



# THE GOTHIC TIMES

The Official Student Newspaper of New Jersey City University

Issue 2

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October 2017

## NJCU, a Sanctuary Campus? Drea[me]rs Fight for DACA

**Michi Suazo**

Features Editor

**Diana Sanchez**

Op/Ed Editor

Imagine living in a country you have grown to love and become a part of. A country with opportunities and resources that allows you to become anything you dream of. A country that grants you and your children a bright future. Now envision waking up the next day and hearing the news that you and your family have to go back to where you came from—a place that you may not be familiar with.

With President Trump's recent executive order to repeal the Deferred Action of Childhood Arrivals (DACA) policy, organizations such as Drea[me]rs have been fighting to support the undocumented community. In September, Drea[me]rs held a fundraiser in which they sold T-shirts, tote bags and cupcakes. With the money raised, they were planning to fund three DACA applications (a single application costs \$500) before the October 5th deadline. Some people on campus generously donated money for the cause, and some even waitlisted to get merchandise in the future.

With the announcement that DACA is being rescinded many still do not know what it



Sergio Crespo, president of Drea[me]rs, selling t-shirts that say "No human being is illegal." The group also sold homemade tote bags. All proceeds helped fund DACA applications.



is, and many remain unaware of what undocumented people go through. Sergio Crespo, the president and creator of NJCU's Drea[me]rs, said that he and his mother flew here from Mexico by plane to escape

an abusive father and a corrupt government. He was seven years old. Emigration to another country for a brighter future is

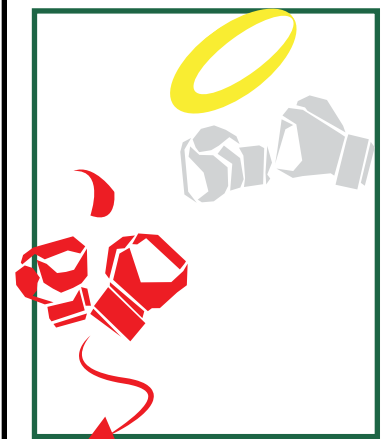
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a reality that many immigrants face. “My mom was a sociology major. She never got a job there because the economy was bad. At times, I only saw my mother once a week because she was a hard-working single parent,” Crespo said, “because of this I had to grow up faster. I felt like I left a childhood behind.”

Rebekah Torres, the vice president of Drea[me]rs, said that she wanted nothing more than to dismantle misconceptions about the undocumented community. “All I can hope for now, is for them not to have to be afraid to step out of the house and live in constant fear.” She and Crespo share the

same goal of ending the stigma of being “illegal”, and to end people’s perception that being undocumented is synonymous with being a criminal.

Scott Boguchwal, an adjunct professor teaching history at NJCU, sympathized with the undocumented: “These children have been here for most of their lives; they didn’t choose to come here. Why should they face deportation and be penalized for something they did not do, and be sent to a country they barely remember?”

With a deadline on October 5th, DACA applicants raced against time to acquire and submit an application to secure their two-year renewal. Meanwhile, many students at NJCU voiced concerns about

Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents coming to campus seeking out undocumented students. “What we need the most is a clear statement that campus security will not cooperate with ICE,” Shaira Cruz, a member of Drea[me]rs, said. “Many sanctuary cities were attacked by ICE raids this week so the term ‘sanctuary’ doesn’t really protect us anymore.”

To prevent this, Drea[me]rs aim to solidify an understanding with President Sue Henderson that NJCU will uphold its status as a sanctuary campus and will not cooperate with ICE by keeping every student’s personal information safe and confidential. In an e-mail interview, President

Sue Henderson said: “NJCU remains a safe haven for all students, and there are protocols in place to ensure students are not intimidated or harassed. If students wish to discuss these protocols, they can contact Public Safety at 201-200-3127.”

In an interview with NJCU’s Head of Security, Ronald Hurley, said what security procedures would be like if ICE agents were to ever target our campus. “Police have no jurisdiction here; however, ICE does. We would never assist in locating anyone nor are we required to. Our students come first.”

**You can find more  
coverage of DACA on  
GothicTimes.net**

# The Life and Times of Margaret Williams

MARGARET D. WILLIAMS  
Evening College Director  
B.S., State Teachers College,  
Jersey City



**Kisha Allgood**  
Reporter

The Margaret Williams Theatre is a gem set in Hepburn Hall. The 1,026 seat theater was constructed in 1931. But who was Margaret Williams?

Over the years, Margaret Dunn Williams was chair of the English Department, director of the Evening Division, director of Dramatics and a popular teacher who was “in constant demand” for parent teacher

functions. She was also credited for bringing the first African American faculty member to campus.

Throughout her 20 years of service at NJCU she was the “living, breathing embodiment of theatre, [even] bringing students to Broadway to see dramatics in

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action.” Eugene O’Sullivan, a professor of English gave remarks about Williams at the theatre’s dedication to her in 1961. O’Sullivan spoke about how “direct and outspoken” Williams had been and how her love of theatre made her a “rare

person.”

In his remarks for the occasion he painted a picture of a beloved teacher and colleague and points out how lively Williams was. He says, “she realized life while she lived it, every, every minute. Her life was a work of art.” She was a woman who loved teaching, acting and dancing. O’Sullivan also says that during her youth

she danced at the Metropolitan Opera House and possibly the New York City Ballet.

Throughout her expansive body of theatrical knowledge he also remarks about how, “through her own solo efforts she brought all sorts of cultural groups to the campus.” Williams’ efforts of expanding cultural diversity through theatre was present through her

teaching. Her constant molding of the students she taught was also highlighted by O’Sullivan. He said, “She maintained close contact with hundreds of her students after they graduated. The relationships she cultivated were built on her love of acting and molding her students into active players of life.”

# "If You Don't Tell the Truth, Don't Bother"

**Meghan Flaherty**  
Reporter

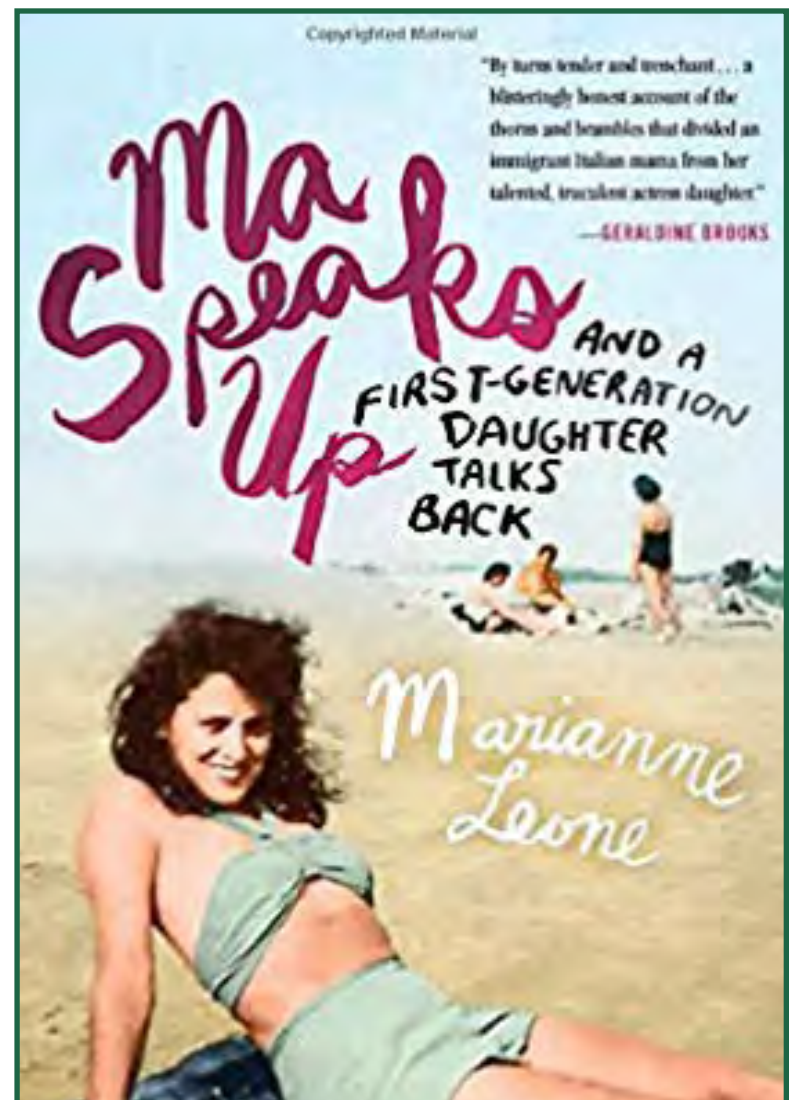
Marianne Leone calls herself “a blabbermouth and a memoirist.” She’s also an actor, an activist and a mother. I meet Leone in an apartment in Manhattan. She makes coffee and pushes aside a stack of papers so I can sit at the kitchen table.

In Leone’s memoir about her son, “Jesse: A Mother’s Story,” she writes with humor and humility about fighting for her son’s basic human rights. Jesse was nonverbal and quadriplegic, and he was a brilliant poet and funny. He died when he was 17. “One factor of grief that people don’t understand is that they think, ‘I won’t mention his name because that’s going to upset her.’ Whereas, it’s always a gift if someone mentions your child’s name,” Leone says. Writing Jesse’s story was a way to spend time with her son after his death. “I did write this book selfishly, not thinking ‘Oh this will help other people.’ I did not think that. I was in such pain.” But Jesse’s story continues to reach people and “that is a legacy,” Leone says, “that makes me really happy.”

Leone’s new memoir, “Ma Speaks Up,” is the story of her

mother, an Italian immigrant who, as young girl, lived under the rule of Mussolini. In our conversation, Leone compares her mother’s experience of a “fascist overlord” to the lives of women living and creating in the United States today. “Millennial women are going to have to step up with reproductive rights. It’s going to be taken away from you. And I’ve committed civil disobedience. I have fought for this for 50 years,” she says. “I feel that in times like this, writers have almost a sacred trust to come forward and use what they have.” But Leone admits that writing from “a state of rage” is difficult. “I’ve had a very hard time writing because of Trump,” she laughs. Leone suggests using humor when writing politically. “Certainly people will listen more than if you’re just some ranting frothing-at-the-mouth person.”

Leone identifies with the struggle of other oppressed people. “I know mothers of black sons. Their kids go out, they don’t know if somebody’s going to hurt them. And you feel that way when your kid’s disabled, too. So there are many similarities.” Nevertheless, Leone persists. “I’m happy to advocate. I’ve always done that. And I feel like



that’s what a writer does. That’s what you do.”

“So what’s next?” I ask.

She says she’d like to act more. “It’s fun. I get to hide in a ditch and yell swear words.” I jokingly suggest that I should pursue a career in acting, too. “Yeah,” she says, “so you can

really feel bad when they reject you. It’s not just your writing they don’t like. They’re like, ‘Plus you’re too ethnic.’” She laughs.

Marianne Leone’s new memoir, “Ma Speaks Up,” was released on April 25.



# Gerrymandering: A Threat to Democracy

**Brandon Syphrett**  
Reporter

Have you ever heard the word "gerrymandering"? No, it has nothing to do with a man named Jerry. It is a silly term coined in 1812 in an issue of the Boston Gazette. Now, here it is again in The Gothic Times. Gerrymandering is the redrawing of district lines to favor a certain political party. In this case, the Republicans devised a plan in 2012 called the Redistricting Majority Project (REDMAP) to attain a stronghold on U.S. politics. It worked.

Let's look at a real life example of how unfair this scheme is. In the 2012 election for the U.S. Congress, Michigan had 240,000 more votes casted for Democratic candidates than

the Republican Party, but the result was a staggering victory for the Republicans thanks to gerrymandering.

This is by no means an isolated incident. Nationwide the Republicans managed to hold a majority in all branches of the government, while only attaining 47.8% of the national vote.

You may be asking yourself: how is any of this legal at all? Incidentally enough, 36 senators (former and present) are publicly opposing gerrymandering. Even a high-ranking Republican official like Senator John McCain, who has everything to gain from gerrymandering, has been very vocal about his opposition towards the practice that is undermining our democracy.

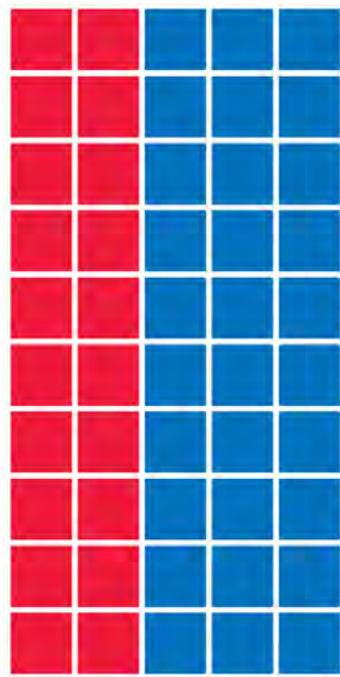
On October 3, the Supreme Court heard a case from Wisconsin to uphold a ruling that gerrymandering is in fact unconstitutional.

There is still much deliberation to be done. Senator McCain (R-AZ) and Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) issued a joint statement concerning the constitutionality of gerrymandering: "The Court can clean up a cause of America's crisis in confidence in our democracy, protect our elections from wildly partisan 'bulk' gerrymandering, and return control of our elections to the people. We hope the Court will." The ultimate ruling will reshape U.S. politics as we know it.

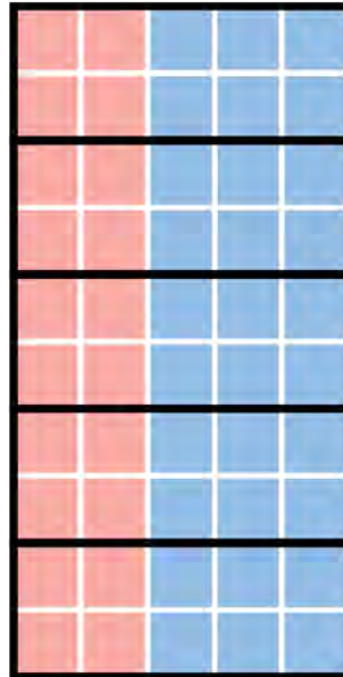
It may be daunting at first to look at the issue of

gerrymandering but with exemplary people like McCain and the White House to look to, it is a much needed reminder that there are still civil servants acting in our best interest. Although things look bleak from the perspective of the average citizen, we must start by voicing our opinion. It is crucial for us to educate ourselves on the issues that directly affect our community and inform local legislators that we demand change. Gerrymandering is one of the biggest threats to our democracy. Change starts with the voices of the people. Ultimately, we will still have to wake up in the morning, go to class, go to work, and tend to our families, but we can still fight. If we do not speak, there is no voice to be silenced.

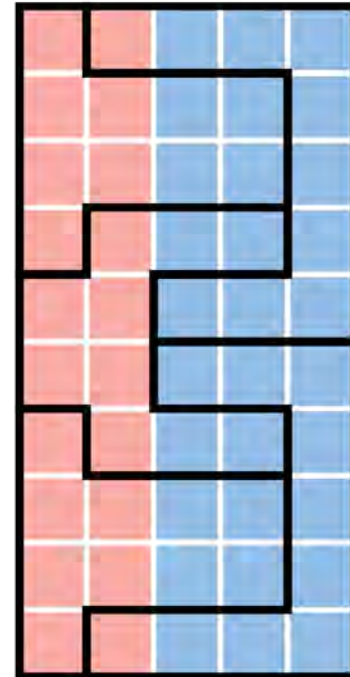
## HOW TO STEAL AN ELECTION



**50 PRECINCTS**  
**60% BLUE**  
**40% RED**



**5 DISTRICTS**  
**5 BLUE**  
**0 RED**  
**BLUE WINS**



**5 DISTRICTS**  
**3 RED**  
**2 BLUE**  
**RED WINS**

Courtesy of Steven Nass via Wikimedia Commons



# The Woes of Dorm Life

Courtesy of Kristen Hazzard



**Kristen Hazzard**  
Reporter

West Campus Village (WCV) has attracted students thanks to the amenities that it offers. Officially opened during the 2016-17 school year this new residence hall houses more than 400 students in double and single suites. There are good things about WCV like how there is a fitness center, a laundry room, conference rooms, a game room, parking, outdoor courtyard and free Wi-Fi. There is a real importance that the students' voices on campus are heard especially those who dorm. Resident students have noticed a few issues arise in the past year and a half, but haven't seen much improved. Three major issues frequently discussed among students are security, safety and food.

Security is important to the students on campus who commute and dorm. They deserve to feel safe no matter what part of the campus they might be. At Vodra and Co-Op, RAs (Resident Assistants) and

security rotate throughout the day. At West Campus Village, security guards were manning the front desk regularly for a while, but now we don't see them as frequently. Students are now manning the desk throughout the day. Instead of investing in a Segway there should be a presence of more security guards around the campus and resident halls.

Jasmine Shaw, a NJCU Sophomore and BFA major voiced her opinion on these issues. She stated that, "West Campus should also have cameras in the hallway. Not just for safety reasons, but to catch others who are vandalizing or making a mess so the rest of us do not have to suffer the consequences of an unknown person." The only presence of security cameras are located at the entrance and main floor of the residence buildings, as far as students can see there are no cameras in the resident hallways. It's a little dangerous to know if any horrific event like sexual assault or bullying were to happen there are no cameras

in the halls to witness it. Any incident can go unnoticed to the school unless reported by the victim or bystander. When asked about safety, Shaw expressed how there is no medical staff or first aid kits on West Campus noticeable to students. If a student needs medical attention, they have to contact campus security first. She also mentioned that there have been instances where students needed help and weren't given the attention fast enough. There is no disrespect to NJCU, they do support equality and inclusion for all students and enforce important laws like Title IX. However, there are little things that impact students in a big way such as safety and security.

There are also no vending machines at WCV, unlike Vodra and Co-Op residence halls that house about 100 students during the year and do offer vending machines. The only source of food has been taken out. Last year there were modern vending machines that did not take cash and required students to set up

an account through their Gothic IDs to make a purchase. The food and drinks were overpriced such as \$3 for a Snickers bar and more than \$3 for a cup of coffee. Some students opted to steal food rather than pay which led to Residence Life getting rid of the machines.

The decision to take out the machines is understandable, but Residence Life has yet to replace it. Now there is no food at all besides the water fountain, students have to take transportation or walk to get to the main campus (Vodra & GSUB) to eat. Any individual should realize that food is not a want, but a necessity. First year and transfer students this coming year might not notice the lack of food like the returning other residents would. It is unfortunate that the system was taken out because the store in a lot of ways catered to the students however there should have been more security precautions put into place.



# Seen on Campus...



Courtesy of Ed Fausty

Jersey City native Caroline Burton brought an incredible collection of work to campus. "A Rag, A Bone, A Hank of Hair," showcased minimalist and abstract art. It was hosted in the Harold B. Lemmerman Gallery in Hepburn Hall.

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The NJCU Counseling Center held its third annual Mind Body Spirit Day. Nine interactive workshops were hosted by staff members. Here, Professor Edvige Giunta, Ph.D. leads a yoga session in "Breathe, Move, Write."





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Jeremy White, the host and producer of Gothic Times Podcast, works on another episode. Check out episodes on [soundcloud.com/gothictimespodcast](https://soundcloud.com/gothictimespodcast).



Courtesy of Diana Sanchez

NJCU's Confucius institute celebrated the Mid-Autumn Festival on October 4. Students were offered a chance to learn about Chinese culture and folksongs and savor the taste of Chinese cuisine. The Nai-Ni Chen dance company also performed a traditional dragon dance that is very popular in Chinese culture during festivals.



# The Journey to and from the Business School

**Erik Ordyeke**  
Sports Editor

NJCU's School of Business has a problem – and it is inconveniencing students, myself included. Traveling between the School of Business and the main campus is an annoyance, regardless if students commute by car or by public transportation.

Some may agree in favor of its location, seeing as it is in an affluent area of Jersey City right next to the Harborside Financial Center. However, that is where the positives end and where the negatives for students begin.

The School of Business is a 3.5-mile drive from the main campus on JFK Boulevard. That seems simple enough, until you need to travel using public transportation during the icy months of January and February. That is precisely what I had to endure whenever I had to travel between the School of Business and the main campus all of last semester to make it on time for meetings.

Sometimes I found myself having to stand and wait for over half an hour for a bus in horrific weather conditions, from the bitter cold of winter to heavy rain. You can name just about anything and I've probably gone through it.

I do not own a car, so I was at the mercy of the unreliable NJ Transit light rail and buses to get back to the main campus from the School of Business. At times, the West Side Avenue light rail would be delayed or nearly half an hour away before it got to my stop at Harborside.

Then I had to take the 8th Street train to Danforth Avenue or 45th Street in Bayonne and walk to JFK Boulevard where I would wait for a bus. Walking 15 minutes from the light rail then waiting for a bus sounds easy enough, but doing this in the Spring semester (which is notorious for poor weather) just to get to an hour long meeting on the main campus is just plain ridiculous – there is no other way to describe it. Sometimes my commute was even longer than the meeting itself.

Like I said, the traveling between these two campuses cannot be described with any other word besides, "ridiculous." Why is there no shuttle service for students to



Courtesy of Public Relations

travel to and from the School of Business? Why even put a second campus in such a remote location if you are going to force your students to use unreliable public transportation?

I am a transfer student who left my previous university

because of how far away and inaccessible it was to me. I came to NJCU because of how close by everything seemed, but the School of Business' location just does not fit into that expectation at all.



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*School of Business and Office of Career Planning & Placement*

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Skyline Room at the  
NJCU School of Business

NJCU School of Business students/alumni are invited to attend and must RSVP at:  
<http://bit.ly/sobcareerfair2017>

**\*\*\* Your RSVP, vetted resume and professional attire are required for entry to the event \*\*\***

*Questions?*

Contact: Ms. Nancy Gomez- (201)200-2325, [ngomez@njcu.edu](mailto:ngomez@njcu.edu)



# It's Not You, It's Me Why I Am Quitting Comic Con

**Emmanuel Lebron**  
A&E Editor

Dear New York Comic Con,

We had an amazing, weird and intense run. You opened me up to new and incredible things, and as my “Nerd Mecca” and first love I’m glad I got to experience you for these last few years. But, I don’t know, I’m different. You’re different. You’ve changed. You’ve gotten too full of yourself and I am tired of the ego. Our relationship is all give and no take. You are a cruel selfish mistress. And I am afraid that if I stay, I may end up like Padmé Amidala, dead of a broken heart.

I’m skipping you this year as an attendee. It seems to be the consensus that most “regular” attendees are only going if there is work in you-- as media or professionals. Some agreed that their hearts are no longer in it and they go out of habit.

As an attendee, the magic is gone, darling. You can’t just swoop down in a Delorean anymore, charm me with exclusive Funko Pops and think everything is OK. You can no longer lure me in with a TARDIS full of overpriced photo ops with actors from shows I love.

I am ending this relationship. I am happy for you, I truly am. It’s great that you are so popular now and everyone comes to see you. But remember I was there for you before you blew up. Here are just a few of the reasons I just can’t go on anymore:



## Line-Con

The lines are crazy, and it has become the norm to rush to be the first people inside and camp out in order to get a seat in a hall. The day gets entirely wasted just sitting and waiting hours for a panel that won’t even happen till much later in the day. I am not immune to this. I have camped out for panels and wasted my entire con pacing back and forth. It was nice conversing with folks also doomed to sit and wait but I missed about four other panels throughout the day and when we got to the front of the line, at about 3 p.m. (right before our 4 p.m. panel) we were turned away. We didn’t even get to go in. I can’t do that again. And it would all be worth it if it wasn’t for the fact that panels seem to be getting shorter and shorter.

The panels we wait for (if we even get in) last about 30 minutes, and that’s just not long enough for an eight-hour wait.

No Room to Move (or breathe) on the Show Floor

I can’t even move more than a few paces without stopping for traffic, much less see anything in a booth. This never used to bother me, but it seems to be getting worse. Also smelling the rancid collective stench of a cluster of basement dwellers who only leave the house for this, well it isn’t really my idea of fun anymore.

## Purchasing Badges

Every year, it feels like “The Hunger Games” and the odds rarely seem to be in my favor. We have been together for at least 10 years now, and every year it gets worse and worse. There are virtual waiting rooms, crashing sites, lottery systems, a line to get in a line--no thank you. You should be making it easier for me. Have you ever thought about ME? I used to be able to walk up on Friday and purchase a badge for that day within an hour and now I don’t even know what website to register on and make a profile just for a “chance” at tickets for next year. It’s like I don’t even know you.

## There Are Other Cons

There are other places I can go to get a similar experience throughout the year. Yep, I have found other conventions and events where I can get the same



Courtesy of Emmanuel Lebron & Camille Ancheta

satisfaction. I have cons on the side that are now graduating to my cons. I don’t have to stand in long lines, and I can still enjoy everything. Also, outside of the Convention Center there are always other events going on. Yeah, I’ve been cheating on you already. It’s been wonderful. I’m not saying I won’t miss you.

I loved seeing old friends, and being with fellow geeks and nerds as we made our way through the halls and witness reveals, previews, new art etc. You are a hodge-podge of everything I can think of. I just loved being with my kind of people, and everyone was so passionate and fun. To see celebrities and people I admire geek out about the same things is wonderful.

It’s actually freeing to not worry about you, and to not have the angst of wondering if I am going to see you. I know I am not, and that’s OK with me.

But, we are done. In the words of Douglas Adams “So long and Thanks for all the fish.”

Yours Truly,  
Emmanuel

P.S. Unless of course I do end up going, forget I said anything. I love you, I didn’t mean it. Please take me back.



# Canelo vs Golovkin

## The Beauty and Ugliness of Boxing



Courtesy of Camille Ancheta

**Sean Quinn**  
Reporter

In September, Saul “Canelo” Alvarez of Mexico and Gennady “GGG” Golovkin of Kazakhstan fought to become middleweight champion and to be arguably the best boxer in the world. Many expected the bout to be exciting but skilled. Canelo was the younger, faster matador with solid counters and blistering combos who had to avoid the feared punching power of Golovkin, a calculating pressure fighter whose power overshadows his boxing skills.

The two men have careers that are nearly opposites. Golovkin had a lengthy and highly successful amateur career, winning all but five of his 350 amateur bouts and a silver medal in the 2004 Olympics. He did not turn pro until 2006 at the age of 24, having 37 fights by 35. Canelo had gotten into boxing at a very young, went pro at only 15 years old and amassed over 50 fights at age 27.

The questions going into the September 16 fight were if Golovkin could overcome the speed difference and be able to land effective shots, also whether Canelo could avoid becoming trapped on the ropes and get Golovkin to respect his punches. The first three rounds were slow, but Canelo seemed to have the edge, landing sharp counters as Golovkin appeared to hesitate to throw more than just jabs. It was surprising to see boxing’s boogeyman confused and unwilling to unload shots.

By the fourth round however, a slow, subtle shift occurred. Golovkin began to open up with intelligent combinations and cut the ring off with footwork, forcing his opponent to move on and off the ropes, draining him. Golovkin also did this by his strong and deceptive jab that would knock Canelo’s head back. To Alvarez’s credit, his defense held up, as he never appeared to be hurt by the punches, and his defense proved crucial to avoiding punishment.

Golovkin soon realized that the counters he had been hit with didn’t bother or hurt him, so he remained unfazed when hit, like a Terminator chasing Sarah Connor. Even punches that nearly twisted his head backwards did not force him back.

In the final three rounds, Canelo’s trainer told him in the corner that he needed to finish strong if he was to win the fight. The closing moments saw Canelo attack with furious combos at the beginning of the round, Golovkin attempting to respond in kind with some success, then Canelo laying one final onslaught in the final seconds of each round. By the end of the fight, both men had engaged in a physical but tactical battle. The initially pro-Canelo crowd had slowly been won over by the Kazakh fighter with his determined and solid boxing performance. Upon watching the fight, I scored it eight rounds to four for Golovkin, and the HBO commentary agreed that he

was the man who should be the winner.

But when the decision was read controversy quickly erupted. The first judge, Adalaide Byrd, had given Golovkin only two rounds, which resulted in a roar of boos when Michael Buffer read the scorecard. The other judges had scored it a draw and then Golovkin winning, rendering the fight a draw, which greatly upset many boxing fans who felt that the rightful winner had been robbed. Unfortunately, robberies are all too common in boxing, and would need an article all its own.

The fight showcased the beauty of the sport and the ugliness of the politics and show business in it. The younger, more marketable Canelo avoided another loss and the older, aging Golovkin will be forced to seek out a rematch. The fight itself was excellent and both fighters put on a great show, but the decision leaves many feeling let down.



# SISTER ACT

Directed by Marc G. Dalio  
Performed by NJCU Musical Theatre Ensemble  
Opens Friday, October 2nd  
NJCU's West Side Theatre

Directed by Marc G. Dalio

Performed by NJCU Musical Theatre Students

Opens Friday, October 20

## NJCU's West Side Theatre



The cast of "Sister Act" hard at work at rehearsals.



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### MEETING

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GSUB Building 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Room 301

#### WHEN?

Every Monday @ 2 PM

Interested in joining NJCU's official student paper? Stop by one of our meetings to find out how.

For more information, Contact:

**Monica Sarmiento**  
Editor-in-Chief  
msarmiento@njcu.edu

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Fall Semester 2017

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Fri.....7:30am to 5pm

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**A SUPPORTIVE SPACE  
FOR WOMEN WHO  
WANT TO LOVE THE  
SKIN THEY'RE IN**



**If you're an NJCU student who struggles to be at peace with her appearance,**

**JOIN US!**

**Connect with other women who are unlearning the negative thoughts and self-defeating behaviors that erode body confidence.**

**WEDNESDAYS 10/4 -12/13  
FROM 12:45 ~ 2:00 PM  
IN GSUB 310**

Sponsored by the NJCU Counseling Center. Call 201-200-3165 for more information.

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