

Issue 5 GothicTimes.net March 2018

University Place: A Peek into the Future of NJCU

What is it and how does it compare to other colleges/universities?

Erik S. Ordyke

Managing Editor

University Place is a vision for NJCU described as "a game changer" by President Sue Henderson. It plans to feature retail shops, a supermarket, public apartments and other buildings upon completion. West Campus Village, a student dormitory, was opened in 2016 and construction on a second building is currently in progress. Last year, the university also broke ground for the second

apartment building. However, NJCU is not the only college or university that has taken on such an ambitious project. What are the details behind this expansion, and how does it compare to what others have done?

University Place is described as "a \$400M redevelopment project," in a 2017 NJCU press release titled "Groundbreaking at University Place Redevelopment Project." The university's redevelopment

plans were made possible by leasing the land to private developers such as Claremont Construction Group and KKF University Enterprises LLC., through a Private-Public Partnership (alternatively called a P3 or PPP). The length of these leases will last 50 years. What happens after that? NJCU's Chief Operating Officer and Vice President of continued to next page



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University Place Project Continues, Concern For Parking At NJCU Grows

Diana Sanchez

News Editor

Some of NJCU's students and faculty wonder what the latest West Side campus project, University Place, will mean for parking. It is not clear yet whether or not faculty and students will have to compete with residents that will be living inside the four mixed-used buildings once NJCU's private developers are done building

them. The development and expansion on West Side will likely effect transportation and traffic and there have been some arguments that a traffic study should be conducted before projects of this magnitude begin.

José Carlos Félix, a graduate student at NJCU says "the main concern of most students, particularly commuters, will always be finding parking facilities that allow them to get to their classes on time." Félix is also aware that the plans for University Place will reduce the number of parking lots. He says "parking can at times be difficult... especially during afternoon rush hour. The reduction of parking facilities is problematic. If local residents will also have access to spots within the

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Administration and Finance, Aaron Aska, said in a phone interview that "NJCU still owns the land, there are a lot of options for the land: some [of the private developers] may choose to renew their lease to 25 more years or more. The university is not involved in the retail businesses so after the 50 years they may go to more developers."

Essentially, this means that what happens to the buildings at University Place in 50 years is still unclear — what exactly could take place is unknown. Aska provided some clarity saying that "the only constant is that the university still owns the land in 50 years," what happens to University Place after that timeframe is still a concern. This concern could by addressed by looking at what another university has done with their P3 project.

Montclair State University partnered with Provident Resources Group to become the first university taking advantage of the NJ Economic Stimulus Act of 2009. With the help of this private developer, a dormitory on Montclair's campus known as "The Heights" was constructed. This \$211M project was financed through tax-exempt bonds by Provident Resources Group. In 2011 (the year of completion for "The Heights"), NJ.com reported that "the title to the Heights will be given to the university either in 40 years or when the bonds are fully paid, which ever comes first. Until then, Provident Resources Group will own, manage and maintain the revenue-generating buildings."

The College of New Jersey has also recently completed a P3 project of its own in late 2015. The project, called "Campus Town," was built by a private developer known as the PRC Group of Companies. In 2015, NJ.com reported that



"The College of New Jersey's \$120 million Campus Town" houses retail shops like Panera Bread and Verizon Wireless; this gives a peek into the future of what University Place could hold. According to Campus Town's website, it also offers apartments for student living where "Security is provided through key card access to the building, apartment and your private bedroom."

Like The Heights

Montclair, **TCNJ** does not manage the apartments Campus Town. Rather, residents must rely on another company (Capstone On-Campus Management) for their needs. From Campus Town's website, it is stated that "[Capstone On-Campus Management's] professional staff will be available to work on comfort or safety issues and to process work orders."

Private-Public Partnerships Around New Jersey

A Private-Public Partnership (P3 or PPP) according to Investopedia is "between a government agency and private-sector company... used to finance, build and operate projects." Universities around the country have been using

P3s to fund projects that include student housing, recreation and retail.

The NJ Economic Stimulus Act of 2009 allowed private companies to build and manage facilities on public property (such as university property).

NJCU has 50-year ground lease agreement with two private companies, Claremont Construction Group and KKF University Enterprises LLC. development, The University Place, is worth \$400 million total, and should bring in \$1.4 million annually in ground lease rent revenue for the university starting in 2024. President Sue Henderson has stated that a portion of the revenue will be used to construct

a new performing arts building for NJCU. The other buildings within University Place will include public, market-rate apartments, a ShopRite and other businesses. The **West Campus Village** dormitories were the first to open in 2016.

Montclair State University agreed to a 40-year lease with Provident Resources Group to build and manage a dormitory, known as "The Heights" in 2011. The agreement is

worth \$211 million through tax-exempt bonds. Montclair was the first NJ university to take advantage of the P3 laws, and after the 40-year lease is over or the bonds are paid off (whichever comes first) the university will then own the dormitory.

The College of New Jersey (TCNJ) opened "Campus Town" in 2015 with the help of the **PRC Group of Companies**. The 12-acres of land houses

eight buildings, an area called "The Shoppes" where food and retail businesses can lease space and suites that are available for rent. PRC Group finances the \$120 million project and will pay TCNJ \$1 million a year for 50 years. It has not been made clear what TCNJ plans to do with the development after its lease deal or agreements are over, but for now Campus Town is privately owned.

Concern for parking continued from page 1

privately developed mixeduse buildings, students and faculty should not need to rely on luck to find good parking. There needs to be clarity on this issue. Hopefully there will be no parking disruptions in the near future." According to Aaron Aska, the vice president of Administration and Finance, the administration is currently discussing the parking situation at NJCU.

Kyle Hernandez, a sophomore, says "the traffic is terrible." When his sister drives him, they tend to have constant brushes with "reckless drivers." Kyle's sister encounters no problems as of yet parking in lot 3, however.

Dr. Michael Basile, a professor at NJCU, parks off of the 440 lots and felt that "last year there were too few parking

spaces; this year there seems to be enough." He also noted that "traffic in general is bad, but in and out of the 440 lots it is okay." Basile also notes that NJCU faculty and staff are exempt from paying for parking, unlike the university's students. When asked if he thought students and faculty would not be prioritized because of the private developers, Dr. Basile said, "you can't have a university without students and faculty. Where else would they park to ensure their timely regular presence in the classrooms?"

Dr. Corey Frost, another NJCU professor, also says that although he uses public transportation to commute to the university, he knows that parking is a big issue students often deal with. "They can't make it to class on time if they don't have parking options they can count on. It's a small thing, but it's stressful, and it's an additional factor that could lead students to drop out." Dr. Frost

hopes that special attention will be placed to ensure that students have plenty of parking options in the West Campus.

Frost and Basile raise an important point: if students are late because they are forced to spend their time finding parking, they will miss valuable time inside the classroom. It is an inconvenience that raises concern for many.

While parking may be a looming issue, University Place is part of an even bigger picture: it is not just NJCU that's developing on Route 440 but according to the Hudson-Bergen Light Rail (HBLR) project overview, Jersev City as a whole is planning for "substantial growth" to revitalize the western waterfront with "a mix of new residential and commercial uses" which were once formerly industrial sites. HBLR's project overview page states that the envisioned project, University Place, will have five mixed-used buildings

and many other amenities. In order for University Place to excel, an enhanced light rail must be made.

Plans are in the works for an extension of the Hudson-Bergen Light Rail to Route 440. The HBLR Route 440 extension project will help commuters travel to and from the western waterfront areas. Ron Zetilinger from The Jersey Journal wrote in an article from December 2017 that the NJ transit board approved a "\$5 million contract amendment for an engineering study to extend the Hudson-Bergen Light Rail System to Route 440 in Jersey City... In addition to the light rail reaching Bayfront, it would also connect the Hudson River and Hackensack River waterfronts in a single train ride." According to New Jersey Transit, there is no projected date for when the extension will be finished.



The Importance of Modern Languages

Madaí García

Reporter

As an English Major, most of my classes are held in the Karnoutsos building. Walking the second-floor halls multiple times a week I was fortunate enough to notice a sign that read "Welcome" in several languages. This is how I discovered the Modern Languages Department during my first semester as a transfer student in the Fall of 2016.

My father always stressed how important it was for me to continue to learn English while not "forgetting" Spanish. Being bilingual meant better opportunities, the same way that migrating to the United States did. That mentality staved with me. It led me to continue my education of the Spanish language all throughout high school. I knew that college would provide me with the opportunity to study a language other than the ones usually offered in high schools.

The list of languages offered in the past at NJCU included Spanish, Chinese, Japanese, Italian, French, and Arabic. I wanted to explore a language that is often misrepresented and misunderstood — I decided on Arabic. Being Mexican-American comes with the stigma of being less than, from non-Hispanics and Hispanics alike. Arabic speakers suffer a similar predicament. That is

why I chose to experience the language firsthand rather than generalize, as most people often do.

In the Spring of 2017, I enrolled for Arabic 1. There were less than 15 students in the class to begin with. After native Arabic speakers were moved to a section more suited for their level and the rest dropped the class, there were three of us left. One student joined another section that fit her schedule while the two of us left were given the option of doing an independent study with Professor Khamar, who teaches both Arabic and French. My classmate and I were able to get the one on one attention that is helpful for language learning and an environment where we weren't embarrassed vocalizing sounds until we got the pronunciation just right.

Fast forward to the current Spring semester and I still have not been able to take Arabic 2 because it has not been offered. By now, I have become a familiar face in the language department. The staff was very helpful when it came to filling out my Arabic 2 independent study request paperwork for this semester only to have it denied because the class is a non-major class.

There is no language requirement or a language component in general education at NJCU. In 2001, language course enrollment rose as it

was a component in the general studies program at the time. However, in 2015, after a new General Education program which did not include a language component was implemented, enrollment declined.

In order to run different sections and levels of languages there has to be a critical mass. The unfortunate reality is that not enough students are enrolling in language classes to begin with let alone at a higher level. A class needs a minimum of 15 students to run, so often times even if you do enroll for a higher level course the class may end up getting cancelled. Dr. Alberto Barugel, the department chair, said "The key to [a solution] is to have a language requirement or a component in general studies." According to a 2012 survey at NJCU, 70 percent of faculty and 60 percent of students agreed that that there should be a language requirement. A language proposal was submitted almost three years ago and it has yet to be approved.

I was lucky enough to come across the Modern Languages Department on my own. But if you're not walking the second floor K-building hallway or determined to take a language course you wouldn't know about room 202. Lack of exposure is a major problem the department faces. Although it is important for advisors to be informed and recommend classes, it

is just as important to take it upon yourself and research available options. Dr. Aisa-Said Mohand, an associate professor of Spanish, suggests, "You can advise your advisors."

My goal is to teach English as a Second Language to help foreign language speakers the benefits and opportunities that come with learning the English language. In doing so, I also aim to learn different languages and gain a better understanding of different cultures and therefore, create connections and opportunities for myself as well. This upcoming Summer I will have the opportunity to do just that in Brazil as part of the Language Without Borders Exchange Program. I want to teach and encourage my fellow students as well as foreign language speakers to become bilingual and/or multilingual. Modern Languages Department also has several opportunities to study abroad along with a new language addition this upcoming semester. Portuguese will be offered Fall of 2018 along with a section of Arabic

If you would like more information about language courses or study abroad opportunities, the Modern Languages Department is located in the Karnoutsos Building in room 202.

The Otherness of Strangefruit



Courtesy of JunSean Fung

Michi Suazo Features Editor

As part of Black History Month, Caribbean-American artist Shoshanna Weinberger's

most recent exhibit is one that deals with themes of identity. Weinberger's 20 art pieces are framed with wood and done on

100-year old paper.
"I think of myself as a

visual anthropologist. So this is hybridity and how we take on identities," said Weinberger at the show's opening reception in February. "People of color are constantly conscious of where they are. You know, when I go to Jamaica, I'm not Jamaican enough and when I'm here in America I'm exotic. It's about double consciousness. At the same time these are also humorous autobiographical criticisms." She describes her pieces as "specimens" recording self-referential archetypes of female identities. "In the past my work was very graphic. Here, I'm working with the absence of the body with paper as the element of structure. I



wanted this hybridity of animal and human, monstrous and beautiful. Think of yourself as those things."

One of the pieces, "Redaction of Stripes," seems like the hair in it is sort of constricted, limited, chained. Black squares seem to represent censoring and they also remind one of televisions and how the struggles of minorities are censored or kept hidden from the public eye. The long legs in heels could symbolize the fetishization of black bodies and the stripes of the leg look like zebra skin and shows how

each one has different patterns unique from everyone else—but you can only see a part of it. Another piece called "Digital Breakdown: Housing Baker," has an element of drip painting that could symbolize blood. Black squares once again block the body while fetishized features such as heels and red lips are emphasized.

Samantha Garcia, a junior and Art major said, "It's new to me. It's abstract, but it's not at the same time. I'm still figuring out the meaning [of the exhibit] because each one is different."

That Time of the Month and The Issues That Come With It

Maxine Antoine

Op/Ed Editor

Most people that get periods can agree that it is not always easy. There are women everywhere that worry every month about how they will be able to pay for or obtain menstrual products, such as pads or tampons. These products are taxed as "luxury items" all over the world, but we can all agree that having a period is far from luxurious. It is not only important that women have access to menstrual products, but also that they know what they are putting in or around

their bodies. Grace Meng, a representative in New York's sixth district, has proposed two bills that allow women to take a stand on these issues.

The first bill Meng proposed in February of 2017 is called the "Menstrual Equity for All Act of 2017"

and it combats the expenses of feminine products. The purpose of this bill is "to increase the availability and affordability of menstrual hygiene products for women and girls with limited

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access, and for other purposes." Venida Rodman, the director of the Speicher-Rubin Women's Center for Equity and Diversity at NJCU, made a strong point in regards to menstrual products not being accessible to everyone. She says, "Not everyone has access to these things that are a need, but if you can't afford it, it doesn't really matter whether or not it is a need. It's a need that cannot be met sadly."

In 2016, the percentage of women who were living below the poverty line was 10.6% in the state of New Jersey. In 2016, 38.8% of black single mothers were in poverty. Hispanic single mothers had a higher percentage in comparison (40.8%). White single mothers were much lower than both races (30.2%). Pads currently retail for an average of \$7.50 at stores like Walmart or Walgreens. The average age a girl has her first period is between 10-15 years old and her menstrual cycle ends by the age 50-51. A woman has an average of 456 periods in her lifespan. Women will spend thousands of dollars in their entire lifetime on menstrual related products and purchases.

If women had the government's support to stop taxing menstrual products and make it more accessible for everyone, women could save that money to fund their dreams.

With Meng's bill, women will not only get reimbursements from health flexible spending arrangements and refundable tax credit from the cost they spend on menstrual products, but female employees, inmates and detainees will also have access to free menstrual products. For women who are homeless, they will have free access to products under the food and shelter grant program.

The second bill Meng proposed in May of 2017 is the "Menstrual Products Right to Know Act of 2017." The purpose of this bill is "to require menstrual product ingredient list labels." If you checked the product boxes of brands like Always, Kotex and Tampax Pearl you would expect to find a list of ingredients that goes into your products. Instead, you will most likely see images and instructions on how to insert a tampon or how to properly dispose of a pad. Most would think it is natural for companies to add an ingredient list, but that is not the case.

This is clearly a problem because women should know what is in products that they put in or around their bodies. There could be ingredients that are potential triggers for all types of reproductive cancers. For example, pads and tampons contain cotton and rayon. Rayon is a synthetic fiber made from sawdust. Dioxin, a byproduct of rayon and other manufacturing processes, is a highly toxic carcinogenic. The reproductive

cancers that women can get are cervical, ovarian, uterine, vulvar, and vaginal cancer.

In 2014, 4,115 women died of cervical cancer, 14,195 women died of ovarian cancer, 9,727 women died of uterine cancer, 1,085 women died of vulvar cancer and 430 women died of vaginal cancer. In 2018, the American Cancer Society predicts that 4,170 women will die of cervical cancer, 14.070 women will die of ovarian cancer, 11,350 women will die of uterine cancer, 1,200 women will die of vulvar cancer, and 1,330 women will die of vaginal cancer. Ovarian cancer was the only cancer that had a slight decrease in the amount of women predicted to die as a result of this cancer, but that does not erase the fact that so many women are affected by it. The FDA says that small amounts of dioxin will not cause cancer, but if we think about how many times women use pads or tampons throughout their lives it would be no wonder why so many women are suffering or dying of these reproductive cancers. Kathy Decker, the supervisor of the Health and Wellness Center at NJCU, expresses concern for this issue. "They say it's in small amounts, but we need to think about how it can cumulatively affect women over a period of

Organic menstrual product companies such as DivaCup and Glad Rags are examples of companies that sell menstrual

products at a steeper price. A single reusable menstrual cup from DivaCup costs 30 dollars, however, it is advised that women replace the menstrual cup annually. Glad Rags' reusable day pad products range from 15 to 20 dollars, and their reusable night pads are between 20 to 30 dollars. Glad Rags can be used for up to five years. This sounds like a good deal in comparison to buying pads from Walmart or Walgreens on a monthly basis. are more organic companies that are trying to lower their prices, however, if there isn't enough awareness about the products, then the prices won't change that much. Cora is another organic company that sells tampons and they range between the same prices as the other popular menstrual product companies.

These two bills are geared towards women, but this doesn't mean that men can't give their support. The more voices we have on this issue, the more likely these bills will get passed. Women already have enough on their plate and worrying about how they are going to get their pads or if it is even safe should be the last things on their minds. If women and men all over the nation gave their support, there is no doubt that these two bills will pass and when it does, it will make a huge impact on the female community.



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Progress at West Campus Village

Kristen Hazzard

Reporter

This is a follow up for "The Woes of Dorm Life" from issue two of the Fall 2017 semester. Important topics were clarified by Jodi Bailey, associate vice president for Student Affairs, Interim.

According to Bailey, more student jobs were created on campus by hiring students to man the front desk from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. Public safety takes over from 11 p.m. to 9 a.m. in all resident halls. All front desks are manned twenty-four hours a day, but this accounts for why students do not see security guards at all times. Public Safety continues to secure the perimeter of West Campus Village (WCV) on the weekends from 8 p.m. to 4 a.m. and a supervisor is also in WCV on Friday and Saturday nights from midnight to 2 p.m.

Another issue brought up pertained to cameras and public safety. Students may not be aware of the placement of every camera, but there are over twenty cameras placed throughout WCV. Security cameras are located on every floor and near all entrances and exits, however the location of the cameras cannot be disclosed for safety reasons. Cameras are monitored by the security guards at the front desk and Public Safety on the main campus. Public Safety is always

on call twenty-four hours a day along with staff in facilities and residence life on duty. There are panic buttons for residents on every floor of WCV. Anyone unveiled a food truck that will be located outside the dorms. The truck is still in its testing phase and Residence Life plans to send out information

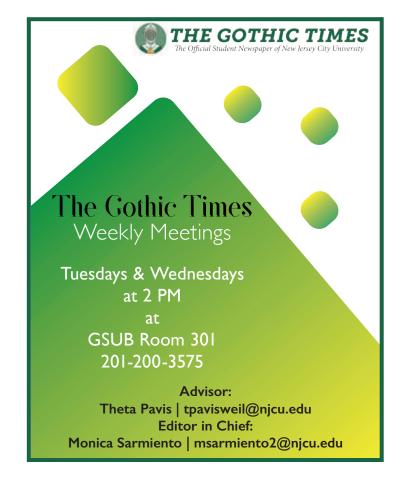


regarding some meal plan changes in the future. The new meal plan option will be for upperclassmen and will be available soon.

Room selection for current, incoming students and new resident assistants (RA) was not brought up in the last issue, however there are changes to come. Bailey mentioned, "We are also going to be going online with our room selection process for all students for the fall semester where they can choose their rooms online along with their roommates. We are also co-sponsoring students to do service work in Puerto Rico for spring break and are in the process for hiring new RAs".

who has an emergency can press the button which sets off an alarm in the Public Safety office. If an emergency were to occur, Public Safety offers and encourages the use of the Guardian security app. The app allows students to text, call or dial 911 at any time and the app also offers other safety precautions.

Food at WCV continues to be discussed, but there has been some progress made in the past couple of months. The original vending machines in the building were removed because 70% of the products were stolen by residents. Residence Life have since put the new machines on the first floor of WCV, providing students with a few food and drink options and have also



Is Trump's Military Parade Feasible?

Sean Quinn

Reporter

President Donald Trump has been in office for a year and a month as of this writing. To say his presidency and campaign before it were controversial would be an understatement. His supporters view him as a man of the people, a man who will return America to its former glory as a powerhouse of industry. His detractors view him as a spoiled brat way in over his head with no experience. What's become a hot-button topic is Trump's desire for a military parade Washington D.C. watching France's Bastille Day parade. While it is a showing of gratitude to the men and women who serve in the armed forces, is the rough estimate of \$10 to \$30 million according to various sources including The Pentagon worth it? Is it just a vanity parade to feed Trump's ego? Will the parade feature something in tribute to the almost 40,000 homeless veterans (A number according to the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans)?

Trump spoke with officials in the Pentagon last November about having this parade. While many find the idea of showcasing our military might to be reminiscent of a dictatorship, it isn't the first time America has had a military parade. The last one was in 1991 after the

victory of Operation Desert Storm, and America has also had parades after the Civil War, and both World Wars. In fact, this parade would fall around the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I. But outside of war victories and inaugurations during the Cold War, military parades in America aren't really a thing. While countries such as China, Russia, and North Korea regularly hold them as part of their propaganda.

But should America show our dominance? We are the largest military in the world, and we spend more on our national defense than anything else. A common saying is "Confidence is quiet, insecurities are loud".

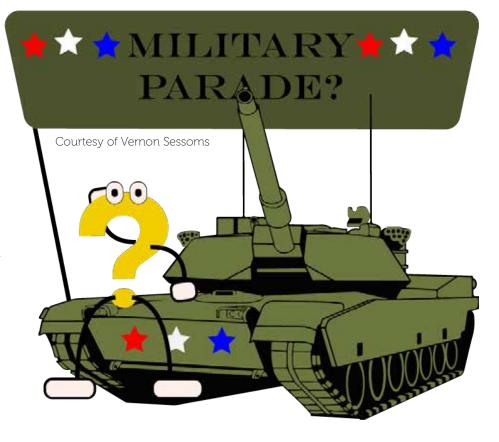
Not to mention that over 16 years have passed and we are in still in conflict with Afghanistan. With the tradition of reserving these parades for war victories, it might be a bad idea to celebrate any victory while we are still at war.

It is painfully ironic to think if Washington D.C. does host the parade, that the local homeless population will be relocated, there is a good chance that several of them

could be veterans themselves. While a common argument for supporters of the parade is that detractors hate the military and veterans, what does it say about us if we sweep those who sacrificed for us and are struggling just to survive get swept out of the way to celebrate their comrades who aren't in the streets? The idea reminds me of the song Born in the U.S.A by Bruce Springsteen, which is about a war veteran struggling to live as a civilian. I don't enjoy his music, but this line from the song "I'm ten years burning down the road, Nowhere to run ain't got nowhere to go" makes me think feel that a homeless veteran will

be having that same thought

The idea of the parade doesn't seem to be a logical idea. Our tradition is to celebrate victory. While the parade will fall a century after winning the War to End all Wars, the fact that we are in still conflict without much chance of it ending anytime soon, doesn't seem to be the right time have one. Not to mention that the world already knows the power of our military. We have won nearly every war we've been under, we have bases across the globe, and we spend more on the military than the next 20 countries in terms of spending combined. Our military doesn't need to flex its muscles.



Why I Registered To Vote

Michi Suazo

Features Editor

I could have registered when I was 18. But I didn't. A lot of people don't. I mean, bother? Things were actually changing for the better: We had a black man for president. Gay marriage had been legalized in all 50 states. Feminism was slowly making itself more present, and the fluidity of sexuality and gender were being discussed. I was learning so much about this kind of politically charged America. I really felt like the lost faith in humanity everyone constantly talked about was restored and improvements were finally being put in place. It felt so exciting, so surreal, so liberating. I felt safe.

I was wrong.

According to the Pew Research Center, millennials (people aged 18-35) and baby boomers (ages 52-70) both make up about 31 percent of people eligible to vote. Despite that, millennials continue to have the lowest presence in

the voting booth. In the 2012 election, only 46.4 percent of eligible millennials voted; in 2016, that percentage went up to 49.4 but it remains a low number, and while the percentage of millennials went up slightly, the percentage for black millennial voters went down. As millennials continue to age and grow in population, the older generations continue

identities and I've learned so much from them. Not only did my exposure to different cultures expand but my understanding of them improved, too. I am sure the same goes for my friends, as well

People in the past have fought for our rights to vote, and now that we can we should not waste it. We were not there when the first wave of feminism

Just vote and get your voice heard because for a long time we couldn't.

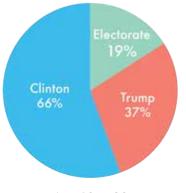
to decline. Older people voted for Trump, younger people voted for Clinton.

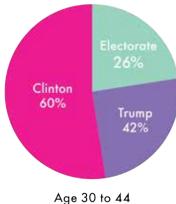
Here's why I think more young people need to go vote—we are a very diverse group. Growing up in Jersey City, I've met so many people with different ethnic backgrounds, religions, races, sexual orientations and gender

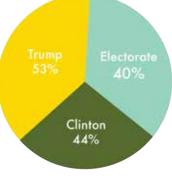
happened or when the Voting Rights Act of 1965 was signed into law. Minorities suffered and sacrificed so much so that future generations would not have to. Let's honor them by taking advantage of this right.

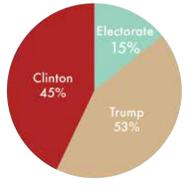
The winner of the election has power over our lives. The winner has say over what our country can and cannot do for its people. Many of you now might wish you had voted. Instead we are planning the next protest march.

Complaining on Twitter or writing a post on Facebook about how awful the new president is isn't an equivalent to voting. It's really annoying to hear people get into heated discussions about the problems of America when they didn't even vote. "Oh, but I don't like the candidates," some said. That's fine, you don't have to. Is choosing the lesser of evils really not an option? Just vote and get your voice heard because for a long time we couldn't. The boomer population is declining, it will just be a matter of time before millennials become the largest generation in the electorate. However, that number of how many can vote and how many actually vote are two entirely different things. In order to see the changes we want to see, we have to show up at the voting booths and decide what we want for ourselves so future generations will follow suit.









Age 18 to 29 Age 30 to

Age 45 to 64

Age 65 and up

A Remarkable Talk With Dance Icon Judith Jamison

Darren Greene

Lyve N Direct Podcast Host

Judith Jamison captivated the audience with her heartfelt commentary about her life and how it was centered around miracles.

Jamison spoke on February 28 at the Skyline Room in the NJCU School of Business building. A little about herself Jamison is a renowned dancer, choreographer and Artistic Director Emeritus of the well known Alvin Aliey American Dance Theater.

She spoke about her journey from when she was growing up to where she is now.

What was most memorable about her commentary was that she kept the crowd entertained the entire time with her charisma and humor. During her talk, Jamison jumped around on a

lot of topics focusing on her journey and inspirations in life. In her speech she pointed out that "life is a miracle."

Jamison started by talking about her mentor Carmen de Lavallade, an American actress and dancer. Jamison spoke about her accomplishments and how she learned a lot from her, before moving on to talk about the Dance Theater and how it has been open for more than 60 years.

She then talked about her experience living in Philadelphia at a young age. Jamison remarked how lucky she was to have been in an arts programs in school and encouraged the youth in the room to push for the arts.

It was not easy however, according to Jamison, referring to Philadelphia in the 40s and 50s being "horribly racist." Jamison mentioned that there was not a place for girls of color

to have ballet classes in her time. However Jamison eventually found a way to ballet.

She went on to talk about her relationship with the church and how that played a part in her personality. She said it gave her the pageantry, the color and discipline. After that, Jamison told the audience of her trials and tribulations that she pushed through to get her where she is today.

Jamison wanted the audience to understand that life is a miracle and that they should live it to the fullest. She wanted to inspire the minds of the younger crowd.







THE HUB

Centralized Tutoring Services

Location: Congressman Frank J. Guarini Library, First Floor **Hours:** Monday - Thursday 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Friday - Saturday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Phone: (201) 200 - 3513 | Email: thehub@njcu.edu

The Hub offers Tutoring, Supplemental Instruction and Workshops to all NJCU students.

Students may register for an appointment and find out more about The Hub at their reception desk or over the phone at (201) 200-3513.



Upcoming Events at NJCU

March



In The Heights Friday & Saturday: March 16, 17, 23, 24 | 7:30 PM Sunday 18, 24 | 3 PM **Margaret Williams Theatre** \$15 General / \$5 Students & Seniors

21 - Wonder Women 11: Eye of the Storm Opening Reception: 3/21, 4 PM Artist Talk: 4/25, 4 PM Lemmerman Gallery (Ends May 9)

27 - Annie Lanzillotto presents Hard Candy: Caregiving, Mourning, and Stage Lightand Pitch Roll Yaw GSUB 129, 6 PM - 8 PM

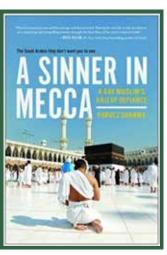


Helen Stapinski Author of **Five Finger** Discount and Murder in Matera

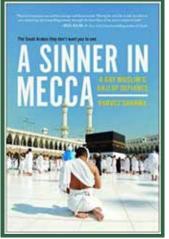
29 - Helene Stapinski: Murder in Matera GSUB 129, 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

April

5 - NJCU Jazz Ensemble: Swing Time Ronald Carter, guest conductor West Side Theatre, 7 PM & 9 PM FREE with RSVP



Parvez Sharma's A Sinner in Mecca



12 - An Evening with Parvez Hussein Sharma NJCU School of Business, 7 PM \$25 (includes a copy of A Sinner in Mecca)



17 - Keynote Speaker: David Levanthal, Program Director of Dance for Parkinson's Disease Presentation: 9 AM - 10:30 AM Dance Class: 11 AM - 12:15 PM **Liberty Science Center FREE** with RSVP

17 - Symphony of Winds & Percussion Patrick Burns, director Margaret Williams Theatre, 7:30 PM **FREE with RSVP**

How Sam Toney Made His WayFrom the Streets to the Courts



Courtesy of Larry Levanti

Kristen Hazzard

Reporter

Sam Toney, a 26-yearold sophomore plays power forward for NJCU men's basketball team and he's had an amazing year. Standing 6-foot-4, he was selected as a candidate for the New Jersey Athletic Conference Player of the Year and All-American Honors. He is currently on the Small College Basketball 2017-18 Bevo Francis Award Top 100 Watchlist.

Before he made it to college however he had a lot of obstacles to overcome. He grew up in Plainfield, New Jersey and at a young age he became homeless. By twelve years old, he was placed in the foster care

system and lived in dozens of different homes throughout South and North Jersey.

Toney got his start in recreational basketball as a kid and played multiple positions which allowed him to be become an all-around player on the court. Since high school, he has looked up to LeBron James for inspiration. He said, "Basketball has always been my life and I wouldn't be anything without it." After a while, he started to take the game of basketball seriously.

Basketball became a safe haven, he was able to release whatever emotions were festering inside of him. The sport has played a significant role in his life, it has kept him out of trouble and has guided him onto the right path. No matter the situation, basketball has been constant throughout his life. His past has taught him "don't give up and keep my dreams alive". He has overcome the struggles life has thrown at him by staying focused and determined on the court and the classroom.

As he continues to play, he said he's "learning the game of basketball and the do's and don'ts of the court.". NJCU's basketball team has led an incredible 2017-18 season with the help of Toney and his teammates. He enjoys how family oriented his team is, which is hard to find, but important to have. He hopes to make the playoffs and go on from there. As for next season, Toney wants to get better academically and athletically.

Besides basketball, Toney is majoring in professional security studies and minoring in criminal justice. He has always wanted to be involved in the criminal justice sector. He hopes to play professional basketball and also own a private security company. Toney has listed, "Butch Ingram and Coach Marc Brown" as some of his role models. His advice for freshmen athletes is don't ever give up. During the offseason, he knows when to have fun, but he continues to play the sport he loves no matter the season.

The Gothic Times 2017 - 2018 Editorial Board Members

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