



# Hot and Cold: The Ohio Experience



Photo courtesy of Austin Kurtz.

**BY: AUSTIN KURTZ, STAFF WRITER**

Whether you've lived here for decades, or just happen to be getting through your second semester here, you're bound to notice the drastic, constantly shifting weather patterns in Ohio. One week, snow could be falling with winds nearing temperatures in the teens, and the next week, campus turns a muddied brown and green as heat waves move through. Just what gives this state its oh-so-temperamental climate, and is it that unique?

Ohio has a bit of a unique position geographically. It's located in Midwest USA, and while not bordering any oceans, is

topped off by Lake Erie. Marking a midpoint between the Arctic and the Equator, Ohio catches temperature shifts from both. Cold fronts move down across Canada, cooling down the atmosphere and often carrying rain or snow. Warm fronts move up from the Gulf of Mexico, carrying heat and moisture that makes itself most known in the summer. These air movements are not exclusive to any one season, however, and while the tilt of the Earth affects which is most prominent, the fronts meet every day. Being a transition area between differently heated systems of air is not unique to Ohio and occurs throughout other parts of the Midwest, though it is not the only factor that plays a role in our weather.

As air moves in from Canada carrying whatever water it may bring, it also passes over Lake Erie, picking up any moisture the lake deposits into the air. This is called the "Lake Effect" and leads to heavy snowfall in the winter and strong storms in the summer. Northeast Ohio, where Walsh University happens to be conveniently located, experiences this effect the most as winds travel eastward. Southern parts of Ohio also experience this effect, though caused by Lake Michigan rather than Erie. Being a further distance from the source gives the southern regions more of a temperate, stable, climate though the difference is not large.

Air patterns and the lakes remain two of the largest influences on the dramatic shifts in weather we experience, but they are not the only ones. As Ohio is far from the sea, it is still close enough to feel the effects of hurricanes. Hurricane Ike in 2008 resulted in winds reaching speeds over 75mph, the equivalent of being inside a category 1 hurricane. Ohio also receives a varying number of tornadoes every year. In 2019 it experienced a total of 58 tornadoes, topping 2020 and 2021 combined.

Despite the temperatures rising as these words are being typed, keep in mind it may not be time yet to pack that winter coat away. Ohio may still have plenty of tricks up its sleeve.

## Film Review: *tick, tick...BOOM!*



Photo courtesy of Macall Polay/Netflix.

### The Musical Story of Jonathan Larson We Can't Stop Watching

BY: MARYBETH EDMUNDSON, EDITOR IN CHIEF & SADIE POZDERAC, LAYOUT EDITOR

Johnny can't decide. He just can't do it.

What can't Johnny decide? And who is Johnny?

If you're asking these questions, you obviously haven't seen *tick, tick...BOOM!* Need any convincing? Don't worry; we've got you covered.

The story follows starving artist, Jonathan Larson, (the creator of *Rent*) before he was successful. Interwoven with him performing his musical work, the story bounces seamlessly from song to plot and back again.

So, really, what makes this musical so great? Many things, my friend. Let me tell you.

First, there's the music. Holy cow, the songs are unforgettable. 'Johnny Can't Decide' is on a constant loop inside our minds. '30/90' arguably has the best lyrics

and is relatable for anyone who really feels like time is slipping away and they've accomplished nothing yet. 'Boho Days' makes you feel like you're living the dream, all the time, even if life is hard and you're simply doing the minimum to get by. 'Sunday' talks about Jonathan's time as a waiter at the famous Moondance Diner and is somewhat of a Broadway fan's dream. With cameos from renowned Broadway stars past and present, including actors from the original company of *Rent*, it is a song full of humor and easter eggs. 'Swimming' makes you feel like you've hit the jackpot after a confusing and long journey, while 'Come to Your Senses' makes the listener stop and rethink everything. 'Louder than Words' is the perfect song to close out the film, combining themes Jonathan collected through the film, it fosters the ideology that in order to see change, we must seek the change. The music is dynamic and is constantly shifting so we the listeners really feel as if we're walking with Johnny on his journey to musical greatness. (And, better yet, all the songs were written by Jonathan Larson himself.)

This semi-autobiographical piece that was originally a one-man rock monologue performed by Jonathan Larson himself, was turned into a film by the one and only, Lin-Manuel Miranda. Directed and produced by

**continued on page 3**



Miranda himself, *tick, tick...BOOM!* is his directorial debut. Miranda actually portrayed Jonathan Larson in a production of *tick, tick...BOOM!* off-Broadway before he gained acclaim for his hit musical, *Hamilton*.

To top it all off, the cast is composed of amazing people, like Vanessa Hudgens and Andrew Garfield. That's right, everyone, Andrew Garfield, The Amazing Spiderman, can sing and dance. Garfield was recruited for the role of Jonathan Larson by director, Lin-Manuel Miranda, because he saw Garfield's incredible acting abilities displayed in the Broadway show *Angels in America*. After witnessing Garfield's outstanding performance, Miranda decided he was to portray a perfect Jonathan Larson. Garfield and Miranda actually frequent the same New York based massage therapist, Greg Miele, and one day, when Miranda was talking with Miele, he asked the question,

"Can Andrew Garfield sing?"

And not knowing anything about Garfield's singing abilities, Miele replied, "He has the voice of an angel!"

And from there, Miranda went on to acquire Garfield for this role, despite Garfield's seemingly nonexistent singing talent. However, after about a year of training from world-renowned vocal coaches, Garfield has blown everyone away with his unknown talent. It is truly incredible watching how dedicated and talented he is as an actor. All this dedication and talent is seemingly worth notice because Garfield was nominated for an Oscar for his portrayal of Jonathan Larson.

But I think the most amazing part of this musical is that it's *real*. This story actually happened. This is the life of Jonathan Larson before *Rent*, before he was successful, before he was famous and made it. This is the real stuff, depicted on the screen. It's not an epic love story. It's not a super success story. It's not a happily-ever-after tale. This is the life of a guy living in New York City, feeling like life is slipping away from him, like he will never make it in the business or anywhere else. He's starting to lose hope, but he doesn't let go. He takes the punches, gets back up, takes more punches, and strives to do better and reach his goal.

Does Johnny reach his goal?

Does Johnny ever decide?

Well, what are you waiting for? Guess you'll have to watch it and find out for yourself, won't you?



**An exact replica of Jonathan Larson's Soho apartment was created for this film.** Photo courtesy of Macall Polay/Netflix.



**Garfield (left) and director Miranda (right) in the early days of filming.** Photo courtesy of Macall Polay/Netflix.



**Garfield on set of 'Sunday' alongside many renowned Broadway stars.** Photo courtesy of Macall Polay/Netflix.

# STUDENT LIFE

---

## A Concert of Solemnity and Hope

BY MARYBETH EDMUNDSON, EDITOR IN CHIEF

Eight weeks. Hours of rehearsal, warm up, running song after song... it all pays off during concerts and performances. Ask any member of the Walsh University Chorale, Chamber Singers, or Handbell Choir, and they would gladly tell you of the joy of performing, the rush of energy, and the exhilaration of months of hard work being recognized. From the standpoint of a performer, as I myself am a member of all three groups, can testify there is nothing like looking at your fellow singers, recognizing the joy on their faces as the joy within your own heart, and allowing the music to unify that joy.

We all arrived at the chapel between 5 and 5:30, to allow for enough time to figure out formations, entrances, solo positions, and transitions. After a few warm-ups and running through some songs, we were sent downstairs to await the time of performance. Dr. Collins came down beforehand to wish us all well. After receiving a fist bump, the show began.

The Chamber Singers are the A Capella group on campus, and our selection of songs were unique. We sang one song in particular, a Bach compilation, called 'Come Sweet Death' that was coupled with motions and individualistic tempo techniques that gave the song an eerie and ghost-like quality. Within the Chamber Singers, the song was either loved or disliked; after performing it and adjusting to its unusual style, it turned out to be a success. The Handbell choir, a relatively new ensemble on campus, consists of approximately 6 members. During rehearsals, different bell techniques are learned to round out the sound of the bells, as well as give the song depth and texture. Three songs were learned and perfected for this concert, and, for the upcoming term, the ensemble has a surprise up its sleeve.

Now, picture this: robed Chorale members file into the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Chapel, forming a U shape around the audience, while three soloists make their way to the altar. The confused audience looks around, excited, as senior member Jared Vlacovsky starts off the song 'Tshotsholoza' (the unofficial anthem of South Africa) with a solo, followed by fellow seniors William Blake and Blaise Rudmann. The choir snapped, clapped, and sung their way from song to song following this triumphant start. The songs that followed included a song, titled 'Song of Miriam', sung only by the soprano and alto members of the group. Finally, after an hour and a half, the Alma Mater was sung.

Overall, I believe it can be stated, by everyone present, that the concert was an overwhelming success.

## Upcoming Campus Events

BY: NADYA HUDAK, STAFF WRITER

### Walsh Hosting International Dinner

This month, on March 19 at 5:00 PM, Walsh will be hosting its International Dinner in the Cecchini Health and Wellness Complex in Alumni Arena. Sponsored by Walsh's International students, there will be a buffet-style dinner with international cuisine. Along with dinner, students will be providing entertainment in the form of singing, dancing, and more. Those who'd like to attend can purchase adult tickets for \$15 and tickets cost \$5. Doors will open at 4:30 tickets can be purchased at [walsh.edu/internationaldinner](http://walsh.edu/internationaldinner).

### Walsh's 22nd Annual Viva Walsh Vegas

Each year, Walsh hosts Viva Walsh Vegas, a fundraising event sponsored by the fundraising office to assist in student scholarships. This year, the event will occur on March 12th with a virtual auction which will last until March 18th. This event is fully virtual and gives Walsh's supporters the opportunity to benefit our students and bless them with scholarships. If you can, Walsh would like to encourage you to participate in the 22nd Annual Viva Walsh Vegas from March 12th to March 18th.



**The concert was held in the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Chapel and a full house of patrons attended the performance.** Photo courtesy of Sadie Pozderac.