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Gavin Newsom Proposes 2022 California Budget

The state has already agreed to spend $5.2 billion over three years to deal with the drought. Since some reservoirs dropped to their lowest levels during fall 2021, Newsom is looking to add $750 million more for grants for farmers and water conservation programs.

Furthermore, the governor has been planning to transition California to zero-emission vehicles. In 2020, Newsom signed an executive order to terminate gas-powered cars by 2035. The 2022 budget proposal included $6.1 billion to fast-track the transition to cleaner vehicles.

Homelessness

The homelessness crisis has become increasingly prominent after the pandemic forced many people to lose their homes. The budget includes $2 billion to distribute grants to local governments to convert vacant hotels and other buildings into supportive housing for homeless people. Over the next two years, Newsom plans to provide interim housing as more permanent units are being transformed.

Local Schools

The budget also includes $119 billion for K-12 schools after the crisis due to lower enrollment and attendance. To avoid this problem, the governor is giving districts more leeway when reporting their average daily attendance, which is how the state determines their funding. Schools can now use either the current year’s attendance or an average of three most recent years.

The budget also includes $54 million to help districts hire more teachers and waive examination and credential fees. After the spread of COVID-19, many California schools have noticed a shortage of staff. More than 1,240 of the teachers at San Francisco City Unified were absent in the first week of 2022. Long Beach Unified reported 114 of the teaching staff missing during the first week of 2022, which is triple the normal level after a holiday.

In order to fulfill Newsom’s new goal of guaranteeing 70% of adults receive some kind of college degree by 2023, he discussed a five-year plan to expand in-state enrollment at the University of California and California State University.

The state plans to dedicate money from the budget to add room for 7,100 students at UC and 9,400 more spots at CSU. Over the next four years, the UCs and CSUs would get a five percent annual funding increase if they meet the targets of expanding in-state enrollment by an extra 1% and closing student equity gaps across racial and economic groups. This means an extra 7,000 students from California at UC and 14,800 at CSU.

University of California President Michael V. Drake, released a statement on Jan. 10, offering support for Newsom’s proposed budget.

This sustained public commitment will enable UC to make critical long-term investments, particularly in areas that directly support our students: further expanding California undergraduate enrollment, boosting resources to traditionally low-income and first-generation students, and increasing college access and affordability for hard-working students and families across the state.” Drake said.

The University of California Student Association, which represents over 285,000 students across the UC system, also expressed support for Governor Newsom’s 2022 budget as it underscores his administration’s commitment to higher education. The UC San Diego community may see higher admission rates in future years if Newsom’s budget plan passes.

The budget is expected to be passed by June 15. While the allocations may be altered during Newsom’s negotiations with Legislation, his team emphasizes his desire to provide structural support to those in need.
email notifications. You must, how-

er, add your phone devices if you wish
to receive text messages—stu-
dents can do this by using the Stud-
ent Triton Alert emergency notifi-
cation portal," Sepúlka wrote. "..."

The university tracks weather con-
ditions in order to prepare for wind
and rain events. Facilities Manage-
ment ensures campus drains are
clear and runoff does not accumu-
late. Where runoff has a possibility of entering any spaces or creating a
hazard, they check to ensure sand
bag locations are stocked. Facilities
Management also has an in-house
flood response and remediation
team, which is able to respond
quickly.

The high prevalence of eucaly-
tus trees on campus has also raised
concerns regarding the topic of
safety on campus. The trees, which
are invasive, populate many differ-
ent areas of campus, most notably
the forest separating John Muir
College from University Center.

In recent years, the close prox-
imity of these trees to walkways and
housing areas has led to in-
stances of potential disaster for stu-
dents walking along these paths.

Strong winds and rain have been
the cause behind the occa-
sional, yet dangerous occurrences
where eucalyptus trees fall on cam-
pus. Yet these trees remain in high
quantities close to walkways where
they continue to have the potential
to fall and injure students.

Sixth College junior Dan-
el Berreondo-Cendejas told The
UCSD Guardian about his experi-
ence where he encountered one of
the instances where a tree fell on
campus.

"My friend and I were walking from
our dorm in Eleanor Roose-
velt College to Price Center dur-
ing a storm," Berreondo-Cendejas
said. "As we were walking through
Thurmond Marshall College, we
heard a snap and heard a group of
students behind us scream. As we
turned around, we saw the trunk of
the tree fall, barely missing the
students."

"It made me think about how
the university handles the main-
tenance of trees on campus. After
that incident, I saw workers trim-
ing the trees around the area.
But I still see trees on campus near
walkways that aren’t regularly
maintained which I think reflects a
safety issue within the campus."

In her email, however, Sepúlka
mentioned that maintenance for
these areas are part of preventative
measures that are supposed to en-
sure that situations like this do not
occur.

"Facilities Management also
performs preventive maintenance
on campus trees, in addition, the
university works with arborists to
perform preventive maintenance."

Sepúlka also encouraged stu-
dents take the following precau-
tions in order to both protect them-
selves and maintain their safety.

"We recommend routinely
listening to weather reports to
determine storm tracking, con-
sider installing a weather app with
alerts on your phone, avoiding ar-
eas subject to flooding, and if you
see standing water in a roadway or
other unusual locations do not
drive nor attempt to walk or ride
through it."

If students should experience
any instances of flooding on cam-
pus, they are encouraged to call
514-HELP (354-4379). Campus
Police will dispatch an Environ-
ment, Health & Safety (EH&S) pro-
fessional. Additional detail can be
found here.

Currently there has no plans to
change masking guidelines. However,
Johnson noted that UCSD’s public health
researchers are continuing to monitor
the situation closely and that any up-
dates to current interventions would
only be with the goal of ensuring the
safety of the UCSD community.

The Return to Learn program is
driven by an adaptive strategy," John-
son said. "We are continually collect-
ing data, refining our understanding
of the situation and associated mod-
ling, and modifying tactics accord-
ingly to significantly reduce the risk
of transmission of SARS-CoV-2. Any
decisions about updates to the mask
mandate — or any other interven-
tions that are being used to protect the
campus community — are driven by
data and the expertise of UC San Di-
egio public health researchers."

Although UCSD has no plans to
force a similar mandate, Dr. Robert
Schooley, one of the professors head-
ing the Return to Learn program, re-
iterated that UCSD students, faculty
and staff were highly encouraged to
use surgical or N95 grade masks.

In an email to The Guardian, Schooley
explained how the various masks vary in their effectiveness and advo-
cated for the use of N95 or N95 grade
masks.

"The N95 (or N99-grade masks
including KN95, FFP2, and KN94
masks) are much more effective than
surgical masks; Schooley said. "Cloth
masks are better than a bare face but
substantially less protective than
surgical or N95 masks and I would
discourage people from using them.
They can provide a bit of additional
protection when worn over a surgical
mask to keep the surgical mask edges
closer to the face but this is still not as
effective as a N95-grade mask."

However, some UCSD students
have said that they feel that a more
stringent mask mandate is unneces-
sary. John Muir College junior Ste-
fanie Dao, expressed her reservations
about the practicality of a stricter
mask mandate. Dao was also con-
cerned that such a mandate might
case needless confusion.

"I think so far, [UCSD’s current
masking policies are] enough, given
that not everyone can afford those
types of masks," Dao said. "I think we
should focus more on other effective
solutions, instead of complicating the
mask mandate."

UCSD offers several options for
students who have limited access
to surgical or KN95 masks. Free
KN95 masks are currently available
to UCSD students at the Basic Needs
Hub on Mondays, Wednesdays and
Fridays from noon to 3 p.m., and on
Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m.
to 1 p.m. Vice Chancellor for Student
Affairs Alysson Satterlund invites stu-
dents who cannot obtain a mask by
these approaches to email the Office
of the Vice Chancellor - Student Af-
fairs (VCSA), and arrangements will
be made for masks to be provided.
Triton Health Ambassadors will
also have masks available as they roam
throughout campus, and will be sta-
ned at test kit Vending Machines
in residential areas on Saturdays and
Sundays.
Outlawing handing out food and water to people waiting to vote, preventing election officials from supporting the request for mail-in ballots, limiting what election officials can do to prevent voter intimidation from poll watchers, cutting back on the amount of time to cast a vote, and banning drive-thru voting, the political environment does not seem friendly nor conducive to the fundamental right to participate in a democracy: the right to vote. However, these are actual laws that are in the books today in Texas, Georgia, and seven other Republican states, actively seeking to undermine the right of their residents and BIPOC voters to take part in this nation’s democratic system. With these laws recently enacted and more “copycat” laws being discussed in at least 19 other states, the Democratic Party must use its majority in both the House and Senate to carve out an exemption to the filibuster and pass legislation that will safeguard the right of Americans to make their voice heard in local and national elections — a right that the Framers held dear. The remaining stability and security of our democratic system is in jeopardy and the responsibility to protect our democracy is in the hands of the Democrats.

After former President Donald Trump repeatedly pushed the conspiracy that the 2020 election was “stolen” and therefore illegitimate, many Republican states introduced legislation that would restrict the legal parameters in which an American can cast a vote under the guise that they were promoting the “security” and “legitimacy” of their elections. After all, enough of the Republican base believed Biden’s victory was illegitimate — only 27% of Republicans believe it was a fair election — so much so that a tenacious group of far-right, Trumpist supporters launched an insurrection on the Capitol Building — a hallmark of American democracy. Even amid the undermining of the right to vote and the calamity that characterizes American politics today is a Democratic Party that holds a majority in both the Senate and the House and is led by a President who makes big promises yet no promised results. Biden promised to protect the right to vote even after his campaign ended upon his victory, but has not really mobilized his influence as President to give hope or action to the American people and voting rights activists. Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris visited Atlanta, Georgia, on Jan. 11 to publicize the need for Congress to pass legislation protecting the right to vote. However, some notable groups that helped the Biden/Harris ticket win Georgia, namely the Black Voters Matter Fund, the Asian American Advocacy Fund, and the family of Martin Luther King Jr., refused to attend their visit, claiming that Biden has failed his campaign promise to deliver on protecting the right to vote, replacing any meaningful action with “political platitudes and repetitions, bland promises.”

The time is no more perfect than now, with two major bills on federal voting laws, for the Democratic Party to finally act on federal voting laws, for the Democratic Party to finally act on its majority in the House and Senate to pass these bills and safeguard a fundamental right under attack. The Democrats should make it known that there is no such thing as “compromise” on the issue of the right to vote. There are only those who want to expand voting access and those who want to limit or constrict it. There are two bills regarding voting rights on the floor of the Senate: Freedom To Vote Act and the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, as illustrated in the table below.

With the remains of American democracy hanging in the balance, it is the responsibility of the Democratic Party and Biden to fulfill their promise not only to their base but to the American people to deliver on their campaign promise and fulfill their duty to the U.S. Constitution: protect the right to vote. Over time, our country has become characterized by two very different political environments: one in which voting is ameliorated and easier and one where the right to vote is considered a privilege. What will be the path forward for the American people and government to be united once again in a mutual understanding for what our nation was founded on?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Freedom To Vote Act</th>
<th>John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act</th>
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<tr>
<td>Expand early voting access</td>
<td>Restore/reform the provisions struck down in the Voting Rights Act by the Supreme Court</td>
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<td>Establish automatic voter registration</td>
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<td>(you have to opt-out rather than opt-in)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grant the right to vote to formerly incarcerated people after their sentences end (excluding felons)</td>
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<td>Make Election Day a federal holiday</td>
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Opaque Transparency

Admitting individual privilege is as important as recognizing abstract systemic privileges

BY SPARKY MITRA
Staff Writer

In recent years, we have seen many beneficiaries of generations of economic and demographic oppression attempt to learn about and right some of the wrongs of the past. In America, this has included, for example, descendants of slave-owners confronting atrocious histories which were largely painted over with a rose-tinted tale of southern heritage. Research and even meeting with descendants of their families’ slaves have helped bring to light the past and present states of a systemically unequal system. These reckonings in America and around the world in various contexts have led to a new sense of transparency and acknowledgement of privilege among many. But the revelations that these people have must be in a state where history and the truth are one, where nothing remains hidden and where they maintain no semblance of the power their ancestors once had through these hierarchies. Condemning the idea of exploitation is much easier when we abstract ourselves into a vague reason for that oppression. It is time to critique oppression through an eye for how each of our individual actions helps or hurts the anguished.

Until a couple weeks ago, Dr. Saiba Varma seemed to be an academic who embraced a reckoning of her own as an upper-caste Hindu woman, standing against India’s constant militarization in Kashmir against Kashmiri Muslims. Varma however failed to acknowledge her biggest source of privilege with regards to the Kashmir conflict: her father was part of RAW, India’s intelligence agency, and was stationed in Kashmir carrying out the very duties she had spoken out against in her research. It is conceivable that Varma gained access to the region through her father’s connections. The unveiling of these truths led to UC San Diego’s Critical Gender Studies Program disaffiliating with her.* Maybe it was a vain interest to preserve the hero she believed her father to be that led to Varma hiding his background. Maybe the reality of him drafting plans in her research. But that is the most immediate source of her power and Kashmiri oppression in the very dynamic she claims to investigate as someone opposing the Indian occupation of Kashmir. CGS’s rebuke of Dr. Varma was justified. The explicit reasons behind it according to students and the university, necessitate further discussion on privilege-aided research within academia. Disclosure and transparency are important, which are some of what Varma failed to provide. But arguably more critically for Kashmiris, some claims even point to her abusing the very power structure she has spoken out against to her abusing the very power structure she has spoken out against to her abusing the very power structure she has spoken out against. Forcing trauma-ridden stories out of anyone is unacceptable, no nuance needed.

By doing this she just fed into the very cycles of trauma she wanted others to believe she was opposing. But the privileged entry points into Kashmir, like those held by Varma’s father, have a compelling story that merits exploration had Varma remained true to her research and positioning. Her father’s prior deeds are not her fault after all. Rather than exploiting entry points to investigate trauma, she could have easily investigated entry points to monitor academic, political and economic exploitation. It is much easier for us to see ourselves as part of a system where injustice looms rather than as individuals whose specific histories and actions directly contribute to suffering and healing. Most of us are aware of the vague notion of being privileged or oppressed in a hierarchy because of race, caste or creed. But each of our actions are the nuts and bolts of oppression cycles through generations regardless of how aware and how progressive they claim to be.

*This article has been revised since the original issue to more accurately reflect Dr. Varma’s status with the University of California San Diego. To read more about this revision, please visit ucsdgaurdian.org.

A.S. Safe Rides X Lyft
RIDES ON DEMAND

A.S. Safe Rides is back for Fall Quarter* with $12 off 2 rides.

* visit as.ucsd.edu/saferides for redemption details and restrictions.
As the stresses and challenges of the worldwide pandemic carry on, UCSD’s Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) program seeks new ways to connect with students and teach good mental health habits.

CAPS is also working on a new app called "TAO," an app promoting mindfulness and wellbeing. Its focus will be on reaching out to students from underrepresented communities who tend to suffer from greater anxieties than their counterparts. Though the apps are great tools for those who may not feel prepared to reach out for individualized support, CAPS still urges students to call in when in need.

Assistant Clinical Director of CAPS Sarah Clavell Storer explains the process of how a student is screened for therapy using a "brief telephone assessment." It’s usually a 15 to 20 minute conversation with one of our licensed providers, and they talk with the student, get a sense of their needs, and then provide them with the next best steps for care," Storer told The UCSD Guardian. "And then of course, we just want to make sure that students are conveying their needs clearly when they call in. So if the student is having an urgent need, they of course would be scheduled for a same-day appointment."

CAPS is a frequently used service among both undergraduate and graduate students. Storer notes that, at certain points in the quarter, as many as 50 appointments may be scheduled each day. “There’s constantly students calling in to schedule appointments,” Storer comments. The pandemic has, of course, increased the stress levels of students across the country. According to a study by Texas A&M University, 71% of students indicated that they felt their stress levels rise due to the spread of COVID-19. Though at times CAPS is overloaded with students, they endeavor to prioritize their cases. They also offer off-campus referrals to students looking for counseling elsewhere.

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UCSD Counseling and Psychological Services, or CAPS, plays a key part in addressing mental health at UC San Diego dating back to the 1960s. Their central mission is to guide students through mental health struggles using a variety of preventative measures and treatments. CAPS’ new preventative practice revolves around several workshops called “Tritons Rise Together.” The Rise Workshop Series takes student data to develop programs which help students with the most relevant barriers to academic success.

Utilizing both their own data and information from the National College Health Assessment, CAPS emphasizes the importance of consistent sleep habits and teaches techniques to avoid procrastination. The goal of these workshops is to prevent stress and overwhelming emotion before they develop to a stage where a student needs treatment. Tiffany O’Meara, CAPS’ Director of Outreach, describes the workshops as tools to help students "manage their stress, build resiliency and cope with emotions." These workshops offer a variety of methods, such as sunrise yoga, guided meditation and instructional advice based on scientific foundations.

CAPS established a new workshop for the Winter Quarter called "Social Justice Self-Compassion Mindfulness Hour," where they teach self-patience, love and acceptance in the face of overwhelming social issues. These workshops are open for all students, regardless of their past experience with CAPS services.

In addition to their new workshops, CAPS offers forums for students to discuss their struggles or achievements through forums, such as the Coming Out Forum or the Latinx Cafecito Hour. These offer a sense of community and place of belonging for students. A similarly interpersonal-focused program CAPS offers is group therapy, a system in which students facing the same struggles work together to build bonds and develop healthy coping strategies. “It can be so affirming for students. Sometimes that’s the most helpful thing about being in a group. They meet other students so that they feel like they’re not alone,” O’Meara said. CAPS offers group therapy for Taming Anxiety, Building Social Confidence, and Body Positivity.

In these groups, students discuss their own experiences, learn to recognize their feelings and build confidence in the area of focus. The exact discussions for each session are tailor-made to fit the students in the given group. Unlike the Tritons Rise Workshops, group therapy is a form of actual treatment. As such, it has an endpoint. O’Meara remembers some of her students "tearing up at the end of Spring" when they had to bid their newfound friends goodbye.

To top it all off, CAPS offers a variety of wellness apps through its "iFlourish" program. The university currently offers three primary apps for anonymous and present for students who may want to reach out for support.
In the musical anime “Belle,” Mamoru Hosoda builds a “Beauty and the Beast” adaptation through a whimsical melding of technological, natural, and fantasy elements. When awkward and introverted high schooler, Suzu, signs up for online platform “U” to escape the way her classmates perceive her, her life is dramatically changed as she becomes the beautiful, overnight pop sensation Bell. However, a mysterious beast named Dragon interrupts one of her virtual performances and Bell embarks on a journey to help this brooding avatar escape the vigilantes clamoring to unmask his true identity.

What can one more retelling have to add to a tale as old as time? Technology. Assoon as the film begins, U is introduced. The explanation of this world feels almost superfluous — a modern audience will have no problem understanding a virtual integration platform, because this setting has been presented time and time again with only slight variations. Nearly as derivative as a “Beauty and the Beast” retelling is the storyline where an online platform overtakes the world’s attention, tempting the everyday citizen to sign-up with promises of who they can be and what they can do. “Belle” adds little to this familiar plot, barely even touching on the logistics of U or how its existence has a real impact on society at large. Instead, the film focuses on imagery. Even if the idea of an online platform is hackneyed, the animation of this one is magnificent. The world is colorful, dynamic, carefully constructed, and filled with clean, vibrant details. U’s incredible animation is visible from the first scenes of this film, when Bell rides into frame on a whale saddled with hundreds of speakers, singing a musical number with a voice as ethereal as the first scenes of this film.

Because its romanticism matches the “Beauty and the Beast” structure works excellently within “Belle” because its romanticism matches the film’s tone, but the beast is overwhelming. His mystifying, dark nature offers a solid foundation for dramatic and full character-building, but he is barely offered the chance to progress past the brooding antithesis. Instead, most of the runtime is concerned with building Suzu and Bell’s personalities. Luckily, she is the most effective part of this film. Bell’s voice is extremely exquisite in Japanese and English, her character design is stunning, and most importantly, she radiates heart as both her online avatar and real life persona. Luckily, she is the most effective part of this film. Bell’s voice is perfectly superhuman, to the point that it’s hard to believe it’s coming from within the story. Suzu’s friends in the real world are some of the best parts of this film, even though they do not exist within the flashy U. Specifically, popular girl Ruka, childhood friend Shinobu, and tech best friend Hiroka work well because they have hobbies, interests, and personalities. The people that exist within U, on the other hand, have detailed character designs but are unable to exert their personalities through dialogue. One of the main flaws of this film is that the virtual avatar Dragon is not allowed enough screen time to explore the complexities of his character. The “Beauty and the Beast” structure works effectively within “Belle” because its romanticism matches the film’s tone, but the beast is overwhelming. His mystifying, dark nature offers a solid foundation for dramatic and full character-building, but he is barely offered the chance to progress past the brooding antithesis. Instead, most of the runtime is concerned with building Suzu and Bell’s personalities. Luckily, she is the most effective part of this film. Bell’s voice is equally exquisite in Japanese and English, her character design is stunning, and most importantly, she radiates heart as both her online avatar and real life persona. “Belle” is a film that draws crowds in by being larger than life, but will keep their attention through the groundedness of its characters.

New Girl, Old Questions
Staff writer Medha Upadhyay shares her predictions for the new New Girl podcast.

After being bugged by my friends for years, I finally caved and watched “New Girl.” Some part of my brain really thought that a seven season long show about a woman moving into a loft with three men would be the perfect addition to my first in-person quarter at UC San Diego. And honestly? It was. “New Girl” is full of hilarious one-liners, soothingly stupid plot lines, and lovable characters. It’s a comfortable show that I was able to slip into between classes, or as a quick study break whenever I felt a little overwhelmed. Brand new podcast.

Just days after finishing the series, I was greeted by the news that Zooey Deschanel, Hannah Simone, and Lamorne Morris are launching a brand new podcast, “Welcome to Our Show.” The show, which will be available starting Jan. 24, will feature the trio rewatching all seven seasons of New Girl. And so, here are some things that “New Girl” needs to address, more than ten years after it originally aired. Major spoilers ahead!

1. Winston’s Father
This is pretty self-explanatory, but who is Winston’s father? Winston finding out that his father was a policeman and then deciding to track him down was a huge part of his emotional growth in Season 6. When Jess steps in to help in Season 7, she accidentally ends up “reuniting” Winston with a complete stranger. Jess made a genuine mistake, but it’s a mistake that could be easily rectified, especially since Winston’s wife, Aly, has already put her detective skills to use to find his name and address. So what exactly is going on with Winston’s real father? Why didn’t
we get to see him? I’m banking on the hope that this wasn’t just all orchestrated for the sake of comedy, but if it was, I’m going to need somebody to point out the deeper meaning to me. Also, why did everyone in the loft have daddy issues? In hindsight, this seems super odd and maybe something we need to unpack.

2. POLITICAL CORRECTNESS

Yes, “New Girl” isn’t that old, but I will be floored if they somehow make it through a rewatch without at least addressing all the problematic jokes. A lot of the jokes centered around Cece, Jess’s Indian best friend. I cannot really see Deschanel, Simone, and Morris laughing off lines like “I’ll convert to Indianism,” in 2022. What makes it even worse is that the majority of these offensive lines are delivered by Schmidt, who ends up marrying Cece. Schmidt also ends up being the butt of countless questionable jokes, most of which center on him being Jewish or his penchant for fancy clothes and grooming. Complicating matters further are the many scenes in which actor Max Greenfield dons a fat suit to play college-aged Schmidt, even though “fat Schmidt” was an important part of his character development. Sprinkle in some casual misogyny from Nick and you’ve got yourself a recipe for disaster. While some of these jokes could have been for character development, most of them were poorly executed. The writers never fully condemned these “jokes” and left the interpretation up to the audience. These throwaway moments are the biggest flaw in New Girl and one of the main reasons that I struggle to recommend this show to anyone. It’ll be interesting to see how the podcast handles this, but I’m definitely expecting a response of some sort.

3. CAMOES

Switching to a more behind-the-scenes approach, I am definitely expecting plenty of stories about the numerous cameos on “New Girl.” From Taylor Swift to Prine to Gordon Ramsey, “New Girl” had an impressive amount of celebrity cameos. My personal prediction is a podcast cameo from Olivia Rodrigo discussing her scenes on the show. I don’t know if she was more of a celebrity or just an extra back in 2016, but when I watched it in 2022, it definitely counted as a cameo. Odds are slim to none, but if it happens, just know you heard it here first.

4. ENGRAM PATTESKY

Catching back to Winston, I need answers about the Engram Pattesky prank. In the show’s final episode, Jess and Nick are forced to empty the loft when they receive an eviction notice. The finale serves as a fitting end to the series that began with Jess moving into the loft. However, at the very end of the episode, the way it was handled left something to be desired by Winston. It’s never explained why Winston would do this and I just need them to confirm that it was because he knew that Jess and Nick needed to settle into a home of their own and not because he was just messing around. Please.

5. THE PEPPERWOOD CHRONICLES

“The Pepperwood Chronicles” is the book series that launched Nick’s writing career; in the three year break between Seasons 6 and 7, his work sells thousands of copies, and he even embarks on a world tour to promote the series. It is an insanely complicated game that the gang plays — the joke is how difficult the game is to explain; every time someone new is invited to the loft, they inevitably get a little lost when they see the rules for the first time in all the rules gives it a gatekeeping vibe, and it seems like the perfect bonding activity for a tight knit group of friends. I can easily imagine True American because it is a basis for a book. If anything, this argument shows that this form of entertainment operates on is unsustainable. These pseudocelebrities exist in it, and it should concern us that more and more people are aspiring to it.

6. TRUE AMERICAN

Finally, we need to learn how to play True American. The podcast promo material has already teased this, and I need them to come through on this one. True American is a piece of the show that can be shared easily even with people who aren’t familiar with the show itself. It’s a great piece about the many problems with this industry, and it delivers by Schmidt, who ends up marrying Cece. Schmidt also ends up being the butt of countless questionable jokes, most of which center on him being Jewish or his penchant for fancy clothes and grooming. Complicating matters further are the many scenes in which actor Max Greenfield dons a fat suit to play college-aged Schmidt, even though “fat Schmidt” was an important part of his character development. Sprinkle in some casual misogyny from Nick and you’ve got yourself a recipe for disaster. While some of these jokes could have been for character development, most of them were poorly executed. The writers never fully condemned these “jokes” and left the interpretation up to the audience. These throwaway moments are the biggest flaw in New Girl and one of the main reasons that I struggle to recommend this show to anyone. It’ll be interesting to see how the podcast handles this, but I’m definitely expecting a response of some sort.

In a piece for The Atlantic, writer Rachel Morris writes that Charlie D’Amelio’s success highlights the primacy of social media and the way these kids are marketed: “Charli D’Amelio is an ordinary kind of specialness,” an attribute which can be applied to D’Amelio’s fellow Hype House members. These people are all conventionally attractive (and for the most part, White), though never overwhelming so. They’re not supermodels, they’re the popular kids from high school, which is what these people reminded me of as I watched the show: suburbanites with too much energy who love doing things like swinging their friends around from an excavator.

“I’ll convert to Indianism.”

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Although “New Girl” was a great show, there are definitely still many unanswered questions. This is why I’m looking forward to seeing just how much of a story Jess, Schmidt, and the rest of the loft is. The show is relatable, but most importantly, the characters are. What do you do when the most famous people in the world are your neighbors? What do you do when the most famous people in the world are your neighbors? It’s hard not to feel bad for the guy — though not because his teenage crush was a false positive, but because he really was never a star. Not because he’s a true American, but because he was never a true American.

In episode six of the show, Thomas Petrov, a founding member of Hype House, pays for a retreat to Joshua Tree which he hopes will jumpstart content creation among the stagnating members of the collective. This is a hot-topic button for Petrov, who throughout the show is asking members of the collective to post more content, only to be ignored. It’s a joke that gets lost on the guys, but when it comes to the ethics of this content creation, his ludicrous spending and the extremes to which his job pushes his personal life should be seen as a symptom of the culture. The guys and TikTok pay their creators based on engagement; a sort of sliding scale rather than a fixed role. This is the nature of what makes it difficult the game is to explain; every time someone new is invited to the loft, they inevitably get a little lost when they see the rules for the first time. The game has become so complicated that getting married is something she’s wanted for a while, and something she’s talked to Warren about, only for the latter to turn around and exploit their relationship in the name of content creation. And while the group seems to enjoy themselves, when it comes to the ethics of this content creation, his ludicrous spending and the extremes to which his job pushes his personal life should be seen as a symptom of the culture that he and his gang of industry disruptors have gamed the system, that social media works for them, and that that’s what’s made them so successful. He’s proselytized himself into the cult of The Hustler Mentality. But as the show continues, it becomes painfully obvious that this is not the case. Petrov’s constant breakdowns and consistent anxieties about losing everything he’s worked for betray the idea that he’s in control. As just as Warren’s exploitation of his relationship is a red flag about the influencer machine, so is Petrov’s inability to step away from work. These kids are not hustling. They’re burnt out and driving themselves into the ground. This isn’t so that says that posting a couple of ten-second videos a day is hard work, but rather that the economic model that this form of entertainment operates on is unsustainable. These pseudocelebrities and their careers are not built for longevity; they exist on platforms that encourage users to move on to the next interesting thing as soon as the current trend becomes boring. The influence industry demands that influencers exist in it, and it should concern us that more and more people are aspiring to it.

In his piece for Harper’s Magazine, writer and university professor Barrett Swanson catches TikTok star Barosshono during a refreshing moment of self-awareness: “The scary thing is you never know how long this is going to last, and I think that’s what eats a lot of us at night. It’s like, what’s next? How long can we entertain everyone for? How long before no one cares? . . . The quote speaks to the hyper-consumerist nature of the internet, and the ways that it has expanded the pre-existing anxieties and worries surrounding child stars within the traditional entertainment industry. The Hype House is a show about our generation’s child stars, one that set out to give us an inside look into the decadence and possibilities that this new industry brings; instead, asserting that this is a show, and the industry it provides insight into could not exist. It’s a bleak image, one of teenagers and twenty-somethings playing at being celebrities, the ever-tightening grip of the algorithm wrapped around their necks. What looks like something funny in a bad way, watered-down version of “Keeping Up with the Kardashians” turned out to be a sad-in-an-awfully-depressing-way show about the culture and industries that have been built by the Internet.
What UCSD Colleges Would Euphoria Characters Be In?

Warning: This article contains spoilers for Euphoria season one and episodes one and two of season two

Some UC San Diego colleges.

By Samantha Phan
Contributing Lifestyle Writer

Now that Euphoria season two is being released, it’s time for us all to reflect on what is really important: discussing which Euphoria characters would be in which UC San Diego colleges. Unfortunately, I’ve never seen any Euphoria character actually study, so them going to UCSD is just a fun way to use your imagination. That being said, which characters will be competing alongside you at Unolympics next year?

ROGER REVELLE COLLEGE: MADDY PEREZ

Maddy would love Revelle because it was the first college to be founded at UCSD. She loves to be the best of the best, and what better represents that than Revelle’s extensive history? Though Revelle isn’t known to be the most social college, Maddy would have made a group of close-knit friends within the first week. Those girls would be her ride-or-die till she graduated. She would definitely spend time standing on the balconies in the Breezeway, looking down on her peers.

JOHN MUIR COLLEGE: RUE BENNETT

I feel like Rue would absolutely love the vibe of Muir. She would definitely sit in the courtyard, beneath all of the giant trees and vine-covered buildings, and do whatever she loves to do. I also think she would love the central location because it would allow her to explore the campus without going too far from home. Muir would give Rue a great space to start fresh and find her community.

THURGOOD MARSHALL COLLEGE: KAT HERNANDEZ

Kat probably sorted the colleges semi-randomly during her application process because she was very busy during her junior and senior years of high school. However, she ended up liking Marshall more than she thought she would. The lighter GE load let her focus on making even more money than she did in season one of Euphoria. However, I do worry that her roommate would be weirded out by the way she makes her passive income.

EARL WARREN COLLEGE: NATE JACOBS

Sorry, Warren students. Nate probably would’ve been drawn to Warren due to its prestigious reputation and impressive list of alumni. However, his impression of the college would quickly fade once he realizes how far away he is from Maddy.

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT COLLEGE: CASSIE HOWARD

I feel like Cassie would have applied to UCSD with Revelle or Marshall as her first choice because she wanted to stick with Maddy or Kat. After ending up in ERC, she probably would have been a bit sad due to separating from her friends, especially Maddy (because Maddy is “her best friend”). However, given some time, she would learn to love ERC. She wouldn’t even mind being far away from her friends because, honestly, it doesn’t look like their friendship means that much to her anyways.

SIXTH COLLEGE: FEZCO

I feel like this one is kind of self-explanatory. Fez knows everyone and everyone knows Fez, so it would make sense that he is in one of the most social colleges on campus. Fez loves to have fun, so he would definitely enjoy hanging out with Sixth students. If he went to UCSD, he would probably have to stop being a drug dealer, but honestly, that’s for the best.

SEVENTH COLLEGE: JULES VAUGHN

And finally, my favorite character. We all know that Jules wanted to go to fashion school at Parsons, but if she didn’t, she would (obviously) be in Seventh College at UCSD. Since Jules loves being in the city, she would probably appreciate that Seventh is on the edge of campus, making it easy for her to come and go. She probably wouldn’t mind that Seventh is so far from everything because she rides her bike everywhere anyways. Let’s just hope she doesn’t take the trolley to Mexico and leave Rue behind again.
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Triton Volleyball Falls to Grand Canyon in Top-10 Battle

**BY PRAVEEN NAIR**

UC San Diego's 8th-ranked men's volleyball team faced their toughest test of the season so far, as they hosted No. 6 California State University Fullerton on Tuesday, Jan. 21. The Tritons (2-1) couldn't stay undefeated so far, as they hosted No. 6 men's volleyball team faced UCSD's break.

Justina King netted a successive minute of play to put the Beach in an impressive shift for the Tritons, who continued to push, but ultimately they were unable to capitalize on several errors tied the set up at 5 soon after. The Tritons got a spark from senior middle blocker Shane Benet and redshirt junior outside hitter Ryan Ka. Both teams would battle back and forth down the stretch in the third set, but neither team taking a lead of even 2 points until a 3-0 run from GCU put them in the lead at 22–20. But a powerful kill from sophomore middle blocker Nick Rigo followed by a deep poke over the net by Ka, tied the set up at 22. The Antelopes, looking to put the Tritons away, scored a quick kill, and McClayce called timeout before the Antelopes extended their lead 49–45, but they were outmanned by GCU, .267 to .287, making eight more errors.

"I thought we had moments, but we just didn't string it enough of those together," said UCS Head Coach Kevin Ring. "I think they were the aggressors in a variety of different areas, from serving to attacking."

The Tritons set four, 25–22. It was a smooth 3-pointer from Macabuhay, the half ended with a 3–0 run from GCU put the Tritons away, scoring a quick kill, and McClayce called timeout before the Tritons set four, 25–22. It was a smooth 3-pointer from Macabuhay, the half ended with a 3–0 run from GCU put them in the lead at 22–20. But a powerful kill from sophomore middle blocker Nick Rigo followed by a deep poke over the net by Ka, tied the set up at 22. The Antelopes, looking to put the Tritons away, scored a quick kill, and McClayce called timeout before the Antelopes extended their lead 49–45, but they were outmanned by GCU, .267 to .287, making eight more errors.

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