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By Brandon Nicolas
SENCH STAFF WRITER

San Jose State University's Student Involvement hosted its fifth of 26 block parties to celebrate homecoming week, featuring food trucks, homecoming shirts and entertainment booths along Seventh Street Plaza on Tuesday afternoon.

Student Involvement is a division of Student Affairs that aims to provide inclusive community engagement for students, according to its website. Event stations such as an airbrush tattoo station, a video game truck, a 360-degree photo booth, inflatable basketball hoops and soccer dart sets were set up along Seventh Street for students to participate in.

Jess Prudent, campus programming coordinator for Student Affairs and head of the Block Party committee, said the homecoming committee is a large cross-campus committee dedicated to providing events to celebrate the homecoming week.

"The Block Party is one of the kickoff events to the homecoming week," Prudent said. "The goal is to have a good time and feel good." Prudent said Student Involvement has historically led homecoming events with the help from the International Student and Scholar Services and the Student Union.

Students walk along San Jose State University's Seventh Street Plaza during the annual Block Party on Tuesday morning to celebrate the Homecoming football game.

By Melany Gutierrez
STAFF WRITER

Community talks migration through exhibit

Julia Curry Rodriguez, San Jose State Chicana/Chicana studies professor, presented a public lecture called "Immigration and Refugees Negotiating Public Spaces" at the Martin Luther King Jr. Library on Tuesday.

Curry's special guest lecture was one of the many events organized around the "World on the Move: 200,000 Years of Human Migration" exhibit, according to an SJSU webpage.

"World on the Move" explores humanity's migration journey including why people migrate, what they undergo during migration and their life after migrating, according to a website by the San Jose Public Library. Curry said migration occurs when people leave their homelands in search of new opportunities or when they are trying to escape humanitarian, economic, political or climate-related crises.

Anamika Mogwala, interim associate dean for students and faculty who helped organize the event, said "World on the Move" is a traveling exhibit sponsored by the American Library Association, the American Anthropological Association and the Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage.

Mogwala said the San Jose Public Library is one of the 15 libraries in the United States selected to display the exhibit. The exhibit is currently located on the third floor of the Martin Luther King Jr. Library and will be closing on Oct. 21.

Curry said she was delighted to be asked to be a guest speaker because immigration has always been a significant topic in both her academic and personal life. She said she migrated to the United States with her mother and sister in the 1960s when she was seven years old.

Curry said she has dedicated her life to studying immigration in higher education institutions to help defend immigrants and their children.

"Immigration is something
The recent city council meeting in San José featured discussions on immigration and traffic issues. Here's a brief overview of the topics covered:

**MIGRATION**

Julie Curry, Chicana/Chicano studies professor, gave a presentation at the event on Tuesday afternoon. Curry said it's an even more complex issue when you consider the movement of people coming to and living in the U.S. Immigrants, she said, bring a unique experience of immigrants who move to America and how they relate to their community.

She said it is important to recognize the difficulties immigrants often face when making the decision to leave their home countries. When men leave, nobody asks questions about their children or families. Women, on the other hand, have to care about their children's safety and maintain the experience that women have during and after migration.

Curry et al. also discussed the importance of supporting and sustaining the community for women and children who move to America, as mentioned in previous scholarly work.

**TRAFFIC ISSUES**

At the most recent city council meeting, San José City Council Members discussed the impact of traffic on the city, including road closures and traffic diversions.

The Planning Commission voted unanimously for the City Council to "adopt a resolution adopting the Master Plan Update Project" and "to approve an amendment to the City Hall Master Plan." The council will now take the necessary steps to make the City Hall more walkable, Curry said.

The City Council discussed the impact of traffic on the City's infrastructure, including the large volume of vehicular traffic in foothill corridors. As with any large event, particularly one involving a large volume of vehicular traffic, the impact on the City in prior years has been considerable, Curry said.

The council members then approved an amendment to the City Hall Master Plan to shift the experience that women and children have during and after migration. Women often play an active role in organizing and supporting immigrant families and their children in the U.S., Curry said.

She said that the reason road closures are important is because they allow the community to be more walkable and to take the necessary steps to make the City Hall more walkable.

**SUSTAINABILITY**

The City Council discussed the impact of road closures on the community, including the cost of building new buildings and the need for a new building and parking area, according to the memorandum by the City Council Members.

City Council Members discussed a housing grant proposal during a City Council meeting on Tuesday afternoon in City Hall Council Chambers.
By Vanessa Real

‘Gloria’ explores toxic workplace

Trigger Warning: The following talks about gun violence, suicide and other dark themes.

Months open wide from shock, stomach cramps from laughing too loud and gags filled Hal Tod Student Theatre in moments of terror during “Gloria,” a San José State production.

“Gloria” written by American playwright Branden Jacobs-Jenkins, and categorized as a comic-drama play, according to the official San José State production’s calendar, takes a “harsh and unflinching look to the official San José State comic-drama play, according Jenkins, and categorized as a production.

“We open with a laugh at the beginning and throughout the dialogue, but a lot of it is not actually meant to be humorous in the context of the play,” Jacob-Jenkins said. “The play is about the aftermath of the 26 mass shootings that have taken place in the United States, and it’s about how people deal with those aftermaths.

The play begins with a group of ambitious editorial assistants for New York’s biggest magazine company. Every character works in cubicles, argues and makes jokes with one another.

The three main editorial assistants, Ani, Dean and Kendra, make small talk and gossip about Gloria, another worker in the office, after she hosted a party at her house that Ani and Dean attended.

When the audience is first introduced to Gloria, characters Dean and Kendra are not on set. Gloria enters the stage with a serious stage presence as the audience are aware that she has Responded about the party and how it went. While the audience is watching the two assistants, a loud gunshot fills the theater.

Moments after chaos unfurls on stage, Ani and Miles are laughing too hard and gasps dark themes.

The rest of the play shows the mental and physical aftermath of surviving the shooting, and how the survivors were affected. Theater arts senior Alice A Lee, who played Kendra, said there were multiple reasons why she wanted to audition for “Gloria.”

“This story takes on a very serious topic of how social media portrays serious issues such as shootings around the world,” Lee said. “This play also has very dynamic fun characters to play, so that also attracted me.”

The ending takes place in Los Angeles television production company who wants to make a show about the shooting, which made headline news.

The LA television company wanted to create a show about the shooting after Nan, one of the characters who survived the shooting, wrote her own story of how the incident affected her. Theater arts senior James Perry, who plays Loren, said he wasn’t too affected by the theme of gun violence.

“My character is not directly involved in that particular scene, so for me it wasn’t that bad,” Perry said. “I did have to do a little character research because he changed in the second act due to possible PTSD.”

Watching these television producers become interested over Nan’s story created a disturbing and uneasy moral for the audience.

The message was that anything traumatic can be turned into entertainment, and for these television producers, the horrific events were nothing but a theatrical-adjacent convenience that they could make money on.

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Boygenius ties loose ends with ‘The Rest’

By Bojana Cvijic
SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR

Indie supergroup boygenius, made up of singer-songwriters Julien Baker, Phoebe Bridgers and Lucy Dacus, has released their follow-up EP ‘The Rest’ to their critically acclaimed debut album ‘The Record,” titled ‘The Rest’ a project they released on Friday.

The new EP is made up of four originally unreleased secret songs the group revealed on different tour dates. “The Rest,” feels like a tribute to the group and its friendship with the work they’ve done together, with call backs to each of their respective solo works and their work as a group together.

Filled with references to the cosmos, boygenius does justice to issues that feel opposite to one another.

The EP reasserts boygenius’ triumphant year of 2020, capping off their 2020 run with a surprise release of songs that add a deeper look into their previous release for fans.

“Black Hole”

At a live-in-store performance in Long Beach, Julien Baker said it’s been a process of letting go, working from co-member Lucy Dacus when she read about black holes creating rather than destroying them.

The group is a call-back to the track “Not Strong Enough” from ‘The Record’.

“Black hole opened in the kitchen / Every clock’s a star / Gravitational waves don’t wanna take us / I love when artists reference ‘Black Hole,” however, shows the potential in creating something deep with something else.

“I can see the stars, the ones / The headlines said this mountain was being spot out / By what we thought / Was just destroying everything for our relationship and for not being able to take on the dealings of our lives.

The song is a symbol for working emotionally strong enough for your partner, to not be able to take on the dealings of a relationship and for not being able to be the partner you want to be.

“Afraid of Heights”

All of the songs Lucy Dacus has lead us to think of us the highlights of all of boygenius’ work.

After we hope for potential in “Black Hole,” Dacus takes on a more spherical and cautious approach.

“I know that I faked it up when of the time, freaks me out / As I listened to the lyrics I couldn’t help but think of the time I jumped off a cliff unto cold lake water at the insistence of my friends. While I made it in, I definitely couldn’t help but think how scary the feeling of jumping into something you don’t fully trust.

“Don’t wanna die tonight / But I was makin’ / When I held my breath ‘til you came up.”

Dacus explained at the same live-performance in Long Beach that the song was about friends who think they’re radical, but ultimately are just reckless and trying to ruin their lives.

This song made me feel good in the sense that I’ve always been a low-key scaredy cat taking risks sometimes, sometimes a little. Told you I’m afraid of heights / It made you wanna test my courage / You made me climb a cliff at night / You wanted me to jump and I declined / You called me a coward, I replied / I don’t wanna live forever / But I don’t wanna die today.”

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Dacus explained at the same live-performance in Long Beach that the song was about friends who think they’re radical, but ultimately are just reckless and trying to ruin their lives. “I love when Phoebe Bridgers sings about the moon. ‘Afraid of Heights’ is a master of the cosmos, boygenius does

They remind us that while our problems may seem huge to us, in the infinity of the universe, it’s nothing, but a pale blue dot.

“Pale Blue Dot”

Julien Baker leads the trio to the ending track, using tropes from comic books and various scientific reactions as more allegories to her own origin story. “How did it start? Did I fall into a nuclear reactor? / Can’t live with acid skin or something worse / A hostile alien ambassador? / Or am I simply another of the universe’s failed experiments?”

Get ready to get existential when you listen to Julien Baker, because definitely had me sitting in bed pondering our existence in the universe.

Baker invokes the unknown forces of the universe that rule our lives.

If our planet wasn’t the perfect amount of distance from the sun, if our atmosphere wasn’t just right or if we were an inch closer to the sun, would we be here? Worrying about the daily issues of life?

“The tail of a comet started up in an instant, the destruction of matter / There’s no object to be seen in the supers collider / Just a light in the tunnel and whatever gets scattered / Flashed before the eye of whatever comes after / The force of our impact; this is our collision.”

“We as humans are capable of profound transformation and growth. Perhaps we ourselves are metaphors for the change the universe constantly is, chastisingly bringing about above us with every blink we take.”

boygenius reminds us of the relationship between ourselves and the universe that surrounds us.

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Being a ‘no sabo’ kid isn’t a crime

Alicia Alvarez

I’m so tired of hearing people belittle others for not knowing their ancestral language. It seems everyone just forgets that colonization and migration are a thing. I’ve watched the same community that failed to teach us shame countless women for not speaking Spanish. Family members, peers and even celebrities are bashed down with cruel comments and savage jesting because they don’t speak a language that was never taught to them.

Most of Latin America has already spent its 60 years for independence, so leave the language policing to the dead conquistadors.

According to the Merriam-Webster Dictionary, a conquistador is a leader of a Spanish conquistador.

Not speaking Spanish feels similar to a certain scarlet letter, announcing our ignorance as an entire population. Being a “no sabo” kid is like having a misspelled tattoo on your forehead, no one will ever let you forget it.

“A no sabo” kid refers to someone who does not speak Spanish, according to a May 23, 2022 article from Refinery29.

This toxic ideology on language has been spreading on the world stage. If you want to learn about four celebrities, Amy Taylor-Joy, Ortega and Rosalía, taken at Dior fashion show on Sept. 26 caused a frenzy at the Dior fashion show on Sept. 26 caused a frenzy.

Speaking Spanish is not as common as many think when it comes to Hispanic and Latino culture in the United States. About 54% of Hispanics speak Spanish, according to a Sept. 20 article by the Pew Research Center.

Speaking your native language doesn’t make you Filipino, so why should speaking Spanish be a benchmark for a true Latinx?

If Tejano queen Selena Quintanilla can be a Mexican icon without speaking the language, nothing is stopping a kid who doesn’t know the difference between estar and ser from being considered Latin.

It is surprising to see the toxic ideology on language even in the massive scale, further those classes, to practice speaking Spanish with me since they were all fluent. All I've got was a response back in English every time I asked "como estas?"

My family, like many others, fell into the cycle of criticism without reflection. I even found myself falling into it when I finally began to understand my ancestral language.

The hours-long hangouts with my cousin and aunt taught me the basics of Spanish, and I quickly picked up the language after my first year studying in San José. I was so proud to finally understand my grandmother when she spoke to me, but that pride morphed into judgment.

I realized I could barely understand one of my dance teachers, he spoke too fast and the Spanish words were too short. I tried to learn.

I desperately hope that we can show our community, begins to treat our language as what it is: something that can connect us, instead of yet another barrier.

I no longer identify as a “no sabo kid” label around.

In the video, Taylor Joy introduced her husband to Rosalía and Ortega in Spanish, apparently asking if the "no sabo kid" label around.

In the video, Taylor Joy introduced her husband to Rosalía and Ortega and Rosalía, taken at Dior fashion show on Sept. 26 caused a frenzy on social media, once again throwing the "no sabo" label around.

I had to stumble through Spanish, while words I could barely comprehend flew by me. I marched into the same well-organized classroom, remaining silent.

The subtle jabs I faced were constantly calling me a “no sabo kid,” the worst in this, I tried to learn.

I desperately hope that we can show our community, begins to treat our language as what it is: something that can connect us, instead of yet another barrier.

I no longer identify as a "no sabo kid" label around. When I was a child, I didn’t speak Spanish, if any at all. Third grade was the worst in this, I tried to learn.

The hypocrisy is what thrived before colonization.

The idea that a person who doesn’t know the difference between estar and ser from being considered Latin.

My family didn’t see me as someone who doesn’t know the difference between estar and ser from being considered Latin.

This idiotic label only deters and isolates those who don’t already know the Spanish language even in the most beautiful. People like they hoped. They turned against our own conquest.

Speaking Spanish is not lesser and has no right to claim their heritage based solely on their own identity. It’s disheartening to see this toxic ideology on language doesn’t make her Spanish.

Everyone is on their own journey with learning a new language. With the American education system being in the state it’s in currently, we can only rely on our community members to teach us, I desperately hope that we can show our community, begins to treat our language as what it is: something that can connect us, instead of yet another barrier.

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