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Students Come "Elliv" with Final Campus Event

CEDARVILLE, OHIO – Does it rhyme with Alive? Or maybe Relief? Perhaps it’s a little of both. However you say it, Elliv (which is actually pronounced El-Leave) is Cedarville University's biggest musical event held at the end of spring semester each year. Showtime this year is Saturday, April 28, at 7 p.m. in the Dixon Ministry Center.

Tickets are available in the Stevens Student Center April 23-27. Students pay $14 for balcony seating and $16 for floor seating.

Sponsored by Cedarville’s Student Government Association (SGA), Elliv showcases the singing, playing and dancing talents of undergraduate students across majors and disciplines and offers a much-needed respite as students head into finals week.

As one of the biggest events on campus, Elliv — (Cedar)'ville spelled backward — consists of more than 70 student volunteers in bands, committees and crews. The event is almost entirely student-run. Planning started May 2017, with weekly meetings starting in November.

In January, more than 80 students auditioned for just over 40 performance slots.

“This year we looked for diversity,” said Meagan Grotte, junior early education major from Seattle, Washington, and the Elliv director. “There are almost equal numbers of sophomores, juniors and seniors. We want everyone who comes to Elliv to know someone on stage.”

Elliv attendees can expect a mix of old and new songs chosen last semester. The eight-song setlist is made of songs suggested by key student influencers on campus.

“Something unique about Elliv is that we are creating a show that is for everyone, not just a specific fanbase,” said Christopher O’Mara, senior biblical studies major from Piermont, New Hampshire, and musical director of Elliv. “This means that we have a significant opportunity to reinforce community instead of catering to differing tastes.

“We want it to be fun, enjoyable and excellent. There are no expectations on the students — all they have to do is walk through the doors on April 28. At the end of it all, we hope that the students can walk back out of those doors feeling better and happier than when they walked in.”

The event is a fun opportunity for students to dress up in their favorite fancy clothes or to create a more elaborate character costume. The first award of the night will be given to the best group costume. Other awards will be given based on student votes. These awards include most likely to appear in a game show, greatest overheard of all time and agent of change.

Located in southwest Ohio, Cedarville University is an accredited, Christ-centered, Baptist institution with an enrollment of 3,963 undergraduate, graduate and online students in more than 150 areas of study. Founded in 1887, Cedarville is recognized nationally for its authentic Christian community, rigorous academic programs, strong graduation and retention rates, accredited professional and health science offerings and leading student satisfaction ratings. For more information about the University, visit www.cedarville.edu.