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## **Local woman named Western's** first student Writer-in-Residence

## By CELENA BAGGIO

University Students' Council, Western University

Alex Carrillo-Hayley of Georgetown has been selected by an adjudication panel to be Western's first Student Writer-in-Residence. This program was created as a partnership between Western's English Department and the University Students' Council (USC) to give an opportunity to a student to become the touch point for literary arts on campus.

"When the selection committee chose her as the very first Student Writerin-Residence, it paid tribute to Alex's imaginative vision, including her special promise as a writer and her abilities as a leader. She is full of novel ideas about how to raise the profile of literary activity, contribute to the local culture scene, and tap into the creativity of students across campus," said Manina Jones, head of Western's English Department.

Alex has been writing for almost her entire life. She recalls her mother reading countless stories to her when she was a child, and her father telling her and her brother original stories to get them excited for bedtime; she views her parents as foundations of her creative inspira-



**HAYLEY** 

tion. Years later, she became extremely active in the Creative Writer's Circle at her high school. Alex is currently enrolled in the fourth year Creative Writing thesis course, and describes

ALEX CARRILLO- her project as a "poetic novella." Her work has appeared

in Propaganda, the Arts and Humanities Student Council's creative journal, and she is looking forward to the publication of her poem Nine Soles of a Shoe Tree.

Alex is enthusiastic of the arts in general, and is currently the Vice President of The Coterie: Western's Undergraduate English Society, as well as one of the Programming Assistants for the 2012/2013 Arts and Humanities Soph Team.

"I am absolutely ecstatic to be Western's first Student Writer-in-Residence," she said. "Writing has always been an important aspect of my life, and I can't wait to share my passion with others... I believe that there are closet writers throughout campus in every faculty, and my goal is to inspire them to bolster their creative talents-starting with weekly drop-in creative writing hours."



