

FALL 2020

EXPRESSIONS



INTRODUCTION



LEGACY

Expressions is ECU's literary arts publication that strives to provide an alternative voice for underrepresented populations. We exist as an outlet to address the experiences, concerns and perspectives of minority students. This year's theme is Legacy, focusing on everything that has lead us to this moment, as well as our visions for the future.

Letter from the Editor

Folks, we have a publication. Through the global pandemic and the thousands of weird, surprising (mostly bad) things that followed, we continued to connect and collaborate with student contributors to bring you Expressions 2020. With the world in this state and all of us so far apart from one another, I hope that reading this will be both a breath of fresh air and a reminder of who we - the minority students of ECU - really are. As you process the contents inside, I implore you to be mindful of this. These are the lives of your peers placed before you in the forms of written work and art made by their own hands. Take it in as you ask yourself what legacy means to you.



I know the concept of legacy is something that can feel too “Hollywood” at times. It is a word we usually only use when talking about heroes, celebrities or historical figures, but not something for an everyday person. However, I like to see it as something inherent. You have a legacy. I have a legacy. This is not something we have to earn or “carve”. My legacy, as it stands, almost seems to have been leading up to this moment. Since coming to ECU I have been dedicated to advocating for, celebrating and educating about marginalized communities. Last year bore witness to the premier of GEM, a psychoeducational support group that I facilitate for gender expansive students like myself. Now in my senior year I get to be the editor of ECU’s sole minority-based publication and share with you work from the same communities that helped shape me. I hope you see as much beauty in our students as I do.

Sincerely,

Rose Bogue
Editor-in-Chief, Rose Bogue

"A lot of the things that we hear everyday and even now are things that we've already heard. Contrary to belief, on college campuses, all would seem to suggest that everything is or will be consistent in terms of everyday living."

- S.L. Cherry 1983, Staff Writer for The Ebony Herald.

This is how our student staff felt 37 years ago. Do you agree? Read more about The Ebony Herald on page 38.

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「Two Worlds by LA Baker」

My Mahogany Sunsets: An Ode to Melanin Friendships



Kaleah Braswell

To serve the thank you's you deserve

Would take infinite time

And I could never leave an imprint on life

That could compare to how you've impacted mine

Thank you for knowing what's best for me

Even when I tend to contest

Because you always know how to save the day

And come ready to deal with my mess

Through turmoil and happiness

And all the trials that could come

Thank you for complete acceptance

When others would turn and run

While others are gifted with one sun

I am gifted with three

That are always there for support

Sweet as sap from the tallest tree

Through all the days of sadness

And days without the sun

Thank you for being my sunshine

When it seemed the rain had won

PEACE

Amira Ali

Peace is a gift to all people in the world

Peace is a great gift from our lord

Peace is the love and the respect

Peace is an amazing subject

Peace when we sing a beautiful song

Peace when we can laugh along

Peace when we have a lot of chance,

Not to fight but to sing and dance



Peace when we have a good heart

And this is a simple way to start

Peace is something we need every day

Peace is something we need every day

From the beginning of June to the end of May

peace! Peace!

Say it with me,

please! Please!

Dr. Jesse R. Peel LGBTQ Center

"Often, in racial narratives and black liberation movements, additionally marginalized identities are not included in the fight for justice. In May and June of this year, following the murders of Ahmaud Arbery, George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and James Scurlock, many news outlets and racial protests lacked coverage on the killing of Tony McDade, a black trans man. We recognize that in this fight for justice, equality and equal treatment we must also honor the intersecting identities of our community members and uplift their **voices** in support. We must be vigilant in our fight against the overwhelming number of attacks on black and brown **queer, trans and non-binary** bodies to affect change for all of us, not just some of us.

The **Black Lives Matter** movement was started by three powerful women, two of whom identify as queer. Black Lives Matter has been clear from the beginning about their affirmation of the lives of **Black queer and trans folks**, so it was important to us that we partner with the Greenville chapter of Black Lives Matter.

Mark and I were inspired by the murals painted in the streets, specifically a mural painted in Los Angeles that read "**ALL BLACK LIVES MATTER**" and incorporated the rainbow, trans and non-binary flag colors, as well as the traditional gold used by BLM. We modeled our art installation after this mural and were honored by the submissions from our artists, Tiana Robinson, Breana Miller and Wesley Hollingsworth*. Their work gives a voice to some of ECU's **black, queer students** in a way that we hope inspires connection and reflection.

The Dr. Jesse R. Peel LGBTQ Center is a resource, referral, education and social center for all. The main focus of our advocacy is LGBTQ **identities**, and that includes LGBTQ students who sit at the intersection of other identities."

- Jessica Melowski, M.S., LMFT, Assistant Director for the Dr. Jesse R. Peel LGBTQ Center

- Mark Rasdorf, M.A., NCC, Senior Associate Director for the Dr. Jesse R. Peel LGBTQ Center

* Expressions features the work of Tiana Robinson and Breana Miller. To see the full gallery, please visit the Dr. Jesse R. Peel LGBTQ Center

All Black Lives Matter



OUR LIVES ARE
BEAUTIFUL,
POWERFUL,
VALUED
& WORTH IT.
WE MATTER.



TIANA

“All Black Lives Matter” and “Blue, Pink and White Angels” are pieces that are a response to the recent killings of **Trans and Queer Black people** in America. I wanted to create something from my heart, being a black queer woman who faces discrimination on a regular basis. My work expresses the importance on **uplifting marginalized groups** who need positive representation. Especially in the current climate of the United States and worldwide.

One of my pieces “All Black Lives Matter”, is a vinyl media installation with the **East Carolina University LGBT Center**. It is an abstract piece, because I feel like in my work the viewer should interpret the meaning for themselves. I don’t want to tell anyone how to feel with my artwork, I want them to come to that conclusion on their own. Most people don’t include Trans and Queer Black lives in the **BLM movement**, when they should. It is an image of two figures being connected to each other, by their experiences and challenges they face. We as people, as a community tend to find others like us and build strong relationships off of those connections.

“Blue, Pink and White Angels” is another vinyl media installation sponsored by the East Carolina University LGBT Center. This piece isn’t as abstract as the previous one mentioned, but it acts as a **memorial of Trans brothers and sisters** we’ve lost over the years. The two hands holding depicts both the Brown and Black community coming together and standing strong. Shades of different skin tones were meant to represent the vast variety of people within the LGBTQ community. This project is meant to remember those who came before us, so that we won’t ever forget them.

These pieces are **grounded in remembrance** and pride for the LGBTQ community. Our stories deserve to be heard. We are strong, powerful, valid and beautiful. We matter too.

Blue, Pink and White Angels



Breana Miller

When I learned of the Dr. Jesse R. Peel LGBTQ Center's plans to install art in conjunction with their [All Black Lives Matter](#) display, I was excited at the prospect to participate. My intersectional identities as a black lesbian woman have always been a motivational factor in my artistic expressions. The term All Black Lives Matter means a lot to me since LGBTQ black people are often left out of the original term due to homophobia and transphobia that are present within the community and society. By participating, I wanted to honor one of the beloved black LGBTQ icons in history - [Marsha P. Johnson](#). Her work and activism helped set the precedents for [LGBTQ rights](#) today.

In my piece, I chose to illustrate her in her iconic blue dress that she wore in a photograph taken at Stonewall. I included hidden meanings within her flower crown. Flower crowns were known as Marsha's signature, as she always wore them in addition to her colorful outfits. The flower crown I drew has eight flowers; there are two of four specific kinds of flowers that I included. I chose eight flowers to represent infinity, as [Marsha's legacy](#) has and will continue to have impact for generations to come. The four flowers represented are gladioli, dandelions, irises and sunflowers. I chose these flowers based on their meaning in the language of flowers, also known as floriography.

The gladiolus is one of the birth flowers for those born in August, the month Marsha was born in. In floriography, the gladiolus represents sincerity and moral integrity, making it an even more fitting flower for someone like Marsha. Dandelions represent emotional healing and overcoming hardship. I believe that this is something we need now more than ever. I included them in the hopes we will rise over the current trials and tribulations to come out stronger than ever before. The iris represents wisdom, hope, trust and valor. I find these traits essential in building support for the [LGBTQ community](#). Sunflowers represent adoration, loyalty and longevity. These traits relate back to Marsha, as I see them representative of her.

I am very happy that I was able to participate in such a lovely project. It is my greatest wish that my art can, in some way, speak to others and bring [honor](#) to Marsha P. Johnson.



Is it YOU
against
the
WORLD?

FACE YOUR FEARS

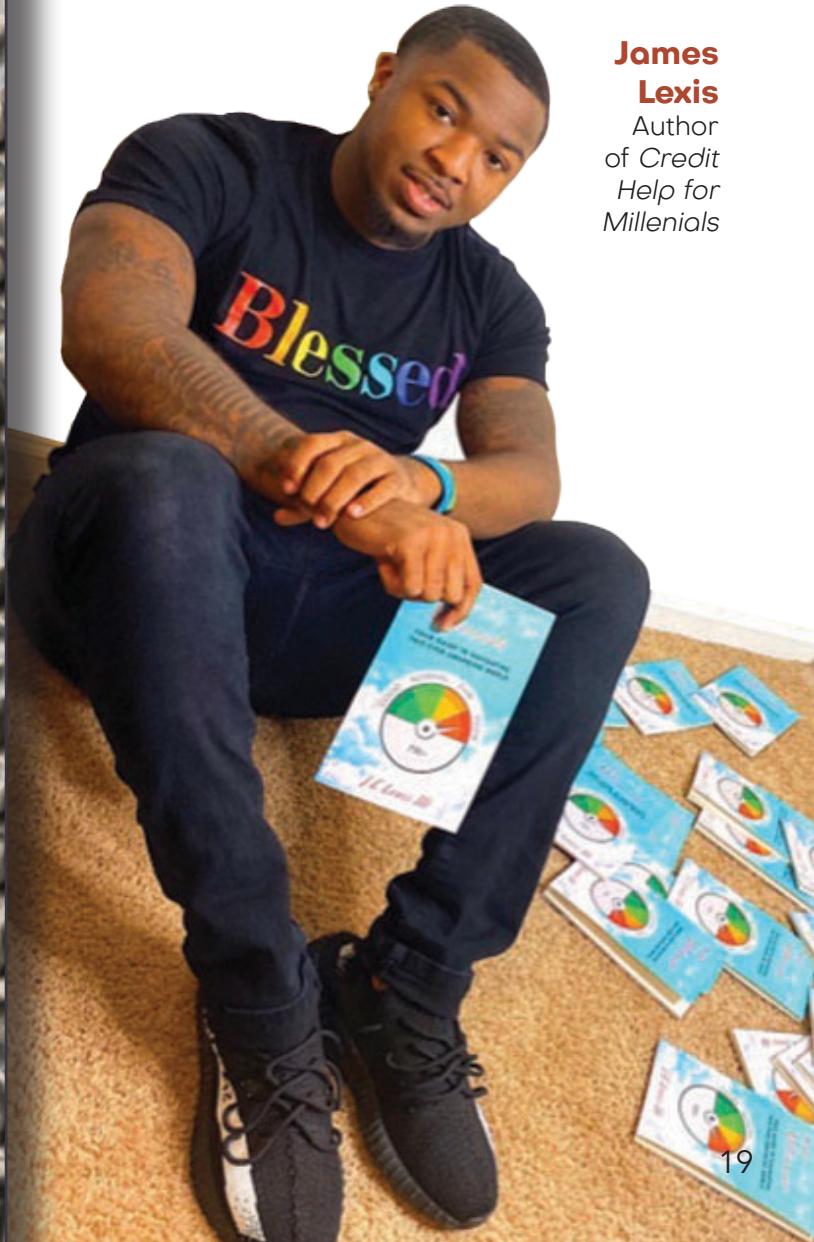
By Merlin Richardson

You are more than your father

“ I am currently finishing up my B.S in Criminal Justice at ECU. I also have an Associates Degree from Pitt CC. I'm from the inner city of Wilmington, NC. Growing up I was never told about credit and viewed it as useless. As I got older I began to teach myself financial literacy and began to fix/build my credit. I was able to build my credit from 540 to 720 in 5 months. This inspired me to write a book just to spread knowledge to people my age and people of color because things like this are not stressed in our communities. ”

**James
Lexis**

Author
of *Credit
Help for
Millenials*



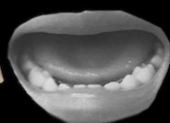


UNDEFEATED

BALENT

LE

HIDDEN BONDAGE

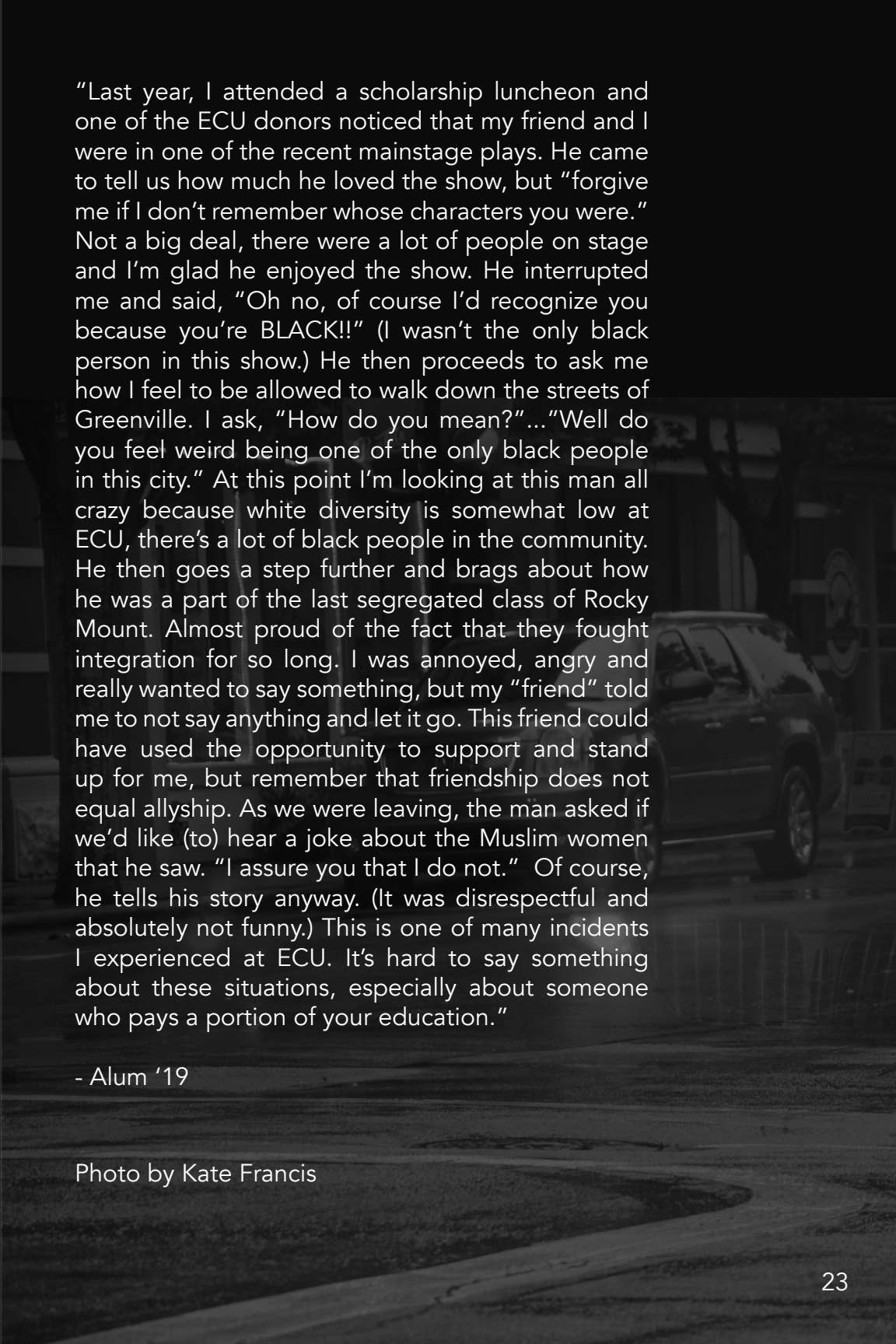


DEAR ECU,

This account was made to create a safe space for Black, Indigenous and POC staff, students and alumni at ECU. There have been far too many incidents that have occurred on campus where these incidents have been brushed off or swept under the rug when it's being reported. Victims are left feeling unsafe and unheard and their reports unresolved. When we first made this account, we didn't expect to receive many submissions because of how diverse our campus is. Over the past two months we have also been using it to mention Black creators at ECU and highlight their work. We hope to continue to hold a safe space and to support one another and are grateful for the platform we have as well as the support from everyone.

@dear.ecu

Photo by Chei Williams

The background of the page is a dark, grainy photograph of a street scene. On the right side, a dark-colored car is parked. In the background, there is a building with some architectural details. The overall tone is somber and reflective, matching the text's theme.

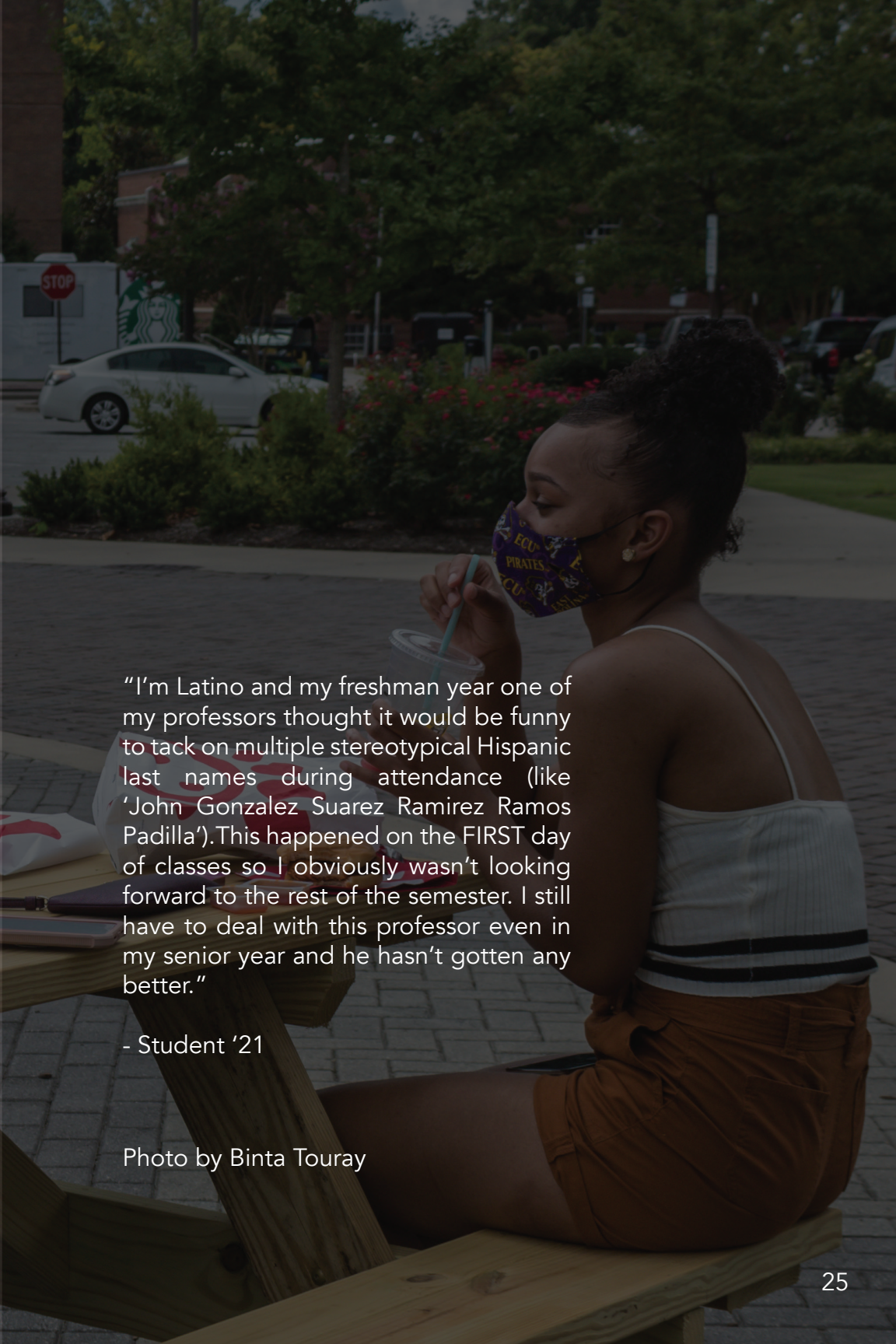
"Last year, I attended a scholarship luncheon and one of the ECU donors noticed that my friend and I were in one of the recent mainstage plays. He came to tell us how much he loved the show, but "forgive me if I don't remember whose characters you were." Not a big deal, there were a lot of people on stage and I'm glad he enjoyed the show. He interrupted me and said, "Oh no, of course I'd recognize you because you're BLACK!!" (I wasn't the only black person in this show.) He then proceeds to ask me how I feel to be allowed to walk down the streets of Greenville. I ask, "How do you mean?"..."Well do you feel weird being one of the only black people in this city." At this point I'm looking at this man all crazy because white diversity is somewhat low at ECU, there's a lot of black people in the community. He then goes a step further and brags about how he was a part of the last segregated class of Rocky Mount. Almost proud of the fact that they fought integration for so long. I was annoyed, angry and really wanted to say something, but my "friend" told me to not say anything and let it go. This friend could have used the opportunity to support and stand up for me, but remember that friendship does not equal allyship. As we were leaving, the man asked if we'd like (to) hear a joke about the Muslim women that he saw. "I assure you that I do not." Of course, he tells his story anyway. (It was disrespectful and absolutely not funny.) This is one of many incidents I experienced at ECU. It's hard to say something about these situations, especially about someone who pays a portion of your education."

- Alum '19

Photo by Kate Francis

"I was part of a scholarship program at ECU and experienced racism from someone on the staff. I was told straight to my face that she didn't expect "people like me" to make it through the program and actually graduate. I was so hurt that someone that should have been on my side could say something like that. Watch out for the scholarship programs that don't have a lot of diversity in them, there's always a reason for that."

- Student, '21



"I'm Latino and my freshman year one of my professors thought it would be funny to tack on multiple stereotypical Hispanic last names during attendance (like 'John Gonzalez Suarez Ramirez Ramos Padilla'). This happened on the FIRST day of classes so I obviously wasn't looking forward to the rest of the semester. I still have to deal with this professor even in my senior year and he hasn't gotten any better."

- Student '21

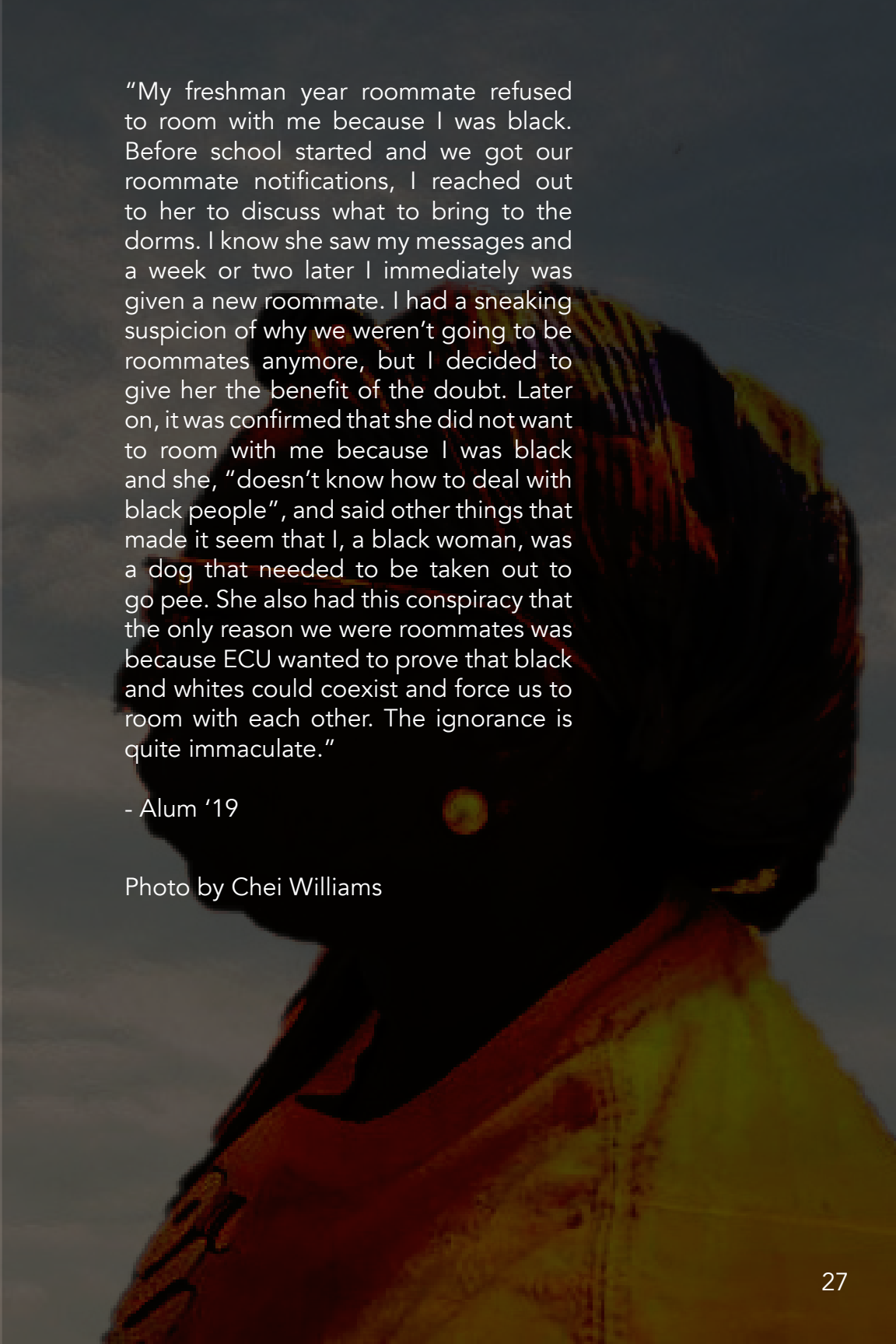
Photo by Binta Touray

This post is not an experience on ECU's campus but an experience of a student who was discriminated against by Greenville Police. We felt it was necessary to share this to bring awareness that this is not just happening on campus, but in the Greenville community as well.

"So Fall of 2019 was my first year at ECU, I stayed at 33 East student apartment. In December of last year, I was just sitting in my car just chilling. A cop came out of nowhere, and asked for my ID and what I was doing there. I told him that I lived there and asked why he was asking for my ID. He didn't tell me why but he didn't go away so I complied, waited for 5 minutes and 2 more cops showed up. I had a feeling they were going to handcuff me so before that, I called a friend and as soon as he picked up, the 3 cops got me out of my car and handcuffed me. I tried to remain calm and comply but I was asking why they were doing this, and they started to get aggressive so I was quiet while they were checking my whole car. After they did not find anything, he started to say that it was that my car "smelled" like weed. I don't even smoke (like never) and everyone that knows me can assure this. I thought he was done, but after he did not find anything in my car, he came to me and pulled my pants down and literally checked my underwear while I was handcuffed (one of the most uncomfortable things of my whole life). He obviously did not find anything, so he went to say that there were a lot of people that sold drugs where I lived at. I asked for his identification number and he gave it

really fast and I asked for it again and he refused. The crazy part of all this, is that it literally happened in front of my apartment. This was not the only time cops pulled me over for no reason to check my whole car and also check me. First time was in October, although it was not as intense as this one. It has happened 4 times already while I was at ECU. Last time, a cop followed for a whole 3 minutes in a undercover car, and then stopped me, got me and my friends out, checked me and my car, and then later told me I made a "bad turn". It got to a point I was considering to transfer because all this. I did not go to the police station because my English is kinda broken (I moved here from Puerto Rico and I have an accent) and I know they were not going to take me seriously, or worst, they could find something more against me like they have been doing. Just want to raise awareness to all minorities in ECU of the cops in Greenville, I never mess with drugs and they're targeting me for that for no reason. I know they don't be up like that in frat houses (where the drugs really be at)."


Photo by Kate Francis



"My freshman year roommate refused to room with me because I was black. Before school started and we got our roommate notifications, I reached out to her to discuss what to bring to the dorms. I know she saw my messages and a week or two later I immediately was given a new roommate. I had a sneaking suspicion of why we weren't going to be roommates anymore, but I decided to give her the benefit of the doubt. Later on, it was confirmed that she did not want to room with me because I was black and she, "doesn't know how to deal with black people", and said other things that made it seem that I, a black woman, was a dog that needed to be taken out to go pee. She also had this conspiracy that the only reason we were roommates was because ECU wanted to prove that black and whites could coexist and force us to room with each other. The ignorance is quite immaculate."

- Alum '19

Photo by Chei Williams



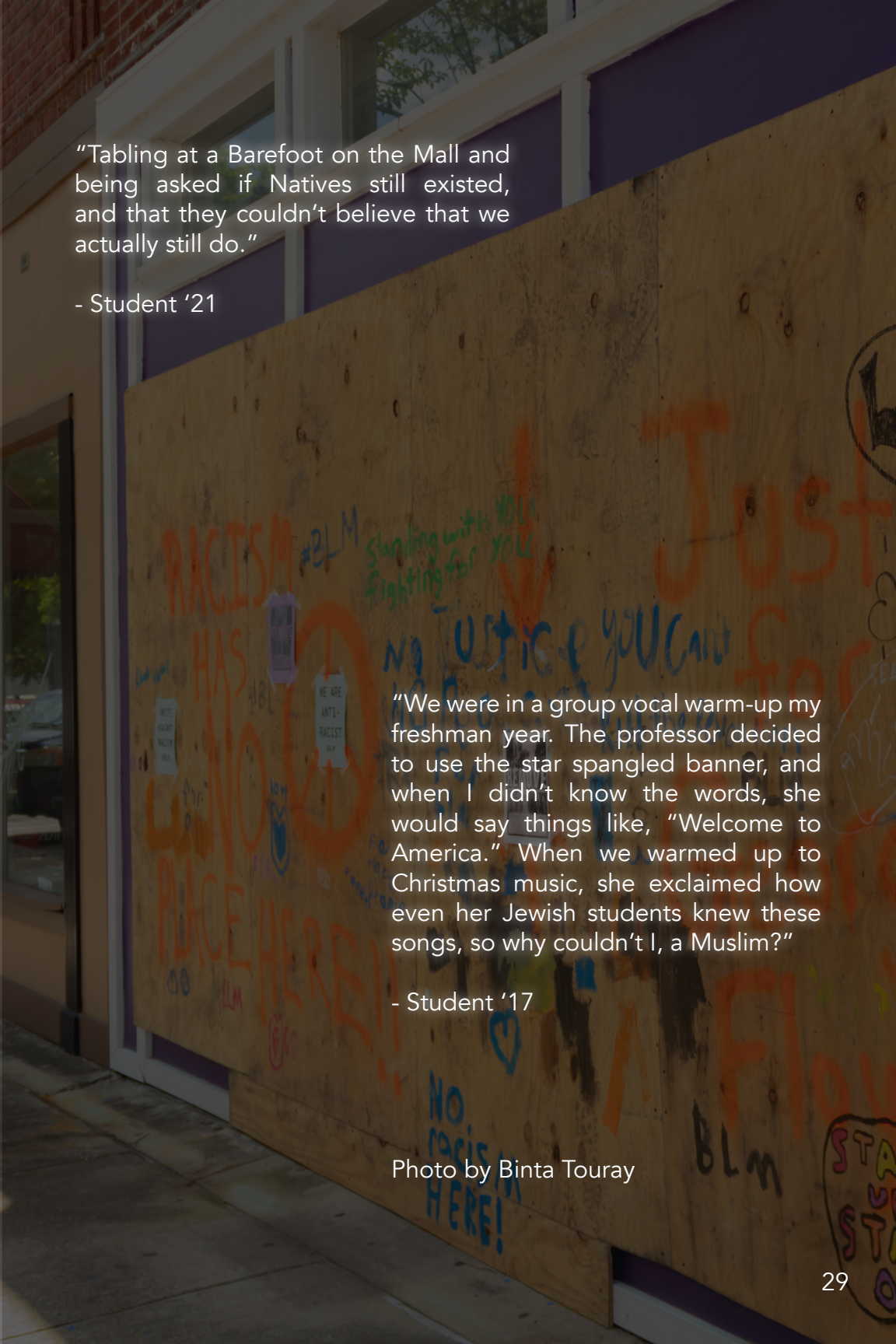
"One of the GA Coordinators over Jarvis Hall was extremely racist. Like many dorms on campus, we had talks and events to commune with our fellow residents. The semester after the murders of Philando Castile, Alton Sterling and many others, Jarvis Hall organized a movie night to watch Fruitvale Station and to start a conversation about police brutality. As a black woman, I was excited to attend and was grateful that my dorm was willing to facilitate this event. I was a little surprised to see a white woman leading the conversation, but I shrugged it off thinking it may be good to relate to non-black students and help them see a new perspective. I was wrong. If you don't know, Fruitvale Station, is based off the true story of Oscar Grant who was murder(ed) by police in 2009. After watching the movie, the GA started asking questions for us to answer and talk about. At this point, no black person could get a word in. One of the questions that she had the audacity to ask was, "After knowing that Oscar went to prison years prior, don't you think he deserved to be killed by the police" ????. Why was that even a question?! Other statements included, "Black people think that....Black people feel as if....Black should just...etc." What was supposed to be a meeting about understanding and compassion quickly turned into a "black people got what's coming to them." Many black people left the event angry, crying and screaming out of frustration. Jarvis is a leadership LLC and designed for us to come together and bond as a dorm. After this incident, black people in the dorms were treated as an "other" rather than members of a great organization. Other events that she hosted went like this and I did not feel safe to be around, anyone in the dorms, especially if one of the coordinators had hurtful beliefs."

- Alum '19

Photo by Kate Francis

"Tabling at a Barefoot on the Mall and being asked if Natives still existed, and that they couldn't believe that we actually still do."

- Student '21

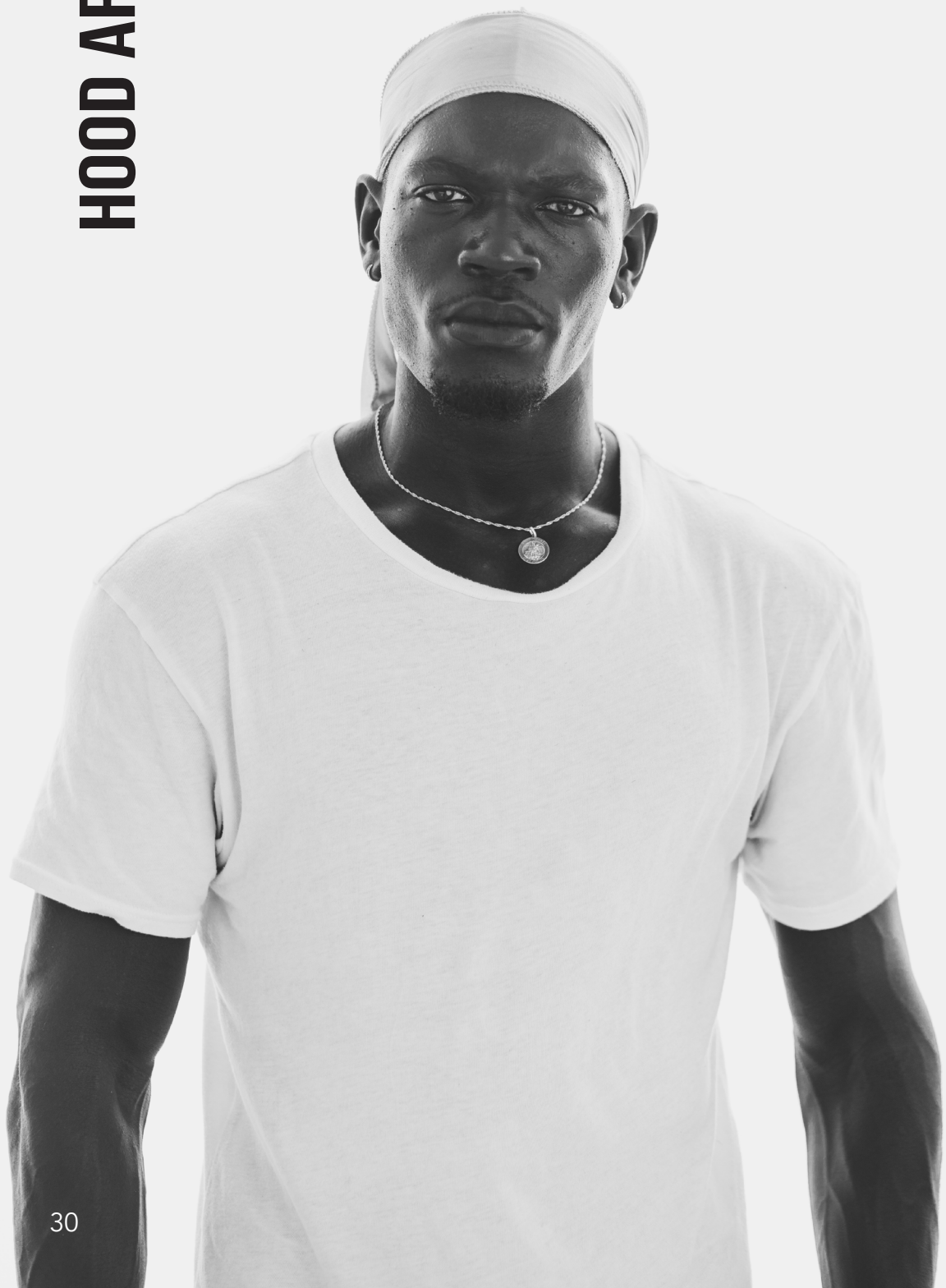


"We were in a group vocal warm-up my freshman year. The professor decided to use the star spangled banner, and when I didn't know the words, she would say things like, "Welcome to America." When we warmed up to Christmas music, she exclaimed how even her Jewish students knew these songs, so why couldn't I, a Muslim?"

- Student '17

Photo by Binta Touray

HOOD ART



ALONZA MITCHELL




MY SKIN

Anais Roller

Skin is just skin from the outside looking in
But skin to me is journey of ups and downs like a ship at sea
My skin is a barrier that protects me from the outside world... Or at least tries to
Everyone says it takes years to learn to love the skin you're in, but how can one love their
own skin when it seems as though the world doesn't?
My skin is brown and beautiful, however I find that not everyone finds it as beautiful as I do.
Instead, to them my skin is problematic
My skin is threatening
My skin is political
My skin is inferior
MY SKIN.

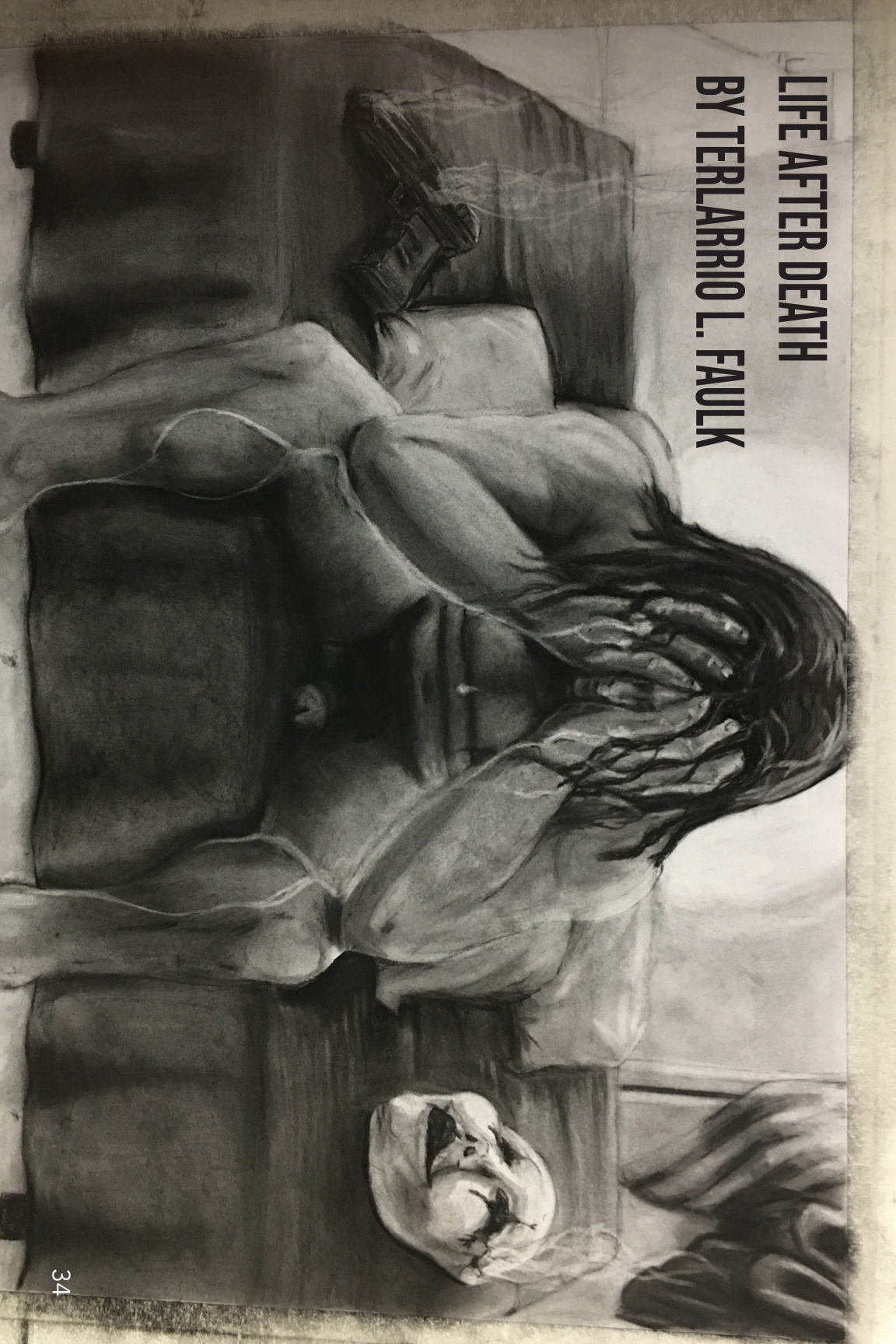
My skin...
My skin is overlooked in the working world
My skin is underestimated
My skin is belittled
My skin is oppressed
My skin is beaten
My skin is pain
My skin is hurt and is still hurting...
My brown skin is not an issue for me, but it is an issue for you.
My skin is an uncomfortable conversation at work
My skin is a reminder of hatred
My skin is a demand for change



My skin is a call for action
My skin is the future
My skin is your athletes
My skin is your music
My skin is your leaders
My skin is hardworking
My skin is resilient
My skin is royalty
My skin is brown and beautiful.
My skin MATTERS.

LIFE AFTER DEATH

BY TERLARRIO L. FAULK



RANGE OF REFUGE BY KEVIN GONZALEZ





YES, IT'S MINE

Alexandria Baker

All Tangled

Darion Blanchett



From our first issue in Spring 1985 to now, Expressions magazine has strived to represent, inform and educate the majority of the campus community with content relevant to minority groups.

But even before Expressions there was...

THE EBONY HERALD

Four years after the Student Government Association established the Office of Minority Affairs and one year after getting our first cultural center, The Ebony Herald was created. This was the first minority publication officially backed by ECU. It was put out monthly between 1975 and 1984 – a time when ECU was still gradually desegregating.



VOLUME II

NUMBER 1

Minority Greek Council Hold Coronation Ball

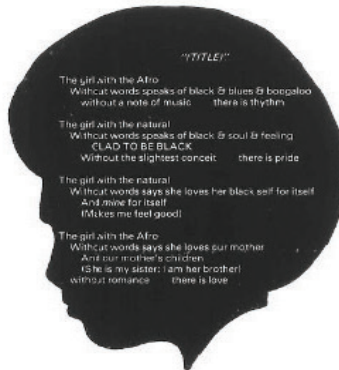
On January 9th, 1976 the First Annual Coronation Ball was held at the American Legion Hut in Greenville, North Carolina at 8:00 p.m. The event was sponsored by the newly founded Minority Greek Panhellenic Council of East Carolina University. The Council members are Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, and Alpha Phi Alpha, Kappa Alpha Psi, and Omega Psi Phi Fraternities.

Mr. James Green Served as Master of Ceremony.

The theme for the evening was "A Greek Salute to Black Beauty."

The night was young as ladies and gentlemen robed in their formal dress began arriving early as if in anticipation for the evening to begin.

The night began with a prelude followed by the welcome by Mr. Maurice Huntley, President of the Council. Following Mr. Huntley's Welcome Ms. Wanda Batts and accompanist favored the audience with a number. Mr. James Green proceeded Ms. Batts and introduced the main



Salute To Black Beauty

Alpha Frater
Green, Pres
Alpha read a
Linda Farn
escorted by
followed
McCrimm
on a gold
who pla
head.
The
that to
Ms.
Jack
Joy
any
u
B

B) PATRICK
DATE 1976

"Personally,
cerned about human
because it's something
could be avoided,
ECU occupational
student Therna Dab
is a volunteer with
Greenville-ECU Hu
Coalition and is beginn
her third year of partici
tion with the group.
For over 10 years, th
Hunger Coalition has been
an integral part of the ECU
community. They have at
solved hundreds of East
Carolina's students in their
various projects and events
which are designed to
educate people about a po
blem that plagues
one half of the
you

Jazz Ensemble Enters Another Year

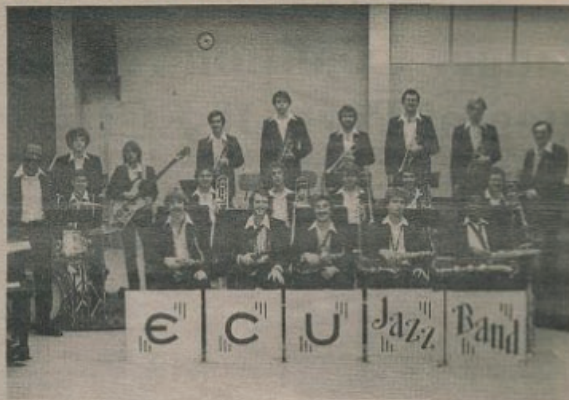
By KAREN MOORE

ECU! The East Carolina Jazz Ensemble, conducted and advised by Dr. George Brounard, has played an active part on campus as well as in other areas for several years. The Jazz Ensemble or Jazz Band is a class in which one-hour credit along with quality points are given. The band consists of approximately twenty members although this number is subject to change from semester-to-semester. The band is basically composed of wind instruments, drums, and a new addition to the band is a guitar player. Dr. Brounard commented that there are not any specific type of instrument players chosen to play in the band. The players are essentially selected on whatever merits the band as a whole.

Auditions are held at the beginning of each fall semester. Times and dates for auditions are placed on the bulletin board located in the A.J. Fletcher Music Bldg. Separate auditions are also held for late comers if they are needed. Occasionally, auditions are held at the beginning of spring semester if any replacements are required. The band rehearses approximately three hours per week on Wednesday's from 2:30 pm and Friday's from 1:30 pm. Spectators are welcome to attend for their listening pleasure during these hours. No 1 sals are held during summer.

Auditions planned for the band depends on invites and finances. According to Dr. Brounard, one concert per semester is held on campus. The band has played both the Memorial G and Mendenhall Stud Center. Plans for future concerts are anticipated to be held in Wrig Auditorium. Fall activities scheduled for the band includes concerts in Roanoke, N.C. for the Art Council on October 1st.

The ECU Jazz Ensemble



with an invitation to play in the North Carolina Jazz Festival, the band has also played back-up for various composers and artists. Some of these performers included: Billy Taylor, Bill Watrous, Stan Kenton, Roger Pemperton, Kai Winding, and George Roberts, who has played pieces for

50,000 people each day as a result of "Dramatic starvation". Like Dulki,

East Carolina Gay Community

By PATRICK O'NEILL

The East Carolina Gay Community (ECGC) is perhaps the most active

the Student Government Association (SGA) for the day of printing an information

day life," she adds

Shirley, who has been in the music, but hunger has still not been

Groove Phi Groove, Social Fellowship Inc.: Unifying The Black Race

CARVANA By ANTHONY

Groove Phi Groove Social Fellowship, Inc. was established on Oct. 12, 1982 at Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland.

Our founding fathers as college men, being aware of the increasing complexity of the innercity problems, especially those of black men, and the necessity of realizing the need for

organizations and people to create one force. We feel that together we can accomplish more as one, rather than several separate groups. Although, we have only been established on campus one semester, we feel we have already taken steps toward uniting most of the black organization on campus. But, we need everyone's help, we can not accomplish such a feat alone.

We would also like to take this opportunity to invite you to investigate our great organization and observe how Groove Phi Groove Social Fellowship, Inc. can contribute to your mental and social development while you are attending East Carolina University. So, be smart and become a member of an organization concerned with uniting the black race. Groove is on the move.



ocial Orga

in

As An

ECU

For a World



Cont.

SEPTEMBER

As An

ECU



Student Organizations

"I Exist" Activism Group

"An activism group promoting the international social movement "I Exist" which emphasizes awareness of mental health and advocacy of human rights."

E: theiexistmovement@gmail.com

African Students' Organization

"The goal of the African Students' Organization, or ASO, is to promote and enhance awareness of the diverse cultures found throughout Africa and the African diaspora."

E: ECU-ASO@ecu.edu

Amexcan at ECU

"The purpose of this organization is to connect Latinx students with the Pirate community, and through the pirate community reach out to the Pitt County area."

E: ecuamexcan@gmail.com

Arab Student Union

"A group with the goal to increase understanding about Arab cultures in the United States and in the Middle East through cultural festivals, performances, and community involvement."

E: juwaieda19@students.ecu.edu

Asian Students Association

"Our mission is to recognize the social, educational, and cultural aspects in this organization in order to build awareness of the Asian and Asian-American community."

E: ragind16@students.ecu.edu

Autistic Students Alliance

"The Autistic Students Alliance exists to advocate for the advancement of Autistic people, as well as building a community of Autistic students to empower one another."

E: mayec15@students.ecu.edu

Her+ Public Health

"Her+ Public Health is a professional organization that is dedicated to empowering the women of Public health from all underrepresented backgrounds."

E: Herplusph@gmail.com

Hillel at ECU

"Hillel is a non-discriminatory cultural group meant to give Jewish students and allies of the Jewish community a place to interact socially, culturally, and religiously."

E: hillelatecu@gmail.com

Hmong Students Association

"Hmong Student Association members are active in volunteering and performing cultural dances in the Eastern Carolina, particularly in Greenville, to inform the community and East Carolina University about the uniqueness of the Hmong people, their culture, and fashion."

E: yanga18@students.ecu.edu

Indian Student Association

"The purpose of this organization is to introduce, engage, and immerse the diverse culture from the subcontinent of India by establishing an organization in which we practice, perform, and participate in numerous events and activities that originate from the culture of India."

E: kelkarn17@students.ecu.edu

Pertaining to Culture & Social Awareness

Muslim Student Association

"East Carolina University's Muslim Student Association is an effort to unite all Muslim and non-Muslim students on East Carolina University's campus, as a result strengthening the bonds between fellow Muslim and non-Muslim students."

E: msa@ecu.edu

National Association of the Advancement of Colored People

"The vision of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is to ensure a society in which all individuals have equal rights without discrimination based on race."

E: ecunaacp2016@gmail.com

out in Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (oStem)

Out in Science, Technology, Engineering, And Mathematics is a professional society that aims to provide resources and increase the visibility of LGBTQ students pursuing STEM-related degrees.

E: ecu@chapters.ostem.org

Queen in You at East Carolina

"Queen In You (QIY) is an organization of female collegiate students and alumni who dedicate time to train future queens in the areas of professional development, self-esteem, etiquette, scholarship, and service."

E: queeninyouecu@gmail.com

Sexuality and Gender Alliance

Founded April 20, 1994, SAGA (formerly B-GLAD and GLBTSU) is a student, faculty and staff organization led by students at East Carolina University that is dedicated to the promotion of diversity awareness and LGBT+ education on campus as well as in the community.

E: saga@ecu.edu

STAR Fire (Support.Trust.Aspire. Respect)

"S.T.A.R.Fire promotes diversity on ECU's campus by hosting Asian awareness events, programs focusing on leadership not just on our campus but in the world, giving back to the community through service events, promoting academic success for all of our members, and creating long-lasting relationships through sisterhood."

E: starfireecu@gmail.com

Vietnamese Student Association

"The Vietnamese Student Association at East Carolina University services the students both culturally and socially. We work closely with the Vietnamese communities in the surrounding cities to keep culture alive."

E: ecuvsa19@gmail.com

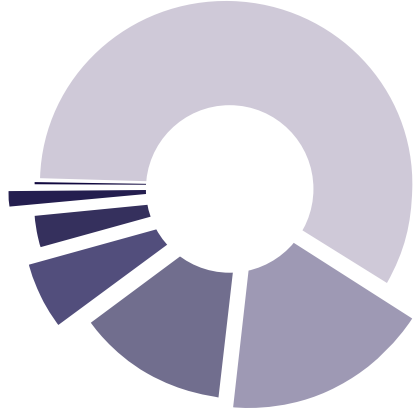
Woman Organization for Minorities Achieving Now

"This is a service & empowerment organization that is aimed towards the empowerment, enrichment, and encouragement of women that will allow them to be strong mentally, physically, and emotionally."

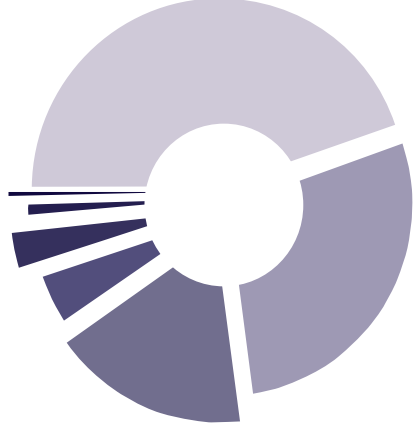
E: woman@ecu.edu

Health Disparities During Coronavirus

*Racial Breakdown of America
according to the US Census
Bureau**



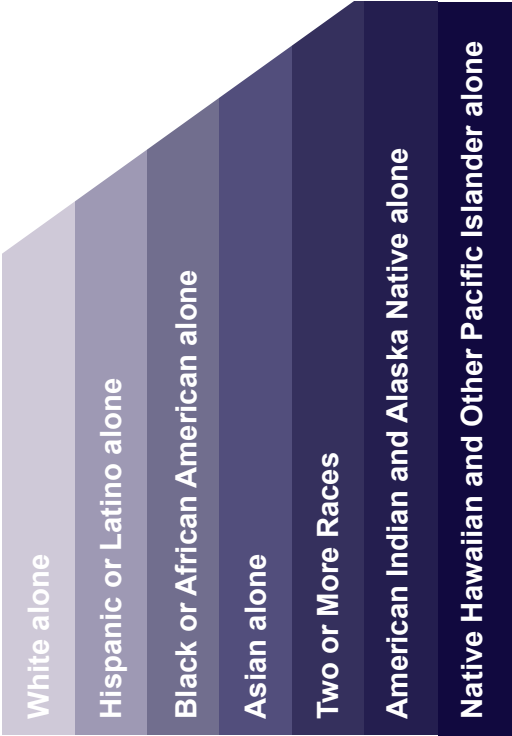
*Racial Breakdown of COVID-19
cases according to the Center
for Disease Control (CDC)**



*Racial Breakdown of COVID-19
deaths according to the CDC**



According to this data, as well as the research done by the COVID Tracking Project, **Black people are dying from Coronavirus at 2.3 times the rate of white people.**



Fair opportunities for economic, physical and emotional health have been historically limited in marginalized communities due to social determinants.

During a pandemic such as this one, that means these communities are at a higher risk than the majority population. Risk factors include:

Discrimination

Healthcare Access & Utilization

Occupation

Educational, Income, & Wealth Gaps

Housing

* These ratios are not a perfect representation of America, as there are large regional variances both in racial distribution and reporting processes. For further information about these statistics, please check the US Census Bureau and CDC websites.

THANK YOU

To Our Contributors:

Thank you for choosing Expressions as the medium to display your creative works. Without you, the magazine would be nothing but empty pages. You are the ink and the life of the publication.

To Terrence Dove:

Thank you for being our advisor and leader. It was your passion for producing meaningful publications that got us here.

To Annah Howell:

Thank you for your enthusiasm and input. Your knowledge of design has been a huge asset to us throughout the publication process and your unwavering support has been really encouraging.

To Dear ECU:

Thank you for collaborating with us. Your account has made an impact on our campus and it was an honor to be able to put some of the submissions you have received into print. Thank you as well for sharing word of our call for entries.



To the Dr. Jesse R. Peel LGBTQ Center:

Thank you for allowing us to highlight your All Black Lives Matter display and putting us into contact with the artists. Your consistent efforts in helping spread the work of submission opportunities for us was invaluable. Many of the contributors featured in this publication noted hearing word of our publication from your center.

To Pirate Media 1:

Thank you for everything. We on staff are all so proud to work for an organization that fosters both individual growth and effective teamwork.

To Our Readers:

Thank you for all of the continuous support and interest in our work. We really appreciate it! We would love to hear your thoughts on social media. If you are interested in working with any of our contributors, we can help you get connected. If this publication has inspired you to share your own voice, please consider submitting to our next magazine, REBEL.

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Expressions is published once a year by East Carolina University students at the Pirate Media 1 Office, Mendenhall Main Floor, Mail Stop 406, 1000 E 5th St, Greenville, NC 27858-4353.

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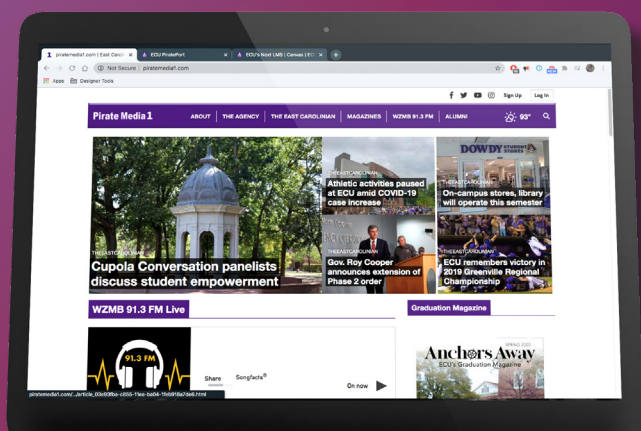


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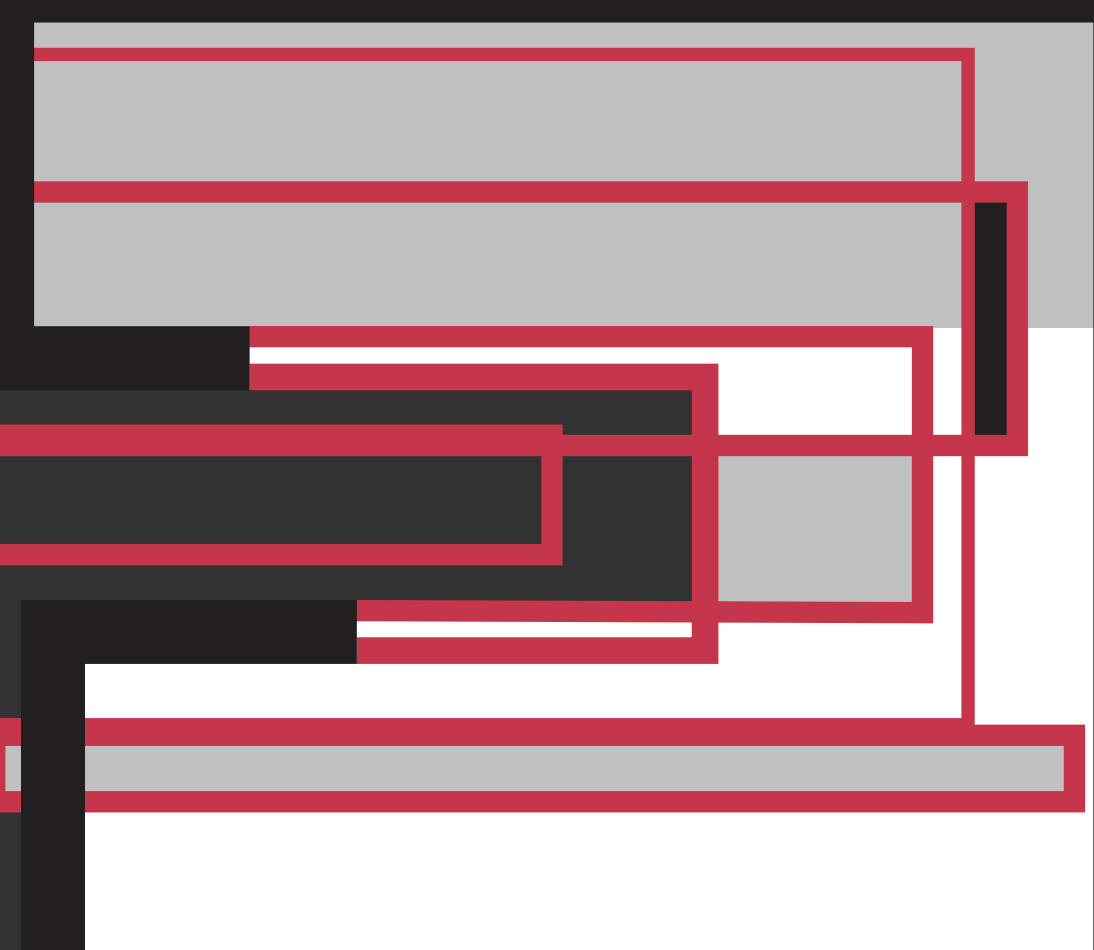
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