

# theLink

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## *In This Issue*

Students are encouraged to make short films that inspire (p.1)

Senior Class Committee 2021 (p.3)

Exploring the Grand Canyon virtually (p.3)

Future engaging online performances (p.4)

Staying on track, literally (p.5)

Student Media (p.6)

Club Spotlight (p.7)

SA/LD Rewind (p.8)

## **Student Activities & Leadership Development**

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## **C.A.N. Partners with Campus Movie Fest, Disney, and more!**

The Central Activities Network (CAN), is bringing the power of expression through film to Central Connecticut State University. According to Nadia Santone, President of CAN and senior marketing major, Campus Movie Fest (CMF) gives a creative outlet to students in a virtual environment.

"Students get to tell any story they want through short films and at the end they can celebrate themselves on the virtual red carpet. I'm really excited to see the short films students come up with at the premiere!", Ms. Santone explained as advertisements went out on CAN's Instagram page @CAN\_CCSU.

*cont'd p.2*



# Campus Movie Fest

*Continued from p.1*

Inspired by Disney/Pixar's *Soul*, the "What Sparks Your Soul?" CMF challenge asks you to create a short documentary showcasing your passion — whether that's playing jazz, writing, coding, gaming, cooking, or beyond.

The prize is a 1-year subscription to Disney+, a Pixar's Soul Gift Package, and a meeting with a Pixar recruiter! Students must register for the challenge, then create and submit a short film, no longer than 5 minutes in duration to [campusmoviefest.com](https://campusmoviefest.com) before 11:59 PM PST on December 25, 2020.

Register here:

<https://campusmoviefest.com/disney>

The Redo Challenge, sponsored by Goldman Sachs, asks students to describe a scenario or conversation they had around race, and then demonstrate what they would do differently to create a more positive experience. The prize is a \$5000 cash grant and a one-on-one meeting with a Goldman Sachs recruiter. Students must register for the challenge using the link provided, then create and submit a short video, no longer than 5 minutes in duration to [campusmoviefest.com](https://campusmoviefest.com) before 11:59 PM PST on December 31, 2020.

Register here: <https://campusmoviefest.com/goldmansachs/redo>

## *February Filming Week: February 3 - 9, 2021*

There will be multiple filming weeks throughout the year to allow students to compete and make as many films as they like. Students must follow CDC and University guidelines while filming as there is a limit to the number of people that may be gathered in one place.

At the end of the moviemaking week, judges will rate the submissions, and the top student films will screen during an online Premiere celebration



at the end of that participating month. Friends, family, and fans are all invited to join the student filmmakers in celebrating a week of incredible accomplishments. The next full movie making week is February 3 - 9, with a premiere taking place on February 24.

# Graduating in a Pandemic

"I really would just like to walk the stage and have a graduation commencement above all else. That is my ONLY request," states an anonymous contributor to the Senior Events Survey, conducted by SA/LD in October 2020. 125 students who were expected to graduated in December 2020 or May 2021 participated in the survey.



Mike Theriault, an SA/LD Program Advisor and graduate student in the Student Development in Higher Education program, says the goal of the assessment was to gauge student interest in social and educational events, and to promote involvement with the Senior Class Committee. "The survey also showed that seniors want to prepare for their careers and even learn more about things like building credit, how to buy a house and even pick a retirement plan," says Theriault.

If you know any seniors or juniors who would be interested in the Senior Class Committee, encourage them to email [m.theriault@ccsu.edu](mailto:m.theriault@ccsu.edu).

## MASTER CRAFTSMAN GUIDES CCSU DOWN THE COLORADO RIVER

The Multi-Powered Vehicle Club hosted Master Craftsman and professional river guide, Andy Hutchinson, live on Microsoft Teams on November 20, 2020.

Thanks to a partnership with student leaders. Technology and Education faculty member, David Sianez, and SA/LD's Susan Sweeney, CCSU was able to learn about the history of building and rowing boats known as "dories".



Mr. Hutchinson designs, builds, and repairs these boats from start to finish. He started his experience with a 12 day kayaking trip on the Grand Canyon, where he fell in love with the beauty of the vintage dories. In this 1 hour session, Mr. Hutchinson covered the boat building process, as well as the rapids and stops along the Colorado River. If you ever wondered what it was like to camp along the river, banjo included, you can watch the full recording on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/r9fzGIrCtJA>



# Midweek Shows in February

What are students looking for in a virtual performance? "There has to be an easy way to log in, a way to interact with other students, and of course, be entertained," says Assistant Director for SA/LD, Sarah Horrax.

CCSU will be joining other CT colleges and universities to host weekly shows using a platform called Looped Live.

Students will be sent a link to sign up for the full tour using their CCSU email address. Each show can be viewed on your computer at [LoopedLive.com](http://LoopedLive.com) or through their mobile app.

Each performance includes a live Q&A session, where the acts are asked questions submitted by students from a select number of colleges across the country. Throughout the show, students can use the comment feature to chat with others about the performance to make the online event more fun.

Every show includes opportunities for students to get behind the scenes. Pre-show sound checks are part of the Looped Live experience for a limited number of students.

There will also be contests to win exclusive meet and greets with acts after the show, comparable to "FaceTiming" with the artist. Concert Ideas, Inc has assisted SA/LD in the development of this experience with Looped Live.



2/3 - Bryan Terrell Clark



2/10 - Ron Funches



2/17 - Young MA



2/24 - Melissa Villaseñor



3/3 - Maddie & Tae

## Meet the Virtual Tour Line-up

You may recognize Bryan Terrell Clark from his role as George Washington in the Broadway musical *Hamilton*. Comedian and actor, Ron Funches, will perform a live stand-up set in addition to the Q&A.

Rapper and philanthropist, Young MA, will be taking requests from the virtual audience for his live show.

Saturday Night Live cast member and comedian, Melissa Villaseñor, will be hosting a humorous live Q&A where students can learn more about writing sketch comedy and working with celebrities on a weekly basis. Want to learn more about making music? Country duo Maddie & Tae will engage students in a live songwriting workshop.





# SEE YOU AT THE REC & ONLINE



## New Years Resolution Challenge (1/1/21) - (1-18/21)

To help kick off 2021, the Recreation Movement is going to be giving away a \$500 Amazon gift card to someone who logs 500 minutes of activity in the first two weeks of 2021!

This is a great way to capitalize on people's new year's resolutions and get them back utilizing the at-home workouts that are available on the site. <https://2020recreationmovement.com/>



## Get Your Steps in at the REC

Bring your sneakers to work! The upper and lower tracks are open in the C.J. Huang Recreation Center at various times throughout the winter session. Check in at the welcome desk with your Bluechip ID or by scanning the QR code at the desk. Feel free to walk or run on either track.

### Track Hours:

- Monday - Friday: 10:00am - 4:00pm

### Closed:

- December 23 - 25, 2020
- December 31, 2020
- January 1, 2021
- Saturdays & Sundays until the spring semester begins

Scott Kazar, SA/LD's Recreation Specialist hopes the CCSU community takes advantage of having the track open.

"I think it is a great way to keep moving. We spend more time on our devices than ever before, and it has an impact on our overall health," says Kazar. If you are on campus, take your break by walking around the track or host a walking meeting with colleagues. With chilly temperatures getting colder, the C.J. Huang Recreation Center offers a warmer climate for your daily walk.

According to the Department of Health and Human Services Physical Activity Guidelines, 2nd Edition, "2.5 hours (150 minutes) of moderate-intensity aerobic activity, such as brisk walking, consistently reduces the risk of many chronic diseases and other adverse health outcomes." We hope to see you walking in the REC.

# STUDENT MEDIA

## The Recorder is back!

With access to their office only a few days each week, Student Editor Isabella Chan facilitated an online presence and two print editions this fall. This Spring Senior Editors Ryan Jones and Kelly Langevin plan to come out weekly in print and online. Please send student writers to [Editor@centralrecorder.org](mailto:Editor@centralrecorder.org) to submit and join weekly meetings on teams. Dr. Vivian Martin offers a weekly critique, always challenging students to do better.

Look for Weekly editions starting 1/27/2021 at <https://centralrecorder.org/>

READ NOW



## THE HELIX LITERARY & ART MAGAZINE

LEARN MORE



## WFCS Radio Station

WFCS Radio 107.7 FM student leaders, with support of their longtime advisor Gil Gigliotti, proposed a social distance and cleaning plan that allowed a limited number of DJ's to host live shows from the Student Center. The station is fully automated thanks to student initiative taken some years back so listeners may enjoy station both online at <https://www.mixlr.com/wfcs> and within 5 miles of campus on the air. Students interested in becoming a Disc Jockey can express interest directly to Training Director Carolyn Martin [training@wfcsradio.com](mailto:training@wfcsradio.com) or join on [thelink.ccsu.edu](http://thelink.ccsu.edu) to be invited to their to the first monthly meeting of next semester in February over MS Teams. Questions? Feel Free to email the student General Manager Megan Colleran at [GM@wfcsradio.com](mailto:GM@wfcsradio.com) to find out more.

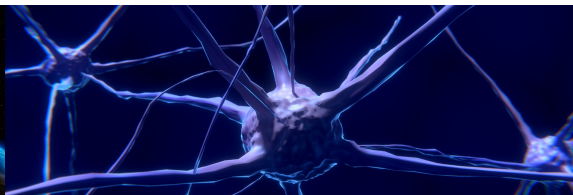
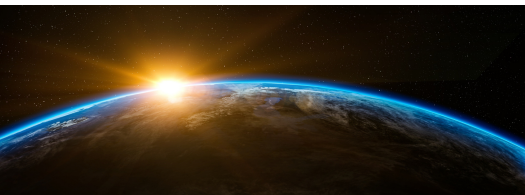
LISTEN HERE

The Helix Literary Magazine has rebooted with the new leadership of Seniors Amanda Fahy and Kristina Torres and guidance from faculty advisor Jotham Burrello. Their hope is to put out seasonal online editions (March, June) with a book going to print every December. The Helix accepts online national submissions of poetry, fictional prose, creative non-fiction, drama, and visual art. Students and faculty meet over teams to set deadlines, jury submissions, and produce a product designed to highlight and promote writing and art on campus. To express interest please join the Helix via [thelink.ccsu.edu](http://thelink.ccsu.edu) or reach out directly to current Editor Amanda Fahy [afahy@my.ccsu.edu](mailto:afahy@my.ccsu.edu).



# CLUB SPOTLIGHTS

*Students at Central excel both inside and outside of the classroom*



## GEOLOGY & PLANETARY SCIENCE CLUB

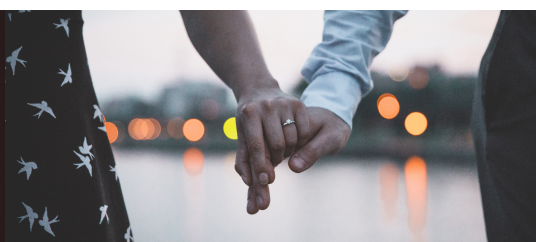
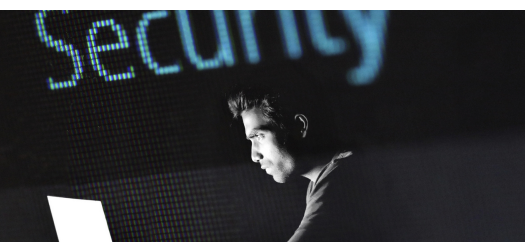
"In September we held a virtual field trip to the Royal Tyrell museum in Canada. During this field trip we were given a tour of the museum and a Q&A session with an esteemed paleontologist. The Friday meetings helped to regain some normalcy and allowed us a scheduled time to learn/meet/talk together." - Jessica Peluso, G&P Club President

## PSYCHOLOGY CLUB

Student executive board members Megan Jasmin and Madison Oquendo partnered with their advisor Dr. Corbera-Lopez recruiting faculty members to share their research interests with the SCAN-LAB at CCSU and other research in development at weekly meetings each week. They also hosted a panel of School Psychologists to share advice about graduate School and career path options.

## AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF GRAPHIC ARTS

With support of faculty advisor Tina Rice, Club President Connor Youmans reached out to recent Alum Imani James to talk about her time as a design student, what its like having an entry level position, and how she has grown from the experience. Connor has also designed many club logos and apparel for others.



## CYBER SECURITY CLUB

"We have had a great semester, weekly meetings, hosted an event with Travelers to talk about their job opportunities for our Cyberstudents, and had a presentation from a cybersecurity professional from Raytheon Technologies."

- Anas Alomari, Club President, with support from Chad Williams and Xiabing Huo

## GERONTOLOGY CLUB

Club leaders Kian Child and Liliana Villar worked Closely with advisor Christina Barmon to offer a wide range of topics in Gerontology at weekly meetings for discussion. During the week of Halloween, they hosted "Death Cafe" which included a guided discussion on death and dying and how it unites us all. The day of the Presidential election, the club hosted a conversation about mental health.

## SOCIAL WORK CLUB

Senior Social Work Club President, Moise Mocket, worked with advisor Joanne Leon to bring in CCSU's victim advocate Joanna Flannigan to present on "how to identify abusive behaviors in dating relationships, signs of a healthy relationship, and how to help a friend experiencing abuse."



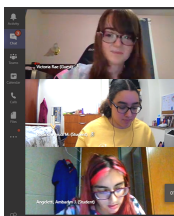
# Student Activities REWIND

A look back at a sampling of the 250+ programs that took place during the fall 2020 semester. Log onto [thelink.ccsu.edu](https://thelink.ccsu.edu) to see more from clubs and organizations.



**Welcome Back Lawn Social**  
Hosted by: RECentral  
8/26/2020 12:00 pm  
Parking Lot Next to REC Center

The Life Bowls of CT food truck was on site for students to grab a free fruit smoothie on the first day of classes. Safe, low touch, socially distant yard games were spread out across the lot with plenty of sanitation station on hand.



**How to Use Linked In**  
Hosted by: Senior Class Committee & HR Club  
10/1/2020 6:00 pm  
Microsoft Teams

While open to all students, this LinkedIn workshop was marketed to the senior class. Students learned tips and tricks to using the online career platform, including how to set up a profile and search for CCSU Alumni.



**Blue Devil Spirit Firework Show**  
Hosted by: Central Activities Network  
10/2/2020 8:00 pm  
Arute Stadium

Students enjoyed a socially-distant, 20 minute fireworks display from the football stands in October. This event took the place of traditional school spirit programs. Light-up blue devil horn headbands were also distributed to attendees.



**Life is a Drag**  
Hosted by: Pride Club & The Mosaic Center  
10/27/20 5:00 pm  
Microsoft Teams

On Tuesday night, students from the Pride Club learned about the history of drag, including it's use in popular culture and social movements. Professional drag queens also showed how they transform to perform.



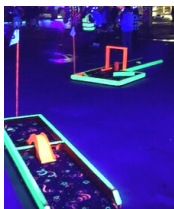
**Day of the Dead**  
Hosted by: Latin American Student Organization  
10/28/2020 4:30 pm  
Semesters

Students were able to learn more about Dia de Los Muertos while enjoying the Fuego Picante food trucks. There were also stations where you could work on crafts such as decorating candy skulls and making flower crowns.



**Oktoberfest & Pub-Style Trivia**  
Hosted by: Student Activities & Leadership Development  
10/30/2020 8:00 pm  
Semesters, 7 Centuries Courtyard, & Alumni Hall

The Devils Den was transformed into an Oktoberfest celebration with beer-cheese pretzels and brats. Firepits and benches were setup outside and gift cards were prizes during speed trivia.



**Glow Park**  
Hosted by: SA/LD  
10/29/2020 8:00 pm  
Student Center Garage

Students put on all of their neon accessories before heading to the Student Center garage for roller skating and glow-in-the-dark mini golf. Students skated across the floor while listening to a playlist created by the WFCS radio station.



**Toasted Food Truck**  
Hosted by: Central Activities Network  
9/9/2020 12:00 pm  
Student Center Circle

CAN handed out vouchers for free sandwiches while encouraging students to scan a QR code to view their virtual event scrapbook while students waited in line for their lunch. Over 100 students came to campus to enjoy free food.



**Paint Night Devils Den**  
Hosted by: United Caribbean Club  
9/17/2020 9:00 pm  
Semesters & Microsoft Teams

Pre-packaged paint kits, including canvas and brushes were distributed in the Student Center prior to this event. At 9pm students could come to Semesters or log on to Microsoft teams to learn how to paint a Caribbean sunset.



**Pumpkin Painting**  
Hosted by: Central Activities Network  
10/12/2020 3:00 pm  
Vance Lawn Tent

Students signed up in advance for time slots to attend this pumpkin painting event under the tent. Fall favorites were served including hot apple cider and apple cider donuts. Students were given pumpkins and painting supplies.



**Drag Ball**  
Hosted by: Pride Club  
10/29/20 in Alumni Hall

PRIDE's annual Drag Ball featured live performances by local Drag Queens which could be viewed from Alumni Hall and streamed for viewers at home. A Ben & Jerry's hot chocolate food truck was parked outside of the Student Center and students received photo candyboxes.



**Stuff a Pal Devil's Den**  
Hosted by: Gerontology Club  
9/24/20 8:30 pm  
Vance Lawn Tent

Students were able to pick up supplies for creating their very own personalized stuffed animals. There were a variety of animals to choose from and each student was given stuffing and a certificate for their new pal.



**Virtual Film Series**  
November 2020  
LGBT Center, Women's Center, IRC, Africana Student Organization, & Black Student Union

A series of films were able to be viewed online for free, each for a 48hr period. Films included: On the Basis of Sex, Rocketman, Queen & Slim, and Sonic the Hedgehog. Links and viewing dates were sent out via The Link's email.



**Fall Concert featuring Jeremy Zucker**  
Hosted by: Central Activities Network  
11/12/2020 8:00 pm  
Alumni Hall & Microsoft Teams

Students sat in socially distant seats in Alumni Hall for a performance by indie pop artist Jeremy Zucker. At the same time, students who couldn't make it to campus were able to watch a live stream using Microsoft Teams.