

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2017  
VOLUME 42 EDITION 33  
ELON, NORTH CAROLINA

# PENDULUM



## STANDING IN SOLIDARITY

Elon community moves to stand together, support one another in current political climate

**Emmanuel Morgan**

News Editor  
@\_EMorgan704

When Mariatu Okonofua walked into the room, Kristina Meyer looked up and giggled.

Both are sophomores at Elon University, and their yearlong friendship has morphed from simply being hallmates to having constant outbursts of laughter, inside jokes. As

friends often do, they complimented their outfits — but like their uncommon camaraderie — they were dressed completely different. Okonofua, an African-American Muslim, rushed back to campus from her Raleigh-based internship, leaving no time to change from her pantsuit. But Meyer, a white Christian, was cloaked in a raincoat and boots to absorb the precipitation of a dreary Friday afternoon.

Their differing choices of wardrobe somewhat exemplifies their contrasting ideologies. The bulk of history says these two groups — white and Christian; colored and Muslim — are not to get along. In light of the United States' current political climate, that statement seems more relevant than ever. But

See **MUSLIM LIFE**  
pgs. 6-7

ANTHONY DELGADO | Contributor  
**The Global Solidarity March** leads Seniors Emily Collins, Surya Shahi and Suad Ibrahim into the Global Neighborhood Feb. 6.

## A FUR-EVER CLASSIC: Elon theater updates 'Cats' aesthetic

**Deirdre Kronschnabel**

Contributor  
@kronschnabel

The curtain is closed and the theater dark, but right around the corner the dressing room is bursting with color and energy. Inside, the cast is getting fitted in wigs of shimmering silver, burnt orange and pale pink. Fur lines the walls on costume racks, and makeup artists and actors alike prowl in and out of dressing rooms, wielding everything from Styrofoam mannequin heads to eyebrow pencils.

In four hours, faces are painted, wigs are teased and the troupe is transformed into a band of feline creatures.

The Elon Department of Performing Arts

opens its production of "Cats" at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 9 in McCrary Theatre under the direction of Associate Professor of Dance Lynne Kurdziel Formato. Formato is supported in costume, makeup and design by guest designer Caitlin Graham '11.

Based on T. S. Eliot's "Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats," "Cats" follows a tribe of cats who come together on one fantastical night for an annual ball. Winner of seven Tony Awards, the show is the fourth longest-running show in Broadway history and is now successfully sharing its story to a new generation in the "Cats" Broadway revival tour.

Formato described "Cats!" as a foil to re-

See **"CATS"**  
pgs. 18-19



The cast of "Cats" performs at their dress rehearsal at McCrary Theatre Feb. 6.

DIEGO PINEDA | Photo Editor

**NEWS**  
Immigration ban puts Elon in a bind  
**8**

**STYLE**  
Elon alumna trains for first 50k  
**16**

**SPORTS**  
Both Elon basketball teams hit their stride  
**21**