

*The Broward College***OBSERVER**

Student Newspaper

# Deputy Secretary of Energy visits with students

**Kennedy Almy**  
Contributing writer

Dr. Elizabeth Sherwood-Randall made her mark at Broward College North Campus on Jan. 8 with her warm heart, strong mind, and fighting spirit.

As the Deputy Secretary of the United States Department Of Energy, Dr. Sherwood-Randall works hard to help advance STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) and energy/energy related jobs, create a diverse workforce, and strives to offer young people proper training programs in the Energy Sector.

"I was inspired, like many students, by a professor of mine at the beginning of my college experience that really turned the light bulb on for me," said Dr. Sherwood-Randall.

"I was motivated and inspired to solve major global issues, and I've always thought of that time as being fundamental for what I've become."

It is known that as a student there are always some trials that are faced in order to complete their education, and Dr. Sherwood-Randall shared a story of her own.

She mentioned that men would doubt women such as herself, and said that women couldn't do what men could, and "that was the fuel to the fire."

Dr. Sherwood-Randall also said, "In graduate school a particular professor sought in every way to make me feel inadequate, and would even publicly humiliate me," but this did not stop her spirit to be successful.

The Deputy Secretary even mentioned that she did not get to where she is now by mistake, she said that one has to put in the work if they want to see results.

In addition to her life story, Dr. Sherwood-Randall expressed her thoughts on the importance of education.

"Education should never be taken for granted, because it is a major power tool in life. Through education, you develop the proper skills to be a productive member of society."

Dr. Sherwood-Randall said that if she had the chance to do this all over again, she would still be interested in developing



Dr. Elizabeth Sherwood-Randall, U.S. Deputy Secretary of Energy speaks to BC students, faculty and staff at North Campus on Jan. 8. **Photo courtesy of Broward College**



At Broward College's North Campus Dr. Elizabeth Sherwood-Randall meets and greets students when she came for her motivational speech on Jan. 8. **Photo courtesy of Broward College**

skills in the energy sector because it is such a growth industry.

After her interview, there was even more to learn about the Deputy Secretary's message when she and the representatives of the academia, industry, underrepresented communities, and workforce development organizations had a round table discussion.

Awilda Delgado, the Associate Dean of

Mathematics, served as the moderator of the discussion; she began the discussion with questions about the roles played in providing access to greater jobs, the major challenges on informing the public about STEM jobs, and raised the question on how to maximize the participation in the cause.

As the conversation continued, students such as Andres Diaz, BC North SGA member, were struck by some

of the comments.

Diaz said, "This makes me feel like STEM programs really need our help. None of the youth know about them, and we need to be that voice." This statement is very important because these STEM programs help those develop skills to be a productive member of society.

The youth are the future of the world, and they need to be able to utilize the skills that are taught in order to give back.

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<https://observerbc.wordpress.com/>



# Keep up with BC: What's going on around campus?

## Efficiently prepare for emergencies with BC

The National Preparedness Community has put forth the one New Year's resolution that is easy to keep: expanding your knowledge about what you can do to help prepare yourself and your family members for emergency situations.

Wondering where to begin?

We'll start off the New Year by understanding the basics and reviewing the essential items that you should have as part of your emergency preparedness plan.

Basic emergency supplies consist of, but are not limited to:

### Water

**Food:** Non-perishable

### NOAA weather

**radio:** battery or hand-crank, extra batteries for both

**Flashlight** and **extra batteries**

**First-aid kit:** to include any medication or prescription

**Tool-kit** and/or **multi-tool kit**

**Sanitation** and **personal hygiene items**

**Personal** and **important documents**

### Cell phone with chargers Emergency contact information Cash

Being ready does not end with having the necessary supplies.

For further information on emergency preparedness, response, and recovery we encourage you to visit the Department's website at [www.broward.edu/safety](http://www.broward.edu/safety).

Within our website you will find helpful information related to responding to active shooters, preparing for extreme weather conditions such as hurricanes, as well as information on Broward College's emergency notification system (BC Alert).

Proudly keeping you safe,

The Department of Safety, Security, and Emergency Preparedness

## BC literary, art magazine submission deadline amongst students

BC's literary magazine, P'an Ku, is now accepting submissions for their next publication.

However, the deadline for

submissions is Feb. 2.

P'an Ku accepts only from BC students. Their accepted work includes art, photography, comic strips,

poetry, architecture, short stories, and sculptures.

Visit [broward.edu/panku](http://broward.edu/panku) for more information.

## Student Counseling

As you pursue your education, you will encounter challenges that will affect your ability to be successful. Concerns about relationships, family, stress, body image, and drug and alcohol abuse can cause distress and problems with day-to-day living.

Student counseling is available to all Broward College students.

Are you dealing with...

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## Social Justice Week | January 20 - 23, 2015 DISABLING INJUSTICE

*"Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that."*  
- Martin Luther King Jr.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20 | 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

PERFORMING CULTURAL ARTS THEATRE & ACTIVITY CENTER

Martin Luther King Jr. Keynote Address & VIP Reception

Keynote Speaker: Osamudia James, J.D. - University of Miami

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22 | 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

ACTIVITY CENTER

Social Justice Fireside Chat with Anthony Robles

NCAA National Champion Wrestler

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21 | 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

PERFORMING CULTURAL ARTS THEATRE

Social Justice Panel Discussion: "Where do we go from here?"

Panelist: Dr. Percy Rickets, Dr. John Glenn, Omar Goode & Matthew Beatty

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22 | 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

ACTIVITY CENTER

Principles of Social Justice -- Presented by:

Henry Mack, Dr. Edward Cornejo, Judge Ginger Lerner-Wren & Rabbi Gideon Goldenholz of Temple Sinai

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23 | 7:00 p.m.

PERFORMING CULTURAL ARTS THEATRE

B.SOCA Presents: A Little Potato Hard to Peel by: David Harrell





# Creative writing professor passionate about teaching

**Ashley Lokken**  
Central Bureau Chief

"Listen to others but always trust your gut," said Nick Mansito, creative writing Professor at Broward College.

Mansito received his BA from the University of Florida, MA from the University of North Florida and PhD from Illinois State University.

Mansito taught at Central Florida College and Illinois State University as a teaching assistant during his doctoral studies.

Now, Mansito has been teaching at Broward College for the past six years.

Mansito didn't always want to become a creative writing teacher.

"Originally, when I was in high school, I wanted to be a doctor, a radiologist or neurosurgeon, but in college I struggled in all my sciences but excelled in my humanities classes," said Mansito.

After earning A's in all of his English classes, Mansito realized he had been writing his whole life.

"When I was a kid in elementary and middle school I would write stories and make little booklets and sell them for like ten cents a pop," said Mansito.

In high school, Mansito spent a lot of his time writing large amounts of poetry and song lyrics.

"I hadn't really thought



Professor Nick Mansito lounging comfortably in his office.

about teaching or writing for a living at that time. I majored in English and figured I would get my masters just to see what that would lead to," said Mansito.

While studying at UNF, Mansito realized he wanted to teach.

"As part of our studies, we were asked to teach kind of 'part time'. For example, I got to lead discussions and help design activities for an undergrad creative writing workshop. I took to it like a fish to water, and I loved it. It

was after that experience that I decided to begin my teaching career," said Mansito.

"Growing up and throughout my studies I've had wonderful teachers, mentors, and friends help me cultivate my writing life," said Mansito.

Mansito finds comfort and satisfaction in his career because of what being a student meant to him in the past.

"Teaching creative writing, for me, is repaying those before me by participating in this tradition. Plus, my

teaching life is inspired and influenced by my writing life and vice versa," said Mansito.

Pablo Neruda, Jorge Luis Borges, Stephen Dunn, Hunter S. Thompson, Norman Mailer and Junot Diaz are all described as being influences to Mansito.

"I have two books of poetry published now with BlazeVox [books]: 3<sup>rd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> published in 2009 and Miscellaneous Debris published in 2013," said Mansito.

As of now, Mansito has already brainstormed new

ideas to publish.

"I've also been thinking about doing some flash fiction but everything is really just conceptual now with a few ideas jotted down here and there," said Mansito.

When Mansito is not teaching, he is usually surfing, paddle boarding, or working out.

Mansito also enjoys spending his free time running, playing bass or guitar, and renovating his new home.

Aside from that, Mansito occupies his time writing, drawing, and painting.

"I like our students at BC because I can relate to them. In many ways, I was just like them; I have a similar background compared to the majority of our students," said Mansito.

"I didn't grow up with a lot of money; I grew up bilingual; I was only the second one to go to college, the first to get a doctorate. I struggled much like our students do: I had to work (sometimes several jobs) full-time and go to school full-time, etc," said Mansito.

Mansito is extremely passionate about his job.

"For me, there are no cons in being a creative writing teacher.

"The pros are being surprised everyday by how keen and creative students are. My favorite part of teaching is being in the classroom with my students," said Mansito.

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# Book Club discusses To Kill a Mockingbird

**Phillip McField**  
Staff Writer

The Seahawk Swag-Tacular and Barbecue proved to be a spectacular event for all of the students on South Campus.

Food was served, music was played and snow was thrown around. There was something for everyone to enjoy.

Eventually, when it came time for the event to end the crowd began to disperse, either going home or to their classes.

But at 2 p.m., another event took place that only a few knew about, unfortunately: a live discussion of the book *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

*To Kill a Mockingbird* is a novel written by Harper Lee that was published in 1960.

It is a story that is loosely based on the author's experiences in her youth, with the character Jean Louise Finch (or Scout) serving as Lee's avatar.

While the story is told from Scout's perspective, her father, Atticus Finch, is the true protagonist.

The tale takes place in the 1930s and is about Atticus defending a black man falsely accused of rape in the fictional town of Maycomb, Alabama and the racial tensions that

arise because of it.

The book was critically acclaimed upon its release. A year after its production, *To Kill a Mockingbird* was awarded the Pulitzer Prize.

It also rose to the top of bestseller lists in a short time and remained there for a total of 88 weeks.

On Jan. 13, The Pageturner's Book Club took part in The Big Read, an annual promotion of reading, by inviting students and library visitors alike to share their thoughts on a classic piece of literature.

The small group of 12 people all thought highly of *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

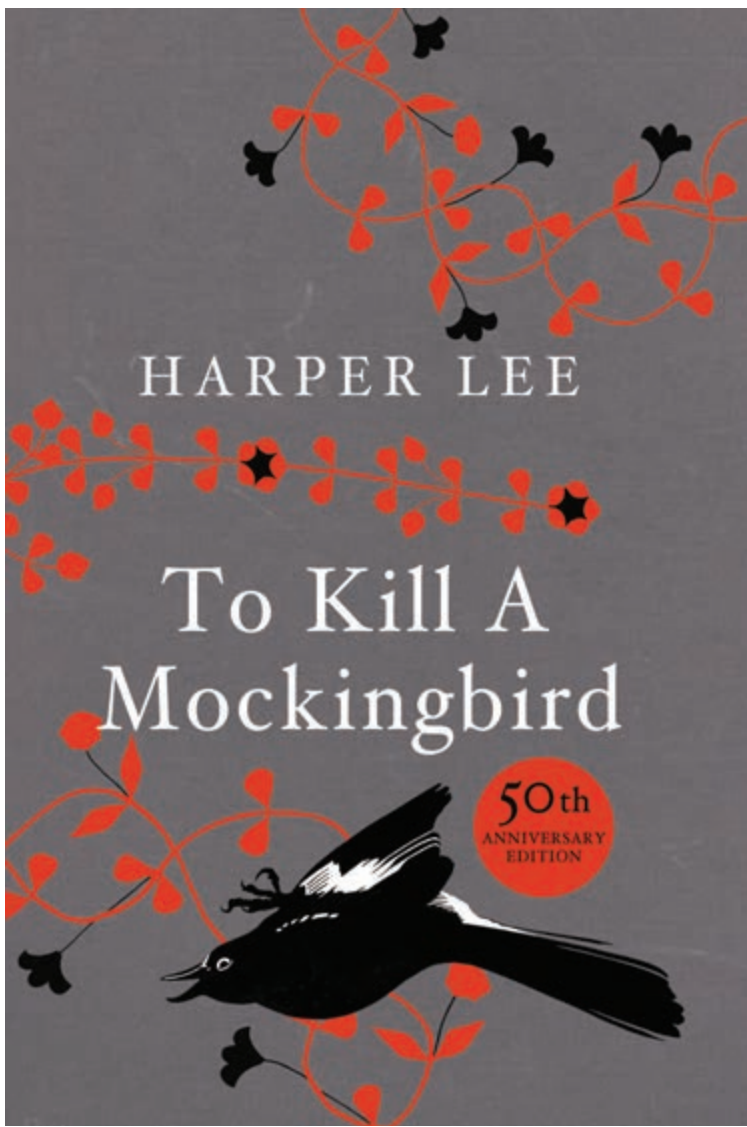
One member, Vickie Hodge, claimed to have read the book 100 times in her youth, mostly because she had few chances to go to the library.

However, she seemed to have gained a greater admiration for the book.

"This book is still as fresh and entertaining as the first time I read it in high school," Hodge said.

Strong opinions about the racial inequality present in the book's story were discussed in the group.

"Honestly, I wouldn't be able to live in that town, back then," said Alden Metov, an employee of the South



The 50th edition cover for *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

Photo courtesy:  
wordpress.com

Regional Library.

"The townsfolk and I would have [had] some problems."

The older attendants gave personal accounts of racial inequality from their youth.

The coordinator of the entire event, Janet Wallace, shared her story of going on a high school field trip to Alabama.

She and their class president, who happened to be black, were taken aback when they saw the infamous segregated restrooms.

"We didn't have anything like that up North where we rode down from, so we were kind of shocked," said Wallace.

Another feature of *To Kill a Mockingbird* that triggered discussion was the character Scout referring to her father by his first name.

Ana Dewelde, another employee of the South Regional Library, found it to be rude and disrespectful, but she seemed to be alone on that opinion, with everyone feeling that it made Atticus and Scout "equal."

Richard Mertens, a business major, said, "I didn't really see any problem with it. As soon as I turned 18, my parents let me call them by their names and I still respect them."

The Pageturner's Book Club has meetings every second Tuesday of every month.

The next scheduled book that the club will be reading is *Claire of the Sea Light* by Edwidge Danticat.





# Florida students experience real snow day

**Claro Quesada Jr.**  
Contributing writer

A snow pit, a snow slide, some snow angels, and plenty of snow selfies were in every corner.

Snowballs were being thrown in all directions while smiles and laughter filled the air.

This was the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Snow Day at Broward College South Campus.

The event was supposed to be held on Jan. 15, but was postponed to the next day due to the weather.

This event was hosted by Student Life.

In order to reach the desired scenery, eight tons of ice was brought in.

With the help of a snow machine, it quickly turned into eight tons of snow.

The weather didn't seem good for the event.

It had rained just hours prior and a minor drizzle made the snow too hard and too cold for anyone to really enjoy.

The attractions included a snow pit and a slide covered in snow.

Many were hesitant at first, but as soon as the first snowball was thrown, it was a free for all.

"They can make snow balls



Broward College students slide down the snow slide on intertubes during snow day on South Campus.

**Photo Credit: Bella Riccitelli**

or snow angels. [The snow] was brought in for the students to enjoy themselves and have fun," said Adriana Brito, a member of Student Life at BC.

Some students who were there had already seen snow, so the feel of ice in their hands wasn't uncommon.

They were the ones who made the best snowballs, and who attempted to make a snowman.

For others however, this was not a common sight because many students had never seen

snow.

Some included Genesis Valvez and Suyapa Saucedo, who were intrigued and excited at first.

"I've never seen snow" said Valvez, a BC student.

The showcase of the day was a 15-foot slide.

Each student had to grab a rubber tube and slide down, where others waited with snowballs ready in hand.

Many of the students didn't want to, but after a few brave souls did slide down, others

followed.

"I'm glad the college does things like this. It makes school more fun," said Angelina Herrera, BC Student.

Herrera watched her friend Jasmine Giorgio use the slide one last time before going to class.

The snow day ended in the late afternoon.

This gave students a chance to enjoy snow in a way they can't in South Florida.

It's amazing what can happen with eight tons of ice.

Near the end of the day, some of the students brought their kids in order for them to enjoy the snow.

What's more amazing was that the snowball fights were a good ice breaker (no pun intended).

Complete strangers suddenly became allies in a snow fight, and best friends became temporary enemies.

It was definitely a unique sight, and a successful snow day at BC's South Campus.

## Obama proposes new idea, two-year tuition terminated

**Jayda Hall**  
Staff writer

The time has finally come.

Everyone has dreamed of this moment and it may become reality. We all know that school is not the cheapest.

You can't even ask Santa Claus to pay for your tuition.

No worries, though.

President Obama is proposing two years of free community college for anyone willing to work for it. This may seem unbelievable and out of the box, but I think a couple of citizens will embrace this opportunity, if passed.

Getting a nod from a Congress full of republicans won't be easy. Everyone loves to hear the word "free," but this will create a tremendous hole in Uncle Sam's wallet.

Cost and funding will be announced on Jan. 20, but the estimated price for this freebie to anyone seeking free education will run the U.S. approximately \$70 billion. The government won't be handling these finances alone. In fact, they will be contributing to pay three quarters. The rest of the expenses must be handled by the state the community college is in.

This proposal is supposed to help the country as a whole, somehow. It takes money to make money, and giving adults the opportunity to go to school to get an education and be able



Obama may be implementing a new act that allows students to receive two free years of community college.

**Photo Courtesy of illinoisreview.com**

to take care of themselves as well as family, well, it doesn't get any sweeter than that.

"I think it's a good idea to give everyone an opportunity to get an education without worrying about expenses," said Ashley Cash, a BC freshman.

Those who qualify don't have to worry about anything except maintaining a 2.5 GPA in their degree path. Based on full-time college costs, college students would save nearly \$4,000 per year.

"It's great knowing that students who don't have money for college get to attend

for free for two years and the only thing they have to focus on is their grades and making a steady progress towards completing their program," said Shacorra Thomas, a BC sophomore.

However, if this new idea interferes with everything else we have going then maybe it should just be left as an idea. This proposal should be thought of thoroughly.

Maybe after a semester or two, the college as well as the government can decide on whether that person deserves free schooling or not. But if

you're just in a mood to give out freebies because you think it's going to change the economy and the lives of people, think again. Not everyone is built for college.

And we live in a monkey see, monkey do kind of country. If one person sees another going to school for free, they will copy only because of what they see. You never know the motives behind people and with \$16.3 trillion in debt, the last thing we should be giving out is freebies.

It's like having the same tab open five times on a computer.

You should close the other ones and just focus on one. The debt for graduates fresh out of college are out the roof, and here we are granting free schooling to people because we assume it will help them get far in life. We should focus on one thing at a time, and right now, free school should be left as an idea.



# PTK celebrates MLK day with charity

**Marie Wisa Beauge**

Staff Writer

The difference between Martin Luther King Day of Service and a regular day is the fact that on that day, nothing is more important than helping others. On that day, participants across the country unite and come together for the sole purpose of making the world a better place. On that day, the legacy of Civil Rights Activist Martin Luther King Jr. comes alive as his dream traverses the country uniting every color, race and religion under the umbrella of community service.

This was what the former Pennsylvania U.S. Senator Harris Wofford and Atlanta Congressman John Lewis, had in mind when they created the day in 1994.

The “Day on, not a day off” service reached the heart of Broward College, an institution committed to student success, who eagerly participated. This was deemed a great opportunity to leave a mark in the community and equip the students with an opportunity to make their community a better place.

With the funding of \$96,000 from the Florida Legislature, Broward College

– in partnership with the MLK Day of Service Advisory Board, comprised of Broward County citizens – organized several special volunteer opportunities to transform Monday, Jan. 19 into a day of volunteerism in the local community and to honor Dr. King’s legacy.

A total of 24 awards were issued to 20 organizations making the grand total \$96,406 invested in helping the community.

Some Broward College organizations who participated were Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, who did Peace Garden Planting at Oriole Elementary, the faculty from the Bachelors of Science in Nursing program and representatives of the communication department, ESL department and behavioral sciences department came together to host a Health and Safety Fair. The Phi Theta Kappa Mumu Chapter prepared hot cooked meals for families at the Ronald McDonald House.

For them, the day started at 7 a.m. where the president, Sharon Leach along with other officers, members, and Broward College students, met at the door of Ronald McDonald House. They



Dr. King was honored in an event that fundraised \$96,406 for the community. **Photo Credit: Marie Wisa Beauge**

separated into groups. Some prepared breakfast for the families who were just waking up, while others cleaned and stocked shelves with materials that Phi Theta Kappa donated.

There were food supplies, hygienic supplies, utensils, cleaning supplies and more. Fresh lunches and warm dinners were prepared for the families. Coming through the door, happiness and laughter was in the air which was very important since it made the families forget

about their difficulties and have something to enjoy and be happy about. The children were able to forget about their medical situations and just enjoy that day wholeheartedly.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once said, “Life’s most urgent question is: What are you doing for others?” On the day that marked January 19, 2015, the question was answered as organizations across the country devoted their time, energy and funds to help others. Bringing a

meal to families who are in need, planting more trees as part of beautifying the earth and encouraging a cleaner air quality and informing others about staying healthy are some of the things that can initiate change in the way life is lived. Therefore, let’s make every a “Day on” of service and “not a day off” to not only let Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s legacy live but to also create a better community filled with unity, partnership, and volunteerism.

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# Basketball coach voted into Hall of Fame

**Bella Riccitelli**  
Editor-in-chief

“I do everything I can to help change a kid’s life,” said Robert Starkman, Broward College’s head basketball coach for the men’s team.

After coaching basketball, both men and women’s, for 18 years, Starkman was elected to Florida College System Activities Association men’s basketball Hall of Fame.

To date, Starkman has coached his team into two conference championships, three conferences tournaments, and five bids to state tournament championships.

Aside from that, Starkman has had the privilege to coach six junior college all-American students, one academic all-American student, and one Florida junior college player of the year.

Starkman’s teams have also been ranked 12 in the top 25 national poll for three times, which has never been done in BC history.

In 2001, Starkman took over the men’s basketball program that had a consistent record of being unable to win both on the court and off of the court.

Then, Starkman lead the team to victory, and hasn’t



Coach Starkman has been Broward’s Head Basketball Coach for 18 years and has proven successful during his tenure.

**Photo Credit: Bella Riccitelli**

stopped since.

“I don’t know what the near future brings, but I love coaching. I love what I do,” said Starkman.

With over 200 wins, Starkman ranks fourth all time among NJCAA head basketball coaches in the state of Florida.

“I want my team to always remember they’re student athletes. I encourage them to

be honest, upfront, and loyal. I want to see them move on in school, and they do,” said Starkman.

Starkman, who is constantly receiving phone calls from former players, loves having such an impact on their lives.

“Some call it tough love, but it isn’t tough love. It’s caring for people, and each kid is different,” said Starkman.

“It’s a feeling you can’t explain. I think it’s great. To me, they’re an extended family.”

Before coaching, Starkman was a law enforcement officer for 30 years. Once his daughter began school and playing basketball in the community, Starkman realized that he wanted to get into coaching.

“Basketball is in my blood,

and I wanted to give back to the community,” said Starkman.

“Now, I get to see players move on in life, I get to see them become successful and grow into young men, which is the biggest accomplishment for me as a coach,” said Starkman.

## Softball Schedule

- 1/30 Abraham Baldwin College 4:20
- 1/30 Wake Technical College 6:20
- 1/31 Pasco-Hernando College 1:20
- 1/31 George Military College 5:40
- 2/4 at Ave Maria University 1:00
- 2/6 at Santa Fe College 2:00
- 2/18 St. Thomas University 5:00
- 2/19 St. Johns River State 5:00
- 2/20 Florida State College 3:00
- 2/20 Daytona State College 5:00
- 2/21 St. Johns River State 4:00
- 2/21 College of Central Florida 6:00
- 2/27 St. Petersburg College 2:30
- 2/28 Polk State College 12:00





# STUDY

Imagine a program that allowed students to go and discover new places and cultures all while earning credits towards their future while traveling with their peers and classmates during their college career.

They don't only earn credits, but they also earn a once in a lifetime experience that they will cherish

forever.

On top of this, the program is something that future employers would love to see on a resume.

This is all possible when students apply for the study abroad program.

"Experiencing the reality of life in another country for an extended period of time as well as the great memories and connections I made along

the way, I felt that it changed my life," said Broward College student, Nicki Smuck, who spent 40 days in Peru studying with other BC students.

More than 283,000 students study abroad each year and this number grows greater each year.

Although at BC only one to three students usually attend most programs that

are available through study abroad and because it is such a small group, you are able to really get to know those you are going with.

Students can choose to go on faculty led programs, which have only one to two faculty members joining the students, or they can go on programs where they do not go with faculty members.

Smuck was

able to join this program through the Beginning Spanish two and International Business Practices course but students

are able to go for a multitude of other courses like Architecture, Education, Engineering and many others.

Contrary to popular belief, BC students who wish to attend the study abroad

**Students can study abroad in the country of Costa Rica and spend their summer studying Spanish, traveling and learning comparative government**





# ABROAD

program do not need to be majoring in anything in particular.

If students choose to go on a study abroad program through the CCIS Program, they can check if their courses are eligible to participate.

BC students must have at least a 2.5 GPA to qualify for the opportunity to travel to and experience multiple countries such

as Spain, Germany, China, Italy, Peru, India and Vietnam to name a few.

Recently, the study abroad program added two new countries: China and Costa Rica.

Study abroad students who go to China for a semester can enjoy their time studying business and marketing. Inevitably for some students, the greatest

hurdle would be cost. The cost could vary by season and place you attend.

The average cost for fall programs are \$3,000 or more and spring programs can \$9,000 or more.

That hurdle could be tackled if students applied for the William E. Greene scholarship which covers the full cost.

Liz Vocasek, the Study

Abroad Coordinator, said "The expenses for the trip involve passports, visa, plane ticket, and any living expenses. All of these would be covered with this scholarship."

There is also a summer scholarship that covers up to one-third or \$1,000, depending on which cost would be the greater amount.

Currently there is an email being sent to all the students encouraging them to participate in a Faculty-Led Abroad Program in Peru for the upcoming Spring Break.

For more information, you can contact Vocasek, Study Abroad Coordinator, at 954-201-7709 or at [abroad@broward.edu](mailto:abroad@broward.edu).

**If students choose to visit China with BC's study abroad program, they can learn about business and marketing over their summer break.**



# Taken 3: the franchise has been *Taken* too far

**Jayda Hall**  
Staff writer

It's official: The creators of Taken 3 have gone mad. Olivier Megaton, director of Taken 2 and 3, has taken this too far.

The movie was so dull-witted that the only thing that kept it alive was Liam Neeson himself.

Neeson plays the role of a retired government agent, Bryan Mills.

The movie starts with Bryan buying his daughter, Kim (Maggie Grace), a giant panda bear and Champagne for her birthday.

Before he reaches her apartment, Kim discovers that she is pregnant by her boyfriend.

She doesn't know if she wants to be excited or miserable because she is still in college.

After being rejected by his daughter Kim, for buying a childish panda bear, Bryan receives a call from his ex-wife, Lenore (Famke Janssen). He invites her over for dinner.

Once arrived, she explains to Bryan that she is having a rough marriage with her husband, Stuart St. John (Dougray Scott), and is thinking about a divorce.

Lenore realizes that she is

beginning to fall for Bryan all over again but is told by Bryan that she should go home and work out her marriage before trying to pursue him.

The following day, Lenore texted Bryan asking if they could meet at his place for bagels.

After approving the request, Bryan went to the local bagel shop and bought everything he needed for the meeting at his place.

Bryan reached home and realized something wasn't right. Before reaching his bedroom he stumbles upon a bloody knife lying on the floor.

Confused as can be, Bryan opens his bedroom door and finds Lenore dead, with her throat sliced.

LAPD was already phoned by Lenore before she died, but when they finally arrived at the crime scene, it was framed as if Bryan killed her.

Bryan was about to be arrested but before the handcuffs could be slapped on his wrists, he managed to escape and he sets out to discover who really killed Lenore.

For the time being, Inspector Franck Dotzler (Forest Whitaker), sets up a manhunt to apprehend Bryan.

Bryan could have enjoyed life in Los Angeles with a granddaughter on the way,



Liam Neeson making a serious face during the shooting of Taken 3. Photo courtesy: [moviepilot.com](#)

only if Stuart St. John didn't owe a Russian Afghanistan Veteran millions of dollars.

Stuart set up the murder just to get insurance money from his wife's death to pay off his debt.

It's obvious that the movie included so much impossible stunts, and explosions because it lacked so much to keep the audience interested.

The only lesson Taken 3 can teach you is: if you owe someone money, pay them immediately.

There was no purpose in it ever having to come to a Taken 3. Seriously.

How many times can you be taken? Clearly, the director was bored and wanted to waste millions of dollars to produce a movie that made no sense.

Of course, the movie ended with Neeson saving the day.

I think I can speak for the audience when I say we are tired of the same old "I will find you, and I will kill you."

There should be a movie where Neeson gets kidnapped, or a movie when saving everyone else becomes his fate.

The tagline of Taken 3 is "It ends here."

Well, I hope everyone that helped contribute to this movie keeps their word and that they don't keep the series going.

## 2015's most anticipated

**Chris Williams**  
Social Media Editor

2014 was a fantastic year for the entertainment industry, but more specifically, it was fantastic for movies.

2015, as I would imagine shall be no different. That being said, the following list is what I anticipate to be the top movies of 2015. Now, I've tried to narrow down this list simply because I obviously do not know every single movie that shall come out this year. Take that as you will.

**5) Ant-Man**

This one, I don't even get why people are so hyped about it. It's about a man, with some pretty cool tech that messes around with his physiology (size, strength, speed, etc). But upon investigation, a lot of people need this movie in their lives. With Paul Rudd in it, I have some hopes for a few laughs, but ultimately I'm sure Marvel will be able to do something here.

**4) Terminator Genisys**

Words cannot explain how badly I want to see this movie. It's a different take on the original terminator movies, and clearly just for money and for good ol' Arnold to come back, however, if you're the kind of person that likes to turn off your brain during a movie and just look at the pretty colors then this is the movie for you.

**3) Jurassic World**

Even the mention of this movie gives me the goofiest grin possible. Any 90's kid will either remember loving the first two Jurassic Parks or hating them. Either way, this movie has already blown up across the Internet and everyone is looking forward to some good old fashioned dinosaurs eatin' some poor sods that didn't learn their lessons from the first three movies.

**2) Star Wars: Episode VII – The Force Awakens**

Alright, I know what you're all thinking, "It's going to be another Phantom Menace" which may be true... But until we know that for sure, I'm going to keep geeking out and finding any scrap of info that I can about this movie. I have faith in J.J. Abrams, and Disney (who made the Marvel movies, mind you) to deliver the saving grace that will wipe the Phantom Menace from our minds.

**1) Avengers: Age of Ultron**

Nerds and well... Not alike are foaming at the mouth for this movie. It's got the old Avengers cast with a few key players if you're into the comics. It's promising to be an action-filled, tear-jerking, laugh-fest. This will easily be the top movie of 2015.

**Thomas Gerald**  
Sports Editor

When Jazmine Sullivan decided to leave the music business in 2011, the R&B world lost one of it's greatest, most sultry songbirds of the game.

When Sullivan started promoting her return with her new album, the music game let out a joyous yell in anticipation.

Sullivan is back, after a five year hiatus to "find herself without a pen and a mike," and she has come back hard.

Sullivan's most recent outing, Reality Show, is a return to her roots as a singer.

With this album, she is less reliant on the musical light show that her two previous albums displayed and more focused on the vocals.

Sullivan has found herself completely and what she found is presented in a beautiful, well-crafted album that flows well and displays the poise and power that comes with knowing who you are.

Sullivan has left behind the scratchy higher register that was all over her last albums and has chosen to focus more on her heavy and thick lower notes.

It is never more apparent than on two of the better tracks of the album, "Stupid Girl" and "If You Dare" (written and produced by Sullivan, Matt Wong, Joe Gallaher and Dan Thomas). These two tracks

## Jazmine Sullivan's great return



Jazmine Sullivan's newest album. Photo courtesy: [amazon.com](#)

display the richness and power in Sullivan's voice with a heavy bass line and throw back to the 60's.

On the opposite side of the spectrum Sullivan's range is displayed prominently on the heavy disco inspired track, "Stanley." Produced by Da Internz, "Stanley" compliments Sullivan's heavy rasps and vocal range without over shadowing her with its strong sequencers and bass.

Although it is a great album as a whole, Reality Show is not without its hiccups.

The lead single and first track, "Dumb" (produced by Salaam Remi and Key Wayne) is a return to Sullivan's former

albums.

It plays up to today's present day music, something that doesn't fit Sullivan's jazzy voice.

Also "Mascara," the second track on the album, while vocally great, sends the extremely negative message that the physical is far more important than what is inside the person, something that is surprisingly in stark contrast to what Sullivan usually stands for.

All in all, this is a great return to music for Sullivan. She has proved that she belongs here and this is one reality show that should be watched.



# Video game buyers played by manufacturers

**Damian Gordon**  
South Bureau Chief

It would be weird if someone went to the grocery store bought a pack of bread, then when they opened it, half the slices were missing (only Lays chips can do that).

Any consumer would revolt against practices like this, except the one's in the gaming industry.

Many people reading this probably grew up in an era that could be considered much simpler.

Things are a little different these days, with publishers and developers releasing fully finished games anymore.

The Playstation 3 and Xbox 360 generation brought new advancements to console gaming, but there is also some bad that comes out of it.

Downloadable Content (DLC) and day one patches seemed promising back in 2006.

"Street Fighter X Tekken" was a fighting game released in 2012 to backlash when it was uncovered that over 12 of the game's characters were locked on the game's disc as "DLC" with the only way to unlock them being a \$20 purchase on top of the \$60 for the game.

DLC is supposed to add new content that extends life and value of a product.

There was a time where unlocking bonus costumes involved beating it on the



Photo courtesy: wordpress.com

hardest difficulty, finding a secret room, or just pressing a different button at the character select screen.

2011's Mortal Kombat seemed to have forgotten those times as basically one would to pre-order the game just to get the skins.

Even if someone pre-ordered, bought it day-one, and gave their first born up, they still would be excluded from the content.

It's more so ludicrous when

gamers are basically lied to about what they are buying.

An extreme case of this was the release of "Aliens: Colonial Marines" in 2013.

Where demos and trailers released up to the point of release showed a radically different product than was given.

The only thing that changed wasn't the name, the amount of lies and misrepresentation thrown at the public was unacceptable.

today they can at least make sure our games don't have to be updated the first week they hit shelves."

Move to 2014 with the recent release of Assassins Creed Unity, and see an unfinished game that had no reason to come out in the first place yet.

Riddled with bugs, glitches and framerate issues, it's a mystery how this specific game even got past Quality Assurance.

Actually, not so much a mystery, but more like a reliance on the day-one patch fixing it.

Three months later, Assassins Creed Unity is still having a long list of updates to fix.

After years of day-one updates, most gamers should be used to it by now, but it doesn't make it anymore acceptable.

Video games are becoming more expensive to make, and publishers need to make back their money somehow.

It's a business, however, a businesses that nickel and dimes its customers really can't last too long.

It's important that every consumer educates themselves before buying a product and support the practices of companies that treat them with respect, not abuse.

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# What should be considered before working out

**Damian Gordon**  
South Bureau Chief

Long ago, I went to the gym with the mentality that “this is going to be easy, watch me lift up 200 pounds”, but it ended more like “help, I’ve fallen and can’t get up.”

Needless to say, I didn’t know the proper etiquette for wellness or that being successful in the gym required knowledge in different aspects.

## **Eat Sustainable Meals:**

The human body requires sustenance, like anything else on Earth.

Nobody expects a car to drive on an empty tank (except college students), so don’t expect the same of your body.

Technically, anything will do to get your body up and running.

But, if you eat fast food before going into the gym expect your breathing to be even faster, like an old person.

The less greasy it is, the easier it will be on your heart during the workout.

Eat whatever, just know to keep it light and reasonably healthy.

## **Water/Energy Drinks:**

If you’re doing it right, sweat should be dripping down from your body at some point.

It’s important to keep

hydrated or damage could be done to your body. Some energy drinks are nothing more than sugar water or just not good for workout use.

Stick to one to two bottles of water and maybe an energy bar.

## **Music:**

It can’t be stressed enough how important music can be to the average gym user’s success. It could give that extra boost you needed or the downer you didn’t.

Use a Pandora or Spotify set list, those are specifically designed to help you take your gym game to the next level.

Not all songs have to be bass drops or heavy guitar strings, mellower, relaxed songs can do the trick for some people as well.

The gym isn’t the tryouts for American Idol.

You could hum, don’t sing them out loud as others might wish you left it up to the artist themselves.

## **Focus on regime:**

The human body needs time to recover, so going hard in the gym every day is doing nothing but damage to the body.

Ideally, people should be doing some form of exercise everyday but work and school schedules have to be

considered.

Working out two to three times a week is sufficient with cardio being on one day, weights the next and a mix of both on the other.

Times to aim for spending on exercise should be anywhere from under an hour to two hours.

Thirty minutes would do too if the exercise is twice as much, like instead of walking for an hour jog or sprint for 30 minutes.

## **No**

You shouldn’t bring your friend with you if your friend is just going to the gym to check out the body, or take up space on the machines to talk to you.

This is bad for everyone because it stops others from using the equipment they want.

Friends who aren’t really there to work out or as serious about it, have a greater chance of decreasing their partner’s workout.

That’s why your high school teachers separated you from your best friend, work never gets done, just a lot of giggling.

## **Have Friends:**

You’ve matured a lot since the last paragraph; it’s time for you to bring friends.

Friends are a helpful distraction on jogs or any



workout routine as they make time pass by.

A good workout buddy can help motivate you more than you ever could alone.

It’s also safer when lifting weights to have someone trustworthy around to spot.

## **Stretch before and after:**

Stretches and warm ups have been said to prevent injury and increase blood circulation through the body.

Be careful of what stretches you do as it can do more harm than good as intended to.

After a workout or exercise, the muscles in a body will get sore, tired or stiff.

Stretching helps to calm the severity of it or could lessen the time it takes to recover.

You should stretch each part of the body for no longer than twelve to 20 seconds.

## **Keep loud grunts and comments to yourself:**

Yes, a person working out should be into what they’re doing, but not if that comes at the cost of sounding like they’re having sex with the machines.

The “ughs” and “yeahs” have to be taken down from a 10 to a five.

It creeps others out and is a sign that someone is maybe having too much trouble and should try using smaller weights.

There are varying arguments on how someone should properly exercise so it’s important to find out what works best for each person individually.

In the end, it’s important to stay healthy, happy and take care of your body because you only get one.

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you jog across campus,  
you learn a lot,  
you read under the palms,  
you recharge with  
a burger at the Union,  
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at the game,  
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## activities to do in the winter

Topeekegee Yugnee Park

3300 North Park Road, Hollywood, FL  
33021



Jog on a two-mile path throughout the park.  
After, cool off on the water slides and in the pool.

Secret Woods Park

2701 Florida 84, Fort Lauderdale, FL  
33312



Walk through trails that lead to the New River.  
Then, enter the butterfly garden and experience various species of  
butterflies and plants.

West Lake Park

1200 Sheridan Street, Hollywood, FL  
33019



Enjoy kayaking and canoeing through the waters of West Lake  
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