

All Black Gala

A formal event celebrating Black history and the immense diversity of Black culture. Speaker and social media activist, Shaun King, spoke at the event



Photo attributed from www.csumb.edu

by Sara Hollingsworth

Taking the stage Tuesday night in the University Center Ballroom, special guest Shaun King spoke at length about his personal views, the span of history and organizing change.

One of the numerous events for Black History Month, The All Black Gala opened with the African American anthem sung by Mykha'il Jackson, a spoken word poem done by Jasmine Lottier, opening remarks by CSUMB lecturer George Station, and an introduction by Amber Ward and Hayley Hutt. The two MC's for the evening were CSUMB students, Michelle Vazquez and Giovanni Gonzalez. All of this was a lead in for the keynote speaker of the evening, Shaun King.

Shaun King was the youngest Student Government President elected at Morehouse College in 1999. He was considered one of the loudest and outspoken activists at Morehouse College, though when he graduated he moved on to be a popular high school history and civics teacher in Atlanta, then a traveling teacher and counselor at dozens of different prisons and juvenile detention centers. King married his high school sweetheart, and is the father of five children ranging in age from pre-school to high school. King is now a speaker and



Photo by Samantha Calderon.

activist based out of Brooklyn, New York, though he speaks all around the country.

In his speech, King told the audience about his past, focusing on his personal, academic and activism. "All of that shaped me into who I am today. And so, I find myself and you'll find yourself- when things get crazy- you'll often find yourself leaning on what you know. And history is the lens- it's the primary skill that I have- that gives me a lens to see the world. So, tonight, I want to teach you a lesson, and give you a tool through which to see the world that we're living in."

We spoke with King after the event and asked him how he felt to be on the CSUMB campus: "I got a chance to meet a few hundred students and staff. It was a great energy. I felt like, I learned a lot about even the student experience, but I got a chance to teach some lessons as well. It was a great experience. I'm glad I came."



Photo by Sara Hollingsworth.

King closed with one last parting comment about CSUMB: "I'm actually excited about the campus. I learned a lot about the university. I've spoken all over the country at universities that are several hundred years old, and it's cool to see a school that's younger than me. I'm 38. And so, to see that 25 years ago somebody had an idea and we're all here as an expression of that idea. It's a pretty cool thing, so I'm excited to see how the university grows in the future."

THE ISSUE WITH PHOTOSHOP

Issues of photoshop² and its impact on society.

VAGINA MONOLOGUES

Review of vagina³ monologues.

ZOMBIE APOCALYPSE

Is it possible? The⁴ 2018 Perspective.

SLEIGHT OF HAND

A short story.⁵

GREEK LIFE

A photo essay on greek life.⁶



Getting out of the joint

What San Diego and San Fransisco are doing for those with marijuana related charges

by Griffin Dehne

With the new California marijuana law becoming enacted this year, there has been a discourse over how those who were convicted with felony and misdemeanor marijuana charges will be affected. In late January, both San Diego and San Francisco have decided to look over those convicted and change the sentencing of eligible ones.

Some states that have legal recreational marijuana, including California, allow people with marijuana convictions to apply to have their record analyzed and

potentially cleared based on the gratitude of the charge. However, it can be a lengthy and expensive process. In some states, it took years to pass that legislation. In Colorado it took five years after passing their legal marijuana law, to allow those convicted to apply to have their cases reviewed.

San Diego and San Fransisco are two cities in California doing this process for free.

The district attorney of San Fransisco, George Gascón, is reviewing records dating back to 1975. His office will automatically erase about 3,000 total convictions there, while an extra 4,900 cases of felony charges will be examined and

reduced to misdemeanors, if applicable.

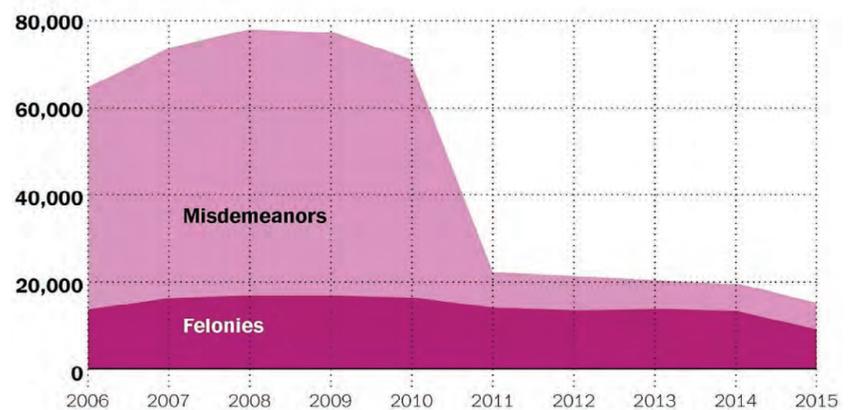
San Diego has identified about 4,700 cases of misdemeanors and felonies that will be evaluated and reduced or cleared, if eligible.

According to a 2016 report by the Drug Policy Alliance, close to 500,000 people were arrested for marijuana felony or misdemeanor charges in California, between 2006 and 2015.

With the passing of the Adult Use of Marijuana Act. Prop. 64, thousands of convicted californians can petition to have their records erased or reduced.

California still arrests thousands on marijuana charges each year

Marijuana-related arrests in California



WAPO.ST/WONKBLOG

Source: Drug Policy Alliance analysis of California DOJ data

Between 2006 and 2015, close to 500,000 people were arrested for marijuana charges in California. Photo by Drug Policy Alliance.

OPINION

Iranian Revolts 2017-2018

by Navid Amarlou

A small protest on December 28, 2017, due to prices in Mashhad, has now escalated into a nationwide revolution. Ranging from causes of widespread unemployment to the oppressive regime, which has continued its disregard for the struggle of its citizens.

The Iranian political climate has become embroiled within the struggles of its citizens. Food prices and cost of living in Iran are increasing, as political figures manage to live in lavish. The rampant corruption and economic inequality in Iran and a 12% unemployment rate, along with a 40% labor participation rate, have left Iranian citizens struggling through trying times.

Donald Trump and Benjamin Netanyahu have expressed support to Iranian loyalists, a masked protester responds, "they go to hell and leave us alone". The current revolts in Iran are the greatest sources of tension within the nation's long standing economic crisis, which had only been worsened by sanctions placed on the nation.

Beyond external forces worsening the current state of Iran, the government has been long viewed as corrupt by Iranian citizens, given the increasing income inequality between politicians and the people. The Iranian people have suffered beyond the recent revolts, having overthrown a previous regime, in order to replace it with their current regime. This was pursued in hopes to deliver the justice that was lost within the previous regime. But they have been left

empty handed, as they witness the new power abuse their position just as those before them.

Iranian women have developed a new revolt branch fighting for equal rights, which is gaining traction. Women in Iran currently have a higher education than most women in neighboring middle eastern countries. Although conditions have improved, the government has not taken any major steps towards rectifying this inequality. Though Iranian president Hassan Rouhani has stated that he wants reforms.

The vice president has stated that he will make efforts to ease economic issues, though recently they have increased police involvement in protests resulting in 23 deaths, and the arrests of 3,700 demonstrators.

Navid Amarlou is a molecular biology major who writes for *The Lutrinae* and has a show on Ottermedia known as The Shrikes Chatter. He has a great deal of passion for education and the importance of information so he joined *The Lutrinae* in order to share things such as human rights news and recent developments in science with the readers. His articles cover these types of matters in hopes that it will increase awareness of global issues along and inform people about recent scientific discoveries.



Applications for AS elections due Feb. 23

Associated Students (AS) is looking for new student body members to run for 2018/2019 student representative positions. To find important documents about running, go to the Associated Students Elections page on your CSUMB dashboard. Remember to get a minimum of 100 signatures supporting your petition to run. Applications are due February 23, at 5 p.m. in room 109 of the Student Center.

Psychology Brown Bag Presentation Feb. 28

The Department of Psychology is hosting an educational event with R. Michael Bagby, Ph.D. on Feb. 28. Bagby will be presenting "The Evolution of the Definition and Diagnosis of Personality Pathology." This presentation covers the major changes in conceptualization of personality disorders. The event is Feb. 28 from 12:15-1:15 p.m. in the Chapman Science Center, room 104.

Student forums on GE revisions Feb. 28 and March 2

Students are encouraged to attend one of two upcoming forums regarding the changes to the California State University, Monterey General Education (GE) curriculum. Students will be able to ask questions and provide comments on models that have been presented to the Academic Senate, and that will be voted on by Senators in March.

The first forum is Wednesday, Feb. 28, 5 to 7 p.m. in the University Center Living Room. The second forum is Friday, March 2, 2 to 4 p.m. in the Chapman Science Center, room S222.

Post-Valentines Day treats workout

First Halloween, then Thanksgiving, then Christmas, then Valentines Day...the treats haven't stopped coming! And the gym...one can hardly remember the meaning of the word, let alone go workout. Thankfully, the BBC hosts Zumba from 6 to 7 p.m. EVERY Monday. No more excuses, go dance off the holiday pounds!

Ethics of Fake News Debate March 14

On March 14, the Colleges of Business, Science, and Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences will be joining forces with Associated Students to host a debate on "The Ethics of Fake News: Who Controls the Future of Democracy?" This debate will address questions about the impact of fake news on the public, the use of computer-generated algorithms to keep fake news out of media reporting, the variety of news sources and governments' affiliations with fake news. This event is free to all students and will be held in the UC ballroom from 2 to 5 p.m., March 14.

The issue with Photoshop

by Taya Buehler-Reagan

There comes a time in every person's life when the issue of self-image comes into play. Behind every selfie, there are 75 other selfies taken in a two-minute time stamp. While this may seem to be all fun and games, it can actually be quite challenging to one's ego.

It's not a new concept, since most, if not all industries use Photoshop in the technologically frenzy age we have entered. Photoshop is used in nearly every current market, striving for the goal of perfection. Companies use Photoshop from making an apple look more red in an apple juice advertisement, to making a Big Mac look beautifully juicy.

But it goes further than food. Advertisers create an entire new body and facial features for models in commercials and magazines. But, isn't touching up and airbrushing an innocent act? Well, tell that to the billions of girls all over the world downloading apps to Photoshop their butts, lips, boobs, or anything else they may have once thought was not up to the beatific standard.

The ideal body is no longer the curvaceous Marilyn Monroe, despite Kim Kardashian's attempt to make it a comeback. The standard idyllic body is the bootylicious Barbie, with plump shiny lips, and caked on contour. While times change and there is nothing wrong with a new form of beauty, there are more outlets for girls to change themselves using apps, instead of accepting and loving themselves for who they are.

The typical 13-year-old no longer exists. Girls go from 10 to 21 really quick with the help of some make-up, the perfect filter, and the press of a button. Next thing you know; 21-year-olds are jealous of the girl they babysit. Insecurities are programmed into human nature, but with the help of Photoshop turning already beautiful models into impossible beauty expectations, the depression of reality sits in. Girls struggle more now with body image, chasing the dream body.

Everything is geared towards fitness, make-up, becoming instafamous. The ultimate goal is to make everyone like you, but how could that be tangible when you don't look like a Victoria secrets angel. FYI, that model doesn't even look like the model in the picture. I bet that model looks at the picture and feels immediately insecure that she can't look that way.

Why do we have to change anyone to make them look a certain way? So, because you made her picture look more tan, more people are going to buy it, versus an already perfect and half-naked woman.

But this doesn't start and stop with women, men are sexualized just the same. Abs are enhanced, bodies are toned, faces contoured before photo-shoots. Men pose in underwear and are used to make things appeal to masculinity, meaning if you aren't a shredded bodybuilder, you're not a man.

While people are currently standing up against the age of Photoshop, it is still an issue in this society. It is important to remember who we are as individuals, and not become wrapped up in the world of makeup and plastic.

theLutrinae

lutrinae: (loo' trih-nā') n.
a subfamily classification,
scientific name for the otter.

The Lutrinae is a weekly campus newspaper covering CSUMB and its neighboring areas. Here at *The Lutrinae*, our goal is not only to educate and inform the public, but to entertain, to spark creativity, to encourage diversity of opinion, and to build a sense of community on campus and with the neighboring cities.

THE STAFF

The Lutrinae
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EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Ashley Orcutt

ENTERTAINMENT
Jessenya Guerra

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Ruby Boyle

BEATS
Zoey Kriegmont

AD & DISTRIBUTION MANAGER
Tyler Winters

ADVISOR
Dr. Sam Robinson
sarobinson@csumb.edu

WEBMASTER
Carlos Estrada

OPERATIONS MANAGER
Jason Garrett
jagarrett@csumb.edu

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT
Griffin Dehne

STAFF
Reporter & Photographer
Sarah Boulterice

EDITORS
ASSISTANT EDITOR
Samantha Calderon

Reporter
Tessa Munson

CREATIVE WORKS
Emmanuel Yuan

Photographer
Noelle Pipp

SPORTS
Madison Aguirre

Reporter & Photographer
Stefanie Menera

OPINION/COLUMNS
Taya Buehler-Reagan

Reporter
Ray Kaiser

NEWS
Sara Hollingsworth

CONTACT US

OFFICE PHONE
831.582.4066

MAILING ADDRESS
Wave Hall
100 Campus Center,
Seaside, CA 93955

GENERAL INQUIRIES
thelutrinae@csumb.edu

WEBSITE
www.thelutrinae.com

ADVERTISING SERVICES
advertising@thelutrinae.com

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The Lutrinae serves two purposes: It is a training ground for students who wish to develop journalism skills and build their resume, and it is a forum for free expression of campus issues and news. *The Lutrinae* Editorial team will determine what to print and reserve the right to edit for libel, space, or clarity.

Advertising revenue supports *The Lutrinae* publication and events. Letters to the Editors should include first and last name and should be submitted via email. *The Lutrinae* reserves the right to reject any Letter to the Editor for any reason, and anonymous letters will not be published.

CAMPUS

Vagina Monologues



Photo by Rachel Carter.

by Ashley Orcutt

Man, I really did feel like a woman when I had the pleasure of seeing the production Vagina Monologues put on by Eve Ensler at California State University, Monterey Bay's (CSUMB) World Theater. This powerful production projected the voices of women interviewed about their sex lives, their vaginas, and their issues they have had to encounter just because of their gender. As a woman, seeing this play on February 16, 2018 really made me proud of my gender due to what we have had to overcome in society throughout the past up to today.

The Vagina Monologues had an array of amazing scenes which showed that females can embrace the power of their womanhood. Even though there are times where we may want to ignore our vaginas, the play has reminded us why we should pay more attention to them. It's a beautiful, natural part of a woman body, and instead of being ashamed of it, we should embrace it as women.

This production also had a few scenes where women explained their pleasure of how much they enjoyed some of their consensual sexual encounters they have had. The Vagina Monologues definitely did a good job in portraying stories which described these different scenarios they had, and how they felt like proud, sexy women while these situations were happening. Because of this, the show definitely did a good job in teaching us that even though there are some who judge the subject of sex, we shouldn't feel ashamed for wanting it, since our vaginas and our womanhood are something to be proud of. We are strong and beautiful, especially when we decide to make love to someone, but if we don't that should be our choice too.

The play also brought up important issues that women are facing now in many scenes throughout the play, such as rape and sexual abuse. It made the audience more aware that many women are still going through such issues today. As a woman, I've always been afraid that such issues may happen to me, so I make sure to be aware of my surroundings, and in some instances I even make sure to bring about some self defense weapon to protect myself. After seeing the play and hearing many stories dealing with these issues, it makes me realize that we still don't live in a society where women can feel safe without having to worry about their surroundings all the time, when we should have the right to do so.

I feel that the play reminded everyone of the struggles women still have to go through, and made them more aware that we need to take precautions as a society to ensure that women, and men, are safe from these situations.

All in all, it was a good play that definitely brought up important subjects related to women, especially to college girls, today. It teaches us to be strong, independent, and confident being a woman, and that we should want to feel comfortable when it comes time to do something intimate as sex. We should have the power to consent when we feel we want to consent, and if we say no, it means no.

by Sarah Boulterice

Being that this was the second production of the Vagina Monologues I have seen, these ladies have done it again! This show by far is one of the best productions that California State University, Monterey Bay offers every year. Seeing this production again on Friday, February 16th, 2018 was amazing; and the stories at the end were so moving.

All of the girls that were in this year's production did a fantastic job, as you could feel the emotion in the room when the issues of how women have dealt with sexual harassment were brought out in the play. The subjects of rape and what has been said in the political world were also displayed throughout the production.

Outside of the touchy subjects, they were able to talk about vaginas and their sex lives, which made the audience burst out in laughter. These girls did amazing, especially those who did the Vagina Monologues for the first time this year. These girls were remarkable, since they went out of their comfort zones and killed it! If you have not seen a production of the Vagina Monologues, please do. It is one show that is for everyone 18 years of age or older. Great job to the whole cast of this year's Vagina Monologues, it was truly a great show!

Where in the world is RON?

by Tessa Munson

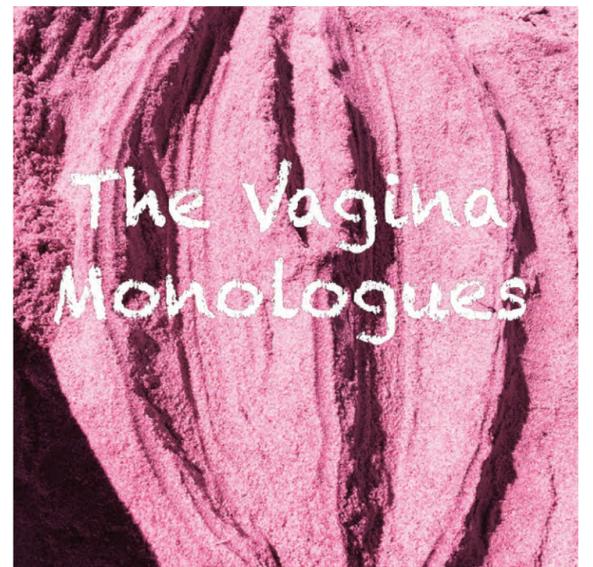
Ever wonder what the people in those iconic green tree shirts are doing on and off campus? Those green tree shirts represent the environmental education nonprofit organization at California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB), Return of the Natives. You may see us from time to time working on various environmental projects; planting California native plants in the Fort Ord National Monument, teaching children in Salinas the importance of the environmental stewardship and picking up garbage on the Monterey coast.

On Saturday, Feb. 3, Return of the Natives, in collaboration with CSUMB graduate students, hosted a public planting event on the CSUMB campus. The graduate students work on various parts of campus to restore the habitats as close to their original state as possible. Much of the natural areas on campus have been degraded from assorted activities, so graduate students and Return of the Natives work independently as well as together to restore the different areas.

CSUMB grad students, Return of the Natives, and some enthusiastic volunteers worked together to restore a degraded site near the corner of Colonel Durham Rd and Malmedy Rd, adjacent from the Monterey College of Law. Together, they planted over 750 California native plants, including (but not limited to), Coyote Bush, Blue Eyed Grass, Ceanothus, Seathrift, Buckwheat, Sticky Monkey Flower, among many others!

If you're looking to get involved, Return of the Natives hosts public service events regularly, with volunteer events planned just about every weekend during the CSUMB spring and fall semesters. Not only that, Return of the Natives also offers volunteer work every Tuesday morning from 10:30am to 12:30pm in the plant nursery, "from seed sowing to handiwork to weeding."

Working with your hands and getting the opportunity to help your community at the same time is so rewarding! Return of the Natives is always looking for more helpers to contribute, and if you decide to join your help will be greatly appreciated for generations to come! It is so rewarding to be part of something bigger than yourself, and to serve the wonderful Monterey community. For more information about public volunteer events, please visit their calendar at <https://csumb.edu/ron/event-calendar>.



The Performing Otters

Story and photos by Sara Hollingsworth

On the evening of February 9, 2018, The Performing Otters had their first performance of their production Much Ado About Nothing in the World Theater at California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB).

The Shakespearean comedy was directed by CSUMB student, Brendan Mahoney, who chose a 70's style and theme for the classical production. We asked why Mahoney would choose to put Shakespeare in the 70's and he answered, "There was one thing that probably started it, but I had been listening to a lot of disco and I'm like, 'I could do a play off of this.' I've seen Saturday Night Fever like three times. Not by my own choice. Sometimes it was out of convenience. But, I liked the style. I liked the drama. I liked the wide collars, and I think there is just something fun about it. And especially with a play that has two dances that are essential stage directions. Shakespeare is not big on writing stage directions and he put two dances in the play, so I figured that I least would have music that you could dance to."



When asked why he chose to put on this play, Mahoney explained, "CSUMB has a startling lack of theater. And by startling, I mean an absolute zero. There are two productions put on every year and since the addition of the play A Race Through Time, there are three productions run by students that go on in the World Theater. Three of them I would define as performance arts pieces. I have not seen a theatrical play performed on this campus ever. And I felt it was my obligation, as a person who loves theater and a person who is willing to spend a lot of time and money working on this, to change that."

Rachel Franklin and Jeremy Majjasie were two of the actors who performed in the production that evening. Rachel Franklin is a CSUMB student who played the role of Beatrice. Jeremy Majjasie is a recent CSUMB graduate who returned to campus in order to play the role of Benedick.

When we asked what the experience was like Majjasie told us, "For me personally, I lived on campus last semester and I actually graduated over the break. So, it was really time consuming for me since there was a lot of travel involved. However, I definitely did not want to walk away from this project, having been casted in it in the first semester, because I really liked the people that were involved. I absolutely fell in love with all these people. As well, I just felt it was a great experience. I love Shakespeare."

Franklin added in as well, "I feel like Shakespeare is really important. And also, theater in general is really important on campus."

The Performing Otters is a campus club that started out in the meeting house, which is a small church-like building on campus. The club has since recently graduated to performing in the world theater.

Majjasie describes their excitement for being able to perform on



the larger stage in the World Theater, "The fact that the Performing Otters finally have a theater like this, The World Theater, that we can finally perform in its just so awesome. It's so great. We're used to dealing with, like, no backstage where there's no room. People are tripping over everybody. So, this was really nice."

Hopefully in the future, the World Theater will see more productions done by The Performing Otters on its stage.

ENTERTAINMENT

Zombie Apocalypse *Is it possible? The 2018 Perspective*

by Jessenya Guerra

The year is 2018, and the popularity of the brain eating creatures who we have come to know as zombies have died down. There have been many movies and shows depicting these creatures and have had many people believe that there will be a zombie apocalypse in the future, including students right here at California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB).

Zombie culture was a big topic of conversation from 2009 to 2013. In those four years it was almost impossible to find something that wasn't zombie themed. From the creation of the television hit series *The Walking Dead*, to the love story and film *Warm Bodies*, to the gaming app *Plants vs Zombies*.

The dead coming back to life was very popular and, for some, a very real fear. I am not going to lie to you, I might have been one of those people scared of the dead rising again. However, as time passed and zombies weren't talked about as much, many people stopped fearing them because they weren't relevant anymore.

But I began to wonder, How many people still thought that zombies were scary? This turned into me talking to my friends and family about the topic of zombies where I was met with a lot of backlash saying that "Zombies aren't real".

When you google "Are zombies real?" You get a couple different articles on disease and a disturbing video of a man being shot while on bath salts. This didn't answer my question, and it made me ponder even more questions I had.

So I settled with this. How many CSUMB students believe that a "Zombie apocalypse style" end of the world could potentially happen? I really wanted to know how many people my age really believed that the dead could rise again and bring an end to the world as we know it.

This led me to collect some numbers. I surveyed a few different classes, with a very precise form of data collection. I had the students close their eyes and raise their hands to answer these two questions.

Do you think that a Zombie apocalypse could potentially happen? Or, do you think that a Zombie apocalypse could never happen?

The results may shock you.

After surveying a few classes with a total of 50 people asked I ended up with these statistics.

26% of the students surveyed believed that it was in fact possible for a zombie apocalypse to end the world.

"Yes, it is totally possible. Because we live in a generation where everything is genetically modified. And everything is animal tested. Did you know that scientists inject animals with diseases and then test their antidotes on them?" Ryan Hernandez, a believer in the potential zombie uprising, believes that this is possible.

Hernandez shared that he answered yes because of the testing that the Center for Disease Control does on animals that they expect to translate to humans. Hernandez said that there are two tubes of the small pox diseases that the CDC keeps doing tests on, he believes that it would be very easy for something to go wrong in that process and end up with zombies.

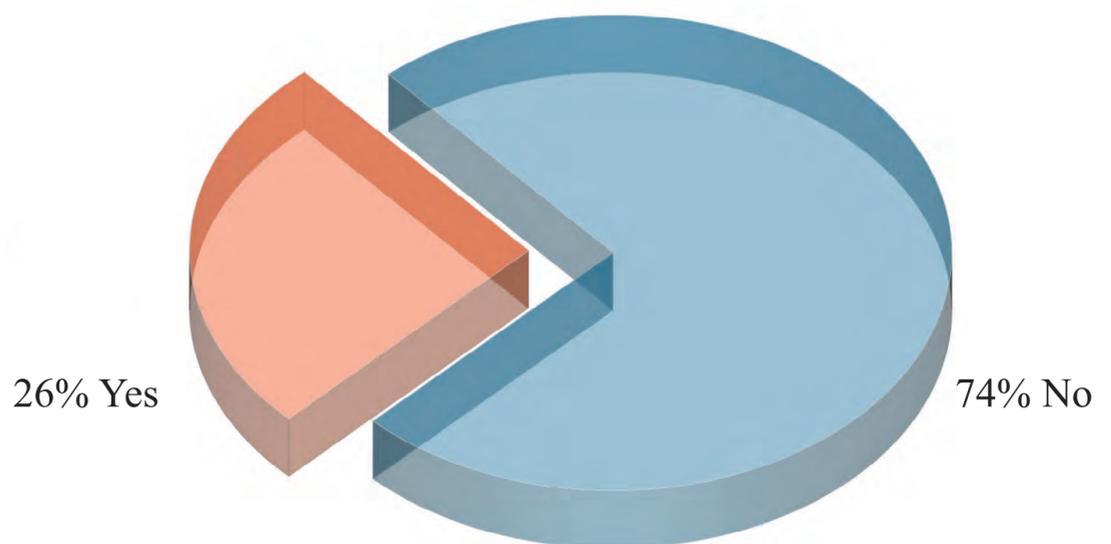
Hernandez also doesn't believe that the human race is prepared for a new disease to spread and that people would die very easily.

"People should be prepared for emergencies, but at this point with the technology we have, no one is. No one is prepared to survive without electricity and technology anymore. Hell would break loose if we no longer had access to wifi, what makes people think they could survive zombies?" said Jessica Blaylock another CSUMB student.

"The real question isn't is this something that could happen, but rather when this happens what are we going to do?" Along with studying at CSUMB, Blaylock is training to become an EMT and hopes that people take care and prepare for emergencies such as these.

Many students that I interviewed said that they don't believe that the dead will rise again and kill all of us but 60% believed that a disease could end the world as we know it.

Could a zombie apocalypse happen?



Survey of CSUMB students.

Poke Bar Restaurant Review



Victor Manzo (left), Alyssa Hirasawa (right), and owner Jasmine Nguyen (second to right) cuddling up for a "family" photo (left). A medium sized poke bowl with tuna, salmon and albacore. Dressed with Poke Bar's spicy tuna sauce and topped with masago and fresh mango (right). Photos by Jessenya Guerra.



by Jessenya Guerra

If you are a CSUMB student looking for a delicious and healthy meal that won't break the bank then look no further than the Poke Bar. This restaurant is sure to fill your heart, and stomach, with nothing but great vibes and happiness.

"I just love it when customers come in and tell me to go crazy with their bowls" says owner Jasmine Nguyen. She opened Poke Bar last November in the shopping center near the CSUMB campus. "I love the area and the history, you can see the old fort ord buildings right outside our window, that's why I picked this spot."

Nguyen is a CSUMB alumni and a born and raised Monterey native. She loves seeing all the students come into her restaurant and get all the poke that they desire. Nguyen even started a punch card program so that the more bowls you get, the more you can get for free.

The restaurant resembles a build-your-own sort of style. You start off with the size of bowl you want. Let me tell you that a medium is more than enough for one person, and if you're getting a large it's probably to share!

Each customer gets to choose which base they would like for the start of their bowl. The choices are white rice, brown rice, and spring mix. You can even mix and match with the bases, and if you get rice, I suggest getting the rice seasoning that they sprinkle on top. It is delicious.

There are then two sides that you can add that are completely free and optional, a sweet seaweed salad and a pile of delicious shredded crab. These two add some filling to the dish along with delectable flavor and beautiful color.

When you choose a medium size bowl, you get to choose three proteins to add to your base and sides. These proteins include; salmon, tuna, albacore, shrimp, and even octopus. There are also vegan and vegetarian options such as tofu. All of the fish is sushi grade and always fresh, you can taste the freshness in every bite.

If all of that wasn't already enough, you can add a variety of mix ins to your poke bowl to freshen it up even more. Fresh vegetables like green onions, edamame, and avocado are all available to add in.

Once you've done all of that there are only two steps left to the building of your bowl. Which is choosing which delicious sauces you want to top your bowl with and which crispy topping you'd like to add. My favorite is the crispy onions that perfectly complement the rest of the dish.

Not only is the food delicious at the Poke Bar, but the people there are amazingly friendly. Most of the employees are CSUMB students that are working to get through school, and all of them were wearing the biggest and brightest smiles from the minute I walked in.

"The staff is like a family to me and I really love poke. It's really nice to work at a place that is a 'fast food' alternative. All the food here is very healthy and I'm a kinesiology major so I have to plug being healthy". Said Alyssa Hirasawa a senior at CSUMB. She was full of laughter and smiles as the owner led her out the back to talk to me.

It was very clear that all of the Poke Bar staff was very close. They really were a family as they talked and joked about working at such an amazing restaurant.

"The best part of Poke Bar is the atmosphere", said Victor Manzo, another CSUMB student, "We get tons of students in here, especially on the weekends". Manzo says that he loves his job at Poke Bar and that Nguyen is one of the best bosses he's ever had.

"We never had a grand opening. We just opened and people started to come in." Said Nguyen. She explained that they were going to have a big opening but they never did because they were so busy with all the people that piled into the restaurant.

"I see people walk by all the time super intrigued. They'll walk by us twice or three times before stopping in because they have to try our food." Said Manzo. He continued to say that he enjoys when people come into the store and love the food because it gives him a rush of joy.

The Poke Bar is a thrilling and wonderful experience. The employees and owner are so nice and care deeply about their customers. I highly recommend this restaurant to anyone who is looking for a healthy fast food alternative or simply a fresh bite to eat.

PyeongChang 2018

by Madison Aguirre

As graceful figure skaters show off their elegant spins, hockey players shred ice as they yell in joy while the puck slams into the goal, and snowboarders show off their tricks as their boards slide amongst the slippery snow, The 2018 Winter Olympics kick off in Pyeongchang, South Korea. This is the first time the country has hosted the winter Olympics, with 102 events in 15 different sports, such as ice hockey, figure skating, snowboarding, and many more.

The cold relationship between North Korea and South Korea leading up to the 2018 Winter Olympics generated safety and security concerns for other participating countries; however, North Korea ensured safety on their part and agreed to compete. During the opening ceremony, the countries marched together in peace and harmony to celebrate the kick off of The Olympics.

North and South Korea also agreed to assemble a unified Korean women's hockey team, where they entered as one under a Korean Unification Flag, according to TIME. The Koreans are not the only countries making compromises.

Russia was banned from the Winter Olympics as consequence for state-authorized doping during the Russia-hosted 2014 Winter Olympics. After passing meticulous drug tests, 169 individual Russian athletes can participate in the games, according to the New York Times. They cannot represent Russia's flag or colors, and they are unable to earn a medal for Russia. The individual Russian athletes can compete for the country Olympic Athlete from Russia.

Although Russia is not represented this year, a country in Africa is. PyeongChang 2018 introduced the first African team, Team Nigeria, to compete in bobsled, according to the New York Times. Up until these games, Africa has never been represented in bobsled, and no African country has ever won a medal in the winter Olympics. Team Nigeria is composed of three females who started off as three track-and-field athletes.

Mirai Nagasu, a 24-year-old figure skater representing the United States, also defrosted her fears when she became the first American female to land a triple axel during the Winter Olympics.

Shaun White conquered his dream and won not only his third gold medal at age 31 in snowboarding, but also the United States' 100th gold medal at the Winter Olympics, according to NBC. He has won gold at three out of the four winter Olympics. White redeemed his Olympic halfpipe title after losing his title to Switzerland in the previous Winter Olympics.

To keep up with the history being made, the results, and the full schedule of the 2018 Winter Olympics, go to nbcolympics.com, pyeongchang2018.com, or nytimes.com.

CREATIVE WORKS

Sleight of Hand *A short story*

by Emmanuel Yuan

She was a burst of color, bobbing among the monochromatic dreariness as if she were only here for a walk. That may very well be true; the area was beautiful, sitting atop a grassy knoll, overlooking a pristine lake. Her gaudy appearance and carefree demeanor drew glances from the other visitors, occasionally accompanied by murmurs of disapproval. She strolled on, unfazed, paying no heed to their quiet criticism. Soon she left them all behind, finding herself in a secluded glade. This should be the place that she was told to visit.

She looked around curiously, and a flash of white caught her attention.

A lone headstone and a bouquet atop a patch of disturbed earth marked his resting place. Her finger traced the freshly engraved letters, the testimony to his death.

“Hey.” She greeted him, as if expecting a response.

He looked at her curiously, from beyond the veil. His gaze warmed as he recognized her.

“Why, hello. I was hoping you might visit.” He smiled in welcome, his legs dangling over his tombstone. A gust ruffled her hair, a mimicry of how he used to.

She sighed, berating herself for the moment of naive hope. He grew somber as he realized she did not, perhaps could not, notice his presence.

With a flourish, a violet rose appeared in her hand. “Ta-da.” She gently placed it on the bed of soil.

“Thanks.” He knelt down beside her, examining the rose. He never understood how she could make things appear at will. That is not to say that he had not tried to ask her. A good magician never reveals her secrets, she would say to him. And now, he’ll never know. Then again, never is a strong word for someone who might still exist for quite a while. Perhaps he’ll figure it out, just before he fades into limbo. Satisfied with that thought, he returned to his spot on his tombstone.

She stood there awkwardly for a few minutes, hesitant to linger, but equally reluctant to leave. Taking a deep breath, she decided to sit down, leaning against the back of his gravestone.

“I can’t believe you’re gone.” She pulled her knees to her chest, hugging them tightly. She paused for a moment. “Sometimes it still feels like you’re here.”

“Perhaps I still am.” He shot her a wry smile.

She fell silent. A wren took advantage of the lull to warble, shattering the quiet. They listened to its song, immersed in its emotions, leaving the two of them in tranquil intimacy.

“No one would have blamed you if you didn’t go back, dummy.” She said softly as the wren finished its song.

“But you knew I had to.” He whispered next to her ear.

She smiled dolefully, as if she could hear him in the playful breeze.

“I promised not to cry, so no tears of mine will touch this ground.” She declared loudly, to no one in particular.

He was already catching the tears as her bravado cracked. They shimmered in his ethereal palms like diamonds, though no diamond

could ever express her love as much as these. Her shoulders shook as she wiped at her cheeks. He swirled around her, holding her in an intangible embrace.

“I miss you.” She mumbled, abandoning her attempt to stem her tears. Her sobs tore at him, and he cursed himself for not being able to comfort her. In helplessness, he held her, feeling her warmth, but knowing she could not feel his.

She regained her composure as the skies began to take on vivid hues. She shielded her eyes as the setting sun broke through the trees, casting a golden glow on the scenery.

“Heh, it seems like I broke my promise.” She pulled a blue handkerchief from thin air. With it, she dabbed at her reddened eyes, embarrassed. “I hope you didn’t see that.”

“If only you knew.” The amusement in his voice was tinted with a hint of regret.

“They chose a great spot. You always did like watching sunsets.” She gazed at the horizon as she stood up and dusted herself off. With a flick of her wrist, the handkerchief disappeared.

“Well, it’s getting late. I’m afraid I must be off.” She gazed longingly at his grave. “I’ll come visit again.” With a small grin, she sauntered away.

Still perched atop his tombstone, he waved at her back. “Goodbye.”

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Jade

“This piece is dedicated to my girlfriend. Thank you for being the crazy, beautiful, talented, magnificent woman you are.”



by Carlos Estrada

When darkness approaches,
You are my light, leading the way.

When misery consumes me,
You are my joy, melting it away.

When I’m lost in a sea of despair,
You are my hope, guiding me to shore.

When doubt clouds my weary mind,
You are my clarity, subduing my fears.

When danger shows its unsightly face,
You are my security, keeping me safe.

When the stresses of life engulf my soul,
You are my relief, making me whole.

When hate finds its way through to my core,
You are my love, my Jade, forevermore.

Roam

“I wrote this poem in support of DACA students and their symbol of migration—the monarch butterfly. The monarch is more than just a beautiful being; it embodies the dignity and resilience of migrants.”



by Madi Rapella

I feel the sudden wintry air
It is time for me to go elsewhere
I dwell upon a dewy lilac
I seek solace as I draw back
My wings begin to faintly beat
The storm within is bittersweet
Miles and miles of uncertainty ahead
But I feel the courage in me spread
It feeds a fire in my heart
As the trepidation falls apart

The wind nudges me kindly
I take its guidance blindly
It knows the uncharted course
For the wind is its source
Initially, the fear was all-consuming
But the beauty of it is now blooming
There are wondrous places to roam
In this green and blue shaped dome
I hear the glorious wind cry
“Make way for this butterfly!”

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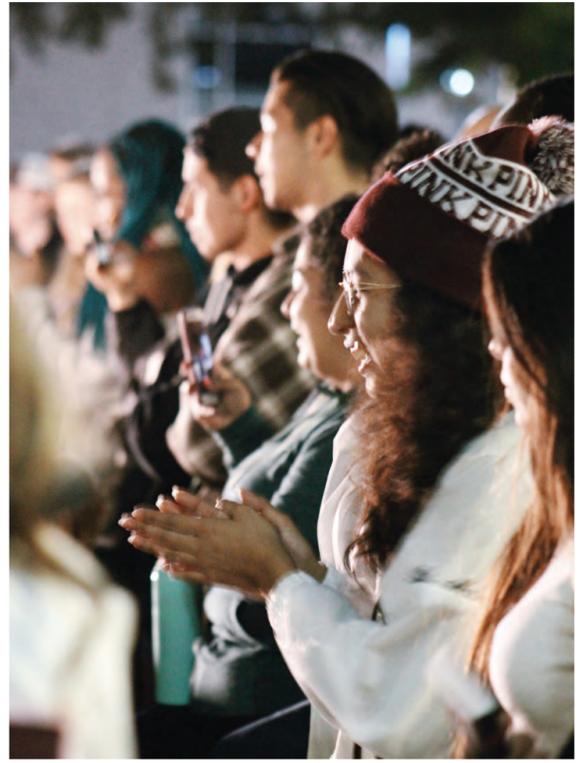
BROADCASTING FROM THE CAMPUS OF CSUMB

Greek Life *A photo essay*



Photos and story by Stefanie Menera

Greek life at Cal State Monterey Bay (CSUMB) rests on the foundation of their five pillars: academics, leadership, service, social justice, and support. During a designated week each semester, sororities and fraternities organize and gather to participate in events during their recruitment and rush; this involves the process of welcoming and getting to know prospective new members. At CSUMB, Greek culture creates a lively and inviting environment to students in search of the Greek experience. Photos featured in this series include table displays assembled by Greek organizations, Greek "letters," paddles, tikis, line dances, and other various things unique to the Greek culture and experience on campus.



A member of Delta Sigma Theta flashes a smile to the audience while performing a line dance with her fellow "Devastating Divas" (top left). Members of the audience watch with enthusiasm as their fellow Greeks put on an exciting show (top right). Sisters of Kappa Delta Chi pose for a photo in their letters. Sweatshirts, shirts and jackets that feature an organization's name in the Greek alphabet are referred to as "letters." Letters are a way for individual members to showing spirit and pride for their organizations (middle right). Ladies of Delta Sigma Theta sorority performs this year's line dance for their fellow Greek members (bottom left). A Greek letter jacket on display for prospective members of Delta Omega Rho sorority to look at (bottom right).

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