

College Avenue

Colorado State | Volume 9: Issue 4 | Dec. 2013



*Holiday
Gift Guide*

**What You Should
Read Over Break**

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**Don't Be Bored This
Holiday Season**

Page 8

**Gift-Giving for
Unique Personalities**

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Decorating?**

Page 22

Lives

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The *Holiday* Gift Issue

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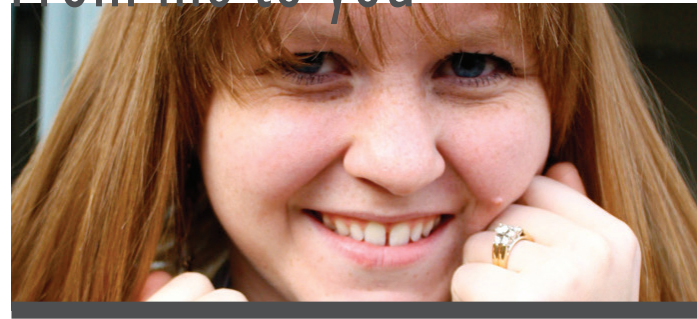
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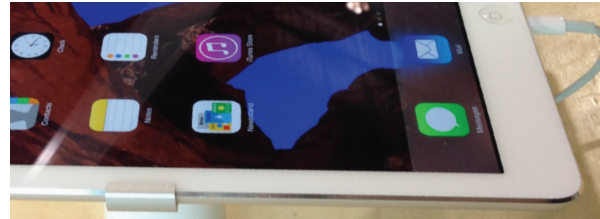
Winter break. Can you believe it is only three days and one finals week away? I must say I am looking forward to all of the very fun things that come with winter break like sipping hot cocoa with schnapps by the fire, laughing with family, telling new stories and shopping. The holiday season is not just for fun, it is filled with sharing special gifts with the great people in your life – who can sometimes be difficult to buy for. We have page 19 reserved for exactly that problem.

Have you ever gotten four days into break and been like, “OH MY LANTA, I’M SO BORED!”? Well, we have a remedy for that, too. Check out our Bored Over Break Guide to get you through the entire break on page 8.

To get away from boredom right now, be sure to flip to page 20 and revel over the beauty that is our gallery. If I say so myself, the College Avenue staff members have really outdone themselves with their photography.

Oh, and happy happy holidays. This holiday gift guide is my gift to you, saying thanks for reading ;)

Logan Martinez, Editor in Chief



Letters to the editor

As the magazine produced by CSU students for the CSU and Fort Collins community, we would like to extend an invitation to our readers to submit letters to the editor ranging from 50 to 150 words with your feedback on the magazine. This is your magazine, and we would like to know what you think of the content, design or anything else. All letters to the editor must be typed in a word document and attached to an e-mail, which should be sent to collegeavenue@collegian.com.

Mission statement

College Avenue is a magazine produced and operated by CSU students. Our mission is to serve the CSU and Fort Collins community with engaging and informative coverage

of relevant topics. Our staff is dedicated to providing balanced and accurate reporting as well as visually stimulating design and photographic elements. We also seek to provide an outlet for entertainment with the opportunity for audience interaction and feedback. Above all, we strive to maintain journalistic integrity through professional excellence.

College Avenue is a magazine produced and operated by CSU students intended as a public forum.

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5 BOOKS TO READ OVER BREAK

By Zane Womeldorph
College Avenue Magazine

College is about reading. Unfortunately, most of the time this means slogging through 30 pages of academic blather on some obscure topic. But like the Starks always say, “Winter break is coming,” and that means we can finally read something for enjoyment. Here are five suggestions for your winter-reading pleasure:



1 THE MISTBORN TRILOGY

BY BRANDON SANDERSON

Most fantasy series are years-long endeavors. This trilogy is of manageable size, short enough to be read all the way through in one month if you get sufficiently wrapped up in the story. Fast-paced, unpredictable, magic, swords — it’s all there.



2 INFINITE JEST

BY DAVID FOSTER WALLACE

This book is a behemoth and will require dedication. Wallace’s masterpiece is a literary marvel and is supposed to be well worth the effort.



3 IN COLD BLOOD

BY TRUMAN CAPOTE

This is a classic true-crime story, the first of its kind and possibly the best. It is an engrossing non-fiction novel about the murder of a Kansas family that is hard to put away.



4 DOUBLE DOWN

BY MARK HALPERIN
& JOHN HEILEMANN

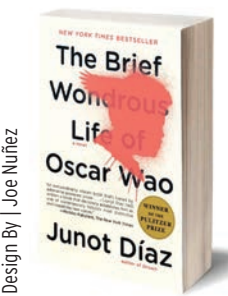
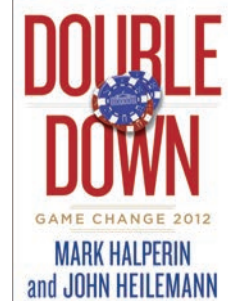
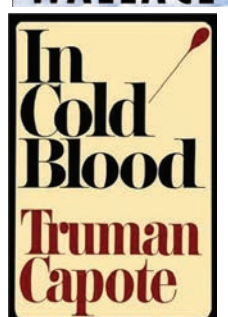
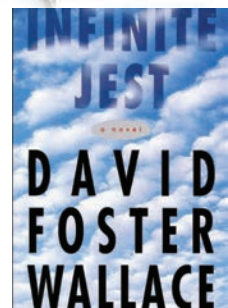
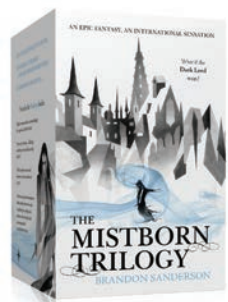
Telling the inside story of the 2012 presidential election, this book is perfect for anyone longing for the lost entertainment of the Republican primary debates and eagerly awaiting the 2016 election cycle.



5 THE BRIEF WONDROUS LIFE OF OSCAR WAO

BY JUNOT DIAZ

Winner of the 2008 Pulitzer Prize for fiction, this book is 300 pages of incredible style and story. A must-read for anyone with literary leanings.





Gifts for Peers

By Josephine Bush
College Avenue Magazine

Gifting for your fellow peers can be difficult on a tight budget, but gifting college life essentials can help your friends out. These gifts will actually benefit your friends, providing necessities for their households in order to make a memorable difference in organization, decoration and thoughtfulness.

STORAGE BOXES

Buy several large, blank storage boxes and grab your box of arts and crafts. The idea is to design the boxes for your friends with pictures, magazines clippings, quotes and memorable sayings. The box will ultimately provide a storage place for your friend's so-called junk, all the while being able to publicly display friendship and memories they will never forget.

BASKET

"All the things you never want to buy basket." The description is in the title: a simple basket comprised of household objects college students hate spending more money on. Grab a basket, some cleaning supplies, toilet paper, toothpaste, deodorant and some more everyday necessities. Your friend will thank you for saving them the time and the money, and you may even get a laugh out of it. Just make sure to add a cute card!

CAFFEINE

For college students, it seems to always be the caffeine drive that keeps us going when we have three papers, two tests and a lab report due in one week. A particularly useful gift for times like this is the gift of caffeine. This could be a bag of local coffee beans, a gift card to a cute cafe where the two of you can get your study on later, or if you are looking to symbolize your long-term support and friendship, a cheap coffee maker is your answer. You can find them at thrift stores all over Fort Collins for under \$15, or go big and gift them with the Keurig to fuel those late-night study sessions.

WHITE/CORK BOARD

White dry-erase boards are a great way to study, organize your week or tell your roommates what is going on in terms of chores or due payments. However, by making it unique and personal, you will undoubtedly bring smiles to their faces. Buy a white board and then a corkboard about three inches larger in width and area than that of the white board. Grab some hot glue and attach the corkboard to the back. Along the edges of the board, add pictures, quotes and memories to make the regular white board into something more than just a place to scribble.

BLANKET

It is winter, and paying the heating bill sucks. Make or buy a blanket and gift it to your best bud. Your friend will be able to think of you whenever they have it, especially when he or she is saving an extra cost on that ever-growing energy bill.



SURVIVAL KIT FOR NEW COLORADANS

By **Marissa Isgreen**
College Avenue Magazine

Despite the fact that 78 percent of CSU students are in-state, everyone knows at least one out-of-towner. The adjustment to living in Colorado can often be overwhelming between the unpredictable weather, avid sports fans and lack of turn signals. With the holiday season upon us, we created a Colorado Christmas Gift Guide - or survival guide - for all of your out-of-state friends.

1 **Snow scraper.** You will be able to use this baby until May! Haven't you heard the saying, "April showers bring May blizzards"? If you want to get fancy, you could decorate it or buy a custom Denver Broncos one to kill two birds with one stone.

2 **Broncos stuff.** It only takes a couple weeks of living in Colorado to realize that every Sunday during football season, towns across Colorado turn orange. Do not let your out-of-state friends feel left out. Deck them out in Broncos swag.

3 **Music** from Colorado natives such as Flobots, 3OH!3, Breathe Carolina or Pretty Lights.

4

If you are short on money this holiday season, consider making your friends a **Book of Coloradoisms** to help them learn the culture. For example, we consider freezing to be 10 degrees and below. You could also define fourteeners and Rocky Mountain oysters because understanding why the balls of bulls are edible may be hard for out-of-towners to understand. Try explaining the real South Park: a grassland Colorado basin where small towns such as Alma and Fairplay are located.

5

Lotion and lip balm. Colorado's dry, arid climate is notorious for creating leather hands and cracked lips.

6

And while we are on the topic of liquids, might as well load them up with some **Colorado beer**. There are more than 140 craft breweries to choose from!

7

Warm clothes. As we Coloradans know, it is only going to get colder from here on out. Hats, gloves and scarves are always a good start. If you want to spoil your friends, fleece, long underwear and a real jacket (not polyester and nylon) would not be a bad idea.

Bored over Break?

By Marissa Isgreen, Nicole Leicht, Josephine Bush & Nicole Beale
College Avenue Magazine

Finals week is almost here, which means break is right around the corner! An entire month away from school always sounds great in the midst of headache-inducing study sessions, but finding something to do every day of break can be tough. *College Avenue* has your solution: a calendar of must-trys for every day of break. So, when the day(s) of boredom hits, pick an idea and give it a try!

Dec.
21

See ornaments come to life:

Cirque Dreams Holidayze will be showing at the Buell Theatre in Denver from Dec. 10 to Dec. 22. See the holiday season come to life in ways you never imagined. This show surely will not disappoint.

Dec.
22



Build your own ski ramp/jump

Go outside and build yourself a mini park using snow, wood and anything else you can find. Then show off your skills or master a new trick!

Dec.
23

**Make a Christmas playlist to rock out to while you travel!
Try these classics:**

- "White Christmas," Bing Crosby
- "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," Judy Garland
- "The Christmas Song," Nat King Cole
- "I'll be Home for Christmas," Michael Bublé
- "Baby It's Cold Outside," Johnny Mercer and Margaret Whiting
- "Up On the Housetop," The Jackson 5
- "Winter Wonderland," Peggy Lee
- "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus," The Ronettes
- "Santa Claus is Coming to Town," Lou Rawls
- "Merry Christmas, Baby," Otis Redding
- "Blue Christmas," Elvis Presley
- "Santa Baby," Eartha Kitt
- "Sleigh Ride," Ella Fitzgerald
- "This Christmas," Donny Hathaway
- "All I Want for Christmas is You," Mariah Carey
- "The Christmas Waltz," Frank Sinatra

Dec.
24



Embrace the outdoors:

Get your buddies or family together and play a game of football or ultimate frisbee. Yes, in the snow!

Dec.
25

**Happy
Holidays!**
College Avenue Staff

Dec.
26

Sip on some cider:

Visit Scumpy's Hard Cider Bar in Old Town for a new take on a holiday classic. Scumpy's offers a variety of hard ciders along with sandwiches and sweets.

Dec.
27

Take pictures:

Take a photography walk down the Poudre River Trail with your smartphone. Share your photos with us at #heycollegian!

Dec. 28

Light up the night:

To make holiday lanterns, use a hole punch to create unique designs in a paper bag, fill it with sand and add a candle.



Photo by Nicole Beale

Dec. 29

Go back to childhood:

Head to the Lyric Cinema Cafe for FREE morning cartoons from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and enjoy a \$5 all-you-can-eat cereal bar.

Dec. 30

Tea Tasting:

Celestial Seasonings offers free tours every day. You will get to see what goes into one of the most advanced tea production plants. What's not to love about free samples of warm tea in the cool winter weather?!



Dec. 31

Go for a little skate:

The Ice Rink at the Promenade Shops at Centerra houses a beautiful outdoor ice rink in an easy to reach location. Bundle up and try out your best skating skills, maybe even do a little holiday shopping while you're at it. The ice rink is open Nov. 8 to Feb. 23.

Jan. 1

Happy New Year!



College Avenue Staff

Jan. 2

Check it off:



Check off some things on your "70 Things To Do Before You Graduate" list:

- Find out who Peanuts the Bulldog was
- Climb, hike, swim, camp or relax at Horsetooth Reservoir
- Learn the CSU Fight Song and sing it with gusto
- Play in the snow on the West Lawn

Jan. 3



Make a 5-minute mug cake!

Ingredients:

- 4 tbsp flour
- 4 tbsp sugar
- 2 tbsp cocoa
- 1 egg
- 3 tbsp milk
- 3 tbsp oil
- 3 tbsp chocolate chips (optional)
- A small splash of vanilla extract
- 1 large coffee mug

Directions:

Add dry ingredients to mug. Mix well. Add egg and mix thoroughly. Pour in the milk and oil. Mix well. Add the chocolate chips (if using) and vanilla extract. Mix again. Put mug in the microwave for 3 minutes at 1,000 watts. (The cake will rise over the top of the mug, but do not be alarmed!) Allow to cool a little and tip onto plate if desired. Eat!



Jan. 4

Snowball fight:

With so much snow on the ground, you have to have a snowball fight! Get two teams together, designate two bases and let the epic battle begin!

Jan. 5

Volunteer:

Volunteer:

Give up some of your time to help others. Find a local organization and get involved. The Larimer County Food Bank is always looking for volunteers; you just need to complete a volunteer questionnaire.

Jan. 6

Get your s'mores on:

Get your s'mores on:

Build a fire and roast marshmallows — try Reese's instead of Hershey's chocolate!



Photo by Nicole Beale

Jan. 7

Pay it forward:



Pay it forward:

Be selfless and give a little. Buy coffee for the person behind you in line.



Read and relax:

Now that you actually have time to read something other than textbooks, find a good book and just relax. Need some ideas? Check out page 5 for Zane's must-reads.

Jan. 8

8

Jan.
9

ADMIT ONE

Get your head in the game:

Go enjoy a night of basketball and good ol' sports rivalry at the Pepsi Center. Nuggets tickets can be bought for a fairly cheap price and will give you an excuse to enjoy some nachos and maybe a beer while blowing off some steam yelling at the opposing team.

Jan.
10

Visit the Denver Botanic Gardens:

Every holiday season the Denver Botanic Gardens has a Blossoms of Light event. The already-stunning gardens are given a facelift with millions of colorful, lighted designs. Open nightly Nov. 29 to Jan. 1 from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.



Photo by Nicole Leicht

Jan.
11

Get artsy:

Head to Pinot's Palette in Old Town to try your painting skills will you enjoy a well-deserved glass of wine. Or, check out Dynamik Ceramix, also in Old Town, and paint your own ceramics.

Jan.
12

Go to a concert:

Check out the Aggie, First Bank Center, Ogden Theatre, The Pepsi Center, The Fillmore Auditorium, Paramount Theatre, Beta Nightclub, the Grizzly Rose or a concert hall near you for your favorite band.



Jan.
13

Think sweet:

Ingredients:

8 ounces high-quality semisweet chocolate, broken into pieces
1/2 tsp peppermint extract
8 ounces high-quality white chocolate, broken into pieces
25 peppermint candies, crushed

Directions:

Melt the semisweet chocolate in a double boiler. Pour it on a cookie sheet covered in aluminum foil and evenly spread. Place in the fridge. Melt the white chocolate in a double broiler. Mix in peppermint candies and peppermint extract. Pour mixture over hardened dark chocolate. Place in the fridge until hardened. Break into pieces.



Jan.
14

Get romantic:

Treat your special someone to a carriage ride around Old Town. Check out page 18 for more information.

Jan.
15

See a show:

Head to the Lincoln Center for art, media, plays and dance. Here are a few shows playing in January:

- Jan. 16 — Face the Music — David Rubenstein Atrium at Lincoln Center
- Jan. 18 — ChamberFest 2014 — Julliard School
- Jan. 20 — Madama Butterfly — The Metropolitan Opera

Jan.
17

Be a chef for a night:

Dinner is on you tonight, so invite your friends over or get your family together and try this easy gourmet dinner: gnocchi with tomatoes and salmon. Salmon should be seasoned with lemon, lightly salted and baked in the oven at 350 degrees for 25 to 40 minutes or until flaky. In a saucepan with olive oil, sauté 1 cup diced onions, 1 tsp garlic and 2 cups tomatoes. After the onions are translucent, add in 2 cups of tomato sauce, add in salmon once it is cooked, as well as cooked gnocchi. Serve with shaved Parmesan.



Graphic by MoSeif

Jan.
18

Go on a brewery tour:

Free beer, anyone? If you have not gone on a brewery tour yet, you are missing out. Check out your favorite brewery's website and schedule a tour.



Jan.
19

Play Broomball:

Get some friends together, head to EPIC and rent equipment to play broomball.

Jan.
16

Color your snowman:

We have all made a snowman at one point in our lives. But here is a new trick to dress up an old idea: use food dye in spray bottles to color your snowman.



Photo by Nicole Beale

Jan.
20

Welcome
Back!



College
Avenue Staff

Design by Ricki Watkins

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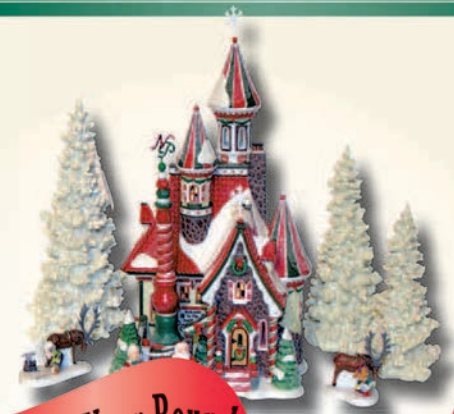
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THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR

By Alexa Phillips
College Avenue Magazine

I always look forward to Christmas. I await Christmas music to come on the radio, the lights to adorn the bare branches outside and to watch Christmas movies on snowy weekends. I see Christmas with wide, bright eyes, letting them fill with the child-like wonder that Christmas brings.

I do not mind just spending the day decorating the house, reminiscing at all the stories behind the decorations. Warm vanilla and sugar trickle from the kitchen from endless holiday baking. I cherish viewing Christmas lights while driving home once dusk hits. And, I dread the Christmas pageants, singing

and reciting in both Greek and English just to please my parents.

The mysterious St. Nicholas pays our empty shoes a visit, filling them with goodies before Santa Claus does: a tradition adapted and celebrated each year. The countdown to Christmas Eve comes with anxiety and excitement, awaiting the arrival of the big man himself. Upon hearing the Gospel reading in church each Christmas Eve, we remember why this over-commercialized holiday is celebrated in the first place. Preparing the various hors d'oeuvres for that evening, coupled with the annual showing of "It's a Wonderful Life" re-

mains a tradition, even to this day. Full of hot chocolate and Pillsbury sugar cookies, I drift off to bed, ears on alert for any signs of reindeer on the rooftop.

The morning brings beautiful chaos full of stocking stuffers, wrapping paper and unanticipated surprises. I awake with curiosity as to what Santa left under the tree. Like any other celebrated holiday, it comes and goes, only to wait another year to do it all over again.

It is a time of year that is magical and perfect, filled with everlasting traditions and memories. And that is why I love it.

WHAT INSPIRES YOUR CHRISTMAS SPIRIT?

By Lucy Bode
College Avenue Magazine

Being an Australian, the holidays bring three nonnegotiable things: scorching hot weather, shrimp on the barbecue for Christmas lunch and advent calendars that usually melt before I even get the chance to open them. I guess you could say it is very different than the white Christmases traditionally celebrated here in the United States. Down under, Dec. 25 is usually a day spent in shorts and flip-flops, at the beach or singing an Aussie slang rendition of "Jingle Bells" that ends something along the lines of "Jingle bells, jingle bells, Christmas time is beaut'. Oh what fun it is to ride in a rusty Holden Ute!"

My nostalgia for home this time of year inspired me to ask students around campus to share their favorite Christmas memories and find out what gets

them in the holiday state of mind.

"Something that gets me in the Christmas mood is the hour-long, Christmas-filled drive through the ice and snow back from my aunt's house after Thanksgiving dinner. All of the women in my family insist on stuffing me full of turkey until I practically burst – that's sure to fill anyone with the holiday spirit!" said Ashton Ondra, senior computer sciences major.

"My three sisters and I make snow forts during the holidays. One year we made a hot tub and all of our neighbors came over to sit in it and drink cocoa and eat decorated sugar cookies!" said Hannah Gazett, sophomore biomedical sciences major.

"For Christmas, my parents go to Las Vegas to visit my dad's side of the family. My brother is an Eagles fan, and

every year my dad will give my uncle some kind of Broncos merchandise as a gift just because he isn't a Broncos fan. One year it was as simple as a Broncos refrigerator magnet, but another year he decorated an entire ukulele by sticking pictures of Tim Tebow all over it! Opening presents is always hysterical with my family and something I look forward to every year," said Casey Edelman, junior journalism major.

"I'm originally from overseas so we always celebrate Christmas during summer. Seeing the jacaranda trees out the front of our house blossom and turn purple was always the signal for me that the holidays were just around the corner!" said Angus Clark, senior marketing major.

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Fort Collins' Top Holiday Happenings

By Nicole Leicht
College Avenue Magazine

What better way is there to get in the spirit of the season than horse-drawn carriage rides, thousands of twinkling lights and shopping quests? Aside from being one of the most charming cities this time of year (and every other time of year for that matter), Fort Collins offers endless events to celebrate this cherished time of year. Start by checking off these four must see/do holiday happenings.

1. Horse-Drawn Carriage Rides

What could be more romantic than riding down the streets of Old Town in a classic horse-drawn carriage? There is no better way to enjoy the holiday season and the thousands of twinkling lights that adorn downtown Fort Collins.



Photo By | Anne-Marie Kottenstette

2. Downtown Santa's Shopping Quest

Go on a quest through downtown Fort Collins to fill out Santa's list. Visit local businesses to find names for the list, and, if you succeed, you will have the chance of winning one of three Downtown Gift Cards. The grand prize winner also gets to play Santa by choosing a local charity to donate \$500 to. Participants can take on this quest from Nov. 29 to Dec. 15, so hurry before time runs out.

3. Canyon Concert Ballet's Nutcracker

Immerse yourself in the classic Nutcracker tale this season. Canyon Concert Ballet is presenting seven shows of Artistic Director Richard d'Alton's "The Nutcracker." The Lincoln Center Performance Hall will be selling tickets ranging from \$22 to \$32 for both evening and matinee shows Dec. 13-15.

4. Garden of Lights

The Gardens on Spring Creek presents an enchanting way to enjoy the holiday lights. Enjoy the outdoor gardens, visit with Santa and meet the Sugar Plum Hairies (hint: fairies of the canine form). The gardens are open from Dec. 6 through Jan. 1 from 5 - 9 p.m. every night.



Photo By | Nicole Leicht

Difficult Gifting, Solved

By Hannah Woolums
College Avenue Magazine

Ever wonder what to get your special someone for the holidays? We looked at four different types of people based on their interests and hobbies and came up with some ideas to get them the perfect gift.



The Techie



iPad Air:

If you have a little extra cash to spend this holiday season, splurge on that special someone with the newest technology.

Google Chromecast:

If you are looking for something that can bring the joys of Hulu Plus and Netflix to your TV screen without plugging in your computer or buying an expensive Blu-Ray player, then this is the perfect gift.

The Fashionista

TJ Maxx Gift Card:

Does your significant other or best friend love fashion and is always on the hunt for the newest styles while staying on a college budget? If you are worried about getting them the perfect gift, a gift card gives them the reins.

A Makeup Kit:

This is a great gift for the friend who likes to not only change with the seasons, but with the styles as well. This will allow them to have loads of fun with their style all in one place. There are many different sizes and styles to makeup kits, so you can get what you want and still get a great value.

The Music Lover

Headphones:

Have a friend who is obsessed with music? Try getting them a new pair of headphones for the holidays. They range anywhere from regular ear buds to the more expensive Beats headphones. Decide which pair fits your friend the best and give that someone the gift of music.

Sheet Paper:

There are many different things that you can do to support your music-loving friends. This way is more on the inexpensive side, and if your friend loves to write music it can bring them hours of enjoyment.

The Stressed-Out Friend

Mani/Pedi:

If your friend is stressed out and starting to feel it more as finals begin to approach, give them the gift of relaxation. A manicure and pedicure can be a great way to relax after finals.

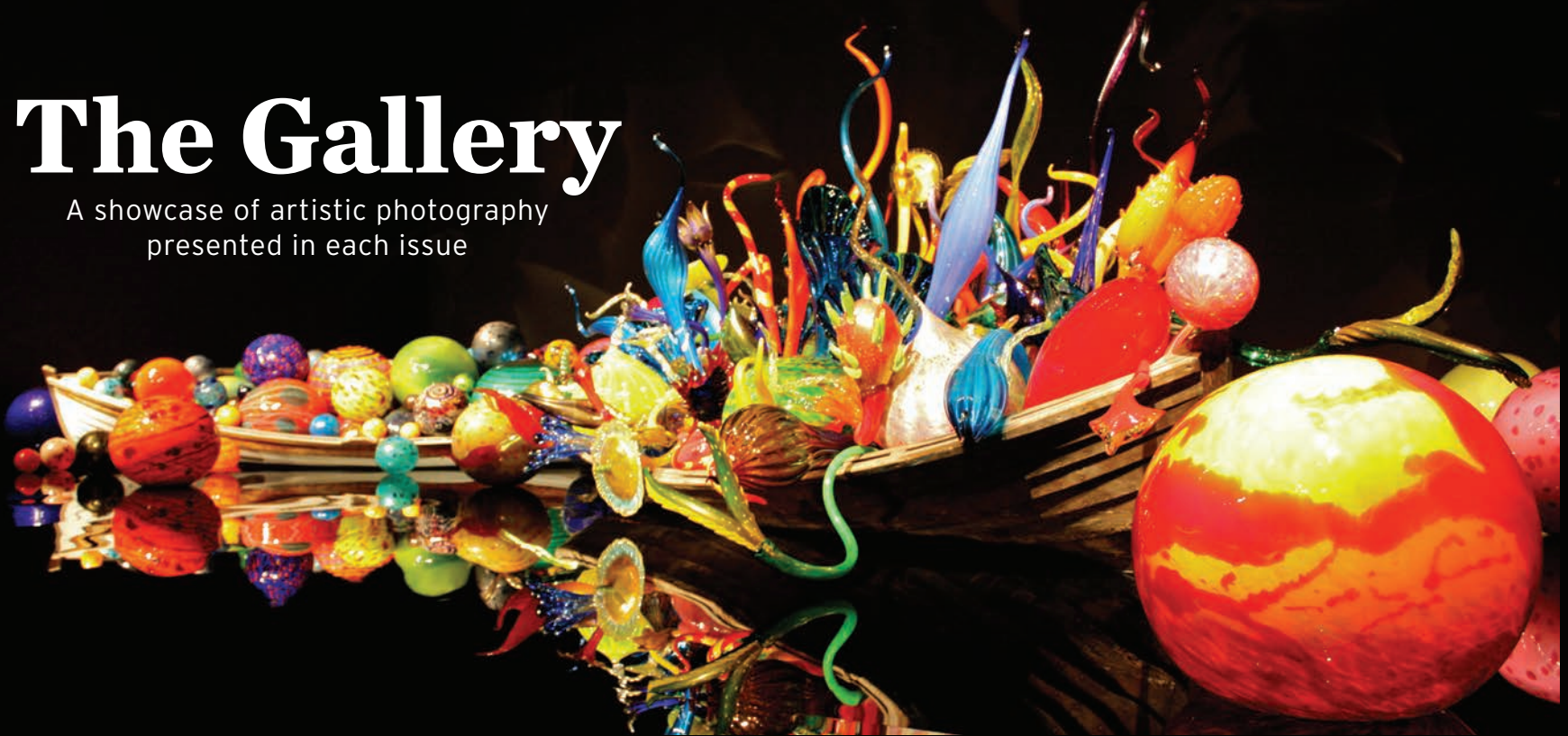
Massage:

This is another great way to help your friend rejuvenate after a long semester. The prices range for what type of massage you want so you do not have to break the bank to help your friend to relax this holiday season.



The Gallery

A showcase of artistic photography
presented in each issue



Above & bottom right: Chihuly Garden and Glass in Seattle, photos by Nicole Leicht. Bottom left & bottom center: Lotus plays at Red Rocks Amphitheater, photos by Nicole Beale. Center top: Flowers grow in the Annual Flower Trial Garden, photo by Joe Tiner.



Lessons Learned

By Anne-Marie Kottenstette
College Avenue Magazine

Traveling abroad during her semester at sea, Anne-Marie Kottenstette compiled a book of lessons she learned. Here is a snippet of those many lessons. To read further, visit her travel blog at amkottentravel.wordpress.com. All photos by Anne-Marie Kottenstette.



Lesson 52: Speak up! People will listen and you can make a movement for change.



Lesson 40: Most children in Burma complete, on average, only one or two years of school because it is too expensive - only \$5 per year.



Lesson 90: People all over the world are as curious about us as we are about them.



Lesson 100: People will do things not for the good intentions, but for the money. Be one of the people that do it for the good intentions.

Uniquely You

Students decorate in different ways

By **Natasha Leadem**
College Avenue Magazine

Walking into the typical college home, you might describe it as... well... unique. From beer-lined walls to tapestries that span an entire living room, college decorations would not exactly be found in *Better Homes & Gardens*, but we make due with what we've got. After visiting a few student homes, I noticed that what some of us might lack in interior decorating finesse, we make up for in sheer creativity.

At the house of Andrew Olson, our ASCSU vice president and a health and human sciences major, he and his two roommates, engineering senior Kyle Seyedian and Front Range senior Matt Bendell, converted the front yard of their duplex rental into what they like to call the "Zen Garden."

"It's good to improvise because we don't have the money to do it the right way," Olson said.

Using a large indoor rug as the base, the three surrounded their fire pit with anything they could use as chairs, including two overturned milk crates.

With his creativity to assist in the game of beer pong, junior psychology major Cal Boyce created a homemade suspension pong table that hangs from the garage ceiling. The acrobatic table is constructed with a large piece of plywood and ropes that Boyce and his roommates found lying around the house.

"We had just moved in a month before and we wanted to do something to celebrate,"

Boyce said. "We just had a bunch of stuff lying around and just sort of made it."

Beer-themed décor seems to be pretty prevalent in college homes and the house of three engineering seniors Tanner Fretthold, Chase Munson and Sean Morris is no different. Their living room wall is a glorious dedication to their love of good beer. Stretching almost 25 feet across, the wall is composed of a myriad of finished six-pack cases.

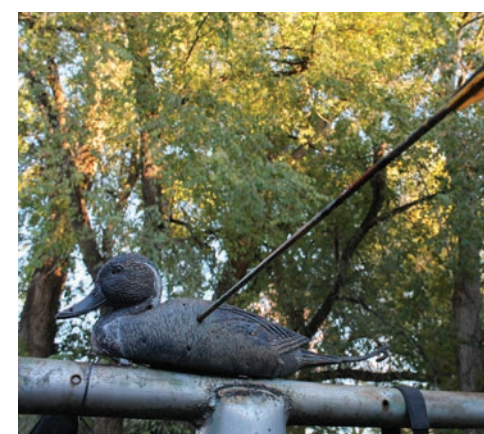
"There are no duplicates," Morris said. "Now, whenever I go to the liquor store, I have to call Tanner and ask if we already have it on the wall."

Started at the beginning of the year, the collection of cases has grown to three rows of more than 60 different beers.

Another common theme of the typical college household is a combination of hand-me-downs or thrift store purchases. At the home of sophomore engineering major Matt Pinkham and Front Range sophomores Jake Austin and Sean Teater, their "Poker Cave" came together after Pinkham inherited a handmade poker table from his grandfather. The "Poker Cave" is really their one-car garage strung up with Christmas lights and filled with couches and a foosball table.

"A college house is just a bunch of kids living in a house trying to be adults," Teater said. "There's nobody to tell you what to do. We can wake up and just toss on some Bob Marley."

Top left: Inside of the "Poker Cave," a foosball table sits just inside the one-car garage of sophomore engineering major Matt Pinkham's house. Second left: A wounded duck decoy acts as a lawn decoration at the home of seniors Kyle Seyedian, Andrew Olson and Matt Bendell. Third left: Testing out his suspension beer pong table, junior psychology major Cal Boyce winds back to throw. Bottom right: Senior engineering majors Sean Morris, Tanner Fretthold and Chase Munson created a 25-foot-long "beer wall" to decorate their home. Circle: An Aztec tapestry from Mexico hangs in the living room of senior engineering student Kyle Seyedian. Photos by Natasha Leadem.





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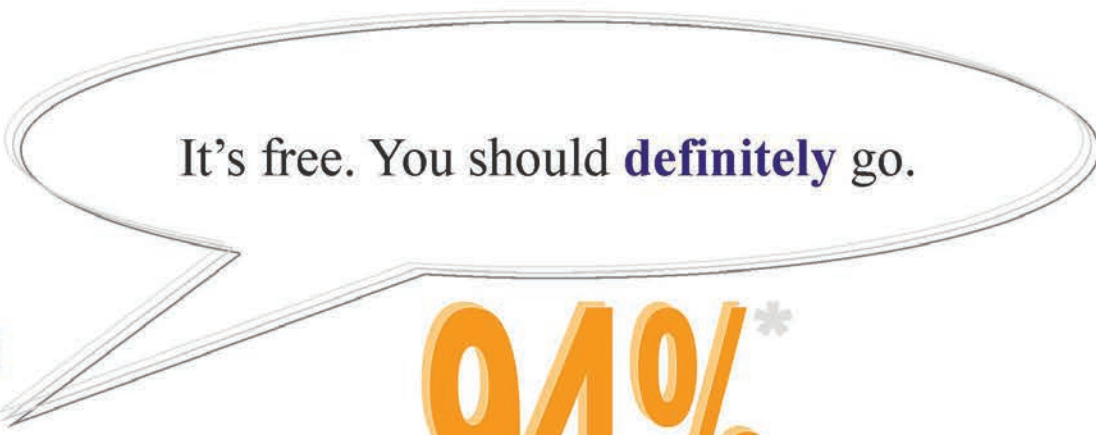
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