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## The Inkwell

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# The Inkwell

Armstrong State University's news source since 1935

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 30, 2017

THEINKWELLONLINE.COM

## New York Times Editor Visits Armstrong

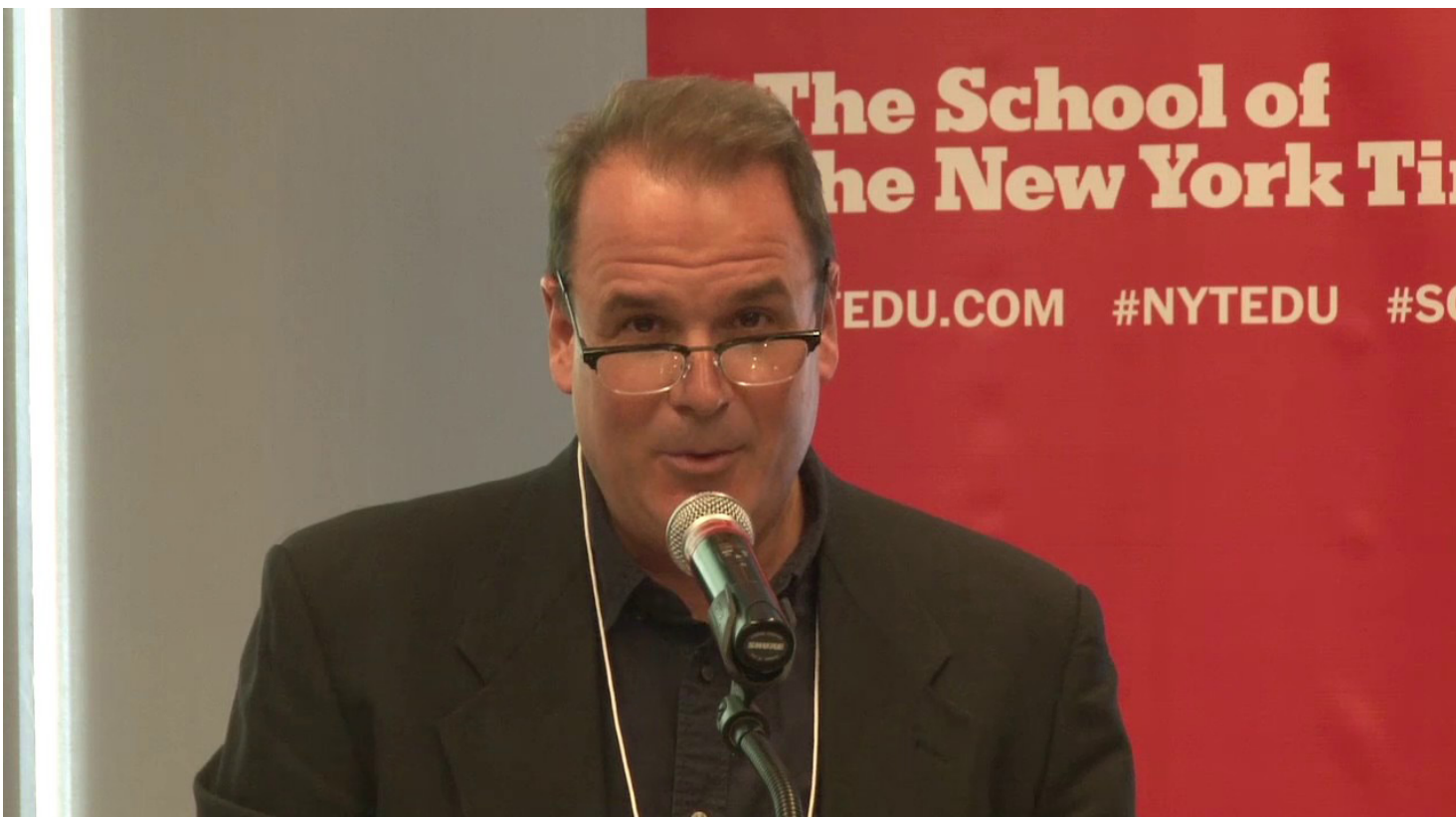
MADISON WATKINS  
STAFF WRITER

Peter Catapano, an editor for the opinion section in The New York Times gave a talk in the Ogeechee Theatre on Nov. 15 as part of the New York Times's Common Read program. Catapano's presentation to the nearly full theatre centered on how to be a thoughtful and critical consumer of news, how to use the paper's website as an educational resource and answered questions from the audience.

Catapano admitted that even when he started out at the paper as a copy editor, he didn't intend on staying. He decided to stay on in 2005 when he was made an editor for the opinion section and began working on projects specifically for the web. Over the course of his time at the paper, he has edited and published over 1,000 pieces.

He was given a Publisher's Award in 2008 for his work in developing multiple online series for the opinion section.

During the first part of his talk he educated the audience on how to be a critical consumer of news. When you are looking at a news article online, particularly from social media, you need to pay



Peter Catapano of the New York Times. Photo Credit: The School of the New York Times Youtube channel.

attention to it and see if you have heard of the website before. To see if they are a credible news site, go to their "about" section to learn more about the news source's code of ethics and their credentials. It is also important to learn whether the articles they post are opinion-based because if they are then they can't be taken as fact.

He also talked about how

he also must be a critical consumer of news.

He told the audience, "It would be irresponsible of me to just look at The New York Times. I should be reading the critical articles to see the opinions on the other side. Most publications are in a gray area, there aren't any that are completely right or wrong."

As an example for this

Catapano clicked on an article from the website New Republic to look at their site and about section to see the ethics they were founded upon.

Then he went on to explain the layout of the website and what would be useful for students to look at. The most pressing story is the piece in the top left of the home page. On the opinion page for the opinion section of the paper,

there is a page under the "Series" section called On Campus with stories written by college students, professors and administrators. If someone wants to submit a piece to them, there is an email for the editors at the top of the page.

When asked how the Times chooses which articles to publish, Catapano answered, "We publish 30 pieces a day. We follow the news

and for some of the stories that break there's no question that we have to include them. We also try to find stories that surprise people. We have to deal with all the sections. We track the news as it happens."

A lot of the audience questions that came up centered on how it worked to be an editor for such a big news source. Catapano explained that he and his fellow 10-12 editors must take their own ideologies out of it when editing and publishing a piece since it is the opinion section.

"We want to take from as many sources as possible. If we publish a piece and someone has a response, they'll send that to letters to the editor. Some of the features are entirely designed on reader feedback."

He also pointed out that even though it is the opinion section, they still have fact checkers on their staff.

If you're curious to see more of Catapano's work on the opinion section in general, click on "opinion" at the top of the New York Times homepage. If you would like a free subscription to the New York Times, information can be found in the Learning Commons and the library.

## Panel of Professors Gather to Discuss Trump's Presidency

DAYLON BONNER  
STAFF WRITER

Thursday, Nov. 16, a panel in the Student Union Ballroom garnered a sizeable audience to discuss and evaluate the tenure of the current president. The panel consisted of academic specialists in the fields of history, criminal justice and political science, from both Savannah State and Armstrong. The panelists from Armstrong consisted of Dr. Lara Wessel, Dr. Kevin Jennings and Dr. Maxine Bryant. The panelists from Savannah State consisted of Mr. Meldon Hollis Jr., Dr.

Bruce Mallard and Dr. Inna Adams.

Dr. Mallard discussed the competence qualifications associated with Donald Trump's presidency. Specifically, he questions whether the President has handled the duties associated with the office not specifically outlined by the Constitution. To paraphrase Dr. Mallard, "We expect our President to come out in times of personal tragedy... to make it better not worse."

Dr. Wessel evaluated the president from a press perspective. Based on media coverage, both before and

during his time in office. The president has been shown to be less than agreeable when his patience has been tested. He has also not shied away from making his discontentment known on social media. As expected, his 140 characters are not always glowing reviews of the political process. The president has an unprecedented number of ways to relay information to United States citizens, to other branches of government and to various world leaders.

Dr. Wessel would go on to add that presidents with less than ideal temperaments

PANEL | PG 6



The panel of professors at the event consisted of: Dr. Lara Wessel, Dr. Kevin Jennings, Dr. Maxine Bryant, Mr. Meldon Hollis Jr., Dr. Bruce Mallard and Dr. Inna Adams.



Running back L.A. Ramsby avoids two tacklers from South Alabama. Photo Credit: Frank Fortune of GSU

## Eagles Football Wins Back-To-Back After 0-9 Start

ETHAN SMITH  
STAFF WRITER

Well, it took 10 games, but the Eagles finally got their first win over South Alabama on Nov. 18 and in a very convincing fashion, scored 52-0. After nine straight losses, it appears that the Eagles finally had enough. The offense erupted for 356 rushing yards and 227 passing yards. Quarterback Kado Brown and Shai Werts each threw one touchdown with Werts adding a rushing touchdown. Running Backs Wesley Fields, L.A. Ramsby and Demarcus Godfrey also added rushing touchdowns, as well as Wide Receiver Malik Henry and Running Back Wesley Fields.

The Eagles defense completely shut down South Alabama, preventing their team

from scoring points. Alabama only managed 10 first downs, with the Eagles forcing three turnovers and only allowing 195 yards of total offense. The defense had struggled to get going all season and this was the Eagles' coming out party and, boy, did they need it. To note, this was the last home game of the season for the Eagles, also known as Senior Day, so the seniors on the Eagles football team wanted to go out with a bang - and they sure did so.

The Eagles would follow up their win with another over Louisiana-Lafayette 34-24 on Nov. 25. Wesley Fields rushed for a career high 186 rushing yards and a touchdown to lead the Eagles to victory. Fields had help from others as the Eagles rushed for 389 yards on the game,

averaging 6.2 yards per carry. Once again, the Eagles defense showed up to play, forcing 3 turnovers, all interceptions, and only allowing 149 yards rushing, which had been a major issue for the Eagles throughout the season. This win propelled the Eagles to a 2-9 record after starting 0-9.

As we approach the last game of the season, which will take place on the road at Coastal Carolina, the Eagles are finishing this under-achieving season very strong. Both the Eagles and the Chanticleers enter at 2-9, so they will both be looking for a confidence booster to enter next season. The Eagles kick off at 1 p.m. eastern time to finish off the 2017 season. #GATA

# Theatre Program Hosts Dramarama



Illustration of the traditional drama masks: comedy and tragedy.

MADISON WATKINS  
STAFF WRITER

Theatre majors who are in this semester’s play directing class presented their final projects at this year’s Dramarama. It was a three-night event on Nov. 14-16 where the students directed a short one-act play presented for their final grade in the class.

Auditions were held earlier in the semester where students could perform a short monologue for the directors so they could choose which actors they wanted to perform in their individual plays.

Multiple plays were performed each night to accommodate the 19 students in the class. It was up to the student directors to choose their ac-

tors, think of the costumes and pick their own lighting and sound cues. There were normally no more than two to three actors in each show. Most of the plays were comedies with a few dramas added to the lineup.

Student directors Jakarie Miller and Brianna McDonald enjoyed the experience of directing their own shows for the first time.

“It was actually a lot of fun. It’s something I’ve always wanted to do. It helped that I had some seasoned actors who took directing well who were also able to find their own way to do things and have fun with it,” explained Miller a junior theatre major. “It’s one of the things I want to do apart from acting,” she added.

“It was really neat. It was kind of liberating to pick my own piece and do whatever I want with it and have my actors execute it flawlessly,” McDonald, a senior theatre major commented.

Senior theatre major Kenny Jones has directed plays before for the Baptist Collegiate Ministry’s (BCM) annual Dessert Theatre but said this experience was different compared to the other plays he has done.

“This show was different because this was the first thing I directed that I didn’t write myself. I tried to honor the writers vision while incorporating my vision,” he explained.

Due to the large number of students in the class, some of the directors had to pull double-duty by directing their own show and acting in another. Junior theatre major Macie Young acted in another student’s show the same night her play was performed. Young described it as a fun experience.

“I really enjoyed being a director. It was a new experience for me, so it was sort of exciting to be a part of the whole directing process. I’ve always enjoyed acting as

well. I’m overall just lucky because I had such amazing and dedicated actors for one show as well as a wonderful and supportive director for the other show,” Young elaborated. Young’s preference to acting versus directing was insignificant. “There’s a lot that goes into directing that you don’t really think about when you’re an actor or part of the audience. There’s lots of behind the scenes work, but acting can definitely be more stressful, especially for those of us that get performance anxiety. Looking back, I wouldn’t have wanted to change anything. I enjoyed both acting and directing. It was an amazing experience with so many amazing people in the theatre department,” she said.

This was freshman theatre major Maya Christian’s first production for Armstrong and she acted in two different plays for Dramarama. Christian commented on what is was like being

in two shows “being in two shows was great! I love the experience with working with two different directors and cast members, however toward the end of Dramarama I did find it a little stressful when my workload started to pile up but it was nothing I couldn’t handle,” Christian explained.

Since both shows were comedies, Christian found it enjoyable to be working with directors who had fun instead of being serious.

“I felt working with my classmates was less serious than working with a director that’s older than me. It gave me a chance to relax and actually have fun doing a show instead of making everything super serious,” she added.

Auditions for the Armstrong Masquers upcoming shows for the spring semester, “The Spitfire Grill” and “Victoria Martin: Math Team Queen,” will be held in Jenkins Theatre on Dec. 4 and 5 at 6 pm.

# Waiting for Winter Break? Events to Check Out

LILA MILLER  
A&E EDITOR

As the Fall semester ends and the harried rush to turn in assignments and post final grades ends, students, faculty and staff alike can find themselves looking for entertainment. After the excitement of having over a month off for winter break, consider the myriad of events and happenings around Savannah this holiday season.

Throughout the month of December, the Savannah Civic Center will be holding SkateFest. After a zamboni runs and the city adds some holiday magic, SkateFest enables the civic center to operate as Savannah’s only ice-skating rink.

SkateFest will begin on Dec. 16, 2017 and end on Jan. 1, 2018. The sessions are offered in two-hour increments. A two-hour admission is \$7 and a six-session skate-pass

is available for \$35. For more information regarding the rink schedule, consult their website at <http://savannahcivic.com/event/skatefest-2017/>.

If ice-skating doesn’t warm the heart, the Jewish Education Alliance (JEA) offers “Food for Thought,” a network opportunity on Thursdays at 12:30-2pm. The event hosts networking events with various professionals, guest speakers and a meal offered for \$5. “Food for Thought” meets every Thursday starting in December and throughout January of next year. The meeting is located at the Jewish Education Alliance, at 5111 Abercorn St. For more details, contact Jacqui Drazen at (912) 355-8111.

For those over the legal drinking age, a bar crawl “The Twelve Bars of Christmas” will be happening from 4-11 pm, Dec. 16 in historic downtown Savannah. Regis-

tration begins the day of the event anytime between 4-9 pm at McDonough’s bar in downtown Savannah. A portion of the proceeds from the crawl will be donated to the Second Harvest Food Bank of the Coastal Empire. Drinkers and revelers are encouraged to “get creative” wearing their best holiday apparel and “be merry.” The crawl will consist of twelve separate bars and attendees are asked to “run, walk, or crawl their way to the finish line.” For more information check out their Facebook page by searching “The Twelve Bars of Christmas ~ 5K Holiday Themed Bar Crawl.”

For more family, kid-friendly entertainment, “Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer: the Musical” will be presented at the Johnny Mercer Theatre through the Savannah Civic Center. The Johnny Mercer Theatre will be holding the musical on Dec



Scene from animated film, “The Grinch.”

21, from 7:30-9 pm. For more information, contact the civic center at (912) 651-6556.

These events are merely a few things to do over the winter break. But there are things to do over the break: Try to conquer your bookshelf, and

read for pleasure rather than studying. Go for a bike ride on a sunny afternoon. Heater on the fritz? Make your own holiday cookies and hot cocoa to stay warm. Take an evening drive around neighborhoods and admire the

twinkling lights. If you do anything, enjoy the break, ruminate on the end of the year and come back to Armstrong- I mean Georgia Southern, ready to stay strong. Happy holidays.

# Weekly Playlist: Winter Breakdown

	TITLE	ARTIST	ALBUM		
+	Blue Christmas	Misfits	Horror Xmas	13 minutes ago	1:42
+	What a Wonderful World	Joey Ramone	Don't Worry About...	12 minutes ago	2:23
+	I Won't Be Home For Christmas	blink-182	I Won't Be Home F...	11 minutes ago	3:18
+	Merry Christmas (I Don't Wanna Fight Toni...	Ramones	Weird Tales Of Th...	10 minutes ago	2:04
+	All I Want For Christmas Is You - 2005	My Chemical Rom...	Gift Wrapped: 20 ...	9 minutes ago	3:45
+	Father Christmas	The Kinks	Come Dancing wit...	5 minutes ago	3:42
+	Christmas Vacation	Descendents	I Don't Want To Gr...	4 minutes ago	2:39
+	Daddy Drank Our Xmas Money	TVTV\$	Positively St. Mark'...	4 minutes ago	2:47
+	Yule Shoot Your Eye Out - Bonus Track	Fall Out Boy	Believers Never Di...	3 minutes ago	3:41
+	Sleigh Ride	Debbie Gibson	A Very Special Chr...	a few second...	3:13

Scan the QR code to listen now!



Week of Events, November 30- December 5					
<b>30</b> Campus Conversation - Valuing Differences: The Game Changer 12:00pm-1:30pm Student Union Ballroom	<b>1</b> Glocade 7:00pm-9:00pm Student Union Ballroom	<b>2</b> Loyalists and Liberty 10:30am-2:30pm Georgia State Railroad Museum	<b>3</b> Old Town Trolley’s Holiday Sights Tour 6:00pm-8:00pm Old Town Trolley Tours	<b>4</b> Holiday Gospel Dinner Cruise 7:00pm-9:00pm Savannah Riverboat Cruises	<b>5</b> Mansion to Museum Tour 10:00am-4:00pm Telfair Academy

CAMPUS VOICES:

What is your New Year’s resolution?



My New Year’s resolution is to drink more water because I don’t do that and have to remind myself throughout the day.

Tessa Wilkins  
Senior, Health and Pharmet-



I don’t typically do New Year’s resolutions because I feel like if there’s something I want to change, just to do it at any point of the year.

Austin Webb  
Sophomore, Mechanical Engineering



My New Year’s resolution is to get back in the gym and see if I can cut some carbs down. Get some carbs out of my diet, get some sugars out of my diet, and focus on the good stuff.

Andrew Robinson  
Junior, Business Economics



I run and do 5ks, so my New Year’s resolution is to be able to do more than a 5k and run a half marathon in November.

Katrina Yaneza  
Sophomore, Radiology



I have a resolution with my girlfriend, we are going to start working out more, and I want to acquire an internship by next summer.

Gabriel Tomberlin  
Senior, Computer Science

Final Farewell



KAYLA RAND  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

As graduation approaches, the bittersweet realization that I will be a part of Armstrong State University’s last class comes to me. Although I have been Pirate for a year, I have gained a family that will last a lifetime, regardless of Armstrong’s consolidation.

Deciding to go to graduate school was a difficult decision that I have made to

further my career. The benefits may seem obvious to you, the reader, but to me, someone who has completed her bachelors and spent two years in the workforce, it was not. But, I have come to the conclusion to pursue my graduate’s degree, and to do so at Armstrong.

Armstrong was the perfect option for me being a small university with credible teachers and reputation. Also, I didn’t want to attend Georgia Southern because Georgia State is my Alma Mater.

The Professional Communication and Leadership Master’s program is mainly night classes, which fit my schedule with my full-time job. Professor Dr. Robert Terry and Professor Dr. Kimberly Martin have become mentors for both my education and career. They have also encouraged me to consider pursuing my PhD.

Many of my classmates have become friends outside of school and helped me throughout my personal life. I have even picked up an extra part-time job with the help of another PCL student.

The courses I have taken were designed to advance my current career, enhance technical and professional skills, and provide me with the tools to market myself. Regardless of what other PCL students think, this program has prepared me with strategies to reach my short-term and long-term goals.

I don’t think I will ever regret making this decision--to return to school, to pursue my masters within a year and to participate in the only student-run news source on campus.

Within the Inkwell, I have become close with seven unique individuals that were at first complete strangers as I was being introduced into my position as Editor-in-Chief. The inkwell staff this semester, all has had so interest or passion to contribute to the paper, and the merger has given us a unified purpose to strive for something more.

The Inkwell staff has taken years of experience and fresh ideas to create a new version for the final year of Armstrong. More controversial topics, in-depth reviews, and visual graphics have opened eyes and helped garner a larger readership.

At times I felt a great weight from the responsibility of representing the voice of Armstrong’s student body,

but I still, I would not trade the experiences I’ve garnered from working there for anything. I have been able to meet amazing people, share incredible stories, and create memories that will go with me everywhere.

Unfortunately, I will not be able to complete a full school-year in this position, but I am thankful for the opportunity that I was given. I am excited to continue my life after school and stay updated with the consolidation, the progress within the newly merged school, and the future of the Inkwell.

Armstrong will forever be a part of me – of my journey and my diploma. Although on December 9th, 2017 I will be giving a final farewell, the legacy it holds on us will never be gone.

Thank you my fellow Pirates, for giving me the opportunity to serve you.

Pleasantly Lost Out West

Photos taking while venturing through the scenic landscapes of Arizona  
By: Mitchell McDuffie



# Backpage

[4] **THE INKWELL**  
November 30, 2017

PANEL | PG 1  
are not a new Phenomenon: she offered Thomas Jefferson, Andrew Jackson, and Lyndon B. Johnson as examples of other presidents with ill-tempered characters.

According to Dr. Wessel, the mannerisms seen in the oval office have not been ideal for the administration.

“The [type of] rhetoric seen in [—from] the presidency has been amplified ... We look to our leaders to set a tone.”

While social media has given the president nearly unlimited avenues to communicate with his constituents, his comments on the internet, in conjunction with his in-person mannerisms, have not translated into effective leadership thus far.

Dr. Inna Adams delved

into interactions between the president and other world leaders. She would bring up how he is attempting to facilitate cohesion with China while having an increasingly hostile discussion with North Korea.

While all panelists were critical of the President, some had reserved even more disdain behind their words. These three panelists were Mr. Hollis, Dr. Jennings and Dr. Bryant.

Mr. Hollis spoke in a particularly uneasy tone concerning the president. What appeared to unsettle him the most was the fact that the current administration has not fostered much cohesion among the various groups in America. If anything the gap between them may have widened.

To quote the professor directly, “Most people [who] are elect by a minority have two choices: expand the base with the intent to govern the majority; or work exacerbating the fractures in order to keep people at each other’s throats.”

Mr. Hollis believes, based on what he has observed, the president has chosen the latter route to govern his citizens. Unfortunately, there is some basis to his claim which can be observed in less than stellar race and gender relations and the looming presence of xenophobia. While the president alone is obviously not completely responsible for the national divide, it is not unreasonably say he has not contributed to in some way.

Building off what Mr. Hollis presented, Dr. Bryant

homed in on the rhetoric surrounding the presidency and how it has used as an intimidation tactic. Of note, she took issue with the rhetoric surrounding crime in America. Crime is still an issue in the United States. No one is disputing that claim. However, the words spoken and tone in which there are spoken have led to unnecessary policies surrounding crime, especially offenses involving illegal drugs. Dr. Bryant asserts that the continued emphasis on removing illegal substances has continued since they were first ostracized by the Nixon and Reagan administrations. The president has run on a platform that sought to decrease crime. Regardless of opinions for or against his stance, the president has made an effort to alleviate the prob-

lem of drug related crime.

That being said, the effort made has been more detrimental than helpful. The executive orders he has created will not fix the root of the problem. He has also hired people to key positions of the executive branch who support a for-profit prison system, both in the form of mandatory minimums and private prisons. Dr. Bryant sees this as a potentially terrible route to fixing the problems of illegal substances.

The final panelists, Dr. Jennings, would present some of the legal issues stemming from the current administration. For one, the president has a long history of legal battles. The bigger issue concerned whether he may have violated the emolument clause in the Constitution

which prohibits the president extravagant gifts and the like from foreign states without Congressional consent. His most impassioned point came when he discussed the validity of political assertions. He proposed to link every social media account to verified sources on political discourse.

After each panelist presented their evaluation of the president, the forum was opened to questions from the audience. Topics included Confederacy monuments, Russia, Net Neutrality and private prisons. Aside from the points they emphasized individually, the panelists all sought to communicate the importance of finding valid political information for oneself.

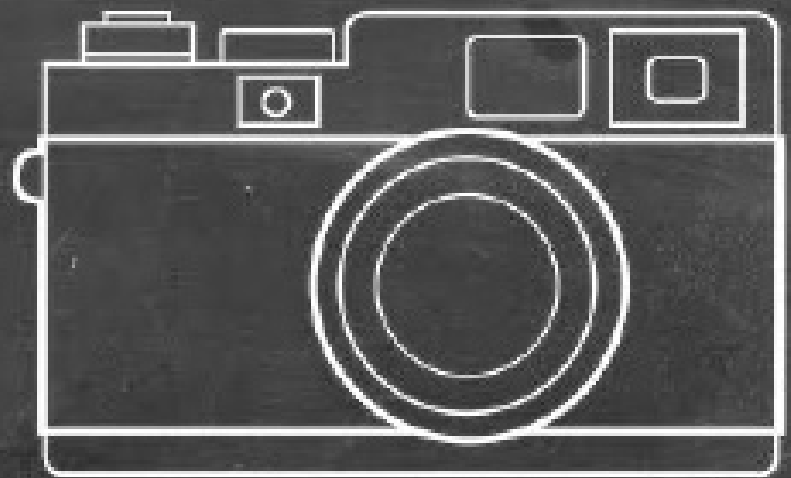
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ABOUT WRITING AN OPINION PIECE

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# THE INKWELL

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