

Students talk concerns with admin



GRAPHIC VIA CANVA

Various student organizations which represent different marginalized communities speak about their experiences with the president and administration of San Jose State.

By **Bojana Cvijic**
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Editor's note: University officials were not able to respond to requests for comment in time for publication, the story will be updated online as soon as they can respond.

Multiple students from different student organizations representing different marginalized communities at San Jose State say they feel President Cynthia Teniente-Matson and the administration are not doing enough to help represent groups on campus.

As much as 82.3% of SJSU's student population is made up of people from marginalized groups, according to Fall 2022 data from the university.

President Teniente-Matson completed her first 100 days in office on April 25, meeting with various campus community members and leaders during this time, according to the SJSU Office of The President webpage.

Carmina Bosmenier, liberal studies teacher-prep senior and descendant of the Yaqui peoples, an Indigenous group from Southern Sonora, Mexico, who migrated to modern day Southern Arizona, said she met with the president prior to spring break in March at Clark Hall to share her requests for Native students on campus for the future at SJSU.

"We met with the President and basically we told her that if we don't see a change or if the university doesn't respond, then as students we will respond," Bosmenier alleged. "That could mean a lot of different things. It could mean protesting, it could mean weeks of action like posting fliers . . . But after that comment, she was like, 'Is that a threat? Are you, Are you threatening me?'"

The president's office was not able to respond in time for publication.

Bosmenier said she believes the university has not done enough to advocate for the progress of Native students on campus with no relationships being built with the community.

"There is no relationship with the tribes that are the first people to have here in San Jose. So to us it wasn't a threat. It was simply just as relisting and demanding that we have some sort of support on campus and visible support. So we want visibility basically," Bosmenier said.

According to students, the president's office is allegedly not the only part of the university Native students have run into issues with.

Former Associated Students (A.S.) director Magnus Herrlin, who resigned from the board on March 30, which A.S. approved on April 12, has made remarks about Native students and the resources for which they've been asking.

According to documents obtained by the Spartan Daily, Herrlin's resignation was because of alleged misconduct on

the board and comments made about the Native community, undocumented students and South, West Asian and North African students, or SWANA, students.

According to the same documents, comments Herrlin allegedly made about Native students during A.S. meetings included accusing Native and other students of "playing identity politics."

Identity politics refers to the discussion of and politicking around issues pertaining to one's identity, according to an Aug. 17, 2017 Vox News article.

When students advocated for a center on campus this semester, he allegedly argued that including Indigenous/ Native students and their communities was divisive and was excluding other students of color, according to documents obtained by the Spartan Daily.

Herrlin also allegedly stated that A.S. cannot support one "small" portion of the student body and ignore the majority, according to the same documents.

Herrlin did not respond for comment.

The new Native American and Indigenous Studies Success Center, which will be located in the Spartan Memorial Chapel, is expected to have its grand opening in Fall 2023, according to an April 20 Spartan Daily article.

An anonymous student, who wished to not be identified because of privacy concerns, said they believe the president and administration has been careless in its support for the SWANA community.

The student, who is a part of SJSU's SWANA project, said they believe asking for resources in creating more visibility for the SWANA project, which includes a center and other actions including email blasts to the campus community, has gone unheard.

The SWANA project says it aims to recognize, support and hold a space for our South, West Asian, and North African population here at SJSU, according to its Instagram account webpage.

"Essentially what the President said was that we can't represent every minority that doesn't feel like they're represented," the student alleged.

The student also said they felt as though they were pitted against the Native community in order to advocate for a space for Muslim students on campus.

"When the [Native community] got their center, we [the Muslim community] can't argue against that because they deserve that, they needed it," they said. "So if you try to

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Local details houseless experience

By Rainier de Fort-Menares
NEWS EDITOR

Jaime Navarro, a 42-year-old San Jose resident, sits on his uncle's front porch with a flannel-clad shirt and some jeans, across from the Chevron gas station where he works.

He was houseless in the same area for nine years.

"In '95, my brother, he passed away from AIDS . . . my brother George Navarro, he was 25 years old," Navarro said. "My father, he passed away at 52 from cancer, two tumors in his head."

He said his sister died three years after his father.

"Carolina Navarro . . . there were five of us, she was like the backbone of our family," he said.

"My mother, she was young too, she passed away in 2008. She lasted the longest out of all of us, out of all my family."

Within the span of 13 years, Navarro lost all of his immediate family.

In 2001, Navarro and his then partner had a son, James Navarro. After his birth they separated and he was left alone to take care of his baby.

"It got kind of hard after a while," he said. "I had the house under my name and I ended up selling the house."

He said after selling his parents house, he started renting rooms in the area while trying to find a steady job.

Navarro and his son faced housing insecurity for the first time.

He said his son missed his mother and once they started facing housing insecurity, Navarro tried to reunite the two.

"I couldn't give the love that my son . . . wanted from his mother, I couldn't do that part," Navarro said.

He said his former partner lived in Gilroy at the time and she started a separate family. He got in contact with her by reaching out to James' aunt.

Navarro said the mom didn't want to have official custody of



BRANDON NICOLAS | SPARTAN DAILY

Jaime Navarro reflects on his experience being houseless in San Jose on Friday outside a family residence.

the child.

While trying to get his former partner to keep custody of his son, he was receiving money through the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs).

CalWORKs is a public assistance program by the California Department of Social Services that provides cash aid and other services to eligible families, according to its website.

Navarro said he worked alongside a CalWORKs caseworker to try and get his former partner to receive permanent custody of his son.

He said with the help of the caseworker, he realized the mom would want to keep custody if she was the one to receive the CalWORKs money.

Navarro gave up his custody for the benefit of his son. He said during this time, his son saw his mom as the "cool parent," which worsened their relationship.

"I mean, I lost my brother, my dad, my sister, my mom and then my son was against me," he said. "I just, I was hurt, man. I was really hurt."

Losing the money from CalWORKs was how Navarro ended up houseless.

When he was houseless, he stayed in the neighborhood he grew up in, along trails and occasionally staying at his friend's place.

Navarro said he started using drugs after he ended up houseless.

"I could never go forward because I couldn't hold down a job because I couldn't wake up the next day in the sense of – to take a shower, be clean, keep a commitment – the way it should be," he said.

Navarro said there was help available to him when he was houseless, but he was on drugs and never got the help he needed.

"I'm just so tired of ripping and running around," he said. "All I needed was a little bit of help, but I didn't want to be a burden to my family."

Navarro now lives in an emergency interim housing facility, or tiny home, in Rue Ferrari, San Jose. He works with a case manager to help him find more stable housing and a full-time job.

He works with Griselda Suarez, a HomeFirst Services case manager.

"I was introduced to [HomeFirst Services] and I love it now," Navarro said. "I mean, I love it now because it took me to another height of where I really want to be and they're helping me."

HomeFirst Services is a nonprofit organization that provides shelter and housing opportunities to the houseless and those at risk of becoming houseless in Santa Clara County, according to its website.

"[The tiny home gives you] a sense of belonging, you get your own key, your own shower, your own bathroom, your own heater, they feed you three times a day," Navarro said. "I feel like I want to do something with myself, I've been feeling that way. That's all I needed, was just that little push right there."

Suarez said she works with 40 participants and she has been assisting Navarro since January.

"Every case is different depending on the needs of everyone, therefore assessing their situation and being client centered has been a helpful method of supporting them through the process of getting back on their feet," she wrote in an email.

Navarro currently has a job at

a Chevron gas station in San Jose. He said he used to work at the same Chevron in 2018, but he couldn't keep the job because he was on drugs.

"But now I got my things in order now and they see that," he said. "And they gave me my job back because they see me trying."

Oscar Villalobos, assistant manager of the Chevron gas station Navarro works for, said he's proud of the progress Navarro has made and was happy to get him his job back.

"Seeing how it used to be before and now seeing how everything's going," Villalobos said. "It's like bubbles, like in the bubble bath, everything rising up. Now I see him rising up and it makes me really proud to see him, looking up to him."

Suarez said the temporary shelter where Navarro currently lives allows one individual to stay for 60 days with two extensions of two months. She said additional days past the two extensions could be provided depending on the case.

Navarro said his ultimate goal is to reunite and be happy with his son.

"This is part of my little destiny right now, everything coming together," Navarro said. "Everything from the tiny homes from me getting my stuff together is my goal – to have a spot where my son, he can come over and know that it's home for him too."

John Miranda, Navarro's uncle, described him as a positive person working towards his goals.

"[Jaime is] trying to show [unhoused] people out here where he was homeless, that if he can do it, they can do it," Miranda said.

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CONCERNS

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approach the issue, then it would seem like we will be fighting against the [Native community], but that's exactly not the case. [I believe] the issues are with the president, the system, the institution."

Carmina Bosmenier said she believes the two communities also had to fight for a small space on campus, and was allegedly told by Patrick Day, vice president for student affairs, that a lot of groups on campus are fighting for spaces.

Student affairs was not able to respond to requests for comment on this story.

"The university has kind of asked us to pick and choose which resources are our priority, because basically it's like, 'You're not all going to get it all,'" Bosmenier alleged. "So pick what you want most. If you want a center, OK cool, if you want a department, OK cool, we can help you work that out. It's just an idea of how they can satisfy our needs temporarily."

The anonymous student said they believe SJSU administration should not pick and choose what marginalized communities to support.

"Something at the SWANA meeting with Associated Students [on March 23] that I mentioned, was that SJSU, with all of its glory of saying that like, 'We're so diverse and we value everything,' and all that with all of their emails and posts is like they should pick and choose what they want to be diverse about," the student said.

Zaid Yousef, business analytics senior and member of the Muslim Student Association, said he also believes the group's interactions

with the president have not been productive.

Starting in September 2022, MSA members allegedly reached out to then Interim President Steve Perez about a website on the SJSU domain that was used as a resource for Christian faculty members.

One of the links listed as a resource on the domain is to Prager University, a right-wing nonprofit website that says it promotes Islamophobia, anti-LGBTQ+ and anti-immigrant viewpoints, according to a Jan. 4, 2020 New York Times article.

Yousef said after Perez wasn't selected as the new president, he claims the group decided to follow up with incoming President Teniente-Matson about the link on the website.

"That email has had no reply, and that was back in January," Yousef alleged.

According to documents obtained by the Spartan Daily, the emails that were sent to multiple SJSU administrators on Jan. 12 had two replies from Joanne Wright, senior vice president for university personnel, saying she would look into the concerns of the Muslim Student Association.

According to the same documents, Wright responded in the email chain stating the websites on SJSU's domain are currently being updated by the SJSU Marketing and Communications department and she will update students on the progress.

The university has not responded to the Muslim Student Association's emails since January, including their six follow-up emails, one of which was sent as recent as April 28, according to the documents.

Other Muslim students claimed they expressed concerns to the president about the resources Muslim students lack during

Ramadan, the holiest month in the religion, and concerns of not having a proper prayer space on campus, during a May open Q&A forum.

"The president's response was basically, 'I didn't know about anything until mid-February, that I didn't hear about anything from you guys until mid-February,'" Yousef alleged. "While we do have the email to show that back in January, even there was this attempt to open a line of communication. It just wasn't reciprocated."

The event in mid-February the president seemed to be referring to was "Pizza with the President" in the MOSAIC Cross Cultural Center.

Yousef claims that during the event, he, along with other Muslim Student Association members, asked to speak to the president for a short amount of time and to also check out the prayer space for Muslim students, which he believes has been a years-long issue at the university.

"Mid-conversation, I was expressing that as Muslim students, last semester, we conducted a survey to show the need for a prayer space," Yousef claimed. "So I was still mid-sentence, quite literally mid-sentence, explaining that we conducted the survey and my offer to send the survey data to her, that's when she cut me off and she said, 'That's not needed.'"

Yousef said he believes the interaction was shocking, especially with the new president who came to the event to communicate with other students.

"To me, this was a clear indicator that not only are you dismissing our efforts of something that you should have done in the first place or something that SJSU administration should have done in the first place, but here you are after we did our due diligence, after

we did our part, after we surveyed over 200 Muslim students, you [are] shutting this off," Yousef claimed.

Tarentz Charite, math freshman and president of Students for a Democratic Society, said their group's statement to the president and administration specifically focuses on allowing Turning Point USA to host an anti-abortion event on May 3 at the Student Union Theater.

Turning Point USA is a conservative youth group that mainly campaigns on college campuses across the U.S., according to an Oct. 23, 2021 article by The Guardian.

The SJSU chapter of Turning Point USA officially became a recognized student organization this spring.

Charite is referring to the May 3 anti-abortion event "Protecting the Unborn" hosted by the SJSU chapter of Turning Point USA.

"It's disappointing the university let that anti-abortion rally, that event, happen. The President has a choice to either be complacent or actually make change on this campus, and Turning Point's rhetoric leads to violence, ultimately, it does," Charite said. "Violence against women, violence against trans people, violence against anyone who has a uterus is able to become pregnant."

Charite said they believe the scary part is that it makes them qualified for A.S. funding, in which they can use university tools to spread "hateful rhetoric."

They said two of their friends had hateful comments directed toward them by Turning Point members during tabling at 7th Street Plaza.

"They screamed at her, 'Not your body, not your choice,' and then another said, 'Must suck not being American bro,' to an Asian American person," Charite alleged.

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PHOTOS BY SHRUTHI LAKSHMANAN | SPARTAN DAILY ARCHIVES

South West Asian and North African (SWANA) student organization members practice henna at a social event in the fall semester of 2022 at SJSU's campus.

Student group calls for cultural center

By **Jeremy Martin**
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Editor's note: Spartan Daily illustrator Myenn Rahnoma is a member of the SWANA student organization.

Students on campus are fighting for more representation for minority groups.

Associated Students at San Jose State, along with several other student organizations, put forth the SWANA Project, according to the SWANA Project at SJSU Instagram page.

SWANA encompasses South, West Asian and North African global regions. The SWANA Project aims to create a safe all-inclusive space for students who identify within the SWANA community on campus, according to its Instagram page.

Wahhab Salemi, freshman political science major and co-founder of SWANA at SJSU, said that the SWANA Project involves a number of student organizations on campus and aims to develop a SWANA center on campus.

"The project itself is a movement that was initiated by staff and students from the Cesar Chavez Community Action

of many end goals that promote representation for SWANA students both on a social and academic level at SJSU.

"Having a SWANA focused minor or program within sociology or ethnic studies, having classes that specifically speak to SWANA experiences, having institutionalized recognition of SWANA things such as recognizing religious holidays, recognizing cultural holidays, cultural food options, those kinds of things," Yang said. "The representation of SWANA identity and the data that we gather from students, whether that's application data or survey data SWANA focused events and programs, so, there are a lot of different ways in which the campus can commit to supporting the SWANA students."

Ultimately, Yang said the end goal here is to have more representation on campus.

He also said there are even more ways for the college to show its support.

Junior political science major Dominic Treseler acts as a liaison



Maryam Moshref (above) places a Moteekah on Domenique Servin's head (bottom) at the first SWANA Project social in Fall 2022.

fought to have a sort of minor, SWANA studies," Treseler said.

Treseler said that after these efforts, SWANA is now recognized on Cal State Apply. SWANA students no longer have to group themselves in with other ethnic groups that don't represent them.

Yang said the end goal of a student center that provides even more support for SWANA students is still a bit far-fetched and would require the cooperation of the college to help a SWANA center function.

Yang said that this would include hiring a staff, funding and room space for a student center.

"So, there would need to be a chunk of money that could be carved out of the campus budget. The thing that is really difficult to find on campus is also space," Yang said.

Salemi said SWANA has been working along other student organizations to help make this happen.

"We're working with A.S. and just like we've been working with a whole bunch of other student groups and campus organizations," Salemi said. "They've been a really great ally and partner in helping us with this movement in terms of giving us a platform and helping spread our message."

However, Salemi said that SWANA really depends on the college having an open mind in supporting these students.

"The main thing is, I don't think it should be on us students, I wish the administration would kind of

show willingness to engage with this work, and I have a hope that they will eventually," Salemi said. "I think we really need support from SJSU to make this project a reality."

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Editor's Note:

The Spartan Daily will
resume publication on
Aug. 21, 2023.
For breaking news,
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Correction

On Wednesday, May 4, the Spartan Daily published a story "SJSU prepares for largest construction project to date," in which we misidentified Robert Wood.

The Spartan Daily regrets this error.

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The center will be a cultural sanctuary, a space to raise awareness on social justice issues and to provide professional networking opportunities.

Wahhab Salemi

Political science freshman and co-founder of SWANA at SJSU

Center, Center for Asian Pacific Islander Student Empowerment, the Mosaic Cross Cultural Center and the Afghan Student Association, to develop a center for students identifying as a part of the SWANA demographic here at SJSU," Salemi said.

Salemi said that a designated student center, similar to the Center for Asian Pacific Islander Student Empowerment center, will help SWANA students significantly and create the desired safe space for these students to thrive.

"Ultimately, I think we hope to see a SWANA center open at SJSU, we envision the center serving as a safe space and support system for SWANA students," Salemi said.

He said that the student center could do more to support the SWANA population than just creating a safe space for them to come together.

"The center will be a cultural sanctuary, a space to raise awareness on social justice issues and to provide professional networking opportunities," Salemi said.

While a student center that offers these opportunities is a goal for SWANA, Christopher Yang, the director of the Mosaic Cross Cultural Center on campus, works with SWANA as a pseudo-advisor.

He says that a center is just one

to the SWANA Project through Associated Students.

He said that this overwhelmingly important emphasis on representation is justified.

"What I understand is that this is a group, which historically has not been given representation, and not even recognized as its own kind of cultural ethnic community," Treseler said.

Treseler is referring to students who have to pick demographic categories to identify themselves on Cal State Apply.

Cal State Apply is a website that students use to apply to CSU institutions.

Treseler also said that prior to efforts that were brought forth to fight for more representation at CSU Fullerton, SWANA students had to choose to group themselves in with other ethnic groups on Cal State Apply.

"But for me, at least, I saw that there was work being done at CSU Fullerton, to establish a SWANA center, as we have centers for a lot of our other ethnic cultural communities," Treseler said.

Treseler saw that there was more potential for opportunity for more representation.

"That was a fight that in addition to a center, they fought to have SWANA as a recognized category on CSU apply, they

Muslim students request resources

By Christine Tran
STAFF WRITER

The Muslim Student Association (MSA) at San Jose State hosted a variety of social, religious and humanitarian events for Muslim students to come together and celebrate Eid.

Those of the Islamic faith recently observed the holy month of Ramadan on March 22 until Eid on April 20, when the month of fasting ended.

During Ramadan, able-bodied Muslims avoid consuming food and beverages, including water, from dawn to sunset every day of the month and do additional worship, according to a March 2023 PBS article.

Many Muslims read from the Quran, the central religious text of revelations from God to the Prophet Muhammad.

The text says fasting can help believers grow closer to God, according to the same PBS article.

Mehmood Rahmatullah, applied and computational mathematics senior, serves as the president of MSA. He said his current role in the religious organization has allowed him to meet other Muslim students on campus.

“We all share the same experiences,” Rahmatullah said. “We share the same struggles, we share a lot of issues and passions and to be able to meet people who have the same family background, have the same religious background and be able to connect with them . . . it just provides a sense of community.”

Rahmatullah said MSA had at least 100 students show up to its events during Ramadan. He said for that reason, SJSU should have catered better to its Muslim students during Ramadan.

“We need a free space that we



CHRISTINE TRAN | SPARTAN DAILY

San Jose State Muslim Students participating in Friday prayers in the MOSAIC Cultural Center.

have unlimited access to and by the campus not providing it for us, they are denying us a very basic right that we have as a religion on campus,” he said.

The only designated praying space Muslim students currently

daily prayers that last until the evening, but the MOSAIC Cross Cultural Center closes at 6 p.m. during weekday hours, according to its webpage.

According to a recent MSA survey on the existing prayer

are a lot of shortcomings from an administration perspective in regards to accommodating Muslim students’ needs on campus.

“The administration, this past year, has been truly abysmal in

“

We share the same struggles, we share a lot of issues and passions and to be able to meet people who have the same family background, have the same religious background and be able to connect with them . . . it just provides a sense of community.

Mehmood Rahmatullah

applied and computational mathematics senior

have access to on campus is a small room located in the MOSAIC Cross Cultural Center, which has one prayer mat and can only be used by five to seven students at a time.

Muslims also partake in five

room, 88% of the 201 students who responded said they have had to wait to use the space before.

Zaid Yousef, business analytics senior and events director of MSA, said there

responding to Muslim concerns,” Yousef said. “The top of that is having a Muslim prayer space or prayer space in general, whether it be interfaith or be a meditation space.”

Interim deputy diversity officer

Patience Bryant sent a mass email to the SJSU community on March 13 and included Ramadan as an observed religious holiday .

“For Muslims, Ramadan will begin the evening of March 22 and conclude the evening of April 21 and the observance of Eid al-Fitr on April 22,” Bryant said in the email. “Many Muslims in our community will be fasting during this time and changes in sleeping, eating and physical activity levels may be affected.”

Bryant embedded the University Policy S14-7, Accommodation to Students’ Religious Holidays, for students and faculty to refer to in the same email.

Students are allowed to miss graded classwork or activities when observing a religious holiday, according to University Policy.

Yousef said members of MSA reached out to administration to ask for more than one day off, but said they were shrugged off.

“That wasn’t really applicable for Muslims who are observing the entire month of special dedication,” he said.

Junior biomedical engineering Aasiya Jabbar said while SJSU allowed Muslim students to be absent from classes during Ramadan, many had issues leaving school that Thursday for Eid since it’s the last day of the month-long holiday.

“I think having a day or two off during Ramadan would be nice, but I think having the day off for Eid would be most ideal,” Jabbar said.

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ASSISTANCE REQUEST DATA

OF 667 STUDENTS FROM 2021-2022



SOURCE: SJSU CARES 2021-2022 SUMMARY STATS

SJSU CARES

667 students requested assistance from SJSU Cares from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

From the requests, 64.5% needed housing resources, 45% needed financial counseling and 30.7% of students needed assistance with food resources.

Students may have overlapping requests.

INFOGRAPHIC BY IRENE ADELIN MILANEZ

Rapid Rehousing to end in June

SJSU Cares program to rehouse students will end, ceasing financial aid for students struggling with housing insecurities.

By Dylan Newman
STAFF WRITER

The SJSU Cares Rapid Rehousing Program, a state-funded pilot program that was first established in 2020, is scheduled to end on June 30, which will cease current and future financial aid to students dealing with housing insecurities.

SJSU Cares provides resources and services for students who need help with financial, food and housing insecurities, according to a university webpage.

Case managers are assigned based on students' requests and personally aid students in tackling their hardships.

SJSU Cares is partnered with the Bill Wilson Center, a non-profit community support organization in San Jose, to run the Rapid Rehousing Program at SJSU.

Kristen Weaver, student affairs case manager, said students currently enrolled in the program are working with the Bill Wilson Center and have received more robust financial support.

She said case management is the way to access a number of services in terms of housing.

"If students have questions about what housing options there are in

the county of Santa Clara, they can always reach out to us, to me, a case manager, to



Students really represent that probably more than anybody because here are young people trying to, on one hand, put their lives together, get an education, obviously make higher wages and then they're stumbling over the cost of housing.

learn more about what's out there," Weaver said. "Case management is sort of an overarching support system to get connected to other resources in the area."

She also said the partnership between SJSU Cares and the Bill Wilson Center will continue to stay strong after the program ends.

Weaver said students will continue to receive support from the center's individual case management systems and additional programs that support members of the LGBTQ+ community and violent crime victims.

667 requests for assistance were submitted to SJSU Cares from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. The submission form for these requests allowed students to indicate what sort of assistance they needed help with.

30.7% of them required assistance with food resources, 45% needed financial counseling and 64.5% required housing/houseless resources, according to an annual summary statistics report published by SJSU Cares.

27 people participated in the Rapid Rehousing program during this period of time, funding longer term

rental support, employment and budget assistance to its members.

A large majority of students requesting housing assistance have declined emergency housing support because they were housed immediately, but still had concerns with paying rent for their spaces.

Pastor Scott Wagers, founder of the Community Homeless Alliance Ministry (CHAM), is an advocate for the unhoused and the original founder of the San Jose State Student Homeless Alliance (SHA) back in 1991.

He said his ministry has been around for about 22 years and has sheltered unhoused individuals in the back of the church despite it being illegal.

"[Students] need housing, they need resources," Wagers said. "When you don't have a roof over your head, it's always challenging."

Wagers said the idea of students being houseless when he was at San Jose State in the '90s was unheard of.

"The cost of housing is the principal problem that contributes to people becoming unhoused," Wagers said. "Students really

trying to, on one hand, put their lives together, get an education, obviously make higher wages and then they're stumbling over the cost of housing."

Wagers said his work consists of going out to homeless encampments along San Jose's creek beds to provide support to them.

He's worked alongside San Jose State sociology professor Scott Myers-Lipton, whose activism class led SHA to hold a successful protest in front of Interim SJSU President Stephen Perez. He was the first university president to ever attend one of their protests, according to an

sociology major and president of SHA, spoke as the student organizations' president at this protest.

He said that he thought the ending of the Rapid Rehousing Program is not fair to the students of the seven CSU schools that participated in this pilot program.

Majano said this could potentially affect hundreds if not thousands of students utilizing rapid rehousing programs throughout California State Universities with no replacement announced.

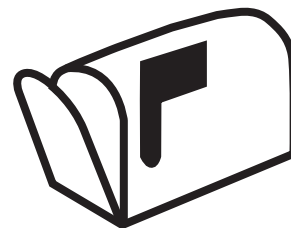
"The university should better advertise its existing programs to help [students] to some sort of relief for their issues, and if the issue persists then more funding should be allocated to these programs in order to improve their ability to address this crisis," Majano said. "It is incredibly heartbreaking to think about how little care is being given to these students."

Scott Wagers
Founder of Community Homeless Alliance Ministry

April 22, 2022 article by San Jose Spotlight.

Anthony Majano, senior

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The Spartan Daily prides itself on being the San Jose State community's top news source. New issues are published every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday throughout the academic year and online content updated daily. The Spartan Daily is written and published by San Jose State students as an expression of their First Amendment rights. Reader feedback may be submitted as letters to the editor or online comments.

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EDITORIAL POLICY

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EP REVIEW

\$uicideboy\$ EP is a massive failure

By Vanessa Tran
A&E EDITOR

New Orleans hip-hop duo \$uicideboy\$ released "YIN YANG TAPES: Spring Season (1989-1990)" last Friday and I was not impressed.

As a huge fan of the past work from the cousins, Ruby da Cherry and \$crim missed the mark with this project.

This is the first of four EPs the duo are set to release this month, each one accompanying the four seasons of the year, according to Side Stage Magazine.

All four songs sound extremely similar and don't match the overall vibe of springtime. The EP definitely has an old Memphis rap sound, but is executed poorly.

I hope this Memphis sound \$uicideboy\$ are trying to achieve is done correctly in the future if they want to continue experimenting within the genre.

The duo needs to take notes from artists like Three 6 Mafia and La Chat, who have made a name for themselves.

This new sound they're trying to play around with doesn't mesh well with their raspy vocals and violent lyrics, which explore themes of death and drugs.

I usually judge an artist's opening track the harshest because it gives me a good sense of what the rest of the project is going to sound like.

The first track, "Spring Season Intro," told me everything I needed to know.

I just want to know what the hell the duo was thinking while writing the lyrics "Better get an umbrella, motherfucker / (Oh shit I think a storm's comin') / From the mothafuckin' east bank to the west bank, bitch."

I'm good at interpreting lyrics, but this shit just sounds so corny.

I absolutely hated each track, and have to say this is their worst project to date. I tried giving "YIN YANG TAPES: Spring Season (1989-1990)" multiple chances,



ILLUSTRATION BY HANNAH GREGORIC

but only got more annoyed with each listen.

It's evident they were lazy with this EP because each track sounds like a single song that was cut into four parts.

I don't expect each song to be drastically different,

but their lack of effort is clear with the repetitive use of autotune in their voices.

I expect the continuous use of autotune from artists such as T-Pain and Travis Scott, but not from them.

The filter on the duo's voices completely killed it for me and forced me to replay each track several times because they sound so muffled.

When I'm listening to an EP, I should not be Googling the lyrics to every single track.

Listeners will waste more time trying to dissect what each rapper is saying instead of listening to the song.

The only thing I liked about

this project was the cover art because of how chaotic it is.

All of their albums, EPs and singles have amazing visuals that are super dark and sinful, complimenting their signature sound.

I absolutely adored their 2022 album, "DIRTIESTNASTIEST\$UICIDE," so I'm shocked at how ass this EP is.

After listening to this, I'm not too stoked for the three EPs set to come out later this May.

If I had to predict which project is going to be the best out of the series, it would probably be their fall one. I think their sound combined with sad lyrics, a mood

that's commonly felt in the colder seasons, will compliment each other really well.

I really hope the summer EP doesn't disappoint me as much as this one because it'll lower the chances of me listening to the rest of the series.

album review

**"YIN YANG TAPES:
Spring Season
(1989-1990)"**

Rating:



Artist:
\$uicideboy\$
Release Date:
May 5, 2023
Genre:
Hip-hop

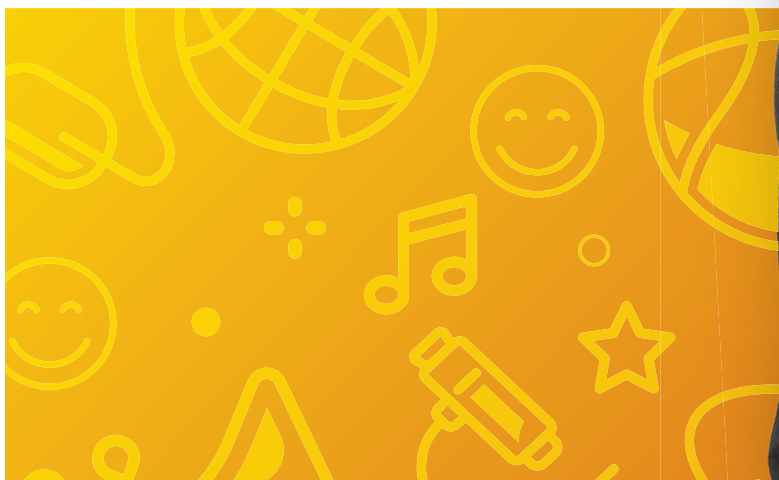
Jeremy's Final Campaign

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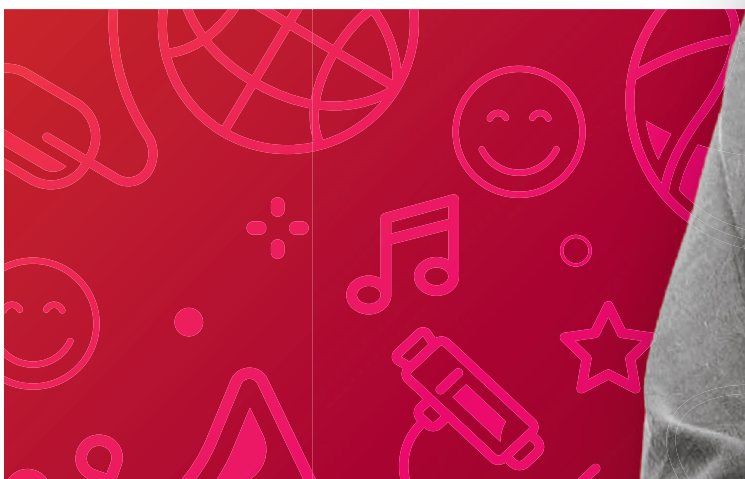
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