

THE OBSERVER

Broward College Student Newspaper

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Broward College's Vaccine Incentive Program Aims to Encourage Vaccination

Jessica Kladerman
Editor-In-Chief

At Broward College (BC) as a part of the efforts made to monitor and put the lid on COVID-19 positive cases, research was conducted showing many states and higher education institutions have created vaccine incentive programs.

According to Tashika President, District Director of Emergency Management, "the on-site COVID testing, and vaccine site will run through Oct. 20, and students will have until Oct. 23 to submit their vaccine information to qualify for the vaccine incentive."

President said so far 560 students have been approved for the \$250 vaccine incentive.

The idea of an incentive program aims to "increase education about the vaccination benefits and encourage vaccination, and so the Vaccine Incentive Program (VIP) was conceived.

The American Rescue Plan (ARP) passed by Congress in March 2021 provided the funding to make the program a reality," said Vice President of Finance, Caleb Cornelius.

In addition to the ARP, an emergency fund called the High-

er Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) was started by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, better known as the CARES Act, was passed by Congress in March of 2020.

The HEERF has two main functions; provide higher education students with emergency financial aid grants that will help deal with the impact COVID-19 has had on their lives and provide colleges and universities funding to continue operating remotely in an efficient way.

"Broward College recognizes that during this time students have a degree of need related to tuition, fees, housing, meals, transportation, technologies, books, childcare, and healthcare, so we created the Student Emergency Aid (SEAhawk) Aid Grant program to help with those unexpected costs, from HEERF dollars.

In addition to the SEAhawk Grant program, BC is issuing grants from HEERF emergency funding to all students for the fall semester to overcome adversity due to the impact of COVID-19.

In total students can receive up to \$2,000 depending on their financial need," said Cornelius.

Through the VIP students and



Photo Courtesy of NBC Miami

employees will receive an incentive of \$250 once completing a brief questionnaire. The first question asking, "Did this Vaccine Incentive Program encourage you to think more about the benefits of getting the COVID-19 vaccination?" The first question aims more for research purposes and does not determine eligibility.

The next question asks, "Did you receive your final dose of a COVID-19 vaccination between Aug. 16, 2021, and Oct. 23, 2021?" If you answer yes to this question, you must provide

proof and the date of your final dose by uploading a photo of your vaccination card. Eligibility is not based on whether you got your vaccination at BC so any vaccination site you received it from will count towards your incentive.

"Urgent Med has been a partner of BC for 14 years as a flu shot provider and has now partnered [with BC] to provide on-site COVID testing and vaccinations for our community," said President.

At this time, there are no incentives for students and staff

that were fully vaccinated before Aug. 16, or for any students seeking boosters, however, there will be an evaluation at the end of the course of the program to determine if it will be needed again next semester.

To find out more information about the VIP, please visit <https://www.broward.edu/coronavirus/#vaccine-incentive>. For more information on the Emergency Financial Aid, please visit <https://students.broward.edu/resources/emergency-aid/>.

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Join the Motivation Nation with the BetterYou App

Megan Vineberg
Staff Writer

In partnership with the team at BetterYou, Student Life is providing free access to the BetterYou app allowing you to set and track goals regarding productivity and fitness, acting as your virtual wellness coach. Mental health and social life are also measurable from within the app—making it perfect for not only college students but young adults in general who want to live intentionally, mindful of their day-to-day activities. When a student achieves a goal, a reward is then unlocked including gift cards from sponsors and other prizes.

According to the company's description for the app, BetterYou uses what is known as artificial intelligence (AI) to understand your habits. When you stray from any of your personal goal, the app will send a nudge your way to gently remind you to stay on track. Students are able to set goals customizable to their individual lifestyles. It will automatically track progress based on students' data usage of the apps used.

BetterYou has a 4.5 star rating amongst users, and it is available for both iPhone and Android users.

Sydney McNelley left a rating of 5 stars after having been a user for one year. McNelley commented, "I became a user of this app during quarantine, and little did I know how my motivation to be productive would change!" A user since March 2021, Roy Shaffer also rated the app with 5 stars citing how much he liked BetterYou claiming, "BetterYou is great if you want to improve your life and be more productive. Also, you can challenge friends."

User Danigee83 began using the app March 1 and rated the app with 4 stars due to a compatibility issue when hitting the gym. The user stated "I started using BetterYou earlier this year, and it has definitely held me accountable for my health and fitness goals. Overall, if you're looking for an app that encompasses all aspects of wellness this is the app for you."

Etta_24 left a review of 5 stars when first beginning to use the app, claiming it is "great for goals and health." After a little while of using the app, she left an update. She goes on to say, "I've been using this app for over 6 months now, and I'm still enjoying it. BetterYou does a lot of the work for you so you can focus on other

Integrations

BetterYou syncs up with over 10,000 apps. This enables you to get credit for spending time toward your goals in the ways that make sense for you.

Screenshot of the BetterYou app

Photo Courtesy of Leo DeAraujo

aspects of your health instead of worrying if the app does or not. The developers are constantly improving it to be better so if you have any complaints, they take care of it. Highly recommend this app."

What's more is BetterYou connects students to each other, so they don't have to track their progress alone. Whether you're looking to get more restful sleep at night, or you want to incorporate your daily workout routine, BetterYou seemingly has it all. Want to stay in touch with a friend more but can't remember to reach out with a hectic schedule? BetterYou has got you covered

there too. You can set a goal to call specific people more when you choose your Top People on the app, reminiscent in a sense of the MySpace Top 8 section.

Say, you know you need to get out of the house more as a law student with no breaks, BetterYou can even do that for you. You just set your goal to attend a yoga class or meet friends at a restaurant, even taking a place for personal development like pottery or jewelry

making. In order to join, BetterYou uses a QR code. A valid student email address is required at signup. You even receive \$5 after successfully onboarding the

app. Student Life will be providing access to the app to students free of charge in an attempt to provide support to students so they can achieve success at Broward College.

Students can visit register.betteryou.ai and sign up with their Broward email. Any questions related to the app should be directed to Leo DeAraujo at ldearauj@broward.edu.

brene7@mail.broward.edu

Keep up with BC: what's going on around campus?



August 16 - October 20

Broward College in partnership with UrgentMed will provide COVID-19 testing and vaccination to all Broward College students, faculty, and staff.

Hours: 10 A.M. - 1 P.M.

| MONDAYS | TUESDAYS | WEDNESDAYS |
|--|--|---|
| A. Hugh Adams Central Campus 3501 SW Davie Road Davie, FL 33314 | North Campus 1000 Coconut Creek Blvd. Coconut Creek, FL 33066 | Judson A. Samuels South Campus 7200 Pines Blvd. Pembroke Pines, FL 33024 |
| COVID-19 Testing and Vaccination Bldg. 10 Room 115 and 115A | COVID-19 Testing and Vaccination Bldg. 60 Room 207 | COVID-19 Testing and Vaccination Bldg. 65 Suite 110 |

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Testing and vaccinations locations are for Broward College students and employees only
- Photo I.D. required and insurance card (if applicable)
- If you are uninsured you may still obtain testing and vaccination at no cost
- Vaccine doses received at any provider are eligible; on-site vaccine doses are not required to qualify

\$250
VACCINE INCENTIVE

- Available for students, faculty and staff who become fully vaccinated beginning 8/16/2021
- Must show proof of final dose before the end of the program 10/23/2021

THE OBSERVER

Broward College Student Newspaper

THE BC STUDENT NEWSPAPER IS LOOKING FOR:

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 @thebcobserver

STAY INFORMED: [BROWARD.EDU/coronavirus](https://broward.edu/coronavirus)

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 Saturday: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
 Sunday: 2:00 PM - 10:00 PM

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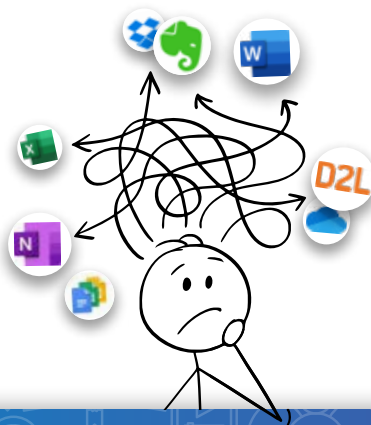
BOOK A STUDENT RESEARCH APPOINTMENT:
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CONFUSED
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CHOICES ?

*We will help you
organize your content*

ACADEMIC TOOLBOX

— Tech Tips for Success —

Thursday
SEPTEMBER 23

Tuesday
OCTOBER 19

4 - 5 PM
Join our ZOOM meeting:
bit.ly/3DHkJ3L

Presented by:
Jennifer Killam
Assistant Professor, EAP
Andrew Dutka
Archives and Special Collections Librarian

- Open for faculty, staff and students
- 1 hour PD credit for faculty and staff (look for WPT031 in MyLearning)

AHCD Arts, Humanities, Communication, Design
BROWARD COLLEGE

LIBRARIES
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The BC Central Campus Fall Festival was a success

Kaela Perkins
Staff Writer

Broward College's Central Campus recently had their Fall Festival on the Sept. 22, which featured fun activities, arts and crafts, foods and drinks. Many students enjoyed themselves.

The Festival had lots of activities for students to enjoy. It had an inflatable obstacle course, mechanical bull riding, kettle corn and pumpkin painting. The activities kept the students entertained and happy. All day students were coming in and out of the Festival.

The Student Life department's choice of time for the Fall Festival was perfect, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. It's timing gave students the opportunity to join in on the festivities after their classes. It was convenient for the students.

Although this isn't the first Fall Festival, this year's Fall Festival was hosted by Lauren Adamo, the director of Student Life on Central Campus. Adamo thinks events like the Fall Festival are great for the students and BC. She believes that events like the Fall Festival makes students feel connect-

ed which in turn helps them succeed in school.

But this event wasn't just done by Adamo, it was also done by student volunteers. Events at BC usually have opportunities for student volunteers. Student volunteers can earn volunteer hours and scholarship money.

Horace Summers, a Sophomore at BC, is one of the students who volunteered to help out at the Festival. At the Festival, his roles were to make sure students sign in before they could begin activities. Summers said he chose to help with the festival because he "wanted to help the school and the students."

Students who visited not only seemed to be having a great time, but the Festival gave them the chance to meet people. Due to Covid, it's been difficult for some students to meet and interact with their peers at school. Megan Merchant and Joshua Lyons, Freshmen at BC, attended the Fall Festival. Merchant found out about this Festival from Instagram and Lyons just happened upon the event while on campus. When Lyons was asked why he decided to



The Broward College Fall Festival

Photo by Kaela Perkins/The Observer

stop by he said, "It seemed cool."

Lyons and Merchant have a together class but never spoke before this event. The Fall Festival gave them a chance to speak outside of a classroom setting. While there, they enjoyed painting pumpkins. Both Lyons and Merchant painted pumpkins together while talking.

When asked about how she felt about the Fall Festival Merchant said, "overall, I liked the event but mostly cared about painting the pumpkins."

The Fall Festival was overall a good time with its fun activities, painting and food. Students got much more than just a ceramic pumpkin. They got the chance to talk

to others students they may not have spoken to without the Festival. Students also got to relax and have fun at school on campus.

To keep up to date with the events happening at BC Central Campus, follow [bccentralsl](https://www.instagram.com/bccentralsl) on Instagram.

perkk11@mail.broward.edu

Tips on Transferring to a University from Broward College

Marquis Grant
Staff Writer

As many students prepare for their last semester at Broward College and others look forward to completing a degree here, many of these students also look forward to transferring to a larger university.

Whether graduating soon or still a few years away, many students are not yet aware of some information that can help them transfer to their preferred university.

According to Broward College advisor Tamera Guess, the primary piece of information needed to transfer to a university is your major and whether your transferring university has this major.

Once you complete your associate degree and ensure completion of prerequisites for your major and the university/college you plan to transfer to.

Guess also advises students to "ensure that your GPA is above a 2.0. Visit the website of the university/college that you plan to transfer to and review their admissions information for transfer students."

Information such as application deadline dates and links to the admission application will be here. Guess reminds students that it is important to request your transcripts from Broward College be sent to the university showing your final enrolled courses and send

a second transcript after your degree has been awarded at Broward College with an additional transcript kept for your personal records.

These transcripts cost \$5 each and will only be sent upon student's request from Broward College to send them and can be requested online or in person and sent electronically or via email to the university.

The next cost when transferring is the application fee, which typically range from \$25-\$80 and are often non-refundable.

Some university programs may require a portfolio or letter of recommendation as additional documents and it is important for students to look on their transferring university's website and communicate with the university and representatives in order to stay on top of the specific requirements for transferring.

Majors can typically be changed at universities but may be less encouraged for transfer students.

It is also important for students to be aware that admission to a university does not guarantee admission into a specific major or program of study and requirements for applying need to be heeded.

If a student wants to minor in a subject this can typically be done without special application and can be completed at the same time as the major as long as the subject is available



Image courtesy of The City University of New York

at the college.

Teddy Mechchov is currently a junior psychology major at Broward College and is planning to transfer, most likely, to FIU in the next year. His biggest concerns are about uncertainty within their field of study. While interested in psychology, he's also interested in musical theatre and voice acting.

Mechchov is curious about how semesters will be divided and the styles of different professors. He was initially unsure about much of the transferring process and was glad to learn more information, finding it "really helpful."

Tariq Baker is another Broward College student who plans on transferring to FIU in fall of 2022. He is a musician who specializes in playing the keyboard but remains undecided on his major and field of

study.

While Baker is newer to Broward College and still undecided on his major, he found the information about transferring to be "valuable information" that will help his academic career.

To be further prepared, students should check and heed application deadlines for their preferred transferring universities. Typically, for the fall semester, students need to apply between June and July 1, for spring, between October and November 1, and for summer, between March and April 1.

Late applications are not typically accepted and often mean waiting for the next available semester and risking financial aid. It is important for students to do research and ask questions of their intended transfer university and complete their

FAFSA if they rely on financial aid.

Broward College also has a transfer services department whose website students can visit to learn more about transfer services events with various institutions so they can learn about transfer opportunities.

The site can be found here: <https://students.broward.edu/academics/transfer-services/>.

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Broward College Holds Outdoor Spirit Day



Image Courtesy of Colette Tamburi.

Jessica Kladerman
Editor-in-Chief

Student Life held a Spirit Day celebration at Broward College’s Central Campus on Sep. 29 as an opportunity for students to let loose and show their Seahawk pride!

Students were lining up to partake in the event and were able to create their own tie dye shirts, while supplies lasted, just outside of the Building 19 pavillion.

After gloving up, students selected their dye colors and used rubber bands to create intricate designs before wrapping the dyed shirts up in their ziploc. The students then took the bag home with washing instructions.

To find out more about Student Life events please visit the Broward College events calendar on www.broward.edu/.

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tambc@mail.broward.edu



Image Courtesy of Colette Tamburi.



Image Courtesy of Colette Tamburi.



Image Courtesy of Colette Tamburi.

DISCOVER WHICH HEALTH CAREER IS BEST FOR YOU

Wednesday,
October 27
7:00 – 8:00 p.m.



Join Us for a Career Exploration Virtual Event

Are you interested in pursuing a health-related career, but aren't sure which path is right for you? Have you always wanted to be a doctor or nurse, but want to see what else is out there before you commit? Do you feel pressure to go into one field, but think you may be better suited for another? Have you ever wondered what is the difference between a psychologist and a couple and family therapist or an occupational and physical therapist? If you have asked yourself any of these questions, we invite you to attend Nova Southeastern University's Virtual Health Career Exploration Fair on Zoom at 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 27.

Register at nova.edu/openhouse.

FIU
Online



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Wherever You Are.

ONLINENOW.FIU.EDU/BC

Exciting Fall Events Around The Community



🍂 Spooky Safari & Pumpkin Patch 🍂



Spooky Safari

Photo From Animal EDventures

Animal EDventures Park & Safari is hosting its second annual Spooky Safari & Pumpkin Patch, located in Boynton Beach. **On Wednesdays through Sundays from now through the 31st**, guests can go through a Halloween themed safari where they get the chance to greet, learn and feed animals like sloths, birds, kangaroos and more. Photo ops are decorated with pretty pumpkin patches (there are no pumpkin sales, they are only for pictures). Children can get Plastic Pumpkin Carriers that are filled with yummy treats and toys. Costume and photo contests run weekly. Visit <https://animaledventures.com> for more information.

🍁 Bedner's Fall Festival 2021 🍁



Bedner's Pumpkin Patch

Photo From South Florida Finds

In Boynton Beach, off Lee Road is another gem, Bedner's Farm. The farm will be hosting their fall festival **from now to the 31st**, which will include pumpkin patch entrance, an Animal EDventure Park experience, a tractor ride, corn maze entrance, and sunflower field entrance-picking not included- for \$22 per person. The festival will also showcase henna tattoos, balloon animals, food and retail vendors, and either live music or a DJ depending on the day.

🍂 Spooky Symphony 🍂



Spooky Symphony

Photo From Miami Dade County Auditorium

Oct. 15, 16, 22, 23, and the 29th at Hampton Pines Park, on 7800 Hamptons Blvd, welcome explorers to trek this haunted trail. Not to worry, though you'll be guided by ghost hosts throughout the experience to make sure no one gets left behind. For guests 5 years of age and up. Tickets are \$7 per person and \$ 10 per fast pass.

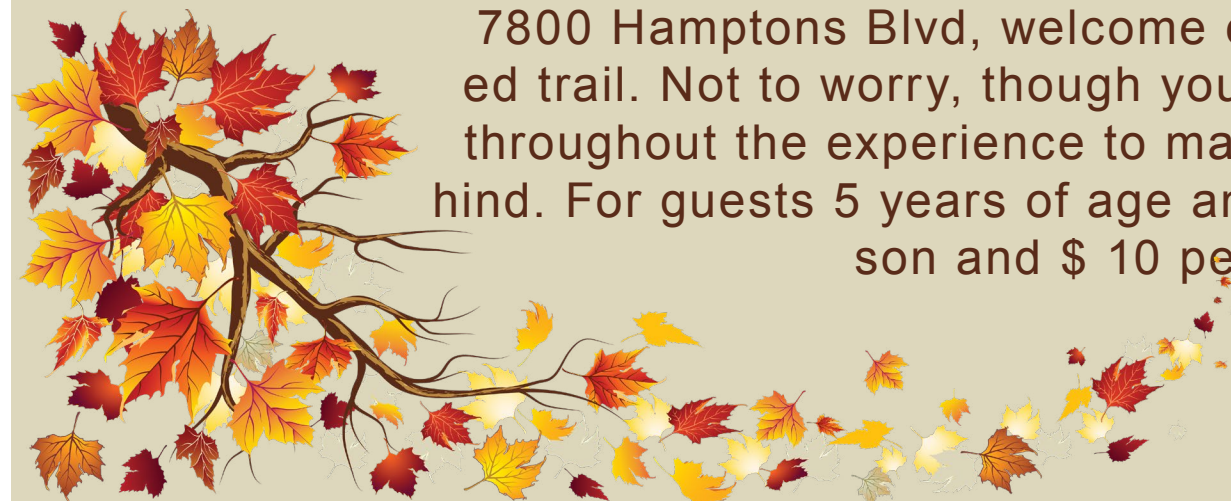
🍁 Pinto's Pumpkin 🍁



Pinto's Pumpkin Patch

Photo From Only in Your State

Families will enjoy Pinto's Pumpkin Patch at the Farm. Running **from Sept. 25 to Oct. 31**, this all-age farm provides a variety of outdoor activities. Activities include one pumpkin, a pony ride for children 70 lbs & under, meeting animals from the petting zoo, a magic show, a pedal boat ride, and one pumpkin to decorate. There is so much to do that it's no surprise people would want to come back for more. Masks are required. Visit <https://pintosfarms.com/events/pumpkin-patch-regular-admission-27-99/> for more information.



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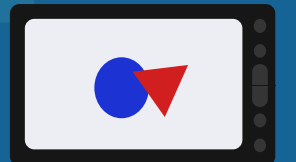
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WANTS:

✓ WRITERS



✓ GRAPHIC DESIGNERS



✓ PHOTOGRAPHERS



✓ VIDEOGRAPHERS



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Netflix's *Sex Education*: Teenage Lens and Sexuality

Naomi Volcy
Staff Writer

Often times, teen dramas do not accurately capture the teenage lens. Rather, they overdramatize teenage life and leave many shows feeling out of touch, or like a satire.

The Netflix series, *Sex Education*, does an excellent job at capturing the teenage lens. The plot, characters and their motivations are mostly realistic and can be nostalgic for those it resonates with.

Thus, the series has grown in popularity as it maintains a ninety-six percent rating on Rotten Tomatoes. It has continued for three seasons, eight episodes each season since its original air date of January 11, 2019. Its third season aired on Netflix September 17, 2021, and has been placed "Top 10 in the U.S. Today" on Netflix since.

The series follows the partnership of Otis Milburn, an awkward wallflower and Maeve Wiley, a misunderstood bad girl, on a for-profit and on-campus sex therapy clinic.

Otis is convinced by Maeve to begin this sex clinic after he helps Adam Groff, the headmaster's son, and school bully, understand, and

overcome his feelings that hindered him from properly performing in his intimate situations.

Otis is also encouraged by Eric, his best friend. At first, Otis is reluctant but eventually agrees as he enjoys giving advice and is the most qualified due to his mother, Jean Milburn, being an established sex therapist who embraced conversations around the topic with him.

Thus, Maeve schedules appointments and collects payments, while Otis provides advice on sexuality, body image, insecurities and more before school hours, or in discreet locations, such as a worn abandoned bathroom.

Throughout the three seasons, Otis finds himself stuck in situations and with issues similar to his peers and has to learn to take his own advice.

The interesting aspect of the show is that the school system seems to be the stem of the students' issues and is directly responsible for the starting of the sex clinic.

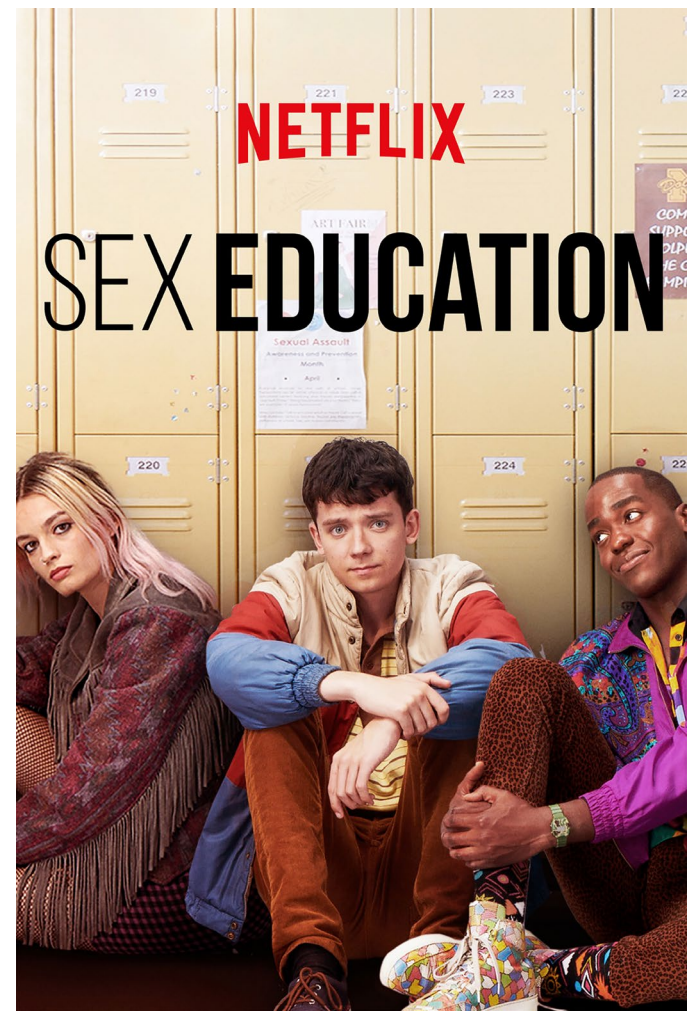
The sex education provided by the school is faulty and vague. In some scenes of the show when sex is discussed, the students are taught

through videos, worksheets or awkward conversations that do not hold much substance, especially when compared to the complex questions that Otis is asked. This plot point is maintained from season 1 through season 3.

When asked what it is that resonates with individuals that watch this show, Laurie Nunn, creator of *Sex Education*, states in her NPR interview that, "I think it's something about the characters really constantly wanting to work towards self-improvement... And because the show is about therapy, it's so much about that kind of, like, honesty and communication."

This journey towards self-improvement, honesty and communication is exactly what makes the show entertaining, teenage-centered and realistic. When in high school or in our teenage years, most are in search of themselves and wanting to become a better version of ourselves; this notion is weaved into many of the characters plots/subplots.

Sex Education is a wonderful series that takes a realistic and often, hilarious approach at discussing sex questions. The series definitely is not just about sex, but it does a great job



Sex Education

Image courtesy of Netflix

at discussing the conversation of sex as it affects the students and their self-discovery.

Also, the relatability of the series makes it truly feel like teenagers just being teenagers. It is an enjoyable watch and is something that, when not

careful, can have one glued to their TV screen for hours.

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New Movies in Cinema Worth Watching

Lachin Kerbabaeva
Staff Writer

Dune (2021), the most anticipated film of this year, will be released on Oct. 21. The film is based on the novel by Frank Herbert. Notably, David Lynch's previous 1984 adaptation of *Dune* was unsuccessful.

This time Denis Villeneuve (*Blade Runner 2049*, 2017) took the director's place, and the musical accompaniment was written by Hans Zimmer (*Interstellar*, 2014), thereby creating the main blockbuster of this year, the second part of the story is already planned.

The plot of the film unfolds in the future, where people have settled on different planets, and some families are constantly fighting for power. The main value of their world is spice mélange, whoever has it controls the universe, therefore the main characters go to a dangerous desert planet called Arrakis.

The role of Atrides, the messiah of the people of the planet Arrakis, was played by Timothée Chalamet. His father was played by Oscar Isaac, and his mother was played by Rebecca Ferguson.

Also, Jason Momoa, Zendaya, Stellan Skarsgard and many others starred in the film. Studios of three countries - the USA, Hungary and Canada - worked on the new *Dune*. The film's budget is \$165 million.

For the sake of filling the cinemas more, the new *Dune* received an age rating of PG-13.

No Time to Die (2021) was released on Oct. 7 - the fifth and last Bond film starring Daniel Craig, or almost the last film, only time will show. The movie was directed by Cary Joji Fukunaga, renowned for his highly successful series *True Detective*.

The plot of the film focuses on the fact that James Bond has left his job in the operational service and enjoys free time with his beloved in Jamaica. A longtime friend, agent Felix Leiter, breaks his peace with a request for help in rescuing a brilliant scientist from the hands of an unknown villain.

The search for the villain will lead agent 007 to information about a technology that threatens all of humanity. The film's budget is \$250 million, and it is the most expensive movie in the franchise. The film also stars Rami Malek (*Bohemian Rhapsody*, 2018), Ralph Fiennes (*Schindler's List*, 1993), Léa Seydoux (*The Lobster*, 2015) and Christoph Waltz (*Inglourious Basterds*, 2009). Notably, the main soundtrack of Billie Eilish- *No Time Die*, which became world famous, won the Grammy Award.

The Addams Family 2 (2021) the continuation of the 2019 animated film was released on

Oct. 10, so today cartoon lovers can contemplate it in cinema theaters. The film was released by MGM studio, thus creating a new reimagining of the iconic comic series about the *Addams Family*, created by cartoonist Charles Addams in 1938.

The plot of the cartoon continues the story of a strange family. This time the main characters go on a journey in a car to the sights of America, where they find themselves in various comic situations. They visit Niagara Falls and the Grand Canyon. On the way, they meet their eccentric relatives.

The film will be interesting for both children and adults due to captivating animation and humor. The main characters are again voiced by Charlize Theron as the mother, Morticia Addams, Chloe Grace Moretz as the daughter, Wednesday Addams, Oscar Isaac as the father, Gomez Addams.

The French Dispatch (2021) is an equally expected movie of this fall, after numerous transfers in release dates, it will be released in cinemas on Oct. 21. Another visually perfect film by Wes Anderson tells the story of a local branch of an American newspaper in the fictional French town of Ennui-sur-Blasé in the 20th century.

The picture shows three storylines - and all these are stories published on the pages of the French newspaper. Creating



Dune

Image courtesy of imdb

the film, the scriptwriters were inspired by the story of Anderson's favorite magazine *The New Yorker*, and some characters and events are based on the prototypes of real personalities.

One of the key storylines focuses on the French student protests in May 1968. The leading roles were played by world-famous Benicio del Toro, Frances McDormand, Timothée Chalamet, Bill Murray, Léa Seydoux and many others.

The French Dispatch is very different from most modern films, as well as another film by Wes Anderson, *The Grand Budapest Hotel* (2014). Its visual aesthetics are reminiscent of paintings from the French New Wave of the 60s.

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Winston the Gentle Giant

Colette Tamburini
Online Editor

Meet Winston, a happy and lovable Pitbull who to Broward college student, Brandon Rodriguez, is the best three-legged pal a human could have! Rodriguez rescued Winston and brought him to the Humane Society. His sister came to visit, she immediately gravitated towards the dog, thinking he was so cute. Rodriguez and his sister then chose the Pitbull for a meet and greet, to which when they sat down, Winston got very excited and laid down on their feet.

Brandon Rodriguez wanted to know what happened to the dog's missing back leg. The

people at the Humane Society said that he got hit by a car when he was a puppy and they had to amputate it.

After much thought, Rodriguez decided to adopt Winston.

"All Winston does is smile and wants to be loved," Brandon Rodriguez said. "He always comes in my room and hangs out with me. I am a big fan of grabbing his nub. When it thunders, [Winston] whines and shivers like a baby and I would have to put classical dog music on."

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Winston the pitbull.

Image Courtesy of Brandon Rodriguez

Autumnal Minestrone Soup

Jessica Kladerman
Editor-in-Chief

Recall the days of building a pillow or blanket fort. Placing a couple dining room chairs perfectly apart making a good foundation for the blanket or bed sheet roof and playing board games with friends or family for hours. Now imagine doing this on a much larger scale and having family dinner together in this fortress, this is the premise of the 7-day Jewish holiday Sukkot, but of course it's not that simple. Sukkot is the plural of the Hebrew term Sukkah, which is a kind of temporary booth built for the holiday that celebrates fall harvest and the mending of relationships. One of my favorite types of foods have always been soups, and this Autumn Minestrone is a great meal to enjoy under the Sukkah or in any non-Jewish setting. It's a robust soup that takes about an hour to prepare, half hour to prep, and half hour to cook, maybe less depending on your knife skills.

Serving Size: 6 Time: 30 minutes to prep | 30 minutes to cook

Ingredients:
6 cups of your choice of broth
2 medium carrots, diced
1 medium sweet onion, chopped
3 cloves of garlic, minced
2 1/2 cups of red skinned



Autumnal Minestrone

Photo courtesy of www.bylaurencermak.com

potatoes, diced about 3/4 of an inch

2 1/2 cups of butternut squash, diced about 3/4 of an inch

1 medium zucchini, sliced and quartered

1 tomato, diced

1 can of white or pink kidney beans

1 Tbsp of Olive oil

2/3 cup of dried ditali pasta

2 1/2 tsp each of chopped rosemary, oregano, and thyme

1/4 tsp each of salt and pepper

6 bay leaves

1/2 tsp each of salt and ground black pepper

Instructions:

1. Over medium-hot heat, begin to warm olive oil in a large pot.

2. Add carrots and onions,

sauté for 3 minutes, add in garlic to sauté for another minute.

3. Stir the broth in blending with squash, potatoes, zucchini, tomatoes, rosemary, thyme, oregano, bay leaves, salt, and pepper.

4. Bring the pot to boil, mix in pasta. Cover with a lid and decrease the heat to medium-low until vegetables are tender for about 15 minutes.

5. Add in beans and cook on medium-low for another 5-7 minutes, and serve.

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THE OBSERVER

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Dark Academia: The Trend and its Classism

Naomi Volcy
Features Editor

The trend of Dark Academia is one that has gained traction on Tik Tok in 2020, the months following the pandemic. It is popular amongst Generation Z. At face value, it is a trend that focuses on fashion and aesthetics. At its core, the trend places an emphasis on higher education, Greek and Gothic architecture, literature, poetry, and the arts. The fashion aspect of the trend resembles 20th century men's fashion and/or imitates the uniform of private, boarding, and preparatory schools. Thus, colors such as brown, black, and white are staples; also, attire such as cardigans, sweaters, vintage tweed pants, button-down shirts, skirts, plaids, etc are prevalent. The aesthetic aspect of the trend resembles something dark yet intriguing like a vanitas painting, or a Harry Potter novel. Viewing these Tik Tok videos you can see a range of items used to create this aesthetic, such as:

skulls, candles, dark photos, parchment paper, brooding poetry, dark library settings, backgrounds of Greek and Gothic architecture, classical music, etc.

The trend of Dark Academia has brought about many criticisms on its representation and its significance. One being its focus on whiteness. The trend does take much of its inspiration from upper-class European culture and, arguably, American upper-class culture. The trend is argued to be littered with economic and cultural privilege because many that partake in the trend and its subculture will never, first-hand, experience dark academia. Seemingly, as it is argued, it reinforces the status quo and the power of the ruling class.

I believe this analysis is correct in a retrospective sense. Though, it points out something that is to be expected because of the trend's cultural influences. Thus, I find it more interesting to analyze this trend from a contemporary standpoint.

What is truly holding the masses back from experiencing true Dark Academia? I believe the class aspect is the biggest hinder. In our society, the middle class is disappearing, and many are dipping into poverty, while wealth continues to grow for those who already have it. This leads me to believe that the conversation we should be having around this trend is how affordable is higher education? In recent years, conversation on canceling student debt has circled amongst media outlets. It became such a significant issue that many Presidential candidates adopted it as a campaign promise, such as our current President Joe Biden. It was a campaign promise that snagged the attention and votes of Millennials and Generation Z. Since Biden's election, the issue still has yet to be dealt with.

The reality is that many can not afford higher education, and at some point will have to take on student loans. The flipside to this would be not going to college and/



Dark Academia Image Courtesy of Aesthetics Wiki

or university, which is a reality that Generation Z is starting to accept. An online culture centered around no partaking in higher education, rather starting a business or trade has emerged and become very prominent.

The trend of Dark Academia is creative, beautiful, dark, and interesting. It is one that started off as vintage fashion and higher education aesthetics and has shifted to conversations on our culture today. Due to my

belief that class is the main hindrance to experiencing dark academia, I believe that is why there is such an obsession around it. Its like window shopping at a luxury clothing store, or a luxury car dealership. I do believe that everyone should take a look at the trend and its contents. Enjoy the work and come to your own understanding of its contents.

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The Gender and Race Imbalance in Sports Media

Jordan Stephenson

Staff Writer

The sports media landscape has an enormous problem, which is the lack of women and people of color that are employed. It remains predominantly white and male. Also, it needs to change for there not to be a consistent imbalance.

The Institute for Diversity and Ethics in Sports (TIDES) released a report card explaining race and gender in sports media. Associated Press Sports Editors (APSE), Racial and Gender Report Card was a B-plus, which was an improvement from the B in 2018, but sadly the gender grade remained an F.

The overall grade was a C, which was an improvement from the D-plus in 2018. The report that was released explains the racial and gender hiring process of 100-plus newspapers and websites. These many outlets determine the different stories to cover, when to cover them and how they are viewed. Minimal progress was achieved over the three-plus years since the study was released.

There are a lot of key numbers and percentages from the 2021 report that



Image Courtesy of Northwestern University

I'll discuss, that'll show the egregious discrepancy in sports media. About seventy-nine percent of sports editors were white, and 83.3 percent were men. Seventy-two percent of assistant sports editors were white and 75.8 percent were men. Of the columnists, 77.1 percent were white and 82.2 percent were men. About seventy-seven percent of reporters were white and 85.6 percent were men. Seventy-seven percent of copy editors/designers were white and 75.3 percent were men. Of the web specialists, 72.4 percent were white and 78.1 percent were men.

Lisa Wilson who was a former ASPE president and

a key advisor said, "We need more women in the industry." Only one gender category improved, which was the assistant sports editor, but overall the grades were putrid. There were some gender improvements and highlights to be encouraged about.

From 2018 to 2021 women sports editors went from 10 percent to 16.7 percent. Women columnists increased from 16.6 percent to 17.8 percent. Women reporters rose from 11.5 percent to 14.4 percent. Women copy editors/designers went from 20.4 percent to 24.7 percent.

Wilson said, "We can be encouraged by the increases, but can't be satisfied with our

overall grade." She also said, "It has been a problem for a long time, it will take time to correct, and it's still a major problem with women and especially women of color."

Entertainment and Sports Programming Network (ESPN) staffers made a significant impact in many categories. Most of the racial and gender categories would plummet without ESPN. ESPN had 25 percent of all women who were sports editors. ESPN had 38.1 percent of all women who were columnists. If ESPN wasn't included in the data, sports editors would drop from 16.7 percent to 13.5 percent; and columnists would go from 17.8 percent to 13.8 percent.

And 61.1 percent of assistant sports editors of color worked for ESPN, but 37.1 percent of all columnists of color were employed by ESPN.

To reiterate, even though there has been improvements of women being in sports media, there is still ways to go to regain balance for women in sports media. The disparity in percentages between men and women that I read from this report, was very disappointing and disheartening to comprehend how the major imbalances started.

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Aaron Rodgers and the Packers Game Winner on Primetime

Jordan Stephenson

Staff Writer

This game between the Packers and the 49ers went down to the waning seconds of the game. The 49ers never knew the unthinkable would happen, but sadly for them it did. This game was a measuring stick more so for the Packers rather than the 49ers, because of the turmoil that took place in the offseason and how badly they lost week 1 to the Saints (38-3).

A lot of things had to go right for the Packers game-winning drive. Luckily, the first comeback had to lead to the second comeback. Davante Adams had to have a speedy recovery from a scary hit to the helmet by Jimmy Ward, with 7:41 left in the fourth quarter. I have some insight on Adams speedy recovery from a scary injury, because I watched the entire game.

When the injury occurred while I was watching the game, it was very scary to witness, and he was on the ground for several minutes. When I first saw the injury, I was so disheartened for Adams because he was playing so well, I didn't want him to be out for multiple games, which would extremely hurt my team the Packers.

Then when he got off the field and was able to walk off by himself, I had just enough hope that he'll be able to return to the game. After he was able to walk off by himself, he was taken to the medical tent, where they most likely ran concussion tests, or he probably wouldn't have been able to return.

I think Adams had the wind knocked out of him, but he said the issue was he couldn't breathe. One play later he returned and he said the reason he came back so quickly was because "he's different." Rodgers said, "My first thought in devising how I wanted to get in on field goal range was how I could get 17 (Adams) the ball."

For the game-winning drive, Rodgers and the Packers had 37 seconds with no timeouts. Rodgers threw his first pass of the series to Adams for 50 yards. Then he had to intentionally spike the ball to stop the clock. Then Rodgers threw another pass to Adams for 17 yards. After that Adams got up quickly, placed the ball on the ground to save time rather than giving it to the refs, and then Rodgers spiked the ball again to stop the clock.

These four improbable plays set up Mason Crosby were to have a chance to hit a game-winning field goal. The 49ers



Green Bay Packers vs. San Francisco 49ers

Image Courtesy of SFGATE.com

took their first lead of the game with 37 seconds left on the fourth quarter, with a 12-yard touchdown pass from Jimmy Garoppolo to Kyle Juszczyk. The two plays that the Packers had completed to set up the field goal, was basically created in practice three days prior to the game. Sure, enough of it worked, and it put Crosby in prime position to make a 51-yard game winning field goal.

Rodgers said, "He felt good about his old partner Mace making the field goal, because he's made some big kicks over

the years." Crosby then went ahead to kick the field goal, and luckily it went through. When I seen the game-winner made by Crosby, I was so happy for the Packers, Rodgers and Adams because it was a hard-fought win. It shut up most of the critics for how the Packers started the season (38-3 loss to the Saints).

Crosby made three field goals that night and 22 straight starting from last season. Rodgers finished with 23-of-33 passing, 261 yards, 2 touchdowns and only was sacked

once with a third string left tackle filling in. Adams finished with 12 catches for 132 yards and 1 touch down. He posted his second straight 100-yard game, which is the 25th of his career. I honestly still think he's the best wide receiver in the NFL, dating back to his best statistical season last year.

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