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Whittier College

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# QUAKER CAMPUS

OCTOBER 13, 2023

THE VOICE OF WHITTIER COLLEGE SINCE 1914

VOLUME 22 — ISSUE 4



Whittier is issuing a lawsuit against L.A. County.

LEVI CLANCY / WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

## Whittier Says ‘Goodbye SAT!’

Alissa Portillo  
DEPUTY EDITOR

Whittier College posted on its *Instagram* and *LinkedIn* page an announcement informing the public that the College is now following a “test-blind, holistic admissions process,” which means that the school will not consider an applicant’s SAT or ACT test scores for admission decisions.

If students were not aware of this change via social media, students received an email on Sept. 27, where President Dillon announced the change, stating, “under the leadership of Interim Vice President for Enrollment Ken M. Woods ‘84, we adopted a test-blind policy and updated our admissions website to reflect it.”

The advantage of this adoption, according to the President, is that it “casts aside a perceived application hurdle for interested families, especially those with first-generation and low-income students, by making our admissions process easier to understand and ultimately more successful.”

Furthermore, it was also stated that the College has already built a successful foundation for knowing which applicants will succeed at Whittier but, if the tests are what stands in the way of students applying, they state, “we decided they were hurting students who deserve review.”

This news comes after the already-noted challenge the College has faced this academic year concerning low enrollment. So, this new change raises a question as to whether the college aims to increase enrollment numbers for the upcoming academic years with its test-blind policy.

There is developing research being conducted as more colleges are discontinuing the requirement for SAT and ACT scores to be considered when making applicant-based decisions. According to The National Center for Fair and Open Testing, there are currently 2,015 colleges that have moved (or plan to move in the next academic school year of 2024-2025) from test-re-

quired to test-optional.

Under this list, Whittier College is the 1960th college to become a test-optional institution. Well-known UC and CalState institutions like Berkeley, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Long Beach, Fullerton, Irvine, Merced, and many more are now test-free, meaning students do not have to submit the test scores at all when applying with them.

To support the purposes of the change, research was conducted with an emphasis on studying the advantages of a test-optional approach to applications. The findings of the study say that “the years following adoption of a test-optional policy saw increases in the total number of applications -- by an average of 29 percent at private institutions and 11 percent at public institutions.”

Moreover, there was an increase in Black and Latino students applying and being admitted to these institutions.

Additionally, Akil Bello, the Director of Equity and Success for Princeton’s Review Works states, “standardized tests fail to measure the potential of many minority and low-income students, leaving them at a disadvantage in being considered for admission.”

Bello further touches on what message a college sends to its students, faculty, and general public when making the decision to discontinue required test scores for admission.

Bello states, “When a college announces a test-optional policy, it also conveys to students that the college is aware of and sensitive to issues that impact low-income and underrepresented students and this awareness can signal to applicants an aware and inviting institutional culture.”

Evidently, the College’s goal of ending SAT/ACT testing requirements as part of the admissions process aligns with those that have been found in current research.

For more information on blind testing, the Office of Admissions can be contacted at 562.907.4238 and Office of Financial Aid at 562.907.4285.

## No Bail Means No Jail

Gabriel Ramirez  
STAFF WRITER

Los Angeles County recently passed a bill that would require all police departments in the county to institute a zero-bail system for those arrested for non-violent crimes. After a risk assessment is made, those deemed as “low risk offenders” will not be held in jail while awaiting their trial.

The most notable offenses that are not eligible for the zero-bail policy are those that are considered sexual offenses, domestic violence, and crimes involving weapons. The

passing of this bill came in response to growing pressure from those who see the cash bail system as a system that disproportionately affects low income defendants. This order was scheduled to take effect on Oct. 1, but has since been challenged by the cities of Arcadia, Artesia, Covina, Downey, Glendora, Industry, Lakewood, La Verne, Palmdale, Santa Fe Springs and Vernon, with Whittier at the helm.

The lawsuit states that cities should be allowed to opt out of the new regulation. The order took effect anyway, but the case is still pending with multiple city officials

weighing in. The mayor of Glendora Gary Boyer, commented, “The zero-bail schedule fails to support local leaders in their pledge to protect their residents, and that is unacceptable.”

The mayor of Whittier, Joe Vinitieri, stated “It has become increasingly difficult to ignore the challenges our communities are facing and what happens when there are no consequences for breaking the law.”

Even those working in the community have a very uneasy feeling as to what the repercussions of this...

See **Bail**, page 3.



The report complies with federal regulations.

COURTESY OF DEPARTMENT OF CAMPUS SAFETY

## 2022 Fire and Safety Report Published

Sarah Licon  
NEWS EDITOR

On Oct. 1, the Whittier College Department of Campus Safety published the 2022 Annual Security and Fire Safety Report, a federal requirement that details statistics of campus crime and safety protocols.

A banner announcing the report was sent out to the student body via email on Oct. 2, signed off by Vanessa Gonzalez of the Whittier College Department of Public Safety. The report was released before an active shooter training seminar on Oct. 4 and two weeks prior to the Great California Shakeout earth-

quake drill.

The report complies with the “Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Public Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act of 1998.” The Clery Act requires all colleges and universities to publish an annual report that details safety measures and keeps track of crime on-campus and locally. The Higher Education Opportunity Act (2008) also requires institutions to include information for residence halls.

According to the Department of Campus Safety, the report aims to, “provide current and prospective students, faculty, and staff with safety and security information about

Whittier College.”

The report classifies three possible areas where crime occurs: on-campus, on-campus residential spaces, and non-campus, which includes areas affiliated with the College but classified as “any building or property owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the institution.” This includes the Broadoaks School campus and last year, Wardman House, prior to its sale.

In 2022, there were four on-campus burglaries, with three occurring within the residence halls. Disciplinary action was enacted in two...

See **Fire and Safety** on page 3



NUNE PAPIYAKIN / QUAKER CAMPUS

Multiple universities discontinued SAT requirements.

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# On Strike: COVID's Toll on the Healthcare Industry



Healthcare workers are protesting low wages.

ANDREW CABALLERO-REYNOLDS / GETTY IMAGES

**Sarah Licon**  
NEWS EDITOR

Countless Southern California healthcare workers have been on strike within the first weeks of October.

The strikes were kickstarted on Oct. 4 when about 75,000 Kaiser Permanente healthcare workers walked off the job, starting a three-day, nationwide strike that is being recognized as the largest health care worker strike in the United States. Union coalitions and strikers are urging Kaiser Permanente to increase wages and combat understaffing—which has remained an issue since the pandemic's early days. They are also demanding Kaiser Permanente to notify remote staff when to report to in-person work at an earlier time, and discontinue outsourcing.

To meet demands, the company agreed to a four percent wage increase on Oct. 1, which was shut down by workers and unions as it does not supplement living costs. Instead, strikers are advocating for a pay increase of 6.5 percent, with a 5.75 percent increase following the first two years of the labor contract. The company has agreed to some of the negotiations, including the promise to notify remote workers 60 days ahead of scheduled in-person work and to double down on outsourcing from third-party con-

tractors.

Caroline Lucas, Executive Director of the Kaiser Permanente Union Coalition, in an interview with *PBS*, calls the reasons for the strike a “patient care crisis,” noting that long waiting times, due to understaffing, have contributed to loss of business and “patient care suffer[ing].” Some patients are enduring long waiting times in emergency care departments. According to Lucas, Kaiser has failed to address the issue of understaffing, opting to ignore health care workers’ suggestions of how to attract more staff to “less desirable” shifts, such as night shifts and weekend shifts, and to increase staff training.

As of now, the strikers are on hiatus but are planned to resume the first week of November if a new contract is not negotiated upon.

On a more local basis, more than a thousand Southern California healthcare workers are echoing those demands, engaging in a five-day strike that started Oct. 9 and is

scheduled to end Friday, Oct. 13.

The demands range from understaffing to increased wages, to improved working conditions.

The workers, united under SEIU- (Service Employees International Union) UHW (United Healthcare Workers West), operate under Prime Healthcare, a company that owns four hospitals in the greater Los Angeles area. Among the hospitals striking is St. Francis Medical Center, one of the largest healthcare facilities in the county.

Mayra Castenada, a spokesperson for the workers, explains that patient demand, due to low staff, has cut the workers’ lunch breaks and contributed to extended work hours.

The SEIU-UHW website reports, “Serving on the frontlines of the pandemic has driven many to leave – exhausted and demoralized as healthcare corporations put profits over people.” In regards to understaffing, the Union reports, “[Patients] are waiting weeks, some-

times months, to be seen.”

According to the National Library of Medicine, the healthcare staff shortage is a national problem, exacerbated by the pandemic’s influence on the labor market—a phenomenon known as “The Great Resignation.” Now, with more employees leaving their jobs and Baby Boomers retiring, service jobs are seeing a decrease in employment.

To combat this issue, companies have been reaching out to international employees and developing connections with nursing agencies. Other short-term solutions are to introduce Artificial Intelligence (AI) to implement staff scheduling to avoid employees working double shifts.

Giving nurse practitioners the authority to conduct business without the need of a physician can improve staff shortages, as well as implementing new public health programs that can prevent people from seeking care at medical facilities for health issues that could be avoided. Healthcare facilities are also turning towards telehealth or telemedicine, a practice where medical staff communicate and treat patients virtually, which was utilized at the height of the pandemic.

Additionally, the growing population of Baby Boomers in need of medical care has led to a higher demand for healthcare workers. This in turn, has contributed, to collective burnout, says USC Keck School of Medicine.

Unfavorable wages for college faculty has also led to staff shortages, as there are less prospective healthcare workers entering the industry. During the 2019-2020 school year, 80,047 nursing applicants were refused from college campuses due to

nursing faculty shortages.

Collectively, there have been 18 healthcare worker strikes across the United States in 2023 alone, with most of them occurring in California.

The strikes come at the height of what economists deem a “strike year.” Just last month, more than a thousand tenant workers marched in Downtown L.A. to protest a nine percent rent increase set to take effect in 2024. Thousands of Hollywood screenwriters just ratified a new contract with production companies, ending a 146 day strike SAG-AFTRA, the actor union failed to make negotiations with production companies, continuing the strike. Over the summer, more than hundreds of hotel workers took to the streets to demand a living wage.

And Los Angeles is not on strike alone. Detroit is in the midst of one of the largest auto worker strikes in the nation, and Whittier College’s own cafeteria workers are anticipating contract negotiations in October.

According to a recent study, this influx of strikes (increased by almost 50 percent last year) comes from pandemic induced inflation, which has raised fundamental costs, including the cost of living. Job security became an issue post-pandemic as understaffing and bankruptcy plagued American businesses.

Income inequality is also on the rise, with income and worker productivity continually at odds since 1979. This situation, according to the *Economic Policy Institute*, was exacerbated due to a decline in unionization, which rose within the last few years.

In addition, the effects of unemployment during the pandemic has caused millions of Americans to struggle on “catching up” on multiple expenses, including rent.

As the U.S. remains in a state of ongoing strikes, the question of what comes next remains.

This article has been condensed for print. If you would like to read the full article, you can at [medium.org/thequakercampus](https://medium.com/thequakercampus).

*“Serving on the frontlines of the pandemic has driven many to leave – exhausted and demoralized as healthcare corporations put profits over people.”*

**-SEIU- UHW**

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Submissions may be emailed to [qc@poets.whittier.edu](mailto:qc@poets.whittier.edu) in .doc or .docx format. Submissions must include the author’s name and year of graduation or position at the college in the signature. Letters are due by Tuesday at 5 p.m. to make it into that week’s issue. Submissions should be no more than 500 words. Letters should be well-proofread, as they will not be edited. Letters that fall outside of these guidelines will be returned to the author with a request for revision.

Due to the high cost of publication, members of the Whittier College community are permitted three copies per issue. Additional copies may be purchased with prior approval for 50 cents each by contacting the *Quaker Campus*. Newspaper theft is a crime, and those who violate the three copy rule may be subject to civil and criminal prosecution.

The *Quaker Campus* does not change material posted on online articles once they have been published in the paper — with the exception of an error being found. Only then will a correction be made to the online version. The *Quaker Campus* is a publication of Whittier College. Columns and Signed editorials do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Whittier College or its affiliates.

## No Bail: Whittier Police Oppose New Policy



More than 50% of the Whittier budget is allocated towards Whittier PD.

ANDREW CULLEN / LAIST

Bail from page 1.

...decision will mean. A bureaucrat in the LA Court House, who requested to stay anonymous, said, "It's hard to say that there's a unified opinion here. Some people think it's a good thing, some people are upset about it.

Others are glad that the workload might get a lot lighter. But most agree not to talk about it too much around each other."

The tune has been much more decisive in Whittier. An officer in the Whittier Police Department, who also wished to remain anonymous, stated "It's just another example of people who don't live in Whittier making rules that we have to follow."

"Whittier is not Los Angeles, they don't understand how our community works."

When asked what the overall feeling was at the Department he

said, "Definitely not good, I can tell you that. As time goes on, it seems like we have less and less control over how we interact with the community. Whittier takes pride in its police department, we do right by our neighbors. The best way to keep Whittier safe is no one's business except the people of Whittier."

This sentiment is what lays at the heart of the lawsuit as cities balk at the thought of implementing such a sweeping change that they had no

direct say on.

Though some in the community have praised the change, Whittier has long been a very pro-police town. The Policing budget allocation for the 2022-2023 fiscal year was \$44,322,463 of the \$85,910,297 total. This means that 52 percent of the budget is dedicated solely to community policing, a figure that has remained consistent over the past few years.

In 2020, there was a push to

petition the Whittier City Council to reallocate funds. However, the petition only received an abysmal 4,841 signatures, falling short of their 5,000 minimum signature goal. There have since been no attempts to revive the proposal. With the law having gone into effect for less than two weeks, only time will tell how this impacts the community at large.

For more information on the policy, visit [lapdonline.org](http://lapdonline.org).

*"It has become increasingly difficult to ignore the challenges our communities are facing and what happens when there are no consequences for breaking the law."*

**-Joe Vinateri, Mayor of Whittier**

## Fire and Safety Report On-Campus Crime

Fire and Safety from page 1

...cases of drug possession and six cases of Liquor Law Violation, which is the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages, involving persons under the age of 21 years old. Discipline regarding the possession of a weapon also occurred in 2022 with one incident. Violent crimes, including assault, manslaughter, and sexual crimes were at a zero, with the last on-campus crime occurring in 2020.

The numbers of Liquor Law Violation and drug possession were noticeably lower, as opposed to 2021 and 2020, where the number of discipline-related offenses concerning drug possession were at 11 in 2021 and 19 in 2020. The decrease in numbers could be attributed to the drop in enrollment over the years. The statistics are on par with Whittier's crime statistics, with property crimes slightly higher than the national average in 2020, according to [City-Data.com](http://City-Data.com).

Prevention tips to avoid burglary can be located on the Whittier Police Department website, which include, but are not limited to:

- Never leave any items in plain view. Backpacks, purses, shopping bags, MP3 players, glasses, cell phones and other visible items will invite a burglar to smash your window.

- Park in busy, well-lit areas. Safeguard your purse or wallet. Do not leave them unattended and check contents regularly.

On a national level, a 2020 report classifies sexual assault as the most frequent on-campus crime. In response to this, the Clery Report has a "Tips for Risk Reduction" page, with tips including

- If you have limits, make them known as early as possible.
- Tell a sexual aggressor "NO" clearly and firmly.
- Try to remove yourself from the physical presence of a sexual aggressor.
- Find someone nearby and ask for help.
- Take affirmative responsibility for your alcohol intake/drug use and acknowledge that alcohol/drugs lower your sexual inhibitions and may make you vulnerable to someone who views a drunk or high person as a sexual opportunity.
- Take care of your friends and ask that they take care of you. A real friend will challenge you if you are about to make a mistake; respect them when they do.

The report also provides resources for victims of assault, as well as local hospital and emergency centers including Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital (PIH), and San



1. Weingart Hall	12. Stauffer Hall	23. The Rock	35. College Hall
2. Merced Hall	13. Garnett House	24. Entinger Student Lounge	36. Hartley House
3. Ruth B. Shanon Center for the Performing Arts	14. Denzner House	25. Campus Center	37. Entinger Tennis Courts
4. Memorial Chapel	15. Center for Engagement with Communities	26. Campus Inn	38. Graham Athletic Center
5. Arnold Hall	16. Health Center	27. Villalobos Hall	39. Slade Aquatic Center
6. Broadoaks School	17. Counseling Center	28. Kaplan	40. Memorial Field
7. Philadelphia House	18. Campus Safety	29. Science & Learning Center	41. Memorial Stadium
8. Hoover Hall	19. Ball Hall	30. Harris Amphitheatre	42. Palmer Softball Field
9. Wardman Library	20. Wardman Hall	31. Turner Hall	43. Graham Soccer Field
10. Flatner Hall	21. Wardman Gym (Art Center)	32. Harris Hall	
11. Johnson Hall	22. Dehd Hall	33. Wanberg Hall	
		34. Campbell Hall	

Whittier has a crime index of 17 out of 100.

Gabriel Valley Medical Center. Some of these resources include Project Sister, a clinic for sexual abuse survivors in Pomona with a 24-hour hotline and the Rape Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN) that provides anonymous, completely remote services. School policies regarding what is permitted on-campus can be found in the Student Code of Conduct.

In regards to campus safety, the report also includes evacuation procedures for students in residential

halls and an agenda for evacuation drills that occur every semester. Regarding fire statistics, there have been no recorded active fires on the campus for the last three years, neither on-campus nor within the dormitory halls.

For advanced preparation, students have the option to attend Safety Tours conducted by the Department of Campus Safety, and First Aid, CPR, and AED training. These seminars include teaching students CPR, how to perform first

COURTESY OF CAMPUS SAFETY

aid, and handle AED devices.

When it comes to campus safety, Campus Security officer Elizabeth Ibarra says that most student have an "awareness" of their surroundings. The Department of Campus Safety is actively trying to introduce new seminars that promote campus safety. Ibarra urges students to "be aware of their surroundings."

This article has been condensed for print. If you would like to read the full article, visit [medium.com/the-quaker-campus](http://medium.com/the-quaker-campus).

## What's Up *Whittier?*

Calendar is subject to change. To learn more, visit [whittier.campuslabs.com/engage](http://whittier.campuslabs.com/engage).

### Pumpkin Patch Excursion with the Palmer Society

- Saturday Oct. 14 at 9 a.m.
- CI Parking Lot

### Special Collections Open House

- Monday, Oct. 16 at 1 p.m.
- Wardman Library

### ASA Welcome Meeting

- Monday, Oct. 16 at 5 p.m.
- Ettinger Lounge

### Build-A-Brand: Resume Review

- Tuesday, Oct. 17 at 11 a.m.
- OSE Conference Room

### Poetry Reading with Ming Di

- Tuesday, Oct. 17 at 1:30 p.m.
- Hartley House

### Pumpkin Painting Fundraiser

- Tuesday, Oct. 17 at 4:30 p.m.
- SLC 204

### Black Poetry Day & Black Music Night

- Tuesday, Oct. 17 at 5 p.m.
- Club 88

### Halloween Movie Marathon: Frankenstein

- Tuesday, Oct. 17 at 7 p.m.
- Hoover 100

### Blind Date with a Book

- Wednesday, Oct. 18 at 10 a.m.
- In front of the SLC

### Smash Bros Tournament

- Thursday, Oct. 19 at 5 p.m.
- Villalobos

### Bracelet Making and Boba Night

- Thursday, Oct. 19 at 5:30 p.m.
- Club 88

### Personal Statement Workshop

- Monday, Oct. 23 at 4:30 p.m.
- SLC 309

### Beat Burnout Workshop

- Tuesday, Oct. 24 at 12:30 p.m.
- SLC 204

### Thriving Authentically: Queer Community, Career, and Culture

- Wednesday, Oct. 25 at 4:30 p.m.
- Villalobos

### Wall-E Movie Night

- Wednesday, Oct. 25 at 8 p.m.
- Turner 1st Floor Lounge

### Study Session

- Thursday, Oct. 26 at 3 p.m.
- Harris B Lounge

### Murder Mystery Dinner

- Thursday, Oct. 26 at 6 p.m.
- Villalobos

### Sexual Assault Prevention: The Hunting Ground Documentary

- Thursday, Oct. 26 at 6 p.m.
- Dezember House

# Mid-Autumn Festival Luminates Whittier

**Emma Galvan**  
COPY EDITOR

Walking towards the Campus Center, you notice that there are tables being set up everywhere in the courtyard, but what for? The answer is simple! Whittier College's Asian Student Association (ASA) announced on *Instagram* and advertised that they would be hosting a Mid-Autumn Festival in the Campus Courtyard on Sept. 29 at 4:30 p.m. The festival consisted of lantern painting, moon cakes to enjoy, and music for students to listen to as they paint.

The Asian Student Association is an organization on campus with a mission to "provide a space [...] APIDA students on campus [...] can go to, away from home that feels like home." According to ASA President Ahn Tran, the ASA wanted to celebrate the Mid-Au-

tumn Festival because it is widely observed by Asian families, and they wanted "to bring that sense of family reunion on campus."

Originating in China, the Mid-Autumn Festival is a harvest festival that falls on the 15th day of the eighth month in the Lunar Calendar, and is celebrated in East and Southeast Asia. Tran said, "Basically, during the Mid-Autumn Festival, people gather and do moon gazing because the moon is the brightest [...] during this time."

The holiday also brings together families so they can give thanks for the harvest. One crucial part of the festival is the lighting of lanterns, which have riddles written on them to be solved by the end of the festivities. Moon cakes (a pastry filled with sweet bean or lotus seed paste) are a common food to eat during this time. The holiday has many other activities that hon-

or the moon and embrace family.

At Whittier, students were greeted with lanterns hung up on the trees throughout the courtyard. Each table had palettes and a variety of paints meant for the lanterns on every patron's table. Once more, students were flooding in, more conversation was being made as painting commenced, and music from well-known Asian artists was playing that created a nice, calming atmosphere.

At 5 p.m., KPOET's Scemo Nite Open Mic began, its music bleeding into the festival. The combination of R&B and the calming music from the festival created a perfect blend that gave the evening a sense of relaxation and energy at the same time. Lantern painting was very spectacular: every patron had done their own design, whether it was a bunch of colors combined together, symbols on each

row, or an attempt at a landscape.

This festival is just the beginning. For the Fall semester, ASA plans to do a mental health talk for Asian students about identity, while in the Spring, they will host their annual slam poetry event, as well as their Lunar New Year celebration.

If you're interested in participating in more celebrations like this, contact ASA at [asa@poets.whittier.edu](mailto:asa@poets.whittier.edu), or attend their welcome meeting on Oct. 16 at 5 p.m. in the Ettinger Lounge. You can sign up on *Engage*. They will discuss how become involved in the club and explain ways you can support APIDA communities around Whittier. To get notified of any of their future events, ASA has QR codes all throughout campus that links to their *Instagram* page, [@wc\\_asa](https://www.instagram.com/wc_asa). Many more events are to be announced, so be on the lookout and support ASA as much as you can!



Students celebrated by painting lanterns together.

EMMA GALVAN / QUAKER CAMPUS

# College Radio Day Amplifies Student Voices

**Nia Hurley**  
COPY EDITOR

Audio media has a long history of fighting for inclusion, self-expression and equity, and this history is well represented on our very own campus, with Whittier College's independent radio station, KPOET. KPOET is managed by second-year Paige Meyer-Draffen, better known as PMD, and second-year Emily Perez-Medina. On Oct. 6, KPOET celebrated International College Radio Day, which celebrates the rich history of college radio and its role in protecting student voices.

For centuries, the United States has been a nation of dubious freedoms. Our constitution ensures rights that are supposedly unalienable, but are consistently infringed

upon by the very government that has sworn to uphold them. Despite the 1972 ratification of Title IX, female students, athletes and citizens still face discrimination in federally funded spaces. Despite the landmark Civil Rights Act of 1964, racial discrimination still affects minorities' social mobility, safety and even their physical health. Although the majority of freedoms are bastardized, one freedom in particular has managed to largely evade suppression. The freedom of speech we as Americans enjoy is frequently taken for granted. As college students, we have even more responsibility to uphold and fight for this freedom. On campus, this precious freedom is fearlessly guarded by many, and its intersection with art and self-expression is most deeply explored by KPOET.

PMD reflects on how far radio has come from its corporate beginnings, stating that early radio sported "unregulated access for one corporation that owns most stations to take over most airwaves," and was quite narrow with "one person, with one corporate interest dominating." College radio and independent stations have offered an alternative.

According to PMD, "College radio lets the younger generation and independent radio broadcasters speak their mind," allowing them to "organiz[e] and spread the word about protest and things happening on campus."

PMD shared that for her, "International College Radio Day is just the accumulation where a lot of stations come together digitally on a platform, and we all kind of celebrate each other."

Despite the drastic changes in regard to radio monopolies and dominating corporate voices, audio media outlets still fulfill a desperately needed function on a campus where, "faculty and students are making really strong connections you probably won't get at other colleges," says PMD. She states that KPOET's goal is "to be a conduit for that [student opinion], and it's important because this is our education [...] so if our input is needed, or if we find something that needs to be changed, student voices are what starts and leads that path to improvement."

While independent media in general is extremely important for the health of a democratic society,

audio media itself has a specific capacity to speak to people. "Language is one of those things that is very complex," PMD explains, "and depending on somebody's media literacy, hearing something versus reading it can really change how somebody sees something, especially with media literacy coming to a decline right now. A lot of people are just reading stuff, not knowing who wrote it, not knowing who funded it, and not knowing what the organization represents. Just reading things and taking it at face value."

Audio media itself has served as a vector for the contentious intersection between art and politics, with PMD expressing that "just as with art, expression is a complex thing that is invoking an emotion in somebody else, and the same goes for audio broadcasting. It's definitely an old concept and a historical term that politics is in everything, but [...] in this day and age, it very much is in everything. Something is always going to be political, so that intersection is very important, and we hope to bring that to the campus in the same way as we bring art to the campus."

You can stay up to date with KPOET's broadcasts and events via *Engage*, as well as reach out to them via email at [kpoet@poets.whittier.edu](mailto:kpoet@poets.whittier.edu).

This article has been condensed for print. If you would like to read the full article, visit [medium.com/thequakercampus](https://medium.com/thequakercampus).



College radio platforms student voices.

PMD / KPOET

# Scemo Nite With KPOET:

## *Channel Your Inner Eighth-Grader!*

**Meylina Tran**  
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Club 88 in the daylight, with the bright overhanging fluorescent lights and awkward checkerboard flooring, is a completely unassuming space. Even with the handmade, cut-out replicas of iconic cartoon characters that the average emo middle schooler might have been obsessed with—Zim from *Invasion Zim* and Gloomy Bear—a table with candy bracelet supplies set up at the back of the room, a photo wall with “SCEMO NITE” handwritten in jagged letters, and students dressed in their “scemo” best, Club 88 itself didn’t possess the vibe necessary for Scemo Nite.

That is, until KPOET Radio Station’s fearless leader, Paige Meyer-Draffen—better known as PMD—took a mic in hand and yelled, “Somebody hit the lights!” The room went dark, black light fixtures flickered on, illuminating the space in a neon glow. Suddenly, Club 88 had turned into the College’s center for scene kids.

The idea for Scemo Nite came from Emily Perez-Medina, the Vice President of KPOET: “I was like, ‘Take the reins,’ [and] she was like, ‘Scemo Nite,’ and I was like, ‘Let’s roll with it.’” PMD adds, “So, as you can see, we have cardboard scene icons everywhere. We have Domo, we have Gloomy Bear [...] For tonight, we just wanted to let that inner eighth grade little creature come out into the night, because I know we’ve all been holding it in there for our first two years of



Performers channeled their inner middle schooler.

college.”

Scemo Nite was officially kicked off by InDiGo, a Los Angeles-based band led by Whittier College alum Justin Berumen ‘22 on vocals and guitar. Berumen was joined by his bandmates Christian Mullen on lead guitar, Sebastian Mullen on bass, and Mark Anthony Marquez on the drums. Together, the band played a total of seven original songs—such as “Corduroy Train Tracks” and “Tiffany’s at Breakfast”—quickly going from a laid-back, Midwestern emo garage band vibe to a fast-paced, energetic, jump around your room type of beat.

While the stage was being cleared for the next performance, co-chair of the Whittier Student-Worker Alliance (WSWA) Arlo Tinsman-Kongshuang took the stage

to remind the students that the fight for the CI workers’ rights was not over. “This October,” Tinsman-Kongshuang says, “our cafeteria workers are going to get [...] their contract signed, which will mean [...] our hard work will have paid off.”

The next performance was a live autobiographical short story/poetry combination by La Mirada High School student Chavella, a close personal friend of PMD. Despite her initial nervousness, Chavella stunned the crowd into silence with her honest, raw verbal recollection of traumatic experiences that have occurred in her life thus far. “I went through real trauma,” she reads, confidently taking up the empty space of the stage, unfazed by the spotlight on her face, “and I’m over-

coming it slowly every day. Getting over being a victim and realizing I’m a survivor.”

Early 2000s pop punk classics played over the speakers as the stage was set up for the next performer: fourth-year Ezdras Meraz-Lerman, who switched back and forth between crooning a cover of Chris Isaak’s “You Owe Me Your Love” on his cherry red electric guitar, and singing a cover of INXS’s “Mystify” on the piano. His voice and style of music evokes the acoustic version of Radiohead’s “Creep,” moody with the occasional bite. Despite a few stumbles, Meraz-Lerman powered through with confidence and certainty, and a couple of jokes thrown in there for good measure.

Finally, second-year Evan Josten took the stage. Hot pink electric

guitar in hand, he played a few of his favorite riffs from rock ‘n’ roll history. Josten’s all instrumental performance allowed a nice departure from the usual performances—although, faint, good-natured “boo’s” could be heard from the crowd when Josten announced that he would not be singing during his rendition of a Stevie Ray Vaughan riff. It’s easy to imagine Josten as a rock ‘n’ roll hall of fame mentee, what with the casual yet precise way he manipulates the strings on his guitar. To close out his set, Josten played the iconic opening chords of Weezer’s “Buddy Holly,” which ended with him faux smashing his guitar and raucous applause.

But, Scemo Nite wasn’t over. Panic! at the Disco flooded the speakers as the KPOET staff hustled to set up the next segment of the night: karaoke. Students were encouraged to request a song, but it wasn’t until PMD announced into the mic, “The faster someone gets to the table, the faster we can turn off Panic! at the Disco,” that students began to flock to the table by the doors.

KPOET still has a few more tricks up their sleeves. “The biggest event of the semester for us is going to be Geezer Night on Nov. 10,” PMD shares. “That’s when all the old guys are going to come out of their hovels and just crush it on stage. I’m talking Jimmy Buffet realsness.”

This article has been condensed for print. If you would like to read the full article, you can visit [medium](https://medium.com).

# More Than A Monolith: ¿Quién Eres Tú?

**Chelsea Bartilad**  
COPY EDITOR

“¿Quién Eres Tú?” A question about self-reflection and identity. A question many people find themselves asking. *Who are you?*

“What it means to me,” says Francisco Gomez, the Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, “is an invitation [...] to see us outside of just a monolithic group [...] that is so diverse, but sometimes can just be reduced to just one particular group. That’s not accurate.”

This was one of the themes of ¿Quién Eres Tú? - a Platica About our Latinx Identity. Joint hosted by the Office of Equity and Inclusion (OEI) and Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano/a de Aztlan (M.E.C.h.A.), this panel was held Wednesday, Oct. 4 in Villalobos Hall, where Whittier’s Latinx staff and faculty gathered to discuss their personal experiences on being a part of the Latinx community. The panelists consisted of Brittney Plasencia, Director of Student Success and Belonging; Sandra Arana, the Director of the Career Center; Deseray Rivas, Associate Director at the Career Center; Teaching Fellow of Psychology, Professor Melissa Mesinas; and

Professor of Sociology, Bernabe Rodriguez.

The event was led by M.E.C.h.A. co-chairs Sessa Hernandez-Real and Galilea Landa-Posas. “I was very happy they put me on here,” says Hernandez-Real, “I just feel like these spaces [...] really give you the opportunity to have controversial conversations that you don’t really have in your classroom.”

The first question involved the use of the term “Latinx,” and why it is seen as controversial in some spaces. This led into the discussion of the nuances within “Latinx” identity and how language has changed over time, especially in regards to gender and sexuality. “It really was meant for people in those spaces who are neither Latina or Latino,” says Plasencia. “I felt comfortable with the term ‘Latine’ to honor [it]...but I also like to dishonor the *machismo* that is in the culture by using ‘Latina.’”

Mesinas, who is of Zapoteca descent, says with a chuckle, “It depends who asks me.” She continues, “‘Latina’ or ‘Mexican’ feels more public, but my indigenous identity is much more private [because of how colonized history is forced in our society].” Mesinas goes on

to say that the younger generation is allowing for more conversations about ethnic identity.

As the discussion continued, students were invited to reflect on their own experiences as Latinx students. A few students mentioned that they are still learning more about their culture, while others grew up with people from the same community as them. However, many of the students mentioned they are grateful to have M.E.C.h.A. as a designated space for them. “I’m very glad to have gone to this event,” says first-year Nico Miranda. “It was nice to hear how other students had a similar experience as me.”

As the end of the event neared, the panelists recalled their college experiences as young Latinxs. Rivas mentioned that transferring to her university was a culture shock since “no one looked like me.” Rivas recalled how isolating it felt until she was introduced to a Latinx student organization by a friend. The other panelists agreed, reminiscing on their own experiences in college. Plasencia stated that her college experience allowed her to realize that, “You always have freedom to create your own spaces.”

Although there has been a lot of



What is a Latinx identity?

CHELSEA BARTILAD / QUAKER CAMPUS

progress in diversity, there is still a lot to be done, specifically regarding higher education. “I did not have my first Latino faculty [member] until I was in graduate school,” says Arana. “We need more folks of color to teach our students of color.”

Gomez adds, “I still see it as a call to action to me and my colleagues [...] to remind ourselves that [...] there is still more work to be done institutionally.” Recalling

hearing everyone’s experiences from the panel, he states, “it reminds me why this community is so powerful and strong [...] Because there is just so much beauty in our community and that conversation really highlighted it.”

This article has been condensed for print. If you would like to read the full article, visit [medium.com/thequakercampus](https://medium.com).

# A Glance Into the 2023 Poet's Tennis ITA Championships

Poet's Sports  
Schedule

**Emily Henderson**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Whittier College's Men's and Women's Tennis teams competed in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) on Sept. 29 at Pomona-Pitzer College in Claremont. None of the Men's and Women's open doubles won, along with no Men's and Women's open single winning either. This comes after two players from Whittier were named 2023 ITA Scholar-Athletes on July 12—Kieran Carroll and Mason Leppy '23.

"The Men's team has been working hard for the past month in preparation for the ITA tournament. Overall, they competed much better than the tournament that we played two weeks prior in Ventura," says Coach of Men's Tennis, Aron Hayes.

At the ITA tournament there were three pairs of Men's doubles, all competing against different schools. Luke Downs and Justin Ninomiya played against Colorado College, losing 1-8. Yash Nagdev and Ahmed Amer played against California Institute of Technology, losing 6-8. Lastly, Joey Henderson and Maas Jacobs played against the University of California Santa Cruz, losing 0-8. The winner of the competition was Eshaan Lumba and Matthew Feng of Pomona-Pitzer College on Oct 1, with a score of 6-3 and 6-1 against Chapman University.

Two pairs of Women's open doubles competed as well. Chanel Zeraatkar and Keeley Arendt played against Chapman University, losing 6-8. Malvika Suryavanshi and Manasvi Vardham played

against Occidental College, losing 1-8. The winner of the Women's Doubles was Ella Brisset and Lindsay Eisenman of Claremont-Mudd-Scripps.

Along with this, both Women's and Men's open singles played in the competition. Chanel Zeraatkar was the only player for Whittier in the Women's open singles against Alexandra Coleman, losing 1-6 in the first match and losing 2-6 in the second match. The winner of the Women's singles was Lindsay Eisenman of Claremont-Mudd-Scripps.

Three Whittier Men's players competed in the Men's open singles. Jacob Maas played against Alex Atwell of the University of Redlands, losing 5-7 in the first match and 6-1 in the second match. Justin Ninomiya played against James Truong of California Lutheran University, losing 2-6 in the first match and 3-6 in

the second match.

Ahmed Amer played against JJ Niven of the University of Redlands, where he won 6-3 in the first match, lost 3-6 in the second match, and won 10-3 in the third match. He advanced to the second round, where he played against Ian Jordan of Chapman University, where he lost 1-6 in the first match and lost 2-6 in the second match. The winner of the Men's singles was Hari Raghavan of the University of California Santa Cruz.

The ITA is the "governing body of college tennis, overseeing men's and women's varsity tennis at all levels." The ITA Championships are hosted each year over 80 regional events and serve about 8,000 men and women collegiate tennis players. Due to Whittier's placement as an NCAA Division III school, the College gets placed in the "Small College Regional Championships."

Kieran Carroll and Mason Leppy '23 were one of many named the ITA Scholar-Athletes for 2023. In order to become an ITA Scholar-Athlete, one must "have a grade point average of at least 3.5 (on a 4.00 scale) for the current academic year and be listed on the institutional eligibility form." According to

the *WCPoets* website, both Carroll and Leppy had a 4.0 GPA in Spring 2023.

The tennis team is trying to improve, specifically in being consistent from match to match. "We have moments where we play great tennis but we tend to make too many unnecessary mistakes," says Hayes. In order to help this, the team will be going through "intentional training as well as extensive physical conditioning and mental toughness training."

Coach Hayes concludes by saying that "We are excited about this coming season and are focused on getting at least one percent better every single day. The theme for this year for the team is to work your butt off. No excuses, no holding back. Every single practice, tournament, match, conditioning session, and mental session will be filled with purpose and intention."

The first tennis match is on Feb. 4 versus Hope International University. They will play here. Come support the national University, here at Whittier. Support the tennis team! Go poets!

This article has been condensed for print. If you would like read the full article, visit [medium.com/](https://medium.com/)

Women's Soccer vs Caltech Oct. 14 @ 7 P.M. – Memorial Stadium Whittier, CA
Men's Water Polo vs LIU Oct. 16 @ 4:30 P.M. – Slade Aquatic Center Whittier, CA
Women's Volleyball vs California Lutheran University Oct. 17 @ 7 P.M. – Graham Athletic Center Whittier, CA
Men's Soccer vs Claremont-Mudd-Scripps Colleges Oct. 18 @ 7 P.M. – Whittier, CA
Women's Soccer vs University of California, Santa Cruz Oct. 22 @ 3 P.M. – Memorial Stadium Whittier, CA
Women's Volleyball vs Chapman University Oct. 24 @ 7 P.M. – Graham Athletic Center Whittier, CA



Mason Leppy

Kieran Carroll

The ITA Tournament serves about 8,000 players each year TONY LEON / ACTIONWESTPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

## Have No Fear, Student-Athlete Disability Services is Here!



CAAS is open as a study space during the day NUNE PAPIKYAN / QUAKER CAMPUS

**MEYLINA TRAN**  
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

The dramatic cancellation of Poet Football, Men's Lacrosse, and Golf last Fall has left many students—especially student-athletes—curious about how, and if, Whittier College is planning on supporting and uplifting the student-athletes that remain, particularly when it comes to injuries caused by sports.

Hayley Cox, the Assistant Director of Student Disability Services (SAS), explained that student-athletes are commonly referred to SAS through the concussion protocol, which "ensures safety and support for student-athletes that have sustained a concussion." The concussion protocol, however, is not limited to merely sustained concussions.

Student-athletes who have suffered any other number of physical injuries—broken bones, sprains, etc.—

are also referred to SAS to receive accommodations. Cox adds, "Within the concussion protocol, we meet with the student and ask questions about the injury and ongoing symptoms. Based on the reported need, our office will approve temporary accommodations."

If the injury or disability has not been properly documented, i.e., by a medical professional, then the student-athlete is required to receive approval from SAS and other offices—CAAS, the Health Center, and the Counseling Center—before gaining access to the accommodations. In the event that a student-athlete needs to receive approval in order to receive their accommodations, the approval is based on "student's self-report, in-depth discussion with our team, and consultation with other offices, if necessary."

Cox stresses that, "the process for student-athletes with disabilities

to access accommodations is the same for any student with disabilities on campus." The only mentionable difference is that student-athletes are referred to SAS through the concussion protocol for temporary medical conditions, whereas non-student-athletes must submit documentation and advocate for themselves for—more likely than not—life-long medical conditions. "When students reach out to us," Cox adds, "we engage in an interactive process that involves meeting with the student and reviewing any documentation of disability. We ask questions related to their experience in the classroom, testing, etc., based on the accommodation(s) the student is requesting."

Cox also emphasizes that the resources and accommodations a student-athlete might receive are the same resources and accommodations that are available to all students. In terms of academic accommodations, student-athletes can be eligible to receive time extensions on exams, access to a note-taker, and alternate-format texts. If needed, SAS can also review "applications for emotional support animals," meaning that, if needed, students can bring their own emotional support animal to their residence hall and on campus.

SAS is also able to facilitate, "applications for housing accommodations, which are reviewed

and approved by the Housing Committee that is composed of multiple offices on campus." Cox adds that, "Residential students with physical disabilities can also be approved for specific housing accommodations in accessible residence halls/floors/rooms." Currently, the only residential hall on campus that is accessible to students with physical disabilities is the first floor of Ball Hall.

Furthermore, SAS "works to ensure that students with physical disabilities who experience barriers to structural access have their classroom moved to an accessible room/floor/building, as needed." There are three working elevators scattered around campus that are available to all students, staff, and faculty: the Campus Center, the Science and Learning Center, and Turner Residence Hall. There is also a wheelchair elevator located on the north side of Deihl Hall.

SAS also offers "regular check-ins with our registered students." The SAS team collaborates with CAAS and the Counseling Center to ensure that students are, "aware of and have access to resources around campus."

Student-athletes—as well as non-student-athletes—can also find support through the Community, Affirmation, Resilience, Empowerment (CARE) Program. The CARE Program, according to the College website, "provides prevention, assessment, and interven-

tion for and with students as they navigate the challenges that stand in their way of academic and personal success."

All students can request assistance twice in a four-year time period for any challenges that may prevent them from achieving academic and personal success. These challenges include, but are not limited to, family concerns or challenges, traumatic experience(s), unresolved financial challenges, etc.

All undergraduate students, "may request funds for an emergency situation under compelling circumstances that jeopardizes their ability to successfully continue in school." Depending on the student's case and need, Student Emergency Funds will be provided in the form of a grant, ranging from \$100 to \$500. Emergency funds may be used for food insecurity, loss of child care, travel in the case of a death or illness of an immediate family member, and emergency healthcare expenses that are not covered by insurance.

If you have any questions, you can email SAS at [sas@whittier.edu](mailto:sas@whittier.edu) or call them at 562.907.4825. To get in contact with the CARE team, email them at [CARE@whittier.edu](mailto:CARE@whittier.edu) or call them at 562.907.4233.

This article has been condensed for print. If you would like read the full article, visit [medium.com/the-quaker-campus](https://medium.com/the-quaker-campus)

# Paige Harris: Guardian of Artifacts

Alejandra Ortega  
STAFF WRITER

Poet's Corner is Paige Harris' favorite part of the Wardman Library, where her first big exhibition will soon be displayed. It's just a few feet away from the elevator that goes down to Special Collections which Harris has been charged with organizing. The library isn't busy since it's a Friday afternoon. We talk softly to not disrupt the few other patrons but loud enough over the gentle hum of the air conditioning. If you've had the pleasure of meeting our new Special Collections librarian this semester, she's probably told you about her passion for learning. Harris loves "learning new facts and telling other people new facts."

The Special Collection is in the basement of the library, which can only be accessed through the elevator in the Faculty Alcove (walk straight through the library, take a left after the circulation desk, and then take another left at Poet's Corner). When you have traversed through the maze of the library, Harris has taken up the task of organizing and caring for all of the items that live in the basement, which includes a taxidermy of John Greenleaf Whittier's pet squirrel, Friday. "Special Collections are anything that is not circulated," explains Harris, "which means that students can't check them out or take them off the shelves themselves."

Harris' passion for items of the past is not new. One of her earliest memories involves finding a "dinosaur" bone in a sandbox, when she was around five years old.

Harris is always excited to explore and discover, but her intentions when working with older items, spe-

cifically things that once belonged to people of the past, is to preserve them and honor their previous owners.

During her undergraduate at the University of California, San Diego, Harris received a Bachelors in Anthropology. "I worked with human bones and early human evolution," she says. From there she planned on taking a career path as an exhibition curator. "I was headed towards sort of the back end of a museum management which is keeping track of artifacts and exhibits and all the paperwork that hides behind the back of the museum doors. In a lot of

El Monte historical society, where Harris says she "helped them put together an exhibit about the entire history of Monte up to the present day."

Now she's at Whittier College, and she is excited to open up the special collections to students to get them involved in the school's legacy. "I started in May, so I haven't been around the students for long." Her first exhibition will run from Oct. 5 through Oct. 13. The exhibition features miniature books, which Harris indicated with two fingers showcasing that the books are about an inch or two big,

explore the humanity in the items of the past with a future exhibition of love letters that she found in the Special Collections. "It's a couple of letters written between a husband and wife couple during the Second World War. They lived in Whittier prior to the husband's deployment to the Pacific Theater," she says. "I have thousands of letters. I mean, they wrote each other virtually everyday for three or four years." Harris relates these letters to the texts that we send our significant others in today's age. Little updates about our life and the things we find important that we want to share with

use the items to do research. They are also welcome to use the space as a study area. Harris emphasizes that she wants people to take advantage of library resources and the Special Collections. "I know that libraries can be intimidating places for certain groups of people who feel like this isn't the place for them or they don't belong or there's hidden rules that nobody told them. Our library is not like that. Our library is for everyone."

All students are encouraged to go and say hello and welcome our very own Guardian of Artifacts. "I think a lot of people look at an archive and it feels pretty remote... It doesn't feel like it belongs to us," she says thoughtfully, "But once you start digging through the papers, they're all people's stories." Relics of these people include class projects and books people have read or written their names in. Things you and I still do. Harris continues, "For me, preserving those histories is about honoring these people."

The Collection is open to all students from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. every Tuesday. However, it is a food and drink free space.

The Special Collections will also be having an open house on Wednesday, Oct. 16 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. The zines that students donate to the special collections will be on display.

Students should RSVP with Harris through her email at [pharris@whittier.edu](mailto:pharris@whittier.edu). "Come visit me! I'll be in [the Special Collections] and I love showing it off. I promise the archive isn't haunted."

This article has been condensed for print. If you would like to read the full article, visit [medium.com/the-quaker-campus](https://medium.com/the-quaker-campus).



Paige Harris garnered a love for archivism at a young age.

COURTESY OF LINKEDIN

ways, a Special Collection is kinda like a mini museum! Just less well known."

Before coming to take over the Whittier Special Collections, Harris did get the chance to work with one of the largest archives of LGBT materials in the U.S. "I was with USC's 'ONE ...archives,'" she says, "They are an archive and museum [that] focuses mostly on photography, although they have a lot of other mixed media." She also worked with La Historia, an

The exhibition will also have a craft that goes alongside it. Students will be given the opportunity to create their own tiny book which they can then take home or leave it in the collection. This way, they have the opportunity to contribute to Whittier's history. "Then in the future, some other archivist will be like, 'Hey! These students made these little books all about what it was like to be a student in Whittier at this time,'" Harris says excitedly.

Harris hopes to continue to ex-

others. Harris is working towards making the Special Collections a welcoming space where students may come to use the items that are found in the Special Collections. Harris is always open to answering any questions anyone may ask. "Librarians love to talk to people. We are 'people people'. It's literally our job," she says cheerfully, "so don't be afraid that you're bothering us."

Students may go down and look at everything in the Whittier Collections even if they don't plan to

KPOET PRESENTS

**GEEZER NIGHT**

**5pm - club 88**

**november 10th**

**why don't you play with  
someone your own age?**

**merch raffle**

**old dude bands - desert rock - dress like your dad**

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# Love Can Kill: Domestic Violence Awareness Month

**Alissa Portillo**  
DEPUTY EDITOR

Abusive relationships can end in death. *Literally*. It is important for the government, and society as a whole, to recognize the impact that domestic violence has not just on women but individuals overall. *Of course*, it is recognized that abuse affects victims psychologically, physically, economically, and more; that is not an issue. The issue is that the government has done little to no modification of already passed laws that are supposed to support *all* identifying victims and gives no aid in advocating for victims when they are finally pushed to end their abuse by killing their abusers. Victims of domestic violence—especially women—are not seen as sufferers of years-long abuse in the court of law and this is rooted in the poor advocacy made by the government.

When do you hear lawmakers speak and address these inequalities? Or represent the victims who have found safety or are currently still being abused as we speak? Besides Senator Dianne Feinstein—who unfortunately passed away on Friday, Sept. 29—a woman who has been described as the icon for women in politics as she was a contributor to the first ever act passed by Congress to advocate against violence towards women, we see little advocacy coming from lawmakers.

According to Shelter House, a domestic and sexual violence center, “There are 16,800 homicides and \$2.2 million worth of [medically treated] injuries due to intimate partner violence annually.” This data synonymously makes up 72 percent of murder-suicides done by an intimate partner. Yet, it feels like the government is not doing enough to reduce these numbers.

In 1994, as stated by the United States Attorney’s Office, Congress passed the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), which recognizes that domestic violence—a pattern of abusive behavior one partner uses in a relationship to gain or maintain power, and control over the

other involved intimate partners—is a national crime. Congress also made changes to the Gun Control Act during 1994 and 1996 which concluded that it would be a federal crime—in certain situations—for a domestic violence abuser to possess any firearms.

For service provider benefits, in 1984 Congress passed the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act which is a primary source of federal funding for direct service providers for domestic violence. As well as the Victims of Crime Act, which was designed to assist and compensate victims and survivors of crime with “federal criminal fines, forfeited bonds, forfeiture of profits from criminal activity, additional special assessments and donations by private parties.” Included is the compensation for “crime-related losses including medical and counseling costs and lost wages.”

It is of great benefit that these laws and acts have been put into place but, the question now arises, is this enough? Are these legislative decisions benefiting the overall prevention and treatment of victims who are abused and killed?

The first issue with the primary act for advocacy against abuse is that the Act has been, and continues to be, aimed toward women. It is true that women are found to be killed more often by an intimate partner than men; however, men should not be overlooked from the Act or prevention and treatment overall. It is stated that “On average, nearly 20 people per minute are physically abused by an intimate partner in the United States. During one year, this equates to more than 10 million women and men.” The data presents that abuse is incredibly common in the United States, with both men and women being on the receiving end of it.

When domestic violence is highlighted, there is an assumption that it does not impact men when it undoubtedly does. According to Family Crisis Centers, one in four men have experienced some form of physical violence by an intimate

partner. This disassociation that men may become victims of abuse may be a result of the alleged normalization of hypermasculinity. With this reinforced norm among men, it is difficult for people to grasp the idea that men can be harmed, abused, and possibly killed by a partner. It is also important to add that the data concerning the number of men having been abused could be lower as men may not come forward with their experiences. Another socialized catastrophe is men feeling the need to repress emotions as it can be used and seen as a weakness. Clearly, men can be affected in both ways; they are abused or speak up but are not taken seriously and diminish themselves and their experiences of abuse which only continues to put them in danger. Both outcomes show the same consequence, they still are victims of abuse. This is why it is of high value for Congress to modify the primary act of Violence against not only women but all domestic violence victims.

Another poor course of action the government does towards victims of abuse is the sentencing measures enforced on victims who kill their abusers. As mentioned earlier, Congress passed the Victims of Crime Act which should aid those in court for domestic assault cases. When a victim kills their abuser, in court, however, the system now treats them as perpetrators of murder, not as initial victims.

In 1996, a woman named Beatrice Taylor was threatened with death and was physically abused by her ex-boyfriend. She called the police to ask for help. When officers arrived they found her ex-boyfriend suffering from stab wounds in the chest. Taylor was convicted of murder and was sentenced to life without parole. Another instance was a woman named Nicole Addimando. Addimando was convicted of second-degree murder and possession of a handgun for shooting her husband after being threatened with a gun. Prior to her defense, she had been facing physical and sexual



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**Anyone can become a victim.**

abuse from her husband for years. In 2019, a law in the state of New York passed which could make her eligible to reduced sentencing but in 2020, a judge denied her eligibility as she did not meet the requirements for the reasoning that she *had* opportunities to leave her abuser.

But, in 2017, when a man in North Carolina was convicted of stabbing his pregnant wife to death, he was released from prison only seven years later. Similarly, in June 2017, a New Jersey man was sentenced to 15 years for the murder of his wife. History searches showed she was planning on leaving him. Lastly, a Nebraska man who was found guilty of severing his wife’s head was rejoined in the community with supervision after he spent just five years in a psychiatric facility. Yet, for women like Taylor and Addimando and Marissa Alexander who was sentenced to 20 years in prison for firing a warning shot at a wall near her husband after he projected his desire to strangle her with his hands around her neck, they are given far more harsh sentencing when they are victims of years-long abuse. Nora V. Demletiner, a professor of law at Washington and Lee University School of Law in Virginia, stated, “Women aren’t supposed to be violent, and data indicates that they rarely are, compared to men. Women are supposed to reconcile, seek out others for help, mediate. The more violent the killing may be, the more women defy this stereotype, setting them up for a high sentence.” Beyond

abuse, women are still victims of the never-ending gender norm of being submissive and delicate, so, even if abused, they are not taken seriously and are victim-blamed.

It is disheartening that not much has been taken up by the government to advocate for domestic violence victims. Yes, there are Acts established, which are a great start, but more modifications in legislation are needed to address all gender differences between identifying men and others as being harmed, besides women and the discrimination and inequality towards women in the courtrooms compared to men. Not much has changed since 1984 and that needs to change. Advocacy and fighting for modifications and further progression are needed. Victims are crying for change behind bars and closed doors but, as a society, we need to hear these cries and make a difference.

If any student on campus is experiencing abuse from an intimate partner or is a witness to relationship abuse, resources are available. Besides calling Campus Safety at 562.907.4911, there is the National Domestic Violence Hotline which is 800.799.7233, and centers that offer their crisis lines or residency: Project Sister at 909.626.4357, Su Casa at 562.402.4888, Women’s and Children’s Crisis Shelter at 562.945.3939. Support is all around.

This article has been condensed for print. If you would like to read the full article, visit [medium.com/thequakercampus](https://medium.com/thequakercampus).

## Unity Game Engine Runs Into Backlash After Fee Increase

**Nune Papikyan**  
PHOTOGRAPHER

Recently, there has been some controversial news in the gaming community. Gaming Engine and Unity sparked some recent interest in the public eye of gaming after they released a statement about their new policy regarding the pricing of games made with their software. What caused such an uproar was the fact that they would now be charging a “runtime fee” with every installation of a game that has used the platform for downloads.

What does this mean exactly? The gaming engine announced in a blog post on their website that the pricing and packaging updates will take effect on Jan. 1, 2024. Components that are included within the Unity engine consist of the Unity Editor and the Unity runtime. It is stated, “The Unity Runtime is code that executes on player devices and makes Made with Unity games work at scale with billions of monthly

downloads.” With every download, they will now be charging a fee. Their reasoning behind this change is “Because each time a game is downloaded, the Unity Runtime is also installed.” They created a scale to show the different standard rates for different unity packages. To put it simply, as long as a game makes at least \$200,000 in the last 12 months and acquires 200,000 installations, the developer will have to pay the Runtime fee. For Unity Plus the fee will be \$0.20 per download, for Unity Pro it will start at \$0.15 per download but decreases slightly with the more installs received per month, Unity Enterprise starts at \$0.125 per install and similar to Unity Pro, the price decreases with the more installs per month.

What does this mean for the gaming industry as a whole? This change mainly targets those games that use the Unity game engine as a means of creating and placing their games out into the world for people to install and play. Many well-known

titles, such as *Genshin Impact*, *Fall Guys*, *Among Us*, *Cuphead*, *Pokemon GO*, and *Outer Wilds* have been developed on Unity. Some developers have spoken out on the issue, such as *Innersloth*, the creators of *Among Us*, stating they have already been thinking of pulling the game from the Unity platform. Meanwhile, other developers, such as those of the Indie game *Cult of the Lamb*, state they would be deleting the game now due to the new policy.

After so much backlash, Unity did make a statement. They posted an apology on X (formerly known as Twitter) stating, “We have heard you. We apologize for the confusion and angst the runtime fee policy we announced on Tuesday caused. We are listening, talking to our team members, community, customers, and partners, and will be making changes to the policy. We will share an update in a couple of days. Thank you for your honest and critical feedback.”

This may seem like a positive ef-

fect, but should Indie game developers seek other programs to develop their games because of this? Or, do they stick with Unity and see what the resolved policies may be? Game developers who use Unity pay a yearly fee, similar to a subscription to the service to be able to use it, but with the new policies in place it will make it much harder to maintain their games. Indie game developers rely on engines, such as Unity, to be able to create their art and put it out for the world to

install and play, unlike big gaming companies such as Nintendo, Activision Blizzard, Ubisoft, and Sony that make billions of dollars.

Creators who pass the required fields for the policy do not make remotely enough money to maintain it will end up having to stop developing their games. Hopefully, what comes from Unity in the future will be much better than what they offered on Sept. 12. For now, we just wait and see.



Will well-known online games be affected?

JEFF CHIU / AP

# Put Book Banning To An End!

Emma Galvan  
COPY EDITOR

We've seen it on the news: state governments have begun banning books about slavery, Black History Month, and topics about the LGBTQ+ community. Why are they doing this? Well, it's always happened in history: Mark Twain, Shakespeare, and many other authors, had their novels banned from teaching for many years. When did it all begin, this unconstitutional tactic?

When Great Britain began their conquests into the Americas to establish their colonies, they made sure to erase any form of other beliefs that were not their own, such as the case with William Pynchon. His work argued that anyone can be in Heaven if they devote themselves to God, while the government believed only a certain few could. This stayed that way until the Civil War was on the horizon.

Then the reasons for book banning turned around and made its way towards the topic of slavery. Harriet Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin* became banned nation-wide, primarily in the confederate states, as it was exposing the harsh truths of slavery. To this day, it is debated if the release of this novel sparked the Civil War.

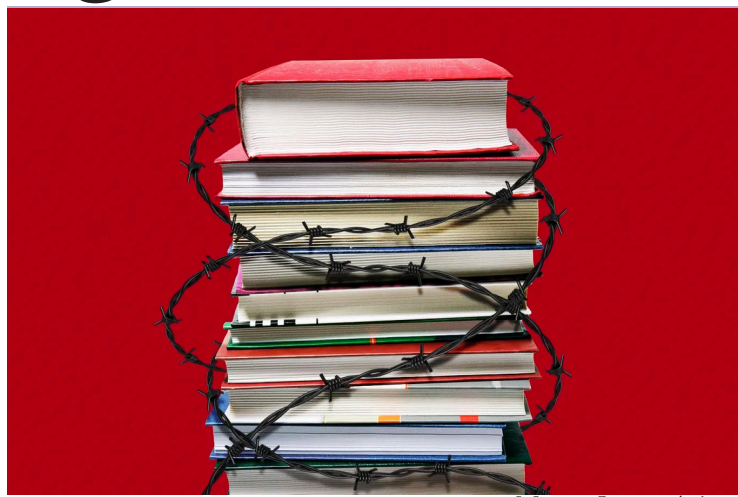
Only recently has the justifications behind the banning of books and magazines been a result of au-

thors or characters being racist, too sexualized, or gorey. Sometimes it is for all three reasons and more.

Now state governments have abused the power to restrict what can be taught in schools. They ban novels such as *How to Kill a Mockingbird*, yet keep other books that have worse portrayals such as *The Clansman*, a book that glorifies the Ku Klux Klan and inspired the controversial movie *The Birth of a Nation*.

Either ban them all, or keep them all and incorporate a discretion warning instead. Don't ban a select few when worse content is still lingering in libraries and bookstores. This is what many parents bring up, such as an instance where a parent repeatedly fought for the removal of graphic novels after finding her child reading a provocative book. The parent argued that school officials are not observant of the books they hold on their shelves.

Topics within the LGBTQ+ community are being banned for the benefit of children as parents say. Government officials argue that the LGBTQ+ community would "corrupt their minds at a young age," yet they are willing to keep books such as *Lord of the Flies*, a book full of children's death in the public eye. It is not terrifying nor wrong to teach children about the LGBTQ+ community when they are pushed at a young age to adhere to heteronormative roles in



MAURA LOSCH / AXIOS

## History cannot be erased or silenced.

relationships. Not just romantically, but platonically too. Even the theme of government opposition in books has been the newest target of removal from school shelves. When I scanned the shelves at Wardman Library, I was wondering why *The Hunger Games* was on the so-called "Not Banned From Our Library" shelf. It turns out that the reason why some boards are banning because of its connection to violence, glorification, and the emphasis on anti-government beliefs. But in society, people *are* being suppressed when exposing the truth, and violence *does* happen all around us. The only difference is that these fictional novels open the reader's eyes to what happens when violence goes too far. And the glorification of characters and celebrities has been

an on-going issue, especially with Colleen Hoover books, which glorify and normalize domestic abuse and toxic masculinity.

Banning books is unfair. It has started with corruption and as many people have argued in the past, is a violation of the First Amendment.

Banned Books Week gives light to these stories of oppression, books that were once praised and celebrated now tossed aside because of the wrong reasons. We are meant to learn from these books. So why are we being restricted to what we can read?

This article has been condensed for print. If you would like to read the full article, visit [medium.com/thequakercampus](https://medium.com/thequakercampus).

## Ask a Poet A Poet Answers

Can you give me advice on how to break up with my friend group? I just don't vibe with them anymore.  
-A Conflicted Poet

Dear Poet,

There are probably a couple of ways to do this, but be aware, it's probably going to hurt. It's never easy to make the choice to end someone's involvement in your life. But, you also can't help it when your feelings for someone start to fade. It's okay to find new people to hang out with! However, it is NOT OKAY to villainize your old friend group to your new friend group! Be honest. The vibes were simply off.

You could ghost them, that is 100 percent an option. I don't know you, but since you took time to ask for other alternatives, this is probably not the option you want to utilize. You could also tell them that you won't be hanging out with them anymore. I recommend doing this in a public place, and being very honest with them.

These may be methods that you're not comfortable with, you might be uncomfortable with the concept of confrontation. So here's one last option: faze yourself out of the group. Stop going to your usual hangout spot and start to hangout with your new friend group. Eventually, everyone will fall into a new rhythm! Everyone is happy!

Remember, even though you don't vibe with your old friend group anymore, you're still allowed to miss them. You probably made big plans with these friends and they probably supported you through some really tough times. I also want to commend you for realizing that your friend group probably doesn't benefit you anymore instead of making life difficult for them.

I wish you the best of luck!

All the best,  
A Poet

P.S. If these people are not understanding of your choice to distant yourself or respect your boundaries, then please know you did the right thing on ending the so-called friendship. Friends will understand your feelings without getting upset and triggered. If they do get upset, they need to take it upon themselves to respond back to you when they are calm.

Friends would want to change their behaviors or choices if they understand their wrongdoing. If not, say goodbye!

# A New Era: The Sassy Mandemic

Lucy Campbell  
SPORTS EDITOR

In recent times, controversies and new waves of trending rhetoric surrounding men and their seemingly newfound sense of attitude have spread like wildfire across social media platforms such as *TikTok*, *Twitter (X)*, and even *Instagram*. Originating from an audio found on *TikTok* that reveals a man asking his girlfriend for equal reciprocity within their relationship, the trend eventually began gaining more and more attraction and increased views by the day, with women all over social media joining forces to popularize the strange fad. As millions, when searching the hashtag #sassymanapocalypse on *TikTok*, have started to remake their own videos with the original audio, the word "sassy" was eventually coined as the defining phrase that would be attributed to any man who demonstrated an emotional reaction so severe. The placing of this label—which is not traditionally a defining customary male characteristic ascribing to be masculine—has stirred a proliferating charged political debate among the public that includes arguments about gender roles and the ways men and women should present and conform to the societal expectations of their particular sex.

On one side, there is frustration and annoyance towards the new labeling shown by those who feel that highlighting and taunting men and their feelings is a bit on the unprogressive side. That there is pressure placed on men to continue

to conform to traditional masculine roles that do not include an emotional capacity. In other words, the caricaturization and ridicule seen hinged onto the "sassiness" of men in our modern time invite toxicity and overly accentuated gender presentation standards for our culture to adhere to. On the other side, the preliminary idea of "it's just not that serious" is shown to take a significant stand within the argument. Many believe that it is more the internet's fault than our Western societies, as there is a noticed accentuation of gender roles online due to the profound influence that the media has to generate mass amounts of views and interactions. In other words, the only perceived issue in this equation for many is not a prevailing strict conventional model of thinking about the world around us, but instead how social media attempts to disrupt and disturb public disputes to accumulate attention on the platform.

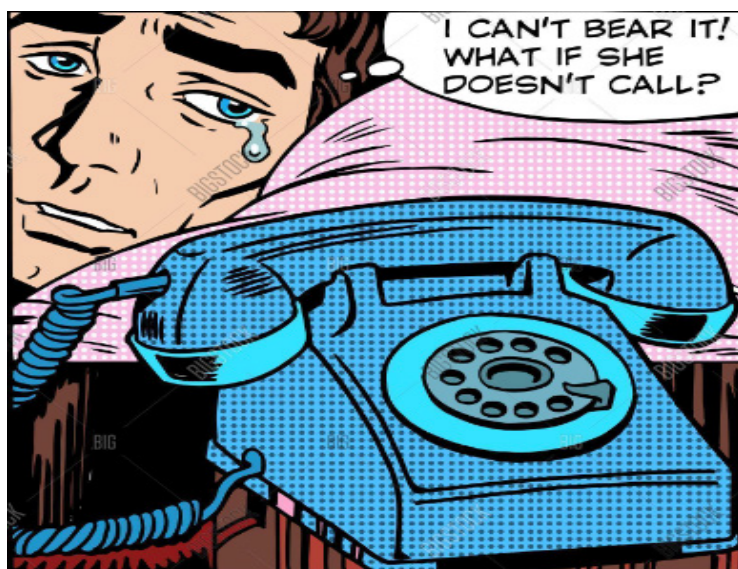
The "sassy mandemic" trend we are currently faced with is an interesting topic to examine when regarding this patent escalation of female authority that has found footing through pro-girl endorsement this past summer. The past has upheld harsh and constricting implications and ideals for women and their roles, which have been relentlessly socially demanded time and time again. There is no questioning whether or not inequality exists within our world today, as women do, and have faced lengthy and strenuous uphill battles for fairness and equal rights in almost

every domestic and public sphere of life imaginable. But, with the mind-blowing rise of pro-women representation in the media this past 2023 summer, mass amounts of adoration for female achievements and successes made by predominantly infamous women truly have reflected positively in the attitudes and minds of women and girls everywhere, influencing all to appreciate femininity as a powerful tool rather than the historically perceived intrinsic hindrance it has been viewed as in the past.

A major spotlight was placed on Taylor Swift's "Eras U.S. Tour", Beyoncé's "Renaissance Tour", and the release of the new *Barbie* movie, awarding esteemed recognition and respect to the more than deserving powerful women making a mark on the "sassiness" of this entire generation. "#HotGirlSummer is now

more specifically #BillionGirlSummer, with *Barbie* already the first woman-directed film to gross more than a billion dollars and Beyoncé and Swift's dual stadium tours estimated to gross similarly dizzying amounts, each pumping even more into fledging local economies around the country." This new generation has undoubtedly procured a newfound, unashamed presentation of self-expression.

Man or woman, the perceived "feminine" traits of the past have grown to become gender-neutral in a way that has allowed all to display reactions filled with emotional intensity whether we like it or not. The "sassy mandemic" might just be the first indication of a new non-gender-specific era of delightfully unapologetic sass and attitude.



COURTESY OF AR.EUROPEANWRITERS TOUR.COM

Men are damned if they do and damned if they don't.

## Where Words Once Were Leaves Whittier Speechless

### QC Staff Recommendations

**Shelby Silva**  
A&E EDITOR

Want to know what our Arts and Entertainment Editor is recommending this week? Read on!



COURTESY OF PITCHFORK

**Album:** *Blue Weekend* by the English rock band **Wolf Alice** is gold from start to finish and I especially adore the song “Delicious Things.” This band produces a perfect blend of alternative, indie, and rock music. Their energy when they play a show is overwhelming in the best way possible, so if they ever come to your city check them out.



COURTESY OF OTAQUEST

**Comic:** *Beck* is a manga series by **Harold Sakuishi** and it has a cool storyline that focuses on the teenager Yukio “Koyuki” Tanaka who meets Ryuusuke “Ray” Minami, and becomes entangled in the rock music scene afterwards. Along with three other members, they form the Mongolian Chop Squad and face struggles along the path. Even if you are not into the music, the art and storyline are solid and captivating.



COURTESY OF HOME RESTAURANT

**Restaurant:** **Home Restaurant** is a pretty restaurant located in Los Feliz that has an outdoor patio perfect for a nice brunch or dinner with some good company. I recommend the tasty Tequila Lime Pasta.



COURTESY OF TIMEOUT

**Dessert:** If you have a sweet tooth like me, **Pazzo Gelato** is a perfect place to get dessert after a date or an outing if you are in Silverlake. Apart from the creamy gelato they serve, they also serve lattes, smoothies, tea, and some baked goods. I recommend the Toasted Coconut Chip or the Thai Tea.

Check out all the recommendations!

**Emily Henderson**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In a desolate city far from here; in a time long in the future; lives a boy, a girl, words— and the silences in between.

Whittier College’s Film, Theatre and Communication Arts Department opened the first production of the 2023 season, *Where Words Once Were*, on Oct. 5, where anything but silence filled the Robinson Theater.

The play (directed by Professor Jennifer Holmes and written by Finegan Kruckemeyer) tells the dystopian story of a world where language is rationed to only a select 1000 words, and anyone caught saying anything that does not adhere to those 1000 words is sentenced to be silenced forever. That is, until one day, a boy named Orhan (J.J. Trimble) decides to change the world. By using the power of language, love, and freedom, he is able to see the forgotten, changing the fate of the city forever.

Trimble gives a dignified, yet powerful performance as the young Orhan. Do not mistake his solemnity as minute— instead recognize it as the quiet driving force of the entire production. He’s thoughtful and deliberate in his actions, which gives a big punch that will leave the audience emotional.

Trimble plays across some other great actors and actresses as well, namely Julia Centeno— who plays



COURTESY OF RILEY WHITE

**Meet the stars behind this brilliant play!**

the silenced character Angela. Centeno gives an incredibly emotional performance that radiates mysteriousness throughout the entire production— which is a testament to her acting, given she only speaks a few lines throughout the play. But when she speaks, it leaves the audience grasping for more. She is fluid with her movements, and expressive to everything happening around her. We feel her highs and lows so intensely, that she transports us into the City with her.

Centeno is actually playing the younger version of one of the central characters, called “The Narrator,” who’s played by Ali Amaya. Amaya gives a standout performance as the older Angela. Reflecting on the crucial moments in her younger life, she pulls the audience

so deeply into the story. She is powerful, especially when speaking to the audience. She delivers passionate monologues about resistance and how to stand up against power-hungry structures. All eyes were on Amaya!

While the narrative leans towards the poignant side of storytelling (get those tissues ready!), there are moments of genuine hilarity— thanks especially to the character of Kieran (Calvin Morgenstern). Morgenstern is on the money with comedic timing, leaving anyone that watches bursting out laughing (and they did!). This is also thanks to Morgenstern’s scene partner Esme McGuire, who plays Eila. McGuire and Morgenstern bounce off each other so well, allowing for moments of amusement in an

otherwise solemn play.

The entire company works well together, allowing the energy to radiate off the stage. Other notable performances include Joel Adell’s stern yet sincere Issac the Official; Cielo Valenzuela-Lara’s Alli the Baker (who possesses incredible singing chops!); Geffen Chang’s reserved yet powerful performance of Gus; and the hilarious addition of Theo Stevens’ Teacher. With the addition of the ensemble, there is a strength that emanates to the audience. The camaraderie the cast shares comes through. Bravo!

Along with a great cast, the technical aspects of the play were wonderful. The set truly makes you feel like you’re in a dystopian world— adorned with rusty pipes, broken doors, and trash leaves scattered around. This coupled with the costumes gives the essence of a world wrought with turmoil. The lighting design was also well done, despite some confusion with the use of words lighting up around the set in the beginning, and then stopping half way through. Other than that, the tech team and behind the scenes personnel elevated the production tenfold.

*Where Words Once Were* will leave you speechless. Even with a slightly confusing and abrupt ending, the production is filled with a passion that radiates throughout the entire Robinson Theater— leaving you asking for more.

## Knott’s Scary Farm: 50 Years of Nightmares

**Nune Papikyan**  
PHOTOGRAPHER

This year marks the 50th anniversary of Knott’s Scary Farm a tradition of scaring those who dare to attend. Every year, they create a frightening experience of scary attractions, shows, transforming areas of the park where guests can walk through. The continuation of Knott’s Scary Farm is an event that many Southern Californians anticipate. The event started on Sept. 21 and ends on Oct. 31, for select nights only.

This year, the event is the most wicked it’s ever been, with new mazes, scarezones, and shows for people to walk through and experience. Of course, there are some mazes from last year: “Wax Works,” an abandoned wax museum where the creations have come to life and are killing those who enter, “The Grimoire,” a cursed ancient relic brings your greatest fears to life; “Mesmer,” a sinister sideshow with the hypnotist Mesmer who tricks the minds of those paying attention making them face their greatest fears; “Dark Entities,” an attraction with a similar vibe to the movie *Alien*, where a monstrous alien has invaded a crew’s ship and goes around in search of a new host feeding on those who get in its way; and “Bloodline 1842,” which consists

of a ‘steam-punk neo-Victorian city at war with the bloodsucking creatures who have taken control.

The new mazes include “Room 13,” a Prohibition Era setting where a dangerous drink is causing the people of the hotel to go insane; “Cinema Slasher,” which upon entering the ‘Midnight Theater’ you are placed in a horror film and must figure out a way to escape, definitely something for *The Slasher* movie fans; and finally, “The Chilling Chambers,” a way of honoring the 50th anniversary of the event in which you are led through mazes from past events by a newer character called the Keeper. All the mazes are open to be explored, I highly recommend trying them even if you’re hesitant.

All the scare zones are the same as last year as well. The Ghost Town Streets, the original scarezone that started them all, has the monsters who were transformed by the witch that roams around the Knott’s Berry Farm Ghost town area. Gore-ing ‘20s, near Charleston Circle, has the twisted look of the Roaring ‘20s with ghostly gangsters and musicians terrorizing the area. There is also CarnEVIL, a well known area of the park that has recently gained popularity on *TikTok*; The Boardwalk, crawling with rogue clowns, looking for an easy scare; Forsaken Lake, which brings a gothic feel to



COURTESY OF LAUGHING PLACE

**Ready to face your nightmares?**

the park, located between Fiesta Village and the Boardwalk, haunted creatures emerge from the lake where they met their untimely demise. The newest addition to this year’s event is The Gauntlet, bringing back an old fan favorite, a wicked twist on a medieval village. Upon entering it, I described it as “someone’s horror-themed, medieval DnD campaigns.”

A note on the scare zones, if someone wants to walk through them without being frightened, they are selling something called a “scare immunity necklace,” the perfect item for someone who may want to attend but gets easily frightened (these however will not work for mazes).

Along with all these scare zones and mazes, there are a few

shows. Dr. Cleaver Returns, located at the Birdcage Theater, is where a deranged doctor does his experiments. Le Magnifique Carnaval Du Grotesque, located at the Calico Mine Stage, is a cabaret-esque show with crazy stunts and dance. Music, Monsters, and Mayhem, located at the Walter Knott theater, is a way to pay homage to the 50 years of frights with music and dance. And, The Hanging: Uncancelled, located at the wagon camp, is a “pop culture parody extravaganza.”

If you get the chance you should head on down, the ghosts and ghouls will be awaiting your arrival.

This article has been condensed for print. If you would like to read the full article, visit [medium.com/the-quaker-campus](https://medium.com/the-quaker-campus).

# If You Love Latine Food, This Is For You!

**Alissa Portillo**  
DEPUTY EDITOR

As Hispanic Heritage Month is slowly approaching its end, marked for Oct. 15, we hope that you visited different events and festivals held so far, attended different social gatherings highlighting Latinx folks and their cultural identities, etc. For the perfect send-off to end the month, it's important to end on a note that is everyone's favorite—food!

The staff from *Quaker Campus* are sharing their favorite Latin food restaurants with you, so you can visit and try the amazing cuisine! Some of these recommendations are bigger chain restaurants and family-owned mom-and-pop restaurants.

**Emily Henderson**  
(Editor-in-Chief):

"I love the place **El Cholo**, located in La Habra. They have a filet mignon taco platter that is mouth-watering good. I'm craving it right now."

**Sarah Licón (News Editor):**

"I like **Rosarito Taco Grill** in Whittier because of the vibe there. It's a family-owned business with cool '60s/'70s-themed decor, and they've got so many food options!"



COURTESY OF THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

**Try the mouth-watering filet mignon taco platter.**

**Alissa Portillo (Deputy Editor):** "I think the one restaurant most people may not know about is **Paco's Tacos Cantina**. The food is absolutely delicious, but what I love the most is the interior decor that provides dim lighting perfect for a date night while simultaneously being mixed with an old-fashioned Mexican-style look. And, if you love Salvadoran food, I recommend **Vchos** located in Montebello, however they have a number of trucks dispersed throughout the L.A., O.C., and I.E. counties throughout the week!"

**Lucy Campbell (Sports Editor):**

"My recommendation is **Kalaveras** in Uptown Whittier. I like it because it has really fun drinks (if you are over 21), an exciting environment, and super good food. I will say it is a bit on the pricier side, but definitely a good special occasion place to eat."

**Chelsea Bartilad**  
(Copy Editor):

"I haven't been to many Latin restaurants recently, but I've heard from a friend that **Moreno's** restaurant in Orange is pretty good! She says all their dishes are pretty great, especially the tacos and Mexican pizza."

"There's this place called **Mariachi Bakery** in Norwalk. They have mazapan lattes with real mazapan in it! They also have a panadería attached with all your favorite Mexican pan dulce."

**Anna Gaber (Head Copy Editor):**

"**Petiscos** on 211 W 1st St in Claremont has really really good fish tacos."

**Emma Galvan (Copy Editor):**

"The one from Whittier I'd say is **Madres**. It's a brunch restaurant in Uptown and it's one of the few restaurants I've actually gotten to be in since I moved here in August. What I like is that they specialize mostly in Mexican brunch items such as chilaquiles, which were very good when I tried them on the second day I was

here in Whittier. I'd recommend trying their floating iced coffees because they give four different types of coffee for the customer and they are really tasty. The second one is a restaurant called **La Catarina Mexican Grill**. It was in my town of Hollister and I loved always going inside whenever my family wanted to eat out. Their portions are small but they're very delicious, and I remember a sweet memory of my mom getting her GED and celebrating there; it's meant to be a celebration spot."

We hope you visit some of these restaurants recommended by the staff and enjoy the dining! Celebrating Hispanic Heritage can go beyond the month! Support Latinx folk year-round!



COURTESY OF PACO'S TACOS

**Enjoy authentic Mexican cuisine at Paco's Tacos.**

## Homage to Pioneer Hispanic Musicians

**Jonathan Bermudez**  
STAFF WRITER

From being played at parties to cruising around, music is always present in Hispanic lives. Each generation of Hispanics have their own artists that they feel represent their culture and how they grew up.

Mariachi is one of the oldest types of music to originate from Mexico. Its birth place is uncertain, but many western provinces in Mexico adapted the music to places such as Jalisco, Zacatecas, and even as far as Durango, which is a northern province. One of the most famous mariachi singers is Vicente "Chente" Fernandez.

Born on Feb. 17, 1940 in Huetan el Alto, Jalisco, Mexico, Fernandez had a rough childhood. To support his family he had to drop out of the fifth grade; this responsibility led him to singing and performing for money. In the '60s, Fernandez began playing in a mariachi band where he would be recognized as a professional mariachi. His career began with *NBC Mexico*, where he would have opportunities to star in movies and create albums of his own. 10 years into his musical career, Fernandez would explode in the Mexican music scene with his hit single "Volver, Volver" which roughly translates to "Return, Return." The song beautifully captures the pain of losing some-

one over neglect and wanting them back, with lyrics such as, "You were very right, I listen to my heart, and I'm dying to go back." Fernandez would become a household name for Hispanics and was dubbed "El Rey" ("The King"). After a long career of singing mariachi music and winning numerous awards, Vicente passed away on Dec. 12, 2021 at the age of 80. While Vicente was making a name for himself in Mexico, there was another band creating a stir in the music scene of America—a psychedelic rock and roll band, Santana.

Carlos Santana had a similar upbringing as Vicente Fernandez. Both were born in Jalisco and learned to play mariachi music at a young age. However, it was Santana's father who taught him how to play and brought him to the US. Santana and his family moved to San Francisco which would become the powerhouse of '60s culture. He played bass for his brother's band before creating his own. After getting a record deal with Atlantic Records, his band went from the "Santana Blues Band" to "Santana." Santana got their big break performing at one of the most iconic musical events in US history, Woodstock. Santana's performance at Woodstock brought them popularity as they proved to be intense performers with their song "Soul Sacrifice." An instrumental mixture

of hard rock, jazz, and latin music, this performance was like no other. Santana showed that Mexicans can rock and roll too. Carlos Santana was one of the first Chicano artists to gain popularity in America, becoming a household name for Chicanos as he represented what was cool and hip at the time. Although Chicano culture was still present in the '80s, there was a sub-culture of Hispanics who didn't identify with the Chicano lifestyle and music.

One of the pioneers of the emerging genre "Narco Corrido" was Chalino Sanchez. Sanchez was born on Aug. 30, 1960 in Culiacan, Mexico. At a young age, he allegedly killed the person who sexually assaulted his sister, and shortly after ran away to Los Angeles, where he would live with his aunt and make money with small jobs and smuggling drugs. The death of his brother inspired Sanchez to write music during his time in jail, where he would make songs for inmates and make them heroes. Sanchez started taking commissions from criminals outside of jail. He initially hired bands to perform his music but got frustrated when they wouldn't sing the way he wanted. His music was not popular until an incident occurred in Coachella, California where he got into a gunfight with another person and was shot twice. His radio-friendly music got air time after the incident, but not his



COURTESY OF XILBERTO

**Meet "Chente," the king of mariachi music.**

narco music. The air time made him more popular as a musician but the incident gave him more credibility as a person who fights back just like the Narcos he sings about. Unfortunately, another incident would occur on May 15, 1984 that would not only leave him as a legend but also take his life. During a show in his hometown, Culiacan, Sanchez received a message while he was performing that, allegedly, stated that if he continued, he would be killed. After contemplating whether to keep going, Sanchez put the paper away and continued to sing. He was found dead hours later. Although his public persona revolved around crimes and the cartel, his music represented those without a

voice. It gave insight into the lives of those who had no choice but to live a life of crime to survive.

Hispanic Heritage Month is a great time to learn about the music and culture that is prevalent throughout Hispanic life. Just like other cultures, Hispanic culture is rich with stories of people who have shaped the culture that is present today. Though not all stories have a happy ending, it is important to keep the stories alive and pay homage to those who were proud of who they were.

This article has been condensed for print. If you would like to read the full article, visit [medium.com/the-quaker-campus](https://medium.com/the-quaker-campus).

# Looking for Some Halloween Fun?

**Nune Papikyan**  
PHOTOGRAPHER

If you're looking for something to do this October, you're in luck! Los Angeles and Orange County have so many different events to offer. Some events are free to attend, but others must be paid for.

**Halloween Horror Nights:** An annual event held by Universal Studios Hollywood, where guests attending will be able to experience well-known horror films in real life. This year, some of the properties being *Stranger Things*, *The Last of Us*, *Chucky*, *The Exorcist: Believer*, and many more. General Admission tickets start at \$77.

**Knott's Scary Farm:** Another annual event held by Knott's Berry Farm, the first of its kind in Southern California. The event includes mazes, scarezones, and spooky shows that you wouldn't want to miss. Tickets start at \$59.99 online.

**Rooftop Cinema Club:** Throughout October, the Rooftop Cinema Club will show films on rooftops throughout Los Angeles, The Arts District, Downtown LA, and El Segundo. Some titles include *Halloween*, *Hocus Pocus*, *Scream*, and many more fun spooky films. Tickets range from \$5.00-\$26.00 depending on how you'd like to watch the film; either sitting in your car, or being able to sit in chairs provided by the event for a better view of the screen.

**Haunt Massive Halloween Night:** A rave-like party at the Avalon nightclub will take place on Halloween night. Don't miss out on this if you are 21 and up! Those with October birthdays will be able to get



COURTESY OF ANGELENO

### Are you up for a spooky night at Griffith Park?

in for free, otherwise tickets range at \$40.

**Los Angeles Haunted Hayride:** Take a ride through a haunted pumpkin patch with goblins and ghouls in Griffith Park. Attendees will be able to ride through the haunted attraction with newly updated sets and effects. A fun way to scare, you and your friends while sitting in a large, oversized wagon, with seating for comfort. Tickets range from \$30-\$35.

**Night of Terror:** Taking place from Oct. 27-31, the Freedom City Church located on Greenleaf in Whittier presents to you, the Night of Terror. A terrifying maze convenient enough to walk to will be filled with scare actors. The maze will be open from 6 p.m. - 11:15 p.m. Tickets are only \$15.

**The Haunted Rose & Whittier Historical Society:** The Whittier Museum

presents a "den of horrors" where you will be able to meet classic monsters such as Frankenstein's monster, Dracula, the Wolfman, and Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. This will take place on Oct. 21, 22, 28, 29 from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m., and tickets will be

available online or at the door for \$10.

**Nightshade Market:** This is a night market, which offers free entry and you'll be able to shop for Halloween knick knacks and memorabilia. It'll be open Oct. 28 from 3 p.m.-11 p.m. and Oct. 29 from 12 p.m. - 11p.m.

**West Hollywood Costume Carnival:** This free event in West Hollywood will take place on Oct. 31, on the historical Route 66. There will be a DJ, food trucks and extravagant halloween costumes for everyone to see.

**Boney Island at NHM:** Something fun for museum goers. The Natural History museum has transformed their Nature Gardens to a spooky wonderland filled with prehistoric boney creatures, talking plants, and a skeleton orchestra. Taking place on select nights from Sept. 28 to Oct. 31, with a fee of \$25 (\$20 for members), you'll be able to enter this family friendly, frightening wonderland. Event hours vary, but entry is at 6 p.m. and people may stay until 10 p.m.



COURTESY OF ROOFTOP CINEMA CLUB

Pay a visit to a rooftop in Los Angeles to catch a scary film!

## Word Scramble

- THE OPST \_\_\_\_\_
- NANHSON TCRNEE \_\_\_\_\_
- DVADI DDPAY \_\_\_\_\_
- JNNYHO ETOP \_\_\_\_\_
- TSONTK RAYCS FMAR \_\_\_\_\_
- POTE PEDIR \_\_\_\_\_
- CGMEOIHNM \_\_\_\_\_
- LNELAOWEH \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_ OLEHNAW
- \_\_\_\_\_ NEGCHIMOMO
- \_\_\_\_\_ TOPE PIERD
- \_\_\_\_\_ NKOTST YRSACA FARM
- \_\_\_\_\_ HXNJON TOPE
- \_\_\_\_\_ DVADI PPDVA
- \_\_\_\_\_ ANNSNOH TERGEN
- \_\_\_\_\_ HET OSTP
- \_\_\_\_\_ LNELAOWEH
- \_\_\_\_\_ CGMEOIHNM
- \_\_\_\_\_ POTE PEDIR
- \_\_\_\_\_ TSONTK RAYCS FMAR
- \_\_\_\_\_ JNNYHO ETOP
- \_\_\_\_\_ DVADI DDPAY
- \_\_\_\_\_ NANHSON TCRNEE
- \_\_\_\_\_ THE OPST

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