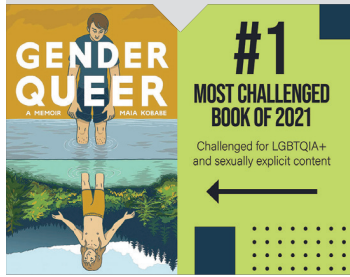


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JACKSON CROSSEN / CLARION

Artist Rae Senarighi talks about his show, “Transcend,” which was on display throughout September in the Truax Campus Art Galley. Senarighi participated in an “Artist Talks” presentation on Thursday, Sept. 17.

# ‘Transcend’ gallery exhibit

**BRYCE DAILEY**  
 Staff Writer

Artist Rae Senarighi’s portrait paintings were displayed in the Truax Gallery this month, spotlighting transgender subjects and a vibrant color palette.

Each portrait makes use of hues spanning across the rainbow. Articles of clothing are an exception to this, being brushed in black and white tones only, to maintain focus on the subject, according to the artist’s statement. The statement also comments on the “erasure from public space” of the transgender populace, which inspired Senarighi to paint the pale empty skies that linger in the background of the exhibit’s 14 paintings.

“I layer color until I can feel that person’s essence coming through,” said Senarighi about his artistic process and deliberate choosing of subjects based on their personal stories and unique identities.

Senarighi gave two intimate presentations of his artwork in the gallery this month, the first of which

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EMILY FAUST / CLARION

Madison College student Michael Sullivan visits the “Transcend” art show on display in the Truax Gallery.

# All-in effort to encourage student voter engagement

**KELLY FENG**  
 Managing Editor

Many can relate to the fall season — the changing leaves, pumpkin spice lattes and cozy campfires. Madison College has added another hallmark to autumn — increasing voter awareness.

As the student program advisor of Student Life, Brianna Stapleton Welch’s responsibilities include advising the Volunteer Center student organization and co-advising the Student Ambassadors. She is also tasked with supporting student voter engagement.

Stapleton Welch doesn’t consider it a job, but a calling.

“Voter engagement is important because voting is an opportunity to give input in the systems that shape our everyday lives,” said Stapleton Welch. “We interact with government systems daily: roads, libraries, mail and schools (including Madison College)—voting is one way to affect these systems.”

The process of student voter engagement began a few years ago when Madison College was invited to be part of the “All In Campus Democracy Challenge.” This organization empowers colleges and universities to achieve excellence in nonpartisan student democratic engagement.

President Dr. Jack E. Daniels, III pledged to make Madison College’s students engaged, committing to the challenge. As part of this challenge, the school agrees to make civic engagement and voter education opportune for students as part of the college’s foundation.

The “All In Challenge” then asked the college to submit a plan of how they were going to increase voter awareness. That’s where the student voter awareness team comes in.

## The Plan

In 2018, Stapleton Welch and colleague Ellie Rome co-wrote a plan, spelling out a proposal about aspects that would improve awareness. The plan was timed to increase awareness before the 2020 elections.

Except they submitted the plan just

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# WolfPack Wisdom a resource for Madison College students

**LILLIAN COPPELMAN**  
 Editor In Chief

There are many different resources that Madison College provides for students, enough where it can get confusing where to look to get the information they may need. Incoming students attending the college have many questions about where they need to go and what they need to know. The WolfPack Wisdom Youtube channel exists to pro-



vide students with the resources they need to succeed at Madison College.

The channel started in fall of 2019 and is a channel by students for students. There are three primary

playlists on the channel. “What’s up WolfPack?” is a playlist full of videos to help students explore the services at Madison College, such as the bookstore, library, the salon and more. “How2use myMadisonCollege” has videos to help walk students through the different components of myMadisonCollege and how to do several tasks on the portal. “Madison College Knowledge” covers the more technical aspects of students’ lives. It has videos about financial aid,

how to use the Navigate platform and online learning.

In addition to the three primary playlists, there are the partners that host videos on the channel. “International Education” has content about studying abroad and international students coming to Madison College. “Transfer Center” posts videos about students transferring to or from

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CLARION STAFF PHOTO

## Volunteer Like It's Your Birthday

Madison College students work on birthday bags as part of the Volunteer Center's Volunteer Like It's Your Birthday event in the Intercultural Exchange at the Truax Campus on Sept. 22. Students wrote birthday cards and filled decorated birthday bags with cake mix, frosting and candles. The bags were then delivered to the college's Cupboard Food Pantries for students to receive on their birthdays. The event was held at the Goodman South Campus on Sept. 19, and 80 bags were made between the two events.



## WISDOM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Madison College. "Writing Center" has informational content about writing tips called "2minTutors." In total, there are around 200 videos on the channel.

WolfPack Wisdom is a great resource to help students attending Madison College.

"Sometimes people learn differently," said Marty Crabbs, a staff member

at Madison College and manager of the channel. "And being able to see a video really helps solidify the concept instead of reading about it on the website."

"It's super helpful, and it's free," said Cole Downing, a student and member of the WolfPack channel team. "We have a ridiculous number of videos from a bunch of different people who worked on the team over the years."

WolfPack Wisdom is a channel made to help students succeed during

their time at the college, the team behind the videos work hard to make resources for students readily and easily available to access.

"I'm really proud of the work that the students do," Crabbs said. "The students do all filming, all of the editing, all of the assembling. All the videos you see on the channel are made by students."

Students can help get involved with the channel by subscribing and spreading the word to other Madison College students.

## VOTER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

weeks before the COVID-19 shutdown.

The team thought they would produce events during the 2020 election year, but that didn't happen because most events went virtual. As a result, they wrote a plan for the 2020 election that they weren't able to implement as they originally envisioned.

Stapleton Welch said they resubmitted a plan for the 2022 midterms this spring. With that plan, they have been able to carry out their mission more personally.

The "All In Campus Democracy Challenge" recently recognized the plan as a "Highly Established Action Plan," which Stapleton Welch explains as "basically getting a thumbs up for the plan."

### Coffee Cup Sleeves

Stapleton Welch rattled off the many aspects of the plan devised to engage students. One example is how the team received 1,300 coffee sleeves from the campus coffee shops and put stickers on them that list Madison's voter registration sites.

Another critical piece is Madison College Turbo Vote, a customized voter registration site for Madison College. Students, staff and faculty can go to that site and register to vote and update their phone number or address.

After students register, they can sign up to receive text deadline updates or request an absentee ballot. The site also sends reminders about upcoming elections.

Because not all students at the school are eligible to vote, Madison Turbo Vote also provides younger people with an opportunity to pledge.

"We have a lot of students at Madison College in our Early College Programs who are under 18, so they're not eligible to vote yet. But with this site, they can pledge to vote," said Stapleton Welch.

Madison Turbo Vote will text the student on their 18th birthday, encouraging them to register to vote.

Around the campus, Stapleton Welch and the team have found ways to hand out information, such as their Fall Festival and the student-athlete orientation.

Madison College also sends an online newsletter to anyone who wants more voting information. With the team tabling at the Truax and Goodman South, they have contacted the regional campuses, distributed handouts and showed slides on the digital screens on those campuses to help reach students.

Stapleton Welch is excited about the general election on Tuesday, Nov. 8 and the events that will lead up to that day.

She points out National Voter Education Week, which begins the week of Oct. 3.

### Breakfast and Ballots

Beginning with a complimentary breakfast, attendees will learn about what's on the ballot. The breakfast and ballot events are on Oct. 3 and Nov. 3 from 9-10:30 a.m. on both days. Students can access more information about this event with the WolfPack app.

She says students must learn what is on a ballot, as it isn't always about the governor or senate races.

Stapleton Welch says it's essential to know the local assembly races and races for the secretary of state and the state treasurer. In addition to voting for candidates, voter awareness includes being informed of local referenda in their county or community, as the voter might be trying to get some input.

She notes that if students see something on the ballot and don't know who to vote for, the voter awareness team shares non-partisan resources where they explore candidate positions.

She feels this year is more manageable, and student voter awareness is more accessible with in-person campus events. "We can sit at a table and say to everyone who walks by 'Hey, are you ready to vote? How are you feeling? What do you need?'" she said.

Stapleton Welch is optimistic about the interest and enthusiasm.

"I've only had positive engagement so far, and that's been good. People seem willing to take the information. They might not have time to sit and register at the table, but they seem interested in learning more, which is great," she said.

## EXHIBIT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

attracted over 40 visitors to the compact single-room gallery, according to a headcount kept by the gallery's staff. The artist's second presentation was Sept. 22, and the small audience was left captivated by a telling of Senarighi's artistic and personal journey, which includes a battle with cancer.

The Madison resident is non-binary himself, and feels his art serves as a form of activism, citing the lack of mainstream trans representation in art as a source of his inspiration.

"This series is really a culmination of the lessons I've learned, and putting them into action," he stated during Thursday's presentation. "This is very personal."

Senarighi's work can now be found on Instagram, @transpainter, or on the web at raesenarighi.com, will appear in the Truax Gallery a final time in a closing reception, set for Sept. 29 at 4 p.m. The event is free.



JACKSON CROSSEN / CLARION

A guest at the Madison College Truax Campus Gallery explores some of the artwork featured in Rae Senarighi's exhibit, "Transcend," which is on display through Sept. 29.