



New year, but probably not a new me

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A countdown, ball drop and champagne all signify the transition from one year to the next. But what happens when you do not partake in all the cheers? Let me first start off by saying that I have always been a New Years fanatic. I believed in starting fresh and creating resolutions to motivate the 365 days to come. However, this year my views have shifted. My best friend and I attended a party that doubled in size after being there for only an hour. One by one, more strangers showed up, yelling to their friends as they walked in the door. At 30 minutes to midnight, we realized the insignificance of ringing in the new year with people we had never met prior to that day. So, we decided to leave and see where the night would take us. An aimless drive later, we failed to livestream the ball drop and before we knew it, it was 11:59. Then, without much celebration, it was 2018. I began to think about the high expectations I had on that night and how far it was from perfect. I would be lying if I said I was not disappointed. However, disappointment is not

always bad. It forces us to reevaluate the predictions we make about experiences and humble us to the idea that sometimes we must go with the flow. Although I know this to be true now, it was still hard for me to understand how the year could change so suddenly, without feeling a difference. Then, I realized that the new year is not really a new start at all, but rather a continuation - from literally one minute to the next. It became impossible to picture a new year with a new me. Sixty seconds is not enough time to change into a brand new person. Society's expression of a new year involving a new me is very arbitrary. It is unfortunate that we put so much pressure on ourselves to become something different than what we already are. I am not saying that improving ourselves is not something we should strive for every day. But that is the thing – we should strive for it every day. A new year does not necessitate a call for change. Our resolutions can be filled at any time, on any day. Society has made us feel that we need to physically improve ourselves. Well, what about mental and



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emotional improvement? We need to create resolutions that better us on the inside, not just the outside. Mottos of kindness, patience and balance should be motivating resolutions for a better you. Perhaps happiness, persistence and courageousness suit you more. Either way, these words are not

just words. They are powerful and life changing. They are enriching to ourselves, others and our year. Whatever it is you need more of in your life, wish for it and make it happen. We must begin to consider 2018 as a continuation. If we do this, it would not be such a “now or never” situation. Remember to go easy on your-

self, whether you have fulfilled or already broken a resolution. Do not expect a different number to dramatically change the person you are. And if there is anything else I can leave you with, it is that you should always watch the ball drop. From my experience, I can say that it is pretty lame without it.

JDM department recognized

STAFF EDITORIAL
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For the second year in a row, AUTV-20 and 88.9 WRDL were selected for multiple Finalist Awards by the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System. AUTV-20 was recognized in five different categories and WRDL was honored in three different categories. “These awards are a tribute to the hard work, dedication and creative abilities of our JDM co-curricular media students,” AUTV-20 and WRDL faculty advisor Dr. Dave McCoy said. “The IBS Awards are one of the longest-running and noteworthy collegiate media competitions in the country.” AUTV-20 was nominated for an award in five separate categories. AUTV-20 station manager Ingrid Schmidt was nominated for the Best use of YouTube category as well as the Best use of Instagram. AUTV-20 runs a couple of different public affairs shows, one of

them being “Eagle’s Eye.” This year “Eagle’s Eye” was produced by Waylon O’Donnell, Michaela Ping and Ingrid Schmidt and was nominated in the top six in the nation for Best Talk Program. AUTV-20 produces a two minute newscast every day of the school week. Alongside of the News Break, the station also produces a longer 15 minute show that placed in the top six this year at the IBS awards. Renee Borcas, Connor Dunwoodie, Sean Honaker, Paul Murray, Callan Pugh and Ingrid Schmidt were all a part of producing the award winning show. The final award that AUTV-20 was nominated for was The AU Wrestling Spotlight show. The show was produced by Renee Borcas, Trae Coopwood, Erich Metze and Ingrid Schmidt and Bree Gannon was the interviewer. The show was nominated in the top three of Best Sports Interview Program.

WRDL was also nominated for a variety of awards. The first of which was the Best Event Promo in which WRDL was nominated in the top five for the AU Basketball Promo that was produced by Tom Nesbitt. WRDL was also nominated in the top six for Best Sports play-by-play, women’s basketball for Noah Cloonan and Tyler Lance’s work during the National Championship game. This is the same category that WRDL placed first in during last year’s competition. The final category that WRDL recieved recognition in was for the Best Station Promotional Poster. The nomination came from The WRDL Tailgate Party poster that was developed by the WRDL staff and General Manager Derek Wood. JDM honorees are invited to the national convention to be held in early March in New York City. The Finalist Awards and the National First Place Awards will be handed out during the ceremony.



SUBMITTED BY DAVE MCCOY

The Journalism and Digital Media Department was nominated for eight awards by the the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System.

the Collegian

EDITOR’S NOTE

The views expressed in the columns do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Collegian* or Ashland University.

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137 Center for the Arts

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The Collegian is a student-run paper, published bimonthly.

The Collegian is printed by the
Wooster Republican Printing Company.

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