Eight Coe students built a set used in the “Extreme Makeover: Home Edition” episode featuring the Gibbs family in West Union, Iowa. The students built the set during the week of Oct. 2, before the taping of the show, which ABC aired Jan. 6. Audrey Gibbs, recipient of the new “Extreme Makeover” home, is a widowed mother of six. The new home was revealed to Gibbs and her children on Oct. 9.

Coe College Theatre Technical Director and Lighting Designer Jonathan Allender-Zivic received the request for this “Extreme Makeover” project less than 72 hours before it was needed. With minimal direction from show producers, Allender-Zivic created a rendering of the set design and sent it to the “Extreme Makeover” team. After receiving the go ahead from the show, he recruited eight Coe theatre students to help build the set he had designed. Using Coe theatre supplies and the department scene shop, the students put in about 30 hours of work to finish the set.

The set created was used during the demolition of the Gibbs’ original home. At the beginning of the episode, the family participated in a mini game show, “The Demo Show,” where they chose from doors numbered 1 through 10. Located behind each door was either a tool that could be used for demolition, such as a large tractor or a souped-up lawn mower, or an object that could not be used, such as a man in a cow costume or a large pig. Timed by “the corn clock” created by Coe students, the show’s designers had three minutes to locate the objects used for demolition.

After finishing construction of the structure, Allender-Zivic traveled with Keegan Jenney ’13 and Lorraine Zazzaretti ’14 to assemble the basic framework and make sure everything was working on the “Extreme Makeover” set on the evening of Oct. 2. They returned home around 2 a.m. Oct. 3, slept for a few hours, and were back to the “Extreme Makeover” set by 6 a.m. that same day.

As the students dedicated time to building this set for the show, they were also opening the theatre department’s first play of the season, “Old Times.” Despite a hectic weekend, Allender-Zivic said the students’ reactions were very positive. “The idea that what they were doing was going to be on national television was pretty cool for them, and [they] got to see the difference between live theatre and TV – how the eye works versus the camera,” Allender-Zivic said.

The Coe Theatre Arts program is designed to provide a balance between academic and experiential learning for all interested students, and it offers opportunities for student participation in many aspects of theatre. For more information on the Coe College Department of Theatre Arts, please visit theatre.coe.edu.
Pictured are selected submissions from the annual Coe off-campus study photo contest, which were exhibited in Gage Memorial Union in February along with winners of the Associated Colleges of the Midwest study abroad photo contest. Sarah Arc ’14 won third place in the stories category in the ACM contest with a photo from her spring 2011 Religious Life Study Tour of Taize, France. Ten nominees were submitted to the ACM contest from a record pool of 64 Coe student submissions. See more of the Coe student submissions on the Web at www.coe.edu/acminternationalphotocontest.

Sarah Arc ’14  
France  
My trip to France was the first time I truly felt like a minority. As an American in Europe, everything culturally unique to America seemed painfully obvious, placing me on the outside of the community, looking in. I was forced to see myself through someone else’s eyes, a reflection of who I was and what I wanted to be. This photo is just that, a reflection of three of the girls in my group – Cassie, Lucy and Anna. It was taken from a window in the old city streets surrounding Taize, standing on the outside of the village, looking in.

Tyler Heisel ’13  
Italy  
High above the majestic city of Florence sits the Basilica of San Miniato al Monte (Saint Minias on the Mountain). In 1530, during the siege of Florence, the cemetery had not yet been established and the church was used as an artillery post. It wasn’t until 1854 that the cemetery was laid out as a burial site for noblemen and aristocrats. In the photo, we see the figure of a blessed woman steadfastly watching over the tombs of the dead. It is also interesting to note that the walls that surround the cemetery were constructed by the great Michelangelo Buonarroti (Florentine sculptor, painter, architect, poet, and all around great guy) during the aforementioned siege, so as to protect the basilica from enemy fire. For the duration of the battle, the scene behind these walls must have been nothing short of chaotic. And now, where battle cries once pierced the air, there exists only the sweet sound of silence as some of the most illustrious and beloved Florentines rest in peace.

Cai Wang ’12  
Japan  
The wedding ceremony is a significant part of a country’s culture. The traditional Japanese wedding contains a lot of manners and follows a slow pace which seems really holy.

Meagan Scott ’13  
Turkey  
Wandering rooms upon rooms of illustrated Qu’rans, I was struck – once again – by the beauty Turks introduce into their everyday lives. In the city, the buildings are constructed with care, for they must look beautiful for generations to come. The history is preserved, for that is what the future is built on. The people put on their best faces, for that is what they present to the world. Although much can be said of the rooms of manuscripts, then, perhaps it is fair to simply say they are indicative of the city as a whole.
Coe College continues to make strides in its “green” efforts with the construction of the campus’ first-ever rain garden. Funded by a $9,600 grant from the Cedar Rapids/Linn County Solid Waste Agency and a $3,200 contribution from the Coe class of 2008, the 210 square foot garden is being built on the north side of Hickok Hall. The rain garden is being created with two specific goals in mind. First, the garden will allow runoff to infiltrate the ground instead of going directly into the storm sewer system as it currently does. Second, Coe plans to use the garden for research and education efforts for Coe students and faculty, as well as the Cedar Rapids community.

Coe Chemistry Professor Marty St. Clair is the leader of this project. He plans to have students study the effects of the water going into the rain garden, as well as the water leaving the rain garden. With the help of his students, St. Clair will measure the amount of rain entering the garden, the water table level, and the rate at which moisture makes its way through the soil. Finally, St. Clair hopes the rain garden will find uses in courses in Coe’s new environmental studies major. Amy Bouska, an urban conservationist with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS), says there is no other site in Iowa where the effectiveness of a rain garden is being studied in this way.

Bouska assisted in designing the rain garden, along with Linn County Soil and Water Conservation employee Jon Gallagher and Culver’s Lawn and Landscape. The installation of the garden was recently finished, and planting is planned for the spring. While the exact nature of the plantings is yet to be determined, St. Clair says they will “utilize native plants as much as possible while keeping the garden consistent with the look of the rest of the campus.”

IOWA CAUCUS OPENS DOORS FOR BUDDING JOURNALIST

Coe College was the right place at the right time for prospective political journalist Jacque Cuddeback ’12. Recommended by Associate Professor of Political Science Kimberly Lanegran in response to an appeal from Youth Radio and Turnstyle News, Cuddeback got a taste of her likely future helping to cover the Iowa presidential caucus in January. She helped write an article for NPR and was published in Turnstyle News and the Huffington Post.

“Why Young Liberals, Like Me, Will Vote Ron Paul” was the headline of her column. The Cedar Rapids native and political science major helped document the Occupy movement in her hometown for a journalism course she took in the fall. There she learned that many young people, like her, had gravitated to Paul. The Texas Congressman “was the only candidate he felt hadn’t lied to us and has the voting record to prove it,” Cuddeback wrote of a hardcore liberal friend.

Favored by 21.4 percent of participants, the Republican with a libertarian bent finished third in the Iowa caucus. Pennsylvania Sen. Rick Santorum claimed a 34-vote victory over former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney in the first step toward nominating a Republican to face President Barack Obama.

Cuddeback said a journalism career has been her goal for two years. Her Iowa caucus coverage represents the first time she has been published for pay. More important is the visibility it provided.

“It has helped me make connections that I wouldn’t have otherwise,” she said.

In addition to support for Paul, Cuddeback learned of widespread indifference among her generation.

“It’s frustrating that young people don’t care or don’t know,” she said. “Indifference is almost worse than ignorance.”

She said it was telling that opposition to the Stop Online Piracy Act went viral while the National Defense Authorization Act did not face nearly the same amount of public scrutiny. “Nobody bothers to care because it doesn’t directly affect them,” she said.

Cuddeback’s caucus column is available online at www.huffingtonpost.com/turnstyle/why-young-liberals-like-me-will-vote-ron-paul/.
# Essential Calendar

## Spring Term
- Spring Break begins (after last class) ........................................... March 2
- Classes resume .............................................................................. March 12
- Student Research Symposium (no day classes) ............................ April 11
- Classes end ..................................................................................... April 26
- Final Exams .................................................................................... April 28, 30, May 1–2
- Baccalaureate ............................................................................... May 5
- Commencement .............................................................................. May 6

## May Term
- Classes begin ................................................................................ May 9
- Memorial Day (no classes) ............................................................. May 28
- Classes end ..................................................................................... June 1

## Fall Term
- Classes begin ................................................................................ Aug. 27
- Labor Day (no classes) ................................................................. Sept. 3
- Family Weekend ........................................................................... Sept. 28–30
- Fall Break ...................................................................................... Oct. 15–16
- Homecoming ................................................................................ Oct. 27
- Thanksgiving Break (after last class) ......................................... Nov. 20
- Classes resume ............................................................................. Nov. 26
- Classes end ..................................................................................... Dec. 10
- Final Exams .................................................................................... Dec. 12–15

*Note: For the most complete and updated campus calendar, select “View Full Calendar” on Coe’s website (www.coe.edu).*