



**A Point of View**  
By Danelle Meyer  
Staff writer

## How to be a journalist

In my opinion being a journalist is unlike anything else

It requires you to not be afraid of approaching people.

It means that any prior phone phobias you may have had, you must get over.

Being a journalist means that you can't be intimidated by anyone, no matter how important or "hard to handle" they may be.

It means you must take the wrath of any wrong detail, and spend tons of time writing and rewriting your pieces.

It means you can't be afraid of the delete button, even if whole paragraphs have to be chopped out.

In my opinion, being a journalist means you have to pretend to be interested in subjects that you don't actually find interesting, and wear a smile no matter how difficult it may be.

Being a journalist means that being nervous has to become a thing of the past.

You have to be able to quickly bat down your shakes and do your thing.

It also means that you have to not be afraid to keep going, and have the perseverance of a cat that wants attention.

To be a journalist means that you can't be afraid of hurting one party's feelings if there's negative feedback from somewhere else.

It's your duty to state the all the facts without saying what you want to say.

You also have to be willing to attend an entire event and then some, no matter what else you could be doing, like homework.

Being a journalist means that you can't be afraid to carry a pen and notebook in public and write feverishly with people watching you nervously as they speak.

Nor can you be discouraged by any odd looks you receive, or worry about the silence that trails while you write.

A journalist requires that you can't be worried about being alone.

You can't be afraid to be the only person sitting alone in a crowded area, or the only person standing oddly off to the side with a camera.

In my opinion a journalist has all the opposites tugging at their personality, and is one of a kind: patient yet fast, calm yet crazy, outgoing yet shy, social yet not.

A journalist has each intricate detail that may be needed from one moment to the next, and the ability to switch at the drop of a dime from kind to pushy.

But hey, I'm a journalist. And that's only my opinion.

# Artist, Magi Amma, talks about sculpture



Photo by Joyce Leung

## Magi with one of the sculptures in her 'Chair' series

By JESSICA LOSEE  
Staff writer

The Louie Meager Art Gallery is now filled with warm and dark

browns, contrasting the bleach-white walls of the plain art gallery are the works of Magi Amma, who spoke Wednesday in the Jackson Theater about her pieces for a

small group of art students and fans.

When one enters the gallery, there is a sense of rust, antiquity and a semblance of nature coming from the pieces.

Amma, who favors using mixed media in her sculptures, uses bones, dead frogs, old boxes and chairs, faded wood pieces and driftwood.

Four spiders hang passively from *Mary*, looking like dainty little additions to the wood sculpture in the corner of the gallery.

Amma presented a slideshow of photos of her works, beginning with a simple ceramic piece.

"My first cup," said Amma who began making pottery in college. "Once you make your own bowl, you're reticent to use anyone else's."

From her work in ceramics, Amma moved into sculpture and bronze casting, working with ball shapes and 3-D modeling.

"I went through a lot of different phases," admitted Amma, who has also worked with video, plaster and marble.

Amma reuses many of her pieces to make new ones. One bronze piece is now used in her piece *The Tower*.

"I very rarely buy stuff," said Amma. "Most of it I find on the side of the road." This is reflected in her piece, *The Birdcage of Love*, which features a birdcage with tiny white birds up in ribbons, pictures of a

wedding, a small white television and her own divorce papers. The television once played a three-hour long video of women talking about divorce.

The artist has also worked with others to create a gallery of "twigs and plastic" for the stage of a dance performance, as well as a show with a conglomerate of female artists.

Magi Amma is more than just an artist. She is an inspiration to single mothers who wish to continue their lives after motherhood. She took care of her two daughters while in school, using welfare checks to pay tuition at times.

Much of Amma's work reflects her strong feelings about women.

"I'm a feminist, that's where all the goddesses come from," said Amma, whose work feature women behind screens of fabric, hidden by dead butterflies and frogs, and caged.

Amma feels she is now moving into making art that also has a message.

Magi Amma's messages are not hidden and one can see its presence in the works featured at Ohlone's art gallery.

Magi Amma's work from her "Chair Series" will be in the Louie Meager Art Gallery, located in the Smith Center until Nov. 22.

# Monitor editors from yonder days of yore

By MORGAN BRINLEE  
Staff writer

Laura Casey, 28, wrote for the *Monitor* through the fall of 1995 to the fall of 1998. Currently Casey works as a writer for the *Oakland Tribune* covering the Oakland Hills. Casey has been with the *Oakland Tribune* for four years but due to decreasing circulation feels that it may be time for a change. While Casey feels she will always be a journalist she is currently studying law at St. Mary's and is looking to transfer into the legal field. "I'll be a writer for my entire life, whether it be for newspapers, internet blogs, or family Christmas letters," Casey said. After leaving Ohlone in 1998 Casey went on to earn her B.A. in journalism at San Francisco State University.

"I felt that Ohlone was a more valuable experience for me. Ohlone was a springboard to my career as a journalist. If I hadn't gone to Ohlone I might not be a journalist," Casey said. Her first experience in the newspaper industry came when she

interned at *The Argus* before moving on to work as a writer for the *Hayward Daily Review* while in school at S.F. State.

A more recent journalist to leave the *Monitor* staff is Linda Stone, 50, who left the *Monitor* in the middle of the fall 2004 semester. Stone is currently working at the *Tri-City Voice* as Assistant Editor, though a promotion to Managing Editor is rumored to be in the works. 20 years ago while Stone was living in New Hampshire she wrote a column titled "As I See It" for *The Northern Light*. Although Stone left her column after only a year, she continued to hold a soft spot for writing. "I always recall writing with great fondness' ... but I had to get over my fear of being in the public eye," said Stone.

Barry Shatzman, 47, used to work in the tech industry but decided in early December 2002 that he wanted a job with more opportunity. Shatzman enrolled for the spring 2003 semester at Ohlone and began to write for the *Monitor* in the fall 2003. Within weeks

Shatzman became news editor and the following semester took on the position of Editor in Chief. In February 2003 Shatzman began to do freelance work for *The Argus* and was soon hired full time. In September 2005, Shatzman left *The Argus* to start up his own local news service. "Writing for newspapers is great, but I began to see its limitation," said Shatzman.

The current city editor of *The Argus*, Rob Dennis, 38, wrote for *The Monitor* in the spring of 1998. After leaving Ohlone Dennis interned at *The Argus* before moving on to attend Berkeley University. While at Berkeley Dennis did various freelance articles for *The Argus* and after graduating in 2002 took the position of night city editor at *The Argus*. Dennis then went on to work for the *Hayward Daily Review* in May 2003. In September 2003 Dennis returned to *The Argus* and was promoted earlier in 2005 to city editor.

*The Argus* is currently holding steady in their circulation numbers, though Dennis says he could never see himself leaving the industry even

if the numbers were to drop. "There is a lot going on right now in the industry that is worrisome for journalists. Newspapers are trying to react and find out what do readers want," Dennis said.

Working alongside Dennis is another *Monitor* editor, Steve Waterhouse. While at Ohlone from 1998-1999, Waterhouse worked as the sports editor of *The Monitor*, as well as doing correspondent work for *The Argus*. At the end of 2000 Waterhouse quit his job at a Sprint Distribution Center and began to work full time for *The Argus*. "I got fed up with the grunt work; I didn't want to do it anymore. [Journalism] was more fun, more gratifying," said Waterhouse. Currently, Waterhouse has been working as a sports writer at *The Argus* for 5 years.

Although the newspaper industry is currently facing some scary scenarios it remains the old standby for information on current events. In the end the industry will undoubtedly get back up and through it all the *Monitors* editors and writers will be there.

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## Two nights of fun

By **GABRIEL VILA**  
Staff Writer

Get your dancing shoes on boys and girls, because the Chops Big Band is coming to town! Showcasing the greatest songs of the swing and jazz era, this 18-piece big band will be playing at the Smith Center this Saturday, Nov. 19 at 8 p.m.

The Chops Big Band plays a mix of classic big band music, in both old and new arrangements along with a vocalist who performs works from well-known performers, such as Frank Sinatra, Natalie Cole, and Harry Connick Jr. The band also plays a variety of songs from the '60s, '70s and '80s in a variety of dance arrangements.

"The band has a lot of fun out there," said Director Ken Crowell. "And I think that's part of the reason why the audience likes us, because they can see we're having a good time."

The band started back in 1987 and was first led by the Music Department head Phil Zahorsky, who in turn turned it over to Crowell in 1991. Since then the band has played publicly and privately all over the Bay Area. The band has performed for Fremont and Newark, along with shows for Oracle and Johnson & Johnson, along with private family parties.

The band has been a presence at Ohlone for years. It is now a tradition for the band to play twice a year, once in the fall and once in the spring. This year however, after their performance at the Smith Center's 10th Anniversary Gala, they were asked back to play for a dance. Some of you may remember it, the long hours spent in the darkened room listening to classic hits and swinging with your dance partners. Hopefully, this event will capture that same feel.

"It's great to see people dancing out there," said Crowell. "Swing is getting more and more popular, and it's nice to have a dance instead of a show."

The band has always loved the Smith Center. "We started the band back before the Smith Center was around," said Crowell. "And now that we have it, it really feels like it's our home."

By **JOYCE LEUNG**  
Features Editor

Born out of village inns nearly two centuries ago, a fiery dance swept across Europe. Contrasting heavily with the genteel dances in fashion at the time, such as the waltz, the common people embraced these "dances of the tavern." Now reinvented and infused with contemporary choreography, Csárdás storms into the Smith Center on Friday, Nov. 18 at 8 p.m.

The "Tango of the East" is rooted in Hungary and spread to Austria, Croatia, Poland and Ukraine. As the dance traveled from province to province, it was adapted to regional tastes creating variants that would seem worlds apart.

There is however one rather astonishing characteristic that ties these numerous variations together: improvisation. Improvisation is the foremost characteristic in performing the Csárdás. Dancers are encouraged to show off their individual style and ability. Performers improvise their furious dance steps to lighthearted Gypsy violins, culminating in a truly authentic and natural experience.

Csárdás incorporates individual and couples dancing, with the male role dominating both parts. Partners often separate, teasing each other in solo performances that mimic mating rituals. During his solo, the male makes use of various rhythmic accompaniments such as finger snapping, clapping, stomping, heel clicking, and boot slapping. The women who are generally in circle or group formations.

Intermingling an internationally renowned pianist and Hungarian tavern dancers, the Smith Center strives to commission performances that represent all areas of the fine arts: dance, music and theatre. "We want to offer a balance of performances that are entertaining and broadening," said Walter Birkedahl, Dean of Division of Fine & Performing Arts.

On explaining his choice to include Csárdás this season, Birkedahl explained, "We want people to be exposed to things people not be necessarily exposed to. We want them to be culturally enriching."

## Procrastinate much?

By **GABRIEL VILA**  
Staff writer

It's official. You're panicking. There's no shame in the idea. You just put it off, didn't you? You figured you had today, you had tomorrow, so what? You had forever to get your transfer applications in, why rush? Well now, with a scant two weeks left, is the time to rush. Nov. 30 is right around the corner, and to that end Diane Berkeland of the Counseling Department has teamed up with the Transfer and Career Services Department for their annual event: The Last Minute Transfer Application Workshop.

The event will be held on the first floor of Hyman Hall Nov. 28-30. The counselors will be available Monday noon to 3 p.m., Tuesday 10 a.m. till 2 p.m. and Wednesday 1 to 4 p.m. After that, the curtain falls on UC and CSU applications.

While some schools, some mind you, will keep the door open for a few more days, the majority will not. "It's a good idea to get your application done as soon as possible," said Berkeland. "If you wait for the last minute, the system will get clogged- it does every year." There will be no timed lecture at the workshop. Rather, students are invited to come in at any time available, ask whatever questions they need to ask, and then fill out and turn in their applications online. "Just, you know, don't come in five minutes before the end on Wednesday," Berkeland said with a smile.

Counselors, along with a representative from each the CSU and UC systems will be present to answer any questions or comments students have at the event. For any additional information, please see the Transfer and Career Services Department, or the Counseling Department on the first floor of Building 1.



**Jessica Losee**  
Staff writer

## iPod Nation

The iPod has become the new black for the fashion industry. Better than any other accessory, the sleekly styled iPod manages to play your favorite music, photos and video as well as make anyone who has one look "cool."

Already one can tell a person has an iPod just by looking at their headphones. If you have those spiffy little white Star Trek Enterprise-looking things in your ears, you've got the best status symbol of the day.

Not only do people recognize it but brand names do too. Girls can now buy Coach and Gucci cases for your iPod. And guys you can buy the printable "tattoos" for your iPod and put anything from your favorite video game character to 50 Cent to Angelina Jolie in a bikini on your iPod.

The iPod has even shrunk to Nano and the tinier Shuffle sizes, allowing a cheaper, smaller iPod experience. I must also add, these are tiny enough to be worn as necklaces, as advertised on their cool, black and white highlighter ads, or even as earrings!

Hell, I know I've seen bigger and heavier hoops on JLo than the iPod Nano.

With the iPod, gold and platinum jewelry seem to be obsolete now, when you can wear all your bling-bling on your mP3 player.

In 2004, P. Diddy was showing off his Hewlett Packard iPod after the MTV Music Awards, it was encrusted with 120 diamonds. And some might think that the iPod Video is expensive, I'd like to see that jewelry appraisal.

Now there is even clothing made specifically for iPod. Kenpo, a clothing company is now advertising their iPod Controllable Jacket, which comes in silver or black features a control panel with volume, play, pause, skip forward and backward fabric buttons. The jacket requires no batteries and is even machine washable and can be dry-cleaned. Compatible with both iPod and iPod minis, this stylish jacket retails for \$275, but will not be shipped out until Nov. 28.

Another retailer, Burton, makes a similar jacket, which costs approximately \$375, but to wash, the iPod controller unit must be removed first.

When purchasing one of these units, just remember not to leave your iPod in your pocket, and do not let your mom wash it without your knowing. I don't think the warranty covers "accidental drowning."

However you use your iPod, or if you refuse to purchase one, just make sure to draw a line on the amount of money spent on accessorizing your music player because the fashion industry won't.

It is all too obvious that the iPod has become the 21st Century's equivalent of the gogo boot and we should all be wary of its power.

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