkup."

Outside of racing, Owen is a double major in

Business and Integrated Studies with a focus in film. Elli has declared an English major and says she is still figuring out a minor.

"I really like the professors at Brevard," Elli said. "They've all been super supportive and super nice, and most of them are quite passionate about what they're teaching."

Tyler graduated in 2021 with a degree in Physics and Mathematics and is still racing. "Having something like cycling to share has always been great," he said. "So, to add on, Brevard and each of us have our own stories to tell from our times there; this was another way for our relationships to become even better."

BC softball previews spring season with scrimmages at Montreat College

Owen Timmerman
Contributor

The Brevard College Softball Team got a preview of their squad come the spring as they opened up with scrimmages at Montreat College. Although in the depths of the offseason, the Nados took on a doubleheader on Friday, Oct. 3.

Despite losing both games, 4-3 and 9-1, the team is confident they benefited heavily from the contests.

Sophomore outfielder Addison Smith weighed in on the games. "There weren't many key players that made a huge difference," she said. "We all worked together, and since it's a fall game, we care more about that than what is shown on the scoreboard."

After all, the fall season for spring sports is about learning what your weaknesses are and giving the team experience playing with each other. "The biggest takeaway from the games was figuring out what we needed to work on in the offseason while we can practice as a team," Smith said. Starting in October, the Nados will have a dead period where they can't practice together until January.

Playing games this long before the season will expose all of the team's weaknesses. The biggest one was the consistency. "Our team needs to work on keeping the momentum throughout the whole game," Smith said. "We have too many high and low moments." She attributed the inconsistency to working harder and practicing in different situations.

The team hopes to have a better season than last year, as they went 9-20 and didn't make the playoffs. Smith notes that "We need to be better on all fronts; the consistency needs to be better both offensively and defensively."

The Tornados believe they know what needs to be fixed and have the pieces to have a historical 2026 campaign. After going 5-13 in conference play, changes need to be made.

Lastly, Smith weighed in on what the Spring should hold. "I think we should win a lot more games. The freshmen this year are good and need to expect to play consistently," she notes.

The softball team will be in action starting in February 2026, with hopes to have a strong season.