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THE BROOKLYN COLLEGE VANGUARD

Fall 2024, Issue 5 vanguard.blog.brooklyn.edu  @thebcvanguard Wednesday, October 16

NEW MEETS BC!



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Cover by Tony Lipka, Photos by T Abbatemarco

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Immigrant Student Success Office (ISSO) Celebrates Fifth Anniversary

By Rami Mansi
Opinions Editor

The Immigrant Student Success Office (ISSO) celebrated its fifth anniversary on Oct. 8 with meaningful remarks from its various leaders and those in the Brooklyn College community. The celebration was marked with awards of recognition delivered to dedicated collaborators who have supported ISSO's mission of supporting immigrant students from the start.

ISSO opened in 2019 to "recruit, enroll, and retain students, with an emphasis on new immigrants [...] by providing the necessary academic and non-academic support to ensure graduation," according to their official mission statement. For the past five years, ISSO has provided legal, mental health, and academic support to immigrant students at BC. ISSO faculty emphasize that it is their goal to empower the students who come to the office, making sure that they have a say in their education and beyond.

"We have the students take ownership of their voices," said Jesus Perez, director of ISSO. "We're there to give them a platform."

Leslie Ramirez Carbajal, program coordinator at ISSO, named the external partners that helped ISSO achieve its mission and extend the office's reach past BC, which include Common Point Queens, Exhale to Inhale, the Brooklyn Public Library, the Brave House, and Volunteers Of Legal Services (VOLS).

A frequent collaborator with ISSO, the BC Dream Team club focuses on



Director Jesus Perez delivering a speech to attendees./Rami Mansi

"[supporting] undocumented students and their families by providing them with available information, resources, and emotional support," according to their official mission statement. Speakers at the celebration shared their personal experiences with ISSO and how it has been crucial for their educational journey.

"More than anything the office has offered a special place for me to work, learn, and grow in a community of students with similar backgrounds and experiences. I have been embraced by this community with so much love, compassion, and respect," said Brenda Bravo, president of the Dream Team.

The anniversary comes at a time when many immigrant and undocumented students face difficulties continuing their education. Currently, the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, which protects children of undocumented immigrants from being deported, is being contested in a federal appeals court based

on a lawsuit claiming some of its contents are unlawful, according to CBS News. For ISSO and the Dream Team, it is of the utmost importance to continue to support the community regardless of whether or not DACA is struck down.

"Over the course of five years, ISSO has been working towards closing the gap for undocumented and immigrant students by empowering students and providing resources," said Diana Reyes, vice president of the Dream Team and the Program and Community Building Federman Fellow at ISSO. "This 5th-year anniversary celebration marks the efforts that have been made to further the mission of creating a safe space for undocumented, immigrant, and first-generation students."

At the celebration, speakers explained the impact ISSO has had, not just in terms of academic success for every student, but personal success as well.

"The office being open five years already means it's been around for more

than one student's journey. It's helped more than one student feel seen, empowered, and valued in a space that is often hard to navigate," said Bravo. "The office has made an impact on so many lives, I don't doubt that when I see how people show up to events like the graduation ceremony or the anniversary celebration. I see the impact it has."

ISSO hopes to continue its mission of providing a safe space for immigrant and undocumented students on campus so that they can all feel welcomed and empowered as they go about their college lives.

"People gravitate towards this space because of how warm and welcoming it feels," said Bravo. "And it's truly a beacon of light to those who find their way to this space."

Students interested in learning more about ISSO can visit their Instagram @issobc or visit their website <https://www.brooklyn.edu/dosa/student-support-services/isso/>

LGBTQ+ Resource Center Celebrates 10th Anniversary

By Serena Edwards
and Mars Marte
Staff Writers

The LGBTQ+ Resource Center marked its 10th anniversary on Tuesday, Oct. 8 with a panel of speakers commemorating the history of the Center at Brooklyn College.

To celebrate the milestone, the Center's director, Kelly Spivey, hosted a roundtable discussion rooted in the Center's history and its hopes for the future. This panel offered a wide variety of stories from both current faculty and alumni who all united in their pursuit for cultivating queer community.

A majority of the panelists were current staff at BC, including Maria Scharron-Del Rio (they/them), the Dean of Education at Brooklyn College, Wayne Reid (he/him), a faculty member in School of Education, David McKay (he/him), a professor in the English Department, and Alex Juhasz (she/her), a professor in the Film Department. Former members who aided in the cultivation of the

Center included Audrey Sheperd (he/him), the former president of LGBTQ+ Resource Center, and Charlie Herb (she/her), a BC alumni and a transgender woman who fought for transgender rights on campus. The speakers discussed their time at BC and the immense changes that the Center brought to campus over the years.

Reid recollected his experiences as a gay man at BC regarding the lack of a welcoming environment for queers on campus, a feeling many of the other speakers at the event shared. Reid sought to rectify the issue by expanding the type of events and guest speakers on campus.

"We started inviting queer artists to the education department events so that we can expose people to the queer community," he said.

As a result of the Center's gradual efforts, they eventually started an organization called "Proud Educators": an organization that supports LGBTQ+ faculty in school by providing a safe space for faculty and students.

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A flyer featured in a 1971 issue of the Kingsman (previously Vanguard) promoting Gay People at BC./Courtesy of @lgbtqcenter_bc on Instagram

Herb spoke about how she influenced a lot of the transgender policies on campus and introduced the idea of gender neutral bathrooms. She created a 10-year plan on what changes should be implemented in the schools, and constantly pushed the envelope to create an environment for future students that echoed the one she dreamed of during her time at BC.

During Herb's time at BC, there was not a lot of support for the transgender community. Due to lack of regulations, Herb's quest to update her gender and name

on record was stalled. However, Herb's resilience took over, and she was willing to work with the school to figure out how to update it. At the time, the LGBTQA club and students minoring in LGBTQ Studies had little to no recognition.

"The LGBTA had the minimum budget to still be a club," Herb explained, noting that during her time minoring in LGBTQ studies there were only three students. "I wanted to build the resources I thought I was going to have when I got here."

Scharron-Del Rio spoke about her time at BC, their upbringing in Puerto Rico, and how this difference influenced their experiences. They expressed the challenges they faced regarding receiving acceptance from their community back in Puerto Rico. This hope, however, never came to fruition, causing Scharron-Del Rio to leave the island and locate to Brooklyn.

"One of the reasons I left Puerto Rico was because my first girlfriend did not want to come out to her family, and I wanted a community," they explained. With the inability to live authentically, Scharron-Del Rio came to BC in the hopes of finding a

space to freely explore their individuality, and they continue to explore their identity within an uplifting community. Now in an environment where they feel safe to explore themselves, Scharron-Del Rio was able to uncover hidden depths within herself. "I came out to gender queer, to myself, while I was here at Brooklyn College," they said.

The conversation then pivoted to Juhasz, who explained how she navigated her queer identity as a lesbian along with being a professor, and the steps she took to start a family without discrimination.

She ensured that she surrounded her family with accepting and open environments, and sought out those

who reflected her family dynamics, not just with being lesbian, but also being an interracial family.

"My environment didn't affect my family because I made sure to choose an environment that was similar to me with people that looked like me," she said. "Being in this community has been a core focus for how I live and who I wanna be with, as well as what I study and what I teach."

[CONTINUED ON
PAGE 4]



The panelists included past and present staff of the Center./T Abbatemarco

McKay, who was the original director of the Center, reflected upon his time at Brooklyn College and the evolution of the Center. He spoke about how he volunteered for the role of director and the difficulties the Center faced in the beginning. “We moved into a small room in Ingersoll where the students couldn’t even move around,” he said.

Spivey continued along the thread of the history of the Center. In the 1970s, there was a club called “Gay people at BC,”

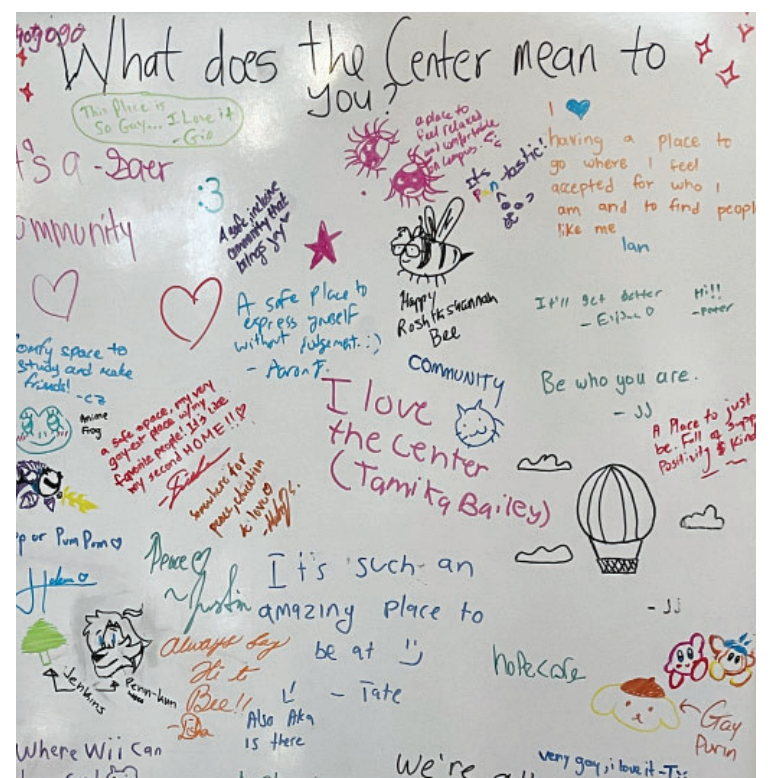
and then a counter-club, “You’re Not Queer,” was created as a response to show hatred towards the community.

“People were putting out negative information to students saying you’re not queer, this is a hoax,” she said. “They used hatred to spread the word. Underneath the “You’re not queer” flyers, you would see the flyers of “Gay people at BC.”

Every step since then has been to curate an accepting environment for LGBTQ+ students

and faculty on campus. But the work doesn’t stop there, the panelists encouraged students to continue to push the envelope.

“You don’t need to settle for what we made for you all,” said Herb. “You can keep asking for more and making even greater things.”



Attendees wrote what the Center means to them at the event./T Abbatemarco

Brooklyn College Adds \$2.6 Billion to NYC Economy, Study Shows

By Daniel Afanasyev
News Editor

An economic impact study found Brooklyn College to have added \$2.6 billion in income to the New York City economy, reinforcing it as an important socioeconomic force in the region.

The study was conducted by Lightcast, a company specializing in labor market analytics, along with data from the 2021-22 fiscal year academic and financial reports, and industry and employment data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and U.S. Census Bureau.

According to data from the 2021-22 fiscal year, BC’s payroll and operations spending added \$284.6 million to the regional economy, and employed 2,514 full-time and part-time faculty and staff. BC alumni currently employed in the NYC area have had the greatest impact on NYC’s economy, generating \$2.3 billion in added income, an equivalent of supporting 17,482 jobs. Through the expenditures of relocated and retained BC students, the NYC economy saw an addition of \$52.1 million in income. The study also

highlights the school’s influence on out-of-state as well as retained students.

“Around 8% of students attending Brooklyn College originated from outside the region in FY 2021-22, and most of these students

With rankings of No. 1 in diversity and No. 8 in social mobility this year according to the U.S. News & World Report, the study’s findings reflect the highly diverse region BC continues to serve and invest in.

release on Oct. 4. “We are proud to be one of the leading institutions for social mobility and to be a beacon for young people looking to receive an unparalleled, affordable education.”

dollar a student invests in BC, they will receive a value of \$7.30 in higher future earnings, amounting to an average annual return rate of 21.7%. Taxpayers also reap a benefit from investing in BC; for every dollar invested, taxpayers receive a value of \$3.70 over the course of the students’ working lives, an average annual return rate of 8.9%.

Long regarded as a pivotal institution to the region’s working class population, BC depends on regular public funding from the state to remain advantageous for its stakeholders. Local leaders, recognizing the benefit and force of such regional institutions, continue to advocate for increased state funding for BC and CUNY as a whole.

“With so many young New Yorkers, particularly students of color and children of immigrants attending Brooklyn College, we must continue to invest in institutions like these that play such a critical role in advancing economic and social mobility,” Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso said in the Oct. 4 press release.



BC has long been regarded as a driver of social mobility in the region./Courtesy of Brooklyn College on Facebook

relocated to New York City to attend Brooklyn College,” the report read. “These students may not have come to the region if the college did not exist. In addition, some in-region students, referred to as retained students, would have left New York City if not for the existence of Brooklyn College.”

“Investing in Brooklyn College is a win-win for our communities and our students. Our world-class staff and faculty not only equip students with the tools needed for personal success but empower them to contribute significantly to the regional economy,” BC President Michelle Anderson said in a press

Aside from BC’s notable contribution to the local economy, the study also highlights students’ great return on investment and increase in social mobility. According to the study, the average bachelor’s degree graduate from 2021-2022 will earn \$41,000 more than a person only with a high school diploma; For every

In Photos: SJP PROTEST



If you're not careful, the newspapers will have you ~~hating~~ the people who are being **oppressed**, and ~~loving~~ the people who are doing the **oppressing**.
- Malcolm X

FEMA ANNOUNCED
A \$9 BILLION
SHORTFALL FOR
HURRICANE HELENE RECOVERY
THE SAME DAY THE
US GAVE
\$8.7 BILLION IN
WEAPONS TO ISRAEL

Photos by Kate Dempsey and Savanna Briehl

The Runway of Brooklyn College: NYFW Meets BC

By Jaida Dent
Arts Editor

Giovanni M.
Ravalli
LGBTQ+
Correspondent

Even though New York Fashion Week (NYFW) has passed, it hasn't stopped the creatives of Brooklyn College from showcasing their handcrafted looks with the community. On Tuesday, Oct. 8, BC held a NYFW x BC Fashion Show on campus that was sponsored by the CUNY Career Success Fellowship. The event was produced by BC's own, including Professor Ngoc Cindy Pham and students Bianny Torres and Ezae Darby.

The event opened with a panel featuring the designers whose work would be modeled in the show which included students Gansel Jacques, Aspia Anwar, Cyle Paul, and Darby. Along with them was Akeem Dewan from Keem Studios, a fashion brand based in NYC. The panel discussed their journey to fashion, where their creativity stems from, and even what the future holds for them as designers.

"I want to redefine certain things in the culture and how perceptions play a part in our daily lives [...] So I feel that

with fashion, there's really a part into how people perceive you and how you can move. So that's why I'm doing what I'm doing," said Jacques, a designer and member of the show's production team.

A common theme amongst all the designers was individuality. The artwork that they created, and want to continue creating, were all rooted in a place of being true to oneself. For student and designer Paul, not only does he want his brand of tote bags, Design and Wine, to show individuality, but to also teach people how to recreate that for themselves.

"It gives me a great opportunity to give people the foundation [...] It's a matter of just being able to show people, Okay, this is how I do it. You could then take that as an example and then do it your own way with your own twist, with your own ideas," said Paul.

For other designers, the power of their brand is merging sustainability and fashion. Eco Couture, the brand of the show's producer, Darby, aims to do just that.

"We're looking into more ways in order to keep it as sustainable as possible, whether that be looking into the packaging of the shirts [...] all the

way down to the printing," said Darby.

Models appreciated the outfits and talent of the designers featured in the show and were grateful to be a part of the BC-wide production. "It's nice to see all the different designers just come together and showcase what they can do and what the beautiful students of BC can do," Chrismar Echavarria told The Vanguard. "I was just so glad that I was able to wear something from a student, and I think he has a lot of talent."

The students who modeled in the show were excited about the opportunity to do so. For some, it was their first time, and it ignited an interest in modeling again in the future.

"I'm interested in it [...] I would definitely be interested in doing some runway modeling so I feel this is good practice," said Terrance Belizaire, one of the models and a sociology major at BC.

Guest designer, Akeem Dewan, who started out as a stylist and is now head designer and owner of his own brand Keem Studios, came on campus to show his designs to BC students. From wax denim and mohair, to wool polyester blends with satin linings, Keem Studios prides itself on one-of-a-kind

outfits and pieces ranging from pants with sunflowers to front and back double zippered hoodies. Having only started the brand about a year ago, his clothing has already taken off in popularity. The Keem Studios label was showcased in a Nordstrom pop-up shop and was sold out within three days.

"For me, to come to colleges and see people happy in Keem Studios is such a great surreal feeling. Styling has always been a passion of mine. I didn't choose it, it chose me," Dewan said. "We just started last year, so if you put your all and you're consistent, literally your entire life could change in a year."

The goal of the event was to give students a chance to showcase their talents and work while connecting with professionals in the industry. For Pham, it's about creating opportunities for the students to grow and build their careers.

"The NYFWxBC Fall 2024 event was such an exciting experience. Our students truly owned the entire event and I couldn't be prouder of their success," Pham told The Vanguard. "They brought their classroom knowledge to life in such a professional way."





Photos by Jaida Dent and T Abbatemarco, Graphic by Amira Turner

DJ Ben Ha Meen: Remixing Black Music History Through Comics

By Ezae Darby
Staff Writer

From DJ to Writers Guild of America (WGA) writer to podcast host, DJ Ben Ha Meen has truly done it all. His latest venture, co-writing the new comic book “Purple Haze,” is nothing short of extraordinary. Meen has always been a creative force. His transition from DJing to writing comics is a journey straight out of a storybook.

Before diving into DJing, he was a film enthusiast, graduating from Howard University and pursuing his ambitions as a writer. To this day, he has successfully written for numerous TV shows and films like, “American Gods.” However, everything came full circle for him after college when he reconnected with his childhood passion for comic books. A friend offered to illustrate a comic in exchange for Meen writing the story—a collaboration that marked the beginning of “Purple Haze.” With such a diverse creative background, it’s no surprise that Meen’s talents translated seamlessly into different career paths.

“I approach everything the way I approach making mixtapes,” he told The Vanguard. “They were

always a story and contained elements beyond just the music.” He credits his music production experience for preparing him to create such a story. “Making music was my training ground; it taught me about editing [...] a lot of the ideas in the book come from my years of making and reflecting on music.”

Meen shared how Jimi Hendrix influenced the creation of “Purple Haze.” He described Hendrix as “one of the greats in Black music,” but emphasized that the book is “a love letter to Black music more than a love letter to Jimi Hendrix.” He spoke about the profound role Black music has played in African

American history and culture. “Black music has

been our theme song in revolution, inspiring us to get through the day,” he said.

The central theme of “Purple Haze” is about inspiration and overcoming hardships. Meen described it as the journey of an artist.

“Just because you’re doing something you don’t want to do doesn’t mean you can’t do what you want later. Jimi’s story is about

reinventing himself, and everyone can do that,” he said.

Shifting from Hendrix, Meen spoke about the significance of sharing “Purple Haze” with the world. He reflected on how surreal it was to see friends reading his work and sharing it with their children. Despite having a clear message in the book, Meen encourages readers to interpret it their own way.

“It’s amazing to see them connecting with something I created,” he said. “You can read it however you want; there’s no wrong way.”

In reflecting on his experience in the writing industry, Meen shared insights on

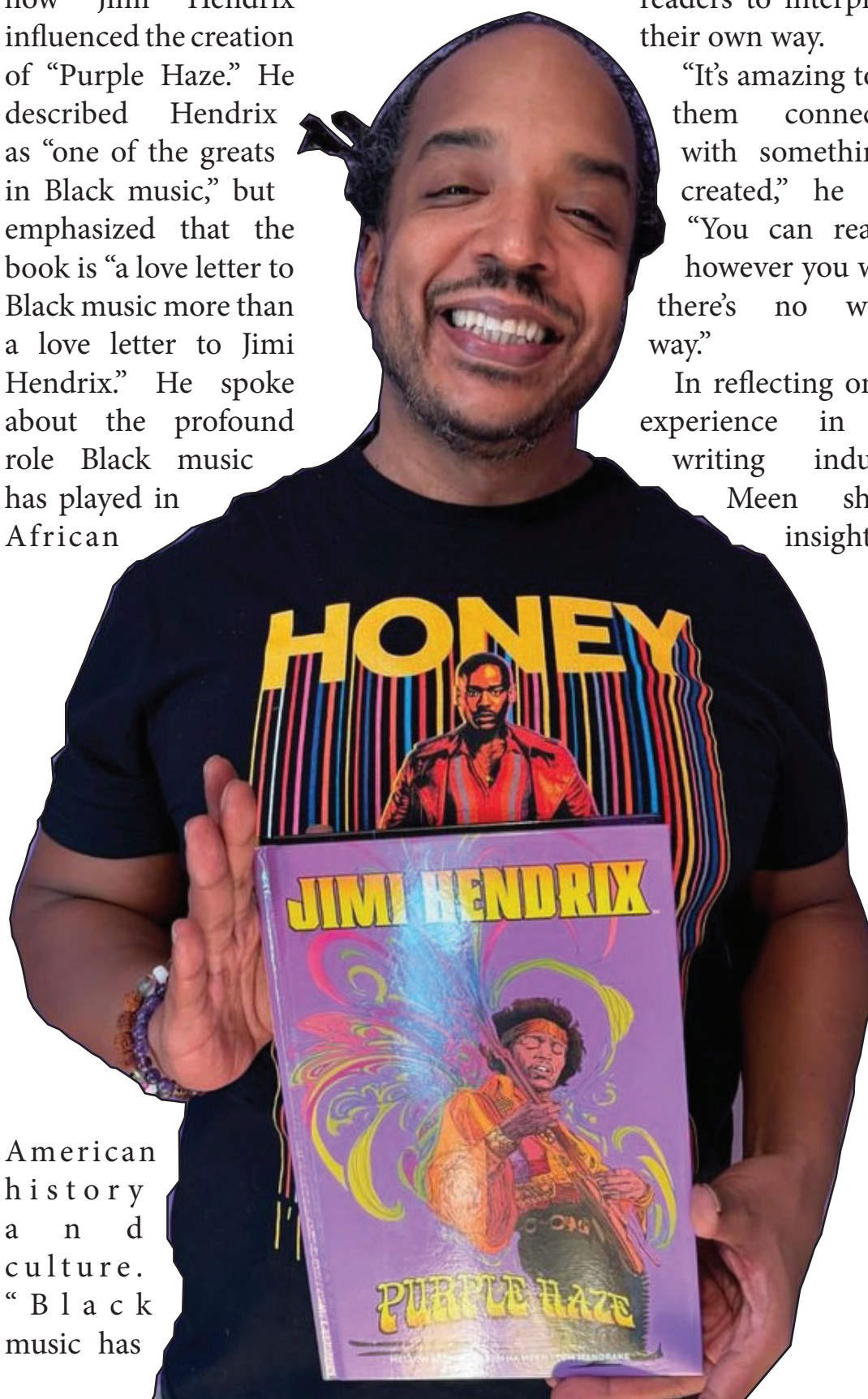
balancing creativity and life. He discussed the demanding nature of Hollywood writing rooms and urged aspiring writers to prioritize their personal lives.

“First thing is, don’t stop, but don’t kill yourself [...] I don’t write every day,” he said. “This capitalist world will teach you that you have to write every day [...] but it’s important to live too.”

Meen also touched on his relationship with former NFL player and activist Colin Kaepernick. He shared how Kaepernick approached him to collaborate on a project aimed at supporting Black writers. However, their partnership ended after Meen and other Black writers discovered that the initiative would integrate AI into creative work. A staunch opponent of AI in artistic projects, Meen was vocal about supporting artists. “Screw artificial intelligence—pay artists. AI isn’t creating; it’s stealing from other people,” he said.

Meen’s advice to aspiring artists is to go out and experience the world, letting that serve as fuel for their creative journey.

“Live—go out, meet different people, and experience life,” he said. “You need to live to become a great writer.”



DJ Ben Ha Meen holding a copy of his new book, “Jimi Hendrix: Purple Haze”./
Courtesy of @djbenhameen on Instagram.

Broadway's Price Tag Problem—and How Students Can Still Get Their Theater Fix

By Nikita Chernin
Staff Writer

Broadway is undeniably appealing to college students in New York City. Seeing renowned actors up close, experiencing the excitement of groundbreaking musicals, and being part of the electrifying atmosphere of live theater is alluring. Despite this, Broadway faces significant financial challenges. The dream of sitting under the bright lights of Broadway's legendary theaters is slipping further out of reach for students and young people. As ticket prices rise season after season, the question becomes unavoidable: has Broadway forgotten about its future audience? Broadway's increasing ticket prices are making it inaccessible for younger generations, which raises concerns about whether the industry is neglecting its future audience.

The numbers are grim. In the 2023-2024 season, the average ticket price for a Broadway show hit \$125, according to Broadway League. For the hottest shows, it's even worse. Before it closed in July, premium seats for "Merrily We Roll Along," starring Jonathan Groff, Lindsay Mendez, and Daniel Radcliffe, sold for a whopping \$899 on Ticketmaster. Even long-running hits like Hamilton, The Lion King, and Wicked still charge premium prices. For a college student, that's the equivalent of a month's groceries or, worse, rent.

Dynamic pricing, borrowed from airlines, creates an issue by fluctuating prices based on demand. This makes it harder for students to find affordable seats. The presence of A-list celebrities also inflates ticket costs. Take the upcoming production of Othello, starring Denzel Washington and Jake Gyllenhaal, with tickets starting at \$179, according to the NY Post, or McNeal, featuring Robert Downey Jr., where tickets range from \$196 to \$371, according

to Timeout. Celebrity-led shows, with their limited runs, create a scarcity of tickets further fueling price hikes.

While Broadway has always been a star-studded stage, there's a growing sense that ticket prices are no longer solely about covering production costs but increasingly about capitalizing on fan excitement. This trend risks alienating younger, less affluent audiences by catering to wealthier

from all walks of life can come together to experience live performances, but when tickets cost more than a student's monthly budget, it shuts out entire communities. This demographic shift means that Broadway risks becoming an exclusive playground for the wealthy, losing touch with the diverse, young audiences that will shape the future of theater as artists, critics, and patrons.

Beyond economics,

of inexpensive and often equally groundbreaking alternatives.

Although Broadway receives the greatest attention, the most interesting, daring, and inventive works are frequently performed off-Broadway. These smaller venues host some of the most riveting theater in the city, often at a fraction of the cost. The Public Theater, New York Theatre Workshop, and Signature Theatre all often offer student tickets for less than

However, don't count out Broadway just yet, as there are still ways for students to catch a show without paying a fortune. The Theater Development Fund offers a \$40 membership to students, which provides access to heavily discounted tickets for dozens of shows. With a bit of patience and luck, you can score seats for as low as \$20.

Many shows also offer student rush tickets or lotteries. "Rush tickets," available at the box office the day of the show, can go for as low as \$25. Lotteries for big hits like The Great Gatsby and Six offer the chance to win tickets in the same price range, but you'll need some luck and persistence. "Standing Room Only" tickets are also an option for under \$40, though you'll be on your feet for the duration of the show.

Then there are programs like Roundabout Theatre's Hiptix and Lincoln Center's LincTix, offering \$25-\$35 tickets to people aged 18-35. If you're committed to seeing shows regularly, these programs are an absolute must.

Broadway is at a crossroads. As ticket prices rise and production costs skyrocket, the business risks losing the very consumers it requires to survive: young people. Producers must recognize that pricing out an entire generation is short-sighted. By embracing more inclusive pricing strategies and fostering programs that engage young theatergoers, Broadway can ensure its magic endures.

In the meantime, if you are a student with a passion for theater, do not give up. Off-Broadway, student discounts, and unique ticketing alternatives are your best friends. Stay resourceful, patient, and discover every aspect of New York's thriving theater scene. There's a seat waiting for you someplace, you just have to know where to look.



Photo courtesy of Gotta Dance, Graphic by Tony Lipka

consumers. It's true that inflation has contributed to the rising costs of keeping a Broadway show afloat, making higher ticket prices necessary to some extent. However, this pricing strategy, if taken too far, threatens to undermine Broadway's cultural relevance in the long run by prioritizing short-term profit over accessibility and inclusivity.

Broadway's rising ticket prices don't just put financial strain on students—they also create broader issues around accessibility and diversity. Historically, Broadway has been a space where people

Broadway's reliance on celebrity-led productions raises another critical question: does this focus on big names overshadow emerging talent? While Hollywood stars undoubtedly draw attention, the focus on their value threatens to push more experimental or diverse productions to the margins.

As upsetting as it may be to look at Broadway ticket prices, there's no reason to abandon theater completely. In fact, if you're savvy and prepared to venture beyond the gleaming marquees of Times Square, New York's theater scene offers a plethora

\$50. By keeping an eye on off-Broadway listings, you can catch the next big thing without going broke.

Brooklyn also has its own thriving theater scene. Venues like Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM), Irondale Center, and The Brick Theater host shows that push boundaries, blend genres, and often leave you thinking long after the curtain falls. BAM, for example, offers generous student discounts, giving you access to world-class performances in theater, film, and music for less than the cost of a Broadway souvenir cup.

Men's Soccer Team Faces Off in the CUNYAC

By Yuki Elkotby
Staff Writer

The men's soccer team has had back-to-back battles as they take on other CUNY colleges in the CUNY Athletic Conference (CUNYAC). The Bulldogs are midway through the conference, having had a share of wins and ties.

The men's bulldog soccer team ended their second match against Hunter College on Oct. 5 with a victory of 2-1. In the first half, Hawks' own defender #17, Christian Rodriguez, mishandled the ball, which ended up in the Hawks' own goal, setting the scoreboard to 1-0 to the Bulldogs.

The Hawks created an opportunity to redeem themselves from such a mistake by their forward #9, Saleel Eldin, tying the score to 1-1 at the end of the first half. Coming in the second half, the Bulldogs utilized their advantage to score another goal via #17, George Koufos, who scored during a penalty kick making the game 2-1.

The Bulldogs achieved their

positive results with a total of 11 attempts, three saves, and three fouls in the first half, and seven attempts, two saves with three fouls in the second half. Bulldogs goalkeeper #1, Hady Bakry, achieved four saves in the game, the highest of the game. Such a victory led the men's soccer team to rank first in the first week of the CUNYAC.

The Bulldogs next faced Lehman College on Oct. 9, which proved to be more of a challenge.

In the first half, Lehman scored the first goal in the match through midfielder #8, Brandon Dennis, with the assistance of forward #23, Mohamed Ali Sogoba. Bulldog's midfielder #9 Bradley Cupi scored a goal with an assist from forward/midfielder #7 Seif Mokhtar.

The Bulldogs finished the match against Lehman in a 1-1 tie with five attempts, two saves with five fouls in the first half, and four attempts, one save, and three fouls in the second half. The saves were split between Bulldogs' goalkeepers #1 Hady Bakry with two saves and #31, Brian Perea, with

one save. With a 1-1 tie, the Bulldogs were in second place standing in the CUNYAC.

Next, the Bulldogs faced off against Baruch College on Oct. 12. In the first half, the Bearcats had one attempt, two saves, and four fouls. The Bulldogs had seven attempts, one save, and seven fouls. Regardless of the efforts of both teams in the first half, it ended in a tie of 0-0.

The Bearcats came back into the second half with Bearcats' Forward #9, Arman Celebi, scoring a goal with the assist from Bearcats' defender and captain #18, Ammar Ahmedshaker, making the score 1-0.

The Bulldogs did not give up as they made seven attempts, one save, and six fouls. The Bulldogs' goalkeeper #31 Brian Perea stepped up and protected the Bulldogs' goal and ended up with two saves.

After their match with Baruch, the Bulldogs now rank fifth in the CUNYAC. The Bulldogs have #14 Adam Moharam and #17 George Koufos captains to continue to lead,



Men's soccer team captain George Koufos passing to another player./Anna Kitch



#7 Seif Mokhtar defending against Lehman College player./Anna Kitch

alongside head stand their ground coach Luis Flores, and move up higher assistant coaches in the CUNYAC Lopez & Obeissant, to make it to the championships. 26 players.

The men's soccer team next plays the City College of New York (CCNY) on Oct. 16. It remains to be seen if they can

Women's Teams Continue to Go for Gold

By Manny Polanco
Sports Editor

Coming off of a mini break, the Brooklyn College women's sports teams have been on a roll and had a week of plentiful success.

Women's Soccer

The women's soccer team played against York College on Oct. 8 and won by a score of 8-0. BC was in control from the start as freshman midfielder Zasu Alvarez scored a goal eight minutes into the game.

Goalie April Hartje had three saves this game, earning her a second shutout win as a goalie for the season.

Gianna DiPronio had two goals this game and an assist, Imani Dickens had a goal in the second half, and Sage Bernstein would also score a goal for the team.

The Bulldogs next faced off against Lehman College on Saturday, Oct. 12 as part of their first game in the CUNY Athletic Conference (CUNYAC). They lost the game 1-0, but freshman goalie April Hartje saved

five potential goals from entering the net in the full 90 minutes.

The team hopes to rebound against City College on Wednesday, Oct. 23 at home.

Women's Volleyball

The women's volleyball team continued their dominance during conference play against City College and swept them during their match on Oct. 8. In a 3-0 sweep, the Bulldogs improved their record to a 8-8 and 2-1 in the conference.

Aleah Rafat had 15 kills in this game, adding to an already great record. BC won each quarter by 25-17, 25-14, and 25-10. Olivia Fan had three kills and two blocks, Sydney Gdnaski had three kills and three aces, and Danielle Fuxman had five kills and one block.

With this win, the Bulldogs next faced off against New Jersey City University on Thursday, Oct. 10.

Their fourth straight win was led by Rafat as BC beat New Jersey City University with a



Midfielder Audrey Jane Young./Courtesy of BC Athletics



Aleah Rafat going for a spike./Courtesy of BC Athletics



Freshman Forward Gianna DiPronio./Courtesy of BC Athletics

final score of 3-1. Rafat had a season high of 22 kills as well as two aces. BC won the first round 25-22, the second round 25-21, but lost the last round 18-25. This did not deter the Bulldogs from ultimately winning the game. Kela Duncan had two kills and two blocks, Fan had two kills and two blocks as well, and Fuxman had seven kills and one block in this game. Amara Mulic had 11 assists and 13 digs. BC improved their season record to 9-8 and will look for their fifth straight win on Tuesday, Oct. 15.

Taking Acting Against Cancer: BC Hosts Panel on Breast Cancer Awareness

By T'Neil Gooden
Features Editor

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and the Brooklyn College Cancer Center (BCCC) is using this month to bring attention to the impacts breast cancer and breast cancer screenings have on women of color. On Oct. 10, the Center organized a panel of leading breast cancer researchers and survivors to speak about the disease, questions to ask during and after your diagnosis, and how to advocate for oneself to doctors.

According to the American Cancer Society, breast cancer impacts one in eight women in the United States, and last Thursday's panel focused on the effects of breast and cervical cancer on Black women and the hardships faced when learning to speak up for their healthcare. Serrina Goodman, a breast cancer survivor of over 12 years and the coordinator/cancer advocate of the non-profit cancer support organization AfroSHARE Cancer Care, discussed with participants the importance of getting a yearly mammogram and ultrasound and speaking up for one's healthcare.

"You must always ask for a mammogram and an ultrasound, not only Black women but all women, you must do it together," Goodman told the audience. "When you do the mammogram by itself you may miss something, always do them together."

Breast cancer can develop in four main areas: in the breast, the lobes, milk ducts, and the stroma. Breast cancer is not limited to these areas, but tends to form in and be connected to them.

"If you have any pain, cough, masses, or something that lasts more than two weeks you need to go and check in with your local doctor," Fernando Camacho, a medical oncologist, told the audience in a video by SHARE. "You are the CEO of your own body and you should speak up for yourself because no one else will."

According to the American Journal of Preventive Medicine (AJPM), Black women are 30% more likely to develop cervical cancer and 60% more likely to develop aggressive breast cancer than white women. Additionally, African American women who are under the age of 45 are more commonly developing breast cancer than white women.

Black women, when diagnosed with breast cancer, get the disease on the more aggressive end. A type of breast cancer that is specifically aggressive and impacts Black women more is called Triple Negative Breast Cancer (TNBC), according to the American Cancer Society. This is why advocating for screenings for early detection is very important to the survival of women of color who get the disease.

"When women are diagnosed with breast

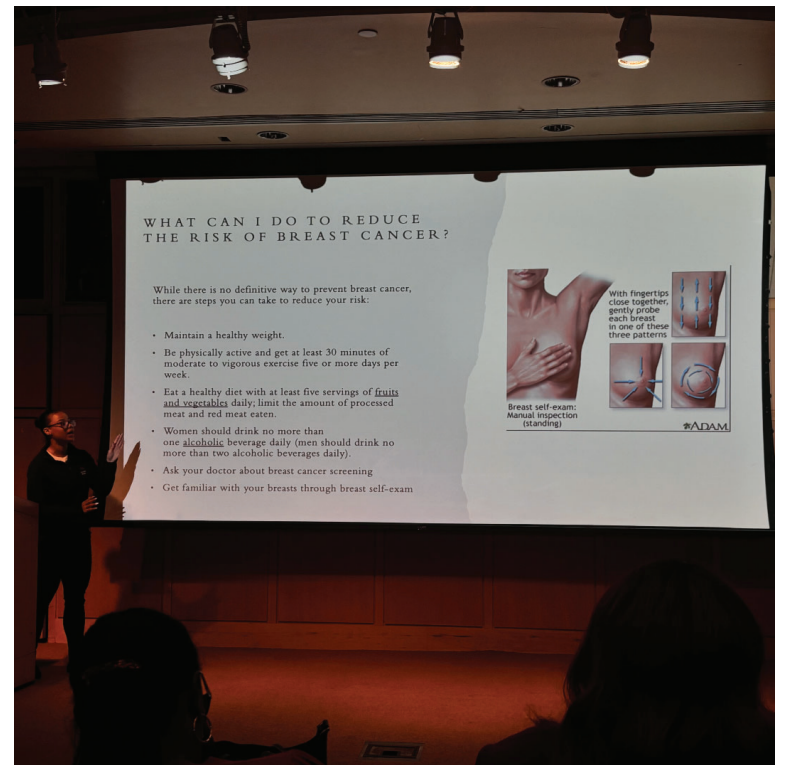
cancer at stage zero, they have a 100% survival rate, and that is why early detection and examination is so important, especially in women of color," Loreini Acevado, the clinical research coordinator at Mount Sinai Tisch Cancer Institute's Community Outreach Center, told the audience. "The longer you don't advocate for yourself, delay your mammogram, and the things you feel, the lower the survival rate."

According to panelists, it should not have to come down to money to have access to good healthcare, especially for a diagnosis like this one.

"Unfortunately, this happens most of the time to women of color," Goodman said. "The truth of the matter is that everyone should have access to quality healthcare regardless of the amount of money you have in the bank, it should not decide whether you should live or die."

SHARE is currently coordinating free support groups, screenings, helplines, and newsletters that can guide all women to have a place where they can learn to speak up for themselves and find community when it comes to the disease. BCCC is continuing to advocate and provide resources to women of color who have been impacted by breast cancer, or know someone

who has, by hosting talks and



Loreini Acevado, Clinical Research Coordinator at Mount Sinai Tisch Cancer Institute, discussing the screening process./T'Neil Gooden



Attendees learning more about breast cancer awareness./T'Neil Gooden

research sessions. They will also be walking in the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk on Oct. 27 to fundraise for the cause.

"We are here to tell our story about a road that you don't want to go down yourself," Goodman told the audience. "Get yourself checked and advocate for all the things that

you feel within your body, because only you know what you are feeling."

Those who are interested in learning more about breast cancer awareness can visit BCCC's website at <https://bccc.blog.brooklyn.edu/> or join the newsletters and support groups that SHARE has to offer at <https://www.sharecancersupport.org/>

