Bella Riccitelli  
Editor-in-Chief

Unconscious bias and institutional racism are ongoing issues that people have agreed and disagreed with for years and years.

This month, Dinner at the Square, hosted by Village Square, held a civil debate on the topic of institutional racism and unconscious bias. Broward College has recently teamed up with Village Square, which is defined as “a non-partisan public educational forum,” on their website.

The purpose of the events hosted by the Village Square is to have a safe environment where people can come to discuss controversial topics in a civilized, controlled environment.

At each event, two speakers sit on a stage and openly, publicly discuss their opposing viewpoints while fitting specific criteria.

There is a moderator, along with someone who will ring a bell to signify trigger words or comments they had for the speakers.

At this most recent event, the two speakers included Osamudia James, Professor of Law at the University of Miami (UM) school of Law and History Mack, Associate Dean for Humanities and professor at Broward College (BC) and Florida International University.

Mack is also a member and board member of the Village Square.

“Diversity enhances the quality of education and of the institution,” said Mack.

Throughout the debate, both opinions sparked the interest, comments and feedback from the audience amongst themselves.

Each speaker, along with the moderator, kept the debate alive while always having an intellectual opinion to respond with.

At one point, James said she believes we live in a segregated country.”

Since the debate welcomes the public, including students, with a ticket and dinner fee, their opinions are also heard. Towards the end of the debate, the audience was given the chance to stand at a podium to voice any questions or comments they had for the speakers.

“Our bias allows us to justify what’s going on,” said James. “Ideas of institutional racism and unconscious bias as a contemporary discrimination occurs,” said Mack. To do so, Mack believes that one of the steps that should be taken into consideration is “the diversity of the student body and employees. It enhances the quality of education and of the institution. Diversity enhances education to share diverse viewpoints.”

Pettis ended the debate by stating, “the beauty of life is when we come together.”

For those unaware, the Village Square includes Jack Seiler, the Mayor of Fort Lauderdale, J. David Armstrong, Jr., President of BC and Adriana Fazzano, Chief of Staff at BC.
Keep up with BC: What’s going on around campus?

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**Man behind security ensures safety at BC**

Bella Riccitielli
Editor-in-Chief

In recent times, the question of safety while attending school has been a major concern for some. Between school shootings, dangerous situations and even poor weather, Broward College students, faculty and staff are kept safe at all times.

Peter Agnesi, Associate Vice President of Safety, Security, and Emergency Preparedness everyday wonder what he and his team can do next to help improve the safety of BC’s community. Every day, Agnesi is happy to do his job.

At the young age of 18, Agnesi kicked-off his public safety career by becoming a police officer. While the road to get there was tricky at times, Agnesi never gave up.

“I started as a dispatcher, then a part-time police officer, then full-time and then eventually I became Chief,” said Agnesi.

“I advanced through all of the ranks.”

Agnesi first felt the need to work in law enforcement when he saw the “dynamic lifestyle” that his brother-in-law lived as a State Trooper.

“Every day is different. It was a level of unknown,” said Agnesi.

Agnesi attended most of his secondary education up North; he has earned an Associate Degree in Criminal Justice from Northwestern Connecticut College, a Bachelor of Science in Business Management from Westfield College and even graduated from the FBI National Academy.

Before Agnesi began working at BC, he worked as the Director of Public Safety for the University of Connecticut.

Then, after five years, Agnesi continued his journey down to Florida.

Now, Agnesi has turned in his patrol car and has become the eyes and ears of safety, along with his team.

“I am so thankful and proud to work here. This doesn’t happen without the support of the folks above you. We do the best we can for this college. You’re not successful unless you’re supported. I want to continue to make advances,” said Agnesi.

Jaeson Weber, Coordinator of BC’s Safety, Security and Preparedness department works closely with Agnesi every day.

“Peter creates an atmosphere where as both a department and on individual basis, we are pushed to evolve and improve. He builds an environment that on an everyday basis we are encouraged to push the envelope and extend the limits of what is possible. All doing this while finding fun and excitement,” said Weber.

“Working with Peter has taught me that in life, impossible is simply nothing. The word impossible is just an excuse. He has taught me, if not everyone in our department, that we must know that if we want to reach the pinnacle of ourselves or as an organization, we must believe, be persistent and never give up.”

Since Agnesi started at BC in 2011, Agnesi and his team have accomplished many helpful tasks for BC’s safety. On a day-to-day basis, Agnesi is responsible for “the coordination and leadership of all safety, security, and emergency preparedness programs” for around 67,000 students.

Naturally, Agnesi is a perfectionist, thus all of the constant updates and changes that take place when it comes to the safety of BC. An example is the emergency phones that were recently placed in BC classrooms. Additionally, the blue phones that can be found around campuses and centers are continuously checked.

Now, security cameras, along with more security features, are being added to buildings around BC.

If Agnesi wasn’t currently doing what he is doing now, he believes he would be fishing in North Carolina and participating in more volunteer work.

BC’s safety website is always updated with information as to how to keep students, staff and faculty safe. The website is www.broward.edu/safety.

riccjb@mail.broward.edu

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**Yoga, meditation room offers students relaxation**

Khadijah Brown
Copy Editor

As of this February, Broward College now offers two free services to aid the mental and emotional needs of its students. It is well known that stress is one of the major problems that students all over the world face and BC wants to help its students.

Central Campus now offers a free yoga class where any student can sign up.

As this is not an official course, students may come at their leisure.

Yoga is a spiritual, physical and mental discipline that originated in India.

While yoga means different things to different religions and peoples, it is clear that it provides those who practice with a physical outlet.

As a method of exercise, yoga can be very fulfilling as it can be challenging and is very goal oriented.

What one of the goals of yoga is to strengthen the body, it is also important to listen to your body, pushing yourself to a certain degree to become stronger but respecting the limits of your body. There is no rushing because all things come in time.

Yoga also can be beneficial mentally to those who practice because of the element of meditation.

Its focus on breathing and clearing your mind of outside worries, gives students a healthy momentary reprieve from the stress of school, work and the everyday concerns of life.

Additionally, he instructor of the class also brings a lot of positive energy as he frequently encouraged the students to smile and often praised them for their strength.

“I believe that yoga on campus opens up minds and promotes more peace and love throughout campus,” said Austin Anderson, the instructor of the class.

The class takes place every Tuesday in building 10, room 130 from 4:15 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Central Campus.

Students are welcome and yoga mats are provided but you are welcome to bring your own.

The meditation room being offered by BC differs in the way it is operated.

It is not a class but a room where students and staff can go to go to privacy.

This room is primarily offered for nursing mothers seeking a moment of privacy but is available to all.

Students can make reservations or walk in but they must keep in mind that the room is only available for 20 minutes at a time.

“College can be stressful at times and it’s good to have a place here you can take a break and just re-gather yourself and regroup,” said Safa Cole, one of the office staff who manage the meditation room.

Students may rest, read, pray or even take a nap as long as silence is maintained as the room comes with a privacy partition so it may be shared.

The meditation room is intended to provide solace and a space for reflection and relaxation.

The door will remain open unless the room is in use by a nursing mother.

No food, drinks, candles, icons and incense are permitted in the room out of consideration for the other users of the room.

Pamphlets are available if you wish to be more informed.

This service is available from Monday to Fridays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in building 19 room 130.

browk105@mail.broward.edu
Nursing students offer safe sex workshop

Kamilah Douglas
Staff Writer

Broward College’s nursing program at Central Campus developed a safe sex workshop that took place in Student Life’s activity center.

The nursing students informed the audience about contraceptives and birth control methods, as well as sexually transmitted diseases and infections.

The workshop did not just benefit the attendees, however. The nursing students used this to their advantage by fulfilling a public service requirement for their program and practice public speaking.

According to Jeanette Hernandez, a nurse of four years, the purpose of the safe sex workshop was “public speaking and to make the public aware.”

At the beginning of the workshop, they displayed two short YouTube videos by Planned Parenthood on how to use the male condom and the female condom.

From then, a slideshow was displayed and each of the students presented a slide or two about different information such as the various forms of birth control and signs, symptoms and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs).

One of the nursing students emphasized that abstinence is the only way to 100 percent prevent STDs and unplanned pregnancies.

Another nursing student chimed in right after the segment about contraceptives that STDs are the risks and consequences due to lack of protection during sexual activity.

“I didn’t realize how many other diseases we can get,” said Brandon Ducar, a student who participated in the safe sex workshop.

The STD segment was very informative along with pictures of each disease on the genitals and mouth. It was very graphic and one can assume that it scared everyone straight.

Another student who wants to keep his identity anonymous said he was shocked to learn that “oral sex can transmit diseases as well.”

The workshop was just as interactive as it was informative. At the end of the presentation, the ladies in the nursing program who organized the safe sex workshop asked the attendees a few questions on what was presented and what they learned.

When a student that was a part of the audience answered a question correctly, they received a prize, such as a Broward College mug or a duffel bag from Student Life’s wellness department.

Giving out prizes was a smart tactic to engage students and encourage them to participate, while also rewarding them for applying what they have learned at the safe sex workshop.

The goodies didn’t end with prizes. After all of the presentations and questions, catered boxed lunch was provided to each person in attendance of the safe sex workshop.

When asked if she received personal gratification in being a nurse, Jeanette Cage responded, “Absolutely. Nursing is a rewarding career.”

The safe sex workshop was a successful event. It was an experience on informing a group of people for the nursing students, as they would have to do normally in their careers.

Filled with information, Ducar said that he would “absolutely” share what he has learned.

New club on South Campus seeks to create leaders

Victoria Watson
Staff Writer

Didn’t make any plans this Valentine’s Day? On Feb. 19, Club Clio held an “Anti-Valentine’s Day Party,” a club mixer event, providing an opportunity for those who are without a boyfriend, girlfriend, or without a date for Valentine’s Day or maybe for the rest of those who have a bit of free time on their hands and would like to meet a few new people.

This event will give students another chance at branching out and speaking with members of different clubs.

The one behind this Anti-Valentine’s mixer is Ryan Hernandez, the president and founder of Club Clio, which is a new club on South Campus.

Hernandez is also a member and one of the leaders in Student Life at Broward College South Campus.

“Our Anti-Valentine’s Day event is just a little something I’ve always wanted to do. I’ve always been rooting for the underdog, the single person. Days like Valentine’s Day, I feel is very exclusive, like only couples can do it,” said Hernandez.

“Sometimes there is the occasional ‘buddy teddy bear for your best friend’ but that doesn’t really happen that often. That’s why my club decided to have a day when we can all hang out and make new friends.”

The club’s two main goals are to create leaders amongst the students as well as to unify and strengthen bonds between the clubs on campus.

The new Club Clio teaches leadership skills through public speaking and working on new ways to foster better relationships amongst the clubs on South Campus.

They have already worked on future activities they’ll be doing, making collaborations with other clubs.

They hope to create a more inclusive environment on campus also getting students excited about the clubs on South Campus.

Club Clio claims that their goals aren’t to be the top dog, but that they’re more team players in that aspect than anything else.

The members of Club Clio believe that all clubs should be seen and heard.

Club Clio’s Anti-Valentine’s Day Party was held in the Activity Center of South Campus.

“It’s a really relaxed event. It’s not really anti-love, but it’s really just celebrating happiness and having fun with your friends. You don’t really need a relationship to be happy,” said Hernandez.

“This a very casual, come as you are event.”

Food and drinks were served with live lip syncing battles, Jenga, pool, ping-pong and video games.

The goal of the event was to have fun despite all your differences, whether you’re in a relationship or single, no matter what your beliefs are, Club Clio wants students to know that there is always an inclusive space on campus for you.

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Emasculation: Entertainment or Containment?

Isabell Vasquez
South Bureau Chief

According to USA Today, hip-hop reaches second on the list of the type of music genre college students listen to in order to get their work done. In the hip hop industry, black male artists have come to understand masculinity as an important aspect of their music. When people think about American society, violent masculinity comes to mind. It's become a symbol of American manhood.

In honor of Black History Month, Student Life invited Dr. Rastagh and Professor Rudy Jean Bart to host a discussion on whether or not the history of emasculation of black men has had an impact on Hip Hop. To answer the question, it has made an enormous impact on the genre because most of these black male artists have suffered from the lack of opportunity, resources and incarcerations, resulting in them turning to doing things that are or were illegal.

Dr. Rastagh and Professor Jean Bart have mentioned their love for Hip Hop because of how quickly it can send messages in just a couple of bars. The content is what makes the genre popular. "Hip Hop is controversial and arguably the most revolutionary musical art form. What makes hip hop unique is that it’s very content heavy," said Jean Bart. "Rappers are chained to an image, an image that reflects our society," said Dr. Rastagh. The discussion showed that money, power and violence follow a pattern in this genre of music. Dr. Rastagh presents three things about being a man in hip hop comes down to willingness to inflict harm on adversaries, willingness to have sex with many woman and willingness to acquire many material possessions. The genre questions what it means to be a man. When slavery existed, music was used to narrate experiences and commemorate social and political injustice. Same concept goes with hip hop. Chuck D of Public Enemy called it the "CNN of the ghetto." According to MTV, hip hop has this notion of egotism and individualism of earning the American dream, which is success, money and power. Thus, hip hop is a product of capitalism.

"Hip hop acts as a commodification of black culture to white audiences while there are all different types of hip hop with all sorts of messages. Those that are in the mainstream media have narrow views that largely reflect our culture," said Dr. Rastagh. Black masculinity is a social construction and masculinity through hip hop music has led the reinforcement of racial hierarchies. The problem lies in the lack of opportunity.

"If I’m not going to have a job then either I’m going to cope by using drugs or I’m going to economically be sufficient by selling it, either way it will lead to incarnation," said Jean Bart.

Tamlynn Torchon and Justin Thelusma are students at BC who attended the event. "It was necessary to do this because if you don’t have events like these, we will never be aware of our society. So it’s necessary, they should never stop doing it," said Torchon. "I enjoyed every aspect they covered because it’s something we deal with," said Thelusma.

Speakers Series focuses on Black History Month

Mauricio Correa
North Bureau Chief

South Florida is a hodgepodge of ethnic groups and cultural backgrounds. Broward College campuses are no exception. Throughout the year, there are a variety of events that celebrate the achievements of different people. North Campus’s Student Ambassadors hosted a Speaker Series in commemoration of Black History Month.

Lead Student Ambassador Jeremiah Carter shared some insight into this international observance. “Black History Month originally began as Negro History Week which was created in 1926 by Carter G. Woodson people like African-American historian, scholar, educator and publisher.” Carter said. “It is very important we recognize the contributions of African-Americans. Celebrating Black History Month provides an opportunity to highlight the best of black history and culture.”

Speaker Series was held inside the Coffeehouse and featured local dignitaries who live to make a difference in the community. Eugene Pettis was the first featured speaker. He was the first African-American President of the Florida Bar from 2013-2014. He is also co-founder of Haliczer Pettis & Schwamm. Pettis spoke on Feb. 2 and shared information on how African-Americans have contributed to the legal system and how a diverse judicial system benefits the people.

Catherine A. Minnis spoke on Feb. 10. Minnis works as the President and Founder of the Minnis Group, a public relations and small business consulting firm in South Florida. She is also a proud mother of three and was named one of 100 Outstanding Women of Broward County. Minnis shared her views on how African-Americans contributed to business. As president of a business and marketing group, she helps minorities with professional services that help people build their businesses. She urges students to have the confidence and the perseverance to pursue their dreams.

The last speaker was Pami Keith, the first female African-American to run for the United States Senate in the State of Florida. She is an accomplished corporate attorney who earned her law degree at Boston College. She is a second generation Navy Veteran who was given the position of Officer in Charge of the legal office detachment in Bahrain. She provided legal services to the military units that were responsible for overseeing Saddam Hussein’s compliance with sanctions and weapons inspections. Keith discussed how college students can contribute to the world.

The Speaker Series provided students with wisdom and insight. According to Carter, “These events are very important because it gives students the chance to learn about different historic facts. It also gives them a chance to meet people who are making a difference in the state of Florida.”

Leo DeAraujo, BC’s North Campus Student Life Coordinator said, “[Student Ambassadors] put together an amazing guest list of local dignitaries... and covered a wide range of topics. The topics all impact our students directly.”

Student Ambassadors won’t stop there. In addition to the Speaker Series, Carter said, “During the month of March we will be hosting two events in honor of Women’s History Month. Respect toward religious, racial and cultural diversity of BC students and staff is one of the things that makes BC great.”
Men’s basketball team beats rival Miami Dade

Laura DiRusso  
Contributing Writer

It was a steamy, hot day inside Broward College’s gymnasium Saturday, Feb. 6. Due to air conditioning failure, the room was filled with unfortunate discomfort. The stands were packed with friends and family ready to cheer on their team. Despite a humid gym, with just the breeze of industrial fans, Broward College Men’s Basketball team escaped with a 77-70 win over rival Miami Dade Sharks.

Due to sweat dripping off each player, the hardwood floor was steadily moist, the basketball was consistently damp and the referees were appropriately wiping surfaces with a towel. High risks of injury and troublesome play could undoubtedly create a tough game. With obvious disadvantages such as those, it was easy to believe out shining their opponent wasn’t the only obstacle to overcome.

Recently inducted into the Florida College System Activities Association (FCSAA) Hall of Fame, head coach Robert Starkman entered Saturday’s game with a propitious attitude. The team was fired up and composed in spite of the heated air. Miami Dade geared up with a fierce approach and you could feel the tension swarm the room. With point guard William Cruz still out from a torn ACL, the pressure was deep for the Seahawks. They trailed behind most of the game up until the end of the second half. The first half was a struggle to pass about a 10-point lead by the Sharks. Plenty of fouls called against the Seahawks were questionable. The coaches believed the officials weren’t officiating up to par. “He called a technical foul on me because I questioned his call and I didn’t say anything wrong,” said coach Starkman.

Frequent interruptions to wipe the basketball and floor of sweat, the team surmounted the disruptions. They braced themselves during halftime and prepared for a win. Midway through the last half, Deandre Turner scored his second three-pointer in a row along with Jaron Cornish sinking a three in between. Miami Dade continued to foul while the Seahawks proceeded to foil.

It was predominately a nail biting game. Down 20 points at 12 minutes left to play, an edgy, vehement game ended in victory for the Broward College Seahawks. As sports information director Steven Levin would say, “It was a come-from-behind win for Broward.” Failure to consistently score field goals in the first half lead the team through a slow-paced game. Coach Starkman said, “If we could pull it together early, we wouldn’t have to be making these runs. Making these runs doesn’t work your way all the time, lady luck only goes so far.”

Saturday’s win brought the Men’s Basketball conference record positive for the first time in the year, pushing the team into the top 10 ranked teams in the FCSAA, rated 10th as of the Feb. 9 NJCAA Region 8 Coaches’ Poll. With four more games and (hopefully) two playoff games left, it’s without a doubt, laborious training is in store for the Seahawks as the season comes to an end. “It’s been a roller coaster, up and down, but we are up now,” said coach Starkman.

In his 19 years of coaching, Starkman believes in absolute positivity and it shows. “I always tell the guys if-1. We’ve got five guys playing for one, 1 ball, 5 guys; defensive end and offensive end. We’re a team, we like to be a team, that’s what we try to strive on. Everyday it’s a continuous battle and we are just going to keep on working hard.”

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SPRING BREAK

DESTINATIONS

LOCAL

Panama City

Famous for its more than 27 miles of white sand beaches, Panama City attracts many tourists for Spring Break. Also a hot spot for scuba divers around the world, the city also offers an exquisite array of dining options for everyone. Places to visit are the Ripley’s Believe It or Not, Shipwreck Island Water Park, Florida Caverns State Park, St. Andrews State Park, and many more.

Key West

The Southern most part of Florida, only 90 miles away from Cuba, Key West offers beautiful scenery a couple hours away from Miami. Places such as Mallory Square, Key West Aquarium, Harry S. Truman Little White House, Ernest Hemingway Home and Museum, the Ripley’s Believe-it-or-not Museum, Key West Tropical Forest and Botanical Garden are just some of the must-see attractions.

Marco Island

Located on the west coast of Florida and just south of Naples, Marco Island is the place for nature lovers. Tours to watch animals such as dolphins, manatees, and several birds are available all throughout the island. Also a place for shell collectors, fishing and golfing, Marco Island is a place for everyone to enjoy.
One of America's most favorite destinations for Spring Break, Cancun is paradise. Its beautiful beaches, exciting nightlife and distinctive dining with world-renowned chefs, are just a few of the highlights that attract tourists. Places to visit are Chichen Itza, Xel-Ha Park, Coba, Cancun Underwater Museum and Belize Barrier Reef.

One of the most visited tourist spots in the world, the Bahamas is known for their year-round tropical weather. Their most famous hotel, the Atlantis, offers by itself several things to do, from swimming with dolphins to spending the day at the water park. However, there are still places to visit such as Bimini, Andros Island, Harbour Island, Elbow Cay and Treasure Cay.

Known mostly for being the home of Bob Marley, Jamaica offers a wide range of tourist attractions. The top-rated are Montego Bay, Ocho Rios, Negril, Kingston, Runaway Bay, Treasure Beach and Rio Grande.
Charlie Puth mixes hip hop, R&B for unique sound

Danielle Kfare
Staff Writer

Charlie Puth made his way into the scene in 2009 by posting doo-wop and pop covers on YouTube. He was later discovered by Ellen DeGeneres from her cover of Adele’s “Someone Like You.”

Puth then released his debut single “Marvin Gaye” featuring Meghan Trainor known for her hit single “All About That Base.”

Puth finally released his debut album “Nine Track Mind” after its November release was pushed back.

The album is a mix of hip-hop and R&B with some pop to create a unique sound, similar to Trainor’s but still makes it his own.

The album opens up with his current single “One Call Away.”

It describes the things you do for people when they’re in a rough spot. It’s a song that can resonate with a lot of people.

“Dangrously,” the second track featured, shows off all of Puth’s talents as singer, songwriter and musician.

This one describes someone that was in a relationship with a little too over their head about a doomed romance.

It’s a great track to sing along to after a breakup.

The well-known “Marvin Gaye” featuring Trainor made the cut for the record.

It’s incredibly different from everything else playing on the radio these days and so refreshing if you want to get away from the typical top 40 pop music.

“My Mind” describes Puth’s struggle of going crazy because he couldn’t think of a song to write one point and only up with a song about not being able to write a song.

He conveyed this into a beautifully-underrated track.

It showcases his calming vocals, while the tricks and percussion add a surprising throwback type song and Puth made it a modern jam.

This describes how you can’t get over that one person who is constantly stringing you along and you really don’t want to.

“Left Right Left” is a motivational song and describes how life might be difficult at times but you have to take things one step at a time.

It has a Jackson 5 and other doo-wop groups vibe.

“Then There’s You” is one of the more modern songs on the album which fuses pop and R&B in a unique way.

“Suffer” was featured on Puth’s “Some Type of Love” EP and made the cut for the album.

It’s wonderfully relatable.

If you’ve ever been on the short end of the relationship, then you can totally relate. Spunky piano and finger snaps are featured in this track.

“As You Are” features Shy Carter who is mainly known as a songwriter and record producer.

This is a simple track about a relationship’s ups and downs. Carter’s rap verse is very playful compared to Wiz Khalifa in which Puth collaborated with for the hit “See You Again.”

“Some Type of Love,” the final track featured, is a slow song and builds on the vocals that will blow you away.

Puth is great at changing the tempo of songs. In other words, this is a mid-tempo track.

This is a great debut for the singer/songwriter and worth a listen. It’s available to purchase in stores and digitally now.

Sia’s new album proves to be a great listen

Danielle Kfare
Staff Writer

It has been two years since Sia released music, but she is back with her new release.

For Sia’s first album since her smash-hit ‘Chandelier,’ the singer/songwriter is up against Adele and Rihanna for that coveted number one spot on the charts.

They are probably familiar with some of the tracks featured on the new album because there are some songs that were written for them on it.

“This is Acting” is the seventh album from the hit Australian singer/songwriter known for her unique voice and the black-and-white wig covering her face.

The record features songs that she wrote, offered to music artists and after these deals fell through, recovered.

For Sia, the record is a complex paradox.

She is deciphering her own songs, ones that are generally personal, but they were expected to come from the hearts of others.

‘Alive,’ which was the album’s first single, was meant for Adele as part of her highly successful album ‘25.’

‘Alive’ complements the mood of ‘25,’ as Sia plays the role of Adele looking back at her childhood and her survival of adulthood to a track that opens up with lovely dark piano chords before a fast climax.

“I’m still breathing/ I’m alive,” Sia sings in one of her most powerful performances, her voice soaring from soulful to roaring with a touch of rasp.

Sia equally seems to channel Beyoncé on the more touching ‘Footprints,’ a string-backed up-tempo pop song that uses subtle spiritual metaphors to depict redemption by a partner or God.

A more customary pop song featured on the record is ‘Reaper,’ which was co-produced by Kanye West.

Sia wrote both ‘Reaper’ and up-tempo track ‘Cheap Thrills’ for Rihanna but the R&B superstar, whose new album spotlights inpouring-looking ballads, unfortunately rejected the tracks.

‘Move Your Body,’ a club-style dance track was written for Latin superstar Shakira.

Sia Furler made her start in the jazz-club scene of Adelaide, Australia and she remains more at least in the indie world than the major celebrity world.

But she has become a notable writer for pop stars, particularly writing Rihanna’s 2012 worldwide hit single ‘Diamonds.’

Sia, who chooses to hide her face due to not wanting to be recognizable in public has struggled with addiction, a fight that is described on her 2014 release ‘1000 Forms of Fear.’

The album’s hit single ‘Chandelier,’ an electropop ballad of a party girl’s alcohol-fueled self-destruction, was nominated for ‘Song of the Year’ and ‘Record of the Year’ at the 2015 Grammy Awards.

Sia continues down that path of the last album and travels to dark territory by exploring abusive relationships on ‘This is Acting.’

In ‘House on Fire,’ hooked with one of the record’s most dynamic musical hooks despite a traditional synthesizer composition, Sia uses the title as an analogy for her personal troubles.

The similarly dark ‘Bird Set Free’ was also written for Adele who did not find it fitting for her ‘25’ album.

In ‘This is Acting,’ Sia Furler made an impressive journey from songwriter to singer.

Being that she had written these songs for other artists about her own personal struggles, who then turned them down makes it a great feat that she decided to record and release these songs anyway for everyone to hear.

It’s a great listen.

This is Acting’ is available to purchase digitally and in stores now.
Doctor Who show proves to be funnier than rest

Chris Cruz
Graphics Editor

Doctor Who has become a golden global show for BBC. It all began in the early 1960s when the very first season of Doctor Who was presented. Then the show went on to do seasons from the 70s, 80s, and 90s. Doctor Who was then the most famous show of television. After the final season in the 90s, years went by and Doctor Who had briefly stopped showing, people were wondering, “when is Doctor Who coming back.”

In 2005, the phenomenon BBC show returned with a surprising new setting and some familiar faces.

Christopher Eccleston, who is famous for his role in Gone in 60 Seconds and Thor 2: The Dark Worlds stars in Doctor Who. A new fresh face also made her way as the doctor’s new companion. Character Rose Tyler played by Billie Piper, who is a well-known actress, singer and dancer. The director of Doctor Who, Euros Lyn, decided to continue where the ending of the old series left off.

Christopher Eccleston is the ninth Doctor of the series, and with the new era, there are some new creatures and some familiar ones. As the first series of the new Doctor Who were coming to a close, fans had experienced mixed emotions like never before and they wanted to see more of it.

A year later in 2006, the second season of the new Doctor Who made its presentation on television. Fans were excited and were wondering who was going to play the doctor.

It was announced that the famous David Tennant, who is now the star of the new series Marvels Jessica Jones was the new lead role as the Doctor. The fans were shocked and were more motivated to continue to watch the series. David Tennant made the role like he was Sherlock Holmes. He had comedy and the serious attitude that made Doctor Who more lovable to watch.

David Tennant was given the opportunity to continue his role for 3 years, and with Doctor Who hot, he figured he would take the opportunity. With the David Tennant years of Doctor Who, there has been two new companions. Freema Agyeman, who was the companion of season 3 and Catherine Tate, who was the companion of season 4.

With all the mixed emotions, aliens and creatures trying to take over the world, David Tennant had reached his final days as the tenth Doctor of the beloved Doctor Who series. Now, David Tennant will always be remembered as one of the best doctors in the modern era.

With the departure of the tenth doctor comes the illustrious eleventh doctor, but who can possibly replace a great character like David Tennant? It didn’t take long for the reveal of the eleventh doctor to be sensational Matt Smith, who is known to be in Terminator Genisys.

In 2010, Matt Smith had made his presence known as the very best doctor for generations to come. He was also given the same opportunity to be the lead role for 3 years. Karen Gillian makes her role as the doctor’s companion to explore time traveling. As Matt Smith departs and Peter Capaldi makes his entrance, Doctor Who has become funnier than ever.

Doctor Who is the show to get into. Join in on the time traveling with 9 seasons.

Bella Riccietti
Editor-in-Chief

In history, the United States has faced a plethora of court cases that people will never forget.

One of those cases that will always stand out is the People of the State of California v. Orenthal James Simpson, or as America knows him, O.J. Simpson.

In 1994, the trial that could have potentially charged Simpson with murder began. In June of 1994, Nicole Brown Simpson, Simpson’s (O.J.)’s wife, was found dead alongside a male’s dead body. From the timespan of November 1994 to October 1995, Simpson’s case was broadcasted on television every time the court was in session.

This event in history left a big mark on America. Partly because Simpson was a hero in the football world but also because broadcasting a court case on television was unheard of in the 90’s. Some people can even remember the exact moment when Simpson was found not guilty of two murders.

Now, FX has started a new television show called “The People v. O.J. Simpson: American Crime Story.” It’s almost as if the whole trial is being broadcasted once again on television.

Since the show just started a few weeks ago, the stages of the trial are still in the beginning. One of the best parts about this show is the quality of casting. Whoever was in charge of casting did a great job, because all of the actors uncannily resemble the real-life people they are playing.

Simpson is portrayed by Cuba Gooding Jr., who told the New York Post in a recent interview that he did not contact Simpson for any questions or guidance.

Unlike Gooding, the majority of the main characters reached out to the people and their families to get a better understanding of the character that they are playing. Although I wasn’t alive when the trial was taking place, I can imagine that the actors now are doing a pretty good job.

Each week, the television show has all of my attention. In my opinion, there is nothing more interesting than a crime show, especially when the crime getting portrayed is something that has actually happened in real life.

The show captures the frustration, devastation, emotions and thoughts of everyone who was involved in such a flawless manner.

From Simpson crying about being suicidal (to avoid jail time, obviously,) to the state prosecutors becoming furious that the LAPD agreed to let Simpson surrender himself, there has yet to be a dull moment in the television show. It makes me honestly wonder why it took so long for someone to make a show like this one.

Tune in every Tuesday at 10 p.m. to FX to watch “The People v. O.J. Simpson: American Crime Story.”
Deadpool could be best Marvel movie of all times

Chris Cruz
Graphics Editor

From X-men to Avengers to now the most sensational A++ Marvel movie to ever hit the movie industry. “Deadpool” is the only comedy and action that has ever been released for a Marvel movie. Also, it has some interesting R-rated scenes. If there ever was a time to think what if Marvel had some adult content in one of their movies, then “Deadpool” is a movie to see.

“Deadpool” was first seen in “X-men: The origins of Wolverine.” Since that time, “Deadpool,” played by the famous green lantern Ryan Reynolds, was making his debut in a big way. Critics were skeptical on how he was being up in the wolverine origins.

They didn’t like how serious he was; it wasn’t as funny as people were expecting. It was said that “Deadpool” was not to be its own movie, but with a few leaks it was then set to go on. “Deadpool” now was made the right way.

A man named Wade Wilson who was played by none other than Reynolds himself, set the bar yet again for Marvel movies in the world. In the mix of its release, “Deadpool” makes an astonishing $135 million within the week, not so surprising though as it is a Marvel movie.

The fact that a few leaks of this movie made it millions of dollars makes it a surprise. It only took a few stretches to make a phenomenon like “Deadpool.”

The movie does have a good amount of detail on how Wade Wilson really became the man behind the mask, and it also follows it directly from the comic books.

Wade Wilson was diagnosed with cancer and was devastated that the love of his life was only going to be with him for borrowed time. He then goes off to his best friend’s bar and runs into a guy who says he can cure him of his cancer.

From there on, Wade was willing to do anything to continue to live and be with his love.

Wade had no choice but to leave his love and get his cure. The problem was that the institute he went was based on half lie and half truth. He was cured from cancer but also mutated into a mutant with unique abilities.

He wanted to get back at the man who did it all.

From there on he was known as the cocky and humorous mercenary, “Deadpool.” There are not a lot of people that know “Deadpool” other than the hardcore comic book fans. The beauty of Marvel is that you can explore the movies that are from the comics and you can see how these comics were so popular back when they were just drawings.

“Deadpool’s” rating is as the absolute best Marvel movie to ever hit box offices and it is worth every penny.

Fifty Shades of Black pokes fun at Fifty Shades of Grey

Pierre Fritzberg
Contributing writer

On a Friday, my friend and I were trying to find something to do. After a good hour of researching what there is to do, we found nothing. It was then we decided to go catch a movie and she told me to see the trailer of the movie “50 Shades of Black,” which is a complete parody of “50 Shades of Grey.”

Watching it, I thought, alright, let’s go and we went to see it at Flippers. As we watched this movie, we could not stop laughing at the ridiculousness of this movie.

Even though I didn’t see the movie last year, I was still able to catch on fast and I loved how they made fun of it; they made it very easy to follow along. Either that or the plot of “50 Shades of Grey” is just that easy to figure out.

Watching this movie, I was completely picturing in my head how it was in the original movie.

The way the characters are portrayed was so funny and exaggerated that I loved every minute of the acting done.

Not only do they make fun of the movie, but other movies made during 2015, and even celebrities they took snipes at. Anyone who has been catching up with their movies will be able to pick up on what they were making fun of.

At times, they would use gross out humor, which I found just kind of disgusting mostly. Maybe they were just a little funny, but just a little.

I remember a scene that got so weird for me that I literally put my hand in front of my face so I wouldn’t see too much.

There was another scene that did start off funny, but went over the top a bit, and I went from laughing to being a little disturbed at how it looked.

Not only that, but I wish there wasn’t as much nudity on screen since I don’t particularly enjoy watching naked people on screen.

Overall, how would I rate this movie? I recommend this movie to anyone. I really liked it, but it might be better to watch it with a friend. It makes the experience that much more fun.

It was a funny movie and a good time to watch plus it is not too long either where a person will get tired or bored.

The running time was one hour and 30 minutes. Out of a score of 10, I give this movie an 8.5 and a seal of approval. Anyone who wants to see a funny movie go ahead and watch this one.

Chris Cruz
Graphics Editor

Pierre Fritzberg
Contributing writer

fritpe@mail.broward.edu
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AT 12:30, IN BUILDING 68, ROOM 268,
SOUTH CAMPUS
How a hobby can transform into creativity

Christopher Cruz
Graphics Editor

Anime has been the best hobby to get into from the past, present, and towards the future. Anime has been growing since 1972 when publicly displays started to appear. Oten Shimokawa and Seitarou Kitayama, who are animators, produced work with surviving films. From there, Oten and Seitarou have built a generation world wide with anime, which is short for animation.

As time moved forward and anime followed an evolution to the future, people started to realize how much anime could help humans creativity. People draw and cosplay, giving them the best creative ways to see how they can change who they once were.

Anime is a way of expressing themselves like any drawer or fashion designer, but anime is far beyond just doing those two things. Anime has made our world more creative with video games, comic books and even TV shows. As a kid, my favorite TV show was Dragonballz, and in this day now, I still talk about the amazing series it once was. All the other animated series like Naruto, Inuyasha, Samurai Jack, One Piece, and many more have continued to keep us brainstorming more with how to create these things ourselves.

A lot of people loved anime especially because of its drawing and because of that it was made to be called Manga, which is Japanese in referring to comics and cartoons. With manga, children, teenagers and adults have taken manga to be their own style. They use the drawings to make things come to life in fashion industries.

Cosplay has been another form of enjoying anime, to be able to dress up as your favorite characters and join in a group of people who have the same love for a hobby as you do brings more friendships. A lot of people would most likely ask, “Why would you get into such a horrible hobby?” I love comic books. I grew up reading them and drawing some of them as well. I reply, “because it’s what makes your mind do creative things that no one could ever think of.”

I got into anime after watching Inuyasha when it used to come on late night on Cartoon Network at the time. I always think of how these artists and characters can make such flawless long hair on these characters, and it makes people get involved to be creative. Oten and Seitarou have created and made paths of generations of kids and adults to get involved and challenged themselves to be great animators and fashion designers. It also brings more people together and they have a fun time dressing up as their favorite anime characters.

It has helped me become a graphic designer, which is something I never knew I was capable of doing; drawing was never my strongest ability, but animation and manga has helped my confidence and my creativity. This is where everyone should start a hobby. If you don’t have one, you can turn this hobby into a lifetime dream of an accomplishment for the world to see.

www.youtube.com/cruze23@mail.broward.edu

Gender inequality still haunts women today

Sara Varela
Design Editor

We have recently welcomed the year 2016. Society has evolved a lot in the recent decades in so many different ways.

As a society, we have made quite a lot of progress in issues such as civil and human rights, even in women’s rights.

However, we are nowhere near gender equality. Women are still harassed, mistreated, and ignored in many aspects of their lives all around the globe.

In the 21st century, countries in the Middle East, Africa and some of Asia still violate women’s human rights. Women are denied their right to an education, to vote, to drive, etc. They are still considered less than men. They are victims of domestic violence, “honor killings,” genital mutilation, and more.

While Amnesty International claims that violence against women is a violation of human rights that cannot be justified by any political, religious, or cultural claim,” nobody seems to be doing anything to punish the countries that do. Even America’s women are still far from enjoying gender equality.

Gender Equality does not mean that men and women are the same but rather that both women and men have the same rights and are equally treated and valued.

Late last year, Hollywood star Jennifer Lawrence brought attention to the enormous pay gap that women are victims of in America. Lawrence published an essay on how she, a world-renowned movie star, was also a victim of gender discrimination. She described how she found out about earning less than half of what her male co-stars earned. Not only that, but she also argued that she let it happened what her male co-stars earned. Not only that, but she also argued that she let it happened.

In 2015, the US National Women’s team won the Women’s World Cup and received an approximate $40 million. Now you may say “oh well, they earn millions, who cares?” I would say that I care. Because they may earn millions, they still deserve to earn the same as who do the same job as them.

But if you want to know what it’s like for “normal women’, let’s find out. According to the White House, “full-time working women earn just 78 cents for every dollar a man earns.”

And that’s for white women. For African-Americans, it’s 64 cents per dollar and for Latinas, 56 cents.

This pay gap is supposed to be illegal according to the Equal Pay Right of 1963. However, it is still pretty much real and nobody seems to be taking action against it.

While the pay gap is the issue that gets the most attention and it’s related more often to gender inequality, there are several other issues that are not related as much or just not considered part of the bigger picture.

Even though women are graduating high school and college more than ever, they still face more likelihood to suffer from poverty as shown by the decline of the percentage of women that live above poverty.

When it comes to violence, women have to deal with domestic violence, rape, sexual harassment in the workplace, bullying and even human trafficking. All of this affects their overall well-being.

Deciding whether or not to have a child or when to have it also plays an enormous role in their stability. For women, this has been a topic of great controversy lately with abortion legalization and Planned Parenthood. While many have politicized the whole thing, it really comes down to what will benefit women’s health, stability and satisfaction.

A website called statusofwomendata.org provides statistics that show how women suffer discrimination when it comes to education, opportunity, safety, health and even reproductive rights. All of this, of course, varies by state and you are able to see each state’s ranking in their women’s empowerment efforts or lack thereof.

Florida is tied with Texas for the 47th slot, which means it is one of the worst states overall for women. If you would like to find out more about the ratings just visit the status of women website.

varesp@mail.broward.edu
Life is all about taking chances, risks

Sofia Gangotena
Central Bureau Chief

Imagine standing in front of a pool. You might think, “There’s no way I’m jumping in, it’s too cold.” But what if you take the leap? Chances are, it won’t be as bad as you think.

Nothing ever is. I’ve never been one to take chances. I never do anything I’m really afraid to do. It’s always easier to just stick to what you’re comfortable with. I would never go to parties if I didn’t know anybody and I would never be the first person to start a conversation with a stranger, even if I really wanted to talk to them.

I always overthink everything and I can never get out of my head long enough to do the thing that scares me. I’m always thinking of what could go wrong.

For a long time, I thought that comfort zones were there for a reason. I never understood why anyone in their right minds would do anything they weren’t comfortable doing.

Then, it dawned on me. In high school, I was never one to get up in front of a class and talk. Public speaking was one of my greatest fears. In sophomore year, I had to take debate and it changed my life.

I would have no choice but to get up in front of my classmates and talk, because I needed a good grade.

It was daunting, but I would do it and it was never as bad as I made it seem in my head.

I’m still not over my fear of public speaking, but I’m getting better at it. That class taught me that getting out of my comfort zone can seem scary, but it is also worth it.

I always tell my friends to do the thing that scares them. I tell them, “It’s never as bad as you think it is! Just take a deep breath and do it.”

Of course, I’ve never followed my own advice. I would rather cover in the corner than do anything that scares me.

However, that is no way to live. Success can be found outside of your comfort zone. You’ll be open to new opportunities.

Sometimes, going out of your comfort zone might not work out.

That’s okay. Maybe the person at the party might not want to talk to you too.

That’s okay. Life isn’t about everything being perfect and happy all of the time. There will be moments where your expectation and the reality will not match up.

It’s just a matter of how you handle that. One person shouldn’t stop you from talking to new people.

One cold pool shouldn’t stop you from jumping into every pool.

Going out of your comfort zone can be scary, but it’s also worth it.

It’s always better to know exactly what happened instead of wondering what could have happened. It takes a lot of courage to do the thing that scares you. It’ll always look scarier than it actually is. The next time you’re at a party, talk to someone you don’t know.

If you’re in Public Speaking class, volunteer to go first to give your speech. Just take a deep breath and jump.

gangsm@mail.broward.edu

Sofia Gangotena
Central Bureau Chief

In the past few weeks, Broward County has been hit with severe rainstorms. On the morning of Feb. 16, Broward College sent a tornado warning to students. There was also a tornado warning sent on Jan. 27. It’s important to be aware of the proper action to take in case of severe emergencies. For future reference, this is what you should do in case of a tornado, according to BC’s severe weather plan.

In a building:
• Go to the hallway on the lowest floor, but do not use the elevator. Find spaces that would provide protection, like closets and bathrooms. Stay away from windows, exterior walls, and exterior doors. If it’s possible, cover yourself with a blanket or rug.

In a car:
• Get out of the vehicle and seek cover. Don’t keep driving to try to outrun the tornado. If you cannot find shelter inside of a building, lay flat on your stomach in a ditch, drain, or other low areas and cover the back of your neck with your hands.

Outdoors:
• Lie down in the nearest low area and cover your head with your hands.
• After the tornado, make sure to be careful, especially if you’re moving around. Watch out for broken powerlines, shattered glass, splintered wood, or other sharp objects.

Remember that staying safe should be your priority. If you have any other questions, refer to Broward College’s Severe Weather Plan found online.
Black History Month is celebrated annually to honor the contributions of the African American community to the country, their triumphs and struggles, and their most influential people.

Martin Luther King Jr.
A civil-rights activist and Baptist minister, MLK was the leader of the civil rights movement beginning in the 1950s. He was the driving force in ending segregation of the African American citizens in several areas of the US and the creation of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. King was murdered in April 1968 while standing on the balcony of his motel room in Memphis.

Medgar Evers
Born in Mississippi in 1925, Medgar Evers was a Civil Rights activist who became the first state secretary of the NAACP in Mississippi. He dedicated to organize voter-registration efforts, economic boycotts on companies that practiced discrimination and demonstrations. Evers was assassinated outside his home in Jackson, Mississippi on June 1963.

Harriet Tubman
Harriet Tubman was an American woman who escaped slavery and became a leader abolitionist. She was known for helping hundreds of slaves from the South escape to the North through the Underground Railroad. During the Civil War, Tubman worked as a cook and a nurse for the Union Army. She died in 1913 of pneumonia.

Rosa Parks
Born to former slaves, Rosa Parks had very early experiences with activism and racial discrimination. She became a civil rights activist herself. One day in December 1955, while riding the bus home in Montgomery, she refused to give up her seat to a white passenger. This sparked citywide protests and finally forced the city to lift the law on segregation on public buses.

Malcolm X
A very passionate and prominent Black Nationalist leader and civil rights activist, Malcolm X was known for his ideas of fighting racism by “any means necessary” including violence. He was also a spokesman for Nation of Islam, even establishing a national newspaper, Muhammad Speaks. Three fellow members of the Nation of Islam murdered him in February 1965.