



KATE LU—THE TECH

Mocha Moves, MIT's competitive hip hop dance team, presents their biannual dance showcase, MO'FLIX 2023, in Kresge Little Theater, Saturday.

The MIT community observes 49th annual MLK Celebration

Dozier: "This event is about coming together as a community to revisit the legacy of Dr. King. His insights and his wisdom are remarkably resilient."

By Julia Fortt

MIT marked its 49th Annual Celebration of the Life and Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr on Feb. 8. The event was organized by the Institute Community and Equity Office, and hosted by President Sally Kornbluth. Dr. Angela Davis, an activist and author, gave the keynote address, and additional speakers included undergraduates, graduate students, and staff. The celebration also featured a musical performance by The Mastadonis Project, a black-led Boston-based jazz group.

Due to complications stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic, events for the past two years were held virtually. Institute Community and Equity Officer John Dozier said, "This was my first in-person MLK celebration at MIT, and it was deeply moving." In particular, Dozier highlighted how the event "really reminded me of how hard it has been over the last two years for people at MIT to feel connected to each other and feel like a community."

The first MLK celebration took

place in 1975. Since then, the event has become an annual MIT community tradition. "This event is about coming together as a community to revisit the legacy of Dr. King. His insights and his wisdom are remarkably resilient," Dozier remarked.

The celebration serves not just as a unifier for the MIT community, but also as an opportunity to reflect on Dr. King's message of racial equality. Dozier said that, "anything we can do to get people thinking about Dr. King's calls to action, the better off we all will be."

Despite now being a longstanding tradition at MIT, Dozier said that the purpose of the event and the challenges that the event seeks to address remain relevant as ever. "The MLK celebration is an opportunity for the MIT community to pause, to speak to itself, to listen to itself, and to take one more step in this direction every year," Dozier remarked.

Dozier emphasized the importance of collective reflection about Dr. King's legacy, drawing parallels to contemporary American society. In his 1967 book 'Where Do We Go

From Here?', Dr. King writes about "the challenges of maintaining momentum in the civil rights movement," Dozier said. Despite having achieved "many legal and legislative victories...the movement's work was not done, and American society was in deep turmoil. That book is filled with parallels to today," Dozier added.

In addition to the luncheon, additional activities celebrating MLK included an art exhibition in Lobby 10, the MLK Leadership Award Ceremony, and an MLK Vendor's Market in the Bush Room. The first annual market featured a variety of products from local black owned businesses.

When asked regarding plans for future years, Dozier highlighted continuing to expand and grow the celebrations. "We are looking into ways to meet" that "interest," Dozier said.

"We move forward on the path to justice and we slide back—at the same time, over and over again. This event is a way for us to come together, share our hope, and be reassured by Dr. King's words and wisdom," Dozier said.

Class of 2026 visits Museum of Science

Approximately half the freshman class attended the event before the beginning of the spring semester.

By Isabella Duan and Shreya Chaudhary

The Night at the Museum event was held on the evening of Feb. 5 at the Museum of Science for the class of 2026. The event was hosted by the Office of the First Year (OFY) before the start of the spring semester, and over 500 out of 1,136 first-years attended.

According to the OFY website, the event is part of the larger Connect by Chance program which aims to "bring together random groups of classmates for conversation and fun." A previous initiative included a class of 2026 trip to the New England Aquarium during Orientation.

Events

The 'Red Wing' was rented-out specifically for the event, and included many exhibits ranging from displays of models of famous historical ships to a showcase of optical illusions and light tricks.

One of the popular activities was the Theater of Electricity show. The show included both solid state and spark gap tesla coils, as well as the world's largest air-insulated Van de Graaff generator. During the showcase, a brief rendition of "Never Gonna Give You Up" by Rick Astley was played by tesla coils changing frequency.

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IN SHORT

Deadline for submission of Minor Completion Form for final-term seniors is Feb. 24.

The MIT Monologues will be performed Feb. 24 - Feb. 26 in 32-123.

Undergraduate registration opens for fourth quarter Physical Education & Wellness classes March 1.

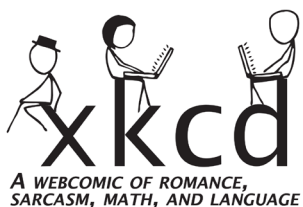
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Send news and tips to news@tech.mit.edu.

FUN

Play *The Tech's* Sudoku and Crossword puzzles. Check out our haikus, and learn about new entertainment releases this week!

FUN, p. 4-5



GRADUATE GRIEVANCES

Read about an eye-opening set of accounts on bullying behavior in MIT's graduate program.

SECTION, p. 7

VIVIAN'S REFLECTIONS

Read the latest entry in Vivian Hir's long-running reflections column.

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ALEXA SIMAO—THE TECH

Students attend a town hall led by UA president David Spicer '23 regarding W20, shortly after partial reopening of the Student Center was announced, Wednesday Feb. 15.

WEATHER

Return of wintry weather into the weekend

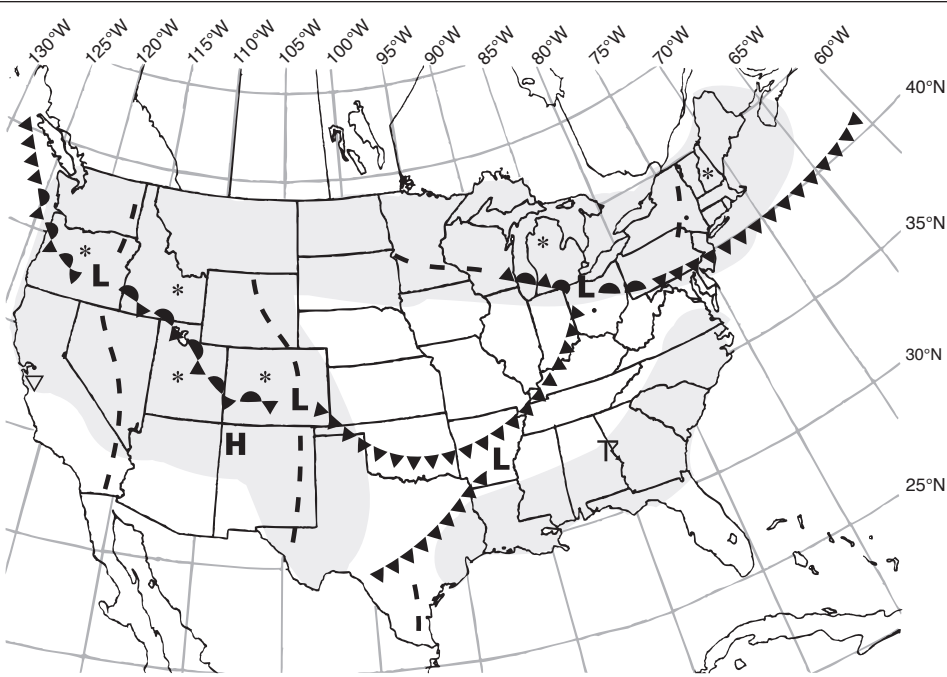
By Yoland Gao

After an unseasonably warm January in Boston this year, we have the return of wintry weather as we close out the week and into the weekend. A winter storm is going to affect New England and the Great Lakes throughout today and tomorrow bringing snow and rain from Minnesota to

Maine. Here in Boston, we are expecting mostly a wintry mix with the possibility of road ice throughout the day today, so don't forget your winter boots. We will also be expecting temperatures to plummet below 20 degrees for the next few nights, and it will be particularly cold on Saturday. Make sure to bundle up and stay warm everyone!

Extended Forecast

Today: Wintry mix. High around 34°F (1°C). Northeasterly winds around 15-20 mph.
Tonight: Wintry mix. Low around 29°F (-2°C). Westerly winds around 5-10 mph.
Friday: Partly cloudy. High around 36°F (2°C) and low around 13°F (-11°C). Northwestern winds around 20-30 mph.
Saturday: Cloudy and cold. High around 21°F (-6°C) and low around 16°F (-9°C). Northwestern winds around 5-10 mph.
Sunday: Cloudy, slight chance of snow. High around 36°F (2°C) and low around 20°F (-7°C). Westerly winds around 5-10 mph.



Situation for Noon Eastern Time, Thursday, February 23, 2023

Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols	Other Symbols
H High Pressure	Trough	Snow: Snow	Fog
L Low Pressure	Warm Front	Rain: Rain	Thunderstorm
Hurricane	Cold Front	Light: Light	Haze
	Stationary Front	Moderate: Moderate	
		Heavy: Heavy	

Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and The Tech

Romero: “There was something for everyone to love.”

Museum, from Page 1

Although the event was advertised by the OFY as an opportunity to meet new freshmen, some attendees stated that they spent time mostly with existing friends. Other reasons for students deciding to attend included free food and the opportunity to explore the exhibits. Most students stayed at the event for two to three hours. Ellie Romero '26 said, “there was something for everyone to love: dinosaurs, space, robots, coding games, science exhibits, an electricity show, a playground, and so much more.”

The artificial intelligence exhibit, featuring Boston Dynamics robotics, was another highlight. Jeremy Minniear '26 called the experience a “mechanical dream” with the mechanical “dog, gas motor, trains, [and] model ships.”

More lighthearted aspects of the event included a dinosaur wearing MIT merchandise and trays of food on all three floors. While some students found the exhibits “boring,” others like Romero rejoiced in the fact that they could “be childish, playing on the interactive games and the play structure.” Minniear stated they look forward to going back to the museum in the future. “I fulfilled a lot of items on my bucket list while going there and I’m excited to go again someday.”

Event Planning

Jordan A. Sell '23, a current intern at the OFY, explained that the office “has been working to increase programming and do some more, large scale events.” Planning for the Night at the Museum began last spring; much of which included coordinating

with the museum’s event staff on possible ideas for the event. “[This] was the second year we held the event, so we already had an idea of what students liked from the year prior,” Sell said. The office selected the museum for the event location as they wanted students to have “the freedom to do whatever they wanted at their own pace”. In particular, the variety of events and free food provided helped attract students. The organizers also highlighted their appreciation towards students for attending the event due to its timing with the upcoming semester. “We are very thankful that so many students decided to spend the night before classes started with us,” Sell summarized. Students interested with feedback can email firstyear@mit.edu and visit the [Connect by Chance](#) website for more information regarding the initiative.

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Post the best posts?
Get a million likes on both?

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Say Hello

To My Little Friend.

photo@tech.mit.edu

Solution to Too Cheap
from page 4

9	4	5	1	7	3	8	2	6
6	7	8	2	9	5	1	3	4
3	1	2	6	8	4	9	7	5
4	8	3	5	6	9	7	1	2
2	6	9	8	1	7	4	5	3
1	5	7	4	3	2	6	8	9
5	2	6	7	4	8	3	9	1
8	9	4	3	2	1	5	6	7
7	3	1	9	5	6	2	4	8

Solution to Annoyingly Affordable
from page 4

9	7	2	6	5	4	8	3	1
3	5	6	7	8	1	4	2	9
8	1	4	3	9	2	6	5	7
6	2	1	5	3	8	9	7	4
4	3	5	1	7	9	2	8	6
7	8	9	4	2	6	3	1	5
5	6	8	2	4	7	1	9	3
2	4	7	9	1	3	5	6	8
1	9	3	8	6	5	7	4	2

Solution to Too Expensive
from page 4

TAD	RABBI	OPERA
ODE	ELLEN	NAMED
DOE	FLOAT	ALIVE
ARMY	RECRUITER	
YESSIR	NNE	
	LEGUME	FAMILY
MST	DYNE	OROME
ACRE	OLD	PAID
MAITAI	BEST	MAA
ARMAND	HAMMER	
	ANA	OMAHAN
	LEGO	SCULPTURE
REAIR	HORDE	MIR
ACURA	EDGER	PAD
MODEM	SEERS	SLY

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KATE LU—THE TECH

ENTERTAINMENT THIS WEEK

**JESUS REVOLUTION
(TUE, FEB 21)**



THE CONSULTANT (FRI, FEB 24)



A large, purple Gengar with a wide, menacing grin and red eyes looms over Ash Ketchum. Ash, wearing his signature white shirt with a red stripe and a blue vest, looks up at the ghost Pokémon with a determined expression. Pikachu and Porygon are visible behind Ash, also looking towards the Gengar.

A person wearing a red mask and a red mesh vest over a black long-sleeved shirt. They are standing in a crowded, dimly lit room with smoke or fog in the air, suggesting a rave or club environment. Other people are visible in the background, some wearing colorful headbands.

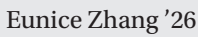
A close-up photograph of a black bear's head, tilted back with its mouth wide open, showing its teeth and tongue. The bear's fur is dark and shaggy. The background is a blurred green forest.

ATOMIC HEART
(TUE, FEB 21)



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MIT, it's time to support your police officers

The 42 officers of the MIT Police Association have been working without a contract since last July. We've met 16 times, but the school continues to refuse to address reasonable quality of life and economic issues. At the heart of the negotiation is the question of whether MIT will follow the lead of Harvard and Boston University in mitigating the impact of inflation, acknowledging the extraordinary new burdens imposed on police officers, and ensuring that it will continue to at-

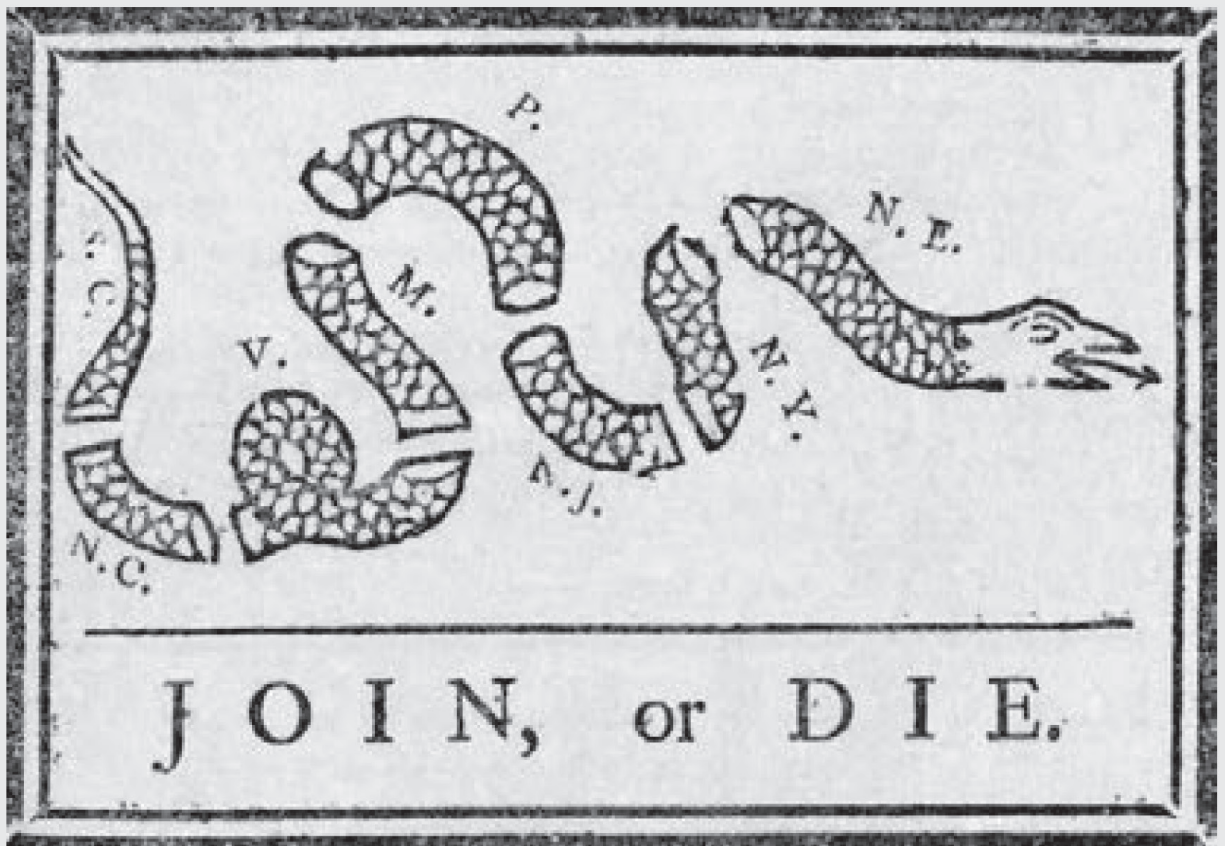
Melissa Sullivan is a representative of the MIT Police Association and former Cambridge resident.

[1] The association distributed flyers outside campus on Nov. 16, Jan. 11, and Feb. 6.

Want to draw graphics that
engage, provoke, and speak to the
MIT community?

The Tech is looking for editorial cartoonists.

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VIVIAN'S REFLECTIONS

Tears, Tsukiyo, and Never Let Me Go

Thoughts on life's fleeting nature

By Vivian Hir
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Walking across the Harvard Bridge back to my dorm from an orchestra performance in Symphony Hall, I answer my phone: "Hello?"

"Hello Vivian," my mom replies. "I am currently waiting for an Uber and I plan to go to the airport now. Where are you now?"

Hearing this makes me feel a little sad. A few hours ago, I quickly left for the concert while my mom napped in my room. I thought that I would get to see her again after the performance and say a formal goodbye. Instead, she has to leave just before I get back. Despite my slight disappointment, my mood isn't that affected, as I know that I will see my mom again over winter break.

"I am on the Harvard Bridge. It will take me another 20 minutes to reach the dorm," I say, as I admire the blue sky and wonderful New England foliage along the Charles River.

My mom pauses before she says, "I am sorry I was napping before you left." At first, I hear her trying to hold back tears, but she eventually breaks down.

"I am such a bad person. I didn't even say a proper goodbye," my mom says, starting to sob.

It's the first time I've heard someone cry on the phone. Physically, my mom is only a mile away from me, yet the phone call makes me think that she is much farther away. In less than two hours, she will board a plane and fly back to San Francisco, 3120 miles away from Boston.

As cold-hearted as it sounds, the idea of being thousands of miles away from someone never really bothered me. I thought that with phone and video calls, these geographical barriers would vanish. I could still have conversations. But as I remain silent and listen to her cry, I begin to question my naïve view on distance.

I am not sure how to comfort her. No

matter what I say, it seems like nothing will be as good as a face-to-face conversation. My heart tightens when I hear her weep. I expect tears to start flowing down my cheeks, but nothing comes out of my eyes. I start to wonder what's wrong with me and ask myself the last time I cried. I can't even remember. Was it during winter break of freshman year or sometime during my first semester at MIT? Regardless of the answer, I find it concerning that I haven't cried in almost a year when there were many times that I wanted to.

One part of me thinks that MIT has hardened me. The other part thinks that MIT has worn me down so much that as much as I want to cry because of how cathartic it feels, I don't have the mental and physical energy to. I am scared that crying will only make me cry more and put me in awkward situations with others, something that I experienced many times growing up.

"You aren't a bad mom; we will see each other in a while," I reassure her.

After she collects herself, my mom says, "I hope the rest of the semester gets better. I will try to help you as much as I can."

We both say goodbye and then end the call.

On the way back to New House, all I think about is the conversation I just had. Impressions of Mitsuko Uchida's wonderful piano escape my brain. My phone's call history says that the call was two minutes, yet it feels like time came to a standstill because of the many swirling thoughts and epiphanies I had within that short time.

The summer before college, my parents frequently reminded me that the time I had with them would be very limited once I left home. Despite this, I never really let that thought bother me. I was sad that I was starting to count down the number of months, then weeks, then days left with my family before I left for college, but I accepted it as a fact of life. Unless I chose to live near my family for the rest of my life,

there wasn't much I could do about it. Even hearing my peers say that 90% of the time spent with parents is gone after high school didn't make me very concerned. Sure, the percentage sounded very high at first, but after thinking about the number of days I had during college to visit my parents, the number made sense.

But having this phone call with my mom sobered me. Based on Tim Urban's blog post "The Tail End," the number of days I have with my parents for the rest of my life is a small fraction of our total time together before college. As a result, the time I have with them is quite precious. I thought about why my mom cried besides the fact that she said she felt like she was a bad parent. I may not be fully correct, but a possible reason is that she assumed that she would still have time to say goodbye to me before going to the airport, which wasn't the case in the end. In other words, she felt regret for not cherishing every moment with me as she chose to keep napping instead of waking up to say goodbye before I left the dorm.

The more I thought about what was going on in my mom's mind, the more I thought about a dance performance I had watched at the Boston Ballet a while back. On its own, the dance may appear to be completely separate from my life, but the emotions it imprinted on me strongly echoed with what I felt during the phone call with my mom. Directed by Helen Pickett, Tsukiyo is an intimate duet that captures the power of love perfectly. When I watched the couple dancing with such closeness and grace, I started to feel a lump in my throat. The performance was so touching and moving, yet I couldn't cry because of how beautiful it was to see them dance under the moonlight-like setting.

The intimacy of the dancers made me think of how we want to be vulnerable in front of our loved ones so they can be there for us, even though we sometimes say that we are independent. Despite being adults,

we desire a return to childhood so someone can take care of us. My interpretation may be a stretch, but the ballerina's delicate nature as she allowed her partner to hold her in the air reminded me of how fragile and short human life is. The two hold on to each other most of the time, but in some parts of the choreography, they walk away from each other and then come back together again.

While the dance portrayed a couple, I thought of other relationships — a friendship or a parental bond. The tension present in the dance made the constant internal struggle over whether to let go so visceral and real. In a greater context, the dance made me think of how hard it is to say goodbye to someone we love and accept the fact that intimacy in a relationship cannot last forever, just like the former closeness a parent and child or two siblings may experience.

The phone call not only evoked strong memories of *Tsukiyo* but also made me think of *Never Let Me Go*, a book I read this summer by Kazuo Ishiguro. The narrator, Kathy, experiences one of the book's central conflicts as she struggles to accept the facts that her friends will pass away and that time will keep passing by. The title itself is thought-provoking, as it highlights Kathy's tendency to reminisce about her close friendships during school.

The title haunts me because it applies to my relationships with people like my mom. When things are too late, we realize the time we have left with a loved one is limited and cannot be taken for granted anymore. Time does not wait for us. As much as we want to hold and be held onto by those we love, including our family members, ultimately we must let go, even if this means being thousands of miles away from them.

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