Holocaust survivor shares his story

George J. Elbaum, a Holocaust survivor, told his story to students at the San Jose State Mosaic Cross Cultural Center Tuesday through a Zoom call in honor of Holocaust Remembrance Day.

The remembrance day, or Yom HaShoah in Hebrew, is observed annually on the 27th day in the month of Nisan, the month of barley in the Hebrew calendar, a week after the end of Passover, said Mitch Reitman, assistant director of Hillel of Silicon Valley.

Hillel of Silicon Valley is a multi-campus organization for Jewish students, according to its website.

“We want people to hear testimony of people who survived the Holocaust. We’re not going to have them around much longer,” Reitman said.

Elbaum was born in Warsaw, Poland, one year before Adolf Hitler invaded in 1939. At the event, Elbaum discussed his childhood experiences of the Holocaust.

SJSU students respond to Tesla CEO Elon Musk’s acquisition of Twitter

Twitter announced Monday that it will sell itself to Tesla CEO Elon Musk for $44 billion or $54.20 per share. Musk said he plans to make Twitter private and improve the platform by promoting free speech.

“Free speech is the bedrock of a functioning democracy, and Twitter is the digital town square where matters vital to the future of humanity are debated,” Musk said in a Monday Twitter statement.

The Twitter-Musk deal comes after Twitter previously adopted a limited duration shareholder rights plan on April 15, or a “poison pill” plan that blocked Musk’s initial bid to purchase the company outright.

Jack Dorsey, Twitter founder and former Twitter CEO, said he believes in Musk’s goal of “creating a platform that is ‘maximally trusted and broadly inclusive.’”

Some people, including former Twitter engineering manager Leslie Miley, worry that while Musk said he wants to create a platform that will encourage free speech, Musk’s ownership may cause the widely-used social media giant to lack accountability.

Several San Jose State students had differing opinions about Musk’s deal with Twitter.

Edward Lee, electrical engineering senior

Just because he is very experienced and obviously accomplished in the tech world doesn’t mean that he knows what’s best in terms of other things like free speech, political campaigning or handling something like Twitter.

I feel very strongly that billionaires don’t really need to exist, and the fact that someone can purchase a whole social media platform that has been integral to getting authentic news ... is frustrating and makes me feel powerless.

I have mixed feelings about him. He definitely is an innovative guy but politically, I don’t know if he’s the correct guy. I think there will be more restrictions on accountability and free speech and not as many limitations but we’ll see what happens. I’m still on the fence about it.

There’s a disproportionate amount of political censorship happening for conservative voices ... I think that he saw it that it was threatening to our democracy. He seems to have pretty noble intentions with everything that he’s working on and I think he’s quite literally a genius.

I have mixed feelings about bids to purchase the company outright. Jack Dorsey, Twitter founder and former Twitter CEO, said he believes in Musk’s goal of “creating a platform that is ‘maximally trusted and broadly inclusive.’”

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By Jennifer Schildge

The San Jose City Council met Tuesday and voted 10-0 to move forward with a proposed expenditure plan measure for the third round of a Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) program.

The plan is to receive $300 million in state funds. The council prioritized this initiative because of the increasing number of individuals experiencing homelessness and the lack of ongoing sources for interim shelter services and operations, Hemphill said. With the third round of the program, the council aims to create permanent housing in their communities, according to the city's website.

The first round was a $675 million grant and the second was $5.8 million any day now.

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The San Jose City Council unanimously passes third housing grant

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San Jose celebrates Japantown festival Nikkei Matsuri

Hundreds of Bay Area residents meandered through the streets of Japantown in San Jose Sunday for the 44th annual Nikkei Matsuri Festival, which was about two miles north of San Jose State.

The day-long celebration featured multiple musical and dance performances, artistic and educational exhibitions, myriad food trucks, artisan tents and a 5K run or walk.

The Nikkei Matsuri Festival has shown Japanese Culture since 1978, which began with the City of San Jose’s 1977 Bicentennial Celebration. The festival allowed the community to celebrate cultural diversity.

Top: Artistic director of San Jose Taiko, Franco Imperial, and his daughter, Sophia Imperial, march during the annual Nikkei Matsuri Festival at Japantown in San Jose on Sunday.

Top left: Taiko, Jazmin, Maya and Kalihi smile for a photo being taken by their owner.

Bottom right: Ikumi, San Jose resident and lead singer of the Ikumi-Band, sings in Japanese on stage in front of about 150 people.

Bottom left: Nozomi Takahashi, San Jose resident and festival dancer from the Uzumaro dance group, dances to live music among the crowd.
Eggers serves epic Viking saga

By Jennifer Schildge STAFF WRITER

“The Northman” had a narrative and a style that matched along with the story. Prince Amleth, played by Skarsgård, embarks on a harrowing mission to avenge his father’s death and save his captured mother.

The story is based on the early 11th century tale written by Danish historian, Saxo Grammaticus, which inspired William Shakespeare's Hamlet, according to a Friday Time Magazine article.

I thought that this movie would have dark lighting the whole time and be hard to understand but I was surprised at the amount of light that was in a Viking movie and I was not disappointed.

I thought that this movie would have a deep connection to the spiritual world and nature, who is sneaky and feisty she meets Amleth. Towards the end of act three she delivers a chilling monologue calling to the gods in the Old Norse language.

There’s a scene when she’s looking at her own hands, bringing them to her heart and then ready acting like she ripped her own chest open throwing her hands in the air. Then, the scene abruptly cuts to a shot of a volcano exploding. Taylor-Joy’s body language is so enchanting that at that moment, I wasn't thinking about anything else.

I was so glad that there was more of Taylor-Joy in this movie than I expected. She gave the role a much-needed romantic spin amidst the fighting.

Skarsgård yells, howls, and fights in mud, blood, and gasps and complete silence. This “Northman” has a 1:19:1 aspect ratio instead of the normal 1.85:1 widescreen format making it not fill the entire screen. It was distracting at first but later I found Eggers told NBC News that it “Inspires an uncertainty feeling of claustrophobia” and I was sold.

I couldn’t imagine seeing it on my little computer because I needed to be engulfed in Egger’s world. If there’s a "needs to be watched in a theater" category for movies, this one is it. I’d give the film 4 and a half stars and I wouldn’t have survived in those seats.

When the characters aren’t speaking English, they speak Old Norse, a language that was common during the ninth and 13th century but is still spoken today by Icelanders in a modern style according to a July 11, 2019 Babbel Magazine article.

Babbel is a German-based language learning app that centers on learning a language through real-life conversations, according to its website.

On top of that, the characters had accents that stilled their dialogue and at times was very hard to comprehend. This didn’t take away from the story and if anything made me feel more engaged in their world to the point that I believed
Overall, every streaming service has something for everyone. It’s a matter of what a user wants to watch.

The company blames these losses on competition, the economy, the Russia-Ukraine war and people sharing passwords, according to an April 19 article by the Guardian. The company blames nearly everything going on in the world for its issues, except itself. Netflix should just admit that its content has been mediocre in the last two quarters. Then there’s Hulu, which I don’t tend to use because its content is hit or miss. The company charges $6.99 for content with ads and $12.99 without ads.

I recently watched “Fresh” on Hulu and it was one of the few movies I’ve actually enjoyed from the streaming service since I’ve had my membership. The good thing about Hulu is that there are bundles and add-ons. If it wasn’t for the student bundle with Hulu Plus for $4.99 a month, I wouldn’t even consider subscribing to Hulu or Showtime. However, there are too many bundles to choose from that include Hulu, which can include Showtime, Star, and Cinemax. It’s almost as if Hulu can’t stand on its own two legs. Hulu is fishing for allies in this streaming competition but the competition comes down to many factors, from better content quality to the website layout. HBO Max has the best user interface. I know where to find the “recently added” and “coming soon” tabs, and an audience browse-by-genre option which makes the platform easy to navigate. The content on HBO Max includes premium blockbusters like “The Batman,” “Death on the Nile” and “Dune” with a mix of old Hollywood films including “The Wizard of Oz,” “Gone with the Wind” and “The 400 Blows.” HBO Max is the top contender because it has the widest variety of movies for any kind of movie lover. It also features critically-acclaimed media including “The Eyes of Tammy Faye,” “Euphoria” and “One Hurl Over the Cuckoo’s Nest.”

However, there aren’t a lot of options for younger kids or easy watches on Disney Plus. If you’re looking for a silly show, keep watching Netflix. If you’re a greek, continue watching Disney Plus. Just find your niche because there’s a streaming platform for everyone.

If you really want to impress your cinéphile friends, get the Criterion Collection and explore options. If you want to be in the know with every silly show, keep watching Netflix. If you’re a greek, continue watching Disney Plus. Just find your niche because there’s a streaming platform for everyone.
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