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« El leñador »

Al servicio de la comunidad bilingüe del condado de Humboldt

#JusticeforJosiah

PG 5

**Community
Strides Toward
Sanctuary Status**

PG 9

**A Day of
Education
Empowerment**

PG 10

abril 2018
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In this issue...



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Front Page
Students from Fortuna Union High School District arrive
at HSU. | Photo by Branden Mark

News
noticias

8 Humboldt State University
combats high suicide rate

6 WASC Visit Ignites Protest

Life & Arts
la vida y los artes

8 A \$tudents First Budget

7 Student staff fights for a
permanent coordinator

17 Helado Negro

Opinion
opinión

19 Will Students of Color Ever
Be Welcome in Humboldt?

El leñador

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MISSION STATEMENT

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 Latinx 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 la voz de la comunidad latinx en el condado de Humboldt. Estamos comprometidos con mantener a nuestra comunidad informada de los eventos más importantes en actualidad. A través de nuestro periódico, esperamos inspirar a otras minorías para que publiquen un periódico propio y original, creando así más diversidad social, política, y cultural en la prensa local.

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El Leñador

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New Updates: Local, State and U.S.

by El Leñador Staff

Local

Following the vote to remove the McKinley statue, the Arcata City Council has began the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review process. Following the review, the City will have to complete an Environmental Impact Report estimated to take as long as six months to finish and then be able to remove the statue.

Fortuna City Manager Mark Wheatley was put on paid administrative leave after pleading guilty to a second DUI offense in less than two years, according to the North Coast Journal.

State

The state of California has filed a lawsuit against the Department of Commerce following the department having included in the 2020 U.S. Census, a question about citizenship status. The state attorney argued the question would lower immigrant participation, the White House supports the decision to include the question, according to NBC.

The California Department of Justice to oversee the investigation of the fatal police shooting of Stephon Clark. Clark was shot in the back on March 18 in his grandmother’s backyard after police had been called in due to someone breaking into cars in the area, according to USA Today.

United States

In a series of tweets on April 1. President Trump declared “NO MORE DACA DEAL” along with threatening to end the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) if Mexico did not agree to help with the cost of the border wall.

Noticias: Local, Estatal y EE. UU

por El Leñador Staff

Local

Después de la votación para eliminar la estatua de McKinley, el Concejo Municipal de Arcata comenzó el proceso de revisión de la Ley de Calidad Ambiental de California. Después de la revisión, la Ciudad tendrá que completar un Informe de Impacto Ambiental que se estima que puede tomar hasta seis meses para terminar y luego poder remover la estatua.

El gerente de la ciudad de Fortuna, Mark Wheatley, recibió licencia administrativa pagada después de declararse culpable de una segunda ofensa por DUI en menos de dos años, según el North Coast Journal.

Estado

El estado de California ha entablado una demanda contra el Departamento de Comercio después de que el departamento haya incluido en el Censo de EE. UU. 2020 una pregunta sobre el estado de ciudadanía. El abogado del estado argumentó que la pregunta reduciría la participación de inmigrantes, la Casa Blanca apoya la decisión de incluir la pregunta, según NBC.

El Departamento de Justicia de California supervisará la investigación del tiroteo policial fatal de Stephon Clark. Clark recibió un disparo en la espalda el 18 de marzo en el patio trasero de su abuela después de haber llamado a la policía debido a que alguien había estallado en los autos en el área, de acuerdo con USA Today.

Estados Unidos

En una serie de tweets el 1 de abril. El presidente Trump declaró “NO MORE DACA DEAL” junto con la amenaza de terminar con el Tratado de Libre Comercio de América del Norte (TLCAN) si México no aceptaba ayudar con el costo del muro fronterizo.

Join El Leñador!

If you would like to join El Leñador, Fall 2018 class will be held Mondays and Wednesdays from 3 to 4:50 p.m. All majors are welcome. For more information contact faculty advisor to El Leñador, Andrea Juarez at andrea.juarez@humboldt.edu

#JusticeForJosiah



Pictured: Josiah Lawson | Photo courtesy of Tina Sampay.

Social media campaign brings attention to Lawson murder

by Héctor Arzate

As the murder of HSU student David Josiah Lawson approaches its one-year anniversary with no suspect in custody, a new campaign has grown to create national visibility for what many believe to be a stalled out case. Through the use of social media posts, local community members and students hope to bring wider attention outside of Humboldt County.

“It’s been a WHOLE ASS YEAR since the murder of HSU student Josiah Lawson, the police are FAILING to do their job. We need help from twitter to RETWEET and help gain NATIONAL ATTENTION. We are in a small town. #JusticeForJosiah,” read one post by @lickmymelaninn_ on the social media platform Twitter.

With over 500 retweets and nearly 400 likes on Twitter alone, the post is just one of many throughout various platforms that include Facebook and Instagram

“It doesn’t take as much to send out a tweet. We need to put pressure on the city so that this doesn’t just fade away.”

to shed light on Lawson’s case using the hashtag.

Many have raised their concerns about the lack of support and resources in the rural community. In a flyer that is circulating the various platforms, there have been calls to “help the case escape the Humboldt bubble.”

“We need a national platform to bring attention and get it out of Humboldt County,” said HSU Student Daniel Segura. “We need to let people everywhere know. We can’t let this get swept under the rug.”

Although there have been several recurring city council meetings on the issue and monthly vigils since his death, many feel that it is difficult to be present each time and hope that tweets will be a more accessible form of showing up.

“It doesn’t take as much to send out a tweet,” said Rain Flotho, community member and student at the College of the Redwoods. “We need to put pressure on the city so that this doesn’t just fade away.”

Medios de comunicación sociales llama la atención sobre el asesinato de Lawson

por Héctor Arzate

traducido por El Leñador Staff

A medida que el muerte del estudiante de HSU, David Josiah Lawson se acerca a su primer aniversario sin sospechoso bajo custodia, ha surgido una nueva campaña para crear visibilidad nacional de lo que muchos creen que es un caso sin progreso. Con la ayuda de medios de comunicación sociales, los miembros de la comunidad local y estudiantes esperan llamar más la atención fuera del condado de Humboldt.

“Ha sido un AÑO COMPLETO desde el asesinato del Estudiante de HSU Josiah Lawson, la policía no cumple con su trabajo. Necesitamos ayuda de Twitter para RETUITEAR y ayudar a obtener ATENCIÓN NACIONAL. Estamos en una pequeña ciudad. #JusticeForJosiah,” dijo una persona en la plataforma de Twitter.

Con más de 500 retuits y casi 400 likes solo en Twitter, la publicación es solo una de muchas en varias plataformas que incluyen Facebook e Instagram que hablan sobre el caso de Lawson utilizando el hashtag.

Muchos han expresado su preocupación por la falta de apoyo y recursos en la comunidad rural. En un volante que está circulando por las distintas plataformas, se han hecho llamamientos para “ayudar al caso a escapar de la burbuja de Humboldt.”

“Necesitamos una plataforma nacional para llamar la atención y sacarla del condado de Humboldt,” dijo Daniel Segura, estudiante de HSU. “Tenemos que hacer que las personas de todo el mundo lo sepan ... no podemos permitir que esto se haga pasar por debajo de la alfombra.”

Aunque ha habido varias reuniones recurrentes del ayuntamiento sobre el tema y vigilias mensuales desde su muerte, muchos sienten que es difícil estar presente cada vez y esperan que los tweets sean una forma más accesible de aparecer.

“No se necesita mucho para enviar un tuit,” dijo Rain Flotho, miembro de la comunidad y estudiante del College of the Redwoods. “Necesitamos presionar a la ciudad para que no se desaparezca.”

WASC Visit Ignites Protest

Students walk out to protest HSU budget crisis during WASC accreditation visit

by Sarahi Apaez

“Hey, hey, what do you say, we want funding right away!” students chanted during a walk out held to speak out against planned budget cuts. Students at Humboldt State University held a walk out on March 21 to protest planned budget cuts while the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, or WASC, met to discuss the university’s accreditation.

WASC accreditation serves as a certification to the public that the university is a trustworthy institution of learning.

While visiting the HSU campus, WASC was in the process of assisting the university in establishing priority areas for improvement as a part of the accreditation cycle. The cycle includes a university self-assessment, insight and perspective from the visiting committee, followed by an assessment of progress.

“This institution is a poverty mill,” sociology major Moxie Alvarnez said, speaking through a megaphone to the crowd of students gathered in the UC Quad. “The administration is so far from the lived realities of their students.”

Students shared the megaphone to express frustrations regarding student and faculty homelessness and student loan debts.

“I want you all to come up and write about how much you owe the school,” communication major Lizzie Phillips said, urging students to share their thoughts on a giant white poster paper.

This student activism was sparked after learning that the California State University system approved raises in recent years for university presidents and administrators. Meanwhile, budget reduction plans that make cuts to student resources were shared with the university in February 2018.

“Why is it that the cultural centers don’t have funding?” Alvarnez said. “If the administration took a pay cut we would have money to fund them.”

After the gathering in the UC Quad, Alvarnez led students to Siemens Hall where WASC was said to be holding meetings.

“We would like to meet with WASC because many of us can’t make that forum, and dates and times were really hard to find, so we’re all here now,” Alvarnez said, directed towards university Provost Alex Enyedi who was standing in front of his office in Siemens Hall.

This turned into a moment for students to discuss their concerns with administrators they confronted in the hallways of Siemens Hall. Interim VP of Student Affairs Wayne Brumfield and Enyedi responded to many



Moxie Alvarnez speaks-out to the crowd of students and faculty. | Photo by Briana Yah-Diaz

students questions and concerns for several minutes.

“Every dollar that the deficit covers in the College of Natural Resources and Sciences, prevents us from funding up things like the cultural centers budgets, or prevents us from having a Q Center on campus,” Enyedi said, responding to student’s concerns voiced in the hallway and out on the UC Quad.

Student outrage about the budget cuts come from the fear that the classes they need to graduate are going to be cut. Students are afraid that this could mean it could take them longer to graduate, an issue that is costly for most students.

“One rule I was told by the dean was to offer the courses the students need to graduate, and that rule is being followed,” Enyedi said. “You will get the classes you will need to graduate.”

“Graduate when?” students said in shouts and mumbles throughout the hallway.



Elizabeth Phillips speaking with Jenessa Lund, executive director of AS. | Photo by Briana Yah-Diaz

Ultimately, the walk out lead to a large amount of students attending the WASC meeting which occurred later that same day. There, students shared with the WASC committee what they felt HSU needs to improve on.

In a memo, President Lisa A. Rossbacher said that the HSU finalized budget would be pushed back from being released on March 29 to “next week,” the first week of April. Rossbacher said that this delay is due to the feedback received from URPC, WASC, and from the Associated Students budget forum.



HSU students and faculty gather at the UC Quad for the budget cut speak-out. | Photo by Briana Yah-Diaz

No Money, No Coordinator, No MCC?

Student staff fights for a permanent coordinator

by Sinhai Dorantes

After two months without a coordinator, the MultiCultural Center (MCC) has temporarily reassigned Mona Mazzotti, the publicity promotion and outreach specialist for the Cultural Centers for Academic Excellence (CCAЕ), as coordinator of the MCC while their search for a permanent coordinator continues.

During January and February of this year, there was no official staff appointed to oversee the MCC, leaving student staff in an overwhelming state. The previous search committee expected to have someone come in by mid-February but due to candidates pulling out, there was no decision made.

"I just was over here doing it," Mazzotti said. "I was also already reassigned to the AACAE, and then Wayne realized that they needed to have a more permanent presence instead of me just coming over for meetings."

Mazzotti officially became the MCC coordinator on March 1.

Due to the failed execution of the last search committee, student staff including Angelica Muñoz came together to create a letter of concerns which they sent out to administration.

"Last time it failed because of how unorganized it was with no student or coordinator input," Munoz said. "And since nobody was communicating with us from above, we wanted to communicate our concerns with them so that they could know what was happening here."

After the letter was sent out, Mazzotti was reassigned as coordinator, and the application for the coordinator position was officially closed on March 19.

"We have a little bit more of a structure now, but we are fighting for a coordinator that is going to be here for



"Multicultural Center's Circus" | Illustration by Gichi Viramontes

the next 10 years," Munoz said. "We don't want people coming in and out. We just want a clear, concise timeline."

Timeline for the new search

Corliss P. Bennett, the director of the CCAE, finalized the search committee the week after spring break and hopes to have the final candidates come to campus by the week of April 23.

"The goal, hopefully, is to interview the week of the 23rd. That way no matter what, even if I don't say who it is after finals, everyone will have seen them," Bennett said. "My hope is that they will be in place this summer so that when school starts we are on point."

The candidates will be interviewed by Bennett, the VP of Student Affairs, the coordinators of the CCAE, the

MCC student staff, and other offices that work with the MCC.

"Ultimately, I will make the decision of who will be our new MCC coordinator, but I need that input," Bennett said. "So when those town hall meetings happen please come, please come and write up your evaluations, and in that way, I can make a good decision."

The town hall meetings will be an hour and a half for candidates to do a presentation and Q&A. There will be a university invitation sent out in advance to notify anyone interested in attending. Applications are currently being processed by human resources.

Origins of the MCC

The MCC started in 1993 through

student protest as mainly students of color gathered at Founders Hall and advocated for a place of their own on campus. Marylyn Paik-Nicely, who was the MCC coordinator from 1997-2015, took part in maintaining the MCC's structure.

"I saw that specifically, our students of color that were coming from urban areas really needed a sense of community and we really worked at that," Paik-Nicely said. "I thought it was very important to have this feeling of a home away from home and to have this place to hang out."

Budget cut impact

The MCC's hours have been cut to 40 hours a week, which changes their operating times. They will now be closing two hours earlier than the current hours of operation. The MCC is also going to minimize the number of positions available for student workers.

"Instead of laying off workers we are cutting back hours, and it is unfortunate but we are cutting all over the campus," Bennett said. "We are also trying to streamline the positions in each office so that we can stay in budget."

Where's the student voice?

Leadership and student voice is the foundation of the MCC. For some, it is especially important for students to be heard during these difficult times. Amy Salinas Westmoreland, former coordinator of the MCC during 2015-2016, is very angry to see how the MCC is being handled right now and only hopes that students continue to voice their opinion.

"A failure of a center to operate is a huge indicator of bad leadership," Westmoreland said. "The longer you keep the students from having leadership within that center, the longer you silence those people, and the longer you weaken that center."

A \$tudents First Budget

How the budget cuts are going to affect students

by Iridian Casarez

Humboldt State University (HSU) is going through budget cuts because of its deficit spending over the last few years. HSU spent more money than it had and thus began the budget crisis.

Students have received several emails from President Lisa Rossbacher about where HSU stands on finding a solution to the budget crisis. In an email that was sent on Feb. 26, Rossbacher said that HSU needs to cut \$9 million off of our annual budget over the next two years, reducing it down to \$134 million.

Rossbacher called the budget resolution a in her email. Provost Alexander Enyedi said that the “‘Students First’ budget” looks to minimize any impact on students.

“We are ensuring that students have the classes and support that they need to progress toward graduation,” Enyedi said. “However, there may be fewer choices of courses to fulfill certain requirements and fewer elective courses. It will be minimal.”

The budget’s main focus, Enyedi said, is to get students to earn their degrees. HSU will only spend money it receives through the State of California via the governor’s office and enrolled student tuition which will ensure that it has a balanced budget.

Student resources such as the Learning Center, Writing Center and other resources for academic help will not have any reductions because of the budget cuts, Enyedi said.

“We are investing in these important areas including new funding support for the RAMP program,” Enyedi said. “HSU has invested resources in our new Center for Teaching and Learning, the center will directly impact and support student learning.”

Lisa Bond-Maupin, the dean of the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences (CAHSS) said that the college has been working collectively on a plan to reduce our spending since

“Part of our spending reduction involves being as responsible as possible in the courses we offer headed into next year and beyond. To us, being responsible means putting student need at the center of our scheduling decisions.”

last fall.

“Part of our spending reduction involves being as responsible as possible in the courses we offer headed into next year and beyond,” Bond-Maupin said. “To us, being responsible means putting student need at the center of our scheduling decisions.”

Bond-Maupin also said that CAHSS made sure that the schedule for all of their departments next semester provided the courses that students need. The schedule for next year represents less than one percent fewer courses than this year.

“I welcome hearing from any students within our college who have any concerns about the courses available for next year,” Bond-Maupin said. “Their ability to stay on track for graduation is very important to us.”

Mind Does Matter

Humboldt State University combats high suicide rate

by Jose Herrera

Suicide rates in Humboldt County were twice as high as the state and national averages in 2013-2015, according to a statewide survey administered by the California Department of Public Health, with an average of 26.3 deaths per 100,000 residents. Mental health resources are being assessed for Humboldt County and Humboldt State University (HSU) in response.

In November of 2017, HSU received a three-year federal grant from the national Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Association (SAMHSA) for \$300,000. The money provides the opportunity to hire more staff and specialists, and spread awareness on the issue.

A new program was established called the HSU Campus Connect Support Network and is led by Student Health & Wellbeing Services, including Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS). The work is a collective effort to improve funding and reduce risk factors for suicide among HSU students.

“Just the fact that Humboldt County is rural, there’s less doctors, less nurses, less therapists, less hospital resources that are local and so, that’s a challenge for some of our students,” staff psychologist and coordinator of Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) services Stephanie McGrath said.

According to McGrath, CAPS offers group therapy, one-on-one therapy, general groups for students who struggle with anxiety and depression, teach meditation and healthy relationships, and other services.

Students pay \$218 out of their tuition for the Health Services Fee which grants them access to the health facilities but some still struggle to get the help they need as a result of limited resources.

According to Meghan Martinez, a post-graduate resident and lead of a grief group, CAPS gets busy and it’s something important thing for students to know, especially during certain times of the semester.

“The process can be daunting but I usually encourage students to keep trying,” Meghan Martinez said. “Even if they can come in for one appointment and we can set them up with a counselor off campus, it’s worth it.”

Meghan Martinez said that mental health providers in the entire area are impacted, but CAPS does their best to provide help and guidance for anyone seeking help.

Jason Martinez, a student double majoring in history and nanomarket science, visited CAPS and spoke with a therapist. He felt that his experience was a good one and acknowledged that staff members want students to come in and see them.

“Sometimes people fail and they fall and it’s hard for some of us to get back up,” Jason Martinez said.

Although CAPS did help him, his visits were just a stepping stone for his healing process.

“For me, they saw me as soon as they could,” Jason Martinez said. “When they found out that I was going through certain things, they actually saw me immediately. So it was good that there are certain things that they look out for just in case someone’s life is in danger.”

Martinez said that HSU would benefit from having therapists and counselors from different ethnicities and similar backgrounds as students. As of March 28, there is a job posting in the North Coast Journal classified to hire a ‘multicultural specialist’ in August 2018 at CAPS.

“It has been a good experience and I found a lot of healing,” Jason Martinez said. “But at the same time there are certain things that, because of the lack of diversity, there are certain things people don’t understand.”

It’s also important to talk about mental health. Meghan Martinez said that overall there are more conversations happening about mental health, but the stigma around the topic is still there.

It’s brave to ask for help,” McGrath said. “And you deserve to be happy and to get the care and take care of yourself if you’re struggling.”

Counseling is available on campus at the Student Health Center located up the hill from the HSU Library off Plaza Circle:

Crisis hours are Monday thru Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., if a student is ever feeling suicidal or having any other kind of emergency situation they can walk in and see a counselor without even waiting.

Counseling And Psychological Services’ phone number is available 24 hours a day: **(707) 826-3236**

Community Strides Toward Sanctuary Status

Locals work to make the county a safer place for the undocumented

by Meg Bezak

Earlier this year in February, Eureka-based cultural organization Centro del Pueblo hosted a rally on the front steps of the Humboldt County Courthouse that kicked off an initiative to get the county to pass a Sanctuary Ordinance. This piece of legislation would deter the efforts of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and create a safer environment for local folks who are undocumented.

Since then, community leaders at Centro del Pueblo have been working to get at least 8,000 signatures to safely reach the 4,000 valid signatures from registered voters in Humboldt County that are required for the Board of Supervisors to approve the initiative as a votable measure on the ballot in November. The petition is due on April 30 and currently, there are about 2,996 signatures.

"We are on overdrive mode, attending every event that's happening in the community whether it's in Arcata, McKinleyville, Eureka, Fortuna, just really trying to get 2,000 more signatures," said Kevin Martinez, a Humboldt State University student and member of MEChA and Centro del

Pueblo.

California Senate Bill 54, signed by Governor Jerry Brown in November of 2017, already limits state and local law enforcement's cooperation with ICE. However, if the Sanctuary Ordinance gets taken to a vote and passes, Humboldt County residents will be able to rest assured that from midnight to 8 a.m. they are safe from raids and cannot be detained without a federal warrant as long as their criminal record satisfies the requirements of the federal government. It will also allow parents who get detained to have a say in who will care for their children in their absence.

"Federal policy will always oversee local policy," Martinez said. "We can just make it harder for them to do their job. They're not just showing up at the courthouse. They're showing up to the hospital and the farms and things like that, so this is needed now more than ever."

The ordinance challenges the Trump Administration's crackdown on the enforcement of immigration policies and is a right that locals have "to petition the government for a redress of grievances" according

to the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. With promises from the current top immigration chief to intensify the presence of agents throughout the state of California, communities like Humboldt County with large undocumented communities are especially motivated to protect its people.

"I'm going to significantly increase our enforcement presence in California," acting ICE director Thomas Homan said in an interview with Fox News in January. "We're already doing it. We're going to detail additional law enforcement access to California. California better hold on tight. They're about to see a lot more special agents, a lot more deportation officers in the state of California."

Community members at Centro del Pueblo are spearheading the initiative by holding meetings and events to gather signatures and raise awareness of the potentially votable measure. The next upcoming meeting is on April 7 from 12-2 p.m. at the United Congressional Church in Eureka on 900 Hodgson St.

"The term sanctuary, at least when it's referring to the local

government and particularly the countywide jurisdiction," Martinez said. "Sends a message to the local immigrant community that there are county officials that are making this conscientious objection to federal policy and they want to be there for you."

When contacted for a comment, multiple members of the Board of Supervisors did not answer calls to their office.

Renee Saucedo, a leading force at Centro del Pueblo, is working with team members to organize effective ways to gather supporters' signatures and educate local folks on the community's need for legal protection of undocumented people.

"Why do we need a sanctuary law in Humboldt? Because undocumented families in our county are terrified that they will be reported to ICE and forcibly separated from their children, families, and loved ones," Saucedo said at the rally in February. "We are human beings and we deserve to be treated with dignity. This sanctuary law proposal represents our community standing up for ourselves and saying, ya basta."

Comunidad Luchando Por Estado Santuario

El pueblo trabaja para hacer el condado seguro por los indocumentados

por Meg Bezak

traducido por El Leñador Staff

A principio de este año en febrero, la organización localizada en Eureka, Centro del Pueblo organizó una reunión en los escalones de la entrada del Tribunal de Humboldt County que empezó la iniciativa para que el condado apruebe una ordenanza santuario. Esta legislación es para desalentar los esfuerzos del Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) y crearía un hogar más seguro para las personas locales que no están documentadas.

Desde entonces, los líderes comunitarios del Centro del Pueblo han estado trabajando para obtener al menos 8,000 firmas para obtener 4,000 firmas válidas de votantes registrados en el Condado de Humboldt que son necesarias para que la Junta de Supervisores apruebe la iniciativa como una medida votable en la boleta en noviembre. La petición debe que estar entregada el 30 de abril y, actualmente, hay cerca de 2,996 firmas.

"Estamos en modo de sobremarcha, atendiendo todos los eventos que están sucediendo en la comunidad ya sea en Arcata, McKinleyville, Eureka, Fortuna, simplemente tratando de obtener 2,000 firmas más," dijo Kevin Martínez, estudiante de Humboldt State y miembro de MEChA y Centro del Pueblo.

El proyecto de ley 54 del Senado de California, firmado por el gobernador Jerry Brown en noviembre de 2017, ahorita limita la cooperación de las fuerzas del orden público estatales y locales con el ICE. Sin embargo, si la Ordenanza del Santuario es aprobada y pasa, los residentes del Condado de Humboldt podrán estar seguros de que desde la 12 a.m. hasta las 8 a.m. estarán a salvo de las redadas y no podrán ser detenidos sin una orden federal si sus antecedentes penales satisfaca los requisitos del gobierno federal. También permitirá que los padres que son detenidos puedan opinar sobre quién cuidará de sus hijos en su ausencia.

A Day of Educational Empowerment

Local high school students visit HSU for workshops

by Héctor Arzate with additional reporting by Branden Mark

For most high school students, a typical visit to a college campus might consist of a tour around the dorms or sitting in on a boring lecture. It's not every day that you get to learn about decolonizing your self-care or hear keynote speakers talk about their careers at NASA.

On March 29, nearly 200 students from high schools in Humboldt and Del Norte County were able to participate in a day of educational workshops centered on unity and decolonization on Educational Empowerment Day at Humboldt State University (HSU).

"Empowerment Day provides a healing space and helps combat culture shock," said Julian Salinas, HSU junior, who helped organize the event. "It expands their horizons and inspires POC students to go to college."

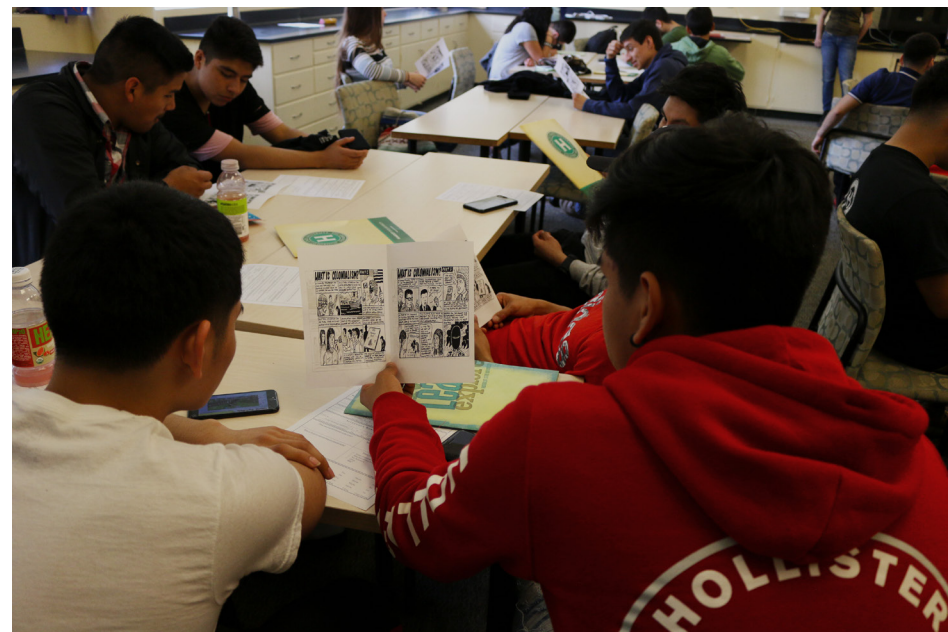
Organized by MEChA, TRiO and the Cultural Centers for Academic

The day of events featured keynote speakers Priscilla Baltezar and David Lagomasino on behalf of the University of Maryland and various programs at NASA. Some high school students felt that simply being exposed to the college experience and professional careers of others inspired them to continue working hard.

"I enjoyed our first workshop which was to expose what college is like," said Consuelo Padilla, a senior at McKinleyville High School. "The NASA scientists inspired me to always try hard, even if the



Dr. César Abarca facilitates a workshop on how to succeed in college. | Photo by Branden Mark



Local high school students read during a workshop on "Dismantling Symbols of Oppression." | Photo by Branden Mark

Excellence, the annual event was put together to expose local high school students to the college experience with a focus on both academic and intersectional workshops.

subject is not my best."

Other students were excited to learn more about how to prepare and get to college through the various workshops about SAT and transcript preparation.

"It is really nice to hear the resources and to find out how to go to college," said Jackie Garcia, a sophomore at Arcata High School.

Many felt that the event was a success in exposing high school students to both academic workshops and resources to college access.

"Even if they don't decide to go to HSU," said Sierra Farmer, a team member of the campus TRiO Talent Search. "Just that experience of coming to college early when you're in high school to visit can spark that interest."

Throughout the day, high school students were also able to participate in a series of different themed workshops facilitated by HSU students. One of the workshops was titled "Healing and Activism through Poetry," organized by Maritza Galvan an HSU junior.

"[The students] were pretty into it so it was a really great experience," Galvan said. "I shared one of my poems with them but I also gave them an outline. They filled it in and read it outloud if they wanted to. Some of them let me keep theirs."

Other students were able to

participate in workshops centered around subjects that they might not otherwise learn about in their regular classroom, such as feminist symbols like La Virgen de Guadalupe.

"I wanted to focus on showing the students feminism and patriarchy within the Chicano/Chicana culture," said Alicia Bautista, an HSU freshman. "There were some boys who showed up to the workshop. They were actually really into it. They wanted to learn from each other."

For some, the event seemed to be a success and the culturally relevant workshops provided a well rounded campus experience for the visiting high school students.

"I feel that the students that showed up were empowered to be who they are and represent their culture," said Rose Sita Francia, the campus TRiO Talent Search Director. "I'm impressed with the workshop content, and the planning that went into the students being prepared to do the workshop was deliberate and thought out. Our high school students got to see college students in action."

Un Día de Empoderamiento Educativo

Estudiantes locales de secundaria visitan a HSU

por Hector Arzate con informes adicional por Branden Mark

traducido por El Leñador Staff

Para la mayoría de los estudiantes de secundaria, una visita típica a una universidad a veces consiste en un recorrido a los dormitorios o una lectura aburrida. No todos los días se puede aprender cómo descolonizar la salud de uno mismo o escuchar a presentadores hablar sobre sus carreras en NASA.

El 29 de marzo, casi 200 estudiantes de las escuelas secundarias en los condados de Humboldt y Del Norte participaron en un día de programas educativos centrados en la unidad y la descolonización en “Educational Empowerment Day” en Humboldt State.

“‘Empowerment Day’ proporciona un espacio de sanación y ayuda a combatir el choque cultural,” dijo Julian Salinas, estudiante HSU, quien ayudó a organizar el evento. “Amplía sus horizontes e inspira a los estudiantes de color a ir a la universidad.”

Organizado por MEChA, TRiO y los Centros Culturales para la Excelencia Académica, el evento

anual se organizó para exponer a los estudiantes locales de secundaria a la experiencia universitaria con un enfoque en talleres académicos e interseccionales.

El día de los eventos contó con los oradores principales Priscilla Baltezar y David Lagomasino en nombre de la Universidad de Maryland y varios programas de la NASA. Algunos estudiantes de secundaria sintieron que el simple hecho de estar expuestos a la experiencia universitaria y las carreras profesionales de otros los inspiró a continuar trabajando duro.

“Disfruté de nuestro primer programa que fue para exponer cómo es la universidad,” dijo Consuelo Padilla, estudiante de McKinleyville High School. “Los científicos de la NASA me inspiraron a esforzarme siempre, incluso si el tema no es lo mejor.”

Otros estudiantes estaban entusiasmados de aprender más sobre cómo prepararse y llegar a la universidad a través de varios programas sobre SAT y la preparación de la



“Resistance Through Existence” in the Klamath River Room | Photo by Branden Mark

transcripción.

“Es realmente agradable escuchar los recursos y saber cómo ir a la universidad,” dijo Jackie García, estudiante de la Escuela Secundaria Arcata.

Muchos consideraron que el evento fue un éxito al exponer a los estudiantes de secundaria a programas académicos y recursos para acceder a la universidad.

“Incluso si no deciden ir a HSU,” dijo Sierra Farmer, miembro del equipo TRiO Talent Search del campus. “Solo esa experiencia de venir a la universidad temprano cuando estás en la escuela secundaria para visitar puede despertar ese interés.”

Durante el día, los estudiantes de secundaria también pudieron participar en una serie de diferentes programas temáticos facilitados por estudiantes de HSU. Uno de los programas se tituló “Curación y activismo a través de la poesía”, organizado por Maritza Galvan, estudiante de HSU.

“[Los estudiantes] fueron muy agradables, así que fue una gran experiencia,” dijo Galvan. “Compartí uno de mis poemas con ellos, pero también les di un bosquejo. Lo completaron y lo

leyeron en voz alta si lo deseaban.

Algunos me dejan conservar el suyo.”

Otros estudiantes pudieron participar en programas centrados en temas que de otro modo no podrían aprender en su clase regular, como símbolos feministas como La Virgen de Guadalupe.

“Quería centrarme en mostrar el feminismo y el patriarcado de los estudiantes dentro de la cultura chicano/chicana,” dijo Alicia Bautista, estudiante de HSU. “Hubo algunos chicos que se presentaron al taller. Estaban realmente en eso. Querían aprender el uno del otro.”

Para algunos, el evento parecía ser un éxito y los programas culturalmente relevantes proporcionaron una experiencia de campus bien redondeada para los estudiantes de secundaria visitantes.

“Siento que los estudiantes que se presentaron tenían el poder de ser quienes son y representar su cultura,” dijo Rose Sita Francia, directora de búsqueda de talento TRiO del campus. “Estoy impresionado con el contenido del programa, y la planificación que tuvieron los estudiantes que estaban preparados para hacer el taller fue deliberada y pensada. Nuestros estudiantes de secundaria llegaron a ver a estudiantes universitarios en acción.”



Students from Fortuna Union High School District arrive at HSU. | Photo by Branden Mark

Power on the Radio

Charlando Con La Raza recognizes Latinx community and culture

by Jose Herrera

Above the trees and in the sky, radio waves carry the sounds of people, and in those voices are three women advocating for change and awareness for their Latinx community.

Humboldt State University students, Xochitl Cabrera, Brenda Mendoza and Yojana Miraya host Charlando Con La Raza. In November 2017, the three women fell upon an opportunity to host a radio show, and months later their program can be heard throughout Humboldt County and Del Norte County Tuesday nights at 7 p.m., Wednesday mornings at 7 a.m., and Saturday afternoons at 1 p.m. on KHSU 90.1.

"I feel like I am doing something that can lead to change and give awareness, and provide solidarity to those who feel alone here and are very far from their homes," Miraya said. "I feel that talking with them and talking about the struggles they are having is important."

Origins of the Program

From the creation of the program, the women knew they wanted to discuss the struggles of immigrants and speak on issues that are considered taboo in the Latinx community.

"We don't realize these things are affecting us until we sit down and have a conversation about them," Cabrera said.

These topics cover environmentalism, identity, art and expression, immigration and Latinx culture. The show connects ideas they talk about back to social justice and everyday life.

"That's Charlando Con La Raza because we know these political conversations are tabooed within the Latino/Hispanic communities," Cabrera said. "You don't really have that freedom to speak. Which is why we are, like, how do we address these political issues, but in a way that people listen."

The establishment of Charlando Con La Raza became a part of KHSU after Radio Bilingüe, a national Latino public radio network, was brought to HSU.

According to Jessica Eden, producer of shows like Charlando Con La Raza, for years people had been talking about getting Spanish language radio here in a

more sustained way. Although there have been several broadcast relays from other Spanish programs, none have been based in the local area.

"We knew there was enough energy from the community and enough energy here on campus that people really, really wanted that to happen," Eden said.

When news arrived that Radio Bilingüe was actually going to happen, Eden knew there needed to be local content.

Eden wanted to demonstrate to their boss at the radio station, and to HSU administration that this was something of importance.

Even by having a satellite feed from Fresno, California airing Radio Bilingüe, it would not be enough. So, to demonstrate the desire and energy for Spanish language radio, Eden reached out to students to be part of the movement.

"Honestly, I feel from the very beginning they had a feel for the medium," Eden said. "Their honesty has been the most profound thing for me. I think it is something we are missing from our dialogues in the media."

Sanctuary Ordinance

Recently, the women have used their show as a medium to advocate for the sanctuary ordinance in Humboldt County. They've spoken on the importance of the initiative for migrants, and stepped out onto the streets to gather signatures alongside the organization Centro del Pueblo.

The ordinance would prevent local sheriffs or county employees from aiding federal immigration enforcement unless it is necessary under certain laws such as serious crime cases, according to an article



Guest Brenda Urueta from True North Organizing Network co-hosts Brenda Perez Mendoza and Yojana Miraya pose for a photo after recording an episode of Charlando Con La Raza on March 9, 2018. | Photo by Jose Herrera

published in the Times Standard.

The first step for them would be to collect 4,000 signatures so that the initiative is placed on the voting ballot. Mendoza said they have collected a little over 2,900 signatures around the county.

According to Mendoza, they have received mixed reactions from the community after they promoted the sanctuary ordinance.

"Some of the people are very supportive and are progressive, but some other sectors are very conservative and they show open rejection," Mendoza said.

When Mendoza and Miraya gathered signatures in Ferndale and Fortuna, they felt that it was tough and described the towns as conservative places in Humboldt County.

"It's easy to be brave on the radio," Mendoza said. "No one sees us, but in the streets people see what you are. You are exposing yourself."

She said that she has to remind herself that those intense reactions are not against her, but rather themselves and their own mentality.

"I can sense that there is less conscience," Miraya said. "They are not

aware of what's going on in Humboldt County."

Miraya said people with such strong perspectives tend not to be open to new ideas. Even explaining what Centro Del Pueblo did and the sanctuary ordinance can be difficult since they refuse to listen.

However, sometimes they get people who do stop and listen. Mendoza said that when that occurs, that's the moment that gives her hope.

Mendoza said that in Latin America most people don't believe in institutions, or at least in Mexico. But here in the United States people respect laws and norms. Everything is well regulated and its different.

"I see law here as a place of power," Mendoza said. "Yes, we can change things through laws."

The experiences that Mendoza, Miraya, and Cabrera witness and feel, find their way onto Charlando Con La Raza. The show is a tool for them to educate, share, and advocate for their community.

"The radio is very important, it's a power," Miraya said. "Knowledge is power."

Poder En La Radio

Charlando Con La Raza reconoce la comunidad y cultura latinx

por Jose Herrera

traducido por El Leñador Staff

Por encima de los árboles y en el cielo, las ondas de radio transmiten los sonidos de personas, y en esas voces hay tres mujeres que abogan por el cambio y conocimiento de su comunidad Latinx.

Las estudiantes de Humboldt State, Xochitl Cabrera, Brenda Mendoza y Yojana Miraya son anfitrionas de Charlando Con La Raza. En noviembre de 2017, las tres mujeres tuvieron la oportunidad de presentar un programa de radio. Meses después y su programa se puede escuchar en todo el condado de Humboldt y Del Norte los martes a las 7 p.m., los miércoles por la mañana a las 7 a.m. y los sábados por la tarde a la 1 p.m. en KHSU 90.1.

“Siento que estoy haciendo algo que puede conducir al cambio y darles consciencia, y proporcionar solidaridad a aquellos que se sienten solos aquí y están muy lejos de sus hogares,” dijo Miraya. “Siento que hablar con ellos y hablar sobre las dificultades que están

comunidad de Latinx.

“No nos damos cuenta de que estas cosas nos están afectando hasta que nos sentamos y conversamos sobre ellas,” dijo Cabrera.

Estos temas cubren el ecologismo, la identidad, el arte y la expresión, y la inmigración y la cultura Latinx.

“Eso es Charlando Con La Raza porque sabemos que estas conversaciones políticas son tabú dentro de las comunidades latino/hispanas,” dijo Cabrera. “Realmente no tienes esa libertad para hablar. Cómo abordamos estos asuntos políticos, pero de una manera que la gente escucha.”

Charlando Con La Raza se convirtió en parte de KHSU después de que Radio Bilingüe, una red de radio pública nacional latinx, fue llevada a HSU.

De acuerdo con Jessica Eden, productora de la programa, la gente había estado hablando por años acerca de cómo obtener la radio en

energía de la comunidad y suficiente energía aquí en el campus que la gente realmente quería que eso sucediera,” dijo Eden.

Cuando llegaron las noticias de que Radio Bilingüe realmente iba a suceder, Eden sabía que tenía que haber contenido local y quería demostrar a la estación de radio, y a la administración de HSU, que esto era algo de importancia.

Incluso al tener una transmisión por satélite desde Fresno, California al aire de Radio Bilingüe, no sería suficiente. Entonces, para demostrar el deseo y la energía de la radio en español, Eden buscó que los estudiantes fueran parte del movimiento.

“Honestamente, creo que desde el principio tuvieron una idea del medio,” dijo Eden. “Su honestidad ha sido lo más profundo para mí. Creo que es algo que nos falta en nuestros diálogos en los medios.”

Ordenanza del santuario

Recientemente, las mujeres han utilizado su programa como un medio para abogar por la ordenanza del santuario en el condado de Humboldt. Han hablado sobre la importancia de la iniciativa para los inmigrantes y salió a juntar firmas con la organización Centro del Pueblo.

La ordenanza evitará que alguaciles locales o empleados del condado ayuden a las autoridades federales de inmigración a menos que sea necesario como casos graves de crímenes, según un artículo publicado en Times Standard.

El primer paso para ellos sería recolectar 4,000 firmas para que la iniciativa se incluya en la boleta de votación y han recolectado un poco menos de 2,900 firmas en todo el condado.

Cuando Mendoza y Miraya juntaron firmas en Ferndale y Fortuna, sintieron que era difícil y describieron las ciudades como lugares conservadores en el condado de Humboldt.

“Es fácil ser valiente en la radio”,



Co-host Yojana Miraya talks into the mic recording Charlando Con La Raza | Photo by Jose Herrera

dijo Mendoza. “Nadie nos ve, pero en las calles la gente ve lo que eres. Estás exponiéndote a ti mismo.”

Ella dijo que tiene que recordarse a sí misma que esas intensas reacciones no son contra ella, sino contra sí mismas y su propia mentalidad.

“Puedo sentir que hay menos conciencia,” dijo Miraya. “No están al tanto de lo que está pasando en el condado de Humboldt.”

Sin embargo, a veces tienen personas que se detienen y escuchan y cuando eso ocurre, ese es el momento para Mendoza que le da esperanza.

En Latino America la mayoría de la gente no cree en las instituciones o al menos en México. Pero aquí en los Estados Unidos las personas respetan las leyes y normas. Todo está bien regulado y es diferente.

“Veo la ley aquí como un lugar de poder,” dijo Mendoza. “Sí, podemos cambiar las cosas a través de las leyes.”

Las experiencias que Mendoza, Miraya, y Cabrera que han visto y sienten llegan a Charlando Con La Raza. El programa es una herramienta para educar, compartir, y abogar para su comunidad.

“La radio es muy importante, es un poder,” dijo Miraya. “El conocimiento es poder.”



Producer Jessica Eden listens attentively to Charlando Con La Raza during their recording session in the studio at Humboldt State University in Eureka, Calif. on March 9, 2018. | Photo by Jose Herrera

teniendo es importante.”

Orígenes del programa

Desde la creación del programa, las mujeres sabían que querían discutir las luchas de los inmigrantes y hablar sobre temas que se consideran tabú en la

español aquí de una manera más sostenida. Aunque ha habido varios retransmisiones de transmisión de otros programas en español, ninguno se ha fundado en el área local.

“Sabíamos que había suficiente

Ciudad de Mexico in 60 Hours

by Emilyo Arias

Home to more than 21 million people, Mexico City is one of the most populated metropolitan areas in the Western Hemisphere, and arguably one of the most fascinating. Having spent only two and a half days there, and spending one of them at a music festival, I took in as much as I could during my visit in March.

Day 1: NRMAL Fest

8 a.m.: My flight landed in Mexico City. I jumped into a taxi and headed straight to Colonia Juárez to my Airbnb apartment. Coming from Humboldt County and being back in a city, especially one in Mexico, was one of the best feelings. The sounds of street vendors trying to get your attention to buy food or random unnecessary trinkets, passing cars and people talking in Spanish, the smell of amazing food prepared by a taquero, and the warmth of the sun hitting your skin take over your senses.

10 a.m.: I met up with my sister and we went to have breakfast at a place called Chilakillers, a restaurant that specializes in chilaquiles (tortilla chips simmered in spicy sauce). I had the mole chilaquiles with chicken and lemonade with chia seeds, which was phenomenal. After breakfast, we walked around the city until we decided it was time to get ready to go to a music event called NRMAL, the main reason for my trip.

4 p.m. to midnight: The NRMAL event was performed with Mexican, American and international musical acts, and is a growing attraction for “el mejor de underground” music and arts. Some of the acts included Mac DeMarco, of Montreal, Essaie Pas, Sleep, Dub de Gaita, NORWAYYY and many others.

Day 2: My Tijuana connection

11 a.m.: I went back to Chilakillers for another plate of **mole chilaquiles**, agua de limón con chia, and café de olla.

Noon to 3 p.m.: My sister and I walked around the city, taking photos, trying out street food, and going through little pop-up markets. We

went to the Museo Soumaya, located in Nuevo Polanco district, which is a public art and history museum owned by the Mexican billionaire Carlos Slim. The museum houses paintings and sculptures from Classical Masters to contemporary Mexican and European art. The museum even has one of the 28 bronze castings of Auguste Rodin’s “The Thinker.”

8 p.m.-4 a.m.: NRMAL threw a little event at the Casa del Lago Juan José Arreola. There, I was surprised to bump into friends from Tijuana. We got together after the event, had dinner close to the Zócalo, and went to Plaza Garibaldi, a famous section of the city for mariachis. Then, we went to a little hole in the wall that played salsa and a never-ending playlist of ‘80s and ‘90s Rock en Español.

Day 3: The holy communion

11 a.m.-4 p.m.: I did more sightseeing with my Tijuana friends and had lunch at the Mercado Sonora in Colonia Merced Balbuena, participated in a holy communion at a local Catholic church, and visited the Metropolitan Cathedral, the enormous cathedral in the Zócalo.

Outside the cathedral, people were performing indigenous rituals. It is unfortunate that a once thriving and rich culture has now been reduced to performing for tourists and onlookers. By performing their indigenous rites next to the most famous and important catholic church in Mexico, it’s like a big middle finger to the church showing that, regardless of the conquest, the culture is still alive and it will still live.

5 p.m.: I left for the airport for a 7 p.m. flight.

All in all, even on such a short trip, Mexico City is one place that I would visit over and over again. The city is a hub of art, music, food and culture that is comparable to cities such as New York or Madrid. These are just some of the characteristics of the city that draws people to it. Just next time I would stay a little longer.



Dancer outside the Metropolitan Cathedral in Mexico City, Mexico. | Photo by Emilyo Arias



Chilaquiles verdes con arrachera at Chilakilelrs. | Photo by Emilyo Arias

Music Festival Rocks Mexico City

by Diego Linares



Nicolas Hernandez performs for the closing event of NRMAL Festival on Sunday, March 4 as the leader of Los Gaiteros de San Jacinto. | Photo by Diego Linares

Canadian artist Mac DeMarco played popular songs from his catalogue like “Ode to Viceroy” and “Reflection Chamber” on the Blue Stage to a large group of fans. Once his set was over, the people quickly turned into doom metal enthusiasts when the guitar riffs of San Jose, California band Sleep started playing on the adjacent platform, the Black Stage.

Art director for NRMAL Festival Alfonso Muriedas said the show is about bringing something new to the city.

“With NRMAL, it has a point that’s really important, which is [bringing] music that normally doesn’t come here [to Mexico City] – artists who normally don’t come. They’re not new artists, but new to the city,” Muriedas said.

NRMAL Festival had its first sold-out show on Saturday, March 3 at the Deportivo Lomas Altas field in Mexico City, Mexico.

The festival’s main event featured acts from across the globe. A total of 22 bands from North America, the Caribbean Islands, Europe and Asia played for 12 hours in front of more than 8,000 fans.

“It’s the first time that it got to be this big,” Muriedas said the day after the main event. “So, there are certainly things that we need to correct that don’t present themselves at the point of operation, but for us it was a grand edition. Up until today, it feels like the best so far.”

One group that had a lot of history was Los Gaiteros de San Jacinto from Colombia. Originally formed in 1940, the

group played different styles of music for the two events associated with the festival.

On Saturday, the musicians played live with the group Dub de Gaita, which is a new take on a traditional sound. In Dub de Gaita, Llorona Records producer Diego Gómez and British producer Adrian Sherwood collaborate to mix traditional cumbia and dub music.

Francia Rocha is a fan and peer of the gaiteros who traveled to Mexico City from Bogotá, Colombia on a business trip. Rocha said that the new music is involving younger generations of people, but it’s also key to maintain the traditional format.

“There are various regions in Colombia that interpret the gaitas, which is important,” Rocha said. “They have distinct air to the way they play, more African, some more indigenous. It’s really good.”

For the closing event on Sunday, March 4, the group played original music as Los Gaiteros de San Jacinto.

John Fuentes Ramos plays the male gaita for the group and said they had a spectacular night.

“The project has had success in its reception by the public, and we didn’t think it was going to be received that well last night [Saturday, March 3]. It was a good night for us, Los Gaiteros,” Fuentes said.

For future projects, you can follow NRMAL Festival on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Festival de Música en Ciudad de México

por Diego Linares

Traducido por El Leñador Staff

El artista canadiense Mac DeMarco tocó canciones populares de su catálogo como “Ode to Viceroy” y la “Cámara de Reflexión” en el escenario azul a un gran grupo de admiradores. Una vez que su set terminó, la gente rápidamente se convirtió en entusiastas del doom metal cuando los riffs de guitarra de la banda de San Jose, California, Sleep, comenzaron a tocar en la plataforma adyacente, Black Stage.

El director de arte del Festival NRMAL Alfonso Muriedas, dijo que el espectáculo trata de traer algo nuevo a la ciudad.

“Con NRMAL tiene una cuestión muy importante que es música que normalmente no vienen, artistas que normalmente no vienen que no sean nuevos pero para la ciudad.”

NRMAL Fest tuvo su primer evento principal con entradas agotadas el sábado 3 de marzo en el campo Deportivo Lomas Altas en la Ciudad de México, México.

El festival presentó actos de todo el mundo. Un total de 22 bandas de Norteamérica, las islas del Caribe, Europa y Asia tocaron durante 12 horas frente a más de 9,000 fanáticos.

“Es el primer año que se hace así de grande entonces como que hay ciertas cosas que tenemos que corregir que no las teníamos que se presentan en cuestión de operación pero para nosotros fue una gran edición. Hasta ahora se siente como la mejor hasta el momento.

Un grupo que tenía mucha historia era Los Gaiteros de San Jacinto de

Colombia. Originalmente formado en 1940, el grupo tocó diferentes estilos de música para los dos eventos.

El sábado, los músicos tocaron en vivo con el grupo Dub de Gaita, que es una nueva versión de un sonido tradicional. En Dub de Gaita, el productor de Llorona Records Diego Gómez y el productor británico Adrian Sherwood colaboran para mezclar la música tradicional de cumbia y dub.

Francia Rocha es fan y par de los gaiteros que viajaron a la Ciudad de México desde Bogotá, Colombia, en un viaje de negocios. Rocha dijo que la nueva música está involucrando a las generaciones más jóvenes, pero también es clave para mantener el formato tradicional.

“Hay varias regiones de Colombia que interpretan las gaitas que es importante, y que tienen unos aires distintos en la forma de tocar por ahí, más africana, más indígena dependiendo. Y eso es bien bonito.”

Para el evento más pequeño del domingo, el grupo tocó la música original como Los Gaiteros de San Jacinto.

John Fuentes Ramos interpreta la gaita masculina del grupo y dice que tuvieron una noche espectacular.

“Un proyecto que ha tenido mucho éxito, mucha acogida por el público y no pensábamos que iba a ser tan bien recibida en la noche de ayer. Así que nos pareció una noche agradable para nosotros los Gaiteros.”

Para proyectos futuros, asegúrese de seguir NRMAL Festival en Facebook, Twitter e Instagram.



Mac Demarco (middle) takes a bow with fellow band mates during NRMAL Festival on Saturday, March 3. | Photo by Diego Linares

The Photography of Luciano Duran

From his dreams into reality, artist creates and captures with a camera

by Emilyo Arias



Luciano Duran poses for a portrait shot. | Photo by Emilyo Arias

It was a rainy Thursday night in the afterhours of a coffee shop in Arcata. With just a few cameras, dried flowers, and color gels for manipulating the color of lights, the interview begins.

Luciano Duran was raised in Compton, California and considers art a great coping mechanism. He has done work for brands in Southern California, worked as an assistant for a photographer in Humboldt County, and photographed graduation portraits for the Latinx Center for Academic Excellence.

The decision to apply to Humboldt State University came from a dream he had in high school.

“The life from where I came from really sucked and art was a pretty good outlet for me,” Duran said.

Originally Duran was a painter before he picked up photography. It was not until his senior year in high school when Duran had a dream about being in the redwoods. He explains that very next day in one of his classes, that was a presentation of Humboldt and took it as a sign.

“We are all interested in art but we kind of have this notion that it is some god-given talent and some people are born good, and that’s just how it is,” Duran said. “But what I think is, it is just a skill that we can build

upon. That’s when it felt a little more accessible to me, so I decided to just go for it. The more I keep at it the more I saw an improvement. And seeing that improvement it motivated me to keep going.”

When photographing people, Duran prefers to take a more natural approach, including a more personal connection with his models in order for them to feel more comfortable in front of a camera.

“They don’t have this fake stock forced smile,” Duran said. “They become vulnerable, but more honest. Their eyes feel more real and genuine.”

Duran has a current showing in the Student Business Services (SBS) building at Humboldt State called “Microcosm.” The reception is April 10th 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. The work will be up until April 15th. In this show, Duran uses photograms and creates collages of organic things like fruits, moss, twigs and branches.

“These collages reference biology in the microscopic level but also feels as if it references the universe such as the planets and the stars,” Duran said. “I really enjoy the duality.”

You can follow his work on instagram @luciano.jpeg or at lucianoduran.com



Luciano Duran poses for a portrait shot. | Photo by Emilyo Arias



Top Left: Helado Negro a.k.a. Robert Carlos Lange, finishes a set at the Van Duzer Theater at Humboldt State University. | Photo by Emilyo Arias

Top Right: Helado Negro sings during his performance at the Van Duzer Theater. Photo by Emilyo Arias



Helado Negro

by Emilyo Arias

Roberto Carlos Lange, better known as Helado Negro, performed at the Van Duzer Theater at Humboldt State University. Accompanied by his “Tinsel Mammals” Helado Negro preformed songs such as “Young, Latin and Proud,” “Lengua Larga,” and “It’s My Brown Skin.” Born in South Florida to Ecuadorian immigrants, Helado Negro composes his songs in both Spanish and English. His use of guitar, drums, drum machines and vintage samplers create a unique sound that sets him apart from other genres. With current shows lined up in Coachella and New York, it was a nice surprise to have him play in Arcata.



Bottom Left: Helado Negro a.k.a Roberto Carlos Lange, steps closer to the crowd during his performance at the Van Duzer Theater at Humboldt State University.

Bottom Right: Helado Negro, stands near his equipment and performs a song during his performance at the Van Duzer Theater at Humboldt State University. | Photo by Emilyo Arias

11th Annual California Indian Big Time & Social Gathering

by Cassaundra Caudillo

On Saturday, April 7, the Indian Tribal and Educational Personnel Program (ITEPP) will be hosting their annual California Indian Big Time and Social Gathering event. For the last decade, ITEPP has hosted this event to connect students and community members with Native American ties.

Although the event is geared towards Native American peoples, everyone is welcome to join in on the activities. Paula D. Tripp, the academic advisor at ITEPP, shared a few things to look forward to at Big Time.

“We have six dance groups coming in from Northern and Central California,” Tripp said “We have vendors, a couple different food booths, we have people sharing arts and cultural demonstrations, there’s just multiple things happening throughout the day.”

The term “Big Time” is a loose translation of what many tribes say in their own dialects. Vincent Feliz, the Campus Assistance Response and Engagement (CARE) services coordinator, works closely with ITEPP

and was able to give a brief history of the event.

“The term Big Time comes from Northern Central California. They have gatherings and it’s described more in their native language, but the English way to say it is Big Time,” Feliz said. “Dances that go in a big round house that they have and they gather and sing at hours and hours at a time, sometimes the whole weekend. Ceremonial items will be brought out in public that have been in families for a long time.”

Along with all the activities and events, there will also be about 70 vendors there. Among the things for sale will be hand-woven baskets, apparel, arts and crafts. Traditional hand games and basket weaving will be demonstrated and taught. There will also be activities just for children to participate in.

“We have special activities for youth, kindergarten through sixth grade,” Tripp said. “We have our animal tales adventure, so they get to go with the Social Work Club and visit the Wildlife Center. They go to the fish hatchery

and they do some activities in the art gallery. They’re going to get to explore the campus and we think that’s a great opportunity for potential future HSU students to check out campus.”

For the past few years, hundreds of people have made it a point to attend the event. There are families that come and perform every year at the event and it’s a time that brings so many others from different backgrounds together. It’s a day that celebrates the Native American culture and revels in the surrounding community.

“This Big Time is an expected thing,” Feliz said. “If we didn’t have the Big Time, I’m sure a lot of people would miss it.”

The 11th annual California Indian Big Time and Social Gathering is a free public event open to the community on April 7 from 11a.m. to 6 p.m. in HSU’s West Gym.



Photo courtesy of Natives Cultures Fund.

11th Annual California Indian Big Time & Social Gathering

por Cassaundra Caudillo

traducido por El Leñador Staff

El sábado 7 de abril, el Programa Indígena Tribal y del Personal Educativo (ITEPP) organizará su evento anual California Indian Big Time and Social Gathering. Durante la última década, ITEPP ha organizado este evento para conectar a los estudiantes y miembros de la comunidad con lazos de nativos americanos.

Aunque el evento está dirigido a los pueblos nativos americanos, todos son bienvenidos a unirse a las actividades. Paula D. Tripp, la asesora académica en ITEPP, compartió algunas cosas que esperar en Big Time.

“Tenemos seis grupos de baile provenientes del norte y centro de California,” dijo Tripp. “Tenemos vendedores, un par de puestos de comida diferentes, tenemos personas que comparten manifestaciones artísticas

y culturales, simplemente hay muchas cosas que suceden a lo largo del día.”

El término “Big Time” es una traducción suelta de lo que muchas tribus dicen en sus propios dialectos. Vincent Feliz, el coordinador de servicios de Respuesta y Compromiso de Asistencia al Campus (CARE), trabaja estrechamente con ITEPP y pudo brindar una breve historia del evento.

“El término Big Time viene del norte de California Central, tienen reuniones y se describe más en su idioma nativo, pero la manera inglesa de decirlo es Big Time,” dijo Feliz. “Danzas que van en una gran casa redonda que tienen y se reúnen y cantan a horas y horas a la vez, a veces todo el fin de semana. Los artículos ceremoniales se publicarán en público que han estado en las familias durante mucho tiempo.”

Junto con todas las actividades y eventos, también habrá cerca de 70 vendedores allí. Entre las cosas a la venta se encuentran canastas tejidas a mano, prendas de vestir, artes y artesanías. Se demostrarán y enseñarán juegos tradicionales de manos y cestería. También habrá actividades para que los niños participen.

“Tenemos actividades especiales para los jóvenes, de kínder a sexto grado,” dijo Tripp. “Tenemos nuestra aventura de cuentos de animales, así que pueden ir al Social Work Club y visitar el Wildlife Center. Van al criadero de peces y hacen algunas actividades en la galería de arte. Explorarán el campus y creemos que es una gran oportunidad para que futuros estudiantes de HSU visiten el campus.”

En los últimos años, cientos de personas se han esforzado por asistir

al evento. Hay familias que vienen y se presentan todos los años en el evento y es un momento que reúne a muchos otros de diferentes orígenes. Es un día que celebra la cultura de los nativos americanos y se deleita con la comunidad circundante.

“Este Big Time es algo esperado”, dijo Feliz. “Si no tuviéramos el Big Time, estoy seguro de que mucha gente lo extrañaría”.

La undécima edición anual de California Indian Big Time and Social Gathering es un evento público y gratis abierto a la comunidad el 7 de abril a partir de las 11 a.m. a 6 p.m. en HSU’s West Gym.

Will Students of Color Ever Be Welcome in Humboldt?

by El Leñador Staff

On April 15, 2017 David Josiah Lawson was stabbed and killed at an off campus party. He was a 19-year-old sociology student at Humboldt State University from Perris, California. His suspected murderer, Kyle Zoellner, was arrested and taken to preliminary court proceedings. Meanwhile Lawson’s family and the community mourned over his loss.

Zoellner was eventually released, and no one else was arrested. No one else was held accountable for taking Lawson’s life. One month passed and then it became three months. That became six months and today, 12 months. For many, little has yet to happen, little is known about the progress about the case, and there is little to be done to comfort students of color or even make them feel safe and welcomed.

Arcata mayor Sofia Pereria’s words from last April remain ever so relevant today having stated “we as a community failed Josiah Lawson and other students of color, who have stated over and over again that they do not feel safe and welcomed here.”

Meetings to discuss the safety of students have been happening almost monthly and despite support from faculty members, it is unlikely that things will change

“It’s not a new song. History doesn’t just repeat itself, it echoes and rhymes.”

without university administration, the city of Arcata and the Arcata Police Department. There isn’t a script or workshop that can truly make students feel safe unless someone takes responsibility for what’s been done, even if it means an entire community acknowledging that not all are welcome here.

It seems as though there have been glaring issues in this community, specifically on HSU’s campus, for years. Many students have mourned the loss of a friend and fellow student without any peace of mind that something like this won’t happen again. But it has happened at least once before, in 2001 when Corey S. Clark was killed. To this day his case remains nearly as untouched as Lawson’s. It’s not a new song. History doesn’t just repeat itself, it echoes and rhymes.

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miércoles | 4.04

- Interpret That
- 6-7:30pm | Gist Hall 218

viernes | 4.06

- Café con Chisme - Every Friday!
- 2-3:30pm | El Centro (NHE 205)
- Keynote: Dr. Kayla Begay, HSU NAS
- 1:30-2:15pm | Native American Forum)

sábado | 4.07

- California Indian Big Time & Social Gathering
- 11am-6pm | West Gym

miércoles | 4.11

- Women of Color Talk at HSU
- 5-6pm | MCC Vine Deloria Room

jueves | 4.12

- HSU Downtown with ONHELL
Open only to HSU students, I.D. Required
- 9-11:30pm | The Jam

viernes | 4.13

- Budget Open Forum
- 1-3pm | Kate Buchanan Room (KBR)
- Child Development 50th Anniversary - RSVP: childdev@humboldt.edu
- 5-7pm | Great Hall

domingo | 4.15

- David Josiah Lawson
Celebration of Life
- Buy tickets from HSU AACAE
HSU/CR Students \$3 | General \$5
- 3:30-4:30 | Arcata Plaza,
 - 4:30-8pm | D Street Community Center

lunes | 4.16

- Melanin Monday
- 12pm | UC Quad
- Theater of the Oppressed Workshop
- 1-5pm | Theatre Arts 115 (Studio Theatre)

martes | 4.17

- What's Going On? Student Safety Discussion
- 6-7pm | Mad River Room (JGC 324)

miércoles | 4.18

- Global Cafe - Vietnam
- 4-5pm | Library Fishbowl (Lib 209)
- 51st Annual HSU International Film Fest 4.18-20
- Tickets: General \$5
- 5-10pm | Minor Theatre

jueves | 4.19

- ideaFest
- 12-5pm | HSU Library
- El Leñador 5-Year Anniversary Celebration**
Come join us and bring a friend or two!
- 4-6pm | KBR

viernes | 4.20

- Cupcakes & Conversations with Corliss
- RSVP with Mona Mazzotti at mona.mazzotti@humboldt.edu

- 3:30-6:5pm | NHE 113

sábado | 4.21

- Pajareando Por La Marisma
Bilingual walk at Arcata Marsh
Please register at www.godwitdays.org
- 10am-12pm | FREE

miércoles | 4.25

- Global Cafe - Yemen
- 4-5pm | Library Fishbowl (Lib 209)
- Bob Henson Lecture
Tickets: Students \$5 General \$15
- 7-9pm | John Van Duzer (JVD) Theatre

jueves | 4.26

- Job Search for Graduating Seniors
- 3-4pm | Library 114

viernes | 4.27

- Poetry Open Mic in Library Cafe
- 5-7pm | Library 102
- Mother Hips
Tickets: Students \$10 General \$37
- 8-10pm | JVD Theatre

