

# Will history repeat itself for the Black Box Cabaret?

## A Historical Profile On The Black Box Cabaret

### A Look Inside The Box

## Black Box Improved

# The Box Is Back!

## GRAND OPENING!

### Bbc Final Opens ... Then Closes

# 1998

By Anthony J. M...

The Grand...

Friday and...

BBC) on...

ity of...

(SUMB) campus is...

I want to open our...

about the new and returning stu-

dents, faculty, and staff. We want to start the new year with a great event. The Black Box Cabaret is a student-run facility...

large majority of our or... popula-

tion, as well as members from the community who do not attend CSUMB.

The entertainment we plan on showcasing for our Grand Opening is going to be filled with high energy in order to kick off the new year. We will have a great sound and lighting system to bring the extravagant sound and lighting entertainment...

t her are stu mal off c out, dive...

Se...

February 6, 1998 for the huge Grand Opening at the BBC in Building #81 (on the corner of Third Street and Fourth Avenue). For information please call the BBC Hotline @ 582-3597.

ARTWORK BY JOE KAPP

Sean Tubo and Hayley Matto  
Staff Writers

At a recent Associated Students Senate meeting President Vanya Quinones announced the school's intention to reopen the Black Box Cabaret (BBC). According to university spokesman Walter Ryce, the BBC, which is a former campus hotspot located behind the student health center, is being looked at "as a performing arts venue for the university as well as a location that will expand dining options on campus for students."

The project, still in early planning, doesn't yet have a solid timeline or details but comes as part of an effort to appeal to student requests for more venue space. "We have consistently heard from current students that they would like a music venue on campus, so we are exploring options and support for expanded student programming," said Ryce. If the BBC does reopen, it will be the third grand opening of its lifetime.

"I think that reopening the BBC would majorly benefit all students by getting them more involved with the on-campus community," said Alberto Garcia, a fourth-year music and technology major and officer for the music club, "and it would lead to some great exposure for the music club. Giving hands-on experience to music students and club members."

In 1999, only a year after the BCC's first opening, the Otter Realm (the Lutrinae's predecessor on campus) published "The Black Box Cabaret: Past. Present. Future?" covering its beginnings in the 1940s as a nightclub for soldiers at Fort Ord to its time as studio for the now defunct teledramatic arts and technology program. The article would ask the question, "What is the purpose of the Black Box?"

That question would be answered as the BBC found its niche as a coffeehouse and popular performance ven-



PHOTO BY SEAN TUBO

ue, becoming a vital part of the campus ecosystem. "The BBC was a space where students had the power to program so many different types of events," said Alie Jones, a CSUMB graduate who is now a campus lecturer. "Everything from a rave to a reggae concert. Students need low or no-cost spaces where they can cultivate community."

The BBC provided more than entertainment to the students but also opportunities to take their studies outside the classroom. Jones said, "I hosted Earth Week events as part of the Associated Students Environmental Affairs Committee and I remember my friend had her Capstone there which was a play called 'A Race through Time.'"

When it closed unexpectedly in the spring of 2000, citing fire code violations, protests and calls for its restoration would rock the campus, as reported in the article "The Box is Back!"

These protests would lead to its second grand opening in January 2002 and prompt more historical reexamination. The Otter Realm article "BBC finally opens... then closes" taking yet another look at the history of the space, now including the recent protests and issues with termite

damage that had delayed reopening.

The BBC remained active until 2009 when it was forced to slow its operation due to financial difficulties. This history was covered in the February 2014 Otter Realm article "A Look Inside the Box, A Historical Profile of the Black Box Cabaret," during which it was still intermittently active as a performance venue.

Students like Garcia are advocating loudly to "bring back the time capsule." Much as it was for Jones the hope is that if the BBC was revived it would once again be "a safe place for all types of artistic students with opportunities to learn how to work the equipment and give them some performance experience, all in a free easily accessible space," said Garcia.

As it always has been, the path ahead for the Black Box Cabaret is uncertain. Difficulties that plagued it in the past like funding concerns, building code violations and competition with spaces like the Otter Student Union are more relevant than they have ever been, leaving students and faculty alike to ponder when the Black Box Cabaret will make its third revival.

## Bomb threat update

Read the latest information about the bomb threat.



## Book review

Have you read "Whale Fall" by Daniel Kraus? Read our review and it to your reading list!



## Cheap potato soup

Check out our affordable potato soup recipe!



# Bingo night...with a twist: CSUMB’s drag bingo showdown



Drag queen Castrata interacted with players during the bingo game.

PHOTO BY MADDIE HONOMICHL

**Francine Pamplona**  
*Staff Writer*

Drag and bingo came together for a night of high-energy performances and fierce competition at Cal State Monterey Bay’s Drag Bingo event on February 21 in the Otter Student Union (OSU) ballroom. Hosted by performer Castrata, who regularly performs in New York, the night blended the classic game of bingo with the flair of live drag performances.

The event kicked off with Castrata delivering an energetic medley featuring songs, “Pink Pony Club,” “Firework” and “Don’t Stop Believin.” While belting out these strong ballads, Castrata strutted between tables and pointed to audience members.

Her performance set a lively tone for the evening, capti-

vating the initially shy audience and drawing them into an experience where traditional bingo changed with a theatrical twist.

As the game progressed, excitement built not only over the prizes – which included digital cameras, Stanley tumblers, Roku devices and more – but also over the unexpected twist that would soon come into play.

In a nod to the popular show “RuPaul’s Drag Race,” when multiple players called “bingo” simultaneously, they were challenged to a spontaneous game of “Lip Sync for Your Life!” Students lip-synced and danced to a random song until Castrata announced an official bingo winner based on their performance and style.

Between performances, Castrata shared insights about her journey in drag. “Once I started doing drag, everything

started changing for me,” she said. “I started to realize how much potential that I was wasting and drag helped bring that out of me and make me a stronger performer.”

When asked about the significance of hosting drag events on college campuses, Castrata emphasized the importance of visibility.

“For many people here, tonight might be their first live drag performance,” she said. “It’s important for us to be visible, just to make sure that everyone knows that we’re still here– and we ain’t going nowhere!”

With about 200 students registered per session, attendees shared laughs, cheered on lip-sync performances and seemed to embrace the opportunity to witness a form of artistic expression that many had only seen on television.

## 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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### Editorial Policy

The *Lutrinae* is a student-run publication produced for the students of CSUMB. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Lutrinae*, CSUMB administration, faculty, or staff.

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 reserves the right to edit for libel, space, or clarity.

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# Bomb threat causes CSUMB Library and nearby residence halls to be evacuated



The bomb threat was a hoax but will be investigated further.

PHOTO BY ELI HECK

**Eli Heck**  
*Contributing Writer*

Students were evacuated from the Tanimura & Antle Family Memorial Library around 9:30 p.m. Wednesday after an official announced an “emergency” over the intercom. Shortly after, an Otter Alert was released confirming the emergency. Nearby residence halls were told to have students stay 200 feet away from the library as campus officers sectioned off the surrounding road.

Some resident halls were later evacuated as well.

Around 1 a.m. on Thursday, the all-clear was sent out and students were able to return to their dorms.

Cal State Monterey Bay (CSUMB) Spokesperson Walter Ryce said in a press release to the Lutrinae, “Library staff issued a public announcement to initiate evacuation of the library and contacted the University Police Department which responded within minutes and took over evacuation procedures of the library and nearby buildings including residence halls.”

Picture of a crowd of students evacuating  
The Marina Police Department was on the scene shortly after the alert went out. Students began to be evacuated from nearby dorms in Area One, with Resident Advisors (RAs) knocking on doors and notifying residences through text alerts. Students were told to evacuate to the Otter Student Union.

“University Police Department officers conducted a search of the library with the assistance of the Marina Police Department, the Monterey County Sheriff’s Department and MCSO Explosives K-9 team. The California Highway Patrol and the FBI lent support later,” Ryce said.

The Otter Student Union stayed open late to house students evacuated from the resident halls as the first hall, Asilomar, arrived at around 10:25 p.m. Later, it was joined by residents of Cypress and Willet halls around 11:30 p.m.

RAs messaged students, suggesting they get comfortable in the OSU as it could take a reported two to three hours for the evacuation to be lifted.

Around 1 a.m. on Thursday, the all-clear was sent out and students were able to return to their dorms.

“Law enforcement officials announced no explosive devices were found and the all-clear was issued for normal activity to resume and for students to return to their residence halls,” Ryce said.

On Thursday at 11 a.m., CSUMB sent out an update on the situation to students, and a list of support resources for students and those affected by the evacuation and threat.

According to Ryce, “Law enforcement officials will collaborate with the FBI to conduct a comprehensive investigation into the identity of the caller to seek prosecution of those responsible for the hoax.”

# Ignite! Social Justice Retreat: It’s OK to be angry

Aubrey Amila  
Contributing Writer

Students are constantly bombarded with information from the news and social media. At times, this becomes overwhelming, prompting us to disconnect. A "retreat" is a deliberate step back—a chance to withdraw to a quiet space, reflect, collect our thoughts, or simply embrace stillness.

On Feb.7, Ignite! Social Justice and Leadership Retreat, hosted by Otter Cultural Center (OC3), brought together 24 Cal State Monterey Bay (CSUMB) students to spend three days at Redwood Glen, amongst the redwood trees and banana slugs.

Ignite! Social Justice and Leadership Retreat takes place every spring semester and has been held since 2014. Its vision is to “Inspire individuals and communities to form coalitions and come together to fight oppressive systems.” The OC3 encourages sharing stories to help break cycles of disempowerment and create healing opportunities for communities.

Full disclosure, I was a participant in the weekend’s activities and found the experience both enjoyable and rejuvenating. Newfound friendships and love for affirmations blossomed in the retreat facilitated by Peter Xiong, Victoria Gomez, Diana Ballesteros, Rudy Medina, Mikayla Castillo, Mia Corona and Monce Navarro.

In the cabin, we were divided into mushroom-themed groups. I belonged to a group of eight called “Hedgehogs” where we often gathered on the patio, listening to a bird or a bat nesting in one of the nooks and crannies of our cabin while we talked about what our own life experiences, or “rivers,” look like. Our life. Our experiences.

There was shared laughter, some tears and anger. About being away from family. About not being accepted in society for being gay. About health care being unaffordable. About living a life so dependent on money to thrive and survive.

Learning to be OK with being angry was the biggest takeaway. “It’s OK to be angry. Being angry means you know that there’s a problem. Being angry means that you are dedicated to finding a solution,” said Lilyann Aguilar, a second-year kinesiology major, whose bed was adjacent to mine by a window overlooking the evergreens of Santa Cruz County.

With over 60 qualified applicants for this retreat, I was chosen along with 23 other aspiring leaders in the local community who attend CSUMB. I must be doing something right – or perhaps angry enough to want a change



Attendees of the Ignite! Social Justice Retreat.

PHOTO COURTESY OF AUBREY AMILA

in the current political and social reality. Amongst the chosen applicants were Liliana Garcia, the president of the Otter Dreamers club and Yefry Mata Diaz, a third-year collaborative health and sciences major who worked closely with Project Rebound, a program at CSUMB that helps people who have been incarcerated get their degrees, as their student coordinator/transfer ambassador.

The attendees were expected to follow an outline throughout the weekend. Activities such as Inner Child Time, Affirmation Mailbox, Team Builders, making s’mores around the campfire, having a general session about The Power of Storytelling, hiking, karaoke, dancing salsa, and Passion Mic were named some of the attendees’ favorites.

“I hope participants gained the skill of being able to understand their own emotions and feelings of being, uncomfortable, critical, challenged but unharmed,” said Peter Xiong, one of the facilitators of the event. “That one person cannot know everything which may be why we need each other alongside having the desire to continue growing and being curious about how social justice shows up for themselves connected to the community. At minimal, that they are not alone,” he said.

“I thought Ignite was amazing,” said Valerie Madriaga Elder, a fourth-year sociology major. “It was eye-opening and it challenged me to be more vulnerable with others as well as being open-minded. I felt excited to be IGNITED.”

# Exploring the ways David Lynch took us ‘Somewhere over the Rainbow’



Hayley Matto  
Staff Writer

In lieu of the usual Takes Two to Review, it’s just Hayley here this week to talk about a unique movie experience Cal State Monterey Bay (CSUMB) hosted in the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Science (CAHSS) building theater.

With 45 students in attendance, filmmaker Alexandre Philippe made a return to campus for a screening of his 2022 film “Lynch/Oz,” which has recently had a bit of a resurgence, due to the death of the award winning director David Lynch.

Lynch, who was 78 when he died, was known for his surreal and abstract work in film and television, revolutionizing the industry with his distinctive storytelling style. His impact became so significant throughout the early 1990s that his aesthetic evolved into its own genre, simply titled “Lynchian.” He’s best known for “Blue Velvet,” “Mulholland Drive,” “Inland Empire” and his hit television series “Twin Peaks.”

However, it has been long speculated that Lynch drew significant inspiration from “The Wizard of Oz,” incorporating its characters, costumes, colors, special effects and themes into his work. Director Philippe sought to prove this connection with his documentary, uncovering links between Lynch’s work and the 1939 classic.

“The Wizard of Oz’s DNA goes a lot deeper into Lynch’s work than we thought,” Philippe said. He shared how the idea for this film had been brewing somewhere in the back of his mind for years, but that it wasn’t until the COVID-19 pandemic hit that the dream took form and production of “Lynch/Oz” was underway.

Philippe reached out to Lynch to gauge his interest in



SCREENSHOT PROVIDED BY HAYLEY MATTO



participating. “I already knew he wasn’t going to participate, but it was nice getting his blessings anyway to go forward with the project,” Philippe said.

“I was met with an often-quoted message from Lynch that read, ‘No I’m sorry. I’m not focusing on the hole but keeping my eyes on the doughnut.’”

The phrase, which Lynch used frequently as a metaphor for focusing on the present rather than what is missing, has since become synonymous with his memory.

The film opened with an homage to both Lynch’s signature style and “The Wizard of Oz,” preparing the audience for a six-part deep dive exploring the vast multitudes of connections Lynch’s work had to the whimsical and otherworldly Judy Garland classic.

After the credits rolled Luis Carama, chair of the Cinematic Arts Department, joined Philippe on stage for a short Q&A with students. Meeting the emotional tension in the room, Philippe shared his thoughts on Lynch’s passing.

“We lost the best spiritual father we had in the world of cinema,” he said. Despite Lynch’s well-known reluctance to explain his work, Philippe felt that “revisiting pieces of art” was necessary because “they still held many mysteries.” He added, “Where by the end you feel like you know less than you did when you started,” garnering many laughs from the crowd in agreement.

Lynch died Jan. 16, leaving behind a legacy of experimental yet incredibly emotionally complex stories. He was known for his love of black coffee, red wine, cigarettes, routine, meditation and telling interviewers, “I’m not going to explain my work because you already understand it if you watched it.”

Always elusive about the meanings behind his projects, he moved from one project to the next the moment he felt a story was complete— except, perhaps, according to Philippe, when it came to “The Wizard of Oz.”

Takes Two to Review gives “Lynch/Oz” a 5/5. For Lynch fans, this film is a must-watch. I highly encourage you to take that step over the rainbow and deeper into the ever-mysterious mind of David Lynch.

# From the belly of the whale: ‘Whale Fall’ book review

Eli Heck  
Contributing Writer

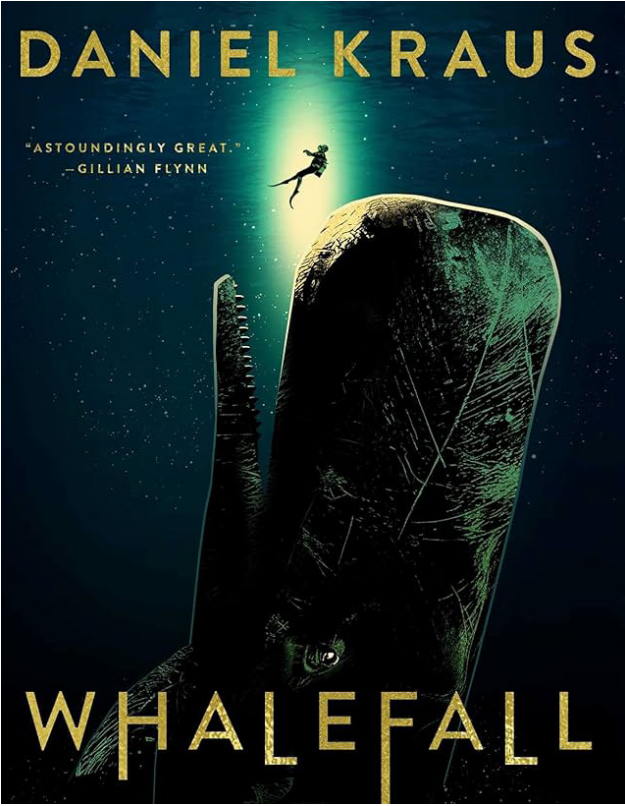
BOOK REVIEW

“Whale Fall” weaves a foreboding and electrifying tale, gripping its readers and pulling them into the story from the first page. Even before the main character reaches the ocean, there is an undercurrent of apprehension that builds, hinting that something lies waiting in the waters – daring the reader to turn the page and discover what it is, and confront whatever horrors, or transformations await them.

Published in 2023, author Daniel Kraus’ “Whale Fall,” tells the fictional story of a young boy who decides to go diving alone off of Monastery Beach, near Point Lobos, just south of Carmel, in search of the remains of his dead father.

Jay Gardiner is a teenager who is grappling with the recent death of his father Mitch Gardiner—who was a well-known and respected figure, and diver in the Monterey community. For the past few years, their relationship had been strained if not non-existent as unwavering pressures, emotional distance and expectations placed on Jay forced him away from the father he grew up with.

The story takes a sharp turn as during his dive, an event Jay has done hundreds of times before, he encounters a giant squid. At first in awe of the creature, rarely seen by divers, that awe soon turns to terror as the squid is at-



SCREENSHOT PROVIDED BY JAELYNN AILINA DIOKNO

tacked by a sperm whale.

In the subsequent battle, the squid latches onto Jay and is then swallowed by the sperm whale, with Jay pulled

into its depths along with it.

Jay is then forced to desperately try and survive as his dwindling hour of oxygen runs down, and he is plagued with physical trials in the stomach of the great whale, as well as psychological ones as he begins to unravel both from the trauma of the situation, as well as his impending mortality forcing him to battle with the events of his past and come to grips with the terms of his father's death.

The novel is a page-turning, gripping story that provides the reader with not only the sense of thrill coming from the immense trial Jay has to face, but also a moment forced to stop and reflect on the relationships we have with those close to us, and the parallels between a father and son.

Set in a setting familiar to most Cal State Monterey Bay students, the story sets a scene that is not only thrilling but will have you looking at the area around you, and the waters next to us in a new way.

A relatively fast read of only 336 pages, the novel was initially received with high praise, earning its spot amongst the list of "Best Thrillers of 2023" by the New York Times as well as positive reviews in other magazines such as Paste Magazine.

This story is a great choice for anyone looking for a new thriller, as well as a look into the relationship between a father and son.

# Money Talks: Budgeting tips for college students



PHOTO COURTESY OF ADOBE STOCK

Karzell McMillian  
Contributing Writer

As an accounting major, I’ve learned it’s important for students to start their journey to financial freedom early. For almost four years, I’ve studied financial successes and failures, learned best practices and most importantly, learned the best resources for financial advice. Stay tuned for tips, advice or information related to money backed by expert opinions and recommendations; I would love to hear questions from you. I will be accepting any questions through email, [kmcmillian@csumb.edu](mailto:kmcmillian@csumb.edu)!

As a college student, it can be hard to balance school, work and a personal life, and it is even more difficult to create a

budget that promotes healthy spending and saving habits. Today, that can change with these tips:

1. First, create a spreadsheet or use a budgeting app that allows you to keep track of your expenses. USA.gov recommends understanding your income and expenses for each month.
2. Next, many experts recommend the 50/30/20 rule. This rule is explained as using 50% of your income for essential expenses, 30% for things you want and 20% for savings (or paying back debt, if you have any). To understand this method more, NerdWallet provides extra details as well as a calculator to split your finances accordingly.
3. Next, when dealing with credit cards you should only

- spend what you can pay monthly, as suggested by The Federal Student Aid website. Paying your credit card off in full at the end of the month also gives your credit a boost!
4. Finally, understanding your spending habits per month could save you some dollars in the long run. According to the Federal Student Aid website, you should overestimate your expenses and underestimate your income. This is to ensure you don’t fall short of your budget goals and are always prepared for expenses.

Hopefully, these tips have increased your understanding of your finances to create an effective budget plan. Stay tuned for more!

The Lutrinae  
wants to hear  
your voices!

Want to showcase your work in the student newspaper?

Email [pfrancis@csumb.edu](mailto:pfrancis@csumb.edu) to have your work considered for our next issue.

We love to see your:  
illustrations • short stories • poems • opinions

# Un Poème D'amour au Monde - A Love Poem to The World

Eli Heck  
Contributing Writer

I'm not much of a love poet.  
I write poems because I like to hear myself talk,  
and I am pretentious enough to enjoy my own stories.  
Oftentimes, I just babble.  
But maybe this time, I can choose to dabble—  
and I will write a love poem... to the world.

You see, when I was first consumed,  
blue eyes bloomed, I could not presume  
to understand – any of it.  
Hands outstretched to a voice I didn't know  
but somehow recognized deep down.  
Infant arms too fragile to hold up the world,  
yet desperate to reveal the Earth's secrets, disguised.

Now, a view confined to a child's eyes  
is nothing if not insular.  
However, life as a child was, in truth so much simpler—  
Fighting for a slice of dessert,  
instead of fighting to live.  
Fighting for a later bedtime,  
instead of fighting the will to drown in my own mistakes.

But this love story does not have a tragic ending.  
Without mistakes, humans don't have the chance for  
mending.

And I know the person I was  
can look to the future and admire the person I am.  
Because now, I see the world in all its splendor,  
and I am in love with the wonder I live in.

“Beware of the rose-colored glasses,” they say.  
But I see the world colored in vibrant saturations,  
and even if that is not what it holds,  
I never want to go back to a narrowed view so cold.

Infinity at my fingertips,  
yet still contained in the stem of a tree.  
That tree reaching down,  
roots grabbing the earth, pulling it toward me.  
I can lie upon that earth and look at the sky,  
marveling at the sounds it makes—  
the colors forming in a bird's song  
as they swim among the clouds.

Did you know that seahorses mate for life?  
Because when you find that perfect one that all of you  
sings to,  
how could you write a lyric for something else?  
Look, listen, and feel—  
all of life sings to me,  
and I am writing back a love poem to the world.

—Make no mistake, though—I am no Shakespeare.

If I am to write a love poem to the universe,  
my words would have to rival the bond between Romeo  
and Juliet.  
And even Titania, cast upon her midsummer’s night spell,  
would pause—and listen to words as fine to describe the  
world she lives in.  
How can I compare?

Fret not, though, for I have enough arrogance  
to title my poem in French—



ILLUSTRATION BY ZOE KAPP

the so aptly named language of love.  
“Je ne parle pas français.”  
I don’t even speak French.

But remember, I am comparing my work  
to the poets of old...  
How could I not, when I tell of a love great enough to  
hold  
all of their stories?  
“J’écris un poème d'amour au monde.”  
—I am writing a love poem to the world.

# Heavy Metal

Dakota Draper  
Photo of the Week Winner

A singer embodies the spirit of heavy metal.



# Photo of the Week

**Looking to showcase your photography?** Enter our ongoing photo contest throughout Volume 8 for a chance to have your work featured in our weekly issues. Check out our Instagram @thelutrinae for more details!



# SLOW COOKER POTATO SOUP

**\$8.10 for 6 Servings**

## INGREDIENTS

2 stalks celery (50 cents)  
2 carrots (30 cents)  
1 yellow onion (32 cents)  
3 cloves garlic (24 cents)  
3 lbs Yukon gold potatoes (\$3.29)  
1 tsp Italian seasoning (10 cents)  
1 1/4 tsp salt (5 cents)  
1/2 tsp freshly cracked black pepper (2 cents)  
3 cups chicken broth (51 cents)  
2 Tbsp all-purpose flour (4 cents)  
2 Tbsp water  
1/2 cup heavy cream (68 cents)  
1/2 cup sour cream (53 cents)  
1 cup shredded cheddar cheese, divided (\$1.16)  
3 green onions, sliced & divided (36 cents)



## INSTRUCTIONS

Wash and dice the celery stalks, peel and dice the carrots, dice the onion and mince the garlic. Wash, peel and chop the potatoes into 1/2 – 3/4 inch chunks.

Add the potatoes, carrots, celery, onion and the garlic to a 5 or 6 quart slow cooker or crock pot. Then add the Italian seasoning, salt and freshly cracked black pepper to the slow cooker.

Pour the chicken broth over the vegetables and spices in the slow cooker. Stir all the ingredients together so that everything is evenly distributed. Place the lid on the slow cooker and cook on high for 3 hours.

Once the potatoes are almost finished cooking, make a quick flour slurry by adding the flour and water to a small bowl and whisking together until smooth and there are no lumps.

After the potato soup has cooked for 3 hours, check to make sure the potatoes are tender and can be easily pierced with a fork. Now add the slurry, heavy cream and sour cream to the slow cooker. Stir well to combine, replace the lid and continue to cook on high for an additional 10 minutes.

During the last 10 minutes of cooking, while the slurry and heavy cream are thickening the soup, shred the cheddar cheese and slice the green onions. Remove the slow cooker lid then use a potato masher to mash the potato chunks into smaller pieces. Add 1/2 cup of the shredded cheese and half of the sliced green onions. Stir until the cheese has melted into the soup.

Taste the soup and adjust the salt or black pepper to your liking. Use the remaining shredded cheese and green onions to garnish individual bowls. Serve hot and enjoy!

# What’s your favorite Girl Scout Cookie and why?



Hayley Matto  
Staff Writer



### Alex Mendez

Third-year humanities and communication major  
“I like a few but I absolutely love Thin Mints! Partially for the nostalgic factor – growing up my mom would only buy them. She also would freeze them before we got to eat them, now I specifically crave them that way! The other factor is I’m crazy for anything mint chocolate.”



### Devin Ellis

Third-year humanities and communication major  
“I haven’t tried them all but now I want to keep an eye out for [Girl Scout] stands! I have three favorites, and I can’t really nail down an absolute favorite. My top three Girl Scout cookies are Thin Mints, of course, Samoas and the S’mores cookies. My mom got me hooked on the Samoas years ago and since then, those felt very nostalgic. I tend to love any cookie with chocolate, and you really can’t go wrong with caramel and chocolate!”



### Avery Allen

Third-year humanities and communication major  
“I look forward to Girl Scout Cookie season every year! My go-to’s are Samoas and Thin Mints but you really can’t go wrong with a Girl Scout Cookie! My whole family loves Samoas and it’s always fun for us to share a package together.”

## Upcoming Events

### Monday, Feb. 24

Learn about policy updates that may affect you or your community at the “Know Your Rights and Policy Updates Workshop.” Hosted by the Undocu-Success Program and featuring the Watsonville Law Center, this workshop will teach participants about rights, legal protections and resources available. The event is from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in the Otter Student Union, room 310.

### Wednesday, Feb. 26

Join Project Rebound for a sound bath session from 5:30 to 6 p.m. The event will be in the Meeting House, building 98.

### Thursday, Feb. 27

A blood drive will be on campus from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Building 12. Donors will receive a \$10 gift card. Register on MyRaft.

### Thursday, Feb. 27

Learn about rave culture and create kandi with the Rainbow Raft. Food, candy and materials will be provided. The craft session is from 3 to 5 p.m. in Building 12, East Lounge.

### Thursday, Feb. 27

Join the Otter Cross Cultural Center for “Matriarchal Mastery.” The event will consist of an embroidery workshop and a discussion about how sewing is an important part of matriarch history. The workshop is from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in the Otter Student Union, room 310.

### Thursday, Feb. 27

Associated Students is hosting a “Dress to Impress” rave from 8 to 11 p.m. in the Otter Student Ballroom. This is the second annual rave on campus!

## Puzzles

### SUDOKU

In order to complete this Sudoku puzzle, you must fill in the square so that each row and column contain the numbers 1 - 9, with no repetitions within the 9x9 grid and outlined 3x3 grid.

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

### WORD SCRAMBLE

Can you unscramble these local location-related words?

pbelbe cbeha

anrainm

mcrale

eyrmneot

sslinaa

rfimnsahes frwah

ciapifc vgoer

droalvaa ertest

iassdee

nasd ycti

### ANSWERS:

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

Pebble Beach, Carmel, Salinas, Pacific Grove, Seaside, Marina, Monterey, Fisherman’s Warf, Alvarado Street, Sand City

