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El leñador

Al servicio de la comunidad latinx del condado de Humboldt

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Illustration by Hector Arzate

Standing Together in an Exclusive Community

Why Racism is Normal in Humboldt

by Hector Arzate

Throughout my time at Humboldt State University, there have been many days where I felt like I didn't belong here. But I'll never forget November 4, 2015, when a white pickup truck with three white students inside sped through a stop sign, nearly hitting me as I crossed the street to get to class in the Forestry Building. They quickly sped off, but not before shouting at me.

"We don't like your kind!"

How could this happen to me? Did I mishear them? Was it pedestrians they didn't like? Or was it my brown face in a sea of whiteness and emerald trees?

I thought Humboldt was supposed to be liberal. Everyone always told me how friendly and diverse folks here are, but they never told me that beyond the strategic photo opportunities and data collection, there was no real culture to support us.

This was just one incident that occurred on campus and does not encompass the many other microaggressions and overt racism and violence that students of color face.

The following week, I heard about two African American students who were assaulted and harassed by two white men in a truck. The students were chased and hit with glass bottles. Then, on November 13, 2015, President Lisa Rossbacher sent out a campus wide email acknowledging the racial assault, noting that it was "not the first time that an incident like this has happened on campus or in the community."

Students like Malcolm Chanaiwa are not

surprised by the number of racist attacks, both on campus and in the community.

"I wish I could say I was stunned. I wish I could say that was something I never expected. But it was infuriating because, fuck, this is something that is happening to people that I am really close to. It doesn't stop happening," they said. "Everyone I know, everyone I love, everyone that I really care about has a story about how someone harassed them, or threw a bottle at them, or chased them around. It's ridiculous to me."

Unfortunately, it was not the first time students of color were attacked, and it was far from the last.

In compliance with the Jeanne Clery Act, HSU is federally mandated to release an Annual Security Report. According to the FBI's Uniform Crime Report guidelines, hate crimes are defined as "a committed criminal offense that is motivated, in whole or in part, by the offender's bias(es) against a race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, ethnicity, national origin, gender, or gender identity."

During the fall of 2015, there were three incidents of vandalism distinguished as hate crimes in the residence halls. One of the incidents was characterized by sexual orientation bias and the other two by racial

“How could this happen to me? Did I mishear them? Was it pedestrians they didn't like? Or was it my brown face in a sea of whiteness and emerald trees?”

within Humboldt County, many students of color (myself included) do not perceive it that way. The reality that we live in is one in which we are neither welcomed nor safe in Humboldt (a term that I use to describe both the campus and the surrounding community). We are not safe off campus, on campus, or even in our living spaces.

Despite the rapidly changing demographics, racism is neither new, nor has it ever been a thing of the past in Humboldt. We live in a community with a potentially active Ku Klux Klan, an undeniable history of massacring Wiyot people, and the expulsion of hundreds of Chinese residents. Like the rest of the nation, we are not innocent of these roots. Unfortunately, it should come as no surprise that we are seeing pushback against students of color.

On September 10, more than 30 students sat in protest of police brutality and in solidarity for racial equality during the national anthem. Many damned the football protests

bias, but the exact details were not made known. While these hate crimes are not physical assaults on students of color, they are still an attack on our identities in a setting where students should always feel comfortable.

It is important to acknowledge that despite the widely shared notion that HSU is a bubble

as being irrelevant in Humboldt, but to say that some in the community simply disagree with students would be an understatement. After a number of unconfirmed reports of Black students being assaulted or harassed in the local area, the African American Center for Academic Excellence sent out an email with concern for student safety following the football protests. The Center encouraged students to travel in groups and to use their cellphones as a deterrent from attacks.

The very thought of being attacked because of your race is not one that most students worry about. But it's an ongoing reality here at Humboldt State University for students of color.

Subsequently, on October 4 President Lisa Rossbacher sent out a campus wide email to address the recent attacks. With outrageous statements like "I know that racism is not the norm on our campus or in our neighboring communities," many feel the President has completely invalidated the danger and reality we live in everyday.

Racism has always been the norm here, if you cannot see that then you are either out of touch or willingly ignorant. And while there have been many student-led efforts to address inequity, there cannot be an inclusive community until there is a shift in our campus culture, starting with administration. With disingenuous gestures like this, it is no wonder why many students of color do not feel comfortable sharing their experience of racism in Humboldt; **We are invisible to you.**

Community

Disappearing Cultures and Hoods

Gentrification in the Los Angeles and Bay Areas

by Charlotte deJoya

Gentrification is a trending topic amongst people who grew up in large cities like San Francisco and Los Angeles and is not a stranger for Humboldt State students, where 32% of the student body reigns from the L.A. area, and 12% comes from the Bay Area.

Child development major Citlalli Jara comes from City Terrace in East L.A. Jara makes the 12-hour drive back home after long semesters in Humboldt. In recent years, Jara has seen family businesses shut their doors and neighbors’ houses go dark.

“I see a lot of families struggling... Landlords try to make way for the people moving in and raise the rent, and rent doesn’t stop going higher and higher,” Jara said.

The average rent price for a two-bedroom apartment in L.A., according to Rent Jungle, an online rental search engine, has doubled since 2011 and can now run over \$3000 a month.

“Going home is seeing my people thriving,” Jara said. “And home doesn’t feel like home anymore.”

Losing ground

Riding the train down Market Street in San Francisco, tall company buildings and refurbished shopping centers gather hundreds of thousands of people downtown on the daily. Large corporations like Charles Schwab, McKesson, Twitter, and Reddit lease out twenty-floor buildings in the area. A block away from downtown is the Tenderloin, where people huddle at the corner in front of a Thai restaurant, shielding themselves from the cold.

Aerial Williams, a sociology student at Diablo Valley College in Pleasant Valley, was born in San Francisco and lived in the Tenderloin until the age of 13, recalling the neighborhood was predominantly African American, Asian, and Hispanic. She and her mother moved to East Oakland as the cost of living in the city rose.

“I didn’t know why we were moving out, I thought we had it all.” Williams said. “The neighborhood was lively, and families would get together and have water fights and barbecues.

After nine years of living in East Oakland, Williams and her mother moved again because what was happening in the city was also happening in the East Bay. Rent Jungle showed Oakland rent increase from about \$1500 a month in 2012 to a mind-boggling \$3100 in September.

Pros and cons

Anoshua Chaudhuri, an economics professor at San Francisco State University, saw economic pros and cons of gentrification.

“The economic benefit is from higher rate workers are willing to pay higher rates for housing,” Chaudhuri said. “People who are able to afford high rents and buying stuff in the city are doing so. This also introduces support services, like house cleaning services... there’s more Uber, more restaurants...”

She included that gentrification stimulates a city’s economy and also gives buying power to those who previously didn’t have it. Chaudhuri also mentioned setbacks of gentrification.

“We’re losing a lot of diversity in the city,” Chaudhuri said. “It’s changing the look of the city, but in general, you will see positive effects in neighborhoods, like re-paved roads and parks.”

East Lost Angeles

Artisan coffee shops, organic 25-dollars-a-plate bistros, and expensive boutiques have appeared at an alarming rate in the hoods of Los Angeles and San Francisco. While these businesses profit, the deep-seated communities once prominent on wall murals and street vendors begin to disappear altogether.

Most inner city neighborhood populations like City Terrace consists of majorly people of color, but according to the University Displacement Project by UCLA and UC Berkeley, there was about a .05% increase in the white population in 2013. This seems like a very indistinct change, but Jara notices similarities between the way she gets treated in Humboldt and in L.A.

“I get stared at, I get bad customer service, I see these changes back at home,” Jara said.

Jara’s neighborhood isn’t the only thing being gentrified. She says white owned “gourmet”

taco shops attract lines of non-locals to their doors where prices are considerably higher than local taqueros who sell tacos for \$1.25 down the block.

“It’s four dollars a taco,” Jara said. “It’s funny because there’s all these white people thinking they’re getting an authentic taco from the hood, and it’s not. You don’t get the fresh aroma of al pastor and cilantro. It’s really weird, honestly.”

Paying the price

Williams now works at the Tenderloin Recreation Center and sees the changes in her old neighborhood, like the change of population.

“A lot of people who lived there were immigrants,” Williams said. “I didn’t start seeing white people in the neighborhood until about two years ago. Now it’s mostly Arabic and white.”

She attributes the changes she sees to the settlement of techies who drive up rent prices, saying this makes living in the city is impossible.

“Landlords are like, ‘oh, we’re going to make this two-bedroom apartment \$2000 because they can afford it.’ They gotta stop with that!” Williams said.

21st century conquistadores

The settlement of unfamiliar faces in predominantly POC-populated neighborhoods have Jara and Williams seeing a common denominator.

“When I was younger, we’d see two or three white people in our hood,” Jara said. “I would ask my mom, is this person lost? Do they need directions? Now it’s the other way around.”

“I hate to make it about race, but it is,” Williams said. “White people are taking all our stuff and making it hard for everyone else to live.”

Jara compared gentrification of L.A. to the colonialism of the Americas by conquistadores in the 16th century.

“We want more land, we want this town,” Jara said. “I really don’t see any benefits of gentrification for my people.”

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Here’s What You Missed

A recap of the topics covered at the presidential debates

by Katherine Miron

After what many call the most brutal primary elections, Republican candidate Donald Trump and Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton won their respective party’s nomination for presidency.

With the presidential election coming to a vote on November 8, both candidates came together for the most highly anticipated presidential debates ever this month. The debates were created for candidates to lock in or gain more voters. These debates allow candidates to go up against their opposing party and present voters with their stances on important issues. The issues brought up would be of those important to Latinx and other people of color in the United States.

Issues Concerning Race

In the past couple of years the U.S. has faced many problems concerning racial tension fueled by the large number of police shootings of African Americans. During the first debate on Sept. 26, mediator Lester Holt asked how the candidates would bridge the gap between races.

Clinton began the conversation by agreeing that there is an issue of racism in this country that needs to be fixed. Her plan on fixing the divide begins with “[restoring]

trust between communities and the police.”

Trust, created by her new Criminal Justice reform. Her campaign website states the reform includes national guidelines on the use of force by police officers and ending racial profiling.

Although it was not mentioned on Trump’s website, during the debate he stated the problem of discrimination would be solved with “law and order.” He claims to have seen enough of “inner cities where African Americans and Hispanics are living hell because it’s so dangerous.” Trump advocates for law and order because without it “we wouldn’t have a country.”

Education

There was little to no discussion about education, however, Clinton did manage to sneak in a bit of her plan during the first debate calling for “debt free college [by] having the wealthy pay their fare share of taxes.” She wants higher education to be an option for everyone, promising that by 2021 families with income up to \$125,000 will pay no tuition in-state four-year public colleges and universities.

Trump’s plan includes allocating \$20 billion towards education and distributing

federal grants to public and private schools from K-12. As for higher education, he wants to work alongside Congress with “good faith effort... reduce the cost of college and students debt.” Unlike Clinton, his plan includes helping student choosing vocational and technical schools by making them “easier to access, pay for, and finish.”

Taxes and Income Inequality

As we all may know the U.S. population consists of middle and lower class citizens that pay a larger tax percent than the 1%, who make more than a million dollars a year. Discussed in both debates Clinton shared her plan to “build an economy that works for everybody... [by] raising the national minimum wage and also guaranteed equal pay for women’s work.” Her main goal is to help “the vast majority of Americans [making less than \$250,000 a year]” by not raising their taxes but instead of those “people who have taken advantage of every single tax break.”

Echoing Clinton, Trump promises to “bring the tax rate 35% to 15% [and cut] taxes for the middle class.” Trump has not mentioned his plan on income inequality but does hope to create more jobs for everyone

by getting rid of carried interest for corporations threatening to go out of the country for cheaper labor workers.

Although the debates were spent discussing headlines concerning the candidates, they both managed to focus on the issues. They each took a stand on what they believed would be good for the country and stayed true to their campaigns in hopes of becoming the next president.

El leñador

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En el artículo “Progreso sobre el Tiempo” no iba incluido que la Propuesta de la Asamblea 1066 va dar pago por horas extra.

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Si desea promocionar su negocio o sus servicios profesionales en El Leñador, por favor contactese con nosotros al (650) 642-6525 o el-lenador@humboldt.edu.

El Leñador is a bilingual newspaper produced by Humboldt State University students of underrepresented ethnic groups. Our core values drive us to become the voice of the Latino community in Humboldt County. We are committed to keeping our community informed of the most important issues in actuality, through our newspaper, we hope to inspire other minorities to share their stories and experiences, thus creating more social, political and cultural diversity in local media.

El Leñador es un periódico bilingüe producido por estudiantes subrepresentados de Humboldt State University. Nuestros valores fundamentales, como la integridad y la honestidad, nos llevan a buscar ser la voz de la comunidad latina en el condado de Humboldt. Estamos comprometidos con mantener a nuestra comunidad informada de los eventos más importantes de la actualidad. A través de nuestro periódico, esperamos inspirar a otras minorías para que publiquen sus periódicos propios y originales, creando así más diversidad social, política y cultural en la prensa local.

Mission Statement

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Comunidad

Families Before Berries

Sakuma Bros. Berry Farm dealing with boycott

by Vicente Colacion

A three-year struggle may finally have reached a resolution. Familias Unidas por la Justicia has called for an end to the boycott of Driscoll’s and Hagen Daaz products. This boycott has been supported across the nation by grocery stores and co-operatives, including Arcata’s North Coast Co-op.

On July 11, 2013 Familias Unidas por Justicia formed with goal of organizing the over 500 workers employed by Sakuma Bros. Berry Farm in Washington State. Farmworkers alleged that they were being paid unfairly and below minimum wage, denied breaks, sick leave, and were being provided with inadequate housing.

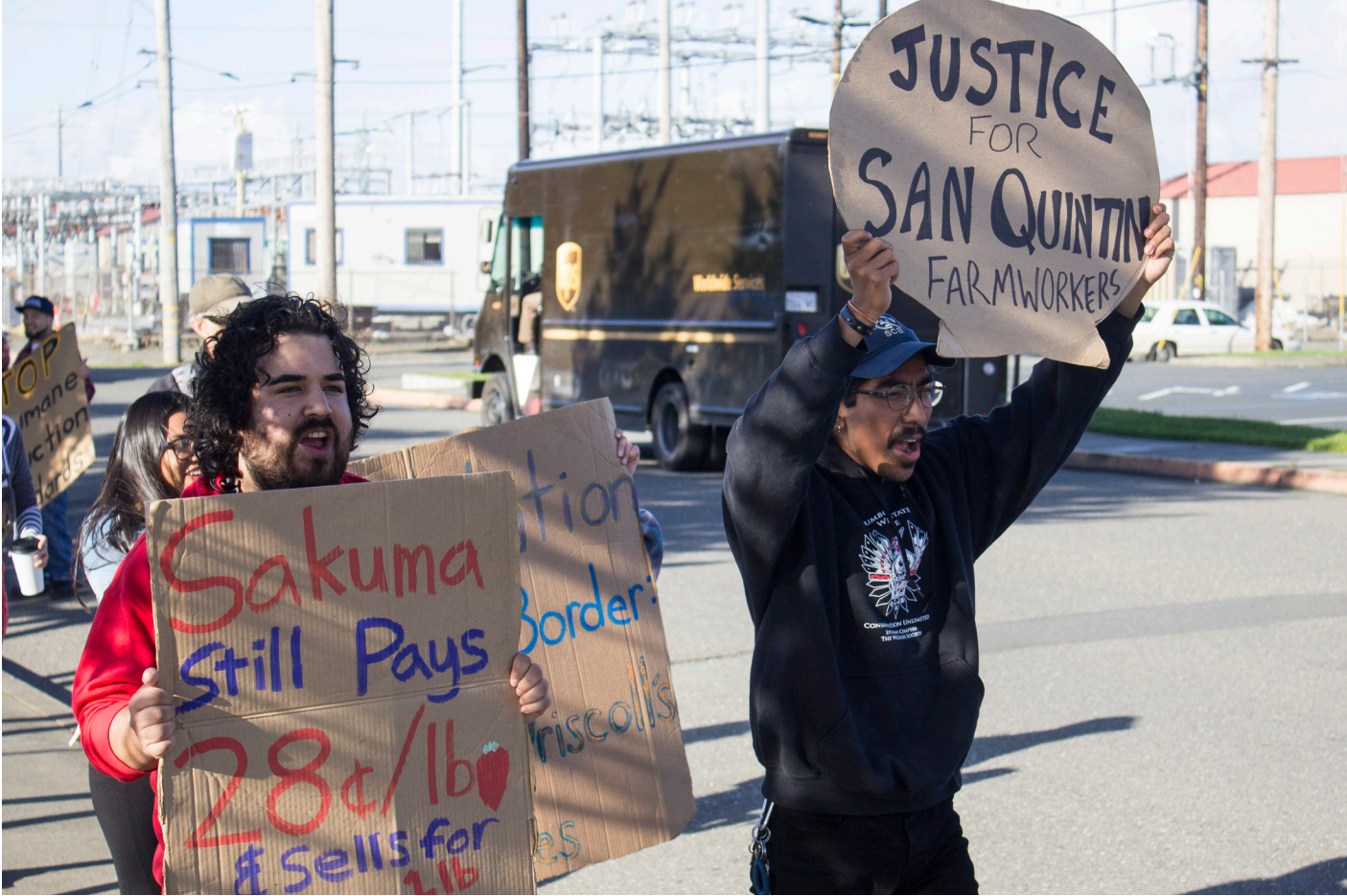
Initially, Sakuma Brothers agreed to make changes, but did not follow through. This led to protests and marches all over the west coast. Thus, the boycott of Driscoll’s and Hagen Daaz products was born. These companies partially source their berries from Sakuma Bros. Farms. The boycott sought to pressure Sakuma Bros. by disrupting their sales.

It has not been an easy battle and until recently, relations between Familias Unidas and Sakuma Bros. have been strained. In a December 2014 press release Sakuma Bros. stated that the boycott was orchestrated by “outside agitators, including Western Washington University students” and that Familias Unidas has “attempted to fabricate the impression that this is a worker movement.”

Familias Unidas issued a statement on September 4 announcing that Sakuma Bros. has agreed to begin an official negotiation process. They also called for an end to the boycott. A vote regarding whether Familias Unidas could represent them in union negotiations, 77% of Sakuma Brother’s farmworkers voted yes. A 15-dollar hourly minimum wage and sick leave are among the main contract stipulations that the farmworkers are seeking.

Maru Mora Villalpando works for the group Latino Advocacy and has been part of Familias Unidas through-out this struggle.

“I have never seen a group of workers organize this, es-



Union members picket outside Costco in Eureka demanding the end of the sale of berries. March 22, 2016 | Javier Rojas

pecially having the challenge of not seeing each other every day throughout the year,” Maru said.

The farmworkers live in Washington State on a seasonal basis, and for the rest of the year they return home Mexico and other states in the U.S.

“Familias Unidas has crushed stereotypes about farmworkers by organizing in this way,” Maru said.

The boycott may be over, but this is not the end for the farmworkers. They are now represented by a union, a union composed of members from their ranks. By March 17, 2017, a contract will be in place for the new berry season. Hopefully it will be written in a way that can satisfy both parties.

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Lo que te perdiste del debate

by Katherine Miron

Translated by Daniela Martinez y Jocelyn Lopez Ibarra

Después de las que algunos llamarían las elecciones primarias más brutales, Donald Trump del partido republicano y Hillary Clinton del partido demócrata ganaron la nominación oficial de sus partidos respectivos.

La elección presidencial está llegando con rapidez cuál será este 8 de noviembre. Los dos candidatos se han reunido este mes para el debate más esperado en la historia de EE. UU. Las metas de estos debates es para aumentar votos y ganar el apoyo de la gente de este país. Estos debates permiten que el candidato estén en contra de las fuerzas de su partido político y presentar sus opiniones sobre aspectos significativos. Algunos temas son importantes para la comunidad Latinx y gente de color aquí en los EE UU.

Temas raciales

Los EE.UU han enfrentado problemas sobre tensión racial durante los últimos años, impulsada por la alta cantidad de afroamericanos siendo baleados por policías. El primer debate fue conciliado por Lester Holt el 26 de septiembre y preguntó, como futuro presidente, que harían para crear la paz entre razas.

La candidata Clinton comenzó la conversación estando de acuerdo con Holt que reconociendo que hay racismo y que es un gran problema que se tiene arreglar. Sus planes para arreglar los problemas incluye el “[recuperar] la confianza entre las comunidades y la policía.” La confianza se restaurara con la reforma de la justicia criminal que ella creó. El sitio de internet de su campaña cita que la reforma contiene reglas generales sobre el uso de fuerza para los policías y parar la caracterización racial.

A pesar de que el sitio de internet no contiene información sobre este tema, durante el debate Donald Trump dijo que el problema se resolvería dentro del concepto de orden público. Trump dijo que “ciudades donde se encuentran afroamericanos e hispanos son un infierno porque son muy peligrosos. La campaña de Trump aboga por el orden público y según él, no tendríamos un país sin ese concepto.

Educación

Hubo poca discusión sobre el tema de la educación pero Clinton si hablo brevemente durante el primer debate sobre sus planes para eliminar las deudas innecesarias del costo de ir a la universidad haciendo que los ricos paguen impuestos justos. Clinton quiere que la educación superior sea una opción para todos. Ella prometió que para el año 2021, familias con un ingreso económico de \$125,000 o menos no tendrían que pagar la matrícula de la universidad.

Los planes de Trump incluyen dar 20 mil millones de dólares a la educación, distribuir becas federales al público y las escuelas privadas del nivel k-12. Trump quiere trabajar con el congreso para reducir los gastos y deudas de los estudiantes universitarios. El plan de Trump ayudaría a estudiantes en escuelas profesionales y técnicas para hacerlas más accesibles.

Desigualdad de ingresos e impuestos

Muchos de nosotros sabemos que la población de la clase media y baja son los que pagan la mayoría de los impuestos en comparación a los del 1%(Los que ganan más de 1 millón de dólares al año.) Este tema fue discutido en los dos debates y Clinton compartió su plan para crear una economía que sirve para todos al subir el salario mínimo y garantizar igualdad en salarios para mujeres. Su meta principal es ayudar a los estadounidenses que ganan menos de 250,000 dólares al año al no subirles los impuestos a ellos sino a la gente que se aprovecha de cada recorte tributario que hay.

Clinton exclamó que Trump promete reducir la tasa fiscal de 35% a 15% los impuestos para la clase media. El candidato Trump no ha mencionado sus planes sobre el tema de arreglar la desigualdad de ingresos pero desea crear más trabajos para todos en sacar al interés de corporaciones haciendo su negocio fuera del país con manos de obra barata.

Inmigración

A pesar de que no se discutió en los primeros

dos debates el tema de inmigración, es uno de los temas más importantes para la población latinx. La comunidad latinx tiene una de las demográficas más grandes de EEUU. El presidente Obama realizó dos programas federales que se dirigen a los indocumentados y en noviembre todo eso quedará en las manos del futuro presidente. Los programas llamados Acción diferida para los llegados en la Infancia (DACA), lo cual viene parando la deportación de chicos que emigraron a EEUU antes de la edad de 16. El presidente también realizó el programa llamada, Acción diferida para los padres (DAPA) que para la deportación de padres con hijos que son ciudadanos.

Trump creó un plan de 10 pasos justo sobre este tema. Su plan, según su sitio de internet dice que México va pagar el muro fronterizo y que sacara todos los extranjeros criminales con la ayuda local, del estado, y federal. Trump dice que él eliminará los programas que Obama hizo. El dijo que aumentaría el número de agentes de ICE, los que deportaran a gente que no tiene documentos.

Clinton presentó su reforma migratoria a través de su campaña en su sitio de internet al proponer un camino para la ciudadanía. Ella quiere poner el fin a la bara de tres y 10 años que afecta a los indocumentados que no tienen tarjetas de residencia y son deportados de regreso a su país. Su reforma defendería los programas realizados por el presidente Obama pero ejecutará leyes de inmigración en una manera humana y que se enfocaría en individuos que son un peligro para el público.

Por la mayor parte, los debates presentaron discusiones sobre temas importantes. Ambos candidatos defendieron sus opiniones. Y por igual defendiendo lo que ellos creían serían las mejores opciones para este país por igual también siendo honestos y de acuerdo con sus partidos y con la esperanza de quedar como el nuevo presidente.

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Campus

Whose Heritage?

Questioning Hispanic Heritage Month

by Gabriel Lopez

Latinxs are Mexican, or they are for the month of October where ads, programming, and cultural events meant to recognize Latinx culture are predominantly geared toward Mexican culture and traditions.

Hispanic Heritage Month is a historical and celebratory month meant to commemorate the contributions of “Hispanics” in this country. While this month is seen by many as a celebration of Latinx culture, its history and cultural relevance is questioned by many. Some students feel that the celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month is centered on Mexican culture and honors Spanish influence in this country.

Connie Orellana, a communications major, believes the month is exclusionary.

“Just the term Hispanic itself is very limiting,” said Orellana. “It refers to countries of Spanish speaking origin and is very dismissive of countries and people where this is not the norm.”

The Month’s History

Originally Hispanic Heritage Month was just Hispanic Heritage week. President Lyndon Johnson created the week in 1968 to honor the work of the Latinx community. It was later expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988

to encompass a whole month spanning from September 15 to October 15. The reason for this month’s strange start and end date is meant to recognize the independence days of six Central American countries: Mexico, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua.

Amy Westmoreland, coordinator of the MultiCultural Center, thinks the month has good intentions.

“I would like to say that Hispanic Heritage Month is a celebration of our cultures but it is tainted,” Westmoreland said.

For many people, identification with this month becomes very complicated. Historically, Hispanic Heritage Month was created to honor the work of the “Hispanic” population in the United States and give recognition to the Spanish influence in the Americas.

“Hispanic Heritage Month is a celebration of colonization, the recognition of Spanish settlements and inclusion of Columbus Day is evidence of that,” social work student Wendy Garcia said.

This month was also designed to pay homage to Spanish influence in the Americas, hence the inclusion of Columbus Day during this month.

Relevance

In addition to its recognition of Spanish colonization,

Hispanic Heritage Month recognizes the independence of only six Latinx countries. Hispanic Heritage Month is exclusive by definition. As Garcia and Orellana point out, Hispanic Heritage Month is incredibly Mexico focused. It is evident in the iconic faces of Frida Kahlo and Cesar Chavez that we see in commercials, posters, and workshops every year.

In terms of its celebration, Garcia said “we don’t even celebrate it ourselves, if you were to ask my mom and dad how they are celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month they would tell you that they are going to work.”

Where do we go from here?

The history and practices surrounding Hispanic Heritage Month are largely unrepresentative of the Latinx community. Still, it is something that is celebrated nationally in this country, so what do we do about it?

“We take it back,” Westmoreland said. “It’s up to us to reclaim this month and create something that celebrates each other and I don’t know maybe that starts with changing the name. It’s definitely something we need to work together to change, make it something that celebrates us for our differences and similarities.”

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A Director ‘Continuing to Make a Difference’

She ain’t worried about nothin’, she’s fly for life

by Mónica Ramirez

Between her many meetings on a weekly basis, Corliss Bennett-McBride’s office door is wide open on the second floor of Nelson Hall. Like many students at Humboldt State, she still continues to learn through her position as the Cultural Centers for Academic Excellence director.

As a high school student in Inglewood, California, Bennett-McBride was set on attending a four year university, but a nun told her that a four year wasn’t possible and junior college would be more realistic.

“She was trying to make that my only option,” Bennett-McBride said. “Mind you, I was on the honor roll all four years.”

Compared to the nun from her high school, Bennett-McBride is a strong believer in student success. She’ll speak to anyone who’ll listen when it comes to discussing pre-college literacy, and has done so through her company, Bennett Motivational Services. As an eighth grade teacher she was dedicated to leading students in the college direction, which was noticed by her colleagues.

“I want to always be in a role where I can support people,” Bennett-McBride said.

She moved onto positions like admissions counselor and minority recruiter for Occidental College all the way to senior assistant director of admissions at the University of Southern California. She was also the director of the African American Center at USC for about 15 years.

People had asked her why she still works at cultural centers, but being part of a center led her to achieve notable positions such as the president of the California Council of Cultural Centers in Higher Education and the national chair of the African American Knowledge Community from the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators.

“I have to make sure if I’m talking the talk, I’m walking the walk,” Bennett-McBride said.

Bennett-McBride mentions how there is a

“ I have to make sure if I’m talking the talk, I’m walking the walk. ”

lot of negativity towards black women and combating that can be difficult. Quoting the rapper Suga Free, “if you stay ready, you ain’t gotta get ready” are words she lives by.

Taking the position of director at HSU is definitely the next step in her career. Bennett-McBride said that she felt good knowing that the administration valued her opinion when dealing with the hiring process of the LCAE coordinator position despite not having officially started working.

“For all of the things that are happening negatively, I gotta be positive.” Bennett-McBride said. “Here I have an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of our lumberjacks.”

When she visits her parents’ home in Los Angeles she remembers returning home as a young college student. A neighbor she had grown up with approached her and told her “Hey girl, we’re proud of you, you’re representing the hood. If anyone can do it, you can.”

“If I listened to that nun, where would I be?” Bennett-McBride said. “To have her say that to me just made me think dang, that’s deep.”

Overall, Bennett-McBride will never forget the ‘support’ she received from the nun. It led her to attend the University of California, Riverside for her bachelor’s, a master’s at the University of San Francisco and her doctorate’s at the USC. As a goodbye to the nun she had simply sent her a graduation announcement with five words.

“Thank you for your support...”



Photo provided by Corliss Bennett-McBride


Humboldt State University

World Languages and Cultures Department: Spanish Program

Trilingual Poetry Contest for Spanish Heritage Speakers

Spanish, English & Spanglish

1st place: \$300
2nd place: \$200
3rd place: \$100



Fall 2016

Date of submission: November 4th, 2016
Poetry Reading: December 6th, 2016 at 6 pm
in the Library Authors Hall Reading Area

Sponsors: College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences
Department of WLC: Spanish Program, Department of English,
Department of Critical Race, Gender and Sexuality Studies,
Department of Physics and Astronomy, Department of Fisheries &
Biology, Department of Music, African American Center for
Academic Excellence, Latin@ Center for Academic Excellence

For more information, please contact Lilianet Brintrup
(707) 826-3123/ lib1@humboldt.edu

Mónica Ramirez can be reached at
el-lenador@humboldt.edu

Campus

Update On Latino Center Coordinator

By Mónica Ramirez

Applications for the coordinator position at the Latin@ Center for Academic Excellence were no longer being accepted after Monday, October 10. Now the real process begins for the hiring committee, consisting of three students and three staff members. Two of the students being a part of the LCAE staff and the third from Associated Students.

Corliss Bennett-McBride, the director of the Cultural Centers for Academic Excellence, is the head of the hiring committee. Once hired in June of this year, she was tasked to start the search for the next coordinator, however, due to a lack of students on campus to participate in the process she paused the search.

“I just could not hire someone without students,” Bennett-McBride said “of course I am going to have the final decision but it will be based on students being able to attend that forum.”

Bennett-McBride then explained how the applications will be looked over by those in the committee to determine which candidates will go through either a phone or campus interview. The campus interviews will be the ones needing student participation through an open town hall meeting. According to Bennett-McBride it will even be scheduled later in the evening in order to gain more student attendance.

“I want to make sure students have that opportunity to meet



LCAE

Latin@ Center for Academic Excellence

those candidates” Bennett-McBride said.

The potential candidates also do not only go through students and the committee but all involved groups such as the LCAE staff, coordinators of the other Cultural Centers, Retention & Inclusive Student Success, and the surrounding community as well.

“I want as much feedback from the community, as much as possi-

ble to help me make the decision” Bennett-McBride said. “That to me is what is different from the summer search, I just felt it wasn’t enough.”

Mónica Ramirez can be reached at el-lenador@humboldt.edu

Latinx Living On Campus

Will there be Latinx housing at HSU?

by Iridian Casarez

HSU was designated as a Hispanic-serving institution, a university with an undergraduate full-time equivalent enrollment of at least 25 percent Hispanic students, in 2013.

Considering that HSU is an HSI, it has yet to establish a Latinx/Hispanic housing.

Stephen St. Onge, director of housing and residence life at HSU, said that themed housing provides community for students to live in and brings a strong connection to the institution.

He also included that housing approached John Johnson, the coordinator of the African American Center for Academic Excellence and Araceli Diaz, the Coordinator of the Latin@ Center for Academic Excellence last year to establish a themed house that corresponds to their missions.

St. Onge said that Johnson was up for the themed housing but Diaz, who has since left HSU, wanted to put it off.

“I think for her it didn’t fit into the program,” St. Onge said.

Housing and Residence Life is very interested in establishing a themed housing for Latinx and Hispanic student populations St. Onge said, but they need a coordinator to do so.

St. Onge said that once a coordinator is hired they will reach out to try to establish a themed house for the Latinx and Hispanic populations.

Themed housing explained

Themed and community living areas are unique on-campus housing opportunities that are centered on similar academic, cultural, or personal interests for students who would like to live on-campus, according to HSU’s Housing and Residence life.

Some of this year’s themed housing includes the Rainbow Community, Academic Intensive living, Gender Inclusive housing, and the new Sankofa House.

The Sankofa house is a new themed house intended for students with an interest in exploring Black culture, history, identity, and African diasporic intellectual traditions and is open to all students, based on application.

Students in themed housing

Mireille Roman is from San Diego, California, a very diverse place. When she was applying to HSU, Roman wasn’t sure how diverse it would be due to the lack of options for themed housing. When

she was applying for housing at HSU and saw themed housing was an option, she did not hesitate to apply.

Roman is a freshman English major at Humboldt State and lives in the Sankofa House at HSU, and identifies as Afro-Mexican. She said she comes from a culturally diverse community.

“It was comforting to see others with the same background,” Roman said. “I love it.”

Roman said she feels that the Sankofa house is a safe place for her. She said that the Sankofa house residents attend events that teach them about Afro-culture.

“We bring up stuff that happens here,” Roman said. “We come home and talk about debates and issues of color.”

Eduardo Valenzuela is an environmental policy major who lives in the Rainbow Community. He said he’d felt it would be more

comfortable to live in a community with other LGBTQ individuals.

“It’s a great community to be a part of,” Valenzuela said.

Valenzuela identifies as Latino and was surprised to learn that there wasn’t any Latinx themed housing on campus.

“I think a Latinx themed house would be a good way to encourage people to come to HSU,” Valenzuela said. “It would encourage diversity.”

Iridian Casarez can be reached at el-lenador@humboldt.edu



Los Artes

Zymocenosilicaphobia, the fear of an empty beer glass

Revealing the truth behind a male dominated industry.

by Carlos Olloqui

Give a man a beer and he will be happy for a couple minutes. Teach a man how to brew and he will be happy for the rest of his life. We have been told repeatedly that everything beer related is mainly a “guy thing.” Men brew the beer. Men drink the beer. Beer is for men. However, craft brewing hasn’t always been seen as a “bearded-boy club.” In fact, women have been brewing beer for centuries.

The Craft Beer & Brewing Magazine said women, until recent centuries, were the “driving force behind much of the world’s beer production.” Ancient Egyptian civilizations were some of the first to master this craft. According to *Ancient Egypt Online*, the Egyptians believed in a goddess by the name of Tjenenet. She was the goddess of brewing, beer and childbirth; many believe her name may have derived from the word “tenemu” meaning beer. During this time, beer was brewed at home and directly associated with women. They were called “brewsters” and were in charge of the brewing; which was not only drunk by adults but by children as well.

Some women established such a well-known reputation in their craft that members of the community would arrive at their home in hopes of purchasing some of their latest batch of beer. Daniel Matthews is a writer for *Gender Focus*, a blog that looks at politics, pop culture, and current events from an anti-racist feminist perspective. Matthews says women dominated the beer brewing industry up until the 17th century. “Ale wives still brewed at home,” Matthews said. “But the combination of industrial expansion and witch hunts mostly obliterated ‘ale wives’ in Europe.” When they were suddenly ac-

cused of witchcraft, the Industrial Revolution turned beer brewing into a business instead of a craft. Women then became practically extinct in the brewing industry’s landscape. Today, the craft brewing industry is making a fierce comeback. According to the Brewers Association, there are currently 518 craft breweries in California. This has re-opened doors for

nia, I went home and just started figuring out how brew beer.” Barbara Groom is now the owner of The Lost Coast Brewery in Eureka, California, one of the two entirely female owned breweries in Humboldt County. “It took me six years and lots of money to open up the brew pub downtown,” Groom said. The Lost Coast Brewery is the

do things, I just ignored it all and did it,” Groom said. “If you worry about all the things people are saying to you and doing to you, you’ll never get anywhere.” As a society we have simply come to the conclusion that BEER = MALE. Only they are good at malting, milling, mashing, lautering, boiling, fermenting, conditioning, filtering, and everything else

try,” Sibyl Perkins, board member of The Pink Boot Society, said. “A source of education and resources for women who are trying to further their craft.” With different chapters all around the world, The Pink Boot Society is here to help demonstrate that it is not only men who suffer zymocenosilicaphobia.

Meredith Maier is not only the chapter co-founder and leader of the The Pink Boot Society Eureka Chapter, she is also the owner of Six Rivers Brewery, the second and only other fully female owned breweries in Humboldt. “I worked in an office, before this business I had a 9-5,” Maier said. “I love beer, so for me it was more about starting a lifestyle for myself rather than a job.” It was something she felt really passionate about and wanted to make a living out of it. As a female in the industry, Maier said that there have definitely been times that they’ve been over-

looked. “We have a male brewer,” Maier said. “There are times when we are sitting in a meeting, that I am gonna have to make decisions about, but they talk to him instead of me.” Even though beer and everything associated with it is now primarily male associated, history does not lie. It is women who truly deserve most of the recognition for this happiness fulfilling drink we call, beer. If it weren’t for women I wouldn’t be here, you wouldn’t be here, and above all else...craft beer would not be here.

Carlos Olloqui can be reached at el-lenador@humboldt.edu



Illustration by Gichi Viramontes

women to once again integrate themselves in the brewing industry and establish a larger role in the male dominated industry. “I was a pharmacist for 20 years and I just really didn’t like it,” Barbara Groom said. “One day back in 1984, after I left the Mendocino Brewing Company, which was the first brew pub in Califor-

43rd largest craft brewery in the United States, with a 90,000-barrel capacity, which is distributed all around the world. According to the Brewers Association, an approximate 3.8 billion barrels of craft beer were produced last year in California alone. “Men don’t like to see women

that goes into producing a craft beer. The Pink Boot Society says “Nope.” The Pink Boot Society’s mission is to “assist, inspire, and encourage women beer industry professionals to advance their careers through education.” “We try to be a source of support for women who are trying to advance their careers in the indus-

Catch Up, Hollywood

Even with *Jane the Virgin*, a telenovela-modeled show starring a hard-working Latina centered in her religion, Alfaro-Ruiz doesn’t see a representation of herself through its focus on Catholicism. “There are so many cultures within what we associate with Hispanics and Latinx that we’re not all being represented.” Shows like *George Lopez* and *Jane The Virgin* are almost the extent to

which we’ve seen Latinos/Hispanics with roles or in environments that are widely considered to be depictions of Latin-American reality. Meanwhile we have arrays of “white shows” but even “black shows” popping up more than before, for example, who portray different types of families/groups. **By the Numbers** There is a huge discrepancy

between the actual population that makes up the U.S. and what representation of that reality is shown on TV. According to a 2015 U.S. Census estimate, Hispanics make up about 17 percent of the population, yet make up the least amount of lead TV roles, even among other non-white groups. A USC study from 2014 found that Hispanics/Latinx make up

nearly 17 percent of the population but only 4.9 percent of characters across 100 top films at the time. (73.1 percent were White, 12 percent were Black, 5.3 percent were Asian, and 4.2 percent were other races.) “It’s part of a systemic problem that the industry has reproduced itself for the most part so that the people, even the new generations of people coming up in that indus-

try, tend to look like the people who historically have run that industry,” said Barbara Curiel. “I think that’s the key problem.” Among leadership positions as producers and writers, very few people of color and women are getting access to these kinds of jobs in the industry. It still remains dominated by whites and by men. Catch up, Hollywood. Meg Bezak can be reached at el-lenador@humboldt.edu

Nuestra voz y Historias

HSU students launch a bilingual journal

by Carmen Peña-Gutierrez “Yo cuento cuando cuento cuentos que cuentan, y mis cuentos cuentan. I matter when I tell important stories, and my stories count.” On October 8 in the Library Fishbowl at Humboldt State University, students and faculty filled every seat. Some were standing along the walls and a few spilled out the door. Maria Corral-Ribordy, lecturer for the Critical Race Gender and Sexuality Studies Department, stood in the front of the room with a copy of *CouRaGeouS Cuentos: A Journal of Counter Narrative* in hand and a warm smile. The journal is composed of short essays and poems from students in Ethnic Studies 107: Chicx/Latinx Lives, a class offered through the CRGS department. The space was opened up with a few words from Corral-Ribordy explaining how this journal came to life. “They wanted to speak for

themselves, to challenge the stories about their communities spun by someone else,” Corral-Ribordy said. “They wanted to tell it like it is, la pura neta.” It’s a rarity for Latinx students to find themselves reflected in traditional literature. Usually most authors we know of are white and male. Literature created by and for Latinx folk is on the rise and *CouRaGeouS Cuentos* can be added to that list. “I hope it continues to spread, having more students submit their work and see what’s possible with their own writing,” Carlos Molina, HSU alumni and associate editor, said. “The way we grew up and our experiences are valid.” The journal is a mix of pieces in Spanish, English, and in both languages. None of the pieces are translated and were left as is. This was done intentionally to avoid placing importance on one language over the other.



Staff of CouRaGeouS Cuentos after publication launch | photo by Carmen Peña-Gutierrez

Jose Manzo, one of the contributing writers of the journal and liberal studies/education studies major, found it empowering to write in Spanish. “I was writing my thoughts in English but thinking them in

Spanish. In high school my AP spanish teacher told me ‘you’re actually connecting to your roots. Think in Spanish and write in Spanish,’ and that made such a difference to me,” Manzo said. “I’m not really looking for the

words now. It just pours out, it’s just natural.” Read the journal at digitalcommons.humboldt.edu/courageous-cuentos. Carmen Peña-Gutierrez can be reached at el-lenador@humboldt.edu

Opinión

Behind the Queer

A photo collection of queer and gender non-binary, non-conforming bodies

by Alfonso Jr. Herrera



Self Portrait of Alfonso Jr. Herrera | Photo by Alfonso Jr. Herrera
With words and expression I hope to navigate through the smallest and largest parts of our society. Expressing my own queer gender-neutral experiences in my body and skin means everything to me as a student, colleague, peer, employee, child, or mentor.



Andrew Barillas | Photo by Alfonso Jr. Herrera
“I don’t think any kind of media should identify anyone, but provide some kind of creative tool for us queer folk to relate to,” freshman Andrew Barillas said. “In reality, I believe there’s a thin fine line between our queer identities and the rest of the world. You can disagree, but it is the fact that we bring upon ourselves.”

National Coming Out Day (NCOD) was on October 11, so here is some brief queer theory. NCOD is a civil awareness day that is largely promoted by the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), with the intentions of recognizing the members of the LGBTQ + community and their daily struggles. The words “coming out” on NCOD is understood as self-disclosing one’s sexual orientation and/or gender identity simply because it is not the norm to accept queer and gender non-binary, non-conforming bodies. These are some of the true untold struggles that the LGBTQ+ community faces.



Clara Nieblas Emily McLaughlin Vanessa Cota | Photo by Alfonso Jr. Herrera
Other people’s perspectives and experiences become very narrowed by this national holiday, which then becomes underrepresented and misunderstood throughout the U.S.. Words that identify how we move, such as “queer” or “gay” and “dyke” or “queen,” are very different from any other word and action in social liberalism.



Destinee Aleman and Carolina Calvert | Photo by Alfonso Jr. Herrera
As recognized by the HRC, it’s extremely important to be analytical about who we bring civil awareness to, but civil rights are narrowed simply by race, class, and gender in this country.

Homophobia And Racism Grows In LGBTQ Community

The internalized bigotry is only getting stronger

by Andrew Smith Rodriguez

As I continue to scroll down on the gay dating app Grindr I see many faceless profiles with phrases like, “masc for masc,” “no fems,” “whites only” and the list goes on and on. While it could be argued these are just preferences, when do these preferences become racist and homophobic?

Internalized homophobia and racism have been a problem within

Trying to balance the masculinity and femininity with myself has become a talent. If I act too masculine, I am straight acting or even not gay at all. If I act too feminine, I am too gay or just giving into stereotypes. While straight men can have the category of being comfortable with their sexuality when they are feminine, I fear being beaten because I am

capabilities are as gay man. Why does it matter that I am latino? Why are guys no longer interested when I appear to be masculine or feminine to their liking?

In a community that fights for equal civil rights, my own civil rights as a gay latino are impeded on by some of the same men who say they are fighting for equal rights for all. Let me live in

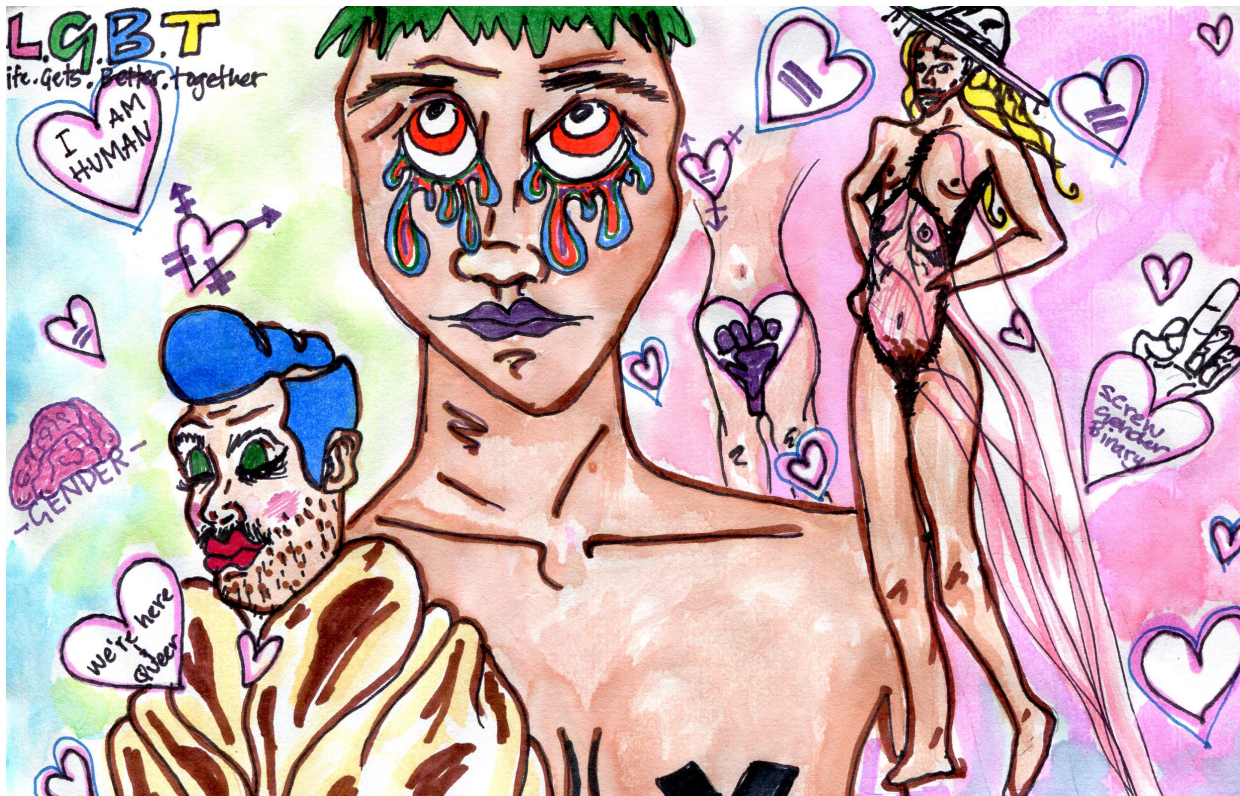


Illustration by Gichi Viramontes

the LGBTQ community that I have personally experienced more than once. Having white skin but being latino has opened up my eyes to the growing divisions within the community. Once I am known for being latino I fall on the receiving end of attacks from white gay men, some even discrediting my culture and background because of my skin color.

flaunting my homosexuality in public.

Being one who has fallen into the category of a masculine latino, masculine white, feminine latino and feminine white guy this internalized homophobia and racism in the queer community has to end. My masculinity or skin color should have nothing to do with who I am as person or what my

happiness and flaunt my feminine latino homosexual self, not in fear. Let others feel comfortable to live as themselves, not as a societal expectation. Let us, be us.

Andrew Smith Rodriguez can be reached at el-lenador@humboldt.edu

CALENDARIO

Thursday, Oct. 20

-VIRGIE TOVAR: Lose Hate Not Weight
12-12:50 p.m. | Library Fishbowl

-Let’s Talk about the Middle East: Film series & discussion w/
Professor Leena Dallasheh
7-9 p.m. | Richard’s Goat Miniplex

Friday, Oct. 21

-Game Night for the Youth presented by the
Juvenile Hall Recreation Program
3-5 p.m. | Goodwin Forum

Monday, Oct. 24

-Crafternoon: Society of Math and Science
3-5 p.m. | Science A 374

Tuesday, Oct. 25

-AACAE presents Rodney Nickins: *Why Civil Rights Still Matter in the Black Lives Matter Era*
6 p.m. | Kate Buchanan Room

Wednesday, Oct. 26

-FAFSA/DACA Help
1-3 p.m. | U.C. Quad

Tuesday, Nov. 1

-Humboldt State University Senate
3-5 p.m. | Goodwin Forum

Thursday, Nov. 3

-Campus Dialogue on Race Keynote: Ian Haney Lopez
6-8:30 p.m. | Kate Buchanan Room

Thursday, Nov. 9

-Tango from Argentina: Estampas Porteñas
8 p.m. | Van Duzer Theater
\$10 Students