

SILENCE OF THE BANDS



“Silence of the Bands” leaves audience speechless

Story and photos by Malia Savella

Students of California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) brought talent to the Black Box Cabaret (BBC) at this year’s annual Battle of the Bands on Oct. 25.

The show featured eight different performances (two bands and six solo-duo acts) and was judged by two music and performing arts department faculty members, as well as the Otter Student Union (OSU) vice chair and fourth-year Trevor Peterson.

Returning victors, Addalemon, won first place in the band category and will open at CSUMB’s spring music festival, Otterlands. Self-described as skate punk, the trio rocked the stage with fiery leaps and drops from vocalist Cameron Karren.

In the span of 30 minutes, Addalemon blew through their exhilarating debut album “Ripe.” The crowd chanted emphatically at anthems such as “Cheap Thrills” and “I Hate My Job.” Prior to the show, Karren, wearing a shirt that said “LIFE,” tossed lemons into the crowd that were later autographed. It’s clear that CSUMB will be happy to see them again in the spring.

Second place in the band category was awarded to up-and-coming group, Loz Troubadours.

“We were pretty hyped to play at the BBC,” said fifth-year vocalist and guitarist Saxon Ahern. Save for a cover of “Take it or Leave It” by Cage the Elephant, the six performed original songs including “Loner,” “Waiting for You” and “Sugar Mama.” Loz Troubadours demonstrated a mastery of creating complex arrangements within the indie-rock genre, as well as exercising solid group cohesion.

“I thought we vibed well together and we had a nice connection throughout playing the set,” said fifth-year Erik Mercado, who plays the tambourine and trumpet. Their EP, “Loner,” will be out within the next few weeks.

Fifth-year Daniel Cortes won first place in the solo-duo category for his emotive covers of “Pride and Joy” by Stevie Ray Vaughan and “Better Man” by Pearl Jam. “[The songs] were a good representation of all the styles I’m into, to blues and rock and contemporary rock n’ roll,” Cortes said.

The judges noted his strong command of the guitar, best exemplified as he interluded his intro and transition with Tom Misch-reminiscent chording. “I have an ear for structure ... the ebbs and flows of a song,” Cortes said.

Second place was awarded to Ricardo Alire, who brought DJ-ing to the Battle of the Bands for the very first time. Most notable elements of his performance included a strong on-stage presence and danceable set.

Alire’s creativity and invention within the competition have paved the way for future contenders.

Esteemed pianist and vocalist Noah Wuollet received an honorable mention. Wuollet sang “Plush” by Stone Temple Pilots, “Novacaine” by Green Day, “Like a Stone” by Audioslave and an original song titled “My Last Breath.” Wuollet’s delicate playing and sensitive vocals captivated the audience; his talent was definitely worth recognition.

Soloists like first-year Megan Bos and duos like the returning Double-A still provided incredible performances.

“Everything was organized, all the [groups] played well,” said first-year Joseph Hernandez.

Although it was a contest, the BBC community built an encouraging event that allowed attendees and performers alike to enjoy themselves. “I think it’s really cool how supportive this environment is ... it’s really cool to see the community here, just everyone participating,” Hernandez said.

Silence of the Bands participants perform at the Black Box Cabaret: 1) Daniel Cortes, 2) Ricardo Alire, 3) Loz Troubadours, 4) Cameron Karren of Addalemon, 5) Billy Mitchell of Addalemon, 6) Steven Mitchell, 7) Noah Wuollet

Bill Nye documentaries

Film screening sparks climate change discussion

Page 2



Car-ticle

Ford Raptor goes up against Toyota TRD Pro

Page 4



Sims 4

“Discover University” extension pack teaser arrives

Page 5



“Bill Nye: Past and Present” event sparks discussion

Story and photos by Malia Savella

The Environmental Affairs Committee (EAC) held a public viewing of both “Bill Nye the Science Guy” and “Bill Nye Saves the World” on Oct. 24. Both episodes were centered around climate change, and EAC chair and second-year Ethan Quaranta led discussion on climate impact within California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) as well.

The first episode from “Bill Nye Saves the World” showed a mature side of Bill Nye. Nye still had his experiments and sense of humor, but the tone was much more mature, with an anecdotal story about rising sea levels in Venice and a panel of different climate activists.

The second episode was a trip to the past for many students who watched “Bill Nye the Science Guy” in their elementary schools.

“Bill Nye is fast, he has all sorts of energy,” Quaranta said. “He also gets information across without using technical examples and provides examples for people who don’t always understand.”

To encourage attendance, reusable Callapsi Bowls were distributed to the first 50 attendees. With popcorn and movie theater candy at the ready, the event was relatively relaxed.

“I like how it was open for anybody,” said second-year Joseph Ramos. “Anybody who’s interested, they could come in and watch.”

This environment allowed for uninhibited discussion. Each episode exemplified different explanations and consequences of climate change, which were put within the context of the Monterey region.

“Monterey’s a beautiful place, but it’s slowly getting destroyed by the climate,” Ramos said. For instance,

Quaranta talked about the increase of greenhouse gasses in the atmosphere, causing Monterey’s sea levels to rise and the surrounding bay to acidify.

Students also brainstormed different climate-friendly initiatives that could be taken on campus. Ideas included instituting a mandatory environmental awareness course and establishing more three-compartment waste bins on campus.

“I was hoping for people, hopefully some non-science people, to come because it’s Bill Nye ... they’d get lured in by that, but then also get to learn all about these environmental issues in a simplified way,” Quaranta said. He also advertised the EAC in hopes to recruit members.

“I’m very passionate about the environment, and I do want to join the committee as well,” said second-year Lianne Miron. Applications to join close on Nov. 1.



Event attendees watching the “Bill Nye: Past and Present” double-feature.

the
Lutrinae

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.

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These scary stories will haunt you

By Sydney Brown

Forgetting to fill out your FAFSA

Filling out your FAFSA forms is super intimidating, but missing the due date to fill them out is terrifying! The 2020-2021 FAFSA opened up at the beginning of October. Remember to submit your 2020-2021 FAFSA by March 2, 2020. Go to <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa> to apply!

Taking out a student loan

They crush your credit score, but they help you in your path to success! Still, even the thought of it is spooky.

Becoming committed to someone

Getting into a serious relationship? What a nail-biter!

Meeting the parents

Now this is a whole other level of commitment! Deciding what to wear, what to say, what to do? It’s too much to handle!

Forgetting to take the chicken out of the freezer

Remember the days when your mom would call you to defrost dinner while she was at work and you forgot? Remember how you’d scramble to try and thaw it out five minutes before she got home? Those were terrifying times.

Taking your car into the shop

Even the thought of taking your car to get fixed is nerve-racking. When it actually happens, it’s the scariest.

Turning in an assignment at 11:59 p.m. when it’s due at midnight

Not knowing if your computer will load your assignment before midnight can cause lots of anxiety! At least you get a sense of relief when it’s sent in, if it even turns in on time.

Adulting

I saved the scariest story for last. We have to work 40+ hours a week, have a mortgage, pay bills, and cook and clean regularly! So many go through it, but it’s hard to know how they survive it in the end.

Childhood things that scary movies ruined

By Sydney Brown

Illustration by Mikko Mananghaya

Clowns

Whoever decided clowns should be used to make children happy at the circus made a terrible mistake. When has a child ever laughed when seeing a clown for the first time? Clowns have extremely disturbing face makeup - their blank white faces and huge, dark eyes are so scary, they almost make your heart stop. Clown costumes and decorations are being seen now more than ever with the remake of Stephen King's "It," but the creepiness of clowns extends far and wide into other horror films and haunted houses. They're everywhere. No matter how many times clowns are introduced to us, they still never fail to give us the heebie-jeebies.

Summer camps

Summer camps are for fishing, s'mores and making new friends, right? Well, in the case of "Friday the 13th," summer camp should be focused on teaching survival skills. Watching helpless teens run away from Jason can make wooden cabins and murky lakes seem a lot less innocent and a lot more frightening.

Dolls

In general, the older you get, the more you lose the sense of seeing dolls and toys as fun, and the more they start to creep you out. I believe the infamous killer doll Chucky and the terrifying demon trapped inside Anabelle might have had something to do with giving us this change in perspective.

Basements

Basements are supposed to be a fun den for your kids to play board games with their friends, but of course, scary movies had to turn them into the place where ghosts, demons and psycho killers hide. Good luck staying calm next time you have to walk into a dark basement.

Animatronics

The unsettling images of a suited furry mascot can be found in the horror classic, "The Shining," and once seen they can ruin your view of mascots forever. This concept gets elevated in "Five Nights at Freddy's," a horror game where you have to fend from animatronics with sharp teeth that are trying to kill you. It essentially makes walking into Chuck E. Cheese a full-blown nightmare.

Tricycles

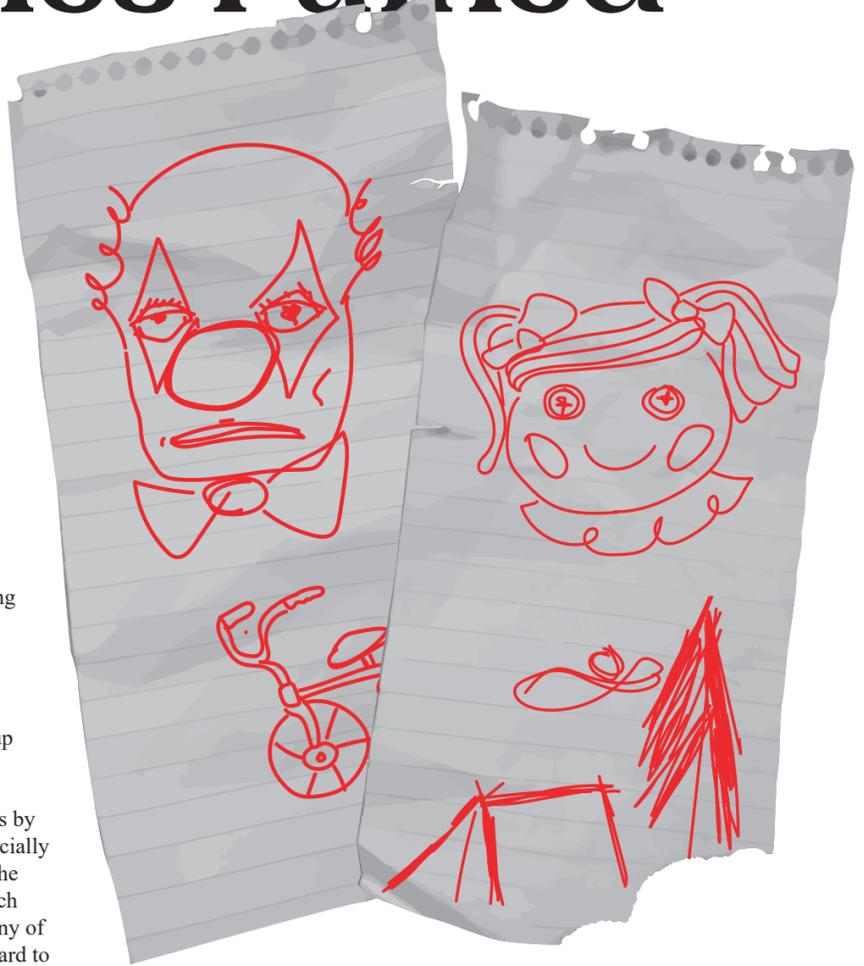
"Saw" really messed us up with this one. The eerie, squeaky noises Jigsaw's tricycle makes as he rolls by in it are so chilling, especially when you find out what he does to his victims in each movie. After watching any of the "Saw" movies, it's hard to look at tricycles the same.

Puppets

Jigsaw isn't the only famous horror puppet. "The Boy," "Puppet Master," "Dead Silence," "Goosebumps" and even "Toy Story 4" all have creepy puppets in them. It's almost like we are conditioned to believe puppets are not to be messed with from the get-go, since they're portrayed as scary in children's books and shows. Whenever you see one, it's hard to look at without getting the chills.

Cornfields

"Children of the Corn" was one of the first films that started this trend, but there are lots of newer movies that send their main characters into cornfields, like "Sinister 2" and "A Quiet Place." The fact the characters can't see anything around them and are blocked from whatever is chasing them creates a panicked feeling for the character and the viewer of the movie alike. Now when adults go to day-time corn mazes that are supposed to be fun and playful or take their kids to them at pumpkin patches, they feel that creepy, "someone's following me" vibe.



What is your favorite Halloween memory?

Otter Chatter By Claudia Rocha



Alex Beamer

Collaborative health and human services Senior

"In sophomore year of high school, I was having a party at my house with friends and we had junk food and whatnot. It started raining, there were 12 people at my house. We all went out in the rain and I spooked everybody by ditching them to spook them. This happened right in the middle of sophomore year, so we were stressed. It was a stressful time. It was just this short 10 minute, 1 a.m. run around."



Conner Reeves

Human communications Junior

"I don't think I've had too many exciting Halloweens. One of the better memories was probably early middle school age - instead of knocking on doors, we would look for candy bowls that said "please take one." We would separate, go into a cul-de-sac, and when a house had one of those bowls, we'd yell "harvest!" as loud as we could. When we heard that, we knew that meant the whole bowl was ours and we'd shove it in our pillow cases. Not too crazy, but it says a lot about the age we were and serves justice to the time."



Marissa Boni

Human communications Junior

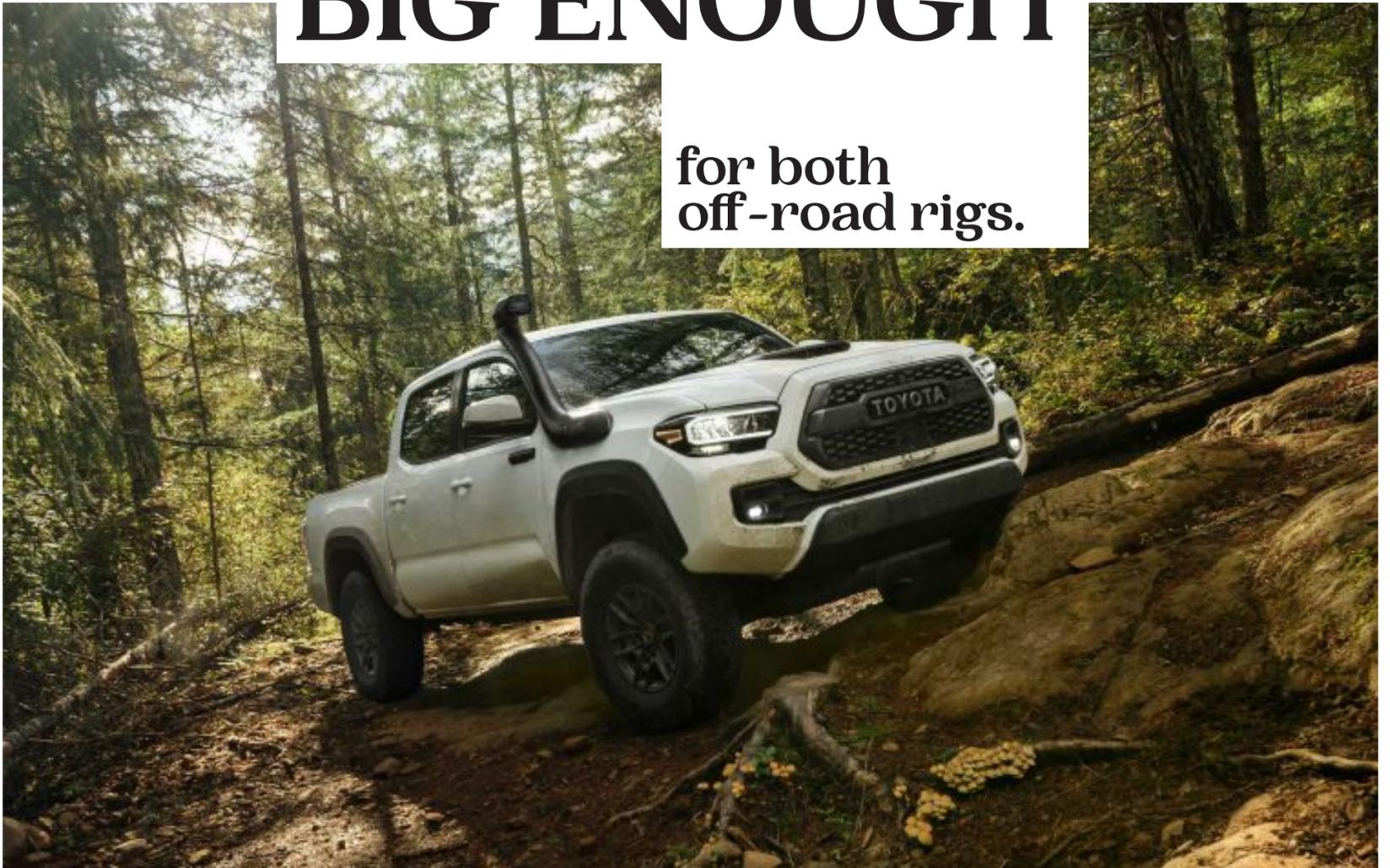
"Probably the first time I ever went out trick or treating. I had always loved Halloween, but that image sticks out. My mom got me a costume. I was a cat and I was five. She did the makeup. I had my little bucket. I remember going around the neighborhood. I was really shy and that was the first time I was able to go out and do something full of anticipation. Good memory, even if I don't celebrate the way I used to."



This town
just ain't

BIG ENOUGH

for both
off-road rigs.



Car-ticle

By Kristen Finley
Photos courtesy of Ford and Toyota Media Site

Which off-road truck is simply the best? Well, sure, we know we're partial to Ford, but how do other trucks stack up? Can the Toyota TRD Pro possibly topple the Ford F-150 Raptor as king of the hill? The F-150 Raptor has the flare, styling, and technology for on and off-road driving. But, the TRD Pro is friendlier to your bank account, and does appeal to the same mission and aesthetic. Both trucks are set up similarly, and both come from companies that make solid, reliable and popular trucks.

There can only be one at the top. This is the exact predicament that Matt Dixon from "Downshift" was in after becoming familiar with both trucks. So, he picked up his camera, and took to YouTube to settle the automotive arm wrestling match once and for all.

"Where the similarities start with these two is in their essence entirely," said Dixon of the two top-tier contenders. "The Toyota Tacoma is essentially the benchmark - it defines the mid-size truck segment ... the F-150 defines and embodies the full-size pickup segment, it has for years."

Meaning, both trucks have had decades of improvement and refinement, and therefore, are exceptional vehicles, which makes this comparison difficult. To start off the comparison, Dixon starts with the Tacoma TRD Pro.

Toyota built the TRD Pro with off-road adventures in mind—the identical objective behind the Raptor's construction. Therefore, it comes off the lot with skid plates, long travel and stiff suspension, smaller wheels that make room for bigger off-road tires, and Fox racing

shocks. Yes, the exact same ones that come with the Raptor.

There are some differences that set it apart, though, like the resale value and extra features that make the truck better suited for camping. There's a little more room in the bed, and a power outlet that could be used to plug in whatever needs charging, or to make camping that much more fun.

However, that's where the advantages end for the Tacoma TRD Pro, especially when talking about power output and interior design. The engine that comes with the 2019 Toyota Tacoma TRD Pro is a V6 that makes around 280 hp and 265 ft-lbs of torque, which is a tiny shadow when compared to the meatier 3.5 liter turbo six EcoBoost in the Raptor making 450 hp and 510 ft-lbs of torque. That being said, interior set up was something that definitely set Dixon off, especially for a truck that costs almost \$50,000.

"The interior is not what you'd expect from an almost \$50,000 truck," Dixon said. "It's very stark, it's kind of barren—it's very old school."

He does note that it might make it easier to clean if it got muddy or dirty while going off-road, and that Toyota may have paid more technological attention where it needed it the most. However, it made the TRD Pro a truck that wouldn't excite him to drive every day. Off-Road? Sure. But as a daily driver, it's not a truck that provokes something in him. It's slower than the Ford, it's less powerful, the interior and its technology is lacking, and the long travel brake pedal takes some getting used to - not like the Raptor.

"It's good to be back in my favorite truck," Dixon said excitedly, as the driver door closes behind him. "For 20 to 25 grand more than the Tacoma, it should be a lot more truck—and it is. It's bigger, more practical, capable, more powerful and faster."

As said previously, the Raptor is set up very similarly with off-roading in mind. Both have skid plates, pitch and roll meters, several terrain settings, 2WD and 4WD options and locking diffs. Though, it was the little things that pulled on Dixon's heart strings. The interior is a lot fancier and more livable, the back seats are better suited for passengers on long distance travels, and the engine provides the perfect amount of power to get the big truck moving (and quickly). He says that it's a truck he can see himself driving every day to work, and then taking it off-road when his shift is over. It's a little tougher to imagine that lifestyle from the driver's seat of the Toyota.

Given how much the Raptor costs though, it's not something everyone can afford. The Raptor is a truck that sets an industry standard for Baja inspired production trucks. It's something that every truck maker will try effortlessly to beat, but never will. The Raptor came, saw, and conquered—and continues to do so.

In conclusion, the Raptor is number one. If there is absolutely no way a Raptor is achievable, the Tacoma is a worthy second choice. Check out the video for the full side-by-side comparison.

Photo: The Toyota TRD Pro and the Ford F-150 Raptor are both forces to be reckoned with. But if it came down to just one, which is superior? Matt Dixon from "Downshift" says it's the Ford.

Tatted Otters: Nathan Oliver

By Arianna Nalbach
Photos courtesy of Nathan Oliver

Given that California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) is located so close to the beach, it is no surprise some students have beach or ocean themed tattoos.

Freshman Nathan Oliver has a simple line art tattoo of a wave on his left forearm. While his tattoo is simplistic, the meaning behind it extends far from just a simple love for the ocean and holds a much more significant meaning to him.

“The story behind my tattoo is the significance of a wave saying that people all come and go. Waves always come back, so it’s like never lose hope because people will come back,” he explained.

Oliver got his first and only current tattoo this past April.

“What made me decide to get a tattoo was I was 18 and all my cousins were getting one and I had been wanting one for a while,” Oliver said.

Even though this was Oliver’s first experience getting a tattoo, he felt that the whole process was pretty easy.

“The tattoo process was fairly simple. As long as you keep it moisturized and take good care of it, there should be no problems,” he said.

While Oliver only has one tattoo at the moment, he seems very eager to continue his tattoo journey in the future.

“Once you get one, you can’t help yourself by getting more,” he said.



College got you stressed? Well now it can stress out your sims too

By Arianna Nalbach
Photo courtesy of EA Sports

A university expansion pack is quite possibly the most anticipated pack in the Sims community since the launch of the Sims 4. With every release of a new pack, update, or even just a simple Instagram post, there are always people commenting and asking when university will come.

For the past five years since the initial launch of the Sims 4, fans have been eager to get their hands on a university pack. Now, the wait is over! The Sims 4: Discover University is finally coming!

On Oct. 21, the Sims dropped a short teaser video on their Instagram hinting at the new pack. The following day, the trailer was finally released.

The Sims 4: Discover University is set to be released on Nov. 15 for PC and Mac, and will be released on Dec. 17 for console players. It is currently available for preorder.

As this pack has been anticipated for so long, the Sims community has some pretty high expectations for it.

While it is still a bit too early to tell, Discover University looks very promising. For the first time, players will have an option between two different universities for their Sims to attend. In both the Sims 2 and Sims 3 university packs, there was only one school for Sims to attend.

Now, Sims will have the chance to attend either the historical campus of the University of Britchester or the modern campus of Foxbury Institute.

Discover University will also be adding in dorms, mini fridges and bikes to the game, allowing Sims to truly immerse themselves into their new college lives and having to share a way-too-small fridge.

The community has extremely high hopes and expectations for this pack, but will it live up to this? Only time will tell. For now, it’s time to celebrate because the long awaited university pack is finally coming to the Sims 4!



Upcoming concerts Music Maven

By Jenna Ethridge

Before campus clears for Thanksgiving Break, these artists will be making their way through the Bay.

Two Door Cinema Club and Peach Pit

will be performing on Nov. 4 at the Fox Theater in Oakland. The Shivas will also be performing on Nov. 4 at The Catalyst in Santa Cruz and on Nov. 5 at the Bottom of the Hill in San Francisco in support of their new album, “Dark Thoughts,” which was released on Oct. 25.

Built to Spill

will be at The Fillmore in San Francisco on Nov. 5 and Nov. 6, as well as the Fremont Theater in San Luis Obispo on Nov. 20 and the Rio Theatre in Santa Cruz on Nov. 21. The Drums will be in Santa Cruz at The Catalyst with Cowgirl Clue on Nov. 6 and in San Luis Obispo at the Fremont Theater on Nov. 7, as part of their California tour in support of their most recent album, “Brutalism,” released on April 5.

Babe Rainbow

will be at The Independent in San Francisco on Nov. 11. Their latest album, “Today,” was released on Sept. 20. BRONCHO returns to Slim’s in San Francisco with BOYO and Rinse and Repeat on Nov. 13.

Cold War Kids

will be at the Fremont Theater in San Luis Obispo on Nov. 17, as well as The Fillmore in San Francisco on Nov. 20 and The Catalyst in Santa Cruz on Nov. 22. Hippo Campus and The Greeting Committee will be performing in Santa Cruz at The Catalyst on Nov. 20 and in San Luis Obispo at the Fremont Theater on Nov. 22.

Tickets for all of the shows mentioned are available on Ticketmaster, Stubhub and the artists’ websites.

This day in history: Oct. 31

1864

Nevada becomes the 36th state of the Union.

1918

21,000 people in the United States die in the span of a week, due to the Spanish flu-virus.

1923

Marble Bar, Australia experiences 100 degree weather for 160 consecutive days.

1941

The Mount Rushmore National Memorial is completed after being in construction for 14 years.

1970

Jim Morrison is sentenced to six months in jail, as well as a \$500 fine, for indecent exposure and public profanity.

1981

The first live U.S. radio drama in 25 years, "A Halloween Story," is broadcast on NBC.

1994

Venus Williams makes her professional debut at 14 years old in Oakland, CA at the Bank of the West Classic tennis tournament.

2003

Surfer Bethany Hamilton loses her arm during a shark attack in Hawaii at age 13.

2011

The world population increases to 7 billion, according to the United Nations.

2017

A man on Maui, HI is ordered by a judge to write 144 compliments to his ex-girlfriend after violating order by sending her 144 offensive texts.

Autumn playlist

by Claudia Rocha

When autumn began on Sept. 23, the leaves had not yet commenced to fall, nor had the cold invited itself to chill the air yet. Nevertheless, the nights come earlier and bundling up is more appropriate. All things pumpkin spice appear again in our favorite stores and breweries. These smooth jazzy tunes go perfectly with a blanket and warm fire.

“Memory”

This song is from the 1981 musical “Cats.” The song evokes feelings of nostalgia for the past, a common emotion for this fall season. However, the song has an element of optimism, which is also a recurring sentiment for people who enjoy this changing of the leaves.

“‘Tis Autumn”

This was originally written in 1941 by songwriter Henry Nemo, but versions include covers by Nat King Cole, Chet Baker, Bill Evans and Ella Fitzgerald, and more recently, Stacy Kent. The lyrics of “‘Tis Autumn” recognize the natural changes of the weather, trees and birds flying south for the winter.

“The Falling Leaves” / “Les Feuilles Mortes”

In 1945, “The Falling Leaves” as we know it now was actually initially inspired by a French song called “Les Feuilles Mortes,” written by poet Jacques Prévert. Other artists have had their own take on it in English, some of which are by Frank Sinatra, Nat King Cole and Johnny Mercer. The lyrics in the English version juxtapose the leaves falling to the memory of a lover gone. The French version “Les Feuilles Mortes” translated into English means “dead leaves.” “Les Feuilles” is an extremely beautiful French version of “The Falling Leaves.” A recording exists if you want to listen to it by Yves Montand, it’s worth the listen.

“Pumpkin Waltz”

If you have watched the Charlie Brown short “It’s the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown!” then you may be familiar with “The Great Pumpkin Waltz” by Vince Guaraldi. Guaraldi wrote all the music for the Charlie Brown shows and short films. “The Great Pumpkin Waltz” has no lyrics and can be described as a poignant work of art that allows for calm.

“Autumn in New York”

This jazz song was created by Vernon Duke in 1934 for a Broadway Musical “Thumbs up!” The melancholic chords and lyrics describe New York in the fall, with vivid imagery and pensive longing for something else.

Can you unscramble these words to reveal their anagrams of words associated with Halloween? Don't get tricked!

tab

cadres

act

tetras

slough

safer

mentors

weest

prides

thing

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

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

bat, cat, ghoul,
monster, spider,
scared, treats, tears,
sweet, night