

# THE HUSKY HERALD

Edited by Ashley Tsang, Kairi Rojas and Aysha Siddiqui



Cover Art by Colette Skojec

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## The Role of Shared Creativity in Student Life

Written by: Ashley Tsang  
- **Editor-in-Chief**  
**January/February 2026**

This January, The Husky Herald is excited to honor International Creativity Month, a time dedicated to recognizing the power of imagination and innovation. The observance was founded by [Randall Munson](#), a business executive and author of the book *Creativity 102*, which encouraged individuals to explore and strengthen their creative potential.

Creativity is often misunderstood as a talent limited to artists or designers, however, it is a skill that influences every field. According to author [James Clear](#), creativity is the process of using imagination to connect old and new ideas in meaningful ways. A notable example is Steve Jobs' introduction of the iPhone in 2007, which revolutionized phones by integrating a touchscreen interface. As a result, the iPhone has continuously reshaped technology in communication, work, and daily life with new models that have come out every year.

Other products of creativity can be intangible, such as theories, music and stories. In today's digital world, creativity is becoming increasingly important. As technology and artificial intelligence continue to advance, society faces more complex challenges that require human-centered solutions. According to a [2025 Microsoft report](#), global adoption of generative AI tools has reached over 16 percent of the world's population, with one out of six people in the global north using AI in their everyday life. Although it is argued that AI can be a powerful tool, it also raises questions about authenticity when it comes to art creation and human connection.

This tension highlights that as machines become more capable, human creativity in problem solving becomes even more valuable, as it allows individuals to bring perspective, emotion and intuition to ideas, something no technology can replicate. Through intentional efforts, students can hone in on their creative problem-solving skills by questioning the status quo, observing patterns, and engaging in thoughtful conversations with diverse perspectives.

Problem-solving is essential in many sectors outside of technology, such as leadership and policy change. In a world where many social injustices persist, creative thinking plays a crucial role in imagining alternative systems, amplifying marginalized voices and designing solutions that lead to more equitable futures. To advocate for changes in higher education, the Associated Students of UW across all three campuses will be lobbying on Feb. 10 at Olympia for their annual [Huskies on the Hill](#) event. Transportation and food will be provided, and students will have the opportunity to raise awareness of issues such as financial aid funding, healthcare and more.

Furthermore, creativity is closely connected to community mental and physical well-being, according to [Mayo Clinic](#). Healthy habits such as adequate sleep, regular exercise, and taking mindful breaks can significantly en-

hance cognitive flexibility and function. Research shows that sleep plays a critical role in regulating blood pressure, strengthening memory, and supporting emotional stability. By prioritizing well-being, individuals create the mental and physical space necessary for exploration.

Furthermore, setting aside time for hobbies such as writing, music, design or problem-solving (like solving a puzzle) can strengthen creative thinking and encourage new ways of approaching challenges. On campus, students can further foster creativity by attending events and collaborating on projects.

At UW Bothell, there are numerous clubs and spaces that allow students to find community through shared passions. The [Husky Book Club](#) brings members together to discuss a selected book, which is voted upon every month. For students interested in editorial and literary work, UW Bothell's Literary & Arts Journal, [Clamor](#), provides opportunities to publish original writing and art, gain editing experience, and contribute to creative storytelling. Clubs such as the Law Society, the Association for Computing Machinery and the Bothell Consulting Association also offer professional skill-building workshops.

Additionally, emerging organizations such as [Stitched](#) offer hands-on creative fashion experiences. Last fall, the club hosted But It's Balenciaga (view photos in our Oct/Nov issue), an interactive runway event which gave students the chance to innovatively design and model with pieces made from trash bags. They are also hosting a series of workshops that teach students how to use sewing machines, which are available at the [MakerSpace](#) in the Discovery building. This year, the MakerSpace was integrated into Student Engagement & Activities. They provide access to 3D printers, wood cutters and other creative tools for projects, which are all free for UW Bothell students.

Beyond the arts, [Trickfire Robotics](#) is another popular campus organization that promotes creativity through engineering and large-scale networking events. By building a rover and engaging with industry professionals, students develop both technical expertise and soft skills like communication.

Looking ahead, Student Engagement & Activities will be hosting its third annual LEAD Conference on Feb. 27, which will be open soon for RSVPs. The half-day event will feature workshops across multiple career pathways, keynote speakers, and networking opportunities designed to support professional growth.

Together, these community initiatives are just some of the many spaces on campus where students can foster connection through creativity. In an age of rapidly advancing technology, it is important to set positive habits so we have the capacity to engage in dialogue and uplift one another. For more information about student organizations and events, visit [GatherUWB!](#) With an expanding range of clubs, there is a place for every Husky at UW Bothell to learn and share new ideas.

### GROUP THERAPY SP'26

PROVIDED BY THE UW BOTHELL COUNSELING CENTER FOR CASCADIA COLLEGE AND UW BOTHELL STUDENTS. CONTACT US TO GET STARTED AT [UWBCC@UW.EDU](mailto:UWBCC@UW.EDU) | UW1-080

<b>MON</b> 1:15-1:45PM	<b>MINDFUL MONDAY</b> DROP-IN WEEKLY MINDFULNESS PRACTICE IN THE ARC FITNESS STUDIO.
<b>TUE</b> 11AM-NOON	<b>CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS</b> USE EXPRESSIVE ARTS TO EXPLORE AND PROCESS FEELINGS IN AN EMOTIONALLY SAFE ENVIRONMENT.
<b>WED</b> 1:30-3PM	<b>ANXIETY GROUP</b> LEARN HOW TO UNHOOK FROM UNHELPFUL THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS.
<b>THUR</b> 11AM-1PM	<b>DUNGEONS &amp; DRAGONS</b> USE ROLEPLAY TO BUILD CONFIDENCE, MANAGE ANXIETY, AND CONNECT WITH OTHERS IN A SUPPORTIVE AND CREATIVE SPACE.

THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON IS COMMITTED TO PROVIDING ACCESS AND ACCOMMODATION IN ITS SERVICES, PROGRAMS, AND ACTIVITIES. TO MAKE A REQUEST CONNECTED TO A DISABILITY OR HEALTH CONDITION CONTACT THE UW BOTHELL COUNSELING CENTER 10 DAYS IN ADVANCE AT 425-392-3383 | [UWBCC@UW.EDU](mailto:UWBCC@UW.EDU) | UW1-080

Image Credit: [UWB Counseling](#)

### KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

If you are stopped by immigration or the police, **hand** this card to the agent and **remain** silent.

If immigration comes to your home, **slip** this card under the door or **hold** it up to the window.

Do not open the door. Do not sign any documents without speaking to a lawyer first.

NILC

SMIRK NEWS

Scan for National Immigration Law Center Website

You can find these cards on the National Immigration Law Center Website, along with additional information about what to do if you are arrested or detained. NILC also has resources for how to contact Congress. Call (202) 224-3121 to leave a message for your senator or representative. If you're unsure of what to say, the NILC website and ACLU have templates you can use for your message.

Image Credit: [IG @smirk\\_uw](#)

### Sound Transit announces opening day for light rail connecting Seattle and Bellevue

Crosslake Connection, the new link light rail, is slated to open on March 28

Image Credit: [IG @KUOW](#)

# Lunar New Year Through the Eyes of UW Bothell Alumni

Written by: Kairi Rojas  
- **Managing Editor**  
January/February 2026

During the cold month of January, red lanterns decorate the streets of China with dancing lions and dragons promenading through the crowds. Red envelopes filled with money (hongbao) are given to children, as a symbol of luck. Fireworks will be filling up the night sky as Lunar New Year rolls in on Feb. 17, 2026. The Year of the Fire Horse will represent freedom and boldness.

Chinese New Year is traced back to the Shang Dynasty over 3,500 years ago, however, it does not have an exact beginning date. During the Shang Dynasty, it was known to make sacrificial ceremonies to honor their gods and ancestors at the beginning of the year. The original story of how Lunar New Year began has numerous variations and myths. The most well-known legend includes a mythical beast named Nian. This beast was known to eat livestock, crops and individuals on New Year's Eve, according to [Timothy S. Y. Lam Museum of Anthropology](#). To avoid the Nian beast attacking the villagers, people would put food on their doorstep to feed into the beast's hunger.

A wise old man figured out the beast's weakness: loud noise and the color red. From then on, red lanterns would be in people's households, accompanied by red scrolls in the village's windows. Back then, people loudly cracked and broke bamboo sticks to scare off the furious beast.

The Chinese calendar follows the Lunisolar Calender which means the dates are determined by the skies, the moon (lunar) and sun (solar). Each month begins when the new moon is not visible in the night sky. This means the new year starts at the moon's mid-point, which takes place any time between Jan. 21 and Feb. 20, according to [National Geographic](#).

An element and an animal are associated with the new year. This came to be from The Great Race. For the year 2026, it will be the year of the Fire Horse with fire representing the element, and the horse representing the Chinese zodiac. The Fire Horse is a symbol of freedom and dynamism. The fire represents boldness, change, intensity, and the horse symbolizes action, speed, leadership, and innovation. Horses are very important in Chinese culture because they are known as the backbone of ancient Chinese civilization. Used for transportation, agriculture and military, horses became cultural symbols signifying power, endurance, aspiration and nobility.

Lunar New Year represents numerous traditions, values and cultural practices that bring people together in various Southeast Asian countries. To UW Bothell alumni and sisters, Xiya and Siqi Zheng, it represents something very personal. "Lunar New Year has always meant family, togetherness, and renewal to me. Growing up as a Chinese immigrant, it was a time centered around being with loved ones, sharing meals, and honoring traditions that connect generations in my family. While attending UW Bothell, Lunar New Year remained a grounding moment for me. Balancing school and jobs with family celebrations helped me appreciate how important it is to stay connected to my cultural roots, even while navigating a busy college environment," stated Xiya Zheng.

Having all cultures represented is important at UW Bothell. This creates an inclusive environment where students can feel seen and heard. While China is the founder of Lunar New Year, other countries such as South Korea, Vietnam, Singapore, Malaysia, Taiwan, the Philippines, and Thailand, among others, celebrate this renowned holiday. For many students from different cultural backgrounds, having this celebration on campus can go a long way. Looking back, Siqi Zheng reminisces how, "Seeing Lunar New Year acknowledged on campus meant a lot. Recognition validated a part of my identity that often exists outside academic spaces. It made me feel that my culture

was respected and welcomed, and it helped create a stronger sense of belonging as a Chinese immigrant student."

It is important for the community here on campus to feel included and welcomed. UW Bothell alumni mention how as Chinese immigrants, to see their culture represented and respected was significant. However, there are improvements that students can make for one another to make representation more prominent on campus. Xiya Zheng mentions, "small acts from friends or classmates could have made Lunar New Year feel more meaningful and inclusive. Simple things like acknowledging the holiday, asking about my traditions, or showing curiosity about what Lunar New Year means to me would have gone a long way." Siqi Zheng reinforces this concept, adding, "Peers showing curiosity and respect or asking about the holiday, learning its meaning, or simply wishing someone a happy Lunar New Year would have gone a long way."

As previously mentioned by the alumni, one way to make people feel included during this Spring Festival is to greet people. It is a profound tradition during the new year to spread goodwill and cheer for your community and neighbors. Another way to celebrate is to wear red as this is known to bring prosperity and luck in the new year, according to [CNN](#). Additionally, to remove bad luck from one's home, the article mentions Jan. 28 is the day reserved to clean. This is to remove the bad luck from the previous year. It is strongly discouraged to clean on the first day of the new year because it would sweep away the incoming good fortune. It also mentions not breaking

anything, not being angry, and spending time with loved ones. These are all ways to bring all the good fortune into the new year.

With no featured Lunar New Year events or festivities (as of Jan. 30) being hosted at UW Bothell this year, there are still student associations students can get involved with if they want to feel more connected to one's culture and community. The following are some Asian student associations on campus: Chinese Student Association, Filipino American Student Association, First Generations Club, International Student Society Club, Korean Student Association, Vietnamese Student Association, South Asian Student Association and Southeast Asian Student Association.

If UW Bothell does not offer enough events, students are welcome to attend student association activities at UW Seattle or UW Tacoma campuses.

With the year coming to an end, we can start to inspire the changes that Siqi and Xiya Zheng suggested to uplift one another and be curious about our neighbors. UWB was originally founded to be a commuter university, but that does not mean we cannot create more of an inclusive culture which fosters innovation and understanding. One can begin by greeting a person in your class, joining events on campus and being celebratory of one another's differences. The Husky Herald welcomes a year guided by the fire's intensity, the horse's spirit of freedom and change, the luck carried in red, and the promise of prosperity for all!

Happy Lunar New Year!

## Welcoming the Year of the Horse

Designed by: Anika Anderson - Visual Media Designer

**LUNAR NEW YEAR 2026**  
*Year of the Fire Horse*

**WHEN DOES LUNAR NEW YEAR START?**

- Second new moon after winter solstice on the Gregorian calendar
- Lands between Jan 21 - Feb 20
- 2026 Date: **February 17th**

**LUNAR CALENDAR**

- Bases each month on a full cycle of the Moon's phases
- Usually start each month with a New Moon or Visible Crescent

**GREGORIAN CALENDAR**

- Solar calendar
- Most common
- Based on the seasonal changes as the Earth rotates around the sun

**YEAR OF THE FIRE HORSE**

- 7th Chinese zodiac sign
- Symbolizes enthusiasm & fieriness
- Its element is fire

**CULTURAL ELEMENTS**

- China: Red Envelopes
- Korea: Ancestral Rites
- Vietnam: Spiritual and Renewal

**SEATTLE EVENTS (FREE)**

- Lunar New Year Celebration at Seattle Westlake Park: **January 26, 2025 from 11:00 am - 2:30 pm**
- Vietnamese Tết Lunar New Year at the Armory Food & Event Hall and Fisher Pavilion in Seattle: **February 14-15**

# UWB Students Make Community and Global Impacts Through Club Leadership

Written by: Aysha Siddiqui - Assistant Editor  
January/February 2026



Image Credit: <https://www.uwb.edu/sea/clubs>

Over the last few months, the community at UW Bothell has witnessed many students and people from around the world facing struggles like food insecurity, poverty, war and conflict. These issues were exacerbated by Washington's rising housing and grocery costs, unreliability of SNAP benefits, and recent global political conflicts. Student leaders at UWB recognized the challenges people are facing and led fundraisers and donation drives to support and build community around the issues they were passionate about. This led to a positive impact both locally and globally.

The years in university are a time for students to practice leadership skills, advocate for change, and make positive impacts both on and off campus. Getting involved with student clubs is one way to gain such experience to create change through engaging the community and under the guidance of faculty. As the fall quarter comes to an end, it is a great time to reflect on the impact made this past quarter by clubs.

This fall, BunaTalk, an East African community-focused club, started a fundraiser for Sudan to "raise both financial support and awareness for the ongoing humanitarian

crisis," as stated by the club's Co-President Koket Gebiremichael. She goes on to mention that many club members had personal connections in Sudan, which made the initiative meaningful to their community. It gave them an opportunity to "provide a tangible way that students could contribute while also spreading awareness to the UWB community about the situation." Over the course of the fundraiser, BunaTalk were able to raise over \$3,000 partnering with the [Sudanese American Physician Association \(SAPA\)](#). All funds went directly to SAPA, "a trusted, physician-led organization [with] established networks on the ground which allows them to provide aid to hospitals, clinics, and displaced communities efficiently." This initiative had global impacts and supported their club's core belief of "responding to global and local issues that impact our members and the broader East African Community."

Another club making a global impact is the Muslim Student Association (MSA), which led a clothing drive to support families in Sudan. In an interview with Malak Babiker, the club's Public Relations Coordinator, she mentions many students in the Muslim community are Sudanese, and "felt it was important to use our platform to raise awareness about the ongoing crisis in Sudan, particularly in cities like El-Fashir, where access to aid is extremely limited." When planning this initiative, the club was "inspired by the [Sudanese American Unity Association \(SAUA\)](#), a nonprofit organization dedicated to the betterment and well-being of the Sudanese American community in the Puget Sound area. SAUA had already begun a clothing drive within the local community, and [MSA] decided to expand this effort by bringing it to UW Bothell so students could participate and support the cause." Over the course of the clothing drive, they were able to collect approximately 50-100 items of

clothing, which were then delivered through SAUA to families in Sudan, "including those in heavily impacted areas," according to Malak.

Malak states they want "to show that collective effort, even through small contributions, can have a meaningful impact."

One club directly involved in local volunteer work and helping students make meaningful community impact is Helping Handz. This November, the organization hosted a Winter Donation Drive to collect practical winter essential clothing for people in need through donation drop-off boxes across campus. According to the club's Vice President, Amandeep Bansal, another recent high-impact event hosted this December was Cozy Kits of Care, where students assembled kits with "basic hygiene items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, wet wipes, tissues, and bandages, along with warm socks and gloves, non-perishable food, and bottled water." Helping Handz were able to donate 50 care kits, which the club officers personally delivered to unhoused individuals in Seattle, choosing "direct distribution so the support could be immediate and personal." This shows the thoughtfulness and care going into community efforts at UWB.

Students looking to engage in volunteer work and make community impacts can do so through clubs on campus. Helping Handz is a great resource; their mission is to "connect students with local organizations, non-profits, and outreach programs that align with their passions and academic goals," which makes community impact accessible in an educational space. As the new year approaches and students reflect on their goals for campus and community involvement, we hope that looking at previous club impacts encourages more initiatives in the upcoming quarter to continue community-building.



Helping Handz is a student-led volunteer organization at the University of Washington Bothell, designed to provide students with opportunities to engage in meaningful community service. Our club focuses on connecting students with local organizations, non-profits, and outreach programs that align with their passions and academic goals, offering them a platform to gain hands-on experience while making a positive impact in the community. By volunteering through Helping Handz, students not only enhance their resumes but also grow personally and professionally through diverse and enriching experiences.

Credit: [GatherUWB](#)



Our commitment is to create a community that unites all Muslims from different backgrounds for the sake of Allah (SWT). We also work to promote interest and awareness of Islam within the campus community through the use of dialogue, films, lectures, outings, and other events. Along with that, we also want to create an open forum where both Muslim and Non-Muslims can discuss and ask questions about Islam comfortably without feeling judged or discriminated against. Our goal in the end is to create a greater understanding of Islam and help to break down many misconceptions as well as tackle problems that exist within the Muslim community.

Credit: [GatherUWB](#)



Our mission is to foster a strong habesha community at UWB while providing members with resources and connections to help them thrive in their personal and academic lives. In addition, we hope to inspire students to connect and showcase their cultural roots at UWB.

Credit: [GatherUWB](#)

# Washington State Faces Major Flooding

Written by: Danny Aguilar - News Reporter  
January/February 2026



Image Credit: Unsplash

On Dec. 10, 2025, [Governor Bob Ferguson](#) declared a statewide emergency in response to the major flooding across Washington state. The Governor alerted Washingtonians about evacuation orders and sought federal funds to access emergency protective measures. This historic flooding forced 100,000 people to evacuate. The natural disaster demolished infrastructure as it ripped through highways, submerging vehicles and homes in addition to taking one life in the span of over ten days.

The floods appeared across vast swaths of Western Washington, more specifically Skagit, Snohomish, King, Pierce and Whatcom counties, with low-lying river communities such as Burlington and Sumas affected the most by the intense flooding. These floodwaters were the result of atmospheric rivers; large amounts of condensed water vapor in the atmosphere capable of producing significant levels of rain, strong enough to cause harsh landslides and mudslides, according to the [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration \(NOAA\)](#). Through the increasing effects of climate change, the atmosphere gets hotter which allows more water vapor to be held within the atmosphere.

“There’s a direct correlation between temperature and how much water vapor can be held in the atmosphere,” states Dr. Turner, a professor of Earth and Environmental Sciences here at the University of Washington Bothell. Dr. Turner explains, “every one-degree Celsius increase in atmospheric temperature, it can hold 7% more water ... the likelihood of us having atmospheric rivers dumping enormous amounts of rain on us keeps increasing and will continue to increase as long as global temperatures in the atmosphere — and in the ocean — keep going up.” While the certainty of atmospheric rivers occurring is hard to predict, it is expected that intense floodwaters are likely to occur in the future, bringing in more catastrophic flooding.

Since 1850, the [U.S. Department of Agriculture \(USDA\)](#) reports carbon dioxide levels have risen by 50%, contributing to global warming which has impacted the Northwest in noticeable ways. Temperatures have increased in the region by 2-3° F since the 20th century. Snow precipitation in the winter has transformed into rain, showcased in the recent flooding of Western Washington. [KUOW](#) claims the flooded areas contained more than three times the volume of water than Lake Washington. This drastic change is a new type of phenomenon, as less than 50 years ago, rising waters were not a concern for coastal communities. However, over the past decade, [Urban Wire](#) details several counties such as Skagit, Snohomish and Whatcom faced six federally declared disasters for natural hazards. Declared disasters such as wildfires, flooding, landslides, severe winter storms and mudslides deplete resources with [Fox 13 Seattle](#) reporting the recent flooding cost \$40 to \$50 million in repairing infrastructure damage. As these events become more drastic, it requires government officials to install proactive projects, not just in preparation for disasters, but for dealing with climate change.

With political tensions on the rise, it be-

comes increasingly difficult for the state and federal government to cooperate as dwindling federal aid raises the stakes, or in the case of Washington State, funds for disaster prevention grants. In July of last year, [NBC News](#) reported that grant funding for climate resiliency projects was cut by Trump’s One Big Beautiful Bill Act, with Washington State specifically facing difficulty due to awaiting a month-long approval from the Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem in \$31 million in disaster prevention grants. Proactive measures are designed to help local communities combat coastal hazards. While [The Spokesman-Review](#) reported the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services waived sanctions and penalties for hospitals in emergency areas during the flooding, it fails to address the broader issues of climate change. More importantly, communities within Washington State must endure. This is especially important for tribal nations, as many who evacuated were members of Indigenous fishing tribes.

A [New York Times article](#) describes the acceleration of the climate that puts Northwest Tribal nations at risk. U.S. tribes need \$1.9 billion over the next 50 years to adapt their infrastructure for climate changes. Within the UW Bothell community, the flooding occurred during fall quarter finals, which forced a couple of students to take the finals online. For the student body, it is vital for students to learn more about what is happening

with our climate.

“Knowledge is power, the more that people take courses or just read about the changes that are occurring to climate, in the way that we manage our water system, the better,” Dr. Turner explains. People can become involved or informed of the topic through taking courses such as [BEARTH 320](#), taught by Dr. Turner, which explores the impact of climate change. Another way is to participate in the UW Bothell [Alliance for Sustainability club](#), which intends to spread awareness on the problems that the environment faces.

For UW Bothell students, the best resource for dealing with future flooding cases is to be knowledgeable about your surroundings as well as the political realm. This would include being aware of whether if [your location is in a floodplain](#), or understanding that flash flooding can occur anywhere if it rains often. A great resource to check traffic and weather conditions is the [Washington State Department of Transportation real time map](#). Make sure to sign up for the [UW Alert](#), which provides campus closures and delays from inclement weather and emergencies. Right now, the concurrent presidential administration is pulling back from projects to protect the environment, so it is necessary to support sustainable initiatives and impacted communities.

## January 18: World Snow Day

Designed by: Makylie Bean - Visual Media Designer

January 18

# World Snow Day

### ACTIVITIES

- ❄️ Ski or Snowboard
- ❄️ Ice Skating
- ❄️ Sledding
- ❄️ Hiking
- ❄️ Ice Hockey

### LOCATIONS

- ❄️ Crystal Mountain
- ❄️ Steven’s Pass
- ❄️ Bellevue Ice Rink
- ❄️ Mt. Baker and Rainier

### THE CREATION

World Snow Day was created in 2012 to advocate for additional youth participation in snow-related activities. It is recognized by the International Ski Federation as part of their “Bring Children to Snow” campaign.

### FUN FACT

Seattle, Washington held the biggest snowball fight in the world in 2013, with an outstanding 5,834 participants. This record was broken in 2016 by Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, with 7,681 attendees.

Source: National Today and Guinness World Records

# Connecting Over Soup and Hot Takes

Photography by: Estel Soriano Bergua  
- Campus Photographer  
January/February 2026

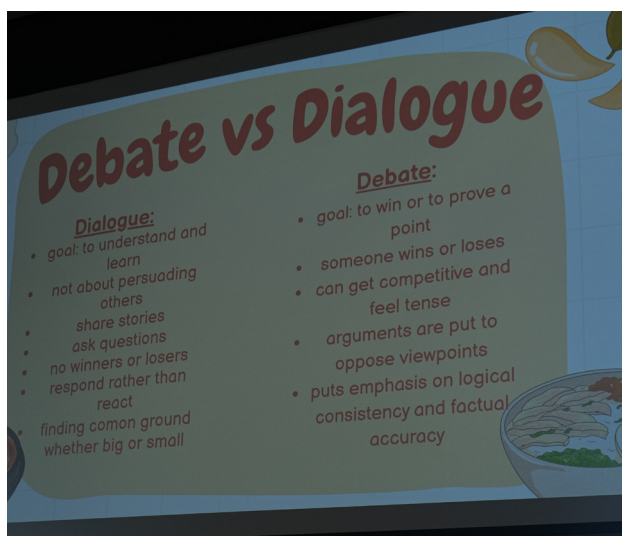
Hot Soup, Hot Takes was an event hosted by the Office of Diversity Equity & Inclusion on Jan. 21. The event offered a cozy space for students to share soup and talk about the issues shaping campus life. Through guided conversations, participants discussed ways to create positive change.



A variety of soups from Panera Bread



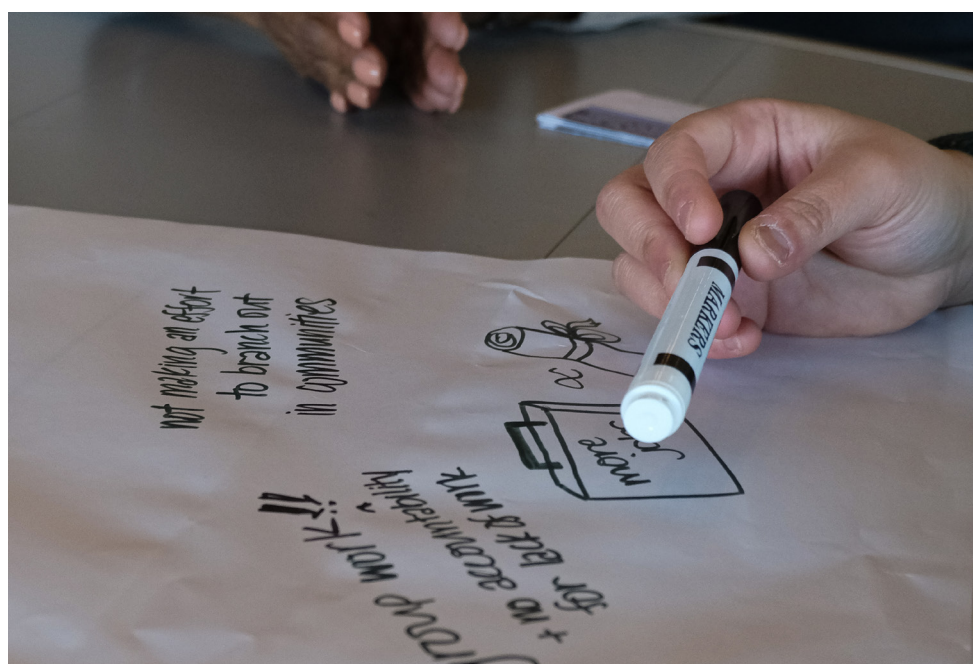
Student serving soup



Diversity Center student staff and attendees (left), presentation (middle) and faculty (right)



Students and staff discussing their hot takes



Students writing down their opinions while discussing



Image Credit: IG @uwb\_diversity



Image Credit: IG @uwb\_diversity



Image Credit: IG @lovestruckinseattle

# Oil and Politics: Insights to the U.S. Attacks on Venezuela

Illustration by: Hanin Nazifa - Main Illustrator  
January/February 2026



Artist Statement:

“This illustration represents the conflict between the U.S.A and Venezuela. I wanted to highlight the important ideas of the conflict including: United States’ strike on Venezuela, oil control, and protests from the Venezuelan citizens. In the process of the attack on Venezuela, 32 Cubans were killed. The U.S will now have control over Venezuela’s oil sector and make profit off of Venezuela’s resources.

In the illustration, the oil barrels in the country represents where the oil fields are located. The ships above are examples of where some U.S navy assault ships were placed during the attack.”

Written by: Rohit Jesudoss - News Reporter

On Jan. 3, 2026, the United States launched a surprise military operation against Venezuela, which led to the capture and detainment of Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro and First Lady Cilia Flores. The attack was not approved or known to congressional members for the purposes of protecting sensitive information of the mission from leaking, according to [Public Broadcasting Service \(PBS\)](#). Following the capture of Maduro, Venezuelan Vice President Delcy Rodríguez had been sworn in as interim president. PBS recorded Rodríguez’s criticism of the surprise military operation and her call for Maduro’s release. While the U.S. military operation successfully captured the Venezuelan President and First Lady, it does not erase the weary tension between the two countries and leaves questions around sovereignty and economic control regarding the abundance of oil.

Despite the current tensions, the U.S. and Venezuela have not historically shared resentment towards one another. In fact, the U.S. recognized and established a diplomatic relationship with Venezuela back in 1835, according to [U.S. Department of State](#). Since then, Venezuela has allowed U.S. companies to drill oil there, and before long, Venezuela had become a significant supplier of oil for the U.S., as reported by [Al Jazeera](#). Al Jazeera added Venezuela maintained its diplomatic relationship with the U.S. and supplied up to two million barrels of oil per day in the late 1900s and early 2000s. However, their friendship had started to face distrust with Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez’s nationalization of oil in 2007, which assisted in control of foreign-owned oil fields and forced foreign companies, including the U.S., to transfer operational control back to Petroleos de Venezuela (PDVSA), according to [The Guardian](#). The [U.S. Congress](#) corroborated the deepened tensions, citing that relations deteriorated under the increasingly authoritarian Hugo Chavez government.

U.S. and Venezuela’s relationship further suffered when Maduro was elected President on Apr. 19, 2013. His poor governance pushed Venezuela into an economic crisis, including record inflation and humanitarian crises which caused Venezuelans to flee the country, as mentioned in [Council on Foreign Relations](#). U.S. and Venezuelan tensions further erupted during President Donald Trump’s 2016 presidency, when Maduro had been indicted in a narco-terrorism and cocaine trafficking conspiracy, according to [The](#)

[New York Times](#). The [U.S. Department of State](#) corroborated that fact and added that President Maduro had been additionally charged for possession and conspiracy to possess machine guns and destructive devices. The Department of State specifically mentioned Maduro’s involvement with the Cartel of the Suns, a Venezuelan drug-trafficking organization, and participation in narco-terrorism conspiracy with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), a designated foreign terrorist organization. Maduro’s leadership, often recognized as illegitimate, and actions impacting Venezuela and the U.S., have escalated tensions to the present, up to the controversial military operation and the capture of Maduro.

Venezuela, from an economic perspective, possesses a substantial amount of the world’s oil. Venezuela possesses an estimated 303 billion barrels of proven oil reserves, which represents a 17% share, according to [Visual Capitalist](#). Despite its enormous share, Venezuela’s oil production currently represents only about 1% of global production. That is a drastic change, especially from its peak of 3.5 million barrels per day (7% of global production) in the 1970s, Visual Capitalist added. Political and technological restrictions are to blame for weakened output. Venezuela’s oil is among the heaviest and most viscous, according to [Carnegie Endowment for International Peace](#), which subsequently makes extraction difficult and expensive. However, difficult extraction does not erase the contrast between Venezuela’s extraordinary abundance and languishing output, which positions Venezuela for external intervention. In fact, only days after the U.S.’ attack, President Trump announced Venezuela would be providing 30 to 50 million barrels of oil to the U.S., which could be worth nearly \$3 billion, as reported in a [PBS](#) article. The administration additionally removed sanctions to enable the shipment and sale of Venezuelan oil to global markets, a strategic economic move to gain a foothold in Venezuela’s vast reserves, as reported in another [PBS](#) article. It is clear that the U.S. recognized an economic motive to take an interest in Venezuela, especially for the future where oil demand may exceed production.

While the expansion of Venezuela’s oil can offer economic benefits, it subsequently raises environmental and natural resource concerns, especially given the challenges in extracting and processing Venezuela’s heavier and viscous crude. In fact, Venezuela’s oil is so cumbersome

to work with that it generates far more carbon dioxide emissions than lighter oils, according to [The New York Times](#). Currently, Venezuela is responsible for less than 0.4% of total greenhouse gas emissions, but production of heavier oils, like the ones in Venezuela, can generate three to four times more emissions. Additionally, the New York Times warned about risks involving flaring, a process that releases carbon dioxide and methane, spills, and deforestation. [The Center for Strategic and International Studies](#) corroborated these risks, using PDVSA’s self-reported number of 46,000 oil spills between 2010 and 2016, and additionally noting that the number is likely higher as official reports stopped. They have additionally recognized Venezuela as ranking in the top seven countries for gas flaring, a significant contributor toward warmer global temperatures. These environmental risks will worsen if the U.S. pushes to increase oil production, according to [Los Angeles Times](#). Specifically, they have recognized spills, gas leaks, and dilapidated infrastructure, and caution against increased production, which will cause increased emissions and spill risks. While discussions around increased production remain active, economic pressure ultimately creates environmental consequences for Venezuelans to bear, not international buyers.

While the recent U.S. operation in Venezuela obviously touched economic and environmental perspectives, U.S. politics and geopolitics are additional relevant perspectives in the matter, considering most of the U.S. Congress had no prior notice of such an attack. Constitutionally, a president alone cannot execute such an operation. The Constitution leaves that power to Congress, in accordance with the 1973 War Powers Act, according to [CNBC](#). The secret operation split congressional republicans and democrats alike, with republicans largely celebrating while democrats condemned the attack, CNBC added. Perhaps, even more pressing matters have to do with Venezuela’s sovereignty, lack of confidence in the United Nations (UN), and the loss of lives in the country. The U.S. capture of Venezuelan Maduro and Flores serves as an attack on Venezuela’s sovereignty and a violation of international law. In fact, [Al Jazeera](#) said the attack is in clear violation of the core norm of the UN Charter. Article two, paragraph four, essentially reads that member states may not threaten or use force against another state’s territorial integrity or political independence. While there may be exceptions for self-defense, that is not our case here.

The most tragic impact of the attack can be attributed to the 32 Cuban soldiers who were killed, according to another piece from [Al Jazeera](#). Even if these killings were unintentional, it does not automatically make the pain easier on soldiers’ families and South American communities. The concealment of the operation, which received some praise, additionally raised questions around power, accountability, and Maduro and Flores’ release. Currently, Maduro and Flores remain in U.S. custody at the Metropolitan Detention Center in Brooklyn, New York, according to [CBS News](#). They have additionally pleaded not guilty to the drug trafficking and related charges against them, extending their detention until at least their next court date, March 17, CBS added. While the situation continues to unfold, recent updates have not confirmed a potential release, adding uncertainty to the situation.

Despite many U.S. officials defending the operation for strategic reasons, the aftermath of the attack, including economic benefit, environmental harm, and violation of sovereignty, has directed attention and deepened geopolitical tensions. Even with the successful capture of Maduro, the unilateral nature of the attack and U.S. control of Venezuela raises questions around Venezuela’s future and independence.

# Holocaust Remembrance Day

Design by: Aysha Siddiqui - Assistant Editor

## International Holocaust Remembrance Day

BOOK RECCOMENDATIONS

A day to remember the six million Jewish victims under Nazi persecution.

**January 27**  
Commemorates the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau on Jan. 27, 1945.

### LEARN FROM REAL STORIES

# Commemorating Black History Month

Design by: Kairi Rojas - Managing Editor

**FEBRUARY**

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

ORIGINATED IN 1976

A CENTURY OF BLACK HISTORY COMMEMORATIONS IS THE 2026 THEME

A MONTH LONG CELEBRATION TO HONOR AFRICAN-AMERICANS CONTRIBUTIONS TO ART, HISTORY, POLITICS AND SCIENCE IN AMERICA'S HISTORY

PILOT BESSIE COLEMAN

POLITICIAN SHIRLEY CHISHOLM

BOXER MUHAMMAD ALI

POLITICIAN MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

## A Look Into the ASUWB Senate

Written by: Miles Lewis  
- Campus Life Reporter  
January/February 2026



Image Credit: <https://www.uwb.edu/asuwb/initiatives>

Are you looking for ways to get involved on campus? The Associated Students of UW Bothell Senate (ASUWB Senate) is a group of 18 students as of 2026 whose goal is to provide input on various campus issues at UWB. All of them follow the ASUWB bylaws, a governing document that every member of the ASUWB follows according to their [website](#). They are able to add more amendments to this document if the Board of Directors wants to make any changes. The Senate holds many positions representing the Academic Departments, Residential Life, and Commuter students. One of the ASUWB Senate's biggest

accomplishments was the introduction of the Activities and Recreation Center (ARC) in 2013 after it was approved by the UW Board of Regents. Since its construction, students have been able to participate in recreational activities, workouts, and much more.

This quarter, first-year Summit Hall Senator Caleb Rotchstein hopes to reach out to first-year students, especially those that live in his building. Rotchstein says that "first-year students don't fully know ASUWB as an organization and what their responsibilities are." He also hopes to educate first-years on ASUWB and get more students to learn more about campus news and local issues.

Since joining the ASUWB Senate, Rotchstein was able to learn about different committees, such as the Student Technology Fee Committee (STF) and the Services & Activities Fee Committee (SAF) which provides essential funds for programming, salaries, and equipment. Students can gain knowledge in lesser-known committees, including the Student Academic Enhancement Fund (SAEF), a committee dedicated to supporting "student's professional development" through scholarships that go up to \$1500 which students can apply for. The ASUWB Senate has their own committees as well. These include the Finance Committee that manages the ASUWB budget, the Civic Action Committee (CAC) that executes ASUWB policy, the Steering Committee that reviews the

ASUWB bylaws, and the Elections Committee, that supervises the ASUWB's annual electoral process.

Furthermore, ASUWB hosts many events throughout the year, including Town Halls, where students have the opportunity to stop by and discuss issues affecting the UWB campus, with one happening this quarter with time and date to be determined. They also host creative events, such as the recent 'Painting Pals,' an event where students relieved stress by painting and chatting with their peers. ASUWB also holds public biweekly Senate meetings on Fridays from 10 AM to 12 PM in UW1-280. These are open meetings where the Senate discusses and votes on legislations and more. Students can reach out to ASUWB if they would like to talk at one of their meetings here: <https://www.uwb.edu/asuwb/get-involved>.

The ASUWB Senate's goal is to "re-build what student government means at UW Bothell." With a near-full Senate team, they hope to shape advocacy means for the future of UWB, according to Senator Rotchstein. As of right now, the ASUWB Senate is working on gathering student feedback through surveys, to learn about student concerns regarding the topics like tuition. Recently, they have released a health and wellness fee survey which can be found on ASUWB's Instagram page in their bio: <https://linktr.ee/asuwbbothell>.

# Partying at Pataka 2026

Photography by: Chantel Lam  
- SM&D Photographer  
January/February 2026

Pataka was hosted by Desi Student Arts & Advocacy (DSA) and the International Student Society (ISS) on Jan. 16 at the ARC Overlook. This celebration brought together the spirit of Diwali, the Festival of Lights, and the excitement of the New Year. 166 students were registered to attend.



Attendees dancing to the music

Photography by: Meeti Gobindpuri  
- SM&D Photographer



Close up of students dancing (left) and Nitya Dance Team (right)



DJ Vibez (left) and attendees smiling at the camera (right and bottom)



Image Credit: IG [@dsa.uwb](#) [@uwb\\_intlclub](#)



## Recap: Open Mic Night Winter 2026

Written by: Miles Lewis  
- **Campus Life Reporter**  
January/February 2026

On Jan. 15, Student Media hosted their quarterly Open Mic Night at the Activities & Recreation Center (ARC) from 6 to 8 PM. Students were able to be on stage to perform anything from singing, playing an instrument, reciting slam poetry, stand-up comedy, and more. UWave Radio, the official radio station on campus, was the host of this magical event. Their vision and mission is to “explore creative pathways in the media atmosphere” as well as to be a “center for community engagement” according to their website [uwaveradio.org](http://uwaveradio.org). Volunteering for this event was also an option, allowing students to get hands-on experience in event planning, setup, audio assistance, and visual technology. Students can also volunteer to meet new people and make connections on campus.

This quarter’s Open Mic Night theme was “Winter Wonderland Vibes,” with dec-

orations including Christmas trees, snowflakes, and blue dimmed lights to enhance the vibe. Refreshments were from Cafe Ladro and Hillcrest Bakery, who catered for the event during intermission. From Hillcrest Bakery, there were donuts, including maple bars, sprinkled donuts, gluten-free bars, and even glazed donuts. Meanwhile, Cafe Ladro provided coffee, giving students the opportunity of both regular and decaf. Both locations are local to Bothell.

There was also a wide range of talents for the performances. Students sang covers of their favorite songs in karaoke style and even sang original songs to promote their music. One crowd favorite was the PNW indie band Waxling. During their performance, attendees waved their phone flashlights to the beat of a cultural song and then a pop hit. After the performance ended, the entire crowd stood and chanted “one more song, one more song!”.

Another highlight of the night was a stand-up comedy routine done by Grace

Wang. This performance was a satire script about the current reality we live in. She mentioned how technology has turned people into ‘iPad kids’ which ruined people’s attention spans, along with the fact that artificial intelligence has become more widespread to the public. Her speech also showed some vulnerability with her routine, as the comedian was self-aware about making mistakes on stage.

Overall, Open Mic Night is an event that students look forward to. Unfortunately, there will not be another Open Mic Night next Spring quarter. It will instead return in the Fall next school year. Keep an eye out for what events UWave will be holding in the near future through following their Instagram page and visiting their website. UWave is also hosting a fundraiser with a goal to raise \$10,000 by July 2026 for new equipment, studio setup, training resources, and more. You can donate to the fundraiser here: <https://together.uw.edu/i/uw/campaign/support-uwave-radio-at-uw-bothell>.

## Snippets of Winter Open Mic Night

Photography by: Sydney Lok  
- **Campus Photographer**  
January/February 2026

Open Mic Night was hosted by UWave Radio (Student Media) in the ARC Overlook on Thursday, Jan. 15 from 6:00-8:00 PM. It was an opportunity for students to perform and share their talents including singing, music, dance, and comedy.



Student musicians and singers



Group photo of students holding their phone flashlights up during a performance



A student singing an Amy Winehouse song

## Fasting Tips for Students

Comic by: Mahnoor Asim  
- **Comic Artist**  
January/February 2026

Adelaide provides helpful tips for college students balancing fasting with school work during Ramadan, which will take place on Feb. 17 through March 19 this year!



## Ramadan: A Month for Mindfulness and Collective Growth

Written by: Belen Villalobos Plascencia  
- **Campus Life Reporter**  
January/February 2026

As the winter season comes to an end, many Muslim students at UW Bothell and around the world will begin a month-long tradition observed by millions during the Islamic month of Ramadan. Feb. 17 marks the start of a 30-day journey of fasting, prayer and reflection. This tradition is not only a spiritual rejuvenation but also a long-held cultural practice that strengthens community bonds and personal discipline. For many people, Ramadan is defined by the fast from dawn to sunset, where one abstains from food and drinks. However, this month carries greater importance than just physical discipline.

“Ramadan is a time for reflection, discipline, self-growth and spiritual renewal,” said Aasiya Sathar, a senior computer science major and Co-President of the Muslim Student Association (MSA) club on campus. “Growth doesn’t always have to be an individual personal thing. When you’re reflecting and growing with those around you, there’s a lot of strength and power in that too.”

### History and Culture

Ramadan is the ninth month on the Islamic calendar, which follows the lunar calendar, and is the official month of fasting for Muslims worldwide. Believed to have begun in 610 CE, the act of fasting started around 624 CE. It is considered the fourth of the Five Pillars of Islam which consist of faith, prayer, charity,

fasting and making the pilgrimage to the holy city of Mecca. During this time, Muslims will perform meaningful rituals that illuminate their faith, exercise humility, and engage in self-reflection, as stated by the [National Museum of African American History and Culture](#). Several rituals occur during Ramadan, including deepened praying and reading the Qur’an in its entirety throughout the 30 days of worship. Another important action taken is giving charity to those in need. According to [Public Broadcasting Service \(PBS\)](#), this can be done in numerous ways, such as providing iftar by handing out meals at food drives or community events.

Ramadan is also a time to improve on a spiritual and physical level by avoiding negative acts like gossiping, lying or arguing. According to the [Islamic Network Group](#), this is to help individuals to grow their moral excellence. It serves as a vital period to intentionally slow down and step back from the frantic pace of daily routines, creating a window for deep self-reflection and personal improvement. Ramadan is about improving oneself, which is why it’s also considered a time to be sociable. Muslims meet for congregational prayers at mosques and invite each other to meals after fasting to spend quality time together

### Navigating Campus Life

For students like Sathar, participating in Ramadan as a full-time student requires a rigorous balancing act. Daily routines change entirely during the month, like waking up

before dawn for a meal, attending classes throughout the day while fasting, breaking the fast at sunset with iftar and praying late in the night.

“It’s almost like you’re in a different time zone of your own,” Sathar said. She noted that the act of fasting is about managing sleep and energy levels. Sathar describes her first experience of Ramadan on campus, recalling a difficult schedule of early morning and late-night classes interrupting Iftar and prayer time. “I would run out in the middle of my last class, break my fast really quick with a snack and a sip of water, go back to class, finish up and then go straight to my prayers.”

This year, the stakes are higher since finals week are expected to coincide with Ramadan. Sathar encourages students to be proactive, recommending they fill out [UW Bothell’s religious accommodation forms](#). One common request she makes of professors is moving assignment deadlines from midnight to early morning.

“Midnight I will probably be in the middle of my prayers,” she explained, finding it easier to have due dates in the early morning due to the change in sleep schedule.

UW Bothell has taken steps to support its Muslim community. It provides a [dedicated library resource page](#) for students during Ramadan, detailing religious accommodations and campus resources. Sathar also noted a positive shift in campus awareness this year. “I received an email saying, ‘Hey, we know Ramadan is this quarter, so we want to remind you to make sure you fill out the religious ac-

commodations form.' That is the first time it has been acknowledged like that in my time here," she said. Acknowledgement is crucial in making students feel seen which is why it's important for faculty to support Muslim students during this time. As stated by [American University](#), faculty should be flexible, understanding and empathetic towards students during this time by designing classroom policies with the assumption that Muslim students are present. Faculty should aspire to adjust attendance policies as needed and be flexible with due dates. Even a small conversation to acknowledge Ramadan can encourage an individual to ask for adjustments during this month.

UWB offers prayer rooms known as a Serenity Room, in the [Diversity Center](#)

(UW-191a) and other campus locations including Husky Hall. These rooms are exclusively meant for prayers, reflection and meditation, securing it as an area of silence used by Muslim students.

**Community**

This year, MSA is holding an Iftar event on Feb 25 at the Activities and Recreation Center (ARC). This event is open to all UW Bothell and Cascadia College students, as well as friends and family. These gatherings allow people to come together in shared celebrations and community building. Iftars take place during sunset to mark the breaking of the fast, providing a space for students and neighbors to gather over one collective meal.

As Ramadan approaches, the message from the MSA is one of community. Faculty at UWB also play a big role in this and are encouraged to create a classroom environment that respects all students by making adjustments without penalization.

While the month is a time for self-reflection and prayer, it also serves as a bridge to unite Muslims worldwide. The MSA aims to create a welcoming space for diverse cultures, backgrounds, and experiences of the Muslim community. Whether it is through a shared plate at the ARC or a conversation about the significance of Ramadan, community events such as an Iftar offer a chance for the student body to celebrate the values of compassion and community together.



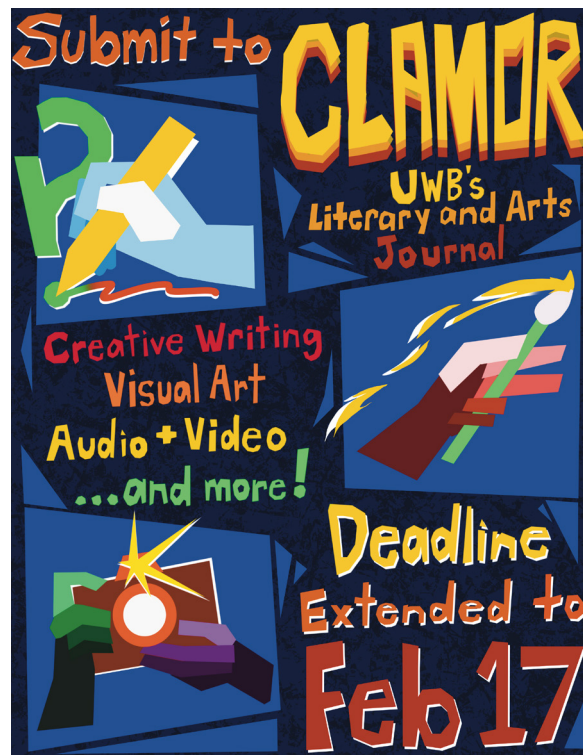
**Mindful Monday**  
Mondays 1:15-1:45 pm  
ARC Fitness Studio

**\*\*Come to any or all Mondays\*\***  
Weekly during Fall, Winter, and Spring

Experience the benefits of practicing mindfulness as a community. All identities and levels welcome!

Register here!

The University of Washington is committed to providing access and accommodation in its services, programs, and activities. To make a request connected to a disability or health condition contact us 10 days in advance at 425-352-3183 or email uwbcc@uw.edu.



Submit to **CLAMOR**  
UWB's Literary and Arts Journal

Creative Writing  
Visual Art  
Audio + Video  
...and more!

Deadline Extended to **Feb 17**



Get a \$25 Amazon Gift Card!

*Student Belonging*  
RESEARCH STUDY

SIGN UP

- Join a 1 hour peer-lead focus group discussion and help improve student life on campus. Your voice matters!
- Sign up by: Feb 5th
- Confirmation email: Feb 6th
- Focus group held: Feb 9th-25th

WHO CAN JOIN?  
ALL UW BOTHELL STUDENTS ARE WELCOME!

**Sweet Treat Fun Facts**

Designed by: Anika Anderson - Visual Media Designer



**National Frozen Yogurt Day**

**Facts About Frozen Yogurt**

- Low-fat healthy treat aged from fermented milk
- Introduced in the 1970s as healthy low-fat alternative
- National Frozen Yogurt Day lands on **February 6<sup>th</sup>**

**Popular Toppings**

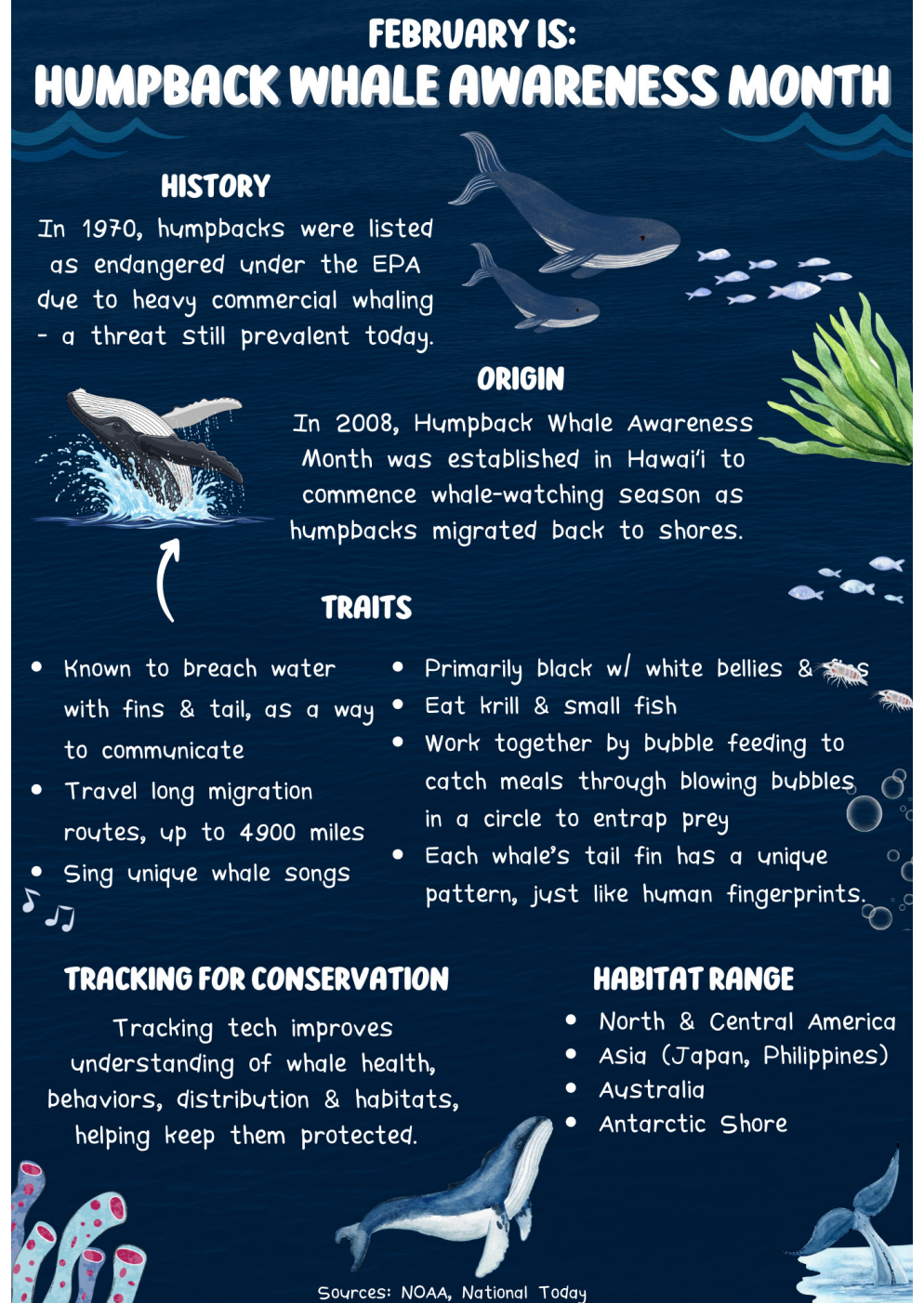
Sprinkles Whipped Cream Fruit Chocolate Sauce

**Local Frozen Yogurt Locations**

- Swirl Frozen Yogurt (Lake Forest Park)
- Menchie's Frozen Yogurt (Lynnwood)
- Skinny D's Yogurt & Cakes (Mill Creek)
- Foyolicious (Shoreline)

**Learn about Whales!**

Designed by: Leena Peerzada - Visual Media Designer



**FEBRUARY IS: HUMPBACK WHALE AWARENESS MONTH**

**HISTORY**  
In 1970, humpbacks were listed as endangered under the EPA due to heavy commercial whaling - a threat still prevalent today.

**ORIGIN**  
In 2008, Humpback Whale Awareness Month was established in Hawai'i to commence whale-watching season as humpbacks migrated back to shores.

**TRAITS**

- Known to breach water with fins & tail, as a way to communicate
- Travel long migration routes, up to 4900 miles
- Sing unique whale songs
- Primarily black w/ white bellies & with fins & tail, as a way to communicate
- Eat krill & small fish
- Work together by bubble feeding to catch meals through blowing bubbles in a circle to entrap prey
- Each whale's tail fin has a unique pattern, just like human fingerprints.

**TRACKING FOR CONSERVATION**  
Tracking tech improves understanding of whale health, behaviors, distribution & habitats, helping keep them protected.

**HABITAT RANGE**

- North & Central America
- Asia (Japan, Philippines)
- Australia
- Antarctic Shore

Sources: NOAA, National Today

# Everything Students Should Know About Residential Life

Written by: Zoya Merakov - Campus Life Reporter  
January/February 2026



Image Credit: <https://www.uwb.wedu/campus-living/>

To dorm, or not to dorm? That has been the age-old struggle that has plagued the minds of local college students for generations. Whether it be staying home to save money or living on campus to be closer to classes and clubs, all students strive to make the decision that ends up being right for them. This topic of discussion has only recently begun at the University of Washington Bothell (UWB), when three new dorm buildings officially opened in 2024.

UWB was [created in 1989](#) to expand UW's education access for community college transfer students who desired a four-year degree. It began as a small commuter school. However, as the student body began to grow, Huskies desired to feel more connected to campus, prompting the creation of on-campus housing.

Housing was [first offered to students in 2009](#), as UWB began to lease a small apartment complex right next to campus. As the student population increased, UWB purchased Husky Village in 2011 and began to use it as student housing. Big changes were made since then. In 2023, Residential Life finished construction for their first large-scale dormitory, which offered housing for over 300 students. The Husky Village had to be demolished in order to make space for new residential life additions. Summit Hall and Terrace Dining Pavilion officially opened in fall of 2023. In 2024, Residential Life was finally completed when Forest and Horizon Hall opened. Now with over 6,064 UWB students, there is housing to accommodate up to 1,000 students.

There are 21 Residential Advisors (RA) and six Apartment Advisors. RAs are live-in positions at UWB; they help residents in the dorms make the most of their time on campus. According to [the job description](#), the RA "establishes a cohesive and responsible community in their designated area, facilitates the holistic development of residents through one-on-one interactions, promotes resident involvement, and refers and supports residents as they manage academic and personal issues." RAs are key to sustaining community and safety within the

dorms.

Stuti Adhikary, a second-year RA and a third-year student studying Biochemistry, shared why she wanted to become an RA, stating she "wanted to maximize [her] involvement with campus organizations and events as much as possible. Living on campus during [her] first year made [her] realize how much RAs contributed to building a welcoming environment for first-time residents and returners alike." Likewise, Sawyer Grant, second year RA and a fourth-year pre-med and business student, described that he wanted to become an RA because he "wanted to be in a position where [he] could lead others but also be a friend and support system when they needed it. Lucas Tercero, a first-year RA and a second-year student studying accounting, echoed similar sentiments, as he, "decided to apply to be an RA because [he] wanted to be more involved in the community."

Being an RA is a complex job that creates rewarding moments. Adhikary noted how, as an introvert, she gets a sense of fulfillment from helping and connecting with others. So far, she has, "aided residents with all different kinds of issues... [and] has gotten a chance to connect with them in a way [she] doesn't think she would have if [she] were just a student." She also highlighted how the "diversity of our residents and the Residential Life staff is also a huge plus, because [she] gets to expand [her] worldview."

Grant loves being an RA in Summit Hall because all his residents are first years. He states that it is, "so rewarding to be there for my residents as they transition from high school to college life, and I am very grateful that I could be part of that journey with them." While Tercero's favorite part of being an RA is hosting events. He really enjoys meeting new people by sharing common interests. However, as with any job, being an RA comes with its share of challenges. Adhikary and Tercero stressed the importance of time management and how challenging it was at first. When Adhikary first started, she was "struggling to find [her] foot-

ing with scheduling shifts and Husky Chats alongside a 19-credit course load. What makes it even trickier is that each resident has their own busy schedules and time commitments, so sometimes [she] needs to work around to meet them." Tercero noted how he needed to stay on top of his schedule to make sure that he is not spreading himself too thin.

Grant states that his Residential Director always says, "This is the hardest, funniest job you'll ever have." He describes how working in ResLife has been quite time-consuming, and it can be hard to "juggle event planning, hall decorating, 1:1 chats with residents, and duty shifts. It has forced [him] to stick to [his] calendar and hone time management skills, which always seems to be a little more difficult than [he] expects."

All three RAs express that being a student leader has helped them with their time management to balance their work, school, and social life. When asked about their favorite events that Residential Life has thrown so far, the RAs had quite a variety of events listed. Adhikary illustrated that her favorite event was a collaboration with the VPA (Violence Prevention and Advocacy), "Mocktails with the VPA." This event was hosted "during the first few weeks of the fall quarter, which is called the 'Red Zone' because of the heightened rates of sexual assault. They provided resources to residents to raise awareness while we prepared mocktails for them to drink."

Grant's favorite event was when Forest Hall hosted an F1 event for a race during the fall quarter. He and "RA Vlad got to dress up as Louis Hamilton and Max Verstappen and sign autographs for residents. It was fun putting on a fake red-carpet show, doing LEGO giveaways, and watching the race with a huge group of residents." Tercero's favorite event was the Smash Bros Tournament hosted at the beginning of the year. He described how "it was a great way to meet people early on, and [he] enjoyed the competition."

Together, they recommend this position to students who want to get highly involved with the campus community.

Ultimately, UW Bothell has grown tremendously within the last few decades, and it will be exciting to see how the campus and Residential Life will change within the coming years. Although Residential Advisor applications are closed for the year, they will reopen again in December and close in January. If you would like to stay in touch with all things Residential Life, be sure to follow [@uwbreslife](#) on Instagram!



Image Credit: IG [@uwbreslife](#)

## Get to Know Your 2025–26 Student Reps! ASUWB Director of Community Partnerships

Written by: Ashley Tsang - Editor-in-Chief  
January/February 2026



**Director of Community Partnerships**  
Elyse Trujillo (She/Her)  
Major: Law, Economics, and Public Policy

### What is your role in ASUWB?

“I work closely with our events and marketing team to ensure all students are being reached, heard and seen by ASUWB. I work mainly on campus and student direct issues!”

### What current partnerships or initiatives are you overseeing, and what measurable or observed impact have they had on campus?

“I am currently working on an art initiative this winter quarter to help foster community and self expression through art on our campus. The overall goal is to help students beat the winter blues and develop connections on campus. I also hope to broaden ASUWB’s overall recognition and engagement with the student body. Since we are here to serve students, we need their voices.”

### Can you describe your approach to student advocacy and the methods

### you use to collect and respond to student feedback?

“My approach is very people first. I love to talk directly with students to gather information and collect feedback. I think the most connection is created through interaction and lasting impacts on our campus.”

### What do you enjoy doing in your free time?

“I like to knit, bake and do all granny activities like embroidering, sewing and reading.”



Image Credit: IG [@asuwbbothell](#)

## Letter From the 2025–26 Clamor Coordinator

Written by: Manmeet Oberoi  
January/February 2026



Hi everyone!

My name is Manmeet Oberoi, a senior at UW Bothell majoring in Culture, Literature, and the Arts, and working as the 2025-2026 Clamor Coordinator! Since I was young, I have always been passionate about literature and have wanted to pursue a path that would lead me to eventually become an English teacher. Now, my path has led me to UW Bothell, where I provide operational and logistical support to a team of around 20 editors who are all a part of UWB’s BIS401A Literary and Arts board: Clamor!

### What is Clamor?

Clamor is UWB’s one and only Literary and Art’s Journal, focused on displaying uniquely creative and diverse voices that reflect the UWB Community, whether you are an undergraduate student, an alumnus, or even a friend or family of someone who is. Clamor is offered as a class each quarter (BIS401A), with a team of students working together to help create an annual journal that showcases literature, visual arts, and even video pieces across our print and web journals. You can find us at our website ([clamor-journal.com](http://clamor-journal.com)) or our Instagram ([uwb\\_clamor](#))!

### The Clamor Coordinator

As the Clamor Coordinator, my responsibilities consist of assisting the editors and the current Clamor Facilitator, Sabina Livadariu, with operational and logistical support as needed. I provide the students with the tools and resources they need for distribution, marketing, promotion and event planning. Additionally, I help them with funding requests, space reservations and tabling at events. As a former 2024-25 Clamor editor, I am also able to offer the editors advice or provide them guidance based on my own experiences. Most of all, I strive to foster community by helping curate a space where each editor’s voice is heard and all of them feel seen.

### How can I get involved?

Students at UW Bothell can get involved with Clamor in two ways, one of which is submitting their pieces directly to the journal! Each year, Clamor allows pieces to be submitted to be accepted into the journal during our annual Call for Submissions, and our editors work across the winter quarter to determine what goes into the journal. Clamor currently accepts up to three pieces per submitter, and each artist is allowed to submit up to three pieces per category. Our categories for 2026 include Creative Writing, Visual Art, Video and Audio, and Collaborative pieces.

For example, you can submit something you proudly drafted for a writing class, a painting that you want to share to a wider audience, or even a video project you’ve been working on for a long time! This year’s submission deadline has been extended to Feb. 17.

### How do I become an editor?

Students can also participate in Clamor by joining the editorial board directly! Clamor is offered each quarter as a class, with each quarter

having a different focus. Autumn quarter is worth 3 credits, with a heavy focus on promoting the journal and spreading the word that submissions are open. Winter Quarter is also three credits, with the focus shifting to reviewing submissions, contacting submitters and finalizing what enters the journal. Finally, spring quarter is focused on preparing the journal to be published for our largest event of the year, the Clamor Launch Party, where we officially debut the year’s journal in an open space for the UW Bothell and Clamor communities to celebrate.

Clamor is a great opportunity for students to gain real world skills such as event planning, community engagement, marketing, design, team building, publishing, and editing. It is a perfect resume builder for everyone involved and is also a great way to get your IPR credits! If you are interested, please check out our website at [clamor-journal.com](http://clamor-journal.com) to find out more info, or reach out to the current facilitator via their email: [sabliv@uw.edu](mailto:sabliv@uw.edu).

### What are you excited for this year?

This year, I’m really excited to work with the Clamor Editors on creating the 2026 Clamor Journal, especially since it is our 20th anniversary! I love being able to work with the editors and watch them bring their ideas for the Journal to life, and I’m excited to see how they navigate looking back on Clamor’s extensive history to create a truly special 2026 issue, one that’ll be filled with works that represent our diverse community across several generations. They have put so much love into the journal already, and I can’t wait to see it all culminate during our launch party.

Hope to see you all there!

-Manmeet Oberoi

# Stitched Workshop: An Introduction to Sewing

Photography by: Angelica Heimbigner  
- **Campus Photographer**  
January/February 2026

Sewing 101 was hosted by Stitched club on Fri, Jan. 9 from 1 PM – 3 PM at the Maker's Space in Discovery Hall. It was an introductory class for those interested in learning how to sew and brought together students who were interested in fashion.



Students take a break from sewing and posing together



Student practicing on the sewing machine



A student practicing their machine stitchwork on fabric



Threads and fabric



A club leader making sure that the thread is in place by the needle



Conversating around the table



Image Credit: IG [@stitched.uwb](https://www.instagram.com/stitched.uwb)

January/February 2026  
The Husky Herald Team:

**Editor-in-Chief**

Ashley Tsang 2025-2026

**Managing Editor**

Kairi Rojas 2025-2026

**Assistant Editor**

Aysha Siddiqui 2025-2026

**Cover Artist**

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**Student Reporters**

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**Comic/Graphics Artist**

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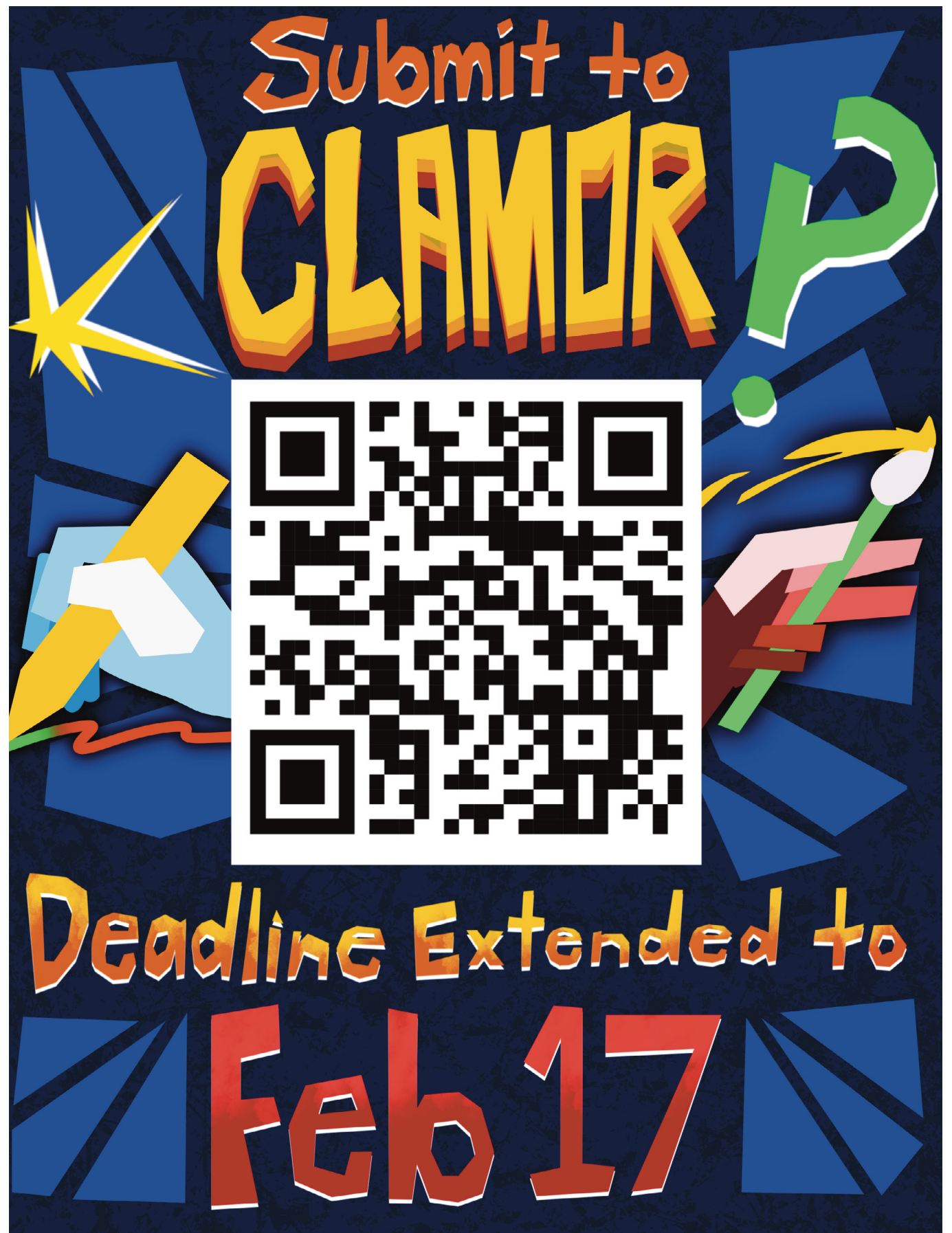
**Faculty Advisor**

Dr. David Goldstein

**SEA Program Manager**

Rafi Kakar

*Special thanks to the rest of the Student Engagement & Activities team for making our work as the on-campus newspaper possible!*



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Thank you for reading the Herald! We would like to know *#HowDoYouHerald?*  
Post on Instagram with the hashtag for chance to get featured on our page!

**Do you want to contribute to The Husky Herald?**

We are always looking for student photographers, artists, writers, and more! If you have a talent that you would like to share with the Herald and gain experience to add to your resume or portfolio, please email us at [uwbhh@uw.edu](mailto:uwbhh@uw.edu) or contact us on our website [thehuskyherald.com](http://thehuskyherald.com).