

# THE CATALYST

Catalyst@oldwestbury.edu

"IGNITING THE MIND"

OldWestburyCatalyst.org

## Free Parking on OW Campus

By Brianna Knibbs

The administration recently announced that there will be free parking on campus.

It was recognized that the record enrollment this year and last year would create problems with available parking, according to the University Police Chief Steven Siena. "In the spite of fairness, the decision was made to temporarily waive the usual parking fees for our community.

It's important to note that this decision applies only through the end of this current academic year, and will be reviewed again next summer," Siena said.

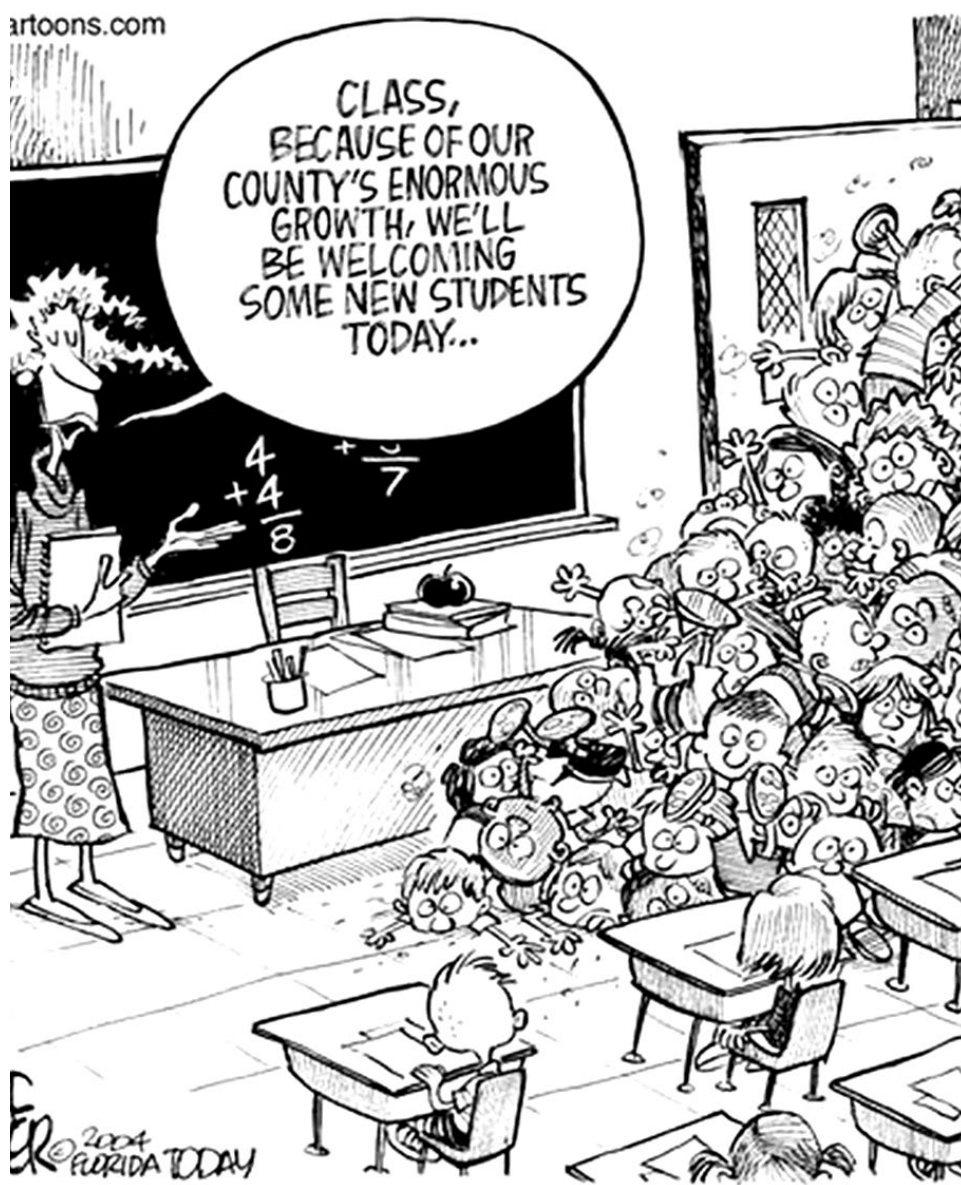
Before parking permits were \$10 for the first permit and \$5 for the additional permits for the same individual. Now that the parking permits are being waived, it must be a relief for the students who don't have to worry about paying to park on campus. It also means money being saved.

Parking has always been an issue at the SUNY Old Westbury campus as the enrollment rate skyrocketed over the years. The more the enrollment rate increased, the more difficult it has been to find parking. In addition, Siena sent out an email on September 24th to announce that Parking Field B has been closed for the fall semester. "Field B was being minimally used, with fewer than 20 cars parking there daily," according to Siena.

All parking regulations will still remain the same with parked vehicles still needing to display their parking permits. Also, other traffic and parking rules remain in force and effect, including driving within the posted speed limits, observing stop and yield signs, and parking lawfully within marked, designated spaces.

## ENROLLMENT SETS A RECORD

artoons.com



## President Butts Welcomes the Incoming Students

By Arlyn Sorto

President Calvin O. Butts III welcomed incoming students to SUNY Old Westbury during the fall convocation in September

"This year we are pleased to welcome more than 740 first-year students and about 800 transfer students," said Dr. Butts. "This is the largest entering class in the history of the College of Old Westbury."

A total of 5,088 students are enrolled, an increase of almost four percent over last year, according to Mary Marquez Bell, vice president for enrollment services. There are 4,786 undergraduates. Graduate students total 302, about an eight percent increase compared to 2017.

The continuing and returning number of students increased by 7.5 percent and the number of first time college students increased by about thirteen percent.

Ms. Bell attributed the rise in enrollment to an improved application process, the recruitment of population segments that may yield higher enrollment, and an increase in the graduate level offerings.

President Butts named a few changes that will take place this semester. "We are on our way to build a new science building," he said. "A place where you can really be rooted in the STEM [Science, Technology, Education, Mathematics] profes-

(Cont. on page 3.)

## Professor Akgun to the Rescue

By Arlyn Sorto

The Old Westbury TV studio welcomes new TV Manager Ozgur Akgun this fall 2018 semester.

"I think one of the aspects of this job is group work," said Professor Akgun. He is the new TV manager for the OWTV studio. This year the SUNY Old Westbury media outlets are running the campus a bit differently. The Old Westbury Catalyst, OWRW, and OWTV are all linking together to spread news on campus.

Professor Akgun is originally from Turkey. He earned his Bachelors, Master of Arts, and PhD from Istanbul University in Turkey. His focus was on radio,

television, and cinema during his time at the university. With his degree he worked in advertising. "I worked [in the industry] for about 10 years," said Professor Akgun. "I worked with brands like Hundi, Ford."

Professor Akgun has experience in improving a TV studio. During his time as a PhD student at Istanbul University he was the Co-Director and Co-Manager of the broadcasting studio. "As an undergrad I knew there was a studio, but you know it wasn't open because it was so old," he said. "When I [was doing] my PhD, as a student, as an undergrad student I knew what I would

(Cont. on page 3.)

## Panther Pride Returning with a Roar

By Brianna Knibbs

SUNY Old Westbury is gearing up for its 11th Annual Panther Pride Homecoming, Tuesday, October 9th through Saturday, October 13th.

Attendees can expect old favorites in the event category, such as "Spirit Chalking," "Cake-off," "Stay up at the Student Union" and many more. What's more exciting is the anticipation for the Homecoming Royal Court. Students who were interested in running for the royal court will receive votes from others to determine the winners of the homecoming titles from each class.

"For an event that we do five days in a row, we definitely have a lot of quality events within that period. I think they should expect to have a lot of fun,



hopefully make some great memories and take pride in their college," said Media and Communications Professor and Co-Chair of the event, Joseph Manfredi.

Women's athletic games are taking over for this year's Panther Pride so, be on the lookout.

Congratulations and good luck to the students running for the royal court. Make sure you vote for the candidates.

Come out and show some love, support and Panther Pride!

**Executive Editor:**

Laura DeMarzo

**Managing Editors:**

Keya Rice &amp; Arlyn Sorto

**Interns:**

Kristen Brave

Kirsten Hyman

Selena Valentin

**Staff Writers:**

Nikki Kallipozis

Brianna Knibbs

Jacqueline Schroder

**Layout Editor:**

Joseph Wood

**Faculty Advisor:**

John Friedman

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### CAMPUS NEWS

#### PAGES 1-9

FREE PARKING ON OW CAMPUS

ENROLLMENT SETS A RECORD

PROFESSOR AKGUN TO THE RESCUE

PANTHER PRIDE RETURNING WITH A ROAR

SUNY OW MOURNS THE LOSS OF STUDENT-ATHLETE

CHRISTOPHER BROWN

OW STANDS WITH PUERTO RICO

OW GETS A NEW DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT INITIATIVES

PANTHER PANTRY

ALUMNUS HIGHLIGHT: FREDDIE A. VALENTIN JR.

MEET THE GREEKS

VOICES OF OW

### NEWS

#### PAGE 10

HURRICANE FLORENCE AFTERMATH

NASSAU COUNTY AGENCIES CRACKING DOWN ON ANIMAL

ABUSE

### REVIEW

#### PAGES 10,12

THE NUN

ART GALLERY REVIEW

"ONCE A GHETTO"

PEPPERMINT: BREATH OF FRESH AIR?

### OPINION

#### PAGE 12

#WHYIDIDNTREPORT

THEATRICAL MAGIC

### ART | FASHION | LIFESTYLE

#### PAGE 14

AN INTERVIEW WITH AUTHOR S.A. BODEEN

ALL THINGS HALLOWEEN

### SPORTS

#### PAGES 15-16

PANTHERS WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL TOPS SARAH LAWRENCE AND YESHIVA TO SECURE SKYLINE SWEEP

PANTHERS WOMEN'S SOCCER CONCLUDES NON-CONFERENCE SLATE AT LEHMAN

AVRIL'S LATE GOAL EXTENDS UNBEATEN STREAK TO SEVEN AS OW PANTHERS MEN'S SOCCER TRIUMPHS OVER LEHMAN, 1-0

## Letter From the Editor

Welcome to the first edition of *The Catalyst* for the Fall 2018 semester! We hope everyone's summer was well spent and that your semester is off to a fantastic start.

This semester, we're especially excited about new changes for *The Catalyst* staff and our suite. We're welcoming Senior Writer Keya Rice and OW TV's Arlyn Sorto in their promotions to Managing Editors. They have been great contributors in semesters past and are thrilled to be taking on their new positions.

Over the summer, we have been working to revamp *The Catalyst* suite. We've gotten a brand new Canon camera for our roving reporters and budding photojournalists to sign out when needed for an event or story. We also have a 42-inch flat screen and sound bar--transforming our space into a complete newsroom-- so we can be kept aware of breaking stories around the clock.

You'll also notice our very own newstands around the campus and academic buildings. This way, you'll know where to find the latest copies of your university newspaper. Currently, we are in the midst of obtaining stands for the residence halls as well.

We will also be updating *The Catalyst* website more frequently.

*The Catalyst* staff welcomes Faculty Advisor Dr. John Friedman back from his sabbatical just in time for these updates and together we wish you a great semester!

**Laura DeMarzo**  
Executive Editor

## SUNY OW Mourns the Loss of Student-Athlete Christopher Brown



Christopher Brown, a senior Finance major at SUNY Old Westbury, has passed away after a motor vehicle accident. Brown was involved on campus and an active member of the Panther golf team. The 22-year-old was fatally struck by a vehicle while crossing the Seafood-Oyster Bay Expressway on the morning of Saturday, September 22nd.



## OW Stands with Puerto Rico

By Llana Barber

From August 12 to 25, 2018, I accompanied twenty-nine students from Old Westbury and other SUNY campuses on a service-learning trip to Puerto Rico, as part of the NY governor's initiative "New York Stands with Puerto Rico." This initiative involved massive coordination between SUNY and CUNY systems, individual campuses, the governor's office, UNICEF (a major funder), and disaster relief organizations in order to send hundreds of outstanding students to contribute to reconstruction efforts in Puerto Rico.

Our group was hosted by NECHAMA: Jewish Response to Disaster, an organization working in Puerto Rico to reconstruct roofs damaged by Hurricane Maria in September 2017. Working in Cataño, Toa Baja, and surrounding areas, we spent two weeks with NECHAMA repairing and sealing both concrete and tin roofs, and remediating the damage to ceilings caused by nearly a year of leaks. Students prepared for the trip by reading and reflecting on service-learning, Puerto Rico's history, and the impact of the hurricane.

As a historian who researches the Puerto Rican diaspora, it was important to me that students recognized that the devastation caused by Maria



Prof. Llana Barber works on sealing a tin roof.

was not solely the result of the hurricane's natural power; Puerto Rico's colonial history and complicated political-economic circumstances rendered it uniquely vulnerable. And, unfortunately, Puerto Ricans' U.S. citizenship did little to ensure they received adequate support from the federal government. I also wanted to be sure that students were informed about the tremendous grassroots organizing and mutual support centers that formed in Puerto Rico after the hurricane. Puerto Ricans were not passive victims awaiting our aid; our work, rather, was to stand in solidarity with Puerto Ricans who were already working to recon-

struct their communities, and organizing to address the roots of the island's precarious situation. Many of the students on the trip were themselves either Puerto Rican-born or of Puerto Rican descent, so this emphasis on mutual support was resonant.

The work itself was demanding. We broke into four teams, and most students spent their days manually scraping damaged material off of con-



Students after their work day.

crete roofs, exposing the cracks in the concrete with power tools, then filling those cracks with concrete, before priming and sealing the roof. There was an array of other work to be done as well, and many students came with extensive professional or volunteer construction experience. Homeowners were often eager to share their stories with us as we worked, and provided meals, refreshments, or other forms of hospitality. A number of homeowners worked alongside us.

Although we finished most days exhausted, students made time to travel and explore the island, and to continue the academic part of the trip: reading and reflecting on Naomi Klein's *The Battle for Paradise: Puerto Rico Takes on the Disaster Capitalists* (generously provided by Old Westbury's Academic Affairs). In their reflection assignments and in our group dialogues, students tied their experiences in Puerto Rico to what they learned about the predatory and colonialist roots of the island's debt crisis, the impact of austerity and disinvestment on infrastructure and education, and the array of efforts to push through unpopular neoliberal economic reforms while the island was in a state of crisis. In our discussions, they envisioned what real sovereignty or self-determination might look like for Puerto Ricans - what true democracy might create on the island - and how they could stand in solidarity with Puerto Ricans who were trying to live that vision.

Cont. from page 1

### Enrollment Sets a Record

sion."

"We are the most diverse campus in the state university system," Dr. Butts added. "Students are here from all walks of life."

In September it was announced that SUNY OW will receive the 2018 Higher Education Excellence in Diversity award. It will be one of only five campuses from the state university system that have been recognized.

President Butts reminded the incoming class that SUNY OW is filled with several resources: "If you don't write well go to the Writing Center, if you're not good with numbers go to the Math Learning Center, if you're looking for a job go to the Career Planning and Development Center, go the Student Success Center, take advantage of every opportunity that is available to you."

Cont. from page 1

### Professor Akgun to the Rescue

have loved to have."

The previous TV manager was Professor Jing Wang. Though she is no longer at the school, Professor Akgun believes "she did a nice job picking up a nice group of people." He assures that he does not plan on making major changes until the next semester. "First I need to understand the culture here, and the community, and the need of the community." The OWTV studio

received a state grant that will go towards improvements at the TV studio next semester.

"The studio is open to anyone," said Professor Akgun. "The student can come from any major or even a faculty member or staff." Professor Akgun's determination and expression for collaborations help show that the student media outlets collaboration will be a success.



# Panther Pride

# HOMECOMING

## 2018

<p><b>Tuesday, October 9, 2018</b></p> <p><b>Spirit Chalking</b> 12-4 p.m. Outside NAB/Campus Center</p> <p><b>Cake-Off</b> 2:30-3:50 p.m. Campus Center Atrium</p> <p><b>Women's Volleyball vs. Farmingdale</b> 6-7:30 p.m. Clark Athletic Center</p> <p><b>Meet the Royal Court</b> 8-10 p.m. Student Union MPR-B</p> <p><b>Wednesday, October 10, 2018</b></p> <p><b>Panther Pride Homecoming Fall Festival and Opening Ceremony</b> 2:30-3:50 p.m. Outside NAB/Woodlands Hall 1</p>	<p><b>Thursday, October 11, 2018</b></p> <p><b>Scavenger Hunt</b> 2:30-3:50 p.m. Outside NAB/Woodlands Hall 1</p> <p><b>First-Year Experience Common Reading Speaker</b> 7-9 p.m. Clark Athletic Center</p> <p><b>Lip-Sync or Karaoke Competition</b> 9-11:30 p.m. Recital Hall</p> <p><b>Arcade</b> 1-5 p.m. Student Union Game Room</p> <p><b>Food Trucks</b> 5-8 p.m. Campus Center Parking Lot</p> <p><b>Stay Up @ the Union hosted by SGA</b> 11:59 p.m.-4 a.m. Student Union</p>	<p><b>Friday, October 12, 2018</b></p> <p><b>Sip and Paint</b> 1-3 p.m. Campus Center Atrium</p> <p><b>Fraternity and Sorority Expo</b> Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Student Union Parking Lot</p> <p><b>Saturday, October 13, 2018</b></p> <p><b>Women's Soccer vs. Maritime (Senior Day)</b> 12-2 p.m. Panther Park</p> <p><b>Panther Fest/Family Day</b> 2-6 p.m. Jackie Robinson Athletic Complex</p> <p><b>Homecoming Formal/Royal Court Coronation</b> 9 p.m. - 2 a.m. Student Union MPRs</p>
---	--	--



**SUNY OLD WESTBURY**

Stay up-to-date on Panther Pride Homecoming at [www.oldwestbury.edu/homecoming](http://www.oldwestbury.edu/homecoming)    @SUNYOldWestbury



## OW GETS A NEW DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT INITIATIVES

By Keya Rice

Long Island native Rosanno Rovello joined the group of new staff entering the Fall 2018 semester at SUNY Old Westbury. Rovello took his position as the new Director of Advancement Initiatives. In Rovello's own words this job entails raising support for the college foundation which gives money for financial support and scholarships to students. It also puts a financial infrastructure in place so that so that over the long term money will still be raised on behalf of the college.

Rovello grew up in Nassau County in the East Meadow region of Long Island and started his post-secondary education at Nassau Community College. As a high school student Rovello's grades were far from stellar, but he found that as a student in Nassau Community College he excelled and even made it on the honors society. "The idea that I was able to turn it [my grades] around in my head, going from a B- student to a 3.4 gpa..making the honors society it was a major accomplishment," Rovello said. The transition from high school to college taught him that as long as he believed in himself and put in the hard work he could succeed and he still uses those principles today.

In 1990 Rovello graduated from Nassau Community College with an Associate's degree in the arts. From Nassau, Rovello moved on to SUNY Albany where he received his Bachelor's degree in Political Science in 1992. A

degree [political science] in which he was inspired to go after because of his interest in history politics and local elections from a young age. From SUNY Albany Rovello finalized his academic career at St. Johns receiving his Master's degree in East Asian studies in 1994.

"As far as East Asian studies goes it was just a thought that Japan [at the time] was this emerging nation, it was a colossus in East Asia like China is now and I thought it would be a great idea to try and learn the language...and possibly go there...it didn't turn out that way, Rovello said. He would soon be given the opportunity to work in Japan as a Foreign Service officer but turned it down after finding he would have to spend at least 10 years overseas leaving his family behind. Although Rovello didn't go away to a big university at first like he initially planned to coming out of high school or visit Japan like he intended at St. Johns he is still very proud of his educational background and says that it made him the person that he is today.

Upon graduating St. Johns, Rovello worked at a bank in the city for a total of four months before he resigned and started to do temp work on Long Island. One day his temp agency called him and stated that a temporary two week position as a bookkeeper was open at North Shore LIJ( currently known as Northwell Health). Rovello happily accepted and after a week of working

there he was contacted by a hiring manager who saw his potential and asked him if he would fill a data entry position that had just opened up. From North Shore LIJ Rovello moved to Beth Israel medical center where he worked as a plan-giving assistant.

Plan giving as described by Rovello ia a gift that anyone can make from their will, life insurance policy or 401k making an institution their main beneficiary. As a plan-giving assistant Rovello would assist in managing those funds. After some time people began to leave Beth Israel and more opportunities arose for Rovello, he was promoted to the fundraising aspect of development. Out of his twenty years in the development world Rovello has worked at Hofstra University, Columbia University, St. Francis College and St. Joseph's College where he has raised millions of dollars on behalf of those four institutions. At all four



New Director of Advancement Initiatives, Rosanno Rovello

institutions Rovello held frontline fundraising positions, raising funds in terms of major gifts which are donations written by check or given by stock to an institution and raising money for plan giving.

When asked how his work history prepared him for his new job at Suny OW Rovello stated that his previous jobs put him in various situations where he faced problems of all kinds. It taught him that in most cases every problem has a solution.

## Panther Pantry

By Nikki Kallipozis

This fall semester SUNY Old Westbury has introduced its very own food pantry, Panther Pantry. The Panther Pantry which is located in the Student Union room 301 B is open to all students, faculty, and staff. Not only is food provided but basic first aid, and hygiene products as well as feminine hygiene products.

The pantry is open Tuesdays and Wednesdays from noon to 3:30 pm. In case of an emergency there is access to the food pantry outside of these hours. You have the option to remain anonymous at the pantry. All you have to do is grab a bag and go shopping.

The Panther Pantry has been 2 years in the making. "The pantry was created through an effort that involved Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, all schools, and the outside community," says Cristina Notaro, Assistant Dean, School of Arts and Sciences. Notaro was a major contributor to the creation of the Panther Pantry.

Everything from soup to granola bars are stacked high on four large metal racks in the pantry. Outside the

pantry door is a coupon wall that the pantry has started. Various coupons are pinned to a bulletin board for anyone's use.

Besides donations from drives and individuals the Panther Pantry works with Island Harvest. Island Harvest is 1 of 2 major food banks on Long Island that contributes not only non-perishable items but hygiene products as well.

The pantry is only beginning, and it is constantly expanding. Notaro, stressed that the pantry contains non-perishables only. The pantry is in the process of collecting college essentials like the classic ramen noodles. If anyone is interested in hosting a food drive or donating food, a list of suggested items is available on [www.oldwestbury.edu](http://www.oldwestbury.edu) under the School of Art and Sciences tab.

Claudia Newman, community volunteer says, "Food and monetary donations are acceptable and welcome anytime." If there are any questions contact Cristina Notaro at, [notaroc@oldwestbury.edu](mailto:notaroc@oldwestbury.edu).





## Alumnus Highlight: Freddie A. Valentin Jr.

By Selena Valentin



2016 SUNY Old Westbury Alumnus Freddie A. Valentin Jr., successfully embarked on his career as a Case Planner for Forestdale, Inc. in Queens in the two years since he's graduated. Valentin graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in English and says it was a life changing experience for him because he learned a lot both inside and outside of the classroom. Valentin was a contributor to *The Catalyst* and is a MAC Award winner for Best Reviews, he has also worked in the Technical Production crew at the Maguire Theatre, as well as becoming a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity Incorporated in Spring 2012.

Here are Valentin's word of advice for current undergraduates, "Do what makes you happy and plan, plan, plan... once studies are taken care of - ENJOY yourself and take advantage of your resources!" There's strength behind the struggles of an undergrad and one of the many common struggles most undergrads face is the construct of time. Valentin is an example of a student who did not let those stereotypes get the best of him, within his undergrad career he accomplished many goals.

He became more social, involved in the campus community, was an activist for different causes such as the Aids Walk, and dove into one of his many passions, which is his love for writing. In a family where he was the first generation to go to college and graduate, he overcame all the obstacles thrown at him and still came out winning. We proudly acknowledge our Alumnus Freddie A. Valentin Jr.

(Full disclosure: Selena Valentin is the sister of Freddie Valentin, Jr.)

## Meet The Greeks

By Selena Valentin



Efrin Eduardo Martinez Cuevas is a member of the MALIK Fraternity and has been a member since the spring of 2017. He carries several titles at SUNY Old Westbury and is working on his Bachelor of Arts in Information Management and Systems. Cuevas has successfully completed being a summer peer EOP mentor, CSA public relations board member, public relations and wing representative for RHC Hall 1, freshman representative, Vice President of Men in Progress, as well as launching his own clothing brand called, "Iconic Vibes Only."

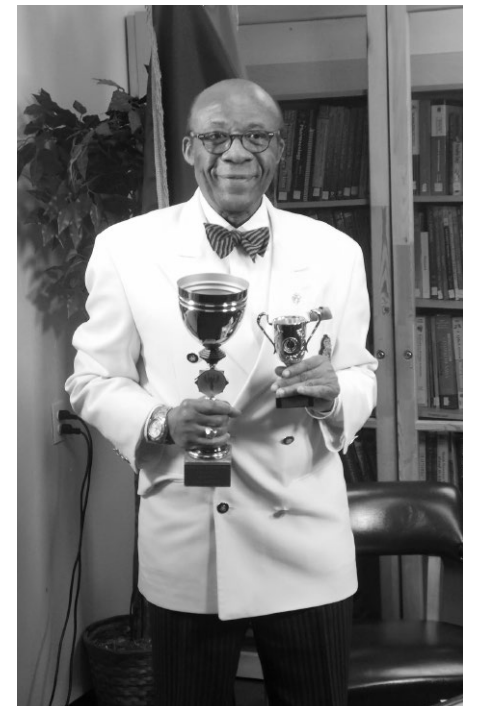
His current titles are Welcome Wagon Volunteer, Panther Pride Homecoming Committee member, GBM for hall 4 RHC, Student Ambassador, and EOP peer mentor. Cuevas's current goals are, "Working on bringing up my clothing brand, to finish my Bachelor's in Information Management and Systems, winning Homecoming Prince, and making it into the dean's list." Stay connected with Cuevas via instagram @ Iconicvibesonly .



Gabriela De Pena is a member of Hermandad de Sigma Iota Alpha, Inc. since the spring of 2018. De Pena is a junior pursuing her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology with a minor in Media and Communications. She shares her journey thus far with the organization and says, "My organization helps me be a better version of myself every day. I get to do what I love, which is help those who need it most and learn from these experiences along the way." De Pena's membership has also given her the opportunity to give back to the community by participating in the Girl Scout Mission, Girls Go the Distance Family Funday Event, where she alongside her other sisters, gave children food, played games and other youthful activities.

She has also hosted programs on campus such as Let it Go, which was to raise suicide awareness and provide words of encouragement to all students. De Pena was also a Welcome Wagon volunteer this year, where she assisted residential freshmen on check in day. Her goals this year are as follows; to positively impact those around her, create a legacy for herself this year, and to allow her organization to collaborate and be of use to the student body. Ultimately, she dreams of becoming a speech therapist and would like to share her views with the world through journalism and photography. Stay connected with Gabriela De Pena via email [gdependa@oldwestbury.edu](mailto:gdependa@oldwestbury.edu).

## POEM



Eli Fleurant

### *The Bird of the Twilight*

By Eli Fleurant

Now the sun is barely sleeping  
At the dawn of the summer  
heatwave.  
Its flight seems to deplete  
The frolics of a day.  
Its glare still shines  
Of the last reflections of the star.  
He is alone in the middle  
Of tender thorns in the soft green.  
In delirium he takes flight  
At the expense of the water jets  
Forgetting the promises of the  
dawn  
And the gossip of hours ignited.  
No matter, he says, of my decline  
And solitude.  
I am the Bird of the Twilight.

### *Solitude*

Risen from the depths of my  
pulse,  
I still remain silent  
Listening to the breeze of the  
evening.  
A hungry shadow comes along,  
Cloaking my heart and head;  
And my unaccustomed spirit  
Braces itself in the dark calm,  
Waiting for the strike of the  
infinite.  
O night, kingdom of silence and  
science!  
Insomnia alone  
Testifies to your image.  
Crushed in the dark,  
The spirit's spark  
Barely shines,  
Offering a glimmer to the poet in  
search of hope.

Eli Fleurant, author of *Eyes of the Night: Diaphanous Poetry*, teaches French at Old Westbury.

## Make a Splash, Earn Some Cash!

### Calling all certified lifeguards!

Our campus is looking for responsible and reliable students at SUNY Old Westbury with active lifeguard certificates to apply for a lifeguard position at the Clark Athletic Center. As everyone is welcomed and encouraged to apply, please keep in mind that this opportunity is open to all students, including work study students. For further information about this employment opportunity please contact the Director of Athletics, Lenore Walsh, at [walshle@oldwestbury.edu](mailto:walshle@oldwestbury.edu) or call (516) 876-3241 or feel free to stop by the Clark Athletic Center room P220 for an application. Please note it is required to hold an active lifeguard certificate.

# SESSIONS OF H.O.P.E

*"Set your eyes fixed directly forward, and your gaze to straight before you."  
Proverbs 4:25 ESV*






SESSIONS  
of  
H.O.P.E  
*(Helping Other People Everyday)*

PRESENTS

Steps to Moving Forward In Our Lives Segment

Starting Oct. 9th Meetings EVERY TUES.  
2:30 - 3:50 & 4 pm - 5pm

📍 Campus Center Library on 1st Floor Room 138  
*\*\*IN LIBRARY TAKE ELEVATOR DOWN TO THE 1ST FLOOR\*\**

 [sessionsofhope7.wixsite.com/soh7](http://sessionsofhope7.wixsite.com/soh7)
 @sessionsofhope  
 @SessionsOfHope
  @sessionsofhope
  @sessions\_of\_hop

Postcardly.com  
Stock Images

\*Sponsored by Honors College\*

**Do you find yourself feeling stressed and anxious to meet academic deadlines?**

**Are you worried about fitting in and finding yourself depressed and alone?**

**Are you looking for hope in a situation which feels hopeless, and have yet to find a solution?**

If you fit into any of the aforementioned categories, then Sessions of H.O.P.E is the place that you've been searching for. Sessions of H.O.P.E is an inspirational support group which serves to Help Other People Every day, being accessible right here at SUNY Old Westbury. Sessions of H.O.P.E desires to give you the answers to life's problems and perplexities that you are faced with using Gods word.

Believe it or not, there are answers to every problem you face, and we want to help you find them! Join us and surround yourself in a positive environment, with Positive influences and you are guaranteed to receive a Positive outcome. All are welcome to bond, grow, learn, join and develop tactics to life's perplexities in this Judgement Free Zone.

**For more Information about the group please contact**

Sessions of H.O.P.E President Jakyra Mcleod

Email: [jmcleod3@oldwestbury.edu](mailto:jmcleod3@oldwestbury.edu)

**Stay connected via social media**

Facebook: @Sessionsofhope

Snapchat: @sessionsofhope

Instagram : @sessions\_of\_hope

Twitter: @sessionsofhope

Website: [sessionsofhope7.wixsite.com/soh7](http://sessionsofhope7.wixsite.com/soh7)



# **Public Notice of Opportunity for Comments Regarding the Department of Public Health at SUNY Old Westbury to the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH)**

\*\*\*\*\*

This notice serves to inform all students, alumni, faculty, staff, community partners, members of the general public and all stakeholders in the Department of Public Health at SUNY Old Westbury that the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) will conduct a site visit at the School on **December 6-7, 2018**. The visit is part of a multi-year process by which the **Department of Public Health at SUNY Old Westbury** and other schools and programs of public health earn CEPH reaccreditation.

## **OPPORTUNITY FOR THIRD-PARTY COMMENTS**

All those officially notified here are invited to provide written comments prior to **November 5, 2018** (30 days before the site visit). CEPH requests that all submitted comments be in writing and contain specific observations. Written third-party comments will remain **confidential** and can be sent to CEPH, as follows:

**VIA E-MAIL:** Ms. Deja Jennings ([djennings@ceph.org](mailto:djennings@ceph.org))

## **VIA U.S. MAIL**

Ms. Deja Jennings  
Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) 1010 Wayne Avenue, Suite 220  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-5660

Written comments will complement the many materials submitted to CEPH by the Department of Public Health at SUNY Old Westbury, including a self-study document.

**Should you have questions about the process**, please contact Dr. Martha Livingston, Professor and Chair of the Department of Public Health, who chairs the reaccreditation committee. Dr. Livingston is reachable at 516.876.2748 or [livingstonm@oldwestbury.edu](mailto:livingstonm@oldwestbury.edu)

Thank you for taking time to comment.



Peer Educator's Empowerment Program and Student Escape  
Corner Presents:



**Save the date!**  
**Tuesday**  
**Oct. 16**  
**7 – 9 pm**

# **Killer Connection**

**Free Food, Free  
Drinks**

**AND PRIZES!!!!!!**



**Student Union  
Multi-purpose room – C  
Join US!!!!!!**



For more information contact:



Blanca Schneider, LCSW

Student Escape Corner

Phone: (516) 876 -3054

Email: [Schneiderb@oldwestbury.edu](mailto:Schneiderb@oldwestbury.edu)





## Voices of OW

### Students Comment on The #MeToo Movement and Sexual Assault in the Age of Kavanaugh



**Huda Umar**  
Major : Psychology  
Senior

"I definitely feel like the me too movement has helped in making a lot of women feel comfortable to come out because a lot of women were scared to before but now that they see all these other people doing it they feel more comfortable, so I think it's a great thing that a lot of women are starting to say the truth and if it comes out to be true that he did sexually assault those women then he definitely shouldn't be elected."



**Glenn Riddick**  
Major : Psychology  
Senior

"I think sometimes women abuse their platform to speak out but in this circumstance I don't think so, I think she used it in the right context in the way it was supposed to be. That's a tough one honestly I don't think he should go to jail for something he did so many years ago, especially because of statute of limitations, he should be brought down at least if he confesses to it, he shouldn't be nominated for supreme court justice."



**Chris Garcia**  
Major : Criminology  
Senior

"Disgusting, it's truly disgusting how can a man who is held so high stoop so low. I feel like in a sense its [me too movement] a double edged sword, that you know people use it for good some people use it just for hashtags. If true [ the allegations] this guys should be locked up because no man without a woman's consent should put his hands on her in a sexual manner."



**Krysta Flareau**  
Major: Public Health  
Junior

I think of #MeToo, I think of many courageous people coming forward in a fight that is centuries old and well overdue. When I post about the #MeToo movement and of other topics related to sexual assault, I see comments like, "She just wants attention," "If you dress the part, people will treat you like the part," and "She had it coming." In my opinion, of course people are going to treat you differently if you dress and look a certain way that is pleasing to someone's eye, that is how society is socially constructed. Is it okay for someone to take advantage of someone's body? HELL NO IT'S NOT! This movement is not about women "wanting attention," it is about the number of men who think it is okay to use women like sex toys, and vice versa. Look at where we are now as society has molded into what we are today. Men and women came together just in the last ten decades with movement after movement and they achieved so much in the end. Perfection takes time, and this movement will make us better.



**Nikoloas Nantsis**  
Major: History/ Liberal Arts  
Junior

"To be quite frank I don't think its [me too movement] been over-used I think its been very useful because I think the idea of standing up against sexual assault it's important because its something thats been going on for many years and I think it's just time to stand up against the oppression and the struggles that have been placed upon women or groups of people because of their gender or way of life. I think it really is time that we need to stand up against the corruption and the status quo that has been placed on society by old outlandish rules that were written down by a bunch of rich dudes who really didn't care about other people but themselves. I agree with the me too movement, do I think their abusing the power no, I think it's actually being used effectively and I think they can do more with it."



**Wendy EstaBrook**  
Major: Forensic Accounting  
Graduate Student

"It's almost like you already have bad feelings about the guy because of the different things he stands for especially whether or not he stands with Roe V Wade as like a law that's in place that can't be changed and there's questions about that. So you know that his view on women's rights are a little bit skewed and you hear this stuff and it's like you're just shocked and it's like when is enough going to be enough. When is someone going to hold him accountable and when is it going to get to the point where people are just going to stop following people blindly. I would say I've always had a strong view of the me too movement I think it's really great that people are coming forward, do I wish that people came forward sooner rather than later yes, but I think with the me too movement these people are coming out thirty five years later and I think it's going to help people come out a lot sooner."



**Megan Kahane**  
Major : Accounting  
Senior

"So it definitely made me have strong feelings against him [Kavanaugh] and the fact that people are having issues with the women makes me angry because there are so many reasons that women don't come out about their sexual assaults so the fact that people are saying that he's still a good guy is bull. This has definitely increased my belief in the me too movement because so many people are coming out during the me too movement but there's so many people who haven't or back then whenever it happened; and now I feel like this even more of a thing because sometimes people don't think that what happened to them was enough."



# Hurricane Florence Aftermath

By Brianna Knibbs

Hurricane Florence began as a tropical storm when it hit the Cabo Verde Islands off the coast of West Africa. It then turned into a hurricane with various categories constantly changing and the maximum sustained winds of 90 mph. North and South Carolina haven't had a deadliest hurricane since the 1954 Hurricane Hazel, which resulted in 15,000 homes destroyed and thirty-nine people killed.

The months between June and November mark the time when hurricanes are in full force on the east coast. This is better known as the Atlantic Hurricane Season. September 14th, 2018 is the day residents of North and South Carolina lives were impacted by this season.

A category 4 hurricane known as Hurricane Florence had hit the Carolinas, mainly North Carolina which left many damages and the death toll of 43

people, according to a statement made by the North Carolina Governor. Since then, the death toll rose up to 48.

Animals were also affected as millions of farm animals such as poultry birds, chickens, hogs have died due to drowning according to the North Carolina Agricultural Department. Animal shelters as well as others from different states are currently rescuing animals and providing with care and waiting for others to adopt them.

Distribution areas have been open for people who needed supplies such as water, food, ice, gas, etc. More than 300,000 homes and businesses remained out of power. Donations are being made to certain charities for those in need such as the American Red Cross, the North Carolina Disaster Relief Fund, Hurricane Florence Response Fund, Google Nonprofit Partnership etc. Celebrities such as former NBA player,

Michael Jordan donated \$2 million and the Real Housewives of New York reality star, Bethenny Frankel, used her #B Strong movement for others to contribute for the hurricane relief efforts.

There have been predictions being made on whether or not a new hurricane will hit the east coast again and might be worse. The estimate in damages and economic loss as a result of the hurricane is between \$38 and \$50 billion which also includes more than \$1 billion in North Carolina farms.

Floodwaters have continue to rise over the rivers, which forced residents to evacuate their homes and approximately 1200 roads being blocked. Some areas received as much as 34-36 inches of rain. Florence became the nation's second wettest storm with Hurricane Harvey ranked as first.

In addition, NASA satellites had tracked flooding of many rivers

throughout the Carolinas and discovered polluted water flowing from the rivers into the Atlantic Ocean.

According to the National Weather Service in Raleigh, approximately 8 trillion gallons of rain had poured across North Carolina during the storm. As a result, it polluted rivers and streams. Images from NASA satellites were released and it shows contaminated soil, decaying leaves, pollution, and other debris discoloring the water in the rivers, bays, estuaries, etc. Other images included the amount of CDOM (Colored Dissolved Organic Matter) in the rivers. With the organic matter, it contains pigments that causes discoloration of the water. The water can appear in various colors such as blue, green, yellow, or brown depending on the amount of CDOMs. This can also lead to the killings of fish and other environmental dilemmas.

# Nassau County Agencies Cracking Down on Animal Abuse

By Kristin Brave

Animal abuse continues to be a prevalent issue in Nassau County. Many cases are shown in local news outlets; however, many abusers often go uncharged or are given small punishments.

Various agencies in the county are beginning to crack down these crimes, such as The Nassau County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (NC SPCA) located in Bethpage. This organization upholds the New York State Agriculture and Markets Law to charge animal abusers.

According to the Nassau County SPCA, there were 1,848 calls so far this year, 745 investigations, 14 arrests, and

1,032 lives were saved.

Some of these violent crimes against animals include the discovery of seven deceased pit bulls in trash bags in Hempstead. The NC SPCA recently increased their original \$5,000 reward to \$6,000 for anyone with information that could lead to a conviction for the individual responsible for this act. It states on their website, "Rewards encourage the public to speak up against animal cruelty and let animal abusers know that the public will not stay quiet."

Nassau County animal control brought 18-year-old resident Michael Bennett to justice in late August of this

year. Bennett had left his dog and nine of her puppies in his home after the electricity had been cut in his home. Nassau County Animal Control found and seized Bennett's eleven dogs following a neighbor's call about one of the dogs roaming around the neighborhood. Bennett was then arrested and charged with felony animal cruelty.

Jamie of The Pet Store Next Door located next to the Brookville Animal Hospital in Glen Head, has seen instances of animal abuse, whether pets are being brought to be groomed or treated. Many owners allow their pets to become matted and develop skin diseases

because they are afraid to brush them if they appear to be matted. They wait to get their pet professionally groomed instead of attempting to do it themselves. "They think that's the right thing to do," said Jamie. "But that's actually abuse because they're making [their pets] uncomfortable and get all kinds of skin conditions." Animal lovers such as Jamie believe that punishments for animal abuse need to be greater because, "It takes a lot sicker of a person to hurt an animal than it does to hurt a human."

# The Nun

By Kirsten Hyman

The horrifying demon known as "Valak" came to the big screen in the U.S. on September 7, 2018. Writers Gary Dauberman and James Wan along with Director Corin Hardy, brought the yellow-eyed evil nun to life with the newest installation of "The Conjuring" series. According to Forbes.com, the film was projected to make around \$40-45 million dollars during its debut weekend. Instead it pulled in a staggering \$53.5 million dollars. "So far, the movies in the Conjuring Universe have collectively taken \$426.24 million at the domestic box office by the end their runs, unadjusted for inflation - that figure increases to \$471.61 million adjusted. Globally, that figure hits \$1.2 billion, unadjusted, and that's not to be sniffed at as it makes the Conjuring Universe the third highest-grossing horror franchise in history - it's also now the highest-grossing R-rated horror franchise." (Simon Thompson, Forbes.com).

The film takes place in Romania, at an

old run-down abbey. A nun commits suicide to prevent a great evil. After her death, Father Burke a priest played by Mexican-American actor Demián Bichir, is sent by the Vatican to investigate the grounds. He is ordered to work alongside a young nun-in training, Sister Irene, who has not yet taken her vows. Sister Irene, played by Taissa Farniga, is a strong character who comes to aid Father Burke and finds her confidence through facing the malevolent demon and unearthing the dark secret of the abbey.

As if The Nun's "Valak" isn't menacing enough, viewers may have a hard time sleeping after discovering the character is based off of an actual demon. According to grimoire.org, "Valac," "Volac," "Ualac" or "Valu," is written about in the Grimoires Book of Incantations, The Lesser Key of Solomon and various other texts. As found in "The Lesser Key of Solomon, Crowley/Mathers Edition: "He is a President Mighty and Great, and appeareth like a Child with

Angel's Wings, riding on a Two-headed Dragon. His Office is to give True Answers of Hidden Treasures, and to tell where Serpents may be seen. The which he will bring unto the Exorciser without any Force or Strength being by him employed." That's right, the president of Hell himself.

While reviews are mixed, the film has been widely successful. Popular movie critiquing site Rotten Tomatoes gave the film an average rating of 4.5 out of 10. While the film was rated R for terror, violence and disgusting/bloody images, critics at Rotten Tomatoes just weren't impressed. Horror fans such as Steve Schultz from Albertson, NY said "I saw the nun tonight, I'd give it a 5. I wasn't that impressed." While Marcos Gandía, a critic on Rotten Tomatoes site called the film "A catalogue of horror sensations." Either way, The Nun has received plenty of attention.





# Art Gallery Review

“Once A Ghetto: The Worlds Created By Jews And Blacks in Brownsville”

Amelia A. Wallace Gallery, Campus Center

Exhibition Open from September 26th-October 25th.

By Keya Rice

The “Once a Ghetto” exhibition opened officially on September 26th with writing etched on the walls, pinned on scrolls of paper and perfectly framed pictures, it was obvious that a story was to be told. Each panel spoke to a different era in the history of Brownsville, eras that we hear about but have never lived through and eras that we see today but may not necessarily understand. This was an exhibit that you couldn’t grasp in its entirety without background knowledge which the writings on the wall proceeded to give.

The area known as Brownsville was first owned by Dutch settlers, many Jews sought asylum there when they fled from persecution in Eastern Europe. The exhibition follows the metamorphosis of Brownsville as it becomes a home to different Ethnic groups throughout the years, first starting with Jews. The dimension of the exhibit pictured on the first level is that of Brownsville as a home to Jews.

Black and white meticulously placed photography takes us back to the era of early Brownsville or Brunzvil as old Jews pronounced it this was mentioned in the scroll titled The Long Jewish Goodbye which sat proudly next to a particular photographic installation. Pictures of Jewish children with their hands held high holding signs, store fronts that catered to this specific ethnic group, Jewish election posters and business advertisements lined the wall giving us

glimpses of what the poor Jewish empire in the early twentieth century. By the 1920’s however the Jewish reign in Brownsville came to a decline and Jews began to spread out to more wealthy Brooklyn neighborhoods ones that would go on to permanently separate them as a different type of American citizen.

As the first floor dimension of the exhibit comes to an end we see the slow disintegration of Jewish communities as blacks and other minority groups flood in, essentially seeking asylum like Jews from Europe did but instead of from their country it was from their government. The exiled, the unwanted came to Brownsville to find a hope. The narrative changes as the photographs even in their black and white state becomes more colored.

Moving onto to the second lowest level of the exhibit we see Brownsville as what the scroll pinned on the wall stated ...a country. Brownsville becomes one of those hearts of change starting in the era of the civil rights movement and moving forward, rapidly but forcefully integrating those who were different but share the common desire to be treated fairly.

As one looks at the wall they see cars, people and civil rights activists like Dr. King, who no doubt inspired the essence of Brownsville that helped it go on for many years. The exhibit also goes on to show through photography historical landmarks that still serve a purpose as a reminder of where the people have come

as well as different types of people living in harmony and experiencing a different type of wealth. A wealth that was not monetary but was gained through the richness of community.

Throughout the second dimension of the exhibit there were glass tables, the looked almost like viewing tables and within them were newspaper clippings and books that pertained to the various eras of Brownsville pictured in the photographs that hung around the walls. The tables helped to transports the viewer through time as they felt like they were actively looking and participating in pieces of culture. Often times we forget that the past is not as far away as we believe to be, sometimes we just have to feel as if we were there to get the whole picture. Though the walls in the gallery were white open and hallow, they could close you in if you let them because it was like the pictures were talking and saying this is what really happened , this was once our world and what do you think of it now?

The final dimension of the exhibit on the last and lowest level refreshes your senses with pops of color in almost each photograph. And as you walk around the walls you notice that while Brownsville underwent so much it is still surviving and lives on as its own separate entity , separate from just Brooklyn or the hood but literally its own.



## “Once A Ghetto”

By Kirsten Hyman

The grand opening of the “Once A Ghetto: The Worlds Created by Jews and Blacks in Brownsville” exhibit was on September 26th, 2018 where the curator, Professor Gilda Zwerman was able to share a few words at SUNY Old Westbury’s Amelie A. Wallace Gallery.

“It was about going home,” she said during her curative talk. Professor Zwerman is a Sociology professor at SUNY OW. She grew up in Brownsville, Brooklyn. She came of age when the black community of Brownsville was prominent. She referred to them lovingly as “the people who raised me.” Professor Zwerman’s exhibition displays photographs and videos along with written records of how [the] neighborhood of Brownsville has evolved throughout the years. Her collection of works gives viewers an inside look of how Brownsville has changed both ethnically and socially.

Once A Ghetto is a collection of Professor Zwerman’s work along with Sharon Zukin, and photographer Lyn Hughes. Hyewon Yi is the co-curator and the Director of Amelie A. Wallace Gallery. Yi stated, “this is a really serious topic for her. I helped her” create “the art exhibition.” Yi went on to say that Professor Zwerman knew this was

important, but didn’t know how to proceed. “She had this idea about an issue,” Yi said. “But, she didn’t know how to go about it so I helped her to visualize it.” Yi went on to explain how they’ve worked intensely on the project for about a year. “The term ghetto, applies to both Jews and Blacks,” and “Once A Ghetto is implying” [that today] “it’s no longer” [a] “ghetto,” she explained.

Zwerman began her research as a sociologist in the early 1980’s. Zwerman said, “I did a study there in the early 80’s on the Nehemiah houses that were just going up.” She was able to do this study through a grant. “I had a photographer working with me, and we ended up not truly being able to use the pictures,” she said. “So, I’ve been carrying these pictures around since 1982 which is probably before you were ever born,” joked Professor Zwerman.

Brownsville was a haven for Jews and African Americans escaping the Jim Crow South, along with many other minority groups. Professor Zwerman’s exhibition shows photos of how Brownsville at one point looked like a ghost town left in ruins. It proceeds to show the efforts of the evolving community changing for the better. The

theme of activism grows as one views the photographs in the exhibit. There was a handout that was provided during the exhibit that explained the efforts of city planners, community justice activists and other kinds of efforts that are attempting to re-brand the neighborhood into a “new Brooklyn.”

Not only did Professor Zerman grow up in Brownsville, but she have family ties that date back to 1914. “My family’s history there began in 1914, and it ended there in 2001 with the memorial of my father. That’s a long time,” she reflected. “When I started reading about whether or not Brownsville could gentrify, given all the changes in Brooklyn and the new Brooklyn, it peaked my interest.” At the time Professor Zwerman was teaching a seminar based on gentrification. “I taught a seminar in gentrification here, which forced me to read that literature along with my students.” She has her students to thank for their contribution to the exhibit. “Some of the students you saw here that were helping were part of that class, so they were sort of a part of this as well.”

Yi believes that the project gave her a fresher perspective and that she thinks it was very important. “I’m very

proud that I was able to assist and help,” she said. She had visited the neighborhood a few times. Her most memorable visit to Brownsville was one that she’d gone to speak to the high school students at Brooklyn Democracy Academy. “Meeting students who lived there, who worked there, that was the most memorable experience for me,” said Yi.

“As I said in the talk, I would normally read the gentrification literature, do some interviews in Brownsville, hold myself up in my office, and write a scholarly article for a journal that four people read,” giggled Professor Zwerman. “I thought no, I want to do something that’s material.” Two years ago Professor Zwerman presented Yi her idea and Yi liked it. “She said let’s do a show.”

Once A Ghetto: The Worlds Created by Jews and Blacks in Brownsville will be exhibited in the Amelie A. Wallace Gallery until October 25, 2018. There will be a public talk and discussion in the Duane L. Jones Recital Hall, located in the Campus Center on Monday, October 15, 2018, from 3:50 PM-5:20 PM.



## #WhyIDidntReport

By Laura DeMarzo

I'll never forget the smell of burnt hair that night. The flat iron was set to singe and I must have straightened my hair five times before I left the house. It was still chilly out so I had my cutest plaid jacket on, skinny jeans that fit me just right and silver and white flats purchased at the shoe store I worked in—just for this night. Leaving my house I felt confident and nervous, the type of combination of nerves and excitement that always made me tingle from sternum to stomach in the worst way. Maybe this hesitation was foreboding but so quixotic in my bubble was I that I ignored the rumblings and made my way to his house.

He and I had been speaking for months, over the computer, over the phone and online. We went through all the regular steps of nouveau-courtship that came with dating over the internet, the same steps my friends were going through. Goodnight phone conversations turned into good morning marathons calls, getting the approval from my friends on his photos and of course mine before sharing my own. We shared the same sense of humor, same intellect, same taste in obscure rap battles and The Sopranos.

The anticipation for us to meet was mounting. But, I wasn't stupid. I knew the danger of meeting people you can't vet via mutual friends and he may have sensed

that. He dialed the musings of romance back and became my friend. With ease, I told him about my sin, betrayals committed by men in the past and even the tragedies of my own friends. After months, he made me comfortable enough that one night I decided to meet him.

Though I was going under the guise of friends, my youthful naivete makes me laugh in heartbreaking retrospect when I remember wondering, "Would he kiss me? Would he hold my hand?" When we met, in a well lit park near his home, I finally exhaled. I felt at ease and when he eventually held me while we watched the water, I sunk into him, elated that I had been independent and brave enough to come out and meet him. When he suggested we watch a movie at his place, I leaped.

Over the past two weeks, I've gotten to witness the President of my country mock a woman who spoke about her sexual assault. I watched as he garnered laughter over his performance as Dr. Christine Blasey Ford, a woman who came forward to tell her sexual assault story at the hands of Judge Brett Kavanaugh, someone who will most likely go on to have one of the most powerful positions in the country. Over the past two weeks, I watched how women were vilified for coming forward about a serial rapist (who admitted in a deposition, that he routinely

drugged and raped women) because he was Bill Cosby.

On September 21<sup>st</sup>, Trump tweeted, "...if the attack on Dr. Ford was as bad as she says, charges would have been immediately filed with local Law Enforcement Authorities by either her or her loving parents...." It's this rhetoric of placing sole responsibility on the victim, without understanding their mindset, that kept me from reporting.

The night Dr. Ford had in 1982 differs from the night I had several years ago. There wasn't a third party who had the opportunity to act as a hero or a villain at the discretion of his own flawed moral compass and, more significantly for me, I didn't get away. When he threw me onto the bed, face first and forced the jeans (that fit just right) down along with my panties, I was mad that I had made myself look pretty. When he penetrated me while my face was muffled in a pillow, I believed I willed it by telling him my sexual history or hoping he'd kiss me on the way over. So strong was my ability to place the blame on myself that when I wrestled him off me, I didn't hate him. My parents couldn't report because my parents don't know.

When I returned home that night, I could still smell the burnt hair from the flatiron and was angry with myself for making my hair look nice.

And worse than any one part of that story, is the fact that it's not an original.

As a woman, I'm a keeper of secrets for other women. Within the confines of my mind live dozens of stories just like my own, from women who have been violently raped by strangers or by a loved one. I house the stories of women who had to lie down silently as a defense mechanism when the choice was sex or losing their life for saying "no." I can write a novel and fill the pages with tales of women who never said anything about their sexual assault because they weren't the "ideal" victim, because their abuser was a "good kid," because their violation would bring shame on the family or it was date-rape or because a plethora of other reasons that fall into the impossible so-called grey area of sexual assault.

So, in response to your tweet Mr. President, I say, yes it was as bad as I recall. Yes, my parents love me and no, charges were never filed because I believed the narrative you're currently pushing. Even as a feminist, a liberal and a warrior for good, somewhere deep in my psyche, the myth of victim blaming lived on. So again I say, Mr. President, please don't ever speak on behalf of victims until you become an advocate for them, which time and time again you've proven you don't have the competency or heart to do.

## Peppermint: Breath of Fresh Air?

By Selena Valentin

Producers Tom Rosenberg, Gary Lucchesi, and Richard S. Wright birthed a tall tale based on a woman who survives a brutal attack which leaves her family (daughter and husband) assassinated on the night of her daughter's birthday--wait it gets better; mom then recovers from a coma and completely falls off the grid, where she uses her time to become the skillful assassin to the murderers who killed her family. The movie has gotten poor reviews and part of it is due to the lack of integrity on the script's end.

There was no actual time in the movie which reflected on Riley North's (Jennifer Garner) rehabilitation from what she had gone through, and her thought process from when her family was killed and when she became a sharp shooter. It is that very vital visual, which audiences seek as they want to see the hardships she faced, the time and planning it took for her to find her family's killers, those are the juicy moments critics would've surely enjoyed. In the trailer of the film, it seemed as if Jennifer Garner was coming for something

greater than just revenge and left many in false hope and disappointment when the film did not execute those moments.

The film did shed light on corruption when the justice system failed her family's murder, this was in fact the plot twist of the film when all the murderers were not convicted in court because of how fearful and powerless attorneys and judges are when gangs or so-called "urban guerillas" are involved. It would've been nice to see the writers and producers do more with this twist of the movie and yet again, view-

ers only got about three-minutes of sincere compassion and empathy for Garner's character as she sat in the courtroom waiting for the verdict. Not to say that the film isn't enjoyable at the very least, but it is not what it was hyped up to be. Quite frankly, plenty of critics feel similarly that director, Pierre Morel could've used those \$25 million dollars to better use, they had all of the tools for a great film, but simply did not execute. Better luck next time pal, but for now take the constructive criticism.

## Theatrical Magic

By Jacqueline Schroder

Theatre is like the air, it has no true shape or definition, yet we need it in our lives. Theatre is a practice of the performing arts which that has touched the lives of many in a variety of ways. It is a form of expression with no boundaries and no guidelines. Theatre encourages public speaking, and expression in addition to producing an immense amount of curiosity and evoking each individual's voice. Performers are able to create an experience of a real or fictional event to their audience through combinations of gesture, speech, song and dance.

The most satisfying feeling in the world is when you know that you've made a difference in someone's life. You get to see the faces in the audience filled with all different types of emotions which you've provoked. Besides knowing that other people have enjoyed the work that you've put your heart and soul into, theatre allows the actors to find self fulfilment and joy in the process.



Taking on the role of a character, whether it is based on reality or fantasy gives you the opportunity to see things through a totally new perspective. There are different aspects and components of theatre, mainly revolving around acting, singing, and dancing. Of course we could dig much deeper into the various subcategories, but we'll stick to the basics.

Theatre helps you determine who you are and develop self-confidence. Performing takes a lot of courage and strength, but your friends will help you through it. As

your time spent in theatre progresses you realize that in auditions and performances... no one is actually judging you, they are judging your ability to play the part you are given. That's what makes it so magical. Theatre gives you the opportunity to enter different realms of possibility wearing the mask of your choice, that can be taken figuratively as you are taking on a different persona but in lots of cases you may get to wear an actual mask. One may ask themselves how theatre can help them find out who they are when you aren't actually being themselves. Examining different perspectives and opinions from different characters helps you learn thoughts, careers, phrases, ideas, etc., that you never knew existed. After being exposed to so many ideas and circumstances one can come to their own conclusions about how they view the world around them.

Another reason theatre is so amazing is because within theatre communities,

you can encounter the most accepting people in the world. People who are involved with the performing arts deal with every emotion possible, every religion possible, every sexual orientation possible, and multiple personalities. They learn to interact with different types of people because they get to play different characters daily.

Additionally, you can find support and encouragement with other performers— even during auditions. Everyone just wants the same thing... to be cast. Everyone get nervous, but the environment, filled with helping and understanding people helps calm those feelings.

Overall, being involved in the performing arts is a privilege that everyone deserves to experience and should participate in at least once in their lives. Theatre has helped numerous individuals including myself to distinguish a voice, form opinions and discover who we are.



# Why Become A **PEER EDUCATOR?**



**Take an active role in shaping your own campus experience!**

**Date: Every Thursday**

**Time: 2:30 P.M. - 3:30 P.M.**

**Location: Student Union Room 312**

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Peer Educator Empowerment Program seeks to engage Students to take an active role in shaping their own campus experience. The program is committed to promoting healthy lifestyle choices and educating the campus community about the risks associated with substance use/abuse. The Peer Educators welcome students to join the program, meet new people and become leaders.

## What Do We Do?

- ~ Offer peer support
- ~ Coordinate social & recreational events
- ~ Conduct outreach, workshops, tabling & educational sessions
- ~ Collaborate with OW Departments, Interns & others for successful program implementation
- ~ Offer safe space for students to have fun & participate in substance-free social activities

## Gain skills and learn about:

- ~ Time management
- ~ Leadership
- ~ Public speaking
- ~ Mental health
- ~ Social media
- ~ Body image
- ~ Self Esteem

**Tune in to our radio show every Wednesday from 3-4 P.M.**

<http://www.owwrny.org/>

**Follow us on**

**IG @ow\_peer\_educators**

## CONNECT:

**Blanca Snheider LCSW, CASAC**

**Senior Counselor & Drug & Alcohol Educator**

**Schneiderb@oldwestbury.edu**

**OR Peereducators@oldwestbury.edu**



# An Interview with Author S.A. Bodeen

By Jacqueline Schroder

S.A. Bodeen has been a published author since '98. "My first book was a picture book... I actually had seven picture books published before one of my novels," she says. "I started writing to be published in 1995, and I sold Elizabeth's Doll in '96, and that was when I actually started writing novels. It was another ten years until I sold *The Compound*," her most famous book, that has currently sold more than 250 million copies.

When it comes to sitting down and beginning to write a story, she establishes the basics before anything else. "I guess I come up with the concept and who's telling the story, and then I just figure out how they're gonna tell the story," Bodeen states. "I'm not very organized - I work off an outline now, because that's how we sell the books. It is definitely not a fast process. I'll usually draft a book within a month or two, then revise," she says. "I love the revision process; I feel like I'm way better at revising than writing so I go to town on the revisions and then it'll go to my editor (who's the first person to see it) and then she'll get back to me with her revision notes. If she's timely about it, it's usually about a six month process until it's pretty much done. After that, it has to go through all the copy edits."

Contrary to popular belief, she does not incorporate secrets into her writing. "I'm not that organized - no," Bodeen admits. People will say to me 'well, did you mean this because of this?' and I'm like wow... I never thought of that before but, sure!"

There's a stereotype that authors tend to base characters off of people that they've known in their life, but that doesn't apply to Bodeen. "I might incorporate quirks or maybe hobbies somebody had - but no; that's as far as

it goes."

However, when it comes to naming the characters, she's always thinking. "It kinda just happens," she says. "I'll collect names when I'm book signing, or if children have cool names I'll save them - they come from everywhere."

She's always appreciated young adult novels, and finds that within the genre, you find the most mature readers. "I always wanted to write for young adults - for me growing up, those were some of the most formative books and we didn't have near the selection that there is now," she says. "I knew I always wanted to add to that selection."

She doesn't give the cliché ending that the readers want - she stays unique. "I don't think I do very often - no, not from emails I get about my endings... yeah, I don't think I've given people what they want; which is okay because I like an ending that makes the reader think and they kinda have to figure it out by themselves."

Bodeen's fans are eagerly anticipating her next book. "I have a new one coming out next year called 'The Tomb,' and it's sci-fi... there's two main characters: a girl and a boy. I've been waiting for revision notes from my editor for this novel. In the meantime my friend and I have been writing a screenplay on an original idea I had... I always wanted to do a screenplay so that was fun, especially to do something different."

She offers a tip to amateur writers that she believes is instrumental in becoming a successful writer. "Just read, read, read," she preaches. "I feel like you can't be a writer if you're not a reader first - they go together hand in hand. Second, do as much writing as you can because the more you do it, the better you get and listen in English class; the more tools you have in your

toolbox, the better off you'll be."

She shares some of her personal favorites from other authors as well. "My favorite author is probably Stephen King - though I read books by a ton of other people too," Bodeen says. To name a few: I love Margaret Atwood and Larry Watson, Amy Tan... and I read a lot of young adult so I also love Andrew Smith."

She has many interests outside of writing, and she's very involved with her family. "I like to work out, I'm at the gym every day," she says. "I like to bake and I read all the time... I'm probably reading when I should be writing. I like being outside and doing stuff outside." Currently, she's living in the Midwest with her husband and her two daughters.

She closes our interview with an anxiously anticipated Q&A regarding some of her novels.

We begin with the Shipwreck Island Series - a series composed of four books intended for a middle-school audience. She talks about some of her favorite characters and who she feels the strongest connection to. "Nacho is my favorite - I really love him," she says. "But as for connecting, probably Yvonna (the Mom), because as I'm a mom myself, you think about everything you can do to keep your children safe." Next, she answers the question on her huge genre plot twist midway through the series. "I'm a huge sci-fi fan and I don't know how I've waited this long to get aliens in a book but I decided to take it out of the box and so, it went from an adventure to sci-fi. I liked the way the series turned and I hope the readers did too."

Switching gears to *The Raft*, readers have been pondering why she decided to have Max play such a minor character before dying. "He actually - in my

first thoughts, wasn't going to make it very far off the plane, and in some of my early things - I don't think he survived at all," she says. "It was just his journal, and then I realized I needed to have him be there for some of it. It took me a long time to decide when he was gonna die or if he was going to die. I liked him, I really liked him as a character. The book started and I couldn't just have her alone in the raft the entire time, I needed another character and that was the way to do it without really adding another character."

Bodeen's book "The Detour," was a huge surprise to her audience. It was definitely the darkest book she's written. "I'm a huge Stephen King fan and I thought for a while 'well, why don't they do a teenage Misery?'" She says. "I thought about 'what if there's this young girl who's becoming famously published' because there's a lot of young authors around the world getting major book deals recently. That's pretty much how the idea came about - I knew it was going to be dark from the beginning... but it ended up becoming darker than I thought. I'm pleased with that book. I think it's cool and could be made into a pretty great movie."

We end with the fan favorite: "The Compound". She believes that it's her best work. "It's been pretty insane with how popular *The Compound* is," Bodeen says. "It made it on several state awards lists, won several state bestseller awards - and it's almost 250 million copies have been sold. *The Compound* is also the book I hear the most of in terms of 'are you gonna make a movie?'"

With that, it concluded my time speaking with S.A. Bodeen, a published author, one of whom I enjoy reading.

## All Things Halloween

By Selena Valentin

Looking for a DIY costume? So far Amazon has been the go-to for buying simple and clever accessories which turn simple outfits into striking and known characters and costumes. For example, Amazon has bandanas, nerd glasses, afro's, face/body paint, leaving consumers with a plethora of options to choose from with any given simple outfit.

On another note if you are feeling a bit flashy this Halloween, all costume

stores are open and ready for business. For all those who are going trick or treating this year please be careful and out of harm's way.

Here are some helpful safety tips; accompany trick-or-treaters younger than age 12, because masks can limit or block eyesight, consider non-toxic makeup and decorative hats as safer alternatives, consider purchasing non-food treats for those who visit your home, such as coloring books or pens

and pencils for youngsters, keep your phone on and fully charged, obey laws, rules, and regulations.

Once all bases are covered please find yourself at some of October's festive events such as the Village Halloween Parade, The Great Jack O'Lantern Blaze in Hudson Valley, New York, The Rink at Rockefeller Center will already be open and ready for skaters, Harry Potter: A History of Magic at the New York Historical Society, New York Comic

Con and Anime Expo take over Pier 94 from Oct 04 2018-Oct 07 2018, Harvest Fest and Pumpkin Patch on Oct 14 2018, BangOn!NYC: Warehouse of Horrors from Oct 26, 2018-Oct 27, 2018 at 485 Johnson Ave, Candlelight Ghost Tours of Manhattan's Most Haunted House happening Oct 19 2018-Oct 30 2018 at the Merchant's House Museum, East Village to name a few.

Please stay alert and enjoy the Octoberfest season.



## Panthers Women's Volleyball Tops Sarah Lawrence and Yeshiva to Secure Skyline sweep

By Harris Rappel

SUNY Old Westbury women's volleyball traveled Sunday to Bronxville, New York for a Skyline Conference tri-match against the Sarah Lawrence College Gryphons (3-8, 0-3 Skyline) and Yeshiva University Maccabees (1-4, 0-1 Skyline) from Campbell Sports Center. The Panthers (4-12, 3-2 Skyline) opened with a 3-1 (25-19, 23-25, 25-23, 25-15) win over the host Gryphons before posting a three-set sweep (25-6, 25-7, 25-15) of Yeshiva. Old Westbury snapped a four-game head-to-head losing streak against Sarah Lawrence while extending its



Photo by Camilo Agudelo

Joelle Desrosiers had 23 kills on the day

winning streak to four versus the Maccabees.

The Panthers closed out the fourth set by hitting .231 to

attack at a .168 rate against the Gryphons. Sarah Lawrence hit just .064 on the match as Old Westbury

dominated in kills (35-30), aces (19-16), blocks (3-0) and digs (48-42). Both teams totaled 27 assists.

## PANTHERS WOMEN'S SOCCER CONCLUDES NON-CONFERENCE SLATE AT LEHMAN

By Harris Rappel

SUNY Old Westbury women's soccer allowed a pair of second-half goals Sunday morning to face a 2-0 setback in the their non-conference finale against the Lehman College Lightning (6-2-1) from South Field in Bronx. The Panthers (3-11-0) are now 1-2-1 against the Lightning since 2015.

Cara Normile put Old Westbury in the shot column with an attempt on target in the 26th minute. Lehman took nine first-half shots as Panther goalie Alexa Higgins (3-11-0) made five stops.

After a scoreless opening



Photo by Dave Anderson

Brianna Williams took two shots

half, Daisy Gomez buried double assist from Melanie Siranaula and Jessica Chacha past Higgins in the 52nd minute for the game-winning goal. Yosselin Alvarez doubled Lehman's advantage in the

82nd minute by banging home a rebound to settle the 2-0 final.

Higgins recorded double-digit saves for the 15th time of her career by turning away 11 on the day. Rebecca Grtiz made three

saves to secure the shutout.

In the end, Lehman held the advantage in shots (25-5), shots on goal (13-3) and corner kicks (7-2). Normile and Brianna Williams led Old Westbury's attack with two shots apiece.



# AVRIL'S LATE GOAL EXTENDS UNBEATEN STREAK TO SEVEN AS OW PANTHERS MEN'S SOCCER TRIUMPHS OVER LEHMAN, 1-0



Photo by Dave Anderson

Edens Avril scored the game-winning goal in the 88th minute

By Harris Rappel

SUNY Old Westbury men's soccer closed out non-conference play Sunday afternoon on the road with a 1-0 triumph over the Lehman College Lightning (5-7) from South Field in Bronx. The Panthers (5-4-4), who entered the day unbeaten in six-straight games, improve to 3-1-2 against the Lightning since 2013.

Old Westbury tested Lehman goalie Demiraldo Grunasi (0-3-0) early with a

Edens Avril attempt that sailed high 2:41 in. The Lightning then put up shots in the 16th and 20th minutes as both teams took five attempts during a scoreless first half.

The game was settled in the 88th minute when Avril caused a turnover in the backfield and beat Grunasi to score his third game-winning goal of the season.

The game was settled in the 88th minute when Avril

caused a turnover in the backfield and beat Grunasi to score his third game-winning goal of the season.

Mike Warren (5-4-1) turned away four shots to register his fourth shutout of the season (14th career). Grunasi made two saves in the half-luck loss.

Both teams finished with seven shots while Lehman held the advantage in shots on goal (4-3) and corner kicks (6-4).

MARITIME COLLEGE PRIVATEERS UP NEXT FOR THE PANTHERS: Old Westbury (1-0-4 Skyline) continues its six-game road trip Friday (Oct. 12) with a Skyline Conference showdown against the Maritime College Privateers (11-3-0, 4-1-0 Skyline) at 7 p.m from Reinhart Field in Throggs Neck, New York. Dating back to 2013, the Panthers are 2-3-1 against the Privateers.