Community

DPS-Modern Indian School organises a workshop on Differentiated Teaching and Learning.

P16 Community

The fifth edition of The Color Run is all set to be organised at Qatar National Convention Centre on January 26 at 7am.

Cover Story

Free Verse

For a diverse new generation, poetry is a ‘growth industry’. P4-5

Review

Henry Dunham scores with attention grabbing project. Page 14

Showbiz

Netflix scores first best-picture Oscar nomination for Roma. Page 15
Serena

**DIRECTION:** Steven Knight  
**CAST:** Matthew McConaughey, Anne Hathaway, Diane Lane

**SYNOPSIS:** The mysterious past of a fishing boat captain comes back to haunt him, when his ex-wife tracks him down with a desperate plea for help, ensnaring his life in a new reality that may not be all that it seems.

**THEATRES:** The Mall, Landmark

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Manikarnika

**DIRECTION:** Radha Krishna Jagarlamudi  
**CAST:** Kangana Ranaut, Danny Denzongpa, Ankita Lokhande

**SYNOPSIS:** Story of Rani Lakshmibai, one of the leading figures of the Indian Rebellion of 1857 and her resistance to the British Raj.

**THEATRES:** The Mall, Landmark, Royal Plaza

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The Kid Who Would Be King

**DIRECTION:** Stephen Knight  
**CAST:** Matthew McConaughey, Anne Hathaway, Diane Lane

**SYNOPSIS:** The mysterious past of a fishing boat captain comes back to haunt him, when his ex-wife tracks him down with a desperate plea for help, ensnaring his life in a new reality that may not be all that it seems.

**THEATRES:** The Mall, Landmark
**EVENTS**

**The Colour Run**  
**WHERE:** QNCC  
**WHEN:** January 26  
**TIME:** 8.30am  
Celebrate the hero in you in a realm where nothing is impossible and you are unstoppable. Soar to new heights in the all-new Super Zone and suit up in gear fit for only the most super of heroes as you collect your medal at the Finish Line! 2019 will also include the Foam Zone. Gates will open at 7am on January 26, with our first Color Runners setting off at 8.30am.

**MIA Park Bazaar 2019**  
**WHERE:** Museum Of Islamic Art  
**WHEN:** Ongoing  
MIA Park Bazaar will be having a vibrant mix of 350 stalls. MIA Park Bazaar is a modern version of the old souq tradition. The stalls are going to offer a wide range of gastronomies from all over the world. You can also browse and grab handcrafted artifacts, accessories, canvases, fashion wears, designer ornaments.

**PECS Level 1 Certified Workshop**  
**WHERE:** Doha College  
**WHEN:** Ongoing till February 13  
**TIME:** 8am – 5 pm  
PECS (Picture Exchange Communication Systems) training workshop is available in Doha on March 18th and 19th 2019. This amazing opportunity to provide parents and professionals the chance to get certified in PECS Level I is brought to you by Mind Institute in collaboration with The Pyramid Educational Consultants and Doha College. To register, visit www.mindinstitutes.com Registration closes on February 13. For more information 44181968.

**Mehaseel Festival**  
**WHERE:** Katara Cultural Village  
**WHEN:** Ongoing till March 31  
Mehaseel Souq will be open every Thursday, Friday and Saturday until 31st of March. It is a perfect market to get amazing local fresh produce.

**Archives Exhibition**  
**WHERE:** Qatar National Library  
**WHEN:** Ongoing till January 31  
**TIME:** 8am – 8pm  
The exhibition explores the history of Qatar through several family collections. It presents selected items from previously unseen private archives of photos, artefacts and documents to show the role that individuals within a community can play in building its identity and preserving its heritage and history.

**Arabic Calligraphy Workshop**  
**WHEN:** Saturday – Wednesday  
**TIME:** 6pm  
Arabic Calligraphy workshop is back. Come and learn the artistic practice of Arabic handwriting and calligraphy at Music and Arts Atelier. The lessons will take place every Saturday, Monday and Wednesday at 6pm. For more information, contact registration@atelierqatar.com

**After School Activities**  
**WHERE:** Atelier  
**WHEN:** Ongoing  
Music and arts activities for students taking place after they finish their day in school includes Group Music lessons, Hip-hop, Ballet, Drawing and Painting, Drama Theatre & Taekwondo. Ages between 5 and 10 years old after school hours.

**Doha Triathlon 2019**  
**WHERE:** Museum of Islamic Art  
**WHEN:** February 8  
Doha Triathlon has opened registration for its third edition. Those wishing to participate in the event can visit www.doha-triathlon.com to register in either the Olympic or Sprint which offers registration for both individuals and team relays. Another choice is the Super Sprint which is only for individuals and open for both adults and kids aged between 13-15 years old. Also, a kids’ triathlon was introduced this year for two age groups 7-9 and 10-12 years old to allow all family members to enjoy the event.

**Hobby Classes**  
**WHERE:** Mamanag Performing Art Centre  
**WHEN:** Wednesday – Monday  
Mamanag Performing Art Centre, is a holistic performing arts institution and a one stop solution for adults as well as children looking to explore their talents in various art forms. We offer classes in contemporary, Bollywood, hip-hop and Indian classical dance forms, along with classes for music, art and crafts, karate and yoga. Additional services include dance education and choreography. For details, call 31397609.

**Dance and Instrument Classes**  
**WHERE:** TCA Campus, Behind Gulf Times Building  
**WHEN:** Wednesday – Monday  
Learn the movements of dance styles in Bollywood, Hip Hop and also the musical instruments such as Piano, Guitar, Keyboard for adults as well kids and move in the world of music. For details, contact 66523871/ 31326749.

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**Compiled by Nausheen Shaikh. E-mail: gtlisting@gmail.com, Events and timings subject to change**
Poetry is going viral

We joke that for the first time in any of our lives, poetry is a growth industry

By Jenna Ross

People are clicking on poetry on Twitter. They're listening to poems on podcasts. They're buying poetry collections on Amazon.

But last week in St. Paul, they were hearing poetry in person. A diverse, mostly 20-something crowd snapped and purred as friends and strangers read their verses from Park Square Theatre's lower stage during Button Poetry's monthly slam poetry competition.

Many were drawn here by YouTube. (Button's YouTube channel boasts more than a million followers.) By Instagram. By the changing world of poetry.

"We're seeing astronomical growth," said Sam Van Cook, who founded Button, a Minneapolis-based company that straddles poetry's in-person and online worlds. "Friends who work in book sales ... we joke that for the first time in any of our lives, poetry is a growth industry."

More people -- especially young people -- are reading and buying poetry. About 12 percent of adults read poetry in the past year, a bump of 5 percentage points over 2012 and a 15-year high, according to a new survey by the National Endowment for the Arts. Sales of poetry books have swelled over that time, according to NPD BookScan, which tracks book sales in the US, "making it one of the fastest growing categories in publishing."

Social media are driving the trend. Among the top 20 bestselling poetry authors in 2017 were a dozen so-called "Instapoets," who attract readers by sharing short, photogenic verse on Instagram and Twitter. Their queen is Rupi Kaur, an Indian-born Canadian poet who boasts 3.4 million Instagram followers, sells out theatres and claps back at her detractors.

"There's a myth around who a poet can be -- or who can be a poet," Nguyen said by phone. "People are seeing that those archetypes, those barriers, aren't true."

"Poetry Tells the Truth"

As the slate of bards becomes more diverse, so do their audiences. Some of the biggest gains in that NEA Survey of Public Participation in the Arts, released last year, came from people of colour. About 15 percent of African-Americans reported reading poetry, up from 7 percent in 2012. Some 13 percent of Asian-Americans had read poetry in the past year, compared with 5 percent in 2012.

Minnesota-based Vietnamese-American poet Bao Phi compared it to the shift in Hollywood, where "we've seen that representation can..."
- rupi kaur

Actually pay out huge dividends."

For decades, many marginalised people have hustled to diversify the slate of poets performing and publishing, especially by connecting with students and young people, said Phi, who crafted his reputation as a spoken word artist in the 1990s. Performance-based poetry finally shed some of the scene’s chauvinism. Spoken word artists broke through the glass ceiling of publishing. (Phi didn’t publish his first poetry collection, Song I Sing, until 2011.)

“This didn’t happen overnight,” Phi said. “All that work adds up to what we’re seeing now.”

In these poets’ hands, the form is well suited to take on big, knotty topics and complex, collective grief, editors argue.

Erika Stevens, poetry editor at large for the Minneapolis-based nonprofit Coffee House Press, pointed to Indecency, by Justin Phillip Reed, which tackles white supremacy with intimate, sometimes confrontational poems. Last year, that collection, published by Coffee House, won the National Book Award in poetry, showing “how far the institutions have come in terms of what they recognise as innovative and groundbreaking and worthy of award attention,” Stevens said.

US poet laureate Tracy K Smith recently wrote in the New York Times about why “political poetry is hot again,” arguing that poetry “has become a means of owning up to the complexity of our problems.”

Stevens said, “I don’t know if you can divorce the current movement in poetry from the current politics in our country. Poetry tells the truth — in very specific and unflinching ways.

“And now more than ever, we have a need for the truth.”

“A Little Less Magnificent”

As a theatre kid at Central High School in St. Paul, Nguyen fell in love with poetry as he was performing it. He and his friends did spoken word at slams starting his freshman year. “It wasn’t like I was the weird kid reading poetry books alone at lunch,” Nguyen said by phone recently. “Poetry has never been this ... lone venture. I wasn’t strange or different for reading or liking poetry.”

(Novels came later, he said. “I was able to scam my way through grade school without reading a single book. Poetry taught me how to read.”)

So he appreciates that the literature industry, which “treats poetry as if nobody reads it,” is now acknowledging its popularity. The Internet and social media allow would-be fans to explore poetry beyond what they were taught in high school, he said, to encounter storytelling “they actually resonate with.”

Poets and readers have debuted the success of Kaur, who turned a viral Instagram post into bestselling books, a tour and, now, printed canvases. A recent poem, paired with a pen drawing, nabbed more than 200,000 likes: “I am water/ soft enough/to offer life/tough enough/to drown it away.”

Whether Kaur’s hugely popular poetry is “for me or not is not the question,” said Van Cook, of Button Poetry. “But I can tell you, if I talk to people about poetry at a wedding or a coffee shop, people — especially young women, women of colour — she’s one of the first names on their lips.” Those young women recognise themselves in her work and find solace in her books, he said.

Van Cook founded Button because he believes poetry is “most vibrant read aloud, and read by someone who loves it.” Its YouTube videos of readings by well- and lesser known poets often amass tens of thousands of views.

Composers talk about how film took classical music, which was being relegated to the sidelines, and gave it a new, more prominent home, he said. “People are going to look back and talk about social media that way for poetry,” Van Cook predicted. “What poetry needed was to be a little less magnificent.”

At “Button Poetry Live” on Monday night, a few newbies and some spoken word veterans took the stage, reading from iPhones and laptops, pieces written for their Twitter handles, or a coff ee shop, people — especially young women, women of colour — she’s one of the first names on their lips.” Those young women recognise themselves in her work and find solace in her books, he said.

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DPS-MIS organises workshop on Differentiated Teaching and Learning

DPS Modern Indian School (DPS-MIS) recently organised a workshop on Differentiated Teaching and Learning. Ashraf Sultana, In-Charge of Professional Development Programme welcomed the gathering. Speaking on the occasion, Soma Bhattacharjee, Headmistress of the Senior Secondary School, reflected on the big picture of differentiation in order to develop a sharper sense of how teachers plan for academic diversity over time and how students work in a differentiated classroom, which was followed by various speakers highlighting the significance of implementing a broader repertoire of management strategies for guiding a flexible and differentiated classroom. The video-based professional development series included seven videotapes which provided information on the conduct of a differentiated classroom. The speakers, included Beena Mohan, Bollineni Soujanya, Suhaila Mohsin, Sukanya Manoj, Sharmila Anantharaman, Jayanthi Rajagopalan, Cornelia Elizabeth Zarine C and Deepa Lavanya S. The workshop was followed by an interactive session by Asina Nafees, Principal of DPS-MIS. Najla Mohd Bukhari proposed a vote of thanks.

Eighty-seven overseas workers graduate from L2I-Q

Some 87 overseas workers in Qatar recently graduated from Lighthouse Integrated Institute-Qatar’s (L2I-Q) short and diploma courses during its first commencement exercises at Holiday Inn. L2I-Q aims to support overseas workers from various communities in Doha and to build their careers and improve their professional lives through lectures, seminars and trainings.

“Life is a continuous learning. We should not stop learning new things that will give way to change our lives for the betterment of our future, and to achieve higher level of dreams,” said Ma Anthonette Salgatar, Founder and President of L2I-Q. Apart from the new graduates, Salgatar noted that 147 individuals have also registered in different free seminars and trainings conducted for a number of short courses, including Purchasing and Inventory Management, delivered by Irma Danganan; Accounting for Non-Accountant, by Chester Mendoza; Human Resources Management 1, by Salgatar; Advertising 1, by Anna Cecilia Morquicillo; Workplace HSE (health, safety and environment) Management, by Andres Esteves; and Facility Management 1, by Ma. Andria De Vera.

The graduation ceremony was attended by Evelyn Laranang, Welfare Officer; and Alexandra Feliz Lipio, staff member of Philippine Overseas Labour Office. Besides special awards, the ceremony also felicitated several achievers in different courses or field of study. L2I-Q works in partnership with Inception Training Centre, with a license from Qatar’s Ministry of Education and Higher Education, to deliver both managerial and language courses.

The office bearers of L2I-Q, includes Aldrin Fortaleza, Dean of short courses in Qatar division; Andres Esteves, Dean of Safety Division; Ma Andria De Vera, Dean of Alison Division; Juliet Gatchalian-Plasencia, Guidance Counsellor; and Ferdinand Bareno, Marketing Executive.

NIS organises trip to Al Zubarah fort

Noble International School (NIS) recently organised a trip for the students to Al Zubarah fort. A contingent of 120 students and 5 faculty members visited the heritage site. Al Zubarah fort is a historic Qatari military fortress built under the oversight of Sheikh Abdullah bin Jassim al-Thani in 1938.
ISL hosts Inter-school Battle of the Bands

International School of London (ISL) Qatar recently hosted Inter-school Battle of the Bands 2019. The event was sponsored by Music Square and Rockschool UK. Vasilios Giouzounas, the resident Guitar expert at 51 East, was one of the judges at the competition. Some 10 bands from 7 schools across Doha participated in the competition. Steemgate from GEMS American Academy bagged the first position. Undivided from ISL Qatar was awarded with the title of Most Promising Band. Puff le from Doha College and The Underwater Acoustics from ACS is all set to perform at the Winners performance at 51 East, Lagoona Mall.

QNKFA organises a gathering

Qatar North Kuppam Friends Association (QNKFA), an expatriate community organisation in Doha, recently organised a gathering ‘Nattoruma 2019’ for its members and supporters at Madinat Khalifa North Family Park. The event featured various arts and sports activities. The programme was inaugurated by Sayeed, RJ at Radio Suno. ‘Potluck’ was also part of the event, where community members brought several traditional food dishes and enjoyed the feast.

GU-Q announces series of on-campus and online tutorials and workshops

Georgetown University in Qatar (GU-Q) has recently announced a series of on-campus and online tutorials and workshops that teach critical skills needed for successful enrolment in higher education. The training opportunities are open to all prospective high school and transfer students, and are designed to help them achieve their academic and career goals whether they are applying to GU-Q, another Qatar Foundation school, or elsewhere.

“Navigating the university enrolment process isn’t easy. There are many steps involved, documents that are required, and a set of communication and interview skills that can help set an applicant apart in order to secure that coveted acceptance in the admission pool,” says Joseph Hernandez, Director of Admissions at GU-Q. “As our February 1st admissions deadline approaches, we want to strengthen education in Qatar by supporting prospective students every step of the way.”

The calendar of events include controlled writing exercises and ongoing walk-in office hours to discuss enrolment, generous financial aid options, student life, and planning for the future. GU-Q students and staff will also help the students of Grade IX-XII to fill out college applications and conduct practice college interviews through the Planet Georgetown programme.

With future career paths a priority for college-bound students, admissions staff will provide guidance on how to choose the right school and degree programme, and introduce participants to GU-Q’s Bachelor of Science in Foreign Service degree (BSFS), offered in one of four majors, including International History, International Economics, International Politics, and Culture and Politics.

Dana Khalid al-Anzy, alumna of GU-Q and a two-time winner of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani’s gold medal national award for Academic Excellence, said, “GU-Q has equipped me to be critical and introspective about complex global issues. It has taught me how to study with an open mind to global cultures and affairs. I now proudly call myself an Ambassador for Qatari youth at the Youth Assembly in service to my nation.”
According to a press release, Banana Island Resort Doha has recently launched a range of diverse and exquisite activities offering guests a much-needed escape from daily routines and indulge in the most comfortable and plush environment in the resort’s various facilities, be it enjoying a great swim at the resort’s heated pool or immersing in beach activities such as water sports. Guests can also relish the delicious cuisine at the resort’s world-class restaurants. Alongside a great spa and fitness experience, guests will have an amazing opportunity to indulge in experiential activities such as towel art classes, pizza making classes, mocktail classes, coffee foaming classes and Arabic coffee classes. To keep the children engaged, the resort has planned an array of unique activities. Teens can enjoy a lively den with games and movies, daily from 9am to 9pm. Family and friends can also explore different movie options at the VIP Cinema, daily from 10am to 11:30pm. Adding a treasured value to the guests’ experience, Azraq restaurant is offering the ‘Warm Winter Brunch’ every Friday, providing the food lovers an opportunity to experience a wide variety of gourmet from Middle Eastern, Asian and western selections, in addition to Indian curries and authentic Italian pasta, fresh sushi, a cheese counter and succulent carvery meats. Guests can also relish sweet treats from a decadent selection of homemade desserts, including bitter chocolate cake, chestnut pie, tiramisu and hot apple strudel that warms from within. The ‘Hello Beautiful Weather’ bouquet includes multiple perks, ensuring fun time for all the resort’s visitors. The great value bouquet offers enjoyment at the sandy private golden beach and turquoise waters, free access to one-of-a-kind Lagoon pool, a unique dining experience in its world class restaurants, and other amazing activities. The ‘Hello Beautiful Weather’ bouquet also includes QR200 credit per person to spend at any resort restaurants and QR50 credit per person to spend on any resort activities, in addition to the luxury boat transfers, which departs to the island from Al Shyoukh Terminal at Doha Corniche on a daily basis from 8am to 7pm.

Experiencing warm hospitality of Banana Island Resort

Toyota premiers all-new Supra at Detroit Auto Show

Toyota premiered its much-anticipated all-new Supra recently at the 2019 North American International Auto Show (NAIAS) in Detroit. As a thoroughbred sports car, the Toyota Supra built a reputation both as a formidable performer on the road and as an all-conquering racer on the racetrack, earning legions of fans around the world. According to a press release, the all-new Supra is the first global model of GAZOO Racing’s (GR) sports car series. Ever since first competing in Germany’s 24 Hours of Nürburgring endurance race in 2007, GR has been developing its cars and people through its motorsports activities with the goal of making ‘ever-better cars.’ The knowledge and expertise it has built up over the years have been funneled into bringing the Supra back to life in the form of the GR Supra as a car that people the world over will find fun to drive.

Toyota President, Akio Toyoda, who is also a master driver, said, “Back in the day, I spent countless hours driving an old Supra at the Nurburgring to become a master driver. Supra is like an old friend that holds a special place in my heart. While other manufacturers were putting the beautiful new prototypes they were going to introduce through their paces, I was driving an old Supra that was no longer in production. So even though Toyota had no plans to make a new Supra, just like a lot of other die-hard Supra fans around the world I secretly wanted to make it happen. The new GR Supra was born through testing at Nurburgring, and I can honestly say that it is better than ever.” Chief Engineer, Tetsuya Tada, who headed the vehicle’s development, said “We set out to create a pure sports car that would deliver the ultimate in exciting driving experiences. Rather than only working toward improving specs such as horsepower and circuit lap times, we emphasised sensitivity in performance, such as the degree to which driving could be felt to be enjoyable, with car and driver becoming one.”

It is worth mentioning that the first production 2020 Toyota GR Supra to roll off the assembly line, ‘Global #1’, was auctioned for charity recently for $21 million at the 48th Annual Barrett-Jackson Auction at WestWorld of Scottsdale, with proceeds going to the American Heart Association (AHA) and the Bob Woodruff Foundation (BWF).
James Lee Burke makes dark music in New Iberia Blues

By Colette Bancroft

Dave Robicheaux knows that some of what he sees and hears in the Louisiana bayou country is not of this world, Confederate soldiers marching out of the mist, dead members of his Vietnam platoon calling him on the phone and the like, but he has learned to take it all in stride.

So when the New Iberia police detective answers a disturbance call at the home of a movie director, peers through a telescope on the man’s deck and spots, floating on the waters of Weeks Bay, the body of a young woman lashed to a huge cross, he questions his own eyes.

It’s “an image that seemed hallucinatory, dredged out of the unconscious, a superimposition on the natural world of humanity’s penchant for cruelty,” Dave tells us. At first the director, Desmond Cormier, and one of his Hollywood friends say they can’t see the body. But Dave’s deputy can, and when they fish Lucinda Arceneaux out of the waves, she’s all too real.

That bizarre murder kicks off The New Iberia Blues, the 22nd novel in the Robicheaux series by that American treasure James Lee Burke. His prose is as powerful as ever, his engagement with the dark corridors of America’s past and the light of enduring friendships just as deep.

Lucinda is the 26-year-old, mixed-race daughter of a widowed preacher. She has been working with the Innocence Project, the organisation that investigates the cases of people on death row who might have been wrongfully convicted. She’s also a movie fan and might have connections to Desmond’s local shoot.

Desmond is a local as well, or was, and Dave has known him since he was a kid. Raised on the nearby Chitimacha tribal reservation, Desmond defied the odds of an impoverished childhood to become a successful director. He’s back in Louisiana to film some of a script he was a kid. Raised on the nearby Chitimacha tribal reservation, Desmond defied the odds of an impoverished childhood to become a successful director.

Desmond’s local shoot.

On his first visit to Desmond’s house, Dave discovers they share an obsession when he sees a framed still of a scene from director John Ford’s 1946 masterpiece, My Darling Clementine. It’s a photo of Henry Fonda (as Wyatt Earp) saying goodbye to the title character, played by Cathy Downs, with Arizona’s Monument Valley as a backdrop.

To Desmond, it’s a moment of high romance; to Dave it’s a portrait of a man facing death.

Their obsession will come to life, and become a rivalry, when Dave gets a new partner, an ambitious young officer named Bailey Ribbons, who is a dead ringer for Downs as Clementine. Desmond says to Dave, “I see the way you look at Bailey Ribbons. I don’t blame you. For me, she’s Clementine Carter. She takes us into the past, into our first love, into America before the railroad guys and the industrialists got their hands on it. When you’re with her, every day is spring, and death holds no dominion in your life.”

As Dave puts it, “How do you get mad at a man who speaks in Petrarchan sonnets?” Dave has outlived three wives and grieves for them all; he knows he has no business pursuing a woman so much younger than himself. But while he’s at Bailey’s home, he tells us, “I didn’t want to leave. I wanted to be decades younger. I wanted to be everything except what I was. Unfortunately, at a certain age, wanting something you can’t have can become a way of life.”

Facing so much death, those of the murder victims and the possibility of his own or those of people close to him, Dave can always turn to his indomitable comrade in arms, Clete Purcel. Ex-cop turned private investigator, skilled practitioner of every one of the seven deadly sins, agent of chaos with a tender heart, Clete is as memorable a creation as Dave.

Desmond is something of an alter ego in the book, but Clete has long been Dave’s equal but opposite force. You can tell they’re in trouble when Clete’s the one who says, “Mind if I tag along, do oversight, make sure things stay under control?”

As its plot lines accelerate and intersect, The New Iberia Blues becomes a very dark ride. But with Burke at the wheel, it’s irresistible. – Tampa Bay Times/TNS

IRRESISTIBLE: As its plot lines accelerate and intersect, the book becomes a very dark ride. But with Burke at the wheel, it’s irresistible.

POWERFUL: Burke’s prose is as powerful as ever in the book and so deep is his engagement with the dark corridors of America’s past and the light of enduring friendships.

James Lee Burke makes dark music in New Iberia Blues

New Iberia Blues, the 22nd novel in the Robicheaux series by that American treasure James Lee Burke. His prose is as powerful as ever, his engagement with the dark corridors of America’s past and the light of enduring friendships just as deep.

Lucinda is the 26-year-old, mixed-race daughter of a widowed preacher. She has been working with the Innocence Project, the organisation that investigates the cases of people on death row who might have been wrongfully convicted. She’s also a movie fan and might have connections to Desmond’s local shoot.

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On his first visit to Desmond’s house, Dave discovers they share an obsession when he sees a framed still of a scene from director John Ford’s 1946 masterpiece, My Darling Clementine. It’s a photo of Henry Fonda (as Wyatt Earp) saying goodbye to the title character, played by Cathy Downs, with Arizona’s Monument Valley as a backdrop.

To Desmond, it’s a moment of high romance; to Dave it’s a portrait of a man facing death.

Their obsession will come to life, and become a rivalry, when Dave gets a new partner, an ambitious young officer named Bailey Ribbons, who is a dead ringer for Downs as Clementine. Desmond says to Dave, “I see the way you look at Bailey Ribbons. I don’t blame you. For me, she’s Clementine Carter. She takes us into the past, into our first love, into America before the railroad guys and the industrialists got their hands on it. When you’re with her, every day is spring, and death holds no dominion in your life.”

As Dave puts it, “How do you get mad at a man who speaks in Petrarchan sonnets?” Dave has outlived three wives and grieves for them all; he knows he has no business pursuing a woman so much younger than himself. But while he’s at Bailey’s home, he tells us, “I didn’t want to leave. I wanted to be decades younger. I wanted to be everything except what I was. Unfortunately, at a certain age, wanting something you can’t have can become a way of life.”

Facing so much death, those of the murder victims and the possibility of his own or those of people close to him, Dave can always turn to his indomitable comrade in arms, Clete Purcel. Ex-cop turned private investigator, skilled practitioner of every one of the seven deadly sins, agent of chaos with a tender heart, Clete is as memorable a creation as Dave.

Desmond is something of an alter ego in the book, but Clete has long been Dave’s equal but opposite force. You can tell they’re in trouble when Clete’s the one who says, “Mind if I tag along, do oversight, make sure things stay under control?”

As its plot lines accelerate and intersect, The New Iberia Blues becomes a very dark ride. But with Burke at the wheel, it’s irresistible. – Tampa Bay Times/TNS

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POWERFUL: Burke’s prose is as powerful as ever in the book and so deep is his engagement with the dark corridors of America’s past and the light of enduring friendships.

James Lee Burke makes dark music in New Iberia Blues

New Iberia Blues, the 22nd novel in the Robicheaux series by that American treasure James Lee Burke. His prose is as powerful as ever, his engagement with the dark corridors of America’s past and the light of enduring friendships just as deep.

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Healthy Living

Gift from the sea

Limu moui, a seaweed from the Pacific island of Tonga frequently used in drinks with aloe vera and green tea, has many health benefits.

Immune system booster ...
and more

- Stabilizes blood sugar levels
- Reduces cholesterol levels

Source: U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization
Negative experiences on Facebook will make you lonely

Negative experiences on social media platforms like Facebook and Twitter increase the odds of feeling lonely especially among young adults, a new study has found.

Positive interactions on social media are not making young adults feel more connected, whereas negative experiences increase the likelihood of them reporting loneliness, said scientists from the University of Pittsburgh’s Centre for Research on Media Technology and Health (MTH).

“Social media is, seemingly, about connecting people. So it is surprising and interesting that our investigations reveal social media being linked to loneliness,” said lead author Brian Primack, Director of Pitt’s MTH.

Perceived social isolation, which is a synonym for loneliness, is associated with poor health outcomes, such as high blood pressure, heart disease and depression, he added in a paper published in the journal American Journal of Health Promotion. Primack and his team surveyed 1,178 students aged 18 to 30 about their social media use, to what extent their experiences were positive or negative, and their level of perceived loneliness.

For every 10 per cent increase in negative experiences on social media, the participants reported a 13 per cent increase in feelings of loneliness.

However, for every 10 per cent increase in positive experiences on social media, the participants reported no statistically significant change in feelings of loneliness.

“There is a tendency for people to give greater weight to negative experiences and traits compared with positive ones, and this may be particularly relevant when it comes to social media,” said study author Jaime Sidani.

“Health practitioners may encourage the public to be more cognizant and thoughtful regarding their online experiences, thereby interrupting a potential cycle of negative experiences and loneliness,” added Primack.

Because social media is so pervasive, it is critically important that we better understand why this is happening and how we can help people navigate social media without as many negative consequences, wrote researchers.

— IANS
**Wordsearch**

Every letter of the alphabet is used at least once. Squares with the same number in have the same letter in. Work out which number represents which letter.

**Codeword**

**Sudoku**

**Bound And Gagged**
ACROSS
1. A local girl provides the music (9)
8. A holiday with a little of what we all like on holiday (7)
9. Crack a nut, have a drink and unwind (7)
10. Put back in wraps or reveal the flier (7)
13. The chap who goes after the game (8)
14. Sees the point, I agree (4)
16. Amazed at having got only a walk-on part? (10)
20. At half five, the man has something to eat (4)
22. It's very small, for a male (4)
24. Virtually though not exactly the same in quantity (4,2,4)
28. Accompany, with a siren (4)
29. What the poorly off get (3,5)
31. Meaning it's not quite unadulterated wine (7)
34. Though quiet, rather discourteous and straitlaced (7)
35. Due to the fact that the note is genuine (7)
36. Blooming good racing drivers do! (9)

DOWN
1. Clashes with each other that cleaners have (7)
2. Train one up in the Greek Centre (7)
3. A bad shot is wrong (5)
4. Dressed lover boy in working clothes (7)
5. Exploit, we're told, females (4)
6. It's falling rain that's created the hubbub (4)
7. One of those big-heads who need no introduction (4,3)
11. Set off for the outskirts quickly (6)
12. She didn't sink: quite the opposite (4)
15. A very good opposition (4)
17. A man and he has a tic: sad (3)
18. She gets up in the morning before me (4)
19. The lady's got the map out to put in the basket (6)
21. An SOS? No, no, you fool! (3)
22. The fat girl, standing, sit beside (7)
23. In this instance, half the people on test (7)
24. 'I have to save up first' is being shifty (7)
25. Least worried, the child goes in carrying books (7)
30. Examine in the surgery and find well (5)
32. Carry forwards (4)
33. Supports kid spoken of (4)
36. Clashes with each other that cleaners have (7)

Codeword
BUCKRAM POINTED
GARGOYLES QUEST
PFPDSUAH
BEXPTERIWINKLE
EORENFBE
HORIZONS ADVERB
OESFENE
WALLFLOWER JOWL
EYIMMRKMA
VING NORTHEAST
ENHIEANE
REGATTATANKARD

Yesterday's Solutions
ACROSS: 3 Seven times 8 Potent 9 Iced 10 Career girl 11 Roe 13 List 14 Allegro 15 Ewer 17 Snaps 20 Pulse 22 Seal 24 Animate 25 Drag 27 Bee 28 Blunt words 29 Time 30 Unsure 31 Sleep tight.
DOWN: 1 Donation 2 Resent 3 Startle 4 Valid 5 Nail 6 Madrigal 7 Some more 12 Slap 14 Area 16 Wise 17 Shambles 18 Anisette 19 Fab Stab 21 Standard 23 Left out 25 Drowsy 26 Ruing 28 Beat.

Answers
Super Cryptic Clues
Wordsearch
Codeword
Henry Dunham scores with attention grabbing project

By Rick Bentley

The Standoff at Sparrow Creek is the first feature film for writer/director Henry Dunham, but he has already cracked the formula for making a quality movie. It’s a simple equation: Take a great cast, add a solid story and present in a fascinating setting. And here’s the bonus: It doesn’t take a load of money.

Dunham’s production starts with a shooting at a police funeral. Fear that the attack will be blamed on the militia he has joined, reclusive ex-cop Gannon (James Badge Dale) is forced out of retirement against his best wishes to find out if someone in his group was the shooter. The fear is the attack could inspire copycat violence across the country and deadly police action on his group.

Gannon and his fellow militiamen come together in a remote lumber mill they have been using as their headquarters.

Gannon interrogates Keating (Aramayo), a young member of the militia who doesn’t speak. Once he opens up to Gannon, what starts as a brutal exercise in interview tactics becomes a battle of intellects. Written by Dunham, the verbal battles between the pair are crisp and smart.

While their battle of the barbs is a high point, every word services the story through the script. Dunham keeps the elements tight, and a high point, every word services the story through the script.

All this comes together to make The Standoff at Sparrow Creek a production that grabs attention through a well-constructed script, keeps the focus through a strong cast and brings it all to a fascinating conclusion in a real-world location that often seems surreal. The only bad thing for Dunham is he’s set the bar high for his next production.

— TNS

Bringing King Arthur to a modern age

By Katie Walsh

It’s been eight years since Joe Cornish’s directorial debut, Attack the Block, a ferociously funny and fresh alien invasion flick that introduced audiences to John Boyega, who would go on to rule the universe in Star Wars. It’s an alien movie that succeeds because it’s rooted in contemporary culture – the kids battling the wild extraterrestrials are council estate hoodlums. In his long-awaited sophomore effort, The Kid Who Would Be King, Cornish remains rooted in British culture. His heroes may be a bit younger, and he swaps sci-fi/horror for historical fantasy, but Cornish fully embraces the legends and lore that shaped Britain.

It’s not always easy to put a new spin on a story that’s been done so many times like the tale of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table – just ask Guy Ritchie and Charlie Hunnam, whose King Arthur: Legend of the Sword tanked badly at the box office. But with earnestness and a deep affection for the morals contained within the legend, Cornish crafts a King Arthur movie that draws in a younger crowd, reinterprets the tale for a modern age and speaks consciously to the current political climate. That’s quite the feat.

Louis Ashbourne Serkis stars as Alex, a sweet, nerdy kid who badly misses his father and bravely sticks up for his best friends, Bedders (Dean Chaumoo), against brutal school bullies Kaye (Rhianna Dorris) and Lance (Tom Taylor). Running from his tormentors, he escapes into a construction site and finds a sword buried in a concrete piling. He pulls it out and – voila, Excalibur. Merlin – in young form (Angus Imrie), older form (Patrick Stewart) and avian form – arrives to guide young Alex on his quest to save a leaderless, hopeless, divided Britain.

Alex needs some knights, so he taps Bedders, Lance and Kaye, hoping to rely on their strength and confidence. And because they witness one of the fiery zombie knights that come for him at night, sent by the witchy villainess Morgana (Rebecca Ferguson), Arthur’s half-sister, who believes the sword is her inheritance. The quartet set out on a journey to save the world, learning lessons about what it means to uphold the chivalric code in their actions and in their hearts.

The Kid Who Would Be King is a smart and sprightly kids’ movie imbued with pertinent lessons, not just about history but about how we can comport ourselves to be better citizens with honesty, bravery, love and teamwork. It is a truly epic adventure, and it takes its time travelling from beat to beat. All the story points and emotional journeys are carefully articulated, but the film is far too long – there are anticlimactic climaxes that lead into further battles, and the running time is unnecessarily protracted.

But it’s hard to find fault when the characters are so charming, especially Imrie as a truly wacky version of a teenage Merlin, sporting a baggy Led Zeppelin tee and gobbling fried chicken when he’s not mumbling incantations. Imrie lights up the screen, but Serkis and Chaumoo bring the heart and humour as the best friends who become unlikely heroes. This The Kid Who Would Be King pulls off the difficult hat trick of being simultaneously clever, inspiring and relevant, and that’s worth cheering.

— TNS
Netflix scores first best-picture Oscar nomination for Roma

By Nardine Saad

In a landmark but inevitable feat, Netflix has its first best-picture Oscar nomination thanks to Alfonso Cuaron’s Roma.

The nostalgic, black-and-white film was validated as a lead contender in the Oscars race when the nominations for the 91st Academy Awards were announced Tuesday morning, tying with the period comedy The Favourite with 10 nominations apiece.

Roma picked up nods in the best picture, director, foreign-language film, original screenplay and cinematography categories; technical nominations for sound mixing, sound editing and production design; as well as a lead-actress notice for newcomer Yalitza Aparicio and a supporting actress nod for Marina de Tavira.

Cuaron himself, who won two Oscars in 2014 for Gravity, is up for trophies as director, writer, cinematographer and co-producer of the film, but was left out of the film editing category.

Mexico’s official Oscar entry could also make history by being the first foreign-language film to go on to win best picture.

Netflix tested its Oscars-race endurance with last year’s gut-wrenching drama Mudbound, which earned four Academy Award nominations; however, it was edged out of the best-picture race, and did not go on to win in any category.

But Roma, Cuaron’s ode to his childhood caregiver in Mexico, has been dazzling audiences and critics since it debuted at the Venice Film Festival last August, where it picked up the coveted Golden Lion award.

Since then, the film began streaming in mid-December and broke new ground for Netflix with an exclusive theatrical release. It also garnered two Golden Globe Awards, won best picture from the New York and Los Angeles critics groups and collected a glut of guild nominations.

With Netflix’s willingness to spend on prestige content and awards campaigns, wide-ranging promotional tactics, as well as chief content officer Ted Sarandos’ grit to win, the streaming giant has emerged as a force disrupting Hollywood’s studio-dominated landscape.

— Los Angeles Times/TNS
Healthy running with vivid colours

The fifth edition of The Color Run will be organised at Qatar National Convention Centre (QNCC) on January 26 at 7am. By Mudassir Raja

Life is not colourless anymore. There is a definite opportunity to play with a lot of colours. The healthy and happy event of The Color Run returns to Doha. People of all ages can take part in the run and enjoy the festive like activity.

The fifth edition of The Color Run will be organised at Qatar National Convention Centre (QNCC) on January 26. The famous paint race also known as the ‘Happiest 5k on the Planet’ will start at 7am.

The Color Run is the largest running series in the world, where runners are covered with different colours throughout the course. It finishes with a super-charged finish festival including a DJ and plenty of games and activities for all.

The Color Run 2019 will have a new ‘Hero Tour’ and asks the colour runners to enter a realm where nothing is impossible, and they are unstoppable. The event will help the runners release their inhibitions and soar high at the new super zone or to discover the super hero in them. All participants will receive a cape in their race pack and for the first time ever, the participants will be given a medal at the finish line.

The Color Run has made the Happiest 5k accessible to all ages and all fitness levels and raised over $5mn globally for charity since its founding. The 2018 edition of The Color Run last year attracted a record-breaking 9,000 participants and this year's turnout is expected to surpass the number. Tickets are available at www.thecolorrun.qa

Christian Moufarrej, Senior Director of The Color Run by Sahtak Awalan, told Community that The Color Run has been experienced by over 6 million runners worldwide in more than 35 countries, and it continues to be a leader in the fun running space.

“The Color Run has been in Doha for five years, and with each year, the event grows bigger with more and more people participating. It is a catalyst for people to adopt a more active lifestyle and have fun with it.”

When asked about the success of the previous events and what new they have brought this time, Christian said, “The 2018 edition was an overwhelming success. In this year’s edition, the runners will be given a chance to soar to new heights in the all-new Super Zone, and the returning of the Foam Zone. The runners are encouraged to suit up in gear fit for only the most super of heroes and will collect their first-ever medals at the finish line. The Super Zone invites the colour runners to soar to new heights as they are doused in colour in front of a skyline backdrop – it makes for the perfect profile photo. The Foam Zone is 15 metres long and allows runners to enjoy bubbles and foam on the course.”

Any piece of advice the director would like to share with the aspiring participants? “The runners should wear white shirts at the starting line. It will be great if they finish plastered in colour,” he said.

After the colour runners complete the race, the fun will continue with an unforgettable finish festival. This larger than life party is equipped with music, dance and massive colour throws, which create millions of vivid colour combinations,” he added.