

THE OBSERVER

Broward College Student Newspaper

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RETIRES

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The Seahawk Marketplace: New location, same mission

Kacie Doran
Staff Writer

The Seahawk Marketplace has moved to the planetarium building on Central Campus for students to stop in and get free snacks and groceries. Dana Bartholomew, the new Food Insecurity Coordinator said, “Times are tough enough as it is and the financial stability of a lot of people is extremely challenging. With Seahawk Outreach Services (SOS), we are not only able to provide resources when it comes to food and hygiene insecurity, we also have resources such as laptop loaners, the Lyft transit program, peer mentoring and Male Minority Initiative (MMI).”

Bartholomew, who also happens to be a single mom with three kids, said she knows what it’s like to be hungry. “I myself have gone without plenty of times. What intrigued me about working with SOS is to overcome the stigma about people coming to food pantries. I myself, as a mom, would never ask for help. We would just go without. When I got older, I learned that you can go much further and do much more, if you’re willing to accept help.”

With Broward College able to provide these extra resources, it tremendously alleviates the burden of worry from its students, who are often wondering what they’re going to have on their table for dinner. “I see students come in, some are homeless or couch-hopping. They’re still in school and they’re determined not to let their situation limit them. Getting to know them and what they’re working hard to overcome along with being able to help, is by far one of the most rewarding careers that I’ve ever had,” expresses Bartholomew.

“I was so happy to become involved and get more and more students engaged in this program. We’re all in this together.

BC is a great community and I have learned that between the students, the faculty and the staff, everyone truly has each other’s back. I’m excited we’ll be opening this program on South Campus come February. North Campus is up next,” she said.

The Seahawk Marketplace on Central Campus is currently open five days a week. This includes Monday from 3 to 7 p.m. as well as the option for students to drop in anywhere from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, and on Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. “We’re a family here,” she said, and if anyone looks at these hours and knows they can’t make it and they don’t have anyone who can come shop for them, they can always reach out to her and she will make arrangements so they get the food and resources they need. “My students are like family, and they will do anything to help. We have built such a good culture here.” Within 24 hours of moving the Marketplace to the planetarium, 40 students volunteered to help unload and sort a truck delivery of 20 pallets of food.

The weekly Monday truck deliveries are a large undertaking. Seahawk Marketplace volunteers come in at 10 a.m. They receive a Retail Direct Drop and all of the volunteers sort through 20 pallets of food from Feeding South Florida, a grant program from Florida Blue. “All of our food is from Costco, Sam’s Club, Walmart, and Publix.”

SOS has taken in 70,000 pallets of food since partnering with Feeding South Florida. Before Bartholomew came in and took the reins, the Marketplace was only receiving two deliveries a month. They are now juicing produce before it’s no longer good, providing students with healthy juice meals and snacks between classes. The food that is past its prime gets donat-

ed to Happi Farm.

Everyone is encouraged to stop by and grab a healthy snack free of charge between classes. Baskets of oranges and apples are frequently on display outside the door. Students don’t even have to go inside.

The Seahawk Marketplace is a resource for all students regardless of their financial background, sex, religion, or nationality. The only requirement to shop with the Seahawk Marketplace is being a Broward College student. “We take care of the whole family. When a student registers, we ask them how many live in their home, and ask who you are shopping for. We make sure all food needs are met,” said Bartholomew. All information is kept confidential.

Tours from classes and other on campus exposure helps eliminate the stigma of receiving help to alleviate student stress. Alba Perez, Mickey Dao and Touchero Koniaki are on staff with Bartholomew in combination with the support of over 50 volunteers. MMI Male Majority Initiative and Peer Leaders provide the greatest volunteer support. SOS and Seahawk Marketplace are here to stay, helping benefit the academic endeavors and well-being of Broward College students.

Volunteers and donations are always in need and welcomed, especially hygiene products. Drop off your donations to the planetarium building during the Marketplace hours, just make sure the food and hygiene products are sealed.



Gisselle Oval is often outside welcoming students, offering lunch goodies with Peer Mentors on Central Campus on behalf of the Marketplace.
Kacie Doran/The Observer



Daniela Iregui with Peer Mentors helps students with their weekly shopping visits.
Kacie Doran/The Observer

What's happening around campus







Effective: January 10, 2023

Seahawk Marketplace will be temporarily moved to the Planetarium, Bldg 16



Building 16 is the one in between the Library (Bldg.17) and Student Services (Bldg.19)

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Broward College Student Newspaper

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A Farewell to Professor Katherine Vellis

Melaina Lawrence
Ashley Velazquez
Staff Writers

Before College Academy, I knew I loved reading. I knew a good story could transform my day, I knew adventures could distract me from real life, and I knew I loved words. That was that. However, what I did not know was how much I'd grow to love writing and telling my own tales. Before coming to College Academy, stories had lived only in my head; I wasn't quite sure how to put them to paper. Taking my first English class here, ENC1101, with Professor Vellis quite literally changed my life. I clearly remember being up the night before it was due trying to perfect my "Comparison and Contrast" essay because I wasn't sure if my writing was up to the college level. What I remember more clearly, though, was the 100% I received and how it amused me so much I wanted my major to be Literature and to live in a small cottage in Europe and write forever. However, our story is

not unique. In Professor Vellis' time here at College Academy, she has touched the hearts of all fortunate enough to have been under her wing and guidance.

She inspired us.

"Professor Vellis is the perfect embodiment of what a great teacher actually is. She acknowledged our efforts and encouraged us to be great in every area, not just English. And, for that, we'll forever appreciate her," said Rayna Harvey (Class of 2024).

She supported us.

"She pushed us, but always made sure we felt comfortable with the progress. At the end of the semester, we all realized just how far she had taken us without us feeling overwhelmed," said Bella Wong (Class of 2024).

She nurtured us.

"Ms. Vellis was super nice and sweet towards me. She pushed me out of my comfort zone and helped me be organized in completing my assignments and other work for each of my classes.

I truly appreciated her for taking the time to help me improve my writing. I feel that I'm a stronger writer thanks to her critiques. I don't know any other English teacher who would take the time to do that. Thank you so much Ms. Vellis," said Abigail Varghese (Class of 2024).

She understood us.

"She recognized everyone's individual writing styles and allowed us to write about our passions," said Abigail Poulin (Class of 2024).

She invigorated us.

"Professor Vellis was among the most encouraging and liberating people I've ever met," said Angie Mejia (Class of 2024).

She emboldened us.

"Professor Vellis was the first English educator who allowed me to come out of my comfort zone creatively," said Nya Hitchman (Class of 2023).

She transformed us.

I wish to thank her for helping me become the



Professor Katherine Vellis

student I am today. We love you, Ms. Vellis," said Thalia Dadanala (Class of 2023).

Though, most of all, she valued us; and we will forever value her.

You saw us as whining school boys with our satchel and shining morning face, and now we are justices, full of wise saws and modern instances.

Now that you're retired we hope your greatest worry is whether to read or not to read.

Though, we know that is not even a question.

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THE OBSERVER

Broward College Student Newspaper

The BC Student Newspaper is looking for

NEWS

Graphic Designers
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BC hosts workshop on fast growing jobs

Jessica Cinalli
Staff Writer

Broward College recently held a workshop for Exploring the fastest-growing careers that addressed questions involving the types of occupations related to students' major or concerns about the major they're pursuing.

The workshop was held on Zoom and also facilitated by Deissy Casas, who works as a career coach on the Broward College North Campus.

She is extremely knowledgeable and helped me by answering some of my questions regarding my major, but she was also able to offer me advice and tools that helped me feel more confident in deciding on the next steps I should take so I can be successful in pursuing a career.

While the workshop focused on the difference between a career and an occupation, the workshop also focused on majors at Broward College, which detail some of the highest-paid occupations.

Additionally, there were helpful tools for students who want to take the next steps to move forward in pursuing a career.

Currently, some of the occupations that have the highest growth rates range between 26% and 46% which are nurse practitioners, data scientists, information security analysts, web developers, medical and health service managers, physician assistants, and physical therapist assistants. Meanwhile, the median pay per year ranges anywhere between \$61,180 to \$120,680 and \$61,180 for these occupations.

Yet, what does all this mean? Well, Casas discusses, "If you wanted to become a doctor for example, then it would be suggested to take a hardcore science course so you can develop tools that will be beneficial to have in medical school." One would also need good scores, and a background experience in volunteering.

However, what if you're not sure about a career? The career center offers career-related resources such as the Virtual Job Shadow where



Rutgers School of Nursing/nursing.rutgers.edu

students can explore careers from various industries and fields.

In addition, there are also career coaches and career development specialists that have tools that can help students.

One of the tools described in the workshop was a Focus2 Assessment, which helps students discover majors and occupations that match their personal attributes. Yet, if you're still not sure, you can attend

some of the workshops that are offered there and quite a few of them can be attended from the comfort of your home.

However, even though sometimes the hardest decision involves choosing a future career, Broward College offers these services to support students in making some of those tough decisions.

There are also coaches like Casas available to help guide students like me along

the journey.

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Human trafficking: what you should know

Maya Mohan
North Bureau Chief

Human trafficking is the unlawful act of transporting people in order to benefit from their work or services. It's dangerous, immoral, and the most typical form of forced labor and sexual exploitation. Many people do not think that they could ever be affected by human trafficking or even become a potential victim, but the truth is that human trafficking is occurring all over South Florida, right under our noses.

According to the U.S. Attorney's Office Southern District of Florida, just recently in late September a leader of a human trafficking ring was sentenced to sixty years in federal prison, as well as ordered to pay over \$14 million in fines. His name was William D. Foster and he has been running a human trafficking organization for over 20 years. This may leave you with the question of why victims have never tried to escape and speak out, but the answer is not that simple.

According to Mellissa Withers, Ph.D., M.H.S., many human trafficking leaders use a series of psychological techniques in order to hold their victims captive both physically and mentally. The first tactic is dehumanization, which makes victims believe that they aren't worth anything. Human traffickers will manipulate their victims into thinking that there is no way they can escape and stay alive, they try to make them fear the world. Another tactic that they

use is creating a cycle of dependence, where victims rely on their captors for everything that they need, and when they step out of line, they may lose it all. William D. Foster used this technique in order to maintain his human trafficking Ring for the past 20 years.

According to the U.S. Attorney's Office, "if a victim attempted to leave, Foster would threaten financial ruin and other harm." He would also require his victims to ask for permission before they were allowed to buy basic necessities like clothing. Human trafficking can happen anywhere, so it is very important to be aware of your surroundings and know the signs to spot if someone else may be a victim.

Since January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month, Broward College has hosted events on Central, South, and North Campus in order for students to receive basic safety information and become aware of the fact that Florida has one of the highest rates of human trafficking in the United States. Broward College has also taken steps to host

an interactive webinar about "What you should know about human trafficking and sex trafficking in South Florida."

The webinar was hosted by Katya Kross, a third-year law student, Dr. Victoria Brower, Associate Professor of Political Science and International Relations, as well as Tania Andre, CEO of the Mavuno Project, a non-profit organization dedicated to hosting mission trips to eradicate human trafficking. There are a variety of resources available to help survivors of human trafficking get back into the world such as The National Human Trafficking Resource Center, which operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

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#KNOWTHESIGNS

A combination of signs below may help to spot potential **exploitation** and **trafficking**:

- **MAY BE EASILY STARTLED, AGITATED OR AFRAID**
- **UNSURE OF WHERE THEY ARE**
- **UNABLE TO EXPLAIN INJURIES OR POSSESSIONS**
- **MAY HAVE STRANGE MARKINGS/BRANDINGS/TATTOOS**
- **UNEXPLAINED HOTEL USE**
- **ACCOMPANIED BY A SUSPICIOUS COMPANION**
- **(CHILDREN) DRESSED UP TO LOOK OLDER THAN THEY ARE**
- **LACK OF OFFICIAL ID**

For a full list of signs to look out for and more info visit:
www.itsapenalty.org or www.StopTrafficking.info

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Tips for Success at Broward College

Whether you are coming back from break, a previous term, or joining Broward College for the very first time, there are many useful resources on and off campus that can help you prepare for this upcoming semester! Here are a few tips and strategies to be successful at Broward College

1. Office Hours

Each one of your professors has office hours each week. It is a time in which students are welcome to drop by their office, give them a call, or schedule a meeting regarding an assignment, test or question about a lecture. It is a special time allocated to you, the student. You can find more details about a professor's office hours in their syllabus.

There you will see more details about the times they are available and how to reach them.

Asking questions is one of the best ways to learn because it can help you understand the material you went over in class. And by speaking to your professor, you can get to know them and how they do things in their class.

2. ASC Tutors

If you are ever stuck trying to understand a subject in school and are not able to go to office hours, try making an appointment at the Academic Success Centers (ASC). Everyone has their kryptonite subject, and it is okay. The good news is that at the ASC you can have tutoring sessions on almost every subject, including the main ones like math, science, history, and even writing.

There is a center located at each of Broward College's four campuses and online through the ASC portal. The best thing is that it comes at no extra cost to you. And if you are having writer's block during your ENC class, you can make an appointment or submit an essay or research paper through the portal to receive some feedback.

3. Writing Research Papers

There is a good chance you will have to write a research paper throughout your college journey. The most important part of writing a research paper is, you guessed it, the research. And it is easy to become overwhelmed by the amount of information out there on the topic you wish to cover or by trying to find scholarly journals. That can lead to procrastination and to finishing it before class, or if online, just before 11:59 p.m.

That is why speaking to a librarian to guide you through your research process can help you find reliable information you can quote on your essay with the respective citation you would need on the bibliography or sources page. The school has a large database composed of newspaper and research articles as well as scholarly journals. And if you cannot go to campus to speak to a librarian, you can contact them online through the Broward College Library website and chat with them.

4. Qless Line

The Qless line is a service that changes physical lines for virtual ones. It is a great way of getting in touch with the Financial Aid, Advising, and Career Services departments. All you have to do is go into the Broward College website and search for Qless. You will go into the site, add your name, student ID number, and department you wish to contact. As you go through the

departments, you will see many subcategories in each department. And choose the one that relates to your question the most. For instance, if you have a question about the requirements needed to graduate, you can click on the Advising department and from the subcategories select the one for "Current term advising." After submitting your contact information, you will receive a text message with the estimated wait time and the amount of people that are ahead of you.

5. Choosing Your Schedule

Deciding what classes to take and creating a schedule that works for you can be challenging. To select the best schedule, stay on top of the date in which you can start choosing classes for the term. It is when there will be the most spots available, and you will not have to live the stress that comes when waiting for someone to drop the class so you can add it.

Knowing in advance what your schedule outside of school will work like for the term is also a good way to know the times you have available to go to class and do your assignments. Also, make sure to take the number of credits you can handle. Expect to dedicate three hours for each class credit to help you decide how many courses you should take. Feeling overwhelmed and mentally exhausted is not fun at all. Choose the hours and course modality that works for you and speak to your assigned advisor for guidance and to make sure you are on the right track to graduating.

6. Modalities

Speaking about modalities, Broward College has four ways in which you can learn: Face-to-Face (on campus), Online, Online-Live, or Blended. It is crucial that you choose the classes that start at a time that work best for you. The in-person class is the one in which you have to go to campus to take the lectures and do homework and projects outside of class. You get to socialize with your professor and classmates and be in a regular classroom setting. On the other hand, online classes are completely delivered through the school's platform, D2L. If you have a full-time job or an unpredictable schedule, this could be the modality for you.

You have to turn in your assignments online and watch the lectures or read your textbook on your own. For those of you who like zoom, Online-Live courses have live lectures as if you were in class. You still have to submit assignments through D2L, but you get to see your professors and ask them questions during lectures. The last modality available is blended. It mixes up Zoom lectures with in-person class, as well as online assignments. You should check with the instructor to learn more about how the course runs and the days in which you have to visit campus to make sure it fits your routine.



NFL Wild Card and divisional playoff weekend

Jordan Stephenson
South Bureau Chief

On Jan. 14, Jan. 15 and Jan. 16, the NFL Wild Card games took place. Rookie 3rd string QB, Brock Purdy and the 49ers, beat Geno Smith and the Seahawks. It was close at halftime, but eventually they overwhelmed them in the 2nd half. The score was 41-23, in a divisional rivalry game. Three reasons why the 49ers won was because their defense made adjustments in the 2nd half, Christian McCaffrey rushed for 119 yards, also Purdy went 18-30, for 330 yards, and four total touchdowns.

Trevor Lawrence and the Jaguars defeated Justin Herbert and the Chargers, in a wildly contested game. The score was 31-30, in an extremely close game in the 2nd half. Some reasons why the Chargers lost was because mainly they blew a 27-7 lead at halftime, didn't run the ball effectively with Austin Ekeler, didn't convert more on Lawrence's four 1st half interceptions, and because Riley Patterson hit a 36-yard game-winning field goal. Their head coach, Brandon Staley will definitely be on the hot seat, because Sean Peyton is looking to return to coaching somewhere.

Josh Allen and the Bills beat a rookie 3rd string QB,

in Skylar Thompson and the Dolphins. The score was 31-34, in a very close divisional rivalry game. Three reasons why the Dolphins lost was because mainly Tua Tagovailoa wasn't able to play because of his concussion injury, their run game wasn't effective because their starting RB, Raheem Mosert wasn't able to play because of a broken thumb, also because they had too many penalties and communication issues. Their main offseason focus is to get Tua a 100 percent healthy, try to resign him to a reasonable deal for both sides, and get more reliable backup QB help for Tua.

Daniel Jones and the Giants beat Kirk Cousins and the Vikings, in an upset alert type of game. The score was 31-24, back and forth adjustment game. Three reasons why the Giants won is because Brian Daboll instilled confidence in his team all season, their defense limited Justin Jefferson's impact on the game, also Jones carried them by going 24-35 for 301 passing yards with two touchdowns, and with 78 rushing yards.

Joe Burrow and the Bengals defeated Tyler Huntley and the Ravens, in a down to the wire game. The score was 24-17, in a throwback divisional rivalry game. Three reasons why the Ravens lost was because

Lamar Jackson wasn't able to play because of a PCL injury, Ja'Marr Chase carried with nine receptions for 84 yards, and a touchdown and because Huntley fumbled at the goal line, which led to Sam Hubbard's 98-yard fumble recovery touchdown, which definitely was the deciding factor. Their main offseason focus is to get Jackson 100 percent healthy, sign him to a long-term contract, and find another Offensive Coordinator.

Dak Prescott and the Cowboys beat Tom Brady and the Buccaneers, in a blowout win. The score was 31-14, in a statement game. Three reasons why the Buccaneers lost was because they couldn't consistently run the ball, they allowed Dalton Schultz to have seven receptions for 95 yards, and their defense allowed Prescott to dominate the game by going 25-33 for 305 yards, with five total touchdowns. The Buccaneers cleaned house and Tom Brady is more than likely signing with another team, rather than retiring again.

On y Jan. 21 and Jan. 22, the Divisional Round playoff games took place. Patrick Mahomes and the Chiefs beat Trevor Lawrence and the Jaguars, in a great battle. The score was 27-20, in a very close game. Three reasons the Chiefs won was because Isiah



Cowboys vs. 49'ers.

Image courtesy of Yahoosports.com

Pacheco had 95 rushing yards, their defense allowed Travis Kelce to have 4 receptions for 98 yards, with two touchdowns and Mahomes was still able to make plays, even with a right ankle sprain.

Jalen Hurts and the Eagles defeated Daniel Jones and the Giants, in an embarrassing loss. The score was 38-7, in a divisional rival game. Three reasons why the Eagles won was because their run game was allowed to go for 268 rushing yards, with three touchdowns, led by 28-0 at halftime, and their defense accumulated five sacks. The Giants offseason focus is to sign Jones and Saquan Barkley to long term contracts.

Joe Burrow and the Bengals defeated Josh Allen and the Bills, in a highly anticipated

game. The score was 27-10, in a snow game. Three reasons the Bills lost the game was because their run game was ineffective, their defense allowed Joe Mixon to go for 105 rushing yards, with a touchdown, and their offense wasn't efficient. Damar Hamlin was in attendance at the game and will continue his offseason recovery.

Brock Purdy and the 49ers beat Dak Prescott and the Cowboys, in a close contested game. The score was 19-12, in a storied playoff matchup. Three reasons the 49ers won was because their defense intercepted Prescott twice, stifled their run game, and George Kittle had five receptions for 95 yards.

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Kobe and Gigi Bryant's third Anniversary

Jordan Stephenson
South Bureau Chief

January 26 will shockingly mark three years since Kobe and Gigi were tragically killed in a helicopter crash, in Calabasas, California. All the people who were tragically killed in this helicopter crash were: Laker's legend, Kobe Bryant, his daughter Gianna Bryant, John Altobelli, Keri Altobelli, Alyssa Altobelli, Christiana Mauser, Sarah Chester, Payton Chester, and lastly Ara Zonayan.

Kobe was only 41 at the the time, and his daughter Gigi was only 13 when this unforeseen tragedy took place. I know firsthand that this is the type of sad tragedy that everyone will remember what they were doing when they heard the news that Kobe had died. The reason I say this is because I still remember exactly where I was and what I was doing, when I heard the tragic news about Kobe and Gigi's' death.

On February 24, 2020, there was a public memorial held for Kobe and Gianna Bryant, which turned into a sold-out memorial service. This memorial service took place at the downtown previously called Staples Center; now it has been changed to the Crypto.com Arena. Vanessa Bryant, Kobe's wife, said in her speech at the memorial,

"God knew that they couldn't be on this earth without each other; He had to bring them home to have them together. Babe, you take care of Gigi." She also said Kobe was "the MVP of girl dads."

This memorial service began with Beyoncé performing her famous songs, XO and Halo. During the eulogy, Vanessa predicted that Gianna could have become "the best player in the WNBA." When she said that I pondered on it for a while, and then I totally agreed that Gigi could've become a great WNBA player because of her drive, her willingness to get better, mamba mentality, and Kobe. Some current and retired Hall of Fame players who attended were Stephen Curry, James Harden, Russel Westbrook, Kyrie Irving, Tim Duncan, Shaquille O'Neal, Dwyane Wade, Michael Jordan, etc.

On the two-year anniversary of their tragic death, a statue of Kobe and his daughter Gigi, were placed at the site of the helicopter crash in Calabasas, California. This beautiful statue was created by Dan Medina, who is a California sculptor and artist. In this statue that Dan made, Kobe was in his Lakers uniform, while his arm was around his daughter Gigi, who was wearing her uniform, with a basketball by her side. Both Kobe and Gigi

have big smiles, while looking at each other.

Medina spoke with NBC Los Angeles and told them that he brought the 160-pound bronze statue on Wednesday, January 26th, 2022 at 4 a.m., to a Calabasas hilltop. The statue had the names of Kobe and Gigi, and all the other victim of the helicopter crash. All of these victims' names were inscribed on the statue's base.

Many fans took photos of the statues, while also leaving flowers and other things at the crash site. Medina said to the Los Angeles Times, "You come here and it's kind of emotional; the flowers, the jerseys, the hats blow away, and I think we need something more permanent." He also said, "I kind of want to follow the law, respect the locals, respect the Santa Monica Mountains." Medina said this statue is just a smaller version of the life-size sculpture that he is currently working on, and he hopes it can find a location in Downtown LA. I honestly feel like what Medina did to memorialize Kobe and Gigi was an awesome thing that all Kobe fans can be thankful for. Even though Kobe is sadly gone, I can guarantee you that, he'll never ever be forgotten.



Kobe and Gigi's statue

Image courtesy of NBC.com

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Meet the exception to the rules: Don't miss these on Netflix

Ashley Velazquez
Melaina Lawrence
Staff Writers

Matilda The Musical, based on Roald Dahl's beloved 1988 children's book, is Netflix's new 2022 movie adaption of the Broadway and spectacular West End production of Matilda. Released on Netflix on December 25, 2022, this immensely beautiful (and rather nostalgic) production tells the tale of an extraordinary young girl named Matilda (Alisha Weir) who, carrying a sharply brilliant mind and a vastly vivid imagination, dares to defy what is wrong and take a stand to alter the course of her own story—even if that means defying a villainous individual who has never once been defied, being the nefarious school principal, Miss Trunchbull (Emma Thompson).

Now, it is known that in many stages to movie adaptations, the grand musical elements can, at times, completely overshadow the story itself; however, that is not the case with this adaptation. The lovely story praising

insightful aptitude and moral bravery/courage is weaved into this tale magnificently, with, through its characters, music, choreography, and whimsical set design, the strong story and the musical elements beautifully complementing one another instead of mistakenly covering one another.

This complimentary action and the imagination present within this film truly allows audiences to get insight as to what it is like to be a child once more. As a matter of fact, everything about this film makes one feel like a child again—in the most inspiring way possible.

If you are searching for a movie to get happily lost in this season, this brilliant film adaptation is sure to do the trick. As, not only does it grant an incredibly inspirational tale to individuals of all ages, but, in its own imaginative manner, it provides audiences with a beloved remake that is sure to make you get up and dance, as well as stand up for what is right. After all, Matilda did once say, "Somewhere inside all of us is the power to change the world."



Photos courtesy of www.kpcw.org/arts-culture and www.rottentomatoes.com/

Also new on Netflix, is the Pale Blue Eye.

The Pale Blue Eye is a new Netflix film littered with small nods to Edgar Allan Poe for Poe lovers. Detective Augustus Landor (named after Landor's Cottage) is approached to investigate a case at the United States Military Academy at West Point.

He is an alcoholic with a daughter who ran away some years ago. Leroy Fry was hanged with his heart removed from his

body. While in the morgue examining the body, Landor deduced Fry was murdered. With the help of Cadet Edgar Allan Poe, he investigates a note found on the body.

A second body, Cadet Ballinger, pops up dead followed by Cadet Stoddard coming up missing. The Detective pair suspects Dr. Marquis, who first did the autopsy on the body of Fry.

Meanwhile, Poe is enchanted by Lea, the doctor's daughter, for a strange ritual. After Poe

is saved, the West Point officers assume the case is over and Landor is on his way, but not before Poe unravels the entire case. Though not a Poe retelling or accurate description of Poe, this movie is definitely worth the watch as it takes you on a mysterious journey.

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Bad Bunny: Violation intimacy?

Swami Hinojosa
Staff Writer

New year and new drama. On January 2, Bad Bunny was leaving a restaurant in the Dominican Republic when a very disrespectful fan approached to take a video. Bunny had to speak up against the violations to privacy caused by a girl. Here are a few insights you may find interesting regarding the situation.

It has been 13 years since Benito Antonio Martínez Ocasio, also known as Bad Bunny, started publishing music. His single "Diles" in 2016 caught the attention of Dj Luian, which shortly after made him part of the label "Hear this Music." Since then, his career has increased, making him participate in songs with numerous artists, such as Farruko, De La Ghetto, J Balvin, Maluma, Nicky Jam, and Ozuna, among other urban music stars.

Most people criticize him, because of the way he dresses, because of his songs or because of the eccentric music videos he has made; but he has never given such an answer as that of this



Bad Bub

situation.

A video surfaced showing a crowd of people following the musician across a bridge. When a woman approaches Bad Bunny and holds up his phone in an apparent attempt to take a selfie, he briefly smiles at the camera before tossing the fan's phone into the water below. The fan looks at the flying phone in shock, while another person comments

in Spanish: "Wow, really?" After criticism for this fact, the artist responded through his social networks indicating that:

The person who comes up to me to say hello, to tell me something, or just to meet me, will always receive my attention and respect, those who come and put a f..g phone in my face, I will consider it for what it is, a lack of respect, and I will

treat it likewise.) January 2 via twitter @sanbenito

Against all odds, Bad Bunny and Adidas had announced the release date for the new Bad BunnyxCampus. If you are a fan of Bad Bunny's shoes and have followed the releases of the Forums and Response CL, the Campus is for sure a must have in your collection. But if you are not really into Bad

Bunny there is not any other difference with just a simple adidas shoe.

Regarding his career nowadays, Bad Bunny became in 2022 the most listened to artist on Spotify worldwide for the third consecutive year and the singer who raised the most money from concerts in one year, according to Billboard Boxscore.

However, and despite the success of his last tour in the United States and Latin America, the Puerto Rican announced last December, in an interview with Billboard Magazine, that he will take a break and will not perform in 2023.

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Alice in Borderland Season 2: An Expectation Defying Follow-up

Gabriella Small
Online Editor

After the first season's conclusion in 2020, Netflix's Japanese death game thriller *Alice in Borderland* left viewers with more questions than answers on the purpose of the game, the state of the world the characters are trapped in, and the fate of the main cast. With a particularly bombastic and sometimes cartoonish conclusion as the last season and a long pause between seasons, I did not have strong interest in the second season. However, the first few mind-boggling, action-packed, and gory minutes of the season alone threw me back into the *Borderland* with ease and perfectly set the groundwork for what was to come.

Season two leaves citizens of the *Borderland* with a task to collect all the face cards, such as *Queen of Clubs* and *King of Hearts*, after collecting all the numbered cards in the previous season. Instead of concentrating solely on finishing the games, this time the



Image courtesy of Kumiko Tsuchiya

citizens would be facing off against fellow citizens assigned to each face card. This means familiar faces we have seen in the past will be creating their own games, leading to increasingly complicated games and trusted characters potentially revealed to know more about the *Borderland* than we first thought.

The heights this season reaches are particularly due to the creativity of the games that are presented. Some games are simply a test of physicality and agility while others force the

characters into deep mind games with themselves and the participants. Some games will have viewers make multiple predictions on how everything will wrap up only for something to jump out completely out of left field and have them analyzing signs they might have missed in earlier scenes.

One particular game that throws the audience for a loop is the *Jack of Hearts* game. Some characters will act in ways that make viewers throw suspicion towards them while others act com-

pletely innocent only for everything to be flipped upside down at the last minute. This leads to a game with a concept as simple as telling the truth to become bloody and heart racing very quick. The games themselves also give way for many emotional scenes to take place, leading some to even cry for the deaths of characters who are supposed to be seen as villains.

Of course, the season has some down points, as some characters that are known to be strong are written to be frustratingly useless in

certain situations. The acting from some of the actors and actresses, particularly Yamazaki Kento, the actor of Alice, can be especially overdramatic to the point of hilarity, which was a huge issue I had with the first season. Despite those flaws, I think the season was executed better than the first and moved at a constant pace compared to the first season which felt like a slog at certain points.

Overall, *Alice in Borderland's* season two is a terrific and a worthwhile watch. It ended off in a satisfying place with no glaring plot holes and gave viewers of the series great character development with a nice message to end off on. Those who are looking for mind-bending thriller shows similar to *Squid Game* and *Kaiji* should look into watching this series in its entire 16 episodes. Even those who are not into the genre should watch this show solely for the first three or last episode of the second season.

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Artificial Intelligence (AI) threatening the art industry

Scarlett Valencia Pulido
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Over the past month there has been a lot of controversy over how Artificial Intelligence (AI) art generators are being trained with images on the web and generating art that could be infringing copyright. AI consists of using algorithms that are able to make decisions, by themselves, thanks to what they have learned. Remember J.A.R.V.I.S? In the Marvel Cinematic Universe Jarvis is AI, futuristic but AI, nonetheless. Jarvis can perform many tasks, like taking control over Tony Stark's suits thanks to its abilities to make decisions.

In order for AI to act on its own it must learn, just like a person. You might have noticed digital portraits made by AI on social media making people look like astronauts, anime characters, or just weird looking. Apps like Lensa AI, charge users to have AI create their portraits or "magic avatar" in different styles after uploading 10 to 20 images of themselves.

Lensa uses Stable Diffusion to generate this art. It is a deep learning open-

source model AI. The London-based company, Stability AI, owner of Stable Diffusion, calls it a "latent text-to-image diffusion model capable of generating realistic images" when given a text input. The photographs users upload to the platforms are used to train the AI. The training consists of teaching the program to interpret the data, learn it, and become more accurate.

The issue here is that the images put into the website are not the only ones the AI is using in its training. Some AI programs use LAION, a database composed of images that have been uploaded to the internet, and artists and companies are noticing and saying images of artwork are being scraped from the web. This can be seen in some Lensa portraits that have fake signatures, as if the images were painted or drawn. There have also been AI images that attempt to replicate photographs by Getty images, including its watermark. Getty images are in the middle of filing a lawsuit on the matter.

AI artwork replicating artists' styles are also being generated without the cre-

ator's knowledge. This has frustrated the art community since their work is being used with no permission. The more the AI learns the more it can learn patterns and at some point, it could generate something almost identical to someone's artwork or photograph.

Artists Sarah Anderson, Kelly McKernan, and Karla Ortiz have filed a lawsuit against Stability AI, DeviantArt, and Midjourney, who all have art generators working with AI.

The artists' lawyer, Matthew Butterick, believes that this AI technology's capacity to "flood the market with an essentially unlimited number of infringing images will inflict permanent damage on the market for art and artists." It is not certain if AI is infringing copyright agreements since the United States' fair use doctrine does not condemn using copyrighted work to train software.

But imagine spending hours on a digital painting and for it to be generated in just a couple of minutes without your consent.

One cannot blame the artists for wanting the AI



An example of a Getty image replicate. Image courtesy of The Verge

to stop using their work to generate new art. Especially since companies have been making profit creating the images. In Stability AI's case, it has already raised \$101 million in funding, making the company worth around \$1 billion, according to a Bloomberg report.

AI powered software, like Adobe Photoshop, have been using artificial intelligence for a while. Now, Photoshop has become a tool required for various job positions in graphic design or even marketing.

Even Canva is implementing an AI-feature using Stable Diffusion to convert text to AI images, giving Canva users the chance to report images considered inap-

propriate in every context. Which is good, since no one really has control over what the AI chooses to create.

AI is moving fast. With time, AI art generators could become an essential as well. Maybe someday AI generators will be used to create stock photos for companies and like with every new technology, replace some jobs.

Right now, it is important for companies developing AI to respect the artist's work, but they do need data.

Stability AI announced it will be permitting artists to remove their work from the data from the AI's dataset used for training in the future version of Stable Diffusion.

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