



The student press of Mercer County Community College since 1968

# Health Sciences students get vax then give vax

By Ben Levitt  
Senior Reporter

Health Sciences students got their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, then administered shots to locals and faculty members who qualified under the state guidelines, at a clinic in the gym on January 28 and 29.

Altogether, 510 doses were administered over the two day period according to Director of Nursing Education Liz Mizerek, about half of those doses went to students and faculty who qualified, while the other half went to members of the community who qualified.

When asked how the college received the doses for the clinic college president Dr. Jianping Wang said that after a meeting of the New Jersey County Colleges Council (NJCCC) the group sent a letter to Governor Murphy asking him to "put us on the front burner."

Dr. Wang, says the college administration was originally optimistic about possibly opening back up for the Summer sessions but is hesitant given "the delay in vaccination right now."

She says that with the "current speed we should be operationally more normal in the fall semester. But things could change with the new

[presidential] administration. If things could speed up in the next two months we might be able to squeeze in summer."

The primary person who organized the clinic was MCCC Director of Nursing Education Professor Elizabeth Mizerek. She said, "We worked very closely with the Mercer County Division of Public Health and some local health agencies to ensure that we had all the necessary staff and equipment."

She went on to describe things that are needed besides just needles, vials, and band-aids, like "ensuring you have bottles of water for your volunteers, somebody feeds them, shows them where the bathrooms are."

She explained that about 100 students from Mercer health programs received and administered the vaccine and added "It has been a wonderful experience for our students. It's augmenting their education, getting them more hands on."

In addition to running the clinic, Mizerek has also received both doses of the vaccine. She says that when people ask her how it went she responds "My arm was a little sore. Big deal. It's better than getting COVID."

One person who volunteered at the clinic was



Age 104 Jean Inverso of Robbinsville receives her vaccine on January 28 at MCCC.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MCCC

## MCCC establishes Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee After summer of racial justice rallies colleges reflect and react

By Ashley Jackson  
Senior Reporter

In the summer of 2020, despite a raging pandemic, millions of people took to the streets to join a protest movement for racial justice.

Many said they were inspired to take action after watching the video of George Floyd, a Black man murdered by a police officer who knelt on his neck for almost 9 minutes. Others said Floyd was just the tipping point following a long line of Blacks murdered at the

hands of police.

There were protests nationwide and here at home, including a peaceful protest in Hightstown where the police attending took a knee in solidarity with the protestors, as The VOICE reported.

Organizations of all kinds found themselves grappling with a history of racial injustice. Depictions of subversive Black characters used on products such as Uncle Ben's rice and Aunt Jemima syrup suddenly faced scrutiny.

Higher education also

faced a reckoning. For example, Princeton University, after insisting four years earlier that it would not rename its school of public policy, named after famed segregationist president Woodrow Wilson, changed their mind.

Here at Mercer, it was also a time for increased examination. Although other efforts preceded it, Mercer's new Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, has taken on an updated form. It is now a

See DIVERSITY page 2



PHOTO | ALESSANDRO RIVERO

Sign held at summer 2020 Black Lives Matter rally in Philadelphia.

### INDEX

CAMPUS - pgs 2-3

CREATIVE CORNER - pg 4

ENTERTAINMENT pg 5

BLACK HISTORY MONTH - pgs 6-7

IN FOCUS - pg 8

VIEWPOINTS - pg 10-11

JUST FOR FUN - pg 12

Horoscopes are back!

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# MCCC adds non-credit cannabis training program

By Elijah Parkman-Williams  
Senior Reporter

MCCC has initiated its first virtual Medical Cannabis Training program, offered through the college's Office of Lifelong Learning and Continuing Studies and running from January 25 through to February 22.

The new program consists of five modules where participants learn the latest laws and regulations, basic cultivation techniques, counselling, as well as how to successfully run a dispensary.

Cannabis, also known as marijuana, while highly controversial since the start of the War on Drugs back in the 1970's, is undergoing a complete transformation. First marijuana was legalized for treatment of pain connected to some illnesses. Then states, starting with Colorado in 2012 began passing laws legalizing the drug.

New Jersey has joined 14 other states passing abill allowing the recreational sale of cannabis, but it is stuck in a loophole since that state still does not allow the possession of it. While New Jersey waits for Governor Phil Murphy's decision whether to sign, MCCC is preparing for the future.

The course was created and is taught by Sarah Trent, an attorney and public defender

who is now founder and CEO of Valley Wellness.

While waiting for a permit for Valley Wellness, Trent says she realized that the current NJ Medical Marijuana Program was missing plans for patient availability. With her legal background she tailor-made a course to introduce everyone and anyone interested in joining the cannabis industry.

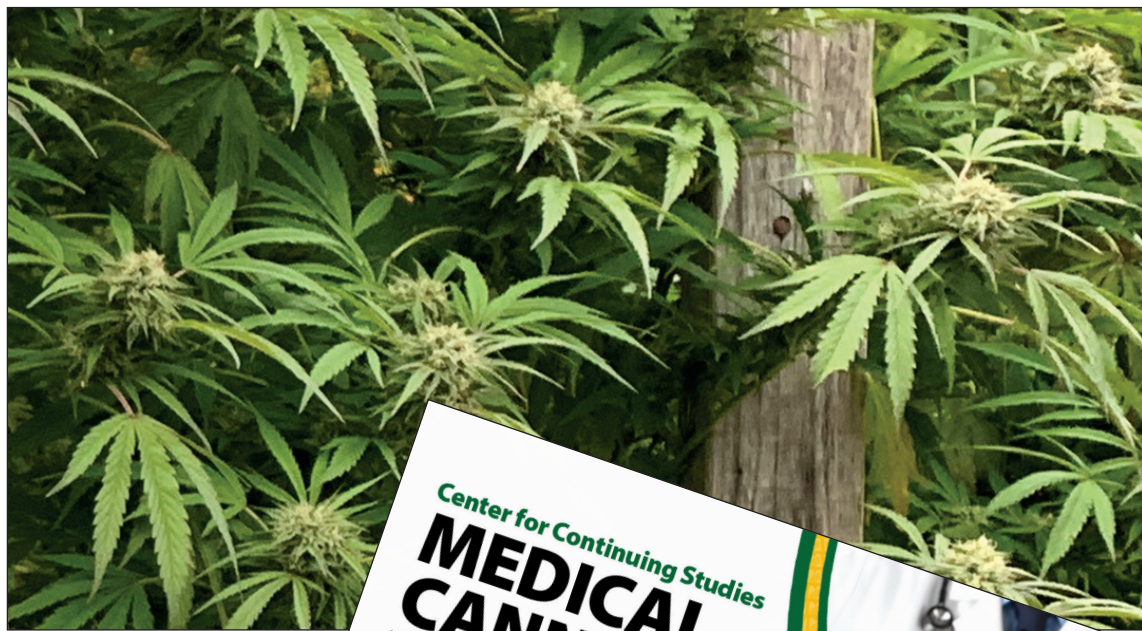
"I saw a need for expanded access for patients," Trent says, adding, "What I saw was in applying for that permit, how am I going to get a workforce that is trained and educated and simultaneously educate the community about medical cannabis and the benefits?"

The new program at Mercer has already garnered attention from students in and out of Mercer County, pushing past the expected maximum participation of 50 students.

Former MCCC graduate Sam Padro took the course while it was being run at Raritan Valley Community College and described the class saying, "That class has changed my life."

Padro, who was previously a police officer in Burlington, New Jersey says he'd encourage anyone who is interested to take the course.

Sam, who now works at a dispensary, says, "[The course] goes into everything



COLLEGE VOICE | FILE PHOTO

ABOVE: Cannabis growing site. RIGHT: Advertising flyer for MCCC's new Medical Cannabis Training non-credit program.

you need to know getting into the industry."

Andrea Bash and Shan Bercaw, two coordinators in Mercer's Office of Continuing Studies, which works to provide the community with useful non-credit programs, organized the cannabis training.

College president Dr.

Jianping Wang says, "I hope the future is about building a stronger and healthier community that would reduce the negative impact on low income, minority communities."

The college will offer

the course for summer classes from May 3 through to June 4. Those interested in taking this course must be at least 18 years old. The course is \$500 or free to veterans.

## DEI Committee seeks ways to support diverse campus

Continued from page 1

collective of faculty, staff, and students making an effort to examine how MCCC can be the most supportive atmosphere possible for all.

The DEI is lead by co-chairs Stacy Denton, director of Upward Bound, and Professor Andrea Lynch, who are both women of color. The committee itself is comprised of volunteers from every race, ethnicity and background.

As it came together in this new form, the DEI committee began work in four specific areas: purpose, people, partnerships, and professional development. Each area has a variety of components, areas where the DEI aims to effect meaningful rather than superficial changes.

These changes include hiring a more diverse staff, re-evaluating courses and curriculums, creating a lecture series to educate the community, providing more resources to students, and establishing a social connection app.

The organizers say they hope to carry out the goals of the Diversity and Inclusion Plan within three years. "We need to be intentional, consistent, and persistent over time," adds Dr. Lynch. "We care about the stu-



COLLEGE VOICE | FILE PHOTO

More than 60% of MCCC students are minorities.

dents, and we came forward strong in that. It was a really collaborative process to put this all together."

The organizers say they hope some students have already taken their experience with the DEI committee as an opportunity for self reflection and creativity.

Amelia DeGuzman participated in the DEI committee's Anti-Racism Discussion Group last semester, and she was introduced to a TED Talk by novelist Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie that examined the stories that people can use to sum up others based on dangerous stereotypes.

DeGuzman says this motivated her to create a short-

run publication that combats the single story narrative called Your Stories: an Anthology of Personal Experiences. (More info on page 6)

"As a writer, I think language can be an incredible medium of healing," DeGuzman says, adding, "I want to share that magic with others, to help people find that channel of expression that has been so integral to my own emotional survival."

In the Diversity and Inclusion Plan it says, "One of our long-standing goals is to foster a campus culture that celebrates diversity and inclusiveness, and respects and supports the personal and intellectual growth of all students, faculty, and staff."



PHOTO | ALESSANDRO RIVERO

Black Lives Matter rallies were held nationwide and locally during summer of 2020, despite the covid-19 epidemic, prompting widespread evaluation of systemic racism across all institutions, including higher education.

# More students could participate when Honors fees were lowered

By Lawrence Boadi  
Reporter

College students seeking a challenge often find themselves in classes that don't fulfill their intellectual abilities. The Mercer Honors program offers options for this population.

In terms of reaching as many students as possible, changes in the program over the years has caused shifts in how accessible Honors classes are for diverse populations of students.

The underlying question of whether or not the Honors program is able to reach students from all walks of life can be boiled to one main issue: price.

Back in 2013, the college, which had already established an Honors program on its own, outsourced it to a for profit organization called American Honors.

American Honors was aimed at offering outside networks for students to tap into but it was accompanied with a hefty price tag.

Eugene Mok, current Honors Program Coordinator and Success Coach, was not in his position at the time of American Honors, but he does have knowledge of the program. Mok says, "It was extravagant. It seemed like it was just way too much."

Based on tuition data



COLLEGE VOICE | FILE PHOTO

The Spring 2020 Honors Journalism 2 class included high school jump start students, students who had taken time off before returning to college in their mid-20s, members of the Rainbow Alliance and ethnically diverse students.

available for 2015 to 2016, American Honors cost students an additional \$1,120 per semester beyond regular tuition.

The current price for The Mercer Program Honors classes is an additional \$40 per credit. The prices stack up quickly. With honors Biology (4 credits) or Honors English (3 credits), this is an additional \$160 for Biology and \$120 for English.

But most students take only one or two Honors classes per semester, meaning, at most the fees will add up to about \$280, a quarter of the cost of American Honors.

Some students in the current Honors program are also getting large scholarships

*"I do feel included. They do Honors meetings and reach out through emails. Eugene always sends emails and motivates us students when he can."*  
-Kyle Goldware, Honors Student

and transferring to top tier four-year colleges and universities such as Princeton after leaving Mercer. Two Honors students transferred to Princeton last year.

Griffin Jones, a Caucasian student who graduated from MCCC in 2017, said there was less racial diversity in the program when he was in it and it was part of American Honors. "I think most of the people within my classes were white," said Jones.

He added, "There was

a fee that led to that impact."

The company, American Honors, according to its website, is currently offered at two locations.

Former Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. David Edwards, who has since moved on to a job at Camden County College, worked to end the partnership with American Honors before he left in 2017.

He said at the time, in an interview with The VOICE, "In my first day of service at community college it became clear to me that there's that thing out there called social justice [and that means] that everyone has a right to [college education], whether they came from a middle class back-

ground, like I did, or whether they are that student I just described who no one in their family has gone to college."

For those who find the current prices outside of their price bracket have the option of financial aid to lean on.

Dr. Bettina Caluori, director of the current Honors program, states, "We started the Mercer Honors group after we ended the partnership with American Honors, reducing costs. And financial aid will cover most of the fee."

However, there are some students that say the cost isn't worth it.

Frances Akumagutu, an African-American nursing student is one of few who said he would have to pay out of pocket to take an Honors class. Akumagutu said, "I was excited to take the classes, but when I found out the extra money required, I had to decline."

Others feel the cost is worth the reward.

Kyle Goldware, an African-American Communications major at MCCC, is currently in the Honors program and pays out of pocket, but says the program is meaningful and inclusive.

Goldware says, "I do feel included. They do Honors meetings and reach out through emails. Eugene always sends emails and motivates us students when he can."

## MCCC one of two vaccine hubs in Mercer County offers clinic



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCCC

Stations and socially distanced waiting areas allowed processing many recipients of the vaccine quickly.

Continued from page 1

Mercer Math Professor Jamie Fleischner. She says, "People went in. They were on the list. They had forms to fill out. It seemed to run very smoothly."

Professor Fleischner said the hardest part of volunteering was turning away people "who had not made an appointment and were asking if there were any vaccinations."

Locals have to go through the state system to get assigned a spot at MCCC.

Mizerek said the college is hoping to be able to conduct another clinic, but that many factors will impact the effort such as availability and the weather.

As of this writing,

New Jersey has been given 1.02 million first doses from the federal government and 822,080 people in NJ have received a first dose of vaccine which is 9.3% of the overall population. But lack of doses and a difficult signup process has slowed things down.

The local Public Health website says, "Mercer County receives vaccine doses from the State Department of Health, and there are an extremely limited number of doses made available to Mercer County. This is of no fault of the County or the State, as the supply comes directly from the Federal Government."

According to the CDC the Moderna vaccine booster should be administered four

weeks after the first. Second dose appointment notifications were sent out within a day to those who received their first shots so they know when they will need to come back.

Prof. Mizerek says of the vaccine clinic, "It's an honor to be part of the largest public health initiative this country has ever seen."

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*If you would like to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, find out information about it, or see if and when you are eligible to receive it, go to [covid19.nj.gov](https://covid19.nj.gov) or you can call 855-568-0545 from 8AM to 8PM.*

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Jason Norton contributed reporting for this article.

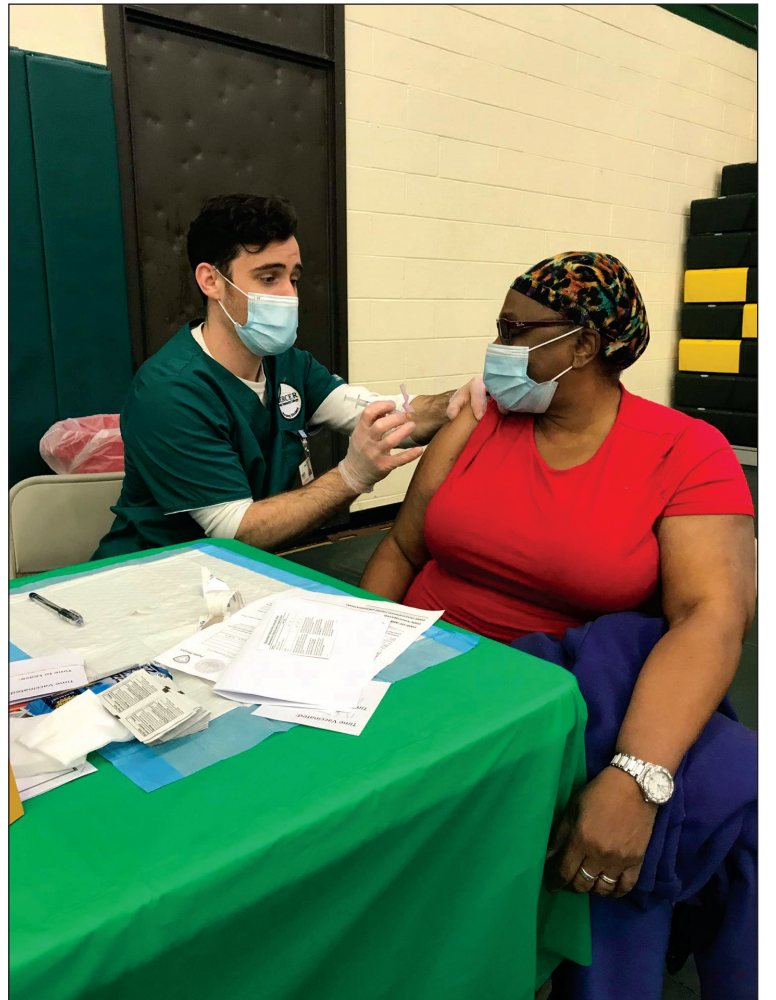


PHOTO COURTESY OF MCCC

Students in MCCC's Health Sciences programs administered covid-19 vaccines to local residents who qualified based on state guidelines.

Creative Corner

After the Burning of the 3rd Precinct  
In memory of George Floyd  
By Amelia DeGuzman

Last night I walked down to the pond  
I wanted to watch the bright moon  
Hanging in the dark sky  
It calms me  
Her light moved smoothly over the water  
Whisper rhythms of soothe and ease  
Above me  
Trenton's street lights spilled into the night sky  
An ominous amber creeping in to the deepening blue  
The clouds, drifting lazily  
Crossed between the moonlight and me  
To illuminate a beautiful burning  
Outlining an aura of perfect peace

At that exact moment  
More than a million miles away  
A few blocks from the place  
Where George Floyd was murdered  
The same moon stared down  
Unwavering  
Unwaring eye still shining  
Watering plumes of smoke blooming  
Behind funeral pyres of an apparent  
Infinity of dead men  
And women & children, but

No  
Not them  
Not when  
But now  
This night  
This liquor store alight  
Big box stores torn open  
Swarmed  
By the less-than clutching more

Withstand

By Jason Norton

The Wolf howls help,  
life has made me go.  
So, I sit and want,  
wanting to be normal again.  
Blood pumps and cringles in my veins  
share the pain, be apart.  
Someone doesn't care,  
wait your turn the yearning will end.

So, put it away for another day,  
when will the time come.  
I won the Trophy of agony,  
but this monster wants more.

Than their arms can carry  
The materials Good Americans know  
Will fill the holes in our empty hands

This is a lie  
A lie we are told  
By men who lurked laughing  
Behind a repugnant puppet president  
Who typed:  
shoot them.  
Mashing his fat fingers  
Into the blank stare screen  
That slices between his absurd reality  
And everyone on the other side  
When he hits send  
He closes his eyes  
To the shards of a shattered promise of peace  
His words sing the sharp crack  
of gunfire and broken glass  
of shrieks  
of a fractured skull  
These echoes ache through history

That president mocked progress  
When he broadcast a 60-year-old quote  
From a police chief who hunted  
With a pack of dogs  
Sicking them on those  
Less-than men & women & children  
This man did not mind  
Being accused  
Of police brutality, but rather  
Wore his hatred  
Like a badge  
Of shattered honor  
Embedded in his chest

And the last lynching was reported 40 years ago,  
What a joke.

Men with hearts  
Wrapped up in white sheets  
Still steal breath  
From people they've made prey:  
Women in their beds asleep  
Children in the park at play  
And so many scared men  
Made into ghosts

Their killers covered up the white with blue  
But still they kneel on rope burned necks  
In reverence of that way back when  
Until these less-than men  
Have no life left to leak weak whispers  
Begging to breathe

While those who are nooses  
Cannot be condemned  
By their brothers in arms  
And maybe they were good men  
Until they fell in  
And maybe they still strain to move against  
The rip tides that tear black lives apart  
But it's too tiring for most to not get pulled under  
By a hatred so deeply ingrained  
Paired with power  
They change

Our minds are made that way  
The same way they are made to respond to trauma  
Certain sections of the brain just jerk to a halt  
A physical resistance to processing thoughts  
The cables get crossed  
tangled  
and cut  
Open only to survival instincts:

video performance of this slam poem is available online. visit micvoice.org

Fight flight or freeze

Last night  
When their choice was fight  
Over four hundred years of bone deep burning  
The highest caliber of hurting  
anger fear shame pain

Exploded

As the precinct burned  
Black silhouettes stood with fists raised  
And the flames traced a different shape  
Than chalk white outlines around  
Bodies on black streets

We have this moment to ask  
How do we unteach a trauma  
So entrenched in history  
An eternity of horror  
Burned into black skin  
Of men  
and women  
and children

Freed  
To go ahead,  
Try to breathe  
Inhale  
in the smoke of crosses burning  
Exhale  
a smothered, whisper plea

He said "Please,"

He said

"Please  
Mama  
I can't breathe"

The Flower by The Wall  
By Angel Kermah

Did I tell you I wanted to be plucked?  
I loved the way the wind would whistle amongst my thorns  
The way She danced in curling wisps , double-helixing up and through my stem  
Leaving nippy, vanishing kisses  
How She whooshed, leaving secrets in my thistles

Did I tell you I wanted to be touched?  
This is my only home.  
My body.  
I explore only through my roots  
My delicate extensions in the soil  
If you listen you may hear a faint patter, as my limbs peruse the earth  
I grow in pain but nonetheless.

But you plucked me.  
You engirdled your befoiled, calloused hands around me.  
You bled on my thorns.  
You made me drink it.  
You uprooted me.

Am I still a beautiful flower?  
I wither.

How dare you turn my soil into dirt?  
How dare you turn my home into a memory?  
How dare you have your way with me?

I wither.

I bend but I don't break.

Maybe if I sway I may feel the kisses the sun once gave me so freely -  
Maybe if I stretch, my toes won't feel the chilling glass of your vase.

My roots don't extend any longer.  
I just sit, pretty in the corner.  
A beautiful flower by the wall.

Guilty

By Ashley Peng

Trust me  
I never meant to hurt you  
I thought it was an ordinary rejection.  
But you,  
You saw me as someone I could never be for you  
You weren't in love with me  
You were in love with the idea of me.

How you reacted  
Has left me with guilt  
That will take forever to be rid of.  
How could I have let you down easier?  
Could I have been kinder?  
More firm?  
More honest?  
I don't know what I would have done differently  
To change your reaction.

But I know for sure,  
You should

Never burden someone as the reason why you don't know how to love.  
Because they will spend their whole lives  
Thinking that they don't do anything except hurt people.  
It is not their responsibility to teach you how to love  
It was the people who were supposed to love you first  
The people who gave you life and raised you.

What we had was  
Not love.  
Not even in the slightest.  
It was only an infatuation.

One day.  
You will find someone who loves you  
But that person will never be me.



Netflix hit *Lupin* challenges racial stereotypes

By Mandy Sidhu  
Reporter

Netflix released a five episode series called *Lupin* back in early January. Filmed in French and dubbed into English it might not seem like a show that would catch on with US viewers, but according to CNET it garnered 76 million views within the first two weeks.

The tale, a cross between Robinhood, James Bond, and Sherlock Holmes, is based on the popular book by French author Maurice Leblanc in 1905.

Much of the series’ success hinges on the strong performance of lead actor Omar Sy, who is being compared to Idris Alba for his talent, charisma, and flashing smile. His resume includes *X-Men: Days of Future Past*, *Jurassic World* and other blockbusters.

In *Lupin*, Sy plays a master-of-disguise, sleuth, and gentleman thief, the son of a Senegalese chauffeur who was accused of stealing a priceless necklace from his wealthy employers. In jail, his father commits suicide, but as a grown man Assane learns it was a murder and sets out to uncover the truth.

So what makes this series unique and relevant? Is it smashing barriers or reinforcing stereotypes?

First of all Arsène Lu-



PHOTO | NETFLIX PROMOTION CONTENT

Omar Sy, who has appeared in a variety of blockbuster films, stars as a sleuth, avenger, and master of disguise in cross-over hit French TV series *Lupin* on Netflix.

pin in the original book was not Black, let alone an immigrant.

The Netflix series counters the standard idealized notion of the hero as a wealthy, white, male.

Arsène’s father, Babakar, is a windowed Senegalese immigrant who is framed for a crime he did not commit, and forced to make a false confession by corrupt, racist authori-

ties and the white, elitist employers.

While in the eyes of the authorities Assane grows up to be a Black “criminal” from the lower class, the audience understands the stereotypes do not hold.

*Lupin* tugs the audience between the law and its victims. The justice system is shown as inherently racist.

The series begins with Assane planning and carrying out an elaborate heist at the famous museum, the Louvre, stealing back a necklace that has been lost and found, the very one his father was accused of stealing.

We first encounter Assane at work at the Louvre as a janitor, alongside primarily black and brown co-workers.

He later tells his accomplices that his employers see him “but they don’t really look at [me].”

There are also flashbacks from Assane’s childhood where he is bullied in school for being Black. His skin is called “a costume.”

However, as an adult, Assane anticipates the racist experiences of day to day life, using them to his advantage.

“Everyone on that side of town, everyone on the top while we’re on the bottom, they don’t look,” Assane says. “And thanks to that we’re going to be rich.”

While the series is a megahit, it has faced some criticism for its focus on the Parisian, primarily white elite class.

Director Louis Leterrier says it was intentional. “I liked the ‘gentleman thief’ aspect a lot but I wanted to subvert it and give it a social angle,” he told the New York Times.

“I found the idea of a 6-foot-2 Black man sneaking around in both high society and the underworld interesting.”

Netflix has promised a second season but hasn’t announced a release date. While fans wait impatiently, it’s clear there is a winning combination to Sy’s brilliant performance and the underlying themes of race, class, and immigration which are more relevant today than ever, in the US and worldwide.

Actress who broke racial boundaries passes at 96

By Mandy Sidhu  
Reporter

Cicely Tyson, award winning actress and model, who challenged stereotypes of Black women for decades, died at the age of 96 on January 28.

She was vocal about choosing roles where Black women were shown as strong, complex individuals such as her Emmy nominated portrayal of Coretta Scott King, the wife of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

In her last interview, with host Gayle King of CBS’s *This Morning*, less than a week before her death, Tyson said, “Whenever I’m offered a script, what I’m interested in when I get it is what I mean-Who was that character, and why did they want me to play it? And when I get to the point where I feel like her skin has fitted my own, or my mind, then I know there is something about her.”

Tyson told King she fell pregnant at 17, and wanting to pursue acting to support her child, her mother threatened to kick her out of the house. Her mother opposed an acting career, and when Tyson pushed back, her mother did not speak to her for almost two years.

Tyson said, “She thought I was going to live in



PHOTO | WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Award winning actress Cicely Tyson died on January 28, 2021 at age 96.

the den of inequity because she grew up in the slums, lots of prostitution walking up and down the streets, and that’s all she knew about movies.”

Tyson told King her mother eventually came around when she saw Tyson performing on stage, and the two had a strong relationship until her death.

Tyson’s career spanned seven decades, from her debut in 1951 in the NBC television

series *Frontiers of Faith* to her role in the Netflix film “A Fall from Grace” in 2020. Altogether, Tyson appeared in 29 films, at least 68 television series, and 15 productions on and off Broadway.

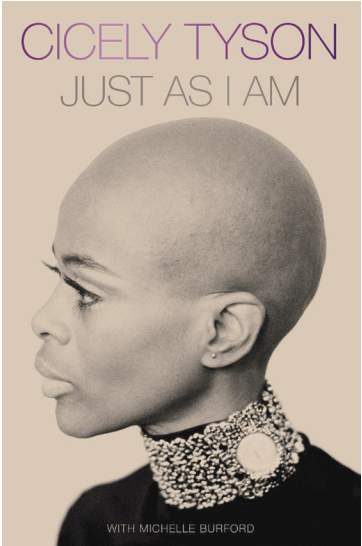
Tyson won many awards, including an honorary Oscar. She was in notable films that challenged Black stereotypes such as “Sounder” about a woman who provides for her family by cleaning homes after

her husband is imprisoned for stealing food. The role won her an Oscar nomination.

In *The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman* she played a woman who recalls her life from slavery to the Civil Rights era. She received two Emmys for the role.

She also starred on television shows like *Roots*.

Tyson’s memoir, titled *Just as I Am*, was published on January 26, 2021. She describes



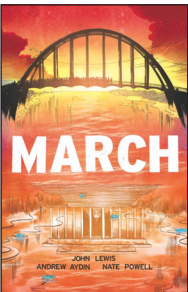
ABOVE: Cover of actress Cicely Tyson’s memoir “Just as I Am” which she was promoting just before her death at age 96.

her childhood growing up in East Harlem to conservative, working-class immigrants from the West Indies.

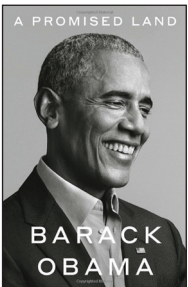
She says, “I am the teenager who sought solace in the verses of the old hymn for which this book is named. I am a daughter and mother, a sister, and a friend. I am an observer of human nature and the dreamer of audacious dreams.”

In her final words in her final interview with King, Tyson was asked how she wanted to be remembered. “I’ve done my best. That’s all.”

BLACK HISTORY MONTH BOOK SHELF



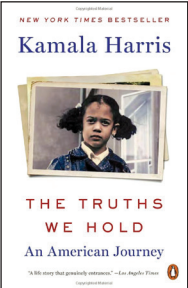
**MARCH**  
A graphic novel by Congressman John Lewis



**A PROMISED LAND**  
A memoir by President Barack Obama



**LEAD FROM THE OUTSIDE**  
A guide to activism by Stacy Abrams



**THE TRUTHS WE HOLD**  
A memoir by Vice President Kamala Harris



**BECOMING**  
A memoir by First Lady Michelle Obama



CHIMAMANDA NGOZI ADICHIE

What is the single story narrative?

In a 2009 TED Talk that has more than 8 million views on YouTube, novelist Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie explains her concept of the “single story narrative” in which individuals get summed up by expectations and stereotypes when someone else condenses their identity into a single story. She says we are all prone to this problem at some time or another as we come to rely on limited information given to us by media and society at large. She gives an example of her own childhood in which her family had a boy who worked in their house whom she imagined to live in a ragged and poor community, but when she encountered it she realized it was vibrant and complex. She also describes professors who criticized her writing about Africans because they weren’t “authentic” enough, because they didn’t portray people living in war-torn, corrupt, and impoverished societies. She warns of the harm that single story narratives can cause if we don’t chose to think beyond them.

Mercer Students: Our Single Stories



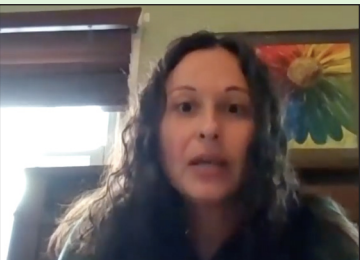
Tulsi Patel

“I came from India and here my basketball coach came up to me and said, ‘How do you speak fluent English?’ or ‘How are you managing to speak proper English?’ I think, what do you mean? Even though I came from India, I went to an international school.”



Daniel Adomina

“The single story narrative that I wanted to share is about how movies and TV shows portray Africans which keeps feeding the stereotypes of every African or anybody that comes from the continent is poor and needy. Before you judge someone get to know someone first. Don’t judge them by how they sound.”



Katerina Madias

“I was experiencing domestic violence for about twelve years, and every single day I was told I was not good enough, and I couldn’t do much about it. I had to be with this person in order to be “right.” But as the time went by, I realized that was not true. I was not the person that he was telling me I was.”



Amelia DeGuzman

“My single story experience is that I grew up really poor. People don’t think that poor kids are smart. They don’t. It’s not part of the narrative. So on more than one occasion throughout my life, when people found out that we were homeless, they were like ‘Wow you’re so smart!’ It was very strange to people.”



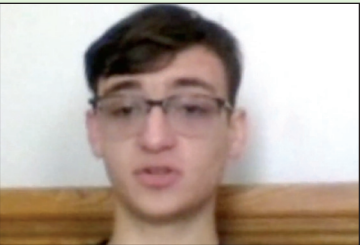
Beryl Zonese

“A single story that has been told about me is that some people assume I can’t speak proper English. Immediately they get my accent. It’s the same English that I speak, I just sound different because of where I was born. Sometimes I’m being overlooked in class to read or to talk because I have an accent, maybe because the professor would think I can’t speak proper English.”



Elijah Parkman-Williams

“A single story told about me is that when I went to another university, a four-year university, was that I had been associated too much with the white community at that college. A lot of the Black people in Black clubs, said that my absence in their clubs and presence in the Business focussed clubs was misguided. It wasn’t the best experience, but I’m glad I went through it. Now I have a better understanding of being a Black person, a proud feeling that I am doing this for me.”



Aidan Robinson

A single story that people think about me is that being a white male and middle class, a lot of people assume that I have privilege and am ignorant to other issues. I am always the kind of person who wants to get a better understanding of other people and other cultures and try to make Mercer, specifically, a place where everyone can feel comfortable.



What is the story that people have used to define you? Do you want to share it? Learn more at [tinyurl.com/submit-to-your-stories](https://tinyurl.com/submit-to-your-stories)

WHAT TO WATCH FOR BLACK HISTORY MONTH



**13th**  
Directed by Ava DuVernay (2016)  
This documentary film examines the 13th Amendment to the US Constitution whereby slaves were freed but could still be imprisoned and forced into labor leading, 150 years later, to the explosion of the prison industrial complex which disproportionately affects Blacks to the detriment of all society.



**DANCE DREAMS**  
Directed by Oliver Bokelberg (2020)  
The full title is Dance Dreams: Hot Chocolate Nutcracker. This documentary follows the Debbie Allen Dance company as it prepares for it’s radical annual performance of Tchaikovsky’s Nutcracker. The performance is a radical reinterpretation featuring almost all student dancers of color.



**I AM NOT YOUR NEGRO**  
Directed by Raoul Peck (2016)  
Based on the unfinished manuscript of James Baldwin and narrated by Samuel L. Jackson, this documentary examines an archive of papers, notes and letters Baldwin wrote in the 1970s, reflecting on his experience in the heart of the Civil Rights movement.



**SOUL**  
Directed by Pete Docter (2020)  
This PIXAR film follows a young boy about to achieve his dream of becoming a jazz pianist in a famous jazz club, who unexpectedly and hilariously ends up back from the afterlife with a new soul along the way. It’s a story we all always wanted, which is why it’s so much more than he

# The Hill We Climb

-Amanda Gorman

When day comes we ask ourselves,  
where can we find light in this never-ending shade?  
The loss we carry,  
a sea we must wade  
We've braved the belly of the beast  
We've learned that quiet isn't always peace  
And the norms and notions  
of what just is  
Isn't always just-ice  
And yet the dawn is ours  
before we knew it  
Somehow we do it  
Somehow we've weathered and witnessed  
a nation that isn't broken  
but simply unfinished  
We the successors of a country and a time  
Where a skinny Black girl  
descended from slaves and raised by a single mother  
can dream of becoming president  
only to find herself reciting for one  
And yes we are far from polished  
far from pristine  
but that doesn't mean we are  
striving to form a union that is perfect  
We are striving to forge a union with purpose  
To compose a country committed to all cultures, colors, characters  
and  
conditions of man  
And so we lift our gazes not to what stands between us  
but what stands before us  
We close the divide because we know, to put our future first,  
we must first put our differences aside  
We lay down our arms  
so we can reach out our arms  
to one another  
We seek harm to none and harmony for all  
Let the globe, if nothing else, say this is true:  
That even as we grieved, we grew  
That even as we hurt, we hoped  
That even as we tired, we tried  
That we'll forever be tied together, victorious  
Not because we will never again know defeat  
but because we will never again sow division  
Scripture tells us to envision  
that everyone shall sit under their own vine and fig tree  
And no one shall make them afraid  
If we're to live up to our own time  
Then victory won't lie in the blade  
But in all the bridges we've made  
That is the promised glade  
The hill we climb  
If only we dare  
It's because being American is more than a pride we  
inherit,  
it's the past we step into  
and how we repair it  
We've seen a force that would shatter our nation  
rather than share it  
Would destroy our country if it meant delaying democ-  
racy  
And this effort very nearly succeeded  
But while democracy can be periodically delayed  
it can never be permanently defeated  
In this truth  
in this faith we trust  
For while we have our eyes on the future  
history has its eyes on us  
This is the era of just redemption  
We feared at its inception  
We did not feel prepared to be the heirs  
of such a terrifying hour  
but within it we found the power  
to author a new chapter  
To offer hope and laughter to ourselves  
So while once we asked,  
how could we possibly prevail over catastrophe?  
Now we assert  
How could catastrophe possibly prevail over us?  
We will not march back to what was  
but move to what shall be  
A country that is bruised but whole,  
benevolent but bold,  
fierce and free  
We will not be turned around  
or interrupted by intimidation  
because we know our inaction and inertia  
will be the inheritance of the next generation  
Our blunders become their burdens  
But one thing is certain:  
If we merge mercy with might,  
and might with right,  
then love becomes our legacy  
and change our children's birthright  
So let us leave behind a country  
better than the one we were left with  
Every breath from my bronze-pounded chest,  
we will raise this wounded world into a wondrous one  
We will rise from the gold-limbed hills of the west,  
we will rise from the windswept northeast  
where our forefathers first realized revolution  
We will rise from the lake-rimmed cities of the midwestern states,  
we will rise from the sunbaked south  
We will rebuild, reconcile and recover  
and every known nook of our nation and  
every corner called our country,  
our people diverse and beautiful will emerge,  
battered and beautiful  
When day comes we step out of the shade,  
afire and unafraid  
The new dawn blooms as we free it  
For there is always light,  
if only we're brave enough to see it  
If only we're brave enough to be it



Amanda Gorman is the youngest inaugural poet. She read her poem “The Hill We Climb” (left) on January 21, 2021 for the swearing in of President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris.

PHOTO | WIKIMEDIA COMMONS



**BOYZ n the HOOD**  
Directed by Spike Lee (1982)  
This film tells the story of a Black man who dreams of becoming a police officer but ends up joining the drug trade when he is killed by a police officer. He earns the life he deserves through his actions.



**THE TWO KILLINGS OF SAM COOK**  
Directed by Kelly Duane (2019)  
Sam Cook, the musician who sang “Chain Gang” and “Twistin’ the Night Away” was also a political activist. This documentary tries to understand his murder at age 33.



**SMALL AXE**  
Directed by Steve McQueen (2020)  
This HBO mini-series tells five separate but related tales of life in London for immigrants from the West Indies in the 1960s through the 1980s, emphasizing the everyday racism that was inflicted on this group of people who found strength to endure and thrive.



**CRACK: COCAINE CORRUPTION & CONSPIRACY**  
Directed by Stanley Nelson (2021)  
This documentary revisits the devastation wrought on inner cities and Blacks in particular by the crack epidemic of the 1980s. It looks at archival footage of presidents and famous figures who used the threat for political gain rather than seeing it as a public health crisis.



**MA RAINEY'S BLACK BOTTOM**  
Directed by George C. Wolf (2021)  
This feature film reveals the life of famous 1920s jazz singer Ma Rainey, focussing on her fierce personality which she relied on to overcome the obstacles put before her as a Black woman. It features a tour de force performance by Viola Davis and an equally impressive one from Chadwick Boseman, the last before his death.

# After Netflix burnout people turn to Little Free Libraries

By Kayla Janetti  
Reporter

While most Americans are home due to the statewide shutdowns, many new trends have surfaced throughout the course of the pandemic. People have begun to record themselves doing the newest Tiktok dances, foster puppies, attempt to make Dalgona Coffee, read books from dainty libraries, and so on.

Daniel Adomina, an MCCC Honors College student, says he sometimes falls into the recurring cycle of media consumption.

He says, "Sometimes I have to catch myself after spending hours or days bingeing a show, movies, being on my phone or computer to take some time off consuming media."

One trend that is offering an alternative to screens is Little Free Library book-sharing boxes.

According to Little Free Library's website, they are a worldwide nonprofit organization on a mission to spread literacy, community, and creativity through Little Free Library book exchanges.

Dr. Pamela Price, MCCC's Director of Library Services, says of Little Free libraries, "Personally, I find them to be a great community asset and see them as outreach posts that

add a new layer of support to what school and public libraries provide."

Kay Li, a steward based in Princeton Junction, started her library as a gift to her daughter.

Li says, "Basically, our Little Free Library was a birthday gift to my daughter when she was 6 years old. I was searching for ideas of - what to give her when she was six. Then, I came across this idea - a Little Free Library."

Li and her daughter, who is now eight, have noticed a shift since the lockdowns began.

She says, "After the pandemic started we found a lot of people actually started using it. Especially kids. We wanted to be a great book resource for the kids."

This result fits Dr. Price's predictions. She said, "Once libraries had to close due to the pandemic, it was only a matter of time before the Little Free Libraries movement really started to catch on because it gave people an opportunity to share books they had just read with others who may not have read them."

As rewarding as it is to own a book-sharing box, some box stewards say there are also a few downsides.

Jacqueline Fernandes, another steward in West Windsor, said for a time people were taking books and not returning



COLLEGE VOICE | FILE PHOTO

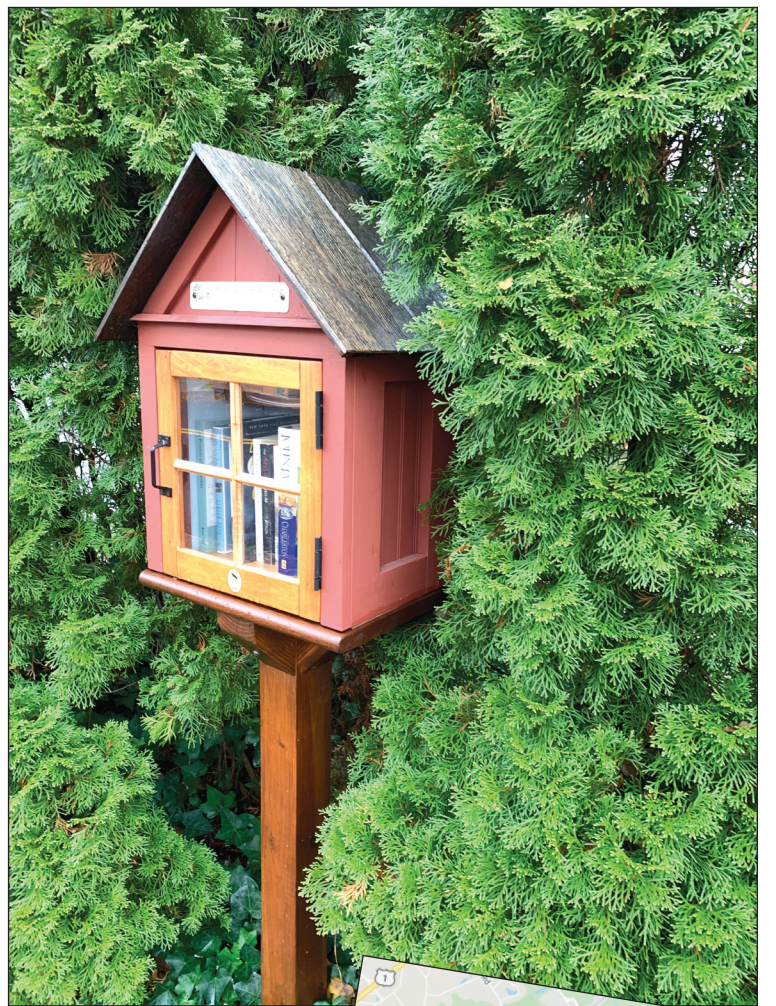
Local Little Free Library box. Some boxes have multiple shelves.

them.

"I'm sure they're enjoying it. I don't grudge them that, but they're not returning books," Fernandes said, but a week later she says she started to notice the trend reverse and that people were replacing her books.

Dr. Bettina Caluori, MCCC's Director of the Honors Program, says she knows about the Little Free Libraries and thinks they would be great to have at Mercer.

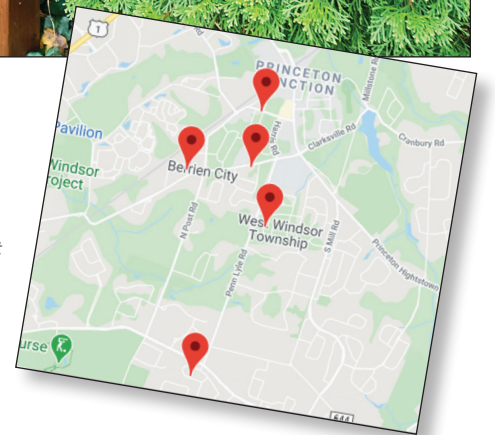
"I think that going to a Little Free Library would be more like 'I'm doing this for my own self. Nobody's going to grade me. Somebody else has recommended it or put it in this library for a reason.'"



COLLEGE VOICE | FILE PHOTO

There are five Little Free Library boxes near MCCC's West Windsor campus.

The boxes are identified by "Charter" number. The closest is Charter #111824, which is a nine minute drive. Charter #60192, #71708, #78183, #52097 are all less than 15 minutes away.



## Learn from me: Hershey's Kiss history

In her ongoing "Learn from Me" column, Laurie Gallagher offers explanations and tips for students on every day topics, with support from the staff of The VOICE.

By Laurie Gallagher  
With support from  
the Staff of The College VOICE



It's Valentine's Day time and a good time for kisses, especially the chocolate kind. But where did the little foil wrapped pyramids come from?

According to an article by Rachel Janek in TIME magazine, the real story starts with Wilbur Buds, a company that still exists and started making the classic kiss shaped treats in 1894, 13 years before Hershey's.

But it was Milton Hershey who figured out how to make his candies quickly, on an assembly line and he was the one who chose to wrap them in foil with their little flag. For many years they were hand wrapped by employees. The Wilber Buds did not have any wrapping.

Interestingly, both Henry Wilbur and Milton Hershey were from Pennsylvania, only a few towns away from one another and only a 2 hour drive from MCCC's campus. Too far for an Uber, but a good choice for a day trip with a friend if you want to go to Hershey Park.

Right now we're cooped up with covid, but the theme park, which features roller coasters, a water park, and a chocolate themed dining room is planning to open for safe activities, especially the outdoor kind.

But back to the kiss. According to Beth Kimmerle, author of Chocolate: The Sweet History,

which is described in the TIME article, in the 1960s Hershey started experimenting with different colored foil wrappers for their kisses.

She also says, "Candy is about a psychological connection, it's not just the taste," and adds, "If you watch people eat them—and I have—it's always fascinating what people do with the wrapper and the plume. There's no other way to describe it, it's a caress."





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# See past the sound

## We must confront accent prejudice

VIEWPOINT



Beryl Zonese

As an immigrant from Cameroon, West Africa, I have been questioned on several occasions about how I speak English fluently. Often, I am faced with an immediate assumption that the English I speak is not “proper English” because of the subtle difference in pronunciation and accent.

But English is one of the primary languages of Cameroon as well as numerous African countries once colonized by the British. South Africa, Ghana, Botswana, Namibia, Liberia, Gambia, Nigeria, Uganda, Kenya, Lesotho and the list goes on. According to the State Demographics Data from Migration Policy Institute, about 120,000 African born people live in New Jersey.

While people are be-

coming increasingly accepting of visible differences like race, there is silent discrimination that occurs when confronted by invisible differences like accents, especially if the speaker is from an ethnic minority background.

Goodie Okechukwu, a writer with expertise in accent bias and inclusion, states in her article “Accent Based discrimination, a not so new Paradigm” that effective communication is the means by which our connection to others are deepened. Accents are likely to pose a barrier to effective communication when the listener lacks goodwill. Without this goodwill, the accented speaker’s degree of communicative competence is irrelevant.

This is a situation that I and other students not only from Africa face on a daily basis.

Mercer student Kenneth Thomas Baidoo, who is from West Africa and majoring in Computer Information Systems, says sometimes when he speaks amongst his American friends who have the native accent, he finds himself curving his words to sound more native because when he speaks with his accent, they do not make an effort to listen.

Okechukwu points out that one’s accent is part of their identity. As an African in America, I am often referred to as “African American” based on the color of my skin. But that term is typically attached to a different population, and speaking immediately reveals something about my own social and cultural identity that clashes with expectations, whether consciously or unconsciously.

According to an article for the American Psychological Association by Rosina Lippigreen, listeners who have prejudice against accents can not hear what a person has to say because “they consider accent as a litmus test for exclusion.”

The stereotypes around accents are not new but little attention is given to this. It is overlooked despite its importance in effective communication amongst students and faculty members.

Educational institutions can help reduce this stigma by creating more awareness on campus. A starting point is recognizing the existence of accent-based discrimination, and creating awareness about it by incorporating it into the already existent anti-discrimination programs.

top ten

### Easy-to-Grow Houseplants

1. Snake Plant
2. Chinese Evergreen
3. Dumb Cane
4. Spider Plant
5. Golden Pothos
6. Dracaena
7. English Ivy
8. Peace Lily
9. Schefflera
10. Heart Leaf Philodendron



top ten

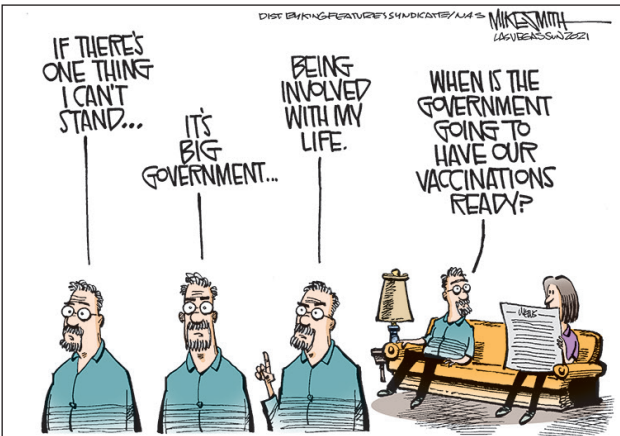
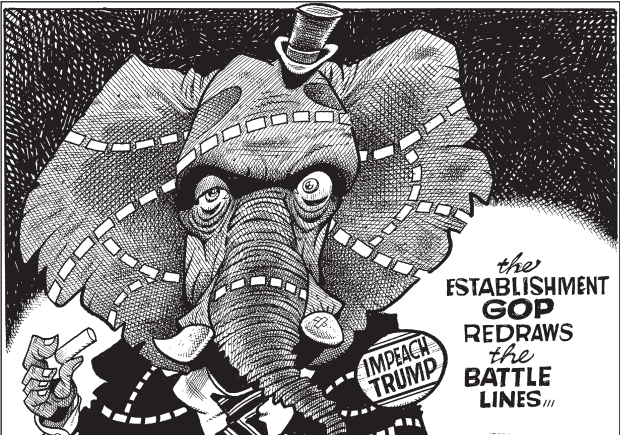
### Creative Hobbies During COVID

- |                       |                         |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Trying new recipes | 6. Creative writing     |
| 2. Gardening          | 7. Dance                |
| 3. Painting           | 8. Interior design      |
| 4. Photography        | 9. Digital design       |
| 5. Drawing            | 10. Non-fiction writing |

Source: Canava



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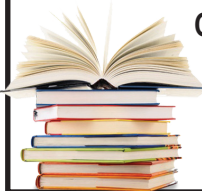
Good. Join the staff and help us fix it!

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# Kamala Harris: What do all those firsts mean?

*My VP looks like a complex person who shouldn't be reduced*

## VIEWPOINT



Amelia DeGuzman

Many recent articles about newly elected Vice President Kamala Harris open with a recital of her many firsts: first She typically directs attention away from herself, to the activists who came before her. They blazed the trail that she followed as the first woman of color and child of immigrants to become Vice President of the United States of America.

On inauguration day, she posted a video online honoring those activists. The audio contained highlights from her November 7 acceptance speech repeating the term “I stand on their shoulders.” During the speech, her predecessors not only came first, but were showcased foremost.

Her own political history is complicated. Her presence in the role of Vice President is a display of representation that is appealing to many, and she has proudly labeled herself a “progressive prosecutor.” But during the campaign, people noted her record didn’t bear out these progressive ideals.

In an article in The New York Times titled “Kamala Harris Was Not a ‘Progressive Prosecutor’”

law professor Lara Bazelon describes some of these discrepancies. Harris has been criticized for her involvement in allegedly wrongful convictions and overzealous policing, as well as her voting record on issues like drug policy and use of police body cameras. Most of these issues disproportionately affect minority populations.

Just a few weeks ago, the libertarian magazine Reason called out The Washington Post for attempting to “memory-hole” Harris when The Post edited her tasteless banter out of an interview conducted in 2019, while she was on the campaign trail for her presidential bid. In the interview, she is depicted mockingly imitating an inmate begging for food and water, while comparing her strenuous campaign to imprisonment.

As a student who is familiar with the semi-delirium of overwork and sleeplessness, I can be forgiving of the bizarre statements. But they were made on the record, and the effort to scrub them from her history is a prime example of a spirit of inauthenticity that she sometimes displays. The tactful omission of problematic stances she has held in the past feeds this image.

It isn’t just her negative track record that is overlooked when we put all our focus on her historic significance. Many of Kamala Harris’ admirable achievements and credentials - those things that construct her unique

self - are being flattened into the identities of Person of Color, First-Generation American, and Female.

There is profound value in the positive experience that a young person may have when they can see themselves in a prominent figure. The flood of #MyVPLooksLikeMe posts on Twitter feels like the digital equivalent to the staging of The White House.

It is easily followed by the assumption that just because a politician looks like you, means they are going to support issues important to you. This is something that politicians can take advantage of. Issues of institutionalized racism, classism, and sexism are not adequately confronted by her symbolic presence, no matter how potent.

With the election of President Biden and Vice President Harris, we have reached the end of the relentless horrors of the Trump administration. It would seem that the outrage parade is finally over, and the nation can begin to unpack our collective trauma. The eagerness to make meaningful change is embodied in Harris’s current political reputation. It feels like we can, at long last, unclench and operate with hope.

We may feel the temptation to disengage from political discourse, to stop checking our Twitter feeds with dread. But we have a responsibility to stay engaged, and no longer settle for the acrimonious lip-service of the status-quo. The intensity of

amorality in former president Donald Trump - and isn’t that former just such a sweet word - did serve, at the very least, to harshly illuminate the dysfunction that is corroding some parts of the American government. It was so extreme, you simply couldn’t look away. The fatigue is real and now, the relief is incredible.

Yet the push for minority representation and material change is ongoing. If we stop to catch our breath, how hard will it be to recall the will, in this awful age of COVID and chaos, to turn our attention back to the painful truths brought to light over the last four years? This is not to say that celebration is undue, but it could be conveniently exaggerated to draw attention away from the many dysfunctions that are not going away with Trump. These flaws are embedded in our institutions.

Ultimately, the question remains to be seen as to whether Kamala Harris will act according to her recently adopted public image, or according to her previously established personal beliefs. Of course, there is a third possibility: people can change. Perhaps the extremity of the Trump era may have some positive outcome, if, when confronted with the embodiment of harm and hatred, it may have changed the way some politicians see themselves. If this can cause those on the fence to question conservative-leaning political stances, that is truly something worth celebrating.

## FAST JLAW FACT

All types of documents “made, maintained, or processed” can be accessed by the public under transparency laws.

## STRANGE BUT TRUE

Most VOICE staffers are not Media or Communication majors. One Editor in Chief went to TCNJ for Exercise Science and is now a PE teacher in Florida..

## JOURNO LINGO

State laws that grant both regular citizens and reporters access to public information such as crime reports are known as “Sunshine Laws.”

## STRANGE BUT TRUE

At least 4 VOICE articles have gone viral since 2008 including one that was retweeted by Ke\$ha.

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Mercer County College  
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Dear VOICE,  
I miss going to campus for classes. How can I make my bedroom feel more like a classroom?  
-Homebound Harry

Dear Homebound Harry,  
Try saving a photo of the campus to your computer and using it as a Zoom background. It'll be just like you're there, except now you don't have to wear pants..  
-The VOICE

Dear VOICE,  
I started MCCC in the fall and have never been on

campus. I don't have any campus gear to show my school spirit. Thoughts?  
-Yay Yellow and Gold

Dear Yellow and Gold,  
Grab a sharpie and your least favorite pair of sweats, and draw a big Mercer M right below the knee. Congrats on your new swag!  
-The VOICE

Dear VOICE,  
Textbooks are so expensive, I don't want to throw them away once I'm done class! How can I use them after I graduate?  
-Bookish Bob

Dear Bookish Bob,  
Textbooks have a lot of fun uses. Think of them as brand new paperweights, table boosters, and placemats. Bonus round, hard-cover books can double as step-stools! Reach new educational

heights, literally.  
-The VOICE.  
  
Dear VOICE,  
I have a huge crush on another student in my Zoom class. How do I get their attention?  
-Pining Paul

Dear Pining Paul,  
Go the extra mile by tagging them in a TikTok with a doggo. Everyone loves doggos.  
-The VOICE

Dear VOICE,  
What's a saying that helps you through a difficult class? Calc is kicking my butt.  
-Mathless Maddie

Dear Mathless,  
"Every pizza is a personal pizza if you believe in yourself."  
-The VOICE

NOTE: THIS FEATURE IS FOR ENTERTAINMENT ONLY.

HOROSCOPES



Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

The Wolf Moon that starts the year brings that same rough and bold strength to your life. You need it to keep going, so tap into it.



Aquarius

Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

It is your month, water bearer. But how do you bear water in the middle of the winter? A literal interpretation may seem silly, but a good hot shower or bath may chase the cold out of your bones.



Pisces

Feb. 19 - Mar. 20

Just keep swimming, Pisces, that is your forte. It can feel like the current is flowing against you, but you have more strength than you realize to keep moving forward.



Aries

Mar. 21 - Apr. 19

You are a little ram and you keep butting up against seemingly unmovable challenges. The truth is, your hard headedness will get you through. Don't give up.



Taurus

Apr. 20 - May 20

You have the tenacity of the bull, but right now you need energy to build that spirit back up. Taking a nap may feel like something only babies and old people do, but right now you need some rest!



Gemini

May 21 - Jun. 20

The dual aspects of your personality can sometimes put you at war with yourself. One side will have to surrender if you want to move forward. Let your better angels prevail.



Cancer

Jun. 21 - Jul. 22

A big decision presents itself at the end of the month. You may want to take the opportunity but worry it could set back plans in progress. It is okay to say no. The chance will still be there later.



Leo

Jul. 23 - Aug. 22

You need the sun and warmth that isn't going to come literally in February, so look for it in other places. Try a travel show about pretty places. Maybe start and indoor garden. The light is coming soon.



Virgo

Aug. 23 - Sept. 22

An interruption in your routines threatens your normal sense of balance this month. The good news is, your routine has room for a little adjustment. It won't be as tough as it seems.



Libra

Sept. 23 - Oct. 22

Somehow you got left dealing with a bunch of problems that were not your own. And where is everyone to deal with their own mess? Step up now and make them pick up the slack later.



Scorpio

Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

Is it feeling like everyday is Groundhog Day? You are not alone. Find other people to commiserate with. There is something useful in griping about the same struggles with folks who know what you are going through.

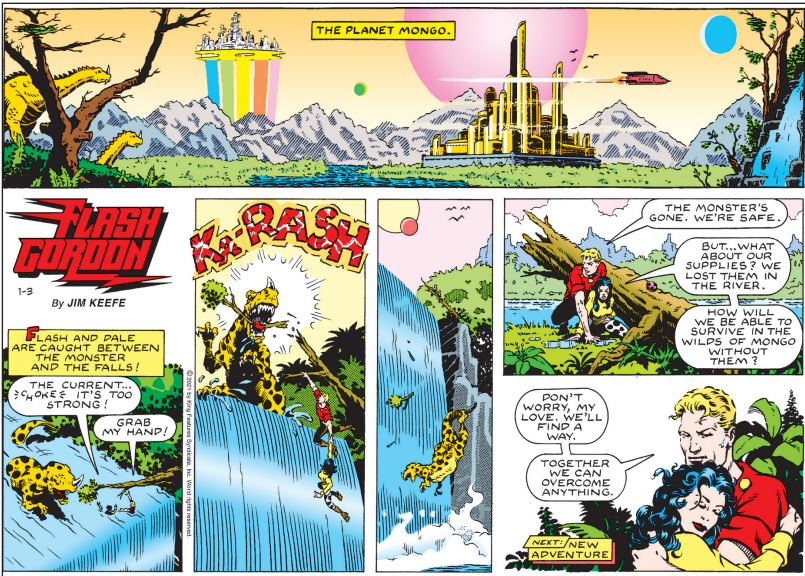


Sagittarius

Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

You forgot something important somewhere. Don't worry because it's going to turn up but not by searching for it everywhere. It might even turn out to be easily replaceable your not needed at all.

FLASH GORDON



SUDOKU

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   | 7 |   |   |   | 4 | 9 | 2 |   |
|   |   | 8 |   | 6 |   |   | 5 |   |
| 3 |   |   | 1 |   |   |   |   | 6 |
|   | 4 | 6 | 9 |   |   |   |   | 8 |
| 9 |   |   |   | 5 |   | 4 |   |   |
|   | 2 |   |   |   | 6 |   |   | 1 |
| 5 |   |   | 8 |   | 7 | 6 |   |   |
|   | 1 |   |   | 4 |   |   | 3 |   |
|   |   | 4 |   |   | 9 |   |   | 2 |

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | 7 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 8 | 4 | 9 | 8 |
| 6 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 2 |   |
| 4 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 8 | 6 | 8 | 5 |   |
| 1 | 6 | 8 | 9 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 2 |
| 2 | 9 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 8 | 6 |
| 5 | 8 | 2 | 8 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 1 |
| 9 | 4 | 2 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 8 |
| 8 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 6 | 4 |
| 8 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 9 |

Answer

2X PEANUTS



2X DILBERT

