



The West Georgian

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Take Back the Night: Empowering Students to Feel Safe

Matthew Harvey

Editor-In-Chief

Greek Week will end by raising awareness about sexual assault alongside UWG Health Center at Take Back the Night in the Campus Center Ballroom on April 10.

At Take Back the Night students will be educated on what sexual assault is, how they can prevent it, how they can get through it and how to ask for consent. All students are welcomed as the Health Center wants to get their message out to as many people as possible.

Take Back the Night will begin in the Campus Center Ballroom at 5:45 p.m. The event will start by having students make posters protesting sexual assault. Students will then be gathered together to listen to patient advocates, members from the counseling center, and university police on how their programs on campus can help survivors after an assault.

“The purpose of Take Back the Night is to raise awareness about sexual assault, particularly because a lot of it happens at night,” said Mary Beth Thompson, Health Education Coordinator. “It is not always about stranger danger. It is about reclaiming being safe at night.”

Once all of the on-campus programs speak Dr. Angelic Muhammad will come on as the guest speaker. Muhammad is a survivor of sexual assault and will share her story on how she survived and how she continues to survive every day.

“She talks about how she survived an abusive relationship and sexual assault and how she went on to be able to be a mother,” said Thompson. “How she was able to overcome a lot of the trauma of that. She is a powerful speaker.”

Students will then be called into action to hold up their posters and

flashlights and walk down to the Oaks Amphitheater. The purpose of the march is to help students feel safer together. Their posters and whistles will be held high in protest of sexual abuse.

“We want to take back the night. We want to feel safe at night,” said Thompson. “It’s about raising awareness about the different types of sexual assault that occur and the fact that sexual assault does occur... I want to empower people to prevent it and then to survive it.”

After everybody makes it to the Oaks Amphitheater they will gather around and listen to two student workers read a proclamation calling for an end to sexual assault not only on campus, globally as well.

“I hope that they [students] learn that sexual assault is real and does happen and I also hope that they learn if they survived it then they will keep surviving it and they will be okay one day,” said Thompson. “I hope that they learn how to not sexually assault others because sometimes I think people do not know what consent is and is not and I hope that they take that away from our program... They need to learn to respect consent when it is given or not.”

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All letters must be signed and include a phone number and mailing address for verification purposes. Letters should not exceed 350 words and should be submitted by 5 p.m. the Friday prior to publication. Editors reserve the right to edit for style, content and length.

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WEALTHY WEDNESDAY

Imani Asberry
Contributing Writer

UWG had a new event at the school this past week called Wealthy Wednesday. It involved Primerica, a company that helps families understand their finances, coming out to speak to students encouraging them to make money that will get them to a state of wealth.

Primerica provides different insurance plans for families, whether it be health, dental or providing services for the elderly. The insurance plans they put together are made to be affordable for everyone so that all different types of families have a way to be provided for. The coordinator of this event was Kayedian Gayle, a student at the university.

“I went to my first interest meeting with Primerica about three weeks ago,” said Gayle. “They have them on Monday nights, and a friend brought me out and I got interested in it. I reached out to Ed and I joined the program. I paid the \$99 to get my license. Usually, to get a license, it’s about \$300 to \$400, but they paid most of it.”

When Primerica came out to speak to students, they offered a few summer jobs and internships. The Primerica businessmen hoped to give students a better idea of how the company is run with this offer.

The main man over the meeting, Keith Phillips, showed students two books -- a book full of people who made \$500,000 plus a year and a smaller book of people who were new to the company that make about \$400,000 a year. This not only gave incentive to students but also showed them that if they come to work for the company, they are not getting swindled into being

there with no reward.

“Money kind of runs the world. Some people say money is not everything, it’s not, but it’s up there with the air we breathe. We gotta have it,” said Phillips. “According to the article in USA Today, most people’s biggest fear is not having enough money as they get older. So if we can start people off when they’re young, getting an understanding of money, how money works, financial concepts, it’s only going to help them, whether they come to work for us or not.”

Primerica is a million dollar company that wants people of all ages to thrive, either as workers or clients.

“My personal hope is to get to the level of where the speakers are,” replies Gayle. “I want to be able to know so much information that I could spread it the way they did, because just the event .alone was word of mouth, just getting it out there, but I wanna be able to really drive people; that’s something I’ve always wanted to do is influence people.”

WOLFSWAP PROMOTES SUSTAINABILITY THROUGH SPRING CLEANING

Jasmine Dwamena
Contributing Writer

The campus center held the first ever WOLFSwap, an event hosted by the EcoLeaders and Scientific Wolves of Tomorrow (SWOT), both organizations focus on sustainability in the environment and the community.

SWOT is a new organization that strives to care for its environment and its community through science. EcoLoeaders however, is not a new organization on campus, it was reestablished in 2016 by Professor Ashley Dycus who is the current faculty advisor. With the help of a few of her students, their goal was to bring awareness on campus.

“EcoLeaders is a student organization on campus and nationally that is devoted to promoting sustainable practices on campus and in the community,” said Dycus.

The organization has been part of other events like UWG’s RecycleMania and Safe Treat for the last two years. The two clubs came together to host a clothing swap that was open to the public. At the event, anyone who had clothes to give away could bring them in exchange for other clothes or nothing at all. Any size, any gender, any and everything was welcome.

“We wanted to encourage students to shop sustainably, instead of going out and buying new things at TJMaxx or Ross by encouraging them to swap with fellow classmates or faculty,” said Dycus.

The amount of waste produced yearly by the United States is the highest compared to other nations in the world.

As Earth Week approaches it is important to keep in mind that living sustainable is something students can incorporate in their daily lives. Going

to events like this not only help save money but help students downsize.

“This helps to avoid having excess in our closets that wind up at Goodwill that is then shipped overseas and causing issues of pollution and excess resources being spent,” said Dycus.

In addition, all the clothes that were not collected during the swap would be donated to a local H&M clothing store. The fashion brand has recently announced that it will be collecting unwanted clothes to either be reused or recreated into textiles.

The turnout was a huge success. Every student that came left with something or a bag full of things. The bags, which were also provided at the event, were reusable shopping bags.

Students were even encouraged to use the bags to go get anything from their dorms they wanted to give away and many did.

Being the week after spring break the event was meant to aid in any spring cleaning faculty or students had, at least in terms of clothing. However, seeing as the event went so smoothly this time, the WOLFSwap plans to continue well into the future.



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FIVE FEET APART REVIEW

Aurie Johnson

Contributing Writer

Five Feet Apart is a romantic drama based on a book written by Rachel Lippincott. The movie chronicles the romantic relationship between two terminally-ill teenagers: Stella, played by Haley Lu Richardson, and Will, played by Cole Sprouse.

The concept of their relationship is like that of a modern-day Romeo and Juliet. The two lovers have cystic fibrosis, which is an incurable disease of the lungs that causes lung infections and limits breathing; it is deadly if left untreated. Because of their conditions, the two are confined to the walls of their hospital.

The main premise of the movie is that because these two teens both have cystic fibrosis, they are not allowed to be in the same room with each other, let alone touch each other for risk of death, but at the same time, it is a love that they are both willing to die for.

The hospital rule, enforced by a strict and overprotective but loving nurse, is that they are to remain a least six feet apart from each other. This frustrates the two lovers and to take control of their lives and their relationship, they subtract that one foot to be even closer.

Five Feet Apart was directed and produced by Justin Baldoni, who is known for his role as Rafael on *Jane the Virgin*. It seems as if Baldoni took some tips from *Jane the Virgin* because they both have emotional twists and turns, and stem from classic romantic tropes such as the “boy meets girl”, “the forbidden love”, and “the couple not liking each other at first.”

The movie does have moments where it will pull on your heartstrings and raise your heartrate with suspense. Near the end of the movie, Stella and Will are out in the snow, when Stella falls off a low bridge onto a frozen lake. Will goes around the corner to get her when she has fallen into the ice. This moment was led up to with a moderate amount of suspense so that when the moment hit, it made a big impact.

Overall, this movie was an emotional film with some deep sentimental and thought-provoking moments thrown in. This film would be a great watch for those who enjoy light emotional surprises, because this movie is full of them.



Photo Credits: CBS Film

Love, Death and Robots

Victoria Chaney

Contributing Writer

Netflix has brought something new and slightly unusual to its collection. *Love, Death and Robots* is an 18 episode animated anthology that explores the themes of its title. Each episode uses a different style of animation, has its own unique story and tells it with a different twist that always groups it into the category of science fiction.

While there is love, death and robots, there is also post-apocalyptic violence, warfare, horror, time loops and jokes about sex. The mature rating for this series is well deserved for its direct nudity, uncensored gore and oftentimes explicit dialogue. However, viewers should not shy away from this daring anthology, as there is not one episode that is longer than 17 minutes. Each one has an underlying lesson to be learned or “a-ha moment” even if its contents border the outrageous.

The series starts off with its first episode titled “Sonnie’s Edge”, giving viewers a taste of the type of violence and sexual situations the series possesses throughout most of its episodes. The first episode also depicts how some stories are usually set towards what viewers would consider a cinematic climax.

These episodes often jump straight into the action and continue with enough backstory for viewers to be interested. “Sonnie’s Edge” is set into a futuristic timeline where back alley fights are fought through two people uploading their consciousness to their own unique monster while concentrating in a place beyond the arena. Sonnie, the titular character, is a young woman with a grimy backstory, and although she wins her match, she is quickly seduced by a woman working for her enemy. Without delving in enough to spoil the episode, viewers quickly learn Sonnie’s secret, and her edge is revealed in a shocking plot twist.

Although *majority of Love, Death and Robots’* episodes place its characters in situations that leave little to no survivors by the end of its running time, there are some hilariously light-hearted and bizarre ones that make up for the death and gloom. For instance, one episode named “Alternate Histories” takes viewers into Multiversity, where alternate and comical timelines of Hitler’s past are explored and exaggerated to say the least. There is even an episode titled “Ice Age” where a young newlywed couple finds a fast advancing miniature civilization in their freezer.

Love, Death and Robots is not all spaceships and futuristic gadgetry either. In one instance, viewers are led back in time to the British rule of China in the 1800s where shapeshifting is used to show a stance on feminism, and another, they go back to the 1900s where the Red Army finds itself fighting an unholy and seemingly unwinnable war. This is also in addition to an episode where viewers travel with a city inspector into a man’s junkyard home in modern times before he meets his grisly demise.

Netflix’s new animated anthology is not for children, but mature audiences will definitely find it unusually enjoyable with each episode enticing viewers to continue to the next. The short running times of the episodes also help bring each one to completion. Whether a person is looking for something new and easy to binge or just something interesting to watch, this series definitely does the job.

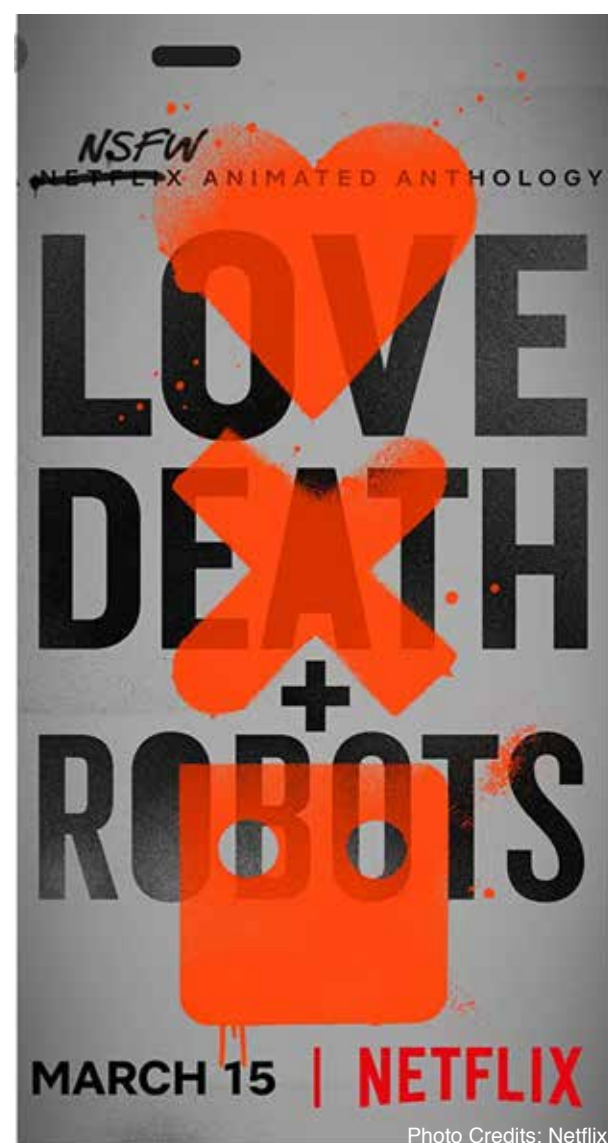


Photo Credits: Netflix

APPLE vs SPOTIFY

Ariana Carter

Contributing Writer

Apple Music and Spotify are the perfect examples of two music services that cater to a wide audience selling the same product but have different approaches on creating staying power.

Music streaming services are huge across the globe. Gone are the days of MP3 files and now a more accessible way to reach music on demand. The concept of receiving music on demand has become incredibly innovative and different platforms offer similar things but differ drastically from each other. But with so many options it really comes down to price point and what the platform has to offer.

Two huge music streaming platforms ahead of the game right now are Apple Music and Spotify. Spotify is a Swedish-born company that launched in 2008 and offers both a free and paid subscription for users to enjoy the music they want. Apple Music launched in 2015 and although it is only available to Apple users it has gained wide popularity as more Apple products become a staple in homes. Apple Music offers only paid subscription options, but has a 3-month free trial available to new users.

Both streaming services are packed with amazing content that appeal to the same audience but differs in size and availability. Spotify gives consumers access to any song no matter the plan they choose. The only restriction that exists for Spotify is the use of ads for those that use the music streaming platform for free.

Aside from price point, many users enjoy the idea of having their music all in one place. Music of the past and music of the future blend well together but it is a matter of who does it best. Spotify is a more personalized experience based on what the user listens to and creates playlists derived from genres that are heavily rotated. Apple Music has the

user tell them what they are most interested in and integrates past Apple purchases and downloads.

Apple Music is limited on the selection of personal recommendations under the tab “For You.” In the setup process, Apple only asks to choose a few artists and manually type in ones that are not on the list and take it from there. What is interesting about the lack of personalization with Apple Music is the integration of the music library from iTunes from past iOS devices.

Spotify, on the other hand, has recommendations rolling out daily in millions of playlists created for both paid and free subscribers. Spotify may be more personalized, but it lacks the expansive library that Apple has created. Spotify has content all in one place such as podcasts and music videos and places music videos in certain playlists to pack them with a variety of content.

For example, both streaming services have a decent library of songs from different decades but Apple Music has the bigger selection over Spotify which has a few decades playlist and they are compiled of the most popular hits. Apple has the songs broken down year by year that brings more gems in each playlist.

Apple Music and Spotify both have a lot to offer from each platform. In terms of paying for a service that gives a user more bang for their buck Spotify sweeps the competition for sure. It is not impossible for Apple Music and Spotify to live harmoniously on a device but it is definitely better to choose one or the other. Apple Music may be essentially bigger and badder in the industry but Spotify is an all in one stop here to steal the crown.

RIDE THE WAVE: UWG STUDENT EXPRESSES LIFE THROUGH ART

Brittany Shivers

Copy Editor

Rachel Breaux, talented artist and UWG student, creates meaningful and unique paintings. Breaux has loved art ever since she was a young child. However, she fell in love with painting in high school because she needed a way to step out of reality and into something that gave her hope.

Her world was turned upside down when her high school boyfriend, Noah Bishop, was diagnosed with epithelioid sarcoma, a rare and aggressive soft tissue cancer, at just 14. Unfortunately, he died on April 9, 2015. Breaux desperately needed to find some joy and painting provided her with a chance to get lost in a world of passion, color and creativity.

“I fell in love with it because it was my main outlet,” said Breaux. “I lost someone extremely close to me my freshman year of high school, and I struggled to recover from it. I don’t think I would have without painting. It’s so easy to lose yourself in art.”

Most of Breaux’s artistic inspiration came from her hometown art teacher, Dr. Adam Scurr. Scurr first taught Breaux art at Temple Elementary, but he eventually moved up to teach at Temple High School where Breaux had the privilege of learning from him once again. Scurr has helped many young kids and teenagers express themselves artistically and has pushed Breaux is pushed past her artistic limits and opened up to a whole world of confidence and imagination.

“Every time I think I can’t develop further as an artist, he pushes me beyond what I believe my limit is,” said Breaux. “He taught me that with determination and a lot of patience, I can get my paintbrushes to do just about anything on a canvas.”

That is exactly what Breaux does. From roaring seas to starlit skies, Breaux paints it all. In her painting “Aphrodite,” the colors are carefully chosen and symbolize a deeper meaning than meets the eye.

“Aphrodite is the Greek Goddess of love and beauty. Red symbolizes love, so I made sure to incorporate a lot of it everywhere in the picture. Her lips and eyes are notably painted violet, which symbolizes power and royalty,” said Breaux. “Seeing how she is the goddess of love and beauty, she is naturally very seductive, and with that, there is a lot of power in her lips and her gaze.”

A very different painting, “Riding on a Wave,” portrays a blue and green ocean, and Breaux had a particular life lesson on her mind when painting this piece.

“Waves remind me that there is a lot of push and pull, not only in the ocean but in life. The trick is to learn how to surf,” said Breaux.

Breaux sees ocean waves as a symbol of life’s trials and that in this lifetime individuals must learn to balance everything they love. As people start entering college and reaching adulthood, this is an incredible lesson to learn. Life is a lot of give and take. People must make sacrifices for what they most desire, but in the end, it is worth it.

Because Breaux is so passionate about her pieces, she wants to share them. Although she does commissions, she also gives her paintings as gifts to those close to her heart.

“With my personal paintings, I paint what I love and am interested in, or I paint for others,” said Breaux. “The joy and smiles of people who receive my paintings is so incredibly rewarding. It’s a way to show them in a palpable way how much they mean to me.”

Even though she may not be a world-renowned artist yet, her art teaches everyone to give generously and live passionately in a world where these virtues are often forgotten.



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