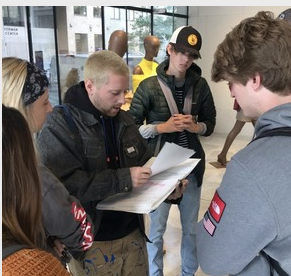




## October Arts Spotlight



Level 3 Graphic Design and Film students ventured out to the Big Apple this month to learn more about their artistic disciplines and see what New York City has to offer in film and design. The film students attended the All American High School Film Festival, where senior Mikey Hardesty was nominated for the best experimental film, and three films were official selections, a prestigious honor! The design students visited the School of Visual Arts and Fashion Institute of Technology, meeting Alumni Marshall Columbia (2014) and Pete Freeman (2014) along the way.



**Meeting Marshall**

Design students toured the Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT) and got to meet one of Valor's own. Marshall Columbia (2014) talked with the students about his personal journey in design work - from the yearbook staff at Valor, to design classes at CSU and then on to FIT, where he will graduate this semester. Marshall also works for a small design house in Brooklyn that specializes in costuming for clients in the entertainment industry. Last summer, he worked as an assistant costumer on a pilot for a potential reality series on HBO.

Last spring, Marshall was a guest artist at Valor via Skype, providing inspiration during Hayes Trotter's Wearable Art unit. "It was fun to return to Valor via technology and see what cool things art students are doing in the classroom," he said.



## ADIDAS Creative Farm

The Design group had a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see the top-secret ADIDAS Creative workspace in Brooklyn. (They had to sign non-disclosure agreements to gain access!) Adidas VP and Creative Marc Dolce met with them and imparted wisdom about pursuing a career in design, specifically apparel and sneakers. Famous DJ Clark Kent happened to be at Adidas that day and shared his insights on working hard, pursuing passions, and making awesome sneakers. Apart from sitting down with these people, the students saw how Adidas incorporates new technologies into apparel design, including 3D printers, vast weaving machines, and unique textiles. Visiting Adidas was the highlight of the trip for most of the students. "Mr. (James) Gonzales was so excited to see inside Adidas and meet all these people, so it helped us realize what a huge privilege this was!" explained Junior Victoria McBroom.

Design students also visited CENTER Design studio to learn about working in a design firm from alum Pete Freeman (2014), who also graduated from Parsons School of Design in 2018. By subway and on foot, the students got around the city and filled their time with a variety of design adventures. They created hand-made books during a workshop, viewed a graffiti/street art tour, took part in a graffiti workshop, saw the city from a night boat tour, and ate their way through NYC! The week was insightful as Valor students experienced the diversity that design has to offer in both career and schooling.

## Film students in NYC!





Six Valor film students took an exciting trip to New York City to attend the All American High School Film Festival at the AMC Times Square. The trip provided an extreme extension of the filmmaking classroom by engaging with other talented high school filmmakers and media arts enthusiasts from around the world. This was the first year attending the festival and supporting senior Michael Hardesty, who had three official selections this year including one finalist film! The group also visited New York University's School of Film and Television at the Tisch School of the Arts and took a tour of WarnerMedia and CNN studios. Enjoy this film summary of the week created by Mr. Josh Anamier, Valor film teacher and filmmaker.



## Ceramics for Charity

Ceramics students donated their time and talent this month to help raise funds for a local community group! Students made bowls for *The Mountain Bowl Project*, a series of fundraising events for the Mountain Resource Center

in Conifer. People pay to attend, enjoy local soups, take home their beautiful handmade bowls, and support the Mountain Resource Center through a silent auction. Pictured above: Brady Bomgaars, Kaitlynn Derani, Skylar Grey (Courtney Damian also participated).

## In the Gallery: Seniors Show their *Voice*

Seniors Kiki Kimmel, Aria Gulotta, Ana Valdez, Bella Berti, Delaney Reed, Sydney Swientisky, and Abby Thomsen presented their first Senior Show, focused on Voice. Below: Kiki Kimmel focused on three traits on which she would like to improve: courage, strength, and kindness, through a child's point of view. Aria Gulotta reflects back on her time as an artist and her growth during her years at Valor. And Abby Thomsen's piece is a window into her love for people, going beneath the surface to know a person truly.

*Be sure to visit the next student gallery opening next week!*



## Alumni's Music Cable Business Takes Off!

Austin Woodruff (2014) and Tyler Traeger (2015), both studying music business at Belmont University in Nashville, became frustrated with the quality of cables in the market and decided to search out and create a better brand, explains Austin, who spent a day at Valor recently with the studio recording students.





This led them to develop **Runway Audio** during their college years which, just three years after launching, now supplies one of the highest quality cables available to musicians. They created their own unique music cables by hand-soldering each one themselves. They also started customizing pedalboards with their cables, becoming the only professional pedalboard setup company in the Nashville area. After they were discovered by the Nashville music industry, their business has soared. "We grew extremely fast after adding a few major client bands; Colony House, Mutemath, and The New Respects and today, we work with

hundreds of artists all across the globe," he said.

When asked about his time at Valor and how it prepared him, Austin's answer is reflective. "After all the audio production and songwriting classes I took, and after being mentored by Marty Magehee and Rick Paswaters, I knew I wanted to be in Nashville. It has definitely taken a few turns and I am sure it will continue to do so but I wouldn't be where I am now without the Valor music program and teachers!"

Austin now runs the business full-time with additional employees and new products. (Alum and business partner Tyler Traeger is currently teaching in China.) Check out [Runway Audio's website](#). When asked what advice he would give Valor students, he smiled, "Just hold on! Stay true to who you are and trust God. He has a plan for your life and it may be nothing like you expected but He knows what is best for you!"



Conservatory students hosted an around-the-fire worship evening this month. Led by students, Mr. Johnson and Mr. Magehee, the worship hour around the campus fire pit provided a time of genuine reflection and heart-felt fellowship for students and parents.

## Singer-Songwriter Nights

*Students showcase their work in coffee-house setting*

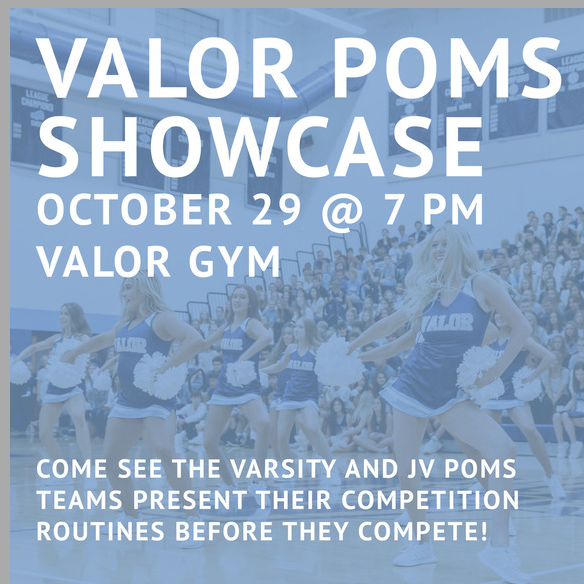
November 1 and 2 at 6:30 pm

Mike Ward Maserati Showroom



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## Upcoming Arts Events





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