



Virtual Reality is a New Reality on Thayer

If your only exposure to virtual reality (VR) has been via *The Matrix*, *Black Mirror* or *Lawnmower Man*, you'll want to zip over to Thayer Street and experience the real thing for yourself at Base Station VR Lounge (BaseStation-VR.com), the first dedicated virtual reality lounge in New England. You can rest assured that the real thing is (currently) more low key than how science fiction often portrays it, but it's also much more immersive than you might expect.

Before opening in June, owner Nidal Battikha researched other popular entertainment venues like escape rooms and paint nights, but the initial inspiration to start Base Station was simple: "I bought a VR headset and fell in love with it," he says. There were some arcades in the area renting use of a single VR headset, but most VR-only lounges were on the West Coast. Thayer Street's proximity to nearby colleges made it a perfect fit: "I'd been looking at a different business opportunity before," Nidal says, "and I found a space with an extra room and thought, 'Hey, it would be really cool if I set up a headset and started charging.'"

Ultimately, he created five stations throughout two rooms, with floor mats and plenty of space for customers to get lost in simulated worlds. As of this writing, Base Station's library offers more than 60 experiences - games, yes, but also casual walks through art galleries, otherworldly spaces to explore, puzzles, competitive combat, escaping zombies and other horror scenarios for the gutsy. Newcomers can acclimate themselves to the technology at their own pace, and there's an option for every age group and comfort level.

-Amanda M. Grosvenor

Photo courtesy of Base Station VR Lounge

FALL 2017 THE PERFORMING ARTS SERIES



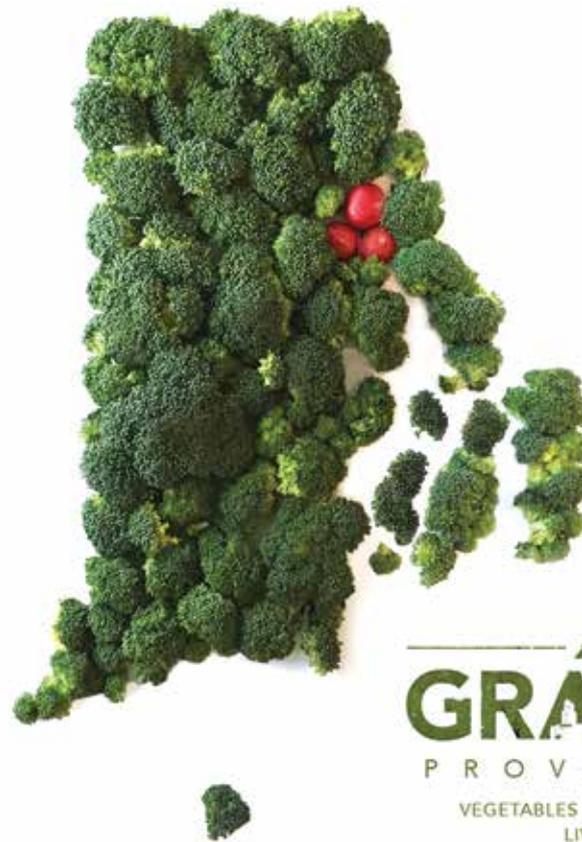
RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

The ♀ther Mozart

Thursday, Nov. 2, 2017
7:30 p.m. • Sapinsley Hall

Creator and writer Sylvia Milo stars in this one-woman play that tells the true and untold story of Maria Anna (Nannerl) Mozart, the sister of Amadeus – prodigy, virtuoso and composer, who performed with her brother to equal acclaim. The play is based on facts, stories and lines pulled directly from the Mozart family's humorous and heartbreaking letters.

Purchase your tickets at www.ric.edu/pas
or (401) 456-8144.



the
GRANGE
PROVIDENCE
VEGETABLES CRAFT COCKTAILS
LIVE MUSIC