

Student Life

BIG

Entertainment meets education when student clubs arrange to bring big-name musicians, television personalities, Tony Award-nominated actors, and comedians to campus.

NAMES ON CAMPUS

Comedian Lewis Black. Singer/songwriter Vanessa Carlton. Musician and Tony Award-nominated actor Steven Lynch. Grammy-winning hip-hop group The Roots. Scientist and television personality Bill Nye "The Science Guy." These are just some of the luminaries that Adelphi students have brought to campus recently, in a striking example of democracy in action.

If a club or organization, such as Student Activities Board (SAB), is looking to bring a well-known performer or group to campus, the first thing the members need to do is petition the Student Government Association (SGA) for approval through their annual budget request or seek a new allocation during the middle of the academic year. Once the group gets the green light, the members work with their adviser to finalize specifics, such as date, location, contracts, and payments for the event. The next step in the process is developing an advertising campaign to get the word out to the community.



AU is A-OK with Bill Nye



Bill Nye's Number One Fan



Lewis Black

From left: Adelphi University Assistant Professor of Physics and Advisor to the Society of Physics Sean Bentley, SPS Treasurer Kanishka Kelshikar '09, SPS President Camilo Malagon '07, Bill Nye, SPS Secretary Vivek Singh '08, SPS Vice President Daniel Stack '07, and SPS Member Gaurav Kaushik '08

SAB, which is comprised of roughly 40 students and is advised by Melissa Lopez, assistant director of the Center for Student Leadership and Activities (CSLA), is a programming board that books entertainment for the entire campus. For last year's spring concert, SAB booked singer Ryan Cabrera and rapper Fat Joe, says Ms. Lopez.

"We sold out and we heard nothing but good things," she says.

To publicize events, Bridget Holahan '07, president of SAB, says SAB usually orders posters, purchases promotional items, and sends out campus-wide emails.

"In addition, the band or performers themselves may sometimes post AU up on their Web site under where they are touring, which always helps us out," she says.

Such gumption on the students' behalf has proven successful, as evidenced by the overwhelmingly positive campus response.

This past fall, the Society of Physics Students (SPS) was responsible for bringing Bill Nye, the former host, writer, and producer of the Emmy Award-winning television show *Bill Nye the Science Guy*, to campus. Working with the Student Government Association, SPS wrote a grant proposal to receive funding to bring Mr. Nye to Adelphi in November, said SPS President Camilo Malagon '07. Mr. Nye brought his signature blend of science and shtick to campus to speak about topics such as sundials, energy consumption, and global warming before a packed auditorium.

SPS Secretary Vivek Singh '08 says the response to the lecture was overwhelming.

"A lot of people showed up for it and everyone seemed excited," he says. "It looked like they were having a lot of fun."

Organizing such significant entertainment events gives the students involved far more than just an amusing night at school, from teaching them how to plan and stage large-scale events to how to work together as a team. These skills serve students well regardless of whether they plan on being a concert promoter or an elementary school teacher. **A**

— By Rachel Rohrs '07

Erin Walsh contributed to this article.

REMEMBER WHEN?

Gloria Steinem
November 19
1981

Spike Lee
March 28
1990

Gregory Hines
March 15
1993

Mikhail S. Gorbachev
March 4
1998

George Stephanopoulos
April 27
1999

