Associated Students Elections For 2019-2020
The Daily Nexus Editorial Board Presents:

Elections “Ask Me Anything”

Why Should I Care?

Each student enrolled at UCSB pays $210.61 every quarter to Associated Students to go toward "a wide variety of operations of Associated Students that benefit the students of UCSB, the campus and the surrounding community," as written on the A.S. Finance and Business website. This amounts to an estimated $14 million a year.

How Can I Reach Out to My Senators and Other Executives?

There are multiple ways to contact your senators and executives. As of this year, the 69th senate passed a resolution that requires senators to provide their constituencies with an official Facebook page.

A.S. executives also have official Facebook pages, where you will find their office hours, the location of their office hours, contact info and projects they are currently undertaking.

To address the entire Senate as a whole, students or community members can speak at public forum during weekly Senate meetings, which begin at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays in the Flying A room of the University Center. The Senate does not hold meetings during Week 10 or finals week.

When Does Voting Begin?

Voting officially begins on April 22 at 8 a.m., or Monday of Week 4. It ends on April 25 at 4 p.m. The results will be announced on April 25 at a time and place to be determined. Log onto G.O.L.D. to cast your vote.

Endorsements P. 3-9

What are the Different A.S. Positions?

A.S. serves as an umbrella for dozens of organizations. The most well-known divisions of A.S. include the legislative branch (the A.S. Senate), the executive branch (the A.S. Executives) and the judicial branch (the A.S. Judicial Council).

Within the A.S. Senate, there are 25 senatorial positions.

The 25 senators are elected based on different constituencies; there are 12 off-campus senator seats, five on-campus senator seats, four Letters & Science senator seats, one College of Engineering senator seat, one College of Creative Studies senator seat, one transfer senator seat and one university-owned off-campus senator seat.

There has been no College of Creative Studies senator for the past school year, and no students have declared candidacy for the seat this year’s election as of press time.

Within the executive branch, there are five A.S. executive positions: president, internal vice president (IVP), external vice president for statewide affairs (EVPSA), external vice president for local affairs (EVPLA) and the student advocate general (S.A.G.).

The EVPSA position has been vacant since Spring Quarter 2018 following the disqualification of EVPSA-elect Mayela Morales and the two subsequent special elections that failed to meet the voter threshold.

The IVP presides over the A.S. Senate, and has the power to serve as a tie-breaking vote.

The EVPLA works with local government bodies, such as the I.V. Community Services District and the I.V. Recreation and Park District.

The president serves as a representative of UCSB at the systemwide level and is a voice for students within the UCSB administration. They also work on projects within their own office to enhance the UCSB student experience and sit on various committees around campus.

The EVPLA works with local government bodies, such as the I.V. Community Services District and the I.V. Recreation and Park District.
Renaissance man, style icon, social activist—there are many things to many people. The versatile actor, singer and author is well known for his unforgettable performance as "Casanova" and his ongoing role as host of PBS' "Masterpiece Mystery." Described as one of the most fun people to show business by Time Magazine, the Scottish-born provocateur and storyteller-for-hire presents Legal Immigrant, a cabaret of songs and stories about his life and loves in his adopted homeland, America.

Jubakoe is a comedian who's the newest correspondent on "The Daily Show" with Trevor Noah. Most recently he was named one of Vanity Fair's 10 Comedians to Watch 2016 and performed at their Comics to Watch Showcase. Just For Laughs in Montreal. He has performed stand up on "The Tonight Show" starring Jimmy Fallon and recently taped his half hour show for NBC's "Central Stand-Up Presents." Jubakoe can be seen on the current season of HBO's "Crashing." Previously, Jubakoe was a staff writer on "The Simpsons," "American Vandal" and "Big Mouth."

**ACROSS**
1. Talmud expert
2. ABBA singer
3. 4 Casino game
4. Shakespearean ship
5. Chat room
6. Doughnut filler
7. H.S. health class
8. 1 Division in the
9. 2 Wheel spinner's
10. "__ Gold": 1997
11. Primate
12. "__ and More" restaurant
13. Textron-owned
14. Californian's car
15. "__ not alone"
16. Adherent's suffix
17. One assaulting a
18. Impudent
19. Postgrad degrees
20. "I'm going to cancel
21. Khan
22. DVR button
23. Melville opus
24. Legal chiefs:
25. U.S. Senator
26. "__ of 1997"
27. "__ and More"
28. Place with an
29. "__ of 1997"
30. "__ for a cowboy"
31. Melanie's
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33. "__ of 1997"
34. Storm hdg.
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36. Like the forest in
37. "__ is not alone"
38. "__ of 1997"
39. Unsettled, in a way
40. "__ and More"
41. Orange Muppet
42. "__ and More"
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44. Aerie nestling
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46. Escape, with "out"
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58. Not a one
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In their interview with the Daily Nexus, Zion Solomon told the Nexus that they believe they are the most qualified person for the position of Associated Students president – and the Nexus agrees.

The Nexus endorses Solomon, a second-year history of public policy major, for Associated Students president, a position that requires intense advocacy, passion, and the ability to hear all students on campus and one we believe Solomon is well-suited for. The Nexus acknowledges that Solomon's opponent, Alison Sir, is a formidable candidate in her own right, but we firmly believe that no matter who emerges as winner in next Thursday's elections, the campus will be in safe hands – but Solomon's tangible track record of creating change, and their concrete goals for the future, is what gave them a leg up over Sir.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Solomon has a resolution on the table nearly every week, if not every other week.

-Continuing to put out surveys to gauge students’ retention rates.
-Creating an academic excellence initiative to create part-time jobs through the expansion of the book bank.
-Creating a program called Gaucho Career, which is a career development program that would help students get a headstart on a future career.
-Resigning the A.S. website as its more interactive.
-Expanding the A.S. fellowship.
-Working with the Alumni Association to develop a mentorship program that would connect successful alumni and students.
-Moving beyond just the A.S. Senate's live stream and live streaming meetings with all administration officials to make them more accessible.

While both candidates have past experience as senators, Sir as an off-campus senator with the 6th District and Solomon as an on-campus senator with the 3rd District, their experiences while at the table vary greatly. Solomon has a resolution on the table nearly every week, if not every other week.

Sir drafted three resolutions during her three years as a senator – one on workshops with them and becoming familiar with the Office of Financial Aid, putting together a list of all A.S. resources, purchasing a subscription to Headspace – a guided meditation app – for every student using A.S. monies and putting a vending machine in I.V. that would provide free meals to students with financial need and undocumented students.

The latter project Sir has been working on during her “gap year” between senator and her candidacy.

OUR CONCERNS:

The Nexus acknowledges Solomon has a tendency to look away from important enough a few weeks ago, she went as far as to call the other party “Colonizers United” in a tweet on their Twitter page, which was public at the time. We were disappointed when Solomon did not fully respond to our question about the tweet and a question about a judicial council case they were involved in.

They did, however, admit that the tweet was a “momentary lapse” in judgement. If elected, Solomon said they would not use their personal social media accounts for A.S. and political business.

The second point of concern with Solomon’s candidacy – and the one that gave the Nexus pause when discussing endorsements – was the fact that they desired the student body during Fall Quarter 2018 by not bring amongst their options when problems.

During their interview with the Nexus, Solomon admitted to living off campus during Fall Quarter 2018, a possible violation of their term as an on-campus senator – an offense that fellow On-Campus Senator Yasmin Sato was removed for during her term. They spoke candidly about their situation, citing financial struggles as the reason.

“In the beginning of the year and throughout the summer, I could not afford to live anywhere. So I didn't have a lease... everything fell apart,” Solomon said.

Solomon added that they did tell Internal Vice President Steven Hu about the situation; however, the fact remains that their constituents did not know.

“I was living with a friend until I could afford to pay for winter and spring (quarters). And I'm in a pretty bad place financially. I was trying to save up money,” Solomon said. the reason they didn't speak about the issue publicly at the time is because they did not want the “additional burden” that came with the publicity that Sato had experienced.

The Nexus acknowledges that Solomon’s deception was understandable.

However, given Solomon’s ability to be candid and open with us as well, combined with the financial hardships that they had faced, we do not believe this should affect the student body’s decision on who to choose as the president.

Despite the Nexus' specific concerns, we fully recognize Solomon's candidacy as a candidate for all students, particularly marginalized ones. They are open about their struggles and their qualifications, and aren’t afraid to talk on the realities of their experiences. They noted that their identity as a queer, Black person helps them to understand the struggle of all students, particularly marginalized ones.

In their interview, Solomon put it aptly: “The most marginalized people just don’t have a seat at the table. We’re able to feel it the most and they were able to advocate for them and make this university better in a way that benefits every single student on this campus.”

As echoed before, the Nexus believes that either Sir or Solomon would serve the school well; no matter who takes home a victory on the night of April 25, our school will be in good hands. However, the fact remains our choice is Solomon – we have faith in them to not only do the job required of them but to also go above and beyond to advocate for UCSB students at every turn.

The Daily Nexus Editorial Board is comprised of the editor in chief and the news team.
Matthew Griffin for EVPLA

Daily Nexus Editorial Board

The Daily Nexus endorses third-year political science major Matthew Griffin for external vice president for local affairs.

Griffin, who is running with Campus United, has an ambitious platform — creating a community court in Isla Vista, holding more Green Dot trainings, expanding the food bank program to Isla Vista, and starting a community compost system — but he believes he is more equipped to handle than his opponent, Christian Ornelas, third-year environmental studies major.

But that is not to say that Griffin’s endorsement is a complete stamp of approval: both candidates have significant advantages and weaknesses that the Nexus took into consideration.

Ultimately, Griffin received the Nexus’ endorsement because of the work and the familiarity he has with local government bodies and officials as well as his platform, which had more concrete ideas that could go a long way for the community if implemented.

Griffin runs for this position after having served as the Executive Vice President of Local Affairs (EVPLA) freshman year, when he applied for the position for both the office and the Associated Students. That year, Griffin worked with then-EVPLA Aaron Minisaur to find homes for students who were displaced due to the Edna collapse its home on Del Playa Drive.

That same year, Griffin also served as the treasurer for Hall Council in Santa Cruz Hall. Griffin noted in his interview with the Nexus that Santa Cruz Hall was the only residence hall that year to not ask for additional funds from Residential Housing Association at the end of the year. He cited the increasing prominence of his fiscal responsibility, which he said he would apply to the EVPLA position.

Griffin also failed to adequately address sexual assault, violence and transportation, the option to attend hearings locally would lift a weight off students shoulders.

“The most students don’t have cars and yes, there is a bus that goes down there, but most of these court dates are Friday at 8 a.m. and sometimes the buses are too full or sometimes (students) can’t get to the bus on time,” Griffin said.

Griffin is also aiming for a project that has long been an unfulfilled aspect of previous EVPLA platforms: free Wi-Fi in parks and beaches in Isla Vista. Although the project has failed to gain footing in the past, Griffin believes completing the project is just a matter of “laying the groundwork.”

“That’s a project that can’t be completed in nine months. It can be started in one month, but that there’s lack of continuity in that transition. So I think that now, given the fact that we have structured government in Isla Vista... pushing for it and continuing to lay the groundwork (for the parks) can have it go throughout the next few years,” Griffin said.

To address food insecurity, Griffin wants to create a food bank in Isla Vista by collaborating with local grocery stores to give away the food that stores don’t sell. Griffin said after meeting with someone from the IV Food Co-op, he believes stores would be willing to donate food that is close to expiration so that students can access it for free at a designated location in Isla Vista.

“District 10 through platform ideas, which the Nexus believes will benefit students if they are seen through, Griffin still seems to be slightly out of touch with student issues,” Ornelas said.

If elected, Griffin must ensure that groups which he cannot speak on behalf of all communities and identities in Isla Vista and UCSB’s campus, but I really like marketing Associated Students and I think that if the EVPLA Office and A.S. as a whole can work to market our services and market what we do as an entity, I think that that gives a little more outreach to students.

Griffin has also failed to adequately address address sexual assault, violence and harassment in his platform and interview. As something that has consistent ambition, Griffin believes he is the right time for him to step into the position.

“I thought that I would come back [from studying abroad] and do what I always wanted to do and be the EVPLA,” Griffin said. “Or at least give myself the chance to run and share my story with students and share why I think I would be the best candidate to represent students.”

As for his platform, Griffin has already made efforts to ensure the feasibility and completion of some of his projects.

Griffin discussed the possibility of a community court in IV with local representatives Joan Hartmann and District Attorney Joyce Duda, who he said were in favor of implementing the plan in the next year. This court would allow IV residents to attend hearings for minor infractions, such as underage drinking or parking violations, at a location in IV. Rather than have the courthouse in downtown Santa Barbara.

Griffin’s idea is that the circumstances of many students in IV, such as busy schedules and a lack of transportation, the option to attend hearings locally would lift a weight off students shoulders.

Griffin also offered some ideas to address the issue, but seemed to think that issue could be solved if students “understand why (police officers) are in general.”

Finally, in comparison with Ornelas, Griffin lacked the same camaraderie and confidence that his opponent displayed. Student leaders — all leaders — need to be able to inspire hope, assurance and trust in their constituents.

Griffin for IV’s platform projects fell short of Griffin’s, and lacked concrete plans for implementation.

Ornelas listed some of his proposals for his term as creating a monthly farmer’s market in IV and special topic classes co-taught by professors and students. These ideas are not bad, but they’re not the most pressing needs of students at the moment.

Ornelas seemed to have a better sense of student opinions on issues like police presence and sexual violence, but had little understanding of government agencies in IV.

The Nexus believes Griffin will use his position as EVPLA to fulfill his platform and serve students to his best ability. Griffin is knowledgeable about the EVPLA office’s familiarity with IV issues and has ideas that could really make a difference in students’ everyday lives.

The Daily Nexus Editorial Board is comprised of the editor in chief and the news team.

SANYA KAMIDI / DAILY NEXUS

SANTA BARBARA FAIR
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Funnel Cake
Office of Student Life Support Fee

Do you wish to continue a mandatory fee of $2.93 per undergraduate student per quarter, including (summer), for the Office of Student Life (OSL)?

Additionally, the OSL currently collects (including all return-to-aid and administrative assessments) $1.92 per undergraduate student per quarter through an A.S. lock-in fee, for a total of $3.95 per undergraduates per quarter ($2.93 in summer). If reaffirmed, the Office of Student Life Support Fee would continue to be assessed until reaffirmation in 2023.

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Yes NO ABSTAIN

I support the Office of Student Life lock-in fee of $3.95 because it is a reasonable fee to pay for students to be involved in extracurricular activities throughout the year.

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Yes NO ABSTAIN

I am writing to support the requirement of the Office of Student Life lock-in fee. As a student who utilizes the services provided by OSL, I have found myself better in managing my academic and social lives with the help of OSL. It would be difficult to continue to succeed in academic and extracurricular activities without the support from OSL. This small fee, which will not increase our current student fees, also helps support first-year student initiatives and student engagement.

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Yes NO ABSTAIN

Evelyn Gonzalez, A.M.U.R.L. (Mujeres Unidas por la Justicia, Educación y Revolución)

I support the requirement of the Office of Student Life lock-in fee for students to realize the full potential of their college experience. As a student who utilizes the services provided by OSL, I have found them invaluable in managing my academic and social lives with the help of OSL. It would be difficult to continue to succeed in academic and extracurricular activities without the support from OSL. This small fee, which will not increase our current student fees, also helps support first-year student initiatives and student engagement. For OSL, the proposed fee of $3.95 will continue to serve the student community.

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Yes NO ABSTAIN

Angelina Garcia Nevarez, M.U.R.L. (Mujeres Unidas por la Justicia, Educación y Revolución)

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Yes NO ABSTAIN

I support the requirement of the Office of Student Life lock-in fee for students to realize the full potential of their college experience. As a student who utilizes the services provided by OSL, I have found them invaluable in managing my academic and social lives with the help of OSL. It would be difficult to continue to succeed in academic and extracurricular activities without the support from OSL. This small fee, which will not increase our current student fees, also helps support first-year student initiatives and student engagement. For OSL, the proposed fee of $3.95 will continue to serve the student community.

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Yes NO ABSTAIN

Kersten Connors, Alpha Theta Alpha

I support the requirement of the Office of Student Life lock-in fee for students to realize the full potential of their college experience. As a student who utilizes the services provided by OSL, I have found them invaluable in managing my academic and social lives with the help of OSL. It would be difficult to continue to succeed in academic and extracurricular activities without the support from OSL. This small fee, which will not increase our current student fees, also helps support first-year student initiatives and student engagement. For OSL, the proposed fee of $3.95 will continue to serve the student community.

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Yes NO ABSTAIN

Destiny Clara, third-year undergraduate, Gaucho Impact, U.M.C.A.

University Children's Center Support Fee

Do you wish to continue a mandatory fee of $2.93 per undergraduate student per quarter (including (summer)) to support the University Children's Centers?

Additionally, the University Children's Centers currently collect (including all return-to-aid and administrative assessments) $6.76 per undergraduate per quarter ($5.33 in summer) through an A.S. lock-in fee, and $3.00 per graduate student per quarter ($2.00 in summer) through a GSA lock-in fee. This fee pays for the care of 40 graduate student per quarter ($8.33 in summer), and $6.00 per graduate student per quarter ($5.00 in summer).

If reaffirmed, the University Children's Center Support Fee would continue to be assessed until reaffirmation in 2023.

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Yes NO ABSTAIN

Since 1988 UCB students have strongly supported UCB Children's Centers, demonstrating continued commitment to UCB's youngest students by affirming the University's Children's Center Support Fee.

With your help we:

Keep students in school - subsidizing child care tuition for UCB student parents who often face serious financial hardship needing to stay in school.

Serve the community - providing high-quality care for our children.

Do it's part of the overall picture of health and safety for our children.

It's simply not possible without UCB student support.

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Yes NO ABSTAIN

Undergraduates and Graduates Will Vote on These Two Measures:

1. Career Services Open Access Fee

Do you wish to continue a mandatory fee of $4.94 per undergraduate and graduate student per quarter (including (summer)) to support Career Services? (Broadband) $10.67 is for Career Services, $3.72 is for return to aid, and $0.51 is for an administrative assessment. This includes all return-to-aid and administrative assessments.

Additionally, Career services currently collect (including all return-to-aid and administrative assessments): $1.36 per undergraduate and graduate student per quarter (including (summer)) through the separate campus lock-in fee for a total of $18.06 per undergraduate and graduate student per quarter.

If reaffirmed, the Career Services Open Access Fee will continue to be collected until subject to reaffirmation again in spring 2023.

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Yes NO ABSTAIN

Career Services students have strongly supported Career Services' efforts to ensure that all students and recent graduates have access to vital career services and mandates. We support the fee, and we are grateful for the work of Career Services.

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Yes NO ABSTAIN

Thank you for your support in reaffirming the Career Services Open Access Fee. Vote Yes for Career Services! Career Services empowers all students and recent graduates to prepare and pursue success. By providing comprehensive resources, programs, and services that span from career exploration, education, internships, employment, and graduate school, students will assist recent graduates to make career decisions, connect with employers, and attain their life goals.

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Yes NO ABSTAIN

Career Services ensures that the University provides students with opportunities to help enhance our employer outreach efforts to bring more employers and internship opportunities to campus and beyond and career decision-making opportunities to help students connect with.relevant employers. Career Services endeavors to offer all of our services for FREE! -- The Career Services Team

Coastal Fund Initiative

Do you wish to continue a mandatory fee of $10.00 per undergraduate and graduate student per quarter (excluding (summer)) to support fund sustainability projects and awareness for the UCSB ocean? Additional, Coastal Fund currently collects (including all return-to-aid and administrative assessments): $6.67 per undergraduate per quarter, $9.05 per graduate student per quarter, and $31.00 per graduate student per quarter.

If reaffirmed, the Coastal Fund Initiative would continue to be assessed until subject to reaffirmation in 2023.

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Yes NO ABSTAIN

No pre/pro/latem statements were submitted.

Voting Online April 22-25, 2019

UCSB ELECTIONS COMMITTEE – Online Spring Election 2019

"Passage of the referendums on the ballot does not constitute final approval of the project. The Chancellor and the University California Office of the President must approve all referendums. In addition, all major capital funding projects must be approved by the Regents for design, financing, and verification of the Environmental Impact Report, and are subject to review by the Campus Planning Committee. If approved by the California Coastal Commission. Fees for capital projects are based on an average undergraduate student ($4,940.00) and the average graduate student ($7,000.00) that the mandatory imposed fees may have to be reviewed in order to maintain funding at a level that will support the University's most need funding (dean reimbursement)."

The Election is Online!

The link is http://www.votecenter.ucsb.edu and follow the directions. The link is also provided in your UCSB GOLD system when you login. Public service computer banks are located at S.R.E. (Students, Researchers, Employees). Any difficulty should be reported to votecenter@ucsb.edu. These campus-wide measures will be on the ballot along with other measures for all students, for A.S., officers and A.S. new fees and the reification items. Graduates student will vote on a separate ballot. Be sure to be a registered student by April 10, 2019 to be eligible to vote.

Voter Turnout Requirements

Minimum 20 percent voter turnout is required in order for the election to be considered valid. A reaffirmation pass is 50% of one the voters - "Yes" votes.

Definition of RETURN TO AID:

The return-to-aid charge, 25% of the total fee charged, is recovered to every campus-base, student-initiated, new mandatory fee and increase to an existing fee originally present in 2006 or later. The surcharge is either paid by students or charged to UCB students who paid their fees in full prior to the initiation. New mandatory fee and increase to an existing fee originally passed 2009 or later. The assessment issued by the campus to cover the cost of student services, programs, and facilities and disbursing the student-imposed mandatory campus fees. The assessment applies to undergraduate and graduate student fees.

Definition of ADMINISTRATIVE ASSESSMENT:

An administrative assessment, currently 7% of the fee charge, is assessed to non-students (i.e. one-time fee). This fee is student-initiated, new mandatory fee and increase to an existing fee originally present in 2006 or later. The surcharge is either paid by students or charged to UCB students who paid their fees in full prior to the initiation. New mandatory fee and increase to an existing fee originally passed 2009 or later. The assessment issued by the campus to cover the cost of student services, programs, and facilities and disbursing the student-imposed mandatory campus fees. The assessment applies to undergraduate and graduate student fees.

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Student Health is a primary health care facility on campus available to all UCSB students.

Thanks to unwavering student support, we are able to provide high quality medical and behavioral healthcare along with physical therapy, dental and eye care centers. Our Advice Nurses, Alcohol & Drug Counselors, and Social Workers are provided free-of-charge with help from these additional funds that students provide.

We are fully certified by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC). Our technology is state-of-the-art and we offer urgent care with many services available online. All providers are licensed and/or certified in their respective fields. Continuous quality improvement and an accredited continuing education program are all part of the high standards maintained.

Vote YES on reafirmation so Student Health can continue to address the health needs of a diverse and active campus community.

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Sake Bombing!

- Small Pitcher of Sake with 10+ room people and an order of 10 large beers
- Large Pitcher of Sake with 20+ or more people and an order of 15 large beers "off our list for the 1st pitch" Mon-Thurs with I.D.

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Vote YES 100% Santa Barbara Student Health

VOTE YES 100% SANTA BARBARA STUDENT HEALTH
Leal Silva has ample experience working with Associated Students (AS). This past year, she has been working on Senate Bill 24, a bill which focuses on discrimination with respect to college campuses.

Last year, Leal Silva helped create Coffee and Calls, which provides students with the opportunity to call their senators about certain legislation while having a free cup of coffee in the Arbor. She said, "I've learned a lot from listening to how Berkeley runs their office, to San Diego, to Santa Cruz, and they all have such critical ways of approaching these issues," Leal Silva said. "I almost don't want to compare them because I don't want the space to feel like a race or like a competition."

In terms of what the EVPSA office has done to increase transparency during the Leal Silva presidency, she said that she works with the student social media presence of the office has grown over the last three years in order to keep students in the loop and she hopes the office's social media presence will continue to grow.

Leal Silva also said that she knows exactly who to work with within AS for the projects she wants to take on. She talked about funding to address food insecurity in IV, and she said she would work with the Executive Vice President for Local Affairs and the A.S. Food Bank. She discussed addressing the issues in Title IX policy, and she said she would work with C.A.R.E. and Take Back the Night.

Leal Silva is also knowledgeable about CSSS's role in the United States Student Association (USSA) and the University of California Student Association (UCSA), which means that when they're talking about issues, they need to listen to both campuses because we're paying the most money.

I think the money that we do put forth is doing tangible good. It is doing really great things in terms of supporting the undocumented community, in terms of supporting sustainable programs, and in terms of funding the UC," she added. "As EVPSA, I want to make sure that those benefits are being built on our campus." This past year, Leal Silva has been working on the Government Relations Committee of UCSA, which includes the legislative directors of other UCs. Leal Silva has effectively built connections with other UC EVPSA offices already.

We learn a lot from listening to how Berkeley runs their office, to San Diego, to Santa Cruz, and they all have such critical ways of approaching these issues," Leal Silva said. "I almost don't want to compare them because I don't want the space to feel like a race or like a competition."

In very much so should exist in a collaborative space where you're learning from each other!"

Lead Silva also vowed committed to doing whatever it takes to help marginalized students on campus and added that she wants to continue to advocate for UCSU. "I've learned a lot about voting, and I've learned a lot about how to run for office," Leal Silva said. "I think that's really important because I want to make sure that everyone has a space to talk about what they're thinking about." Lead Silva also believes that it wouldn't be her constituents' jobs to come to her, but instead, it would be her job to go to them. When asked to what extent she would start while we were still doing the hearings for the bill, she'd be able to use the resources from the office to be able to try to push this bill and push student issues as a whole.

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No. 4 UCSB To Face CSUN in Big West Quarterfinals

Richard Benites

With the regular season all wrapped up, the postseason for men’s volleyball is now upon us. Tournament seeding also gives us an early look at who plays whom and when they do, and No. 4 UCSB looks to put up a good showing in this year’s Big West Men’s Volleyball Championship.

The first opponent that’s standing in the way of the UCSB season is a titanic effort, No. 5 UCI. Although the Gauchos will be coming off a recent slump in the season, they have fought off the Matadors had eliminated the Gauchos from the postseason for the last two years. UCSB will want to win to extend their streak against the Gauchos, with an all-time series record of 8-25. UCI will be eager to capitalize and build on their momentum, looking to make the Gauchos a full stop in their favor and put up an imposing performance that’s representative of their status as a top-four program in the nation.

The first opponent that’ll be standing in the way of the Gauchos’ conference record comes in at No. 4, CSUN. The Matadors have won three of their last four matches to close out the regular season, including a 3-2 home victory over No. 3 UC Irvine. On the season, CSUN holds a 16-14 win percentage at an overall record of 13-13. The Matadors’ 3-7 conference record places them fifth in the league table, only one seeding spot behind Santa Barbara.

Historically speaking, the Gauchos hold a slight advantage against the Matadors, with an all-time series record of 53-40. However, just like Sanders, McGarry is familiar with this opponent. The Gauchos are 2-6 against CSUN in the last seven tries against the Matadors, with an all-time series record of 8-25.

For UCSB to come out with the win this weekend, players to watch include junior opposite Keenan Sanders, junior setter Casey McGarry and junior setter Randy DeWeese.

No. 11 Gauchos Host No. 13 Long Beach for Senior Night

Kunal Mehta

No. 11 UCSB women’s water polo team, 19-7 overall and 3-2 in conference play, will play their final game of the regular season at home against No. 13 Long Beach State as well as honor seniors utility Kate Pipkin, attacker Sarah Kreiser and center Eirini Patras on April 20, as they look to pick up their 20th win of the season against the 49ers at 12 p.m. this Saturday, April 18, at 10:30 p.m. in Honolulu, Hawaii.

The winner of this one is slated to take on first seed Long Beach State the day after.

The UCSB versus CSUN quarterfinal is all set and only days away. The match is scheduled for this Thursday, April 18, at 10:30 p.m. in Honolulu, Hawaii.
Struggling Gauchos Look To Slow Down Potent LBSU Offense

John Ciccone
Staff Writer

The Gauchos will look to bounce back from a series sweep at the hands of Hawaii as they travel down to Long Beach to play their next series against Long Beach State.

UCSB's 7-33 overall record and 1-8 conference record is no surprise. However, UCSB has only lost one series in conference play so far, which is not a reason to write them off. As a team, Long Beach ranks first in overall batting average, hits and doubles, and it has proven to be elite in every offensive category but one, which is home runs, RBIs and total bases.

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The Gauchos will look to slow down Long Beach's potent offense while also trying to score enough runs to pull out a win. If the Gauchos can do that, they will have a shot at winning the series against the No. 9 team in the nation.

UCSB will begin its series against UC Davis at 3 p.m. on Thursday, April 18 at Caesar Uyesaka Stadium. Game two will commence at 3 p.m. on Friday while game three will start at 1 p.m. on Saturday at the same location.

No. 7 UCSB Puts 9-Game Win Streak on the Line Versus UC Davis

Jorge Mercado
Editor in Chief

Fresh off a series sweep of then-No. 16 UC Irvine this past weekend, the No. 7 UCSB baseball team is riding its biggest high of the season. Not only are the Gauchos a league-best 5-1, but they also possess a 27-5 overall record, the best winning percentage in the nation (.844), and are currently on a nine-game winning streak – that's only their second best run this season.

UCSB will hope to continue this hot streak it has going when it welcomes UC Davis into town this weekend. The Aggies are currently 11-18 overall and are tied for seventh in the Big West with a 3-6 record in conference play. If Santa Barbara wants to show some improvement over the course of the season, it will have to be fast.

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Run support and strong outings from the pitchers will be especially key for the Gauchos as they try to slow down arguably the best offense in the Big West. LBSU has four hitters inside the top 15 in terms of batting average in the conference, all hitting above .300 on the season.

The Beach's lineup is spearheaded by Jamie Wren, whose .437 batting average ranks seventh in the Big West. She also ranks in the top 10 in runs, hits, doubles, home runs, RBIs and total bases.

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The Gauchos will have to look to exploit Long Beach's pitching staff, which has been its most notable weakness on an otherwise well-rounded team. Through nine Big West games, Long Beach ranks last in terms of combined ERA at 4.83, as opposed to UCSB, whose 3.56 mark ranks sixth in the conference. LBSU has a potent offense that can put up runs in bunches, but its pitching staff has been unable to keep opponents at bay, and that is where it is limited as a team.

Long Beach has given up five or more runs in five of its nine conference games, and it has a 1-4 record in those games. If there is any team that UCSB's offense can break out of its slump against, it is a team like Long Beach who has had a lot of difficulty limiting runs against them.

The Gauchos will look to gain some momentum on the road before returning home for two consecutive series. Game one will begin today at 3 p.m., while UCSB is still looking for its first series win of the season. Both teams are still trying to gain some positive momentum as they get deeper into Big West play, as both teams are struggling.

UCSB's pitching staff has also been nothing short of great. The staff currently ranks eighth in WHIP (1.33) and 13th in ERA (2.60) in the country. Friday starter Ben Brecht has been awesome this season. Brecht leads the Big West and ranks fourth in the nation with seven wins and boasts a 2.75 ERA. His 69 strikeouts are also the best in the league.

Junior right-handed pitcher Chris Lincoln has also been a reliable arm out the pen, especially in the clutch, as his eight saves are tied for the league high.

Freshman pitcher Michael McGreavy, the usual first pitcher out of the pen for the 'Chos, currently possesses the best ERA in the league with a 3.57 mark.

The Aggies are led by sophomore infielder Tanner Murray at the plate, who leads the team with a .427 BA with one home run and 14 RBIs. He earned a Big West First-Team Player of the Week honor earlier this season.

The pitching staff is led by Friday starter Brett Ewen who is 3-3 with a 2.79 ERA. As a team, the Aggies hit .290 and have a team ERA of 3.76.

Overall, UCSB has proven how good it is this season, especially at home where the team is 17-1. Now, Santa Barbara can't afford to take its foot off the pedal. It has to continue the pace it is playing at, lock up a Big West title, and who knows what else.

Maybe it's second ever host for a regional or even host for a Super Regional.
'Half Baked' (1998)

Written by and starring comedian Dave Chappelle, this may perhaps be one of the best stoner movies of all time. "Half Baked" follows Chappelle's character and his friends as they spend their time smoking marijuana in an effort to become successful rappers. Eventually, the four turn to stoners, it's hilarious to see these bumbling troopers perform as such an exaggerated, dumb group of police in the pot-smoker's cult classic, "Half High" (2001).

After getting their hands on some supernatural hash, two young stoners manage to ace their college entrance exams and get full rides to Harvard University. They quickly discover they are nothing like the smart, stressed out Ivy League students around them, so they continue smoking their magical marijuana to maintain good grades in school until it of course runs out. Although they eventually learn they're good enough on their own to academically succeed, "How High" displays the use of weed in a collegiate environment—relatable to our own high school days in Iña Vista—in a hilarious stoner flick for all to enjoy.

"Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back" (2001)

Known specifically for its nerdy and stoner-themed comedy, director and actor Kevin Smith delivers on what is likely the film with the "Jay and Silent Bob" Strike Back. The title itself refers to "Star Wars" Episode V: The Empire Strikes Back, which stands as a prelude for the many superhero- and comic book-themed jokes throughout the movie. After learning of one of the books being used, Michael and Chadic, members of comedy troupe Blamere and Chemic, which includes character based entirely on Jay and Silent Bob, devise a plan to collect all the way to Hollywood to sabotage the film. Eventually, the two find themselves on the losing end of a stoner related war which they soon get arrested for possession.

Once released on a technicality, the two realize their friendship is the reason for the film's main premise. The cast and crew of "Jay and Silent Bob" Strike Back is comprised of many actors who would go on to become major names in the industry, including future Oscar winners, alongside long-time collaborators such as the pair's various girlfriends and friends. The film's soundtrack is a collection of music from various artists, including some of the most popular bands of the time, including a few from the early days of Nirvana and Pearl Jam.

Kevin Abstract's 'ARIZONA baby' Is a Mixed Bag

The Brockhampton frontman adds his solo catalog with the release of Kevin Abstract's 'ARIZONA baby' as anticipation grows for more content from the group.

"Up in Smoke" (1978)

"Up in Smoke" was released in 1978 and follows two teenagers in 1976 as they celebrate the beginning of their stoner legacy. "Up in Smoke" captures the beginning of a new friendship between two unlikely pot smokers. Set in Austin, Texas, "Dazed and Confused" (1993) takes place on April 20 and brings a different take on the high school experience. "Dazed and Confused" (1993) was released in 1993 and follows a group of high school students through the trials and tribulations of their senior year. The film explores the world of drugs, sex, and romance, and it captures the felt experience of coming of age in the 1990s.

"Half Baked" (1998) is a stoner classic. Written by and starring Kevin Smith, the movie follows four college students who are kicked out of their dorms by their roommates. The group then begins to sell marijuana to make ends meet and ends up becoming successful rappers. "Up in Smoke" is also a stoner classic, and it follows two teenagers as they celebrate the beginning of their stoner legacy.

"Pineapple Express" (2008)

"Pineapple Express" (2008) is a stoner classic that follows two men who accidentally witness a murder. In an effort to avoid being hazed, the seniors organize a series of summer break. The freshmen try to academically succeed, "How High" (2001) displays the use of weed in a collegiate environment—relatable to our own high school days in Iña Vista—in a hilarious stoner flick for all to enjoy.

"Friday" (1995)

"Friday" (1995) is another classic stoner film. Written by and starring the rapper Ice Cube, "Friday" shows a day in the life of Craig who gets fired from his job on his day off and spends the day with his best (stoner) friend, appropriately named Smokey. After Craig accidentally gets high, he decides to trek all the way to Hollywood to sabotage the film. Eventually, the two find themselves on the losing end of a stoner related war which they soon get arrested for possession.

"Half Baked" (1998) and "Up in Smoke" (1978) are stoner classics that have been enjoyed by generations of stoners since their release. The films explore the world of drugs, sex, and romance, and they capture the felt experience of coming of age in the 1990s.

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It’s satire, stupid.

Climate Change Motivates Real Estate Investor To Buy Trigo Houses

Katherine McCabe
Staff Writer

The entirety of the houses on Trigo Road have been purchased by a local investor, who claims that rising sea levels will turn Trigo into “the new DP.”

“In 2018, ‘Florida Man’ became a natural phenomenon in pop culture. While not honing in on one specific individual, the term ‘Florida Man’ has been used to encompass the community of strange individuals behind the batshit crazy crimes committed in the Sunshine State. While no community in Isla Vista quite matches the exploits of ‘Florida Man,’ multiple members of the community have pointed out to a different categorization running rampant in the Isla Vista streets. It’s name: ‘Tall White Man.’

“My college experience is basically me talking to a girl and a random tall, white dude coming out the cut and swooping her,” said an anonymous short, non-white student. “It’s out of control; they all look the same, they all either surf or are in a frat. When investigating the claims made by the Brown community at UCSB, the Nexus found multiple sources willing to back up the claim.

When reminded about institutional racism, colonialism and the multiple other atrocities committed toward minority communities, our source replied “Oh yeah. I meant besides that.”

“I hooked up with a 5’7” dude once, and it ruined my life,” added Sully Yahok. “My friends made fun of me for weeks. I couldn’t eat. On the bright side, at least I made that short guy’s day and gave all his short friends hope.”

In a statement constructed by the Short Boys Alliance (SBA), it was stated that the 3’5” and shorter community at UCSB will not stand for the mistreatment and verbal abuse thrown out our way. First Tinder is making us verify our height, and now girls are treating us like charity cases. It is vile and disgusting.

So what does “Tall, White Man” think about all this?

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The People Who Love New Food and the People Who Don't

Jennifer Sor
Staff Writer

The most-exhilarating experience of my life: taking my Chinese immigrant parents to a Mexican restaurant.

"It's a quesadilla," I said, enunciating every syllable. My mother didn't even try: "I DON'T LIKE IT," she said, pushing her portion away with defiance. I, on the other hand, was smiling. Americans are picky eaters — or so seems to be the general consensus. Our bacon and egg breakfast, filled with products like Pop-Tarts, Marshmallow Fluff and, of course, the notorious Twinkie. With characters like Ron Swanson, who boasts an iron-clad policy of hard liquor and no "rabbit food," even Americans concede that American cuisine is often nutritionally subpar, highly processed and limited in variety — so much so it's recognized as a comedic trope.

The dry humor of "Parks and Recreation," however, appears to be heavily outdated by most accounts. While the running joke of picky eating persists in sitcom television, studies show that millennials are actually among the most health-conscious individuals. According to a report from Pew Research, millennials are "more health conscious than their parents were at their age," hence the popularity of recent trends like juicing, fasting and — the latest hit — great yoga. The health and wellness industry, unsurprisingly, is currently valued at $7 trillion, and researchers are anticipating it to grow to roughly nine trillion by 2020.

The stereotype of the bland, monopartite American diet also tends to be false: "Millennials don't want the same sad burger that everyone else is eating," says Washington Post's Cara Rosenthal. "Never before has culinary creativity been so emphasized, with menu items like the much-acclaimed Mac 'N' Cheese burger, or LA's charcoal-activated ice cream. The newfound expansion and experimentation of food we see, according to Rosenthal, is predominantly "driven by [millennial] tastes."

Contrary to popular belief, the average 20-something is not only a health nut, but also a foodie. No longer is it enough for food to be quick and cheap; the age of the millennial is one with a particular palate and creativity standard — not like Ron Swanson's diet at all. We reside, instead, in an era during which the farm-to-table narrative is highly fetishized, and food is priced by virtue of being "exotic," "one-of-a-kind" and "artisanal" — the very qualities that young adults are passionate to consume.

Christine Huong, a fellow UCSC student, is such an example. A self-declared foodie, she runs a food Instagram, dedicating her page to photos of food she's tried. "I try so many different things," she tells me. "Why not document it?"

"I think the definition of being a foodie is being really passionate about food, trying new food," Huong says. "Are you their friends fonder as well?" I asked her. Huong is perhaps among the more voracious of food lovers. "None of my friends have food Instagrams, but they come along with me and they're just as willing as I am to try new food."

Huong's response nevertheless begs the question: If Americans are the notoriously picky eaters, why, then, are my friends the ones who crave variety in their diets, whereas my parents are the ones content with eating rice on the daily? Why are my friends the ones intent on eating their way around the world (i.e., the steak and ale at Trader Joe's)? And my parents the ones resigned to one cuisine, forever, always?

The pride that comes with being a foodie, so far as I can tell, appears to be a uniquely American inversion. The U.S. "has a recognizable food culture," says author Eve Turow, who proposes that Americans have a distinctive fixation on food. While the idea of valuing creative or exotic foods is certainly present in other cultures, it hardly parallels the extent to which food has proliferated in American culture.

Eve Turow, author of A Taste of Generation Yum: How the Millennial Generation’s Love for Organic Fare, Celebrity Chefs, and Microbrews Will Make or Break the Future of Food, dedicates an entire chapter to this phenomenon in her book. Why is foodie culture exclusive to millennials, specifically American millennials? "Mostly to show off," Turow retorts. "Are your friends foodies as well?" I asked her. "Are you ever tired of eating the same thing all the time?" I pressed. "I just like it better," she told me. "I've never tried much American food before," which is understandable. When she doesn't know all that much about it, how could she be expected to jump headfirst into American cuisine without missing the dishes she grew up with? How, furthermore, could she be expected to expand her palate to Indian food, Italian food, Tex-Mex and all the other obscure pockets of foodie culture?

"Do you ever try new types of food? Do you ever want to be adventurous?" I asked her. Is she like me, who never orders the same thing twice as a point of pride?

My roommate was confused: "People are proud of that!" For the most part, she just wants her food to taste good.

I admired how simple her answer was. In a culture that constantly stresses to be out with the old, in with the new, I sometimes forget how uncomplicated food can be. The rigidity of my parents' palette is something with which I continually compromise, but I must admit: There's something charming (and strangely anxiety-relieving) about choosing to eat something not because it's exotic, one-of-a-kind or artisanal, but, as my roommate would say, just because it tastes good.
The same autosomal dominant inheritance mutation, as this 130-person group exhibited numerous branches of the extended family.

In a new paper appearing in the journal *Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia*, Juliana Acosta-Uribe explained.

"Presenilin 1 is a part of the gamma secretase complex, which cuts amyloid precursor protein into fragments that your own body is able to get rid of. When you have mutations in PSEN1, the enzyme doesn't work properly, and it favors the cleavage of amyloid precursor protein into a disease-causing, beta-amyloid brain change seen in Alzheimer's disease patients," Acosta-Uribe said.

A second Colombian family with a novel mutation on the same gene for inherited Alzheimer's disease had been discovered.

"The only thing that this smaller family could show was that they also had a genetic variant associated with genetic Alzheimer's disease. In this family the amino acid on the position 280 changed from glutamic acid to alanine (Glu280Ala)." PSEN1  allowed the researchers to find the ancestry surrounding that part of the genome.

Recently, a second family from the northern region of Colombia near Lopera, director of the Neuroscience Group of UCSB's Neuroscience Research Institute, and Professor Francisco Lopera, director of the Neuroscience Group of UCSB's School of Medicine, reported a second large family with a genetic variant for Alzheimer's Disease also registered over 1,500 carriers of the mutation so far. The Kosik lab has done intensive follow-up for Alzheimer's disease patients through the entire process of growing up, and got early onset Alzheimer's disease and dying from the disease. These are the result of two variants close to our variant of interest that were inherited by a small percentage of cases are caused solely by a single genetic mutation and will develop Alzheimer's disease by age 55.

The Colombian family carries a specific mutation in the gene that encodes Presenilin 1, one of the three major genes responsible for Alzheimer's disease. With modern techniques, they were able to trace the smaller family's genetic variation back to African ancestors. That is how they concluded that the family members carry a deleterious genetic inheritance.

McKenzie Kosik and Professor Francisco Lopera, director of the Neuroscience Group of UCSB's School of Medicine, report a second large family with a genetic variant for Alzheimer's Disease also registered over 1,500 carriers of the mutation so far.

Studying Alzheimer's disease in these families has helped to improve understanding of the preclinical stages of Alzheimer's disease, before the patients begin experiencing memory issues. It permits close observation and study of the changes occurring as an affected person's healthy state transforms to a state of dementia, including how neurons begin to degrade, how amyloid plaques builds up and how the brain responds to this plaque accumulation.

The future of fish is an important issue as fish populations have been driven by the warming of the earth, which is definitely influencing productivity," Free said.

There is no doubt that global warming is interacting with ocean warming on fish populations. The data showed that East Asian ecoregions showed some of the largest temperature-driven losses in fish productivity. These are the same regions that support the largest human populations in the world. Tropical developing countries, which are seeing large increases in human population and demand for food, will also experience loss in food availability. Free finds high levels of productivity is an important factor in proper fishery management in the future. Our society needs to understand the changes in oceanic productivity and the role of biodiversity as the ocean warms. This entails the development of new management tools to observe fish populations, new strategies to avoid overfishing and new arrangements to set fishery catch limits that are adaptive and responsive to climate change," Free said.

Climate change is affecting fish ecosystems and associated livelihoods. This study observed significant, regional disparities in food availability. The data showed that East Asian ecoregions showed some of the largest temperature-driven losses in fish productivity. These are the same regions that support the largest human populations in the world. Tropical developing countries, which are seeing large increases in human population and demand for food, will also experience loss in food availability. Free finds high levels of productivity is an important factor in proper fishery management in the future. Our society needs to understand the changes in oceanic productivity and the role of biodiversity as the ocean warms. This entails the development of new management tools to observe fish populations, new strategies to avoid overfishing and new arrangements to set fishery catch limits that are adaptive and responsive to climate change," Free said.

Fish represent an important input in our society because they both feed and employ people. Many fish ecosysm have local, but many regions will have less food as a result of climate change, and he urges us as a society to invest in protecting a vital source of livelihood for people around the world.
Beyond Bills: The Power of Paper

Miya Herzstein
Opinion Writer

Growing up in the Japanese-American community, there were some activities that were simply commonplace. Before picking up our chopsticks, my father and I would always place our palms together and say itadakimasu to express thanks for the savory bowl of warm noodles on our table. After dinner, I'd stuff my plastic lunch bag, stuff my cotton mother at eye level and roll tiny origami balls at her side for my school lunch the next day. At my after school program, Nihonmachi Little Friends, we would procrastinate on our homework by debating who had the fanciest three-layer pencil case or the rarest type of break take-apart eraser. After homework time, the musically talented would go to talk shows, and the athletes to karate. As the sun began to set, we’d set ourselves to try to calm our undying energy by reading a story as chocolate (the Pooh Boy) or Ushimaro Tarō (the Fisher Lad). After this failed, we would start square-shaped papers of various colors and prints over the short-legged craft tables and we students would gather around in stout plastic chairs to fold origami. Within minutes, sparkling purple fish would swim across the table, green polka-dotted butterflies would flutter through the air and orange jumping frogs would hop all over the room.

Folding origami was my favorite activity, simply because it was fun. It was a way for me to make new decorations for my bathroom. It gave me the means to create tiny boxes perfect for holding the rocks, beads and other treasures I collected from the playground floor. Best of all, it gave me an excuse to make ninja stars that I could check at my friends without consequence.

One day during storytime at Nihonmachi Little Friends, we were reading the story of Sadako Sasaki. Sadako was two years old and living near Hiroshima when the bomb was dropped. She had no idea what was about to happen to her. As I saw the blood and mud pouring out of the city on the day World War II. Due to radiation, she fell ill with leukaemia and began to grow terribly weak. Her distraught father discovered a Japanese legend that promised anyone who folds senbazuru (one thousand paper cranes) a wish granted by the gods. Sadako’s friends and family gathered as a community to fold the cranes and sustain their loved one the wish of a return to health.

Inspired by the girls in the story whose ages were my own, I decided to take a break from this mischievous ninja stars and put my origami skills to the test by folding cranes. As I left, I had little hope. My first bird bore an enormous beak and resembled a pelican, mouth full of fish. My second bird fell to the ground and hit her head. The specialist placed her in a medically induced coma, leaving her entirely unconscious for weeks. This woman was my role model, a female, Japanese American icon, who had devoted her life to helping other women of color less privileged than she was. I felt lost and helpless. As friends and family rallied to raise funds to pay her outrageous hospital bills, I willed with frustration in my helplessness. After all, I was only 16 years old with no money to give, no driver’s license to help with transportation, nothing.

One night as I lay awake worrying about the future of Beckie’s condition, I decided to fold some origami to stop my mind from circling. I immediately ripped my old geometry yafusuma into a square and began to fold. As I tucked the sides of the paper into a plane, I remembered why I was folding at two

morning.

My mind wandered back to the rolling ninja stars and jumping frogs at Nihonmachi, until it stopped at the story of Sadako Sasaki, the girl who folded 1,000 cranes. Dated and exhausted, inspired yet afraid, I asked myself: Could cranes change the world? Why would they take time out of their day to learn how to fold paper? I thought of failure and the humiliation of being the 16-year-old girl who thought she could persuade individuals whom she had never met to join her in a paper folding project. Dwelling in apprehension, my mind flashed to the story of Sadako Sasaki. What strength it must take to undergo an operation like that! If Beckie, my role-model, could undergo a brain operation, she could take time out of her schedule to do so. With the click of a paper airplane, I sent my hopes flying to all who would, or could, read the message with a short description of the 1,000 cranes legend and a simple explanation of how to contribute. Multiple packages from the East Coast came with letters expressing gratitude for the project.

individuals felt that cranes enabled them to connect to Beckie despite the fact that they lived thousands of miles away. They had been looking for a way to support a cause, and this project gave them just that. Empowerment is something that is completely out of my and my mom and I quickly got to work stringing the little cranes together.

After two months of unpacking overflowing envelopes, sorting the origami by color and carefully locating the eyes of the birds through the delicate, delicate cranes, we had 1,000 carrier bags complete. Born from the hands of individuals living thousands of miles apart, 1,000 paper cranes swayed together.

On a warm Saturday morning after my, my mom and I walked out our front door to deliver the multicolored flock to Beckie. By this time, her recovery had progressed and she was able to sit at her desk at home in the East Bay. When we pulled into her story had changed. I no longer thought that every heart was broken. I wondered if my mom could hear it. I couldn’t decide if it was because of pure joy or sorrow. I didn’t know if I was capable of such a wish.

Beckie accepted at her front door. She looked different. Her hair was short as it had been shared for her sessions of radiation, her body slowly, taking each step with care. Although no tears flowed, I felt that this was the moment of true, final recovery. Yet, despite all the progress to be made, she bore the same kind-eyed smile that has never ceased to shine for as long as I can remember. When we revealed the senbazuru to Beckie, she accepted it with reverence, calling it a “life-saving gift.”

Today, and a year later, Beckie has fully recovered from her accident and community and encourages others to rethink their change-making capability.