Suffolk University’s second Celebration of Black Excellence Dinner on Friday night showcased those who exemplify black excellence in the Suffolk community, and what this term really means.

“Black excellence is not limited to a particular category of people,” said keynote speaker Serge Georges Jr. to the 200 faculty, alumni, students and their families after they settled into the candle-lit tables of the Empire Ballroom at Courtyard by Marriott Boston Downtown.

See DINNER - 5

QSU brings awareness to National Coming Out Day

The Stoll Room in the Sawyer building was decorated with lavender tablecloths, balloons and lights. Both the Chicago Pride Flag, which features six colors of the rainbow as well as black and brown, and the Transgender Pride Flag were on display for Suffolk University’s Queer Student Union (QSU)’s celebration of this year’s National Coming Out Day Luncheon.

See QSU- 3
The Suffolk Journal welcomes information regarding errors that call for correction. Information can be sent to suffolkjournal@gmail.com.
Queer Student Union hosts National Coming Out Day Luncheon at Suffolk University

Phoebe Adams / Copy Editor

Adriana Cano and David Roche, both sophomores and general members of QSU, agreed with Kelly’s message of supporting the LGBTQ+ community. “It’s important as a community to have events like this because everybody wants to support the LGBTQ+ community,” said Cano in an interview with The Journal. “But actually having events where students and faculty share their stories just makes it so much more personal to the community.”

“I felt like everyone’s stories were personal but also resonated,” said Roche in an interview with The Journal. “It felt nice. It was uplifting, positive stories.”

National Coming Out Day is observed annually on Oct. 11, but the luncheon hasn’t always been associated with National Coming Out Day. The change came this year, when QSU made the decision to rename the event from Spirit Day Luncheon. However, QSU hasn’t gotten rid of Spirit Day altogether; choosing instead to celebrate it in April. Suffolk celebrates LGBTQ+ Pride Month during April, since school is out of session in June. While the event was a celebration of a life-changing day for many members of the LGBTQ+ community, it was also a chance to educate and inform attendees of an ongoing issue that still persists today.

QSU President Kaitlin Hahn, who holds both she/her and they/them pronouns, spoke about the three cases currently in the Supreme Court that deal with the question of discrimination in jobs with both sexual orientation and gender, specifically within the LGBTQ+ community. The ruling on these cases, could potentially gut existing protections against LGBTQ+ people and set a precedent of approval of bigotry against LGBTQ+ people,” said Hahn to attendees.

Hahn ended the ceremony with a reminder to attendees to reflect on the overall purpose of celebrating National Coming Out Day. “I hope the luncheon today can remind everyone that even if you aren’t out, have been out for awhile, or whatever your story is, this is your day too.”

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Black Studies minor ushers in 25th year at Suffolk

Gabrielle Delgado
Journal Contributor

This year, Suffolk celebrates the 25th anniversary of the Black Studies Program. The anniversary will come with a year-long celebration, which started at the Celebration of Black Excellence on Friday. The minor started in 1993 by Professor Robert Bellinger.

“The Black Studies minor is significant because it studies black people in the world. For example, their perspective, their history, their culture and their effect on society,” said Berlie Dejean, a senior at Suffolk, in an interview with The Suffolk Journal. “It can apply to any major you’re in and is not exclusive to black studies.”

Students taking these courses are given the opportunity to immerse themselves in black culture. First studying Introduction to Black Studies I and II, then choosing three electives to earn credits for the minor. Students in the minor have been able to take courses covering topics like the history of Senegal and bussing in Boston. Gaelle Gourgues, who graduated from Suffolk in 1997, said Black Studies and its founder, Associate History Professor Robert Bellinger, had a profound impact on her.

“[Professor Bellinger] changed my life,” said Gourgues in an interview with The Journal. “He taught African American History and I went around wanting to change the world after that class.”

The affiliations of the program include the Museum of African American History, Boston African American Historic Site through the National Park Service and the Owel Tradition Project. Students from any background are encouraged to take these courses, as it can give students an in-depth understanding of black culture and the world around them.

Those in the minor have access to Suffolk’s collection of African American literature in the Sawyer Library. The collection is comprised of more than 5,000 volumes and periodicals of work by black authors.

Mardochee Sylvestre, a junior at Suffolk University and vice president of the Black Student Union, is also taking courses in the Black Studies minor.

“You get to learn more from an Afrocentric perspective,” said Sylvestre in an interview with The Journal. “You are able to choose what interests you.”

Dejean said a student’s major can often correlate with the Black Studies Program.

As a Biology major taking Black Studies, Professor Bellinger has shown me many black scientists that were part of many research discoveries, so it has helped me feel more connected [to my field],” said Dejean.

The Black Studies minor requirements include classes like West African History Through Film and Literature and the History of Black Music in America. For more information on the program, go to www.suffolk.edu and search Black Studies minor.

This week in SGA...

In the coming weeks, SGA senators will likely vote on several more resolutions that concern the push to arm Suffolk University Police Officers (SUPD).

Logan Casey, senator for the New England School of Art and Design (NESAD), plans to bring a resolution to senators that could repeal last year’s 23-11 vote by SGA to support the arming of SUPD.

Casey outlined what the resolution could entail in a document he shared with SGA senators last week. On top of repealing last year’s vote, Casey called for the discussion surrounding the issue to be reopened and for SGA’s subcommittees to further research the impact of arming campus police officers.

He wrote in the document that “this repeal of last year’s resolution should not be viewed as reactionary against a set of ideologies and beliefs, but rather a reaction to the lack of evidence placed into [last year’s] resolutions and the lack of consent given to the student body.”

“I wasn’t in SGA last year, so I don’t have all of the information about the issue of arming,” said Casey at SGA’s Oct. 3 meeting. “That’s why I’m asking right now for senators to help me with this.”

In response to Casey, Kostas Loukos, Class of 2021 senator and author of last year’s resolution, said he will bring two resolutions to the Senate floor concerning the issue of arming.

The first resolution would require SGA to post all resolutions on social media before they are voted on so students can read them and share their opinions on them. The second would reaffirm last year’s SGA vote to arm SUPD.

“More than what we wait to make a decision on arming SUPD, the greater chance of a Suffolk University student being harmed,” said Loukos at the meeting. “I don’t think that anyone wants that.”

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Senators also discussed potential sustainability resolutions at the Oct. 3 meeting. Casey said he plans to help SGA ban single use plastics in Sodexo’s facilities on campus by fall 2020.

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Suffolk University celebrates second annual Black Excellence Dinner

From DINNER - 1

“It’s varied and it’s vast, and it’s not limited to academic performance, or your professional enhancements, or what address you live at, and whether or not you speak improper grammar,” said Georges.

“This celebration is an important example of the strengthening of the ties that are so essential to Suffolk and its future.”

Kelly honored the 25th anniversary of the university’s Black Studies program and its founder, associate history Professor Robert Bellinger, at the event.

Bellingher was honored as the College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Faculty member at the Black Excellence Dinner in 2018.

“[Bellinger has] been a positive force at Suffolk University for over 30 years,” said Kelly. “He has been a pioneer, a trailblazer, a teacher, a mentor and a leader in developing the Black Studies program and in bringing to Suffolk students a wealth of knowledge and experience in black history and black culture.

“On the 25th anniversary of the Black Studies program, we celebrate you,” Kelly said to Bellinger at the event.

Representatives from the celebration’s planning committee and other campus organizations that helped put on the event, including Suffolk’s Black Alumni Network, Black Law Students Association and Black Student Union, welcomed the five honorees.

Suffolk Dean of Students Shawn Newton received the university’s Outstanding Faculty/Staff Award, while Suffolk Law School Dean of Students Office Coordinator Rosa Urena was given the same award for Suffolk Law.

Roxann Cooke, EMBA ’16, is a regional and managing director for JPMorgan Chase Bank and received the Sawyer Business School Outstanding Alumni Award.

Criminal justice lawyer Damian Wilmot, JD ’00, was given an Outstanding Suffolk Law Alumni Award, research entomologist Daniel Impoinvil, BS ’99, received the College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Alumni Award.

For senior Vanessa Vega, president of the Suffolk acappella group Soulfully Versed, the night was also a chance to celebrate current students. She and her group sang a rendition of “Killing Me Softly” at the beginning of the celebration.

“[Being able to perform here] shows that we’re important to the school, that they actually care about our voices and that they want to continue to see us succeed,” said Vega in an interview with The Suffolk Journal. “This also shows new students that [excellence] is something you can achieve. This is something you can strive for.”

Assad Lyn, JD ’15, attended Friday’s celebration to meet and reconnect with other Suffolk graduates.

“It’s important to foster community, and it’s important to remind people that these places and these events exist,” said Lyn in an interview with The Journal. “It’s important for people of color to know you exist, ban together and help each other out.”

To Georges, this sentiment is the key to black excellence. He said in his speech that people of color must respect every achievement of those in their community, whether they be lawyers and doctors, or bus drivers and lunch ladies.

“Despite all of the individual and collective professional and educational achievement in this room, we can’t allow ourselves to think that [black excellence is exclusionary],” said Georges. “To do so would assume that we have to be distinguished amongst ourselves that perhaps you have to be better than other black people. And that isn’t true. That’s never true.”

Suffolk Board of Trustees member Ernest Guerrier called for alumni at the event to donate to the school and help provide opportunity for Suffolk students of color.

“I came to this place without really a definition of what it is I want to do. But I found a community that accepted me, that received me, that allowed me to grow, but that was done by the generosity of many folks well before me that gave to Suffolk,” said Guerrier in a speech at the event. “Folks, I’ve never forgotten that.”

Guerrier said he would match the first $5,000 donated to the university during the celebration.

“Black excellence means that we are all in this together,” said Georges. “We won’t climb over one another in that bucket trying to get out, but we will walk together with each other to help us all get there.”
Caribbean expo emphasizes need for healthcare reform in Dominican Republic

Jewelry display at Caribbean Culture, Cuisine & Art Expo in Roxbury

Kallen Bowers
Journal Contributor
@BowersKallen

Members of the Boston Caribbean community danced, sang and celebrated this past Saturday in the 3rd Annual Caribbean Culture, Cuisine and Art Expo in Roxbury. Along with sharing music and food, the event raised money for the Dominican Health and Education Initiative (DAHEI), an organization committed to health-related initiatives in the Dominican Republic.

The energy in the building was high as audiences were treated to a traditional drumming performance and could sample traditional Caribbean food from local caterers. Jerk style chicken, fish cakes and fruit juices were the most popular at the event.

On display were handmade dolls by entrepreneur Wldine Pyrame, founder of Fusion Dolls. The company seeks to create dolls to promote diversity around the world.

"Through my vision of inclusion for all children wanting to identify with something special to them, Fusion Dolls was created," Prayme writes on her website, FusionDolls.com. The dolls that feature traditional Haitian clothing were some of the favorites of the children attending the event.

There were many other Caribbean owned businesses at the expo such as travel agencies, jewelry makers and clothing designers.

Gammie Moses, an artist who teaches music in New Haven, Conn. shared poetry centered around environmental issues and Caribbean pride. Members of the audience dressed in traditional Caribbean clothing like long dresses adorned with ribbons and lace and brightly colored head wraps. Dr. Annette C. Fontaine, founder of DAHEI and a prominent oncologist from Albuquerque, flew in for the event to give the keynote speech. Fontaine started DAHEI in 2014 after seeing the lack of healthcare being offered on her home island of Dominica.

"We are facing a serious health crisis in my home of Dominica," Fontaine said during her presentation, "and it starts with a lack of access to healthcare." According to data collected by Fontaine, the Caribbean has the 3rd highest rate of death by prostate cancer in the world. Her initiative is focused on setting up cancer screening clinics in Dominica.

Her most recent project is a mobile mammogram bus program that brings cancer screening technology to those who cannot travel to clinics inside the city. She asked the audience not only to donate to the cause, but to offer any expertise that they might have to expand the program.

After the recent devastation caused by Hurricane Dorian in the Caribbean, donation tables were set up collecting bottled water, blankets and letters to those displaced by the natural disaster. Businesses like Fusion Dolls and clothing maker Ju-Ju’s Ideal Old Fashioned Fashion Treats commit a portion of their revenue to support the relief effort across the Caribbean.

Fontaine expressed that this was a true community-led effort, giving out her personal cell phone and email to those with specific medical questions.

The event ended with prayer and a song in which there was full audience participation. Engaged through A technical difficulty caused the audio track to stop, but the audience sang regardless in harmony, proud of the culture they hold so dearly.

HELP WANTED:
Interested in foreign policy, global climate, or have an international perspective to share? Contact the world news team!
suffolkworldnews@gmail.com

SUFFOLK CLIMATE WATCH

Olivia Acevedo
Journal Contributor
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The Amery Ice Shelf experienced its largest break-off in 50 years when a 347 billion ton iceberg fell off the third largest ice shelf in Antarctica, according to CBS News. The iceberg, identified as D-28, is larger than Los Angeles and equal to about 27 Manhattan Islands.

The iceberg, spreading over nearly 1,000 square miles of ice, separated from East Antarctica and was discovered by glaciologist, Helen Fricker, according to CBS. The separation itself took place on Sept. 26 near the “Loose Tooth,” a famous location on the continent.

For nearly 20 years, scientists from the Scripps Institution of Oceanography and Australian Antarctic Program, have been watching over the “Tooth,” expecting to see some kind of break years ago. USA Today mentions that although it took some time, a tear was noticed in the early 2000’s and a fall was predicted between 2010 and 2015. Since the prediction was anticipated by scientists for almost two decades, they are eager to see what comes next.

“I am excited to see this calving event after all these years. We knew it would happen eventually,” said Fricker, NBC reports. The coldest environment on Earth is beginning to warm, and many are blaming climate change as the cause. By the end of this century, the continent is predicted to warm over five degrees fahrenheit.

“The calving will not directly affect sea level because the ice shelf was already floating, much like an ice cube in a glass of water,” said Glaciologist Ben Galton-Fenzi, according to USA.

Many think this is due to climate change. Sea levels have been rising because of ice melting in the continent. However, scientists were quick to dismiss this idea of having to do with such an international crisis.

Fricker stated this is part of an ice shelf’s cycle. The normality leads for events like these to happen every 60-70 years. Scientists belonging to the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies say they do not believe the event is linked with climate change.
Bahrain Ambassador visit provokes conversation on campus

Chris Sadrnoori
Journal Staff

Every seat on the 5th floor commons at Sargent Hall was filled Monday afternoon, as the Ambassador of Bahrain, Sheikh Abdullah bin Rashid Al Khalifa, spoke to the Suffolk community. With videos recording and cameras flashing, this proved a rare opportunity for students and faculty to engage in conversation with a world diplomat.

Bahrain is a small island nation in the Persian Gulf, just off the coast of Saudi Arabia. With fewer than 1.5 million inhabitants, Bahrain's population is comparable to New Hampshire's.

Many young Bahrainis have traveled to the United States to attend Suffolk University, now home to a considerable concentration of Bahraini students.

Perhaps that's why Ambassador Al Khalifa chose Suffolk to speak on U.S.-Bahrain relations and the importance of communication. His responses were often personal and concise.

Cousins, Ahmed and Abdul Al-Khalifa, a sophomore and senior at Suffolk, also attended the event.

“We are very proud that His Excellency has shown up today and this week, representing, first of all, our country, and for representing us Bahraini students at Suffolk University,” said Ahmed in an interview.

“His visit proves his eagerness for us to succeed academically and professionally,” the student continued. “His visits help us students and gives us motivation through times when it’s hard.”

After his presentation ended and the cameras stopped rolling, Ambassador Al Khalifa stayed behind, personally meeting anyone who wished to speak with him. He greeted each person individually with a smile, handshake and even a selfie.

“It’s important to engage in conversation with the students and listen to what they have to say,” Ambassador Al Khalifa told the Journal in an interview. “In the diplomatic core, talk is very limited, whereas in an environment like this, anything is up for grabs, and so for me as a diplomat, to go back to Washington, hearing some of the questions that normally I wouldn’t hear is very engaging and very stimulating.”

President Marisa Kelly was also in attendance. She told the Journal she believes opening this kind of dialogue is important to her and is the kind of opportunity she wants to make available for students in the future.

“The learning that takes place when students meet students from other countries is really phenomenal,” said Kelly in an interview. “There are so many things we can do to ensure that conversation student to student is happening and the engagement across cultural lines is happening. The bigger picture of having someone like the ambassador come, further strengthens the visibility of Suffolk in Bahrain and strengthens the opportunity for a greater engagement as we move forward.”
Junior Olivia Lapolla was inspired to study abroad after participating in the Global Gateway Program to Madrid, Spain. Her love for Europe drove her to spend her fall semester in Rome, Italy, exploring her passions of art, architecture and history. Being Italian herself, Olivia has enjoyed getting to know her family's origins and culture first-hand. Her study abroad experience has emphasized her sense of bravery and self-growth. She looks forward to interacting with and learning more about other cultures along the rest of her journey abroad.
Boston University hosts performers from around the world during Global Music Festival

Audiences gathered this weekend for a series of concerts performed by musicians of all genres from countries across the globe.
Two years ago, The Journal wrote a story on the rebranding of Suffolk University’s contemporary music group, formerly known as “Rhythm,” into something a bit more personal: The Common. Now, the group has graduated from performances at “First Fridays” on the third floor of Sawyer to packed venues in the heart of Somerville.

Having recently renamed themselves to “Somerset,” a callback to their roots, the band released their first self-titled album on Sept. 24. To celebrate the release of their album, Somerset played their new songs live at Somerville’s Thunder Road Music Club. A crowd of fans, family and friends filled the club to bang their heads and feel the raw beat of band that they were used to during their time at Suffolk.

Somerset has come a long way from playing popular covers and graduated into the world of rock and roll. There was no scarcity of fire in every guitar lick and fierce drum solo from the beginning to the end of the set.

Electricity filled the air as Groundlfit, a Berklee-based rock band, took the stage to open the show. After the performance in April at the Improv Asylum comedy club. Although the group wrapped up activities on Sept. 24 and had been together for less than two weeks, they formed an hour long show that kept the crowd laughing all the way through.

The group held a casual vibe by staying on book, letting themselves laugh off any stutters or nervous jitters with the ease of having made the script in their hands. The 14-person troupe welcomed seven new members after auditions, so this show was their opportunity for an icebreaker.

“I thought it was comfortable because [the older members] understand the whole nerve part of it,” freshman psychology major and new Who’s Askin’ member Sarah Davids said in an interview with The Suffolk Journal after the show. “They kind of helped us calm down and told us how it was going to go and how we were going to feel.”

New members were already familiar with some of the sketches they performed on Sunday because they were used during auditions, as sophomore broadcast journalism major and new Who’s Askin’ member Kayla Dalton explained.

“I was just hoping that people would laugh,” Dalton said in an interview with The Journal. “I was nervous that nothing was going to translate because obviously we had heard [the sketches] a few times, so we know it’s funny, but we’re not laughing at it anymore out loud.”

“Sketches began with a girl who could not stop mispronouncing words, not matter how common they were. Later, actors showed the audience the fatal difference between a five-star rated and a one-star rated Uber driver. By the end, the crowd watched as a group of unpopular people took a class on becoming “less trash human beings” and how to avoid social awkwardness in everyday scenarios.

Who’s Askin’ met twice a week to go over scripts prior to the Slam Dunk show, making sure not to overdo rehearsal time. The cast is still building chemistry with each other, but they are doing so naturally and will keep bonding throughout the season.

As Who’s Askin’ continues working this semester, they plan on debuting more original sketches. New members said that they are looking forward to diving into the writing process and creating sketches for future performances.

I have a couple cool ideas that I think are going to go over well,” Davids said.

Who’s Askin’ will have its next performances on Oct. 25 and 26.
When you think of famous Whiteny music, many attribute the name to the award winning soul artist from Newark, NJ, not the indie soul band band from Chicago. However, if you strolled by the Royale Tuesday night, you would have seen a line of people out the door and forgot for one night that there once was another Whitney in the industry. Many dressed in mom jeans, Doc Martens and jean jackets waited excitedly on Tremont St. for a show full of soothing music.

Shortly after the breakup of Smith Westerns in 2014, drummer Julien Kakacek decided to form Whitney, where they became an instant sensation in the Chicago-metro area. In 2016, the release of their first single “No Woman” was so successful that it earned itself “airtime” in Starbucks featured playlists that play in every store in the country. Their album “Light Upon the Lake” became so popular that they earned spots in many festival lineups, including Boston Calling.

Since their set at Boston Calling in 2017, where only a fraction of their first single “No Woman,” they have been drumming up excitement here on the East Coast slowly since then, graduating from venues like Great Scott and The Sinclair to the “big” stage at The Royale. Their unique sound could be contributed to this success, and without a doubt, their individuality has made them stand out in the indie scene.

“It’s their live performance that makes them different from other indie groups! They bring in more traditional instruments from your typical boy band,” Suffolk senior Luk said in an interview with The Suffolk Journal.

“Our sound is unique, for one of many reasons, in that Ehrlic is also the lead singer, and the drums are the focal point of the show. Not many bands do this, mostly because, well, it’s hard. For some drummers, even singing backup is challenging, let alone carrying all of the vocals, but Ehrlic makes it look as if he was born to be center stage slamming on the snare. The guitarist Kakacek played so intently that you could tell the only person in the world at that moment were him and his guitar. Pianist Malcom Brown couldn’t keep himself from jumping out of his seat excitedly with a beaming smile that argued loudly lit up the stage more than the lights raining down on them. You could tell this was a group of people who genuinely love music, and the crowd was just as in love. Whitney knows the music mechanics of a great show, but one thing that could have been better would have been better stage visuals. While it is undoubtedly hard to prance around a small stage with 11 people, to provide a more rounded experience, it would have been great to see moving visuals. Their back ground curtain was their dimly lit album cover, which was to be fair, beautifully painted, but had more room for improvement. It would have been nice to see moving visuals on the curtain as it pertains to certain songs to give fans something more diverse to look at while bobbing and swaying to the instruments.

However, while the visuals may not have been up to par, there is no doubt the song choice for the tour was expertly picked to match the peaks and lows every concert has. More than half of the songs they chose were from their more popular album “Light Upon the Lake,” rather than their latest album “Forever Turned Around,” which proved to be a great idea as it engaged the crowd to sing along for a majority of the concert.

They ended the concert with “Valleys (My Love),” their latest single, but not before teaching the entire crowd the chorus and simple arm waves so they could sing and dance along to the song that would conclude their night at the Royale.

Whitney’s new album “Forever Turned Around” is out on all streaming platforms, and their music video for “Valleys (My Love)” is out on Youtube.
Most people probably don’t know about the early civilization of Nubia, which bordered and was obscured by Egypt. This civilization has been misrepresented for thousands of years, and the Museum of Fine Arts (MFA) is trying to shed light on what this culture was truly about.

The MFA’s “Ancient Nubia Now” exhibit focuses on the forgotten kingdom, now located in modern-day Sudan, will open on Oct. 13. The museum has over 400 objects on display from Ancient Nubia, boasting the largest and most important collection from this civilization next to Sudan itself. The exhibit contains plenty of pottery, jewelry, statues of Nubian kings and queens on display, showing just how important they were in this ancient culture.

Nubia was home to a series of kingdoms in the Nile valley that prospered for more than 3,000 years. There are currently no written records from this time about the Nubians, though curators have discovered that they had their own written, and later spoken language. As of today, scholars are still trying to translate and understand their native tongue.

This civilization has been misrepresented and overcooked for centuries. Part of this due to their rivalry with ancient Egypt, which the exhibit states that Nubia was considered one of Egypt’s enemies.

Many of ancient Nubia’s artifacts were originally mistaken for Egyptian artifacts. A large portion of this exhibit is dedicated to separating these two civilizations and correcting the misrepresentation of Nubia. Some claim Egyptians and archaeologists have obscured Nubia’s history, and the exhibit aims to reassess their perspective. Nubians offered great contributions to other civilizations along the Nile, and the MFA offers a chance to look at the heritages of this civilization in depth.

The MFA partnered with Harvard University to perform some of the first Nubian excavation processes, which took place from 1913 to 1932 in Sudan. Visitors will find that the exhibit has a whole room dedicated highlighting the excavation processes with exact time lines, field journals, cigarette boxes and books.

The “Ancient Nubia Now” exhibit will be on display from Oct. 13 to Jan. 20 in the Ann and Graham Gund gallery. General admission to the MFA is free with a valid Suffolk student ID.

This is Langlais’ first time writing a one act play, but she has had experience directing through her classes at Suffolk and a summer internship with the Commonwealth Shakespeare Company where she was the assistant director for “A Midsummer Night’s Dream.”

Langlais said she wants her actors and directing style to be “more than just me talking at them, more of a collaborative process.”

The student director said her enthusiastic cast members would show up to rehearsals ready and with new ideas for the show and that made the process easier and better for everyone involved.

Langlais’ show is set in different locations, like the desert. The passage of time is another component of her play, so she decided to have no set. With her show being in the middle of the shootout, she felt props would be easier than trying to get set pieces on.

“It’s an interesting challenge for the actors to take the bare stage and do something with it,” Langlais said.

Ryan described “Play” as an “absurdist comedy, about self-identity and what it means to be art and breaking through the expectations placed on people and pieces of art both from the general world and artistic community, to be a certain way.”

Ryan’s play was originally written as a three-person scene for a class that evolved over time. She was interested in the concept and saw how she could expand on it, adding that her “own internal chaos inspired it.”

As she describes herself and her show as chaotic, she brings that into rehearsals by having a care-free environment and incorporating the nine actors’ own emotions towards themselves, each other and the space itself. When the characters encounter extra-terrestrial aliens, Langlais’ love for true crime podcasts influences the storyline. Her inspiration came from her father. He loves anything to do with aliens, such as the TV show “Ancient Aliens,” so she decided to combine their interests in “Area 51.”
ON
OPINION

Supreme Court divide prompts nationwide discussion

On Tuesday morning, the United States Supreme Court looked over three cases which involve Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The cases are Bostock v. Clayton County, Ga. and Altitude Express v. Zarda. The other case is R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Homes v. EEOC. This act states how no person shall be discriminated against on the basis of sex, with this case particularly involving the workplace. This issue, is “one of the most significant facing the court this term,” according to the Washington Post. This case and its arguments are putting people and their identities at risk, not only for the individually arguing in the Supreme Court but for those who identify as LGBTQ+ nationwide. Today starts a federal-level discussion about how sex discrimination in employment applies to sexual orientation and gender identity. This is the first time the words “transgender,” “cisgender,” and “they” as a singular pronoun were used in the Supreme Court. By making Title VII include all of the LGBTQ+ community, it hopefully will not be the last. The Supreme Court right now is made up of four left-leaning judges and five right-leaning judges. The goal for those defending the LGBT+ folks to be able to convince one of the conservative judges that discrimination on the basis of sex, also includes sexual orientation and gender identity.

In 2015, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ruled that queer and transgender individuals are federally protected stating, “Treating a man who is attracted to men differently from a woman who is attracted to men is discrimination” — something lost on Trump’s administration. Across all platforms, there has been a serious lack of coverage of this very important issue, which could affect the near 15 million Americans who identify as queer in the U.S. due to information from the 2017 Gallup Poll and World Meters. This lack of information and lack of knowledge leads to intolerance which is the source of issues such as employment discrimination reaching to the Supreme Court level. We as Editors of The Suffolk Journal, along with the State of Massachusetts, do not tolerate discrimination of employment against LGBTQ+ people. Our organization strives to provide unbiased, informative news to the community while covering events and issues that normally would not make headlines in mainstream media outlets. As journalists, we ensure that each week we commit to our job of distributing vital information that impacts all students and faculty, not just a target few.

The Journal editors implore you to keep yourself informed on issues that may not have a direct impact on you and your life, but perhaps more importantly, to the lives of those around you. Knowledge about topics such as these promotes discussions that help propel our local community towards equality and inclusivity.

Supreme Court divide prompts nationwide discussion

Reasonable Solutions to Climate Change in an Age of Hysteria

Climate change was all the rage at last month’s United Nations (U.N.) General Assembly. Highlighted by a speech from 16-year-old Swedish activist Greta Thunberg, environmentalists were quick to chastise world leaders for “ignoring science” and insisting on “eternal economic growth,” but were reluctant to provide any reasonable solutions to resolve our climate conundrum.

A perfect example of this phenomenon can be found in the rhetoric of Ms. Thunberg at the U.N. Her cries of “How dare you!” create a good vs. evil dichotomy in which those that agree with the most radical climate change policies are listened to. Holding a position less radical or “urgent” than Thunberg’s is not tolerated, and people espousing those beliefs are castigated as ignoring our humanity’s forthcoming “mass extinction.” At 16 years old, Thunberg should be encouraged to change her rhetoric; to borrow a modern phrase, “canceled.” Hyperbolic language aside, in the next 40 to 50 years, we will begin to experience some negative effects if the Earth continues to warm at its current rate. This begs the question, exactly what can we do to stave off or eliminate the threats we face from a warming planet? Are there any solutions that will help to mitigate some of climate change’s effects while not dramatically decrease our standard of living? Though the answer to those questions is not entirely certain, there looks to be at least a plausible way to reach an answer of “yes.”

I will preface these recommendations with the following caveat. It is highly unlikely that any of these policies would make a sizeable difference in stopping climate change if they were not implemented and enforced on an international level, with serious consequences for violators. As much as we would like to think otherwise, the national interests of other nations do not necessarily match American national interests (take Vladimir Putin’s stated position of climate change being a “good thing” for Russia as an example). A worldwide tax on carbon consumption is a solution that conserva- tives and liberals alike can make sense of. As Nobel Prize winning economist William Nordhaus suggests in his book “The Climate Casino” a per-tax of $25-$35 on CO2 could be a solution that solves the political and philosophical issues associated with common climate change solutions. A carbon tax may be a solution that conservatives can get on board with as it regulates climate change in a manner similar to the way businesses and individuals are punished for pollution; if you create an externality, you pay the price. Conservatives abide by the principle that the only role of government in a free market is to reg- ulate externalities. With climate change, the externalities of a warmer Earth promise every minute of the impeachment trial

We aren’t in the Framer’s America any more, toto.

In one of her most recent tweets, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) said, “Once again, [Donald Trump] has called on a foreign country to interfere in our elections just the latest example of him putting his personal political gain ahead of defending the integrity of our elections. #TruthExposed.” Because of his nature, Trump will not admit that he betrayed the country, even if he manages to contradict himself. This impeachment process could go many different ways. Most of them put him back into office regardless of an externality, you pay the price. Conservatives abide by the principle that the only role of government in a free market is to regulate externalities. With climate change, the externalities of a warmer Earth

Trump deserves every minute of the impeachment trial

Mol Webber Journal Contributor @MolWebber

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Ames hotel will not provide same experience for on-campus students

Julia Ahaesy
Journal Contributor @juliaahaesy

One of Suffolk University’s primary attractions is its lively location in the heart of Boston. Yet, with this location comes difficulty finding a place to house all of its students. Suffolk attempted to tackle this challenge by purchasing the Ames Hotel building, as The Suffolk Journal recently reported.

This was a very poor decision. The residence hall at 1047 Commonwealth Ave is a great loss, as it housed more students and provided accommodations that no other residence hall owned by Suffolk can, such as in-unit laundry and state-of-the-art kitchens.

Suffolk will not renew its two-year lease on the 1047 residential hall, and instead officially purchased the Ames Hotel building for $63.5 million. With the loss of 1047, Suffolk students will be losing a great opportunity that the Ames building cannot make up for.

The newly acquired building will provide less accommodation than the 1047 residential hall which is able to house up to 380 students, while the Ames building will only house 266 students. The Journal reported. Interest in on-campus housing has increased, along with on-campus occupancy rates.

According to the Department of Neighborhood Development within the city of Boston, “Since 2013, the number of undergradu ate students housed on-campus has increased by slightly more than 1,600 students, an increase of 3.9%.” With the increased interest for housing and the decrease in availability, more students will be turned away and forced to live off-campus.

It is very difficult to find off-campus housing, especially when still adjusting to a new school; many Suffolk students even transfer in after their first year. As we all know, housing is hard to come by and extremely expensive in Boston. With on-campus housing, students do not need to worry about the long, troublesome process of finding roommates, apartment touring, brokers fees and even finding a list of with the housing shortage in this city.

The Department of Neighborhood Development states that in Boston, 60% of all full-time undergraduates are housed on-campus. At Suffolk however, only 27 percent of the students live in college-owned, operated or affiliated housing. A grand total of 73 percent of students live off-campus, according to U.S. News.

Suffolk’s housing accommodates fewer students than most Boston schools do, and with the new Ames building, this number will drop even lower. More students will be strained to go through the gruesome process of finding off-campus housing after only one year.

Another advantage of the 1047 residence hall is that it assists students with the transition between on-campus and off-campus housing by encouraging students to develop a commuter mindset. The building is located in Allston, which helps students develop time management skills as they must budget time for a commute that is longer than just a few blocks.

One of Suffolk’s motivations for purchasing the Ames Hotel building is its close proximity to campus, compared to the approximate 25-minute commute from 1047. However, as previously stated, 73% of Suffolk students already live off-campus. Many commuter students travel from Allston, Mission Hill or East Boston; each taking around the same time to get to campus depending on the location and transit options.

By living in 1047 before transitioning to an off-campus apartment, students are able to become acclimated to Boston’s public transportation, without having to adjust to other obstacles that come with finding off-campus housing.

On-campus housing comes with Residential Assistants, maintenance, 24/7 security, water and electricity all while living within a community of Suffolk students. All assets off-campus housing does not provide.

Commuting from Allston also encourages students to explore Boston and feel more independent in what can be an overwhelming city. This way, less stress is placed on students. As a result, Suffolk’s students will be able to perform better academically and socially when they do eventually go off-campus, given they’ve already experienced a commuter lifestyle.

1047 will be a loss for Suffolk students. It provides accommodations that no other residence hall currently does. 1047 supplies a full kitchen with all stainless-steel appliances, including a full refrigerator, dishwasher and an in-unit washer and dryer. The building is steps away from a full-service grocery store and sits upon a Caffe Nero coffee shop where Ram Cards are accepted. It is close to multiple concert venues such as the Agganis Arena and the Paradise Rock Club.

Students are also right near Boston University’s campus where there are plenty of wallet-friendly restaurants. For the same cost of living, Suffolk students will not get to experience these amazing opportunities while living at the Ames Hotel building.

From IMPEACH - 13

the people behind his impeachment, even calling on China to investigate Joe Biden, doubting down on his request for investiga tion — in short, publicly doing exactly what Pelosi is trying to impeach him for. He shouldn’t neces sarily agree with the Democrats on impeach ment, but he should at least recognize that there are laws in place to keep the general public safe from corruption.

The Framers wanted to steer away from mon archy by creating three branches of government. The Constitution and the citi zens of the U.S. were the priorities of the President. All that we as citizens can do is sit back and watch the impeachment proceedings play out, and acknowledge the impor tance of voting in 2020.

Compatting climate change change must be collective effort

From CLIMATE - 13

and their direct effect on other people can sometimes be hidden, but they certainly will still be felt.

The first victims of climate change will be poorer, coastal societies in the tropics that do not have sufficient infrastruc ture to divert rising sea levels or recover from climate change induced disasters, whereas the biggest contributors to cli mate change in the world reside nowhere near the tropics. Economists refer to this problem as the “free rider effect” whereby the actions of the free riders have minimal effect on themselves, but a large effect on others. A carbon tax is a realistic way of solving the “free rider” problem.

In order to dramatically reduce or eliminate the carbon emitted from energy production (25% of total carbon emissions according to the IPCC), the U.S. and other industrial nations should begin phasing out coal and gas fired power plants for nuclear and natural gas based power.

Nuclear power is the cleanest and most efficient form of energy on Earth. It emits zero carbon and has the byproducts of nuclear fusion can be dealt with using a miniscule amount of land. Environmentalists should view nuclear power, not solar or wind power (whose production processes are actually quite carbon intensive) as the long-term solution to our energy problems. In the meantime, natural gas that is the perfect stopgap energy source, as according to The New York Times, it emits 50% less carbon than coal and is a relatively cheap form of energy compared to renewables.

Above everything else, countries around the world should be prepar ing to absorb some of the blow from climate change.

Countries on the coast should construct plans to divert the rising seas away from the mainland (dams, levees, dykes and higher sea walls are a good start). Just as the U.S. stockpiles oil for national emergen cies, arid countries of the world should begin stock piling potable water that may not be easily acces sible in a warmer world.

Individual countries must prioritize preparation and mitigation over the pipe dream of a global Green New Deal so long as an international agreement to solve climate change issues is not reached.
As the Fenway faithful greeted their beloved David Ortiz on the field on Sept. 9, the roar of the crowd did little to overcome the looming news that had broken earlier. Less than a year after leading the franchise to their 9th World Series title, Jen McCaffrey of the Athletic tweeted “Red Sox have parted ways with Dave Dombrowski,” the team’s former President of Baseball Operations.

This story broke near the end of an incredible disappointing year for the defending World Champions. After winning a franchise record 108 games last season, the Red Sox were then poised to miss the playoffs while holding third place in the American League East. Since then, the Sox have been eliminated from postseason contention, and will be watching the Yankees play October baseball from their couches.

The baseball community was shocked by the news, and for good reason. Dombrowski is credited with one of the greatest rebuilds in franchise history. Dombrowski was appointed President of Baseball Operations in September 2015, in the midst of a 78-84 (.48 winning percentage) season. Dombrowski completely turned the organization around, and the team proceeded to win three division titles in a row.

Dombrowski’s free-agent highlight signings included Mitch Moreland, David Price and Rick Porcello. Porcello would go on to win the Cy Young award in his first season as a Red Sox player. Dombrowski also traded for the ace Chris Sale in December of 2016. Beyond players, Dombrowski also hired Alex Cora as the new manager before the 2018 season, who went on to become the fourth first-year manager to win a championship, and the first Puerto Rican man ever to accomplish the feat. These signings along with the explosion of drafted talent like Mookie Betts, Andrew Benintendi and Jackie Bradley Jr, helped the team to its historic 2018 season.

The 2018-19 offseason provided Dombrowski’s greatest challenge yet—maintaining an incredible roster. While the Red Sox faced practically no offensive players in free agency, Dombrowski failed to keep the heart of the bullpen in Boston. He lost Joe Kelly to the Dodgers and Craig Kimbel to the Cubs. This is what made the 2019 season so incredibly frustrating for Red Sox fans. While their offense continued to put up league leading numbers, the once outstanding starting pitching was disappearing. Rick Porcello struggled with an ERA of 5.52, and an injury-plagued Chris Sale held a career high 4.40 according to FanGraphs.com. No lead was safe with this bullpen. The offense could put up 10 runs, and a viewer would still be nervous when the reliever came in. Through the first 49 games of 2019, the bullpen already had eight blown saves according to CBS Boston.

The inability to fill the bullpen is a big reason why the 2019 team was so frustrating. But was letting Dombrowski go the right call? He turned the franchise around and won a world championship, but when one season goes wrong he gets the boot? The absence of Dombrowski leaves the team without a president of baseball operations going into perhaps the most critical offseason of the century. Mookie Betts will become a free agent, a year after his AL MVP season. Betts will be looking to get paid as did top free agents like Bryce Harper and Manny Machado in 2018. These two both signed contracts worth over $300 million.

Betts might even be eyeing even more money. Mike Trout, who is arguably the face of baseball, signed a contract extension worth $430 million according to CBS News. Mookie, who is arguably second in the race for the face of baseball, is definitely going to be looking for some money in that range. And the Red Sox simply can’t afford to pay him and others at the same time. One other big name that arises this offseason is JD Martinez. JD has an opt out option in his contract for this off-season, and it is looking like he will exercise that option. Pete Abraham of The Boston Globe asked Martinez about the idea of moving around from team to team every few years, and Martinez responded “I don’t mind moving around. I kind of like it.” This response was not the ideal one for Red Sox fans. Since Dombrowski signed Martinez in 2018, it will be more difficult for somebody else to negotiate with him. Dombrowski will also miss the opportunity to bring back perhaps the most beloved Red Sox player, Brock Holt. Holt has become a fan favorite for his work with the Jimmy Fund and his hilarious dugout antics, which include post-homerun hugs with JD Martinez. Because he isn’t as much of a run producer as Martinez or Betts, a new president of baseball operations may overlook his vital importance. It is widely believed that Martinez was certainly aware of his fan-favorite status.

When we look back at this decision, we unfortunately will always remember 2019 over 2018. He brought us back to glory, and when we started going downhill, we gave him the boot. It is up to each fan to decide if it was the right idea or not. As someone who was here to organize perhaps the greatest team ever assembled, it will be difficult for someone else to hold together what he built.

For many students here at Suffolk University, being an athlete can be tough. The same goes for being an international student, but balancing both of these things takes persistence and courage. Freshman cross-country runner Guilame Glaudel has exemplified both of these traits.

Coming over to the United States from France, Glaudel was determined and excited to start his college career with Suffolk. He knew it was essential to diversify his athletic experience by immersing himself in American culture, when it came to both sports and education.

“I believe it is very important to discover other lifestyles and cultures especially as a student-athlete in order to understand other points of view,” said Glaudel in an interview with The Suffolk Journal. “The U.S. was a great opportunity to do so while improving my English and attending high-quality courses.”

The former Great Northeast Athletic (GNAC) Conference Rookie Of The Week strives to get better every day, even when he may not be at one-hundred percent. At the end of last season, Glaudel suffered a foot injury, but he is still running while training his foot to get better.

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Dave Dombrowski, Former President of Baseball Operations

Suffolk cross-country runner Guilame Glaudel

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Fan Fest brings together Suffolk community

Andrew Laird
Journal Contributor
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This past Saturday, Suffolk hosted its fifth annual Ram’s Fan Fest. The event is one of the latest installments in Suffolk Weekend, where students, faculty, alumni and families come together to celebrate their Suffolk pride.

The events began at Suffolk’s home field, East Boston Memorial Park at 11 a.m. They kicked it off with Rammy’s Fun Run, a 5k for all ages. Runners paid $10 to participate in the race, with all proceeds benefiting Suffolk’s Center for Community Engagement.

Junior interior design major Ireland McGreavy participated in the run on Saturday and was more than happy to support the cause. She explained that many college students are hesitant. “They are constantly giving students the opportunity to travel and gain experience in helping other people, which is so important at this time in our lives,” said McGreavy in an interview with The Suffolk Journal. “I don’t think that you can put a price tag on that.”

Rammy’s Run concluded just as the fan fest began, where, at noon, fans were treated to music, drinks, free food trucks and a variety of complementary games and attractions. This included cornhole and a flag painting station. At the same time, the Suffolk men’s soccer team warmed up on the field in preparation for their game against Emmanuel College.

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Runners paid $10 to participate in the race, with all proceeds benefiting Suffolk’s Center for Community Engagement. These funds help assist students who participate in service trips such as Alternative Spring Break. Junior interior design major Ireland McGreavy participated in the run on Saturday and was more than happy to support the cause. She explained that many college students are hesitant. “They are constantly giving students the opportunity to travel and gain experience in helping other people, which is so important at this time in our lives,” said McGreavy in an interview with The Suffolk Journal. “I don’t think that you can put a price tag on that.”

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“When I went to Fan Fest, I truly felt like I belonged [at] Suffolk University. With our spread-out community it can be challenging to feel that sense of community, but at this event I definitely felt that community,” said Student Government Association Senator Marissa Kearney in an interview with The Journal.

Sophomore and Suffolk women’s hockey player Sydney Tietz sat in the stands Saturday cheering on the soccer team. For Tietz it was the second time she had attended the fest. “Fan Fest brought the Suffolk community together with good food, the Rammy 5k and being able to cheer on the men’s soccer team in East Boston,” said Tietz in an interview with The Journal.

This year marked the first Fan Fest where Suffolk Athletics teamed up with Suffolk CARES. The pantry is a student resource located on the 12th floor of the 73 Tremont Building. It is available from 8:45-4:45 p.m. Monday through Friday for students who may face food insecurity. Fans who brought a non-perishable food item to the Suffolk CARES tent were able to receive a free Suffolk Athletics t-shirt.

Despite the events’ success, some students thought there could still be ways to improve the event going forward in the next couple of years. “I thought it would be a really cool idea if they did giveaways at Fan Fest, maybe movie tickets, or Bruins tickets, or if they raffled off Suffolk Swag, that would all get more people to the soccer game,” said Kearney.

Despite the loss from the Rams, the Suffolk Fan Fast was a win. This event embodied the true meaning of what it means to be a part of the Suffolk community.

The Suffolk women’s hockey team cheers on the men’s soccer team at Fan Fest

Fans lined up to take advantage of the free food trucks at Fan Fest

Suffolk University students, alumni and staff get ready to run Rammy’s 5k at the fifth annual Fan Fest