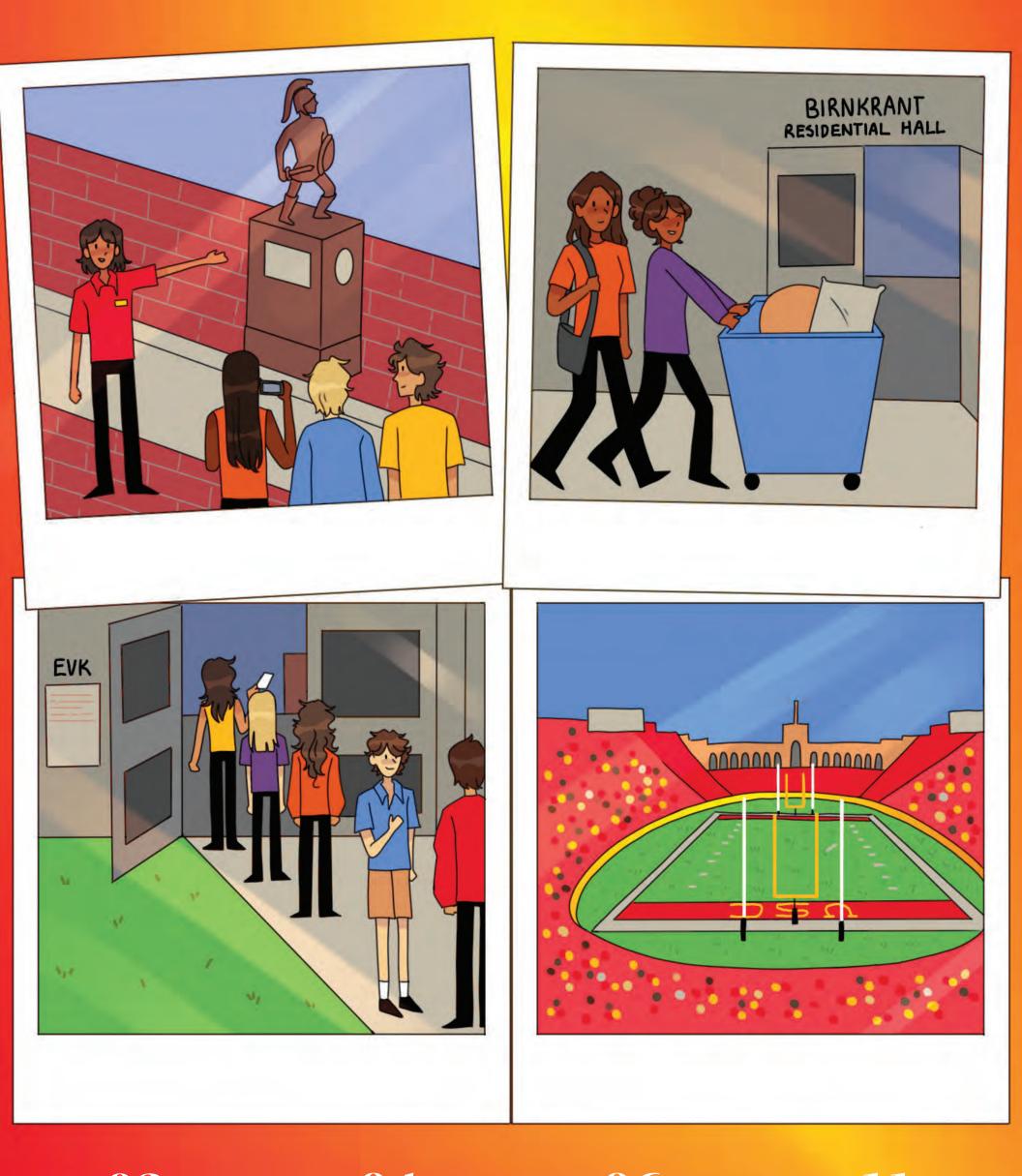
# DAILY TROUBLE CONTROLLING TROUBLE CONTROLLING



### **03** Trojans Honor Fathers

Students and alumni shared how their fathers inspired them throughout their lives.

#### U Upcoming Union Vote

USC Postdocs make their case for voting 'yes' to joining a union.

#### Vampire Weekend

The classic indie band enchanted the Hollywood Bowl. Basketball's Remodel

First-year Head Coach Eric Musselman reworked the Trojan's roster.

Art by K Cox



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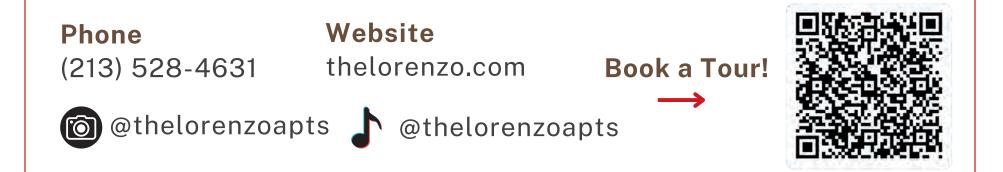
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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 2024 | STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SINCE 1912 | VOL. 212, NO. 6

# **Trojans celebrate Father's Day**

Students and alumni shared how their fathers inspired them throughout their lives.

#### By MELISSA GRIMALDO Staff Writer

Millions of families have celebrated Father's Day since the holiday's founding in 1910. For some students and alumni, the holiday represents the journey of commemorating a loved one.

USC alum and Torrance City Councilmember Jonathan Kaji spent nearly 15 years fighting for the University to issue honorary degrees to former Japanese American Nisei students who were denied the ability to receive their USC degrees after they were forced out of the University and incarcerated during World War II.

He shared that his parents attended USC after the end of the war, but many of their friends were older Nisei students who were denied their transcripts and degrees after the end of incarceration. Kaji said he promised his parents before their passing that he would carry on and seek justice for the Nisei students and their children.

Kaji said every Father's Day since his father passed, he feels thankful for what his father taught him.

"I'm thankful for what he taught me about personal integrity, about being a person of their word," Kaji said. "That if you commit to a task, you complete it. There are no

red excuses until you are successful. I remember that every Father's Day."

Despite the loss of their fathers, some USC alumni have chosen to persevere through the hardship and continue honoring their memory.

USC alum Roxanna Pakkar said that losing her father during her sophomore year was an incredibly difficult time because her dad was the person she looked up to for her entire life.

Pakkar said her dad inspired her to pursue the things she was interested in and ask questions about the world around her, leading her to earn her degree in electrical engineering. She said that her support system at USC helped her push forward during the time period of his passing.

"I also kept going because of his memory and wanting to honor him and finish something that I knew meant a lot to him," Pakkar said.

A lesson that Pakkar's dad taught her that continues to help her throughout her career is his encouragement to try things, despite a fear of failure.

"I definitely really appreciate him having instilled that in me and I think that's led me to where I'm at now in terms of even studying engineering," Pakkar said.

When asked what advice she would give to a student going through a similar situation, Pakkar said "[continue] your journey."

"By you continuing on your journey, that's also honoring them as well because that's ultimately what I think a lot of parents want for their kids — for



**Kyle Revale**, a rising senior majoring in civil engineering with an emphasis in construction management, finds inspiration through his father, Ryan.

them to be happy and to pursue the things that they want to pursue," Pakkar said.

Every student has a different family background, and some USC students have their family closer than others. Kyle Revale, a rising senior majoring in civil engineering with an emphasis in construction management, finds inspiration through his father, who is now studying construction management alongside him. "He didn't even tell me that he was going to apply or do anything about continuing his education," Revale said. "Funny enough, we're actually going to be classmates next year."

Revale said that he feels the reason why his dad went back to school is because "it's never too late" tocontinue your education. He said that he's proud of his dad for going back to school despite his 30 years of construction experience.

| see TROJANS, page 5 |

#### STUDENTS PETITION TO KEEP LIVING LEARNING COMMUNITIES

USC Residential Education cited "waning interest" as the reason for cancellation.

#### By ELIZABETH KUNZ Staff Writer

USC Residential Education is discontinuing its second-year Living Learning Communities in Century Apartments as of the 2024-25 school year, ResEd confirmed in an email to the *Daily Trojan* on June 4.

LLCs are "special interest" floors within USC Housing that aim to provide a space for "focusing on the identity as well as intersectionality."

The University will discontinue the second-year El Sol y La Luna, Somerville Place, and the Asian, Pacific Islander, Desi American Leaders Community LLCs this Fall. El Sol y La Luna is dedicated to "the Latine/x community," Somerville is dedicated to "uplifting and exploring identities within African-American culture and the global diaspora" and the APIDA Leaders Community is centered around "all students who have an interest in Asian Pacific American history, culture, and social and contemporary issues," Residential Education wrote on its website. The same LLCs will still be available to freshman students.

The second-year LLCs were created as a collaboration between USC Housing, Residential Education, and Student Equity and Inclusion Programs, and began during the 2021-22 academic year in light of the coronavirus pandemic.

"The second year LLCs ... [were] an opportunity for students who did not get to participate in these communities during their first-year [sic] at USC to have this experience as sophomores," ResEd wrote.

USC Residential Education cited "waning interest" as the main motivation for discontinuing the program, from both residential advisors and second-year students. Specifically, it had noticed a "large drop between those students who expressed interest in the second year LLCs and who ultimately ended up confirming their contracts after they were assigned."

There are no plans to replace the program with any new programs for second-year students, but ResEd will open a Rainbow Floor for LGBTQIA+ reshmen. The first-year LLCs will continue to be offered, as well as the Century Apartments Rainbow Floor, which provides housing for sophomores, juniors and seniors. Rachael Somers, who was a resident assistant for the second-year LLCs, however, said they faced many issues dealing with USC and the Residential Education department. They also said that many people were interested in the LLCs, but experienced barriers to entry, such as essay requirements.

### USC Jewish Voice for Peace meets with congressmembers

Students met with officials to demand offensive arms embargoes against Israel.

#### By ZACHARY WHALEN

Breaking News Writer

On June 4, three members of the USC chapter of Jewish Voice for Peace joined nearly 200 JVP Action members to meet with United States representatives and senators. The group discussed their experiences as student organizers, as well as their work calling for the U.S. to stop sending weapons to Israel.



Harlow Raye, a rising senior majoring in sociology, spoke with Minnesota Rep. Ilhan Omar about their experiences, beliefs and ways they could "support each other." Raye also met with Missouri Rep. Cori Bush, and with the offices of Massachusetts Senator Ed Markey and California Senator Alex Padilla.

"[With Senator Padilla's office] we really focused on the police brutality that we experienced, and the way that we are treated by administration, and the way that the silencing of anti-Zionist Jewish people is an act of antisemitism," Raye said. "It was all very interesting and productive, and we created relationships with all of these offices."

Raye plans to meet with Senator Padilla again in August to discuss how the USC administration

#### R. Rubin

**Three members** of the USC chapter of Jewish Voice for Peace traveled to Washington, D.C. to speak to elected officials about their experiences as Jewish organizers and their frustrations with the University administration.

treated them and share their experience as Jewish-Israeli student organizers.

Bea Heard, a rising senior majoring in global studies, also met with various government officials. She recalled meeting with the office of a Republican representative, and said while the discussion felt "not the most productive," it allowed anti-Zionist Jewish students to meet directly with elected officials.

"What [the meeting] did was get us in the room with people who are not hearing our voices," Heard said. "The most important thing was ... making people understand that we are nice, young people who have these certain beliefs, and we're not crazy terrorist protesters like the media wants to portray us as."

Luca Berk, a rising junior majoring in political science, said that he

| see **USC**, page **5** |

They said that in their experience with USC, it seemed ResEd was already set on discontinuing the program.

"My supervisor told me that ... it was really all about the quantitative data rather than the qualitative," Somers said. "If they have 20 spots for Somerville and not all 20 spots are being filled, [Somerville is] seen as a failure in the department, rather than

| see **PETITION**, page **5** |

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# LETTER TO THE EDITOR Why we're voting yes for our union

USC postdoctoral scholars urge you to research prior to June 20-21 union voting.

On June 20 and 21, postdoctoral fellows at USC will have the opportunity to solidify our choice to form a union: USC Researchers and Fellows United-United Auto Workers. Postdocs at USC share many of the same challenges, which add stress to the postdoc experience and make it difficult to focus on doing quality research and teaching. By forming a union, we are coming together to improve our workplaces and our lives.

As postdocs, our work is integral to the discoveries that have established USC's world-class reputation and draws over \$1 billion in grant funding annually. However, too many of us are struggling with low pay as the costs of housing, groceries and other necessities are skyrocketing.

We've seen our union peers win meaningful pay increases in their contracts. For postdocs at UCLA, the minimum salary after 2 years is \$71,769, which is over \$5,000 more than a comparable salary at USC. UCLA's medical, vision and dental

health care benefits for postdocs are also significantly less costly than those at USC. Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai postdocs recently negotiated the highest salary in the United States in their union contract. Better pay allows us to focus on our work, rather than constantly worrying about making ends meet or dealing with an unexpected emergency.

Another reason we're forming a union is that abusive conduct is rampant in academia and too often goes unchecked. Colleagues have reported facing retaliation for asking for a raise and many report being overworked and reprimanded for not being productive enough, leading to anxiety and depression.

Power-based harassment is common, as postdocs often only work with one principal investigator or adviser who has a lot of say over their future prospects and letters of recommendation. Postdocs who try reporting harassment and abuse through existing university-centered channels often see little action taken to investigate or no change as a result. Others fear speaking up at all or don't think they can take the time out of their research

to do so. As a result, some postdocs have switched research tracks undoing years of work, or been forced out of academia altogether.

By forming a union, we can do something about this. We've seen our colleagues at the University of California, Columbia University and Mount Sinai Hospital's School of Medicine win independent processes for cases of harassment, discrimination and bullying, where a neutral, third-party arbitrator investigates the claim and renders a final decision. Postdocs have won interim protections to protect their ability to work free from abuse and harassment while their case is pending.

Another reason we're forming our union is to secure more protections and support for international scholars, who make up a significant portion of the postdoc workforce at USC.

It's stressful enough being a postdoc, and international scholars face additional burdens that prevent us from focusing on doing quality research. Basics such as finding housing when you don't have a U.S. credit score can be extremely difficult, and frequent visa renewals can require substantial time away from our research and significant costs. Right now, our working experience at USC is very dependent on which labs and departments we find ourselves in. Some of us have principal investigators who understand the situations we face regarding visa renewals, but others aren't so lucky.

With a union, we can fight for more support for international scholars. We've seen our union colleagues win benefits like guaranteed paid time for visa renewals, longer minimum appointments which can mean longer visas and more support navigating the visa process. By joining 100,000 academic workers in the UAW, we also gain a strong political voice to advocate for governmental changes with far-reaching impacts, like more opportunities for visa holders and increasing National Institutes of Health pay levels for pre- and postdoctoral researchers which was announced in April.

Finally, winning better support for postdoc parents is a reason we're voting "union yes." The high cost of child care, coupled with long waiting lists, means too many of us struggle with access to quality child care. We've

seen our union colleagues win better support for parents, including securing eight weeks of fully paid parental leave for postdocs at UCLA, and by winning or expanding child care subsidies for postdocs at UCLA, Columbia and Mount Sinai and for grad workers right here at USC. Having quality, affordable child care takes stress off parents and allows us to focus on our work.

With collective bargaining, we will gain the right to meet at the bargaining table as equals and negotiate a contract that not only improves our pay, benefits and workplace rights, but also ensures the security and stability that enables us to do quality research. We urge you to do your research and then vote "union yes" on June 20 and 21.

Signed,

Wren Edwards, Postdoctoral Scholar in Integrative Anatomical Sciences, Anaísa Coelho, Postdoctoral Scholar in Physics and Astronomy, Jane Hu, Postdoctoral Scholar in English. and Connie Valencia, Postdoctoral **Scholar in Population and Public** Health Sciences.

# **Chappell Roan brings** empowerment to LGBTQIA+ youth

The artist's music allows us to redefine the modern queer dating experience.

#### By LUISA LUO Staff Write

If you open any major streaming platform, you may notice the top hits from a new artist who has only recently become recognized by the public. With electric, upbeat rhythms and iconic lyrics, Chappell Roan rose to fame swiftly in the past few months despite producing music for much longer.

To my surprise, she performed at USC as the headliner for FemFest 2023, before her burst in popularity. Echoing themes of gender and LGBTQIA+ empowerment, Roan consistently uplifts those from small towns who struggled to find tolerance in their upbringings.

In her 2022 single "Pink Pony Club," she sings about a fictional character who confronts her conservative mother and comes to peace with her drag queen persona after moving to Los Angeles. This journey resonates with her own, as she grew up in rural Missouri with Christian parents and relocated to Hollywood to develop her artistic career as an early adult.

from a small town and start anew in a big city contains a political undertone - the understanding that urban environments are the preferred residencies for marginalized groups that are subjugated by legal regulations and cultural norms.

To me, her debut album, "The Rise and Fall of a Midwest Princess," feels aspirational. Before attending USC, I pictured Southern California as a sanctuary, a place of rebirth that would free me from years of awkward conversations and denials about the people I was attracted to. Just as her lyrics conveyed: "And I heard that there's a special place / Where boys and girls can all be queens every single day.

However, after a year of living here, I realized that even Southern California is not the perfect safe space I imagined. Even with continuous reforms in state legislatures, the bills and resolutions that aim to protect the LGBTQIA+ community are still being stalled and challenged. For instance, custody courts refuse to take into consideration parents' attitudes toward their children's gender identities as a result of Gov. Gavin Newsom's performative allyship. We are far from the ideal freedom Roan depicted in her vision. Nonetheless, for many once-closeted teens like myself, witnessing the growing popularity of an idol is incentivizing and comforting. Unlike other pop artists who tend to create

a linear narrative of the queer experience, she writes about her love life and emotional upheavals through myriad perspectives.

Beyond meeting the love of her life and later going through heartbreaks, she also captures complex phenomena; In her most streamed song, "Good Luck, Babe!," she uncovers what it means for women to be victims of compulsory heterosexuality, perceiving marrying men and domesticity as mandatory in sacrifice of their lesbian identities. In her song "Casual," another popular TikTok audio, she communicates the melancholy disappointment of being treated as a casual partner when craving more.

Many of those in Generation Z relate to these tender feelings, as Roan's music often reflects what they have observed in their own lives. The difficulties of coming out and being in openly queer relationships are not unique to our generation, but we are more expressive because of previ ous advocacy and years of calling for more representations. Some may comment that her songwriting tends to be explicit, with detailed depictions of intimacy. I argue that lust is exactly the sentiment we, as open-minded listeners, are searching for. If heterosexual artists are allowed to describe their graphic dating lives, then so should queer musicians. We need to celebrate sexual liberation



Chappell Roan took the stage as the headliner for USC's 2023 Femfest. Her debut album, "The Rise and Fall of a Midwest Princess" came out last year.

while acknowledging the bitter realizations of heteronormativity.

Roan is also very outspoken about important social issues. While attracting an enormous audience at the Gov Ball Music Festival in New York this month, she opened up about her invitation to perform at the White House and her ultimate decision to reject the opportunity. She implied that she would not be entertaining the United States' most prominent leaders for a Pride event because they have failed to uphold their promises to the citizens, such as guaranteeing freedom for human rights across the spectrum.

Chappell Roan's rise to fame proposes an exciting and refreshing future for LGBTQIA+ youth; with her charming persona and the netic joy she brings to the stage, her music displays relentless hope despite internal and societal suppression. Regardless of our sexual orientations, we all inevitably experience the buzz, exhaustion and "Guilty Pleasure" that comes with young love. With Roan's music, we get to reclaim these feelings in the media and shed light on the evolution of queer love.

Roan's songs are not inherently political — they bring a heartwarming touch through an evolving storyline. However, the eagerness to escape

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# **PETITION** | Students criticized barriers to join sophomore special interest floors

| continued from page 2 |

focusing on the fact that [the] community was built for these 15 residents."

Somers also said that some RAs didn't demonstrate higher interest in the program because there was a lack of additional benefits for RAs who were managing special interest housing. Somers herself served as the RA for all three second-year culture-based special programs and said there was a lack of transparency about the payment for the job.

"My supervisor at [Cardinal Gardens] at the time ... called it a promotion. Which I think was funny because I was not compensated additionally at all. There's just really no transparency about how this process goes," Somers said.

They also said ResEd's general attitude contributed to the program's overall decline.

"It seemed like they planned to fail rather than to grow this initiative," Somers said. "They never asked anyone on the floor what they thought about the continuance of the program; they never even asked me as an RA."

Arjun Bhargava, a rising senior majoring in art as well as gender and sexuality studies, shared Sonmer's petition on their Instagram to help spread awareness.

"It's really a trend that we're seeing through universities where they will implement certain programs to accommodate people that suffer during COVID," Bhargava said. "And those programs and resources will be really good and really effective. And then they will take that program away from students who were starting to become accustomed to that program."

Both Somers and Bhargava said that essay requirements were a major barrier to entry for people interested in participating in the second-year LLCs.

"It is weirdly competitive for a floor that is based on identities that people already have," Bhargava said. "Is my skin not brown enough for you? Am I not Asian enough for you?"

Isabel Chavero, a rising senior majoring in political science who

was part of El Sol y La Luna in her freshman year, said that being a part of an LLC provided a space for her to connect with her identity and find her people on campus.

"[Living Learning Communities] provide a really good sense of safety and stability," said Chavero. "There are so many students who feel like they don't have a community here at USC."

Chavero said she did not apply for the second-year LLCs to give others the chance to experience the community she felt.

"I'm honestly really disappointed in USC," she said.

A change.org petition created by Somers to "Reinstate the Diverse Living Learning Communities at Century Apartments" began in May. At the time of publication, the petition had 178 signatures.

Disclaimer: Arjun Bhagarva was an artist for the Daily Trojan in Spring 2024 but is no longer affiliated with the organization.

# **TROJANS** | Students, alumni reflect on how their fathers impacted their lives

| continued from page 2 |

"That just makes me look up to him even more," Revale said. "As a person, as a dad, as my best friend, I've been loving it. He's been loving it."

His dream is to one day start his own construction company

with his dad. Revale said that getting to say that he started it with his dad, or with his family, "makes it even better."

When asked about the future of their relationship, Revale said that his love for his father is "always

going to continue growing" and he hopes to work with him one day, as he loves to "tap into his brain."

"He's my hero," Revale said. "I look up to him every day, and I want to become a better person and hope to be an ounce of the man he is."



**USC** | Students visit DC

**Harlow Raye**, a rising senior majoring in sociology, spoke with Minnesota Rep. Ilhan Omar about their experiences as a Jewish-Israeli organizer.

| continued from page 2 |

attended the event to express his anger that elected officials were refusing to meet with credible student organizers. He said he did not feel encouraged by his meetings with California officials, as he felt that many of them had already made up their minds about Israel.

"While it's important to continue to engage with people, I think that our elected officials fully understand what's going on right now and many of them are fully in support of it," Berk said. "At this point ... if you haven't allowed your conscience to say, 'I need to — as a human — acknowledge something horrible that's going on right now,' I really don't know what I can say to you."

Heard said that the main goal of JVPA's "lobby day" was to get representatives and senators to publicly confirm that they would vote for the U.S. to stop sending weapons to Israel. Heard said when students met with government officials, they were "not necessarily just sharing our experiences but also demanding that they actually listen and that they take action."

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# **ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT**

PAGE 6 I WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 2024 | WWW.DAILYTROJAN.COM/AE



Randall Michelson / Live Nation-Hewitt Silva

**Vampire Weekend** performed at the Hollywood Bowl on June 12 for the Los Angeles stop of their "Only God Was Above Us" tour. The group played numerous fan favorites throughout the show such as "Contra," "Holiday" and "Mansard Roof." The concert brought a plethora of indie fans to the Bowl.

# Vampire Weekend brings life to the Hollywood Bowl

The classic indie band gave a ska-filled performance for the L.A. stop of its tour.

#### By GIANNA CANTO Staff Writer

The night began with a pilgrimage as indie fans of all ages trekked up Highland Avenue on their way to the Hollywood Bowl. Fans in striped rugby polo shirts and lowtop Dr. Martens hiked the merchant-lined road, as people peddled bacon-wrapped hot dogs, half-off BuzzBallz and bootleg merch from the edge of the cramped sidewalk.

On Wednesday, June 12, Vampire Weekend brought out every breed of Los Angeles indie. From the farmers market familiars and natural wine drinkers to the old school indies and Tumblr enthusiasts, they had all gathered for a one-of-its-kind, sold-out show.

As lead singer and guitarist Ezra Koenig would later announce, it was Ska Night at the Hollywood Bowl. This unique sect of Jamaican pop is what he deemed "one of the 17 secret ingredients that make up [Vampire Weekend's] proprietary sound." Ringing in the night's festivities, ska veterans Voodoo Glow Skulls and The English Beat filled the hills with plucky basslines and energy-filled grooves.

Fans poured in until no seat was left empty among the venue's endless rows. Finally, after the sun had set, it was time for the main event. A giant "VAMPIRE WEEKEND" banner occupied most of the stage, save for the three monochromatically dressed men who stood before it. Three of the band's four founding members faced the crowd, led by Koenig, with Chris Baio on drums and Chris Tomson on bass. What started among these friends at Columbia University has come to define a generation's coming of age, as the literate lyricism and sharp melodies produced on their earliest albums quickly became a cultural touchpoint for the sounds of the college experience.

"I just like how I've been able to grow up with them," said Sydney Jenner, a Tumblr-era fan. "Their music really takes me back to certain periods of my life."

Paying homage to their roots, the band kicked off with exciting "Contra" throwbacks "Holiday" and "Cousins," followed by the tour debut of "Ladies of Cambridge," | see VAMPIRE, page 7 |



# 'Inside Out 2' is a worthwhile sequel



depth as "Soul" or even "Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse" (2023). Making up for this disappointment is the humor of "Inside Out 2,"

the typical anxiety of a teenager is an ambitious role that risks making the emotion into something stereotypical and disingenuous. Hawke takes cues from her jittery performance in "Stranger Things" to create a frenetic and appropriately nerve-racking character that she disappears into. This is still an "Inside Out" movie, though, so the real key lies in the concepts the screenwriters Meg LeFauve and Dave Holstein used to visualize the human mind. It's delightful to report that this movie's cleverness matches the original, with ideas such as belief systems and secrets explored in endearing ways. The new emotions are particularly impressive, with the four major new ones and their voice actors getting plenty of time to shine. It doesn't seem like any one concept will stick in the public's mind in the same way that the original's "core memories" have, but it's a valiant attempt with some intriguing ideas. In a rush to jam these inner-mind concepts in, though, there's a disappointing lack of real-world interactions toward the end. This movie could have used a few more minutes in the physical world, especially to tie up a couple of loose ends that didn't quite pay off.

Disney

**"Inside Out 2"** introduced a cast of new emotions to the already complex mind of teenage Riley (Kensington Tallman), such as Anxiety (Maya Hawke).

GENRE: Family, Animation RELEASE DATE: June 14, 2024 FOR FANS OF Soul (2020)

#### By SAMMY BOVITZ Staff Writer

"Inside Out 2" is the first in a new era of sequels and prequels for Disney's animated properties. While the jury is still out for forthcoming productions like "Moana 2" and "Mufasa: The Lion King," director Kelsey Mann's team stuck the landing on a solid sequel that still falls short of the original at certain points.

After increasingly mature and nuanced themes popped up in Pixar movies like "Coco" (2017) and "Soul" (2020), the studio returned to explore ideas often missing in animated movies for kids. In particular, the characterization of Anxiety (Maya Hawke) makes for a far more complex foil for Amy Poehler's Joy than Sadness (Phyllis Smith) was in the original. Still, "Inside Out 2" is about a kid growing up, meaning heavier scenes aren't portrayed with the same which expands on the original's jokes in exciting and creative ways. Gags about sarcasm, nostalgia and brainstorming are clever and consistently well-timed. Surprisingly nuanced ideas also find their way to humor — Fear's horrified declaration that "we are ... suppressed emotions!"

Lots of credit for the humor's high success rate should go to the voice cast, which is nearly as stellar as the original. Lewis Black remains excellent as Anger, and Tony Hale is a steady replacement for Bill Hader as Fear. New emotions portrayed by Ayo Edebiri and Adèle Exarchopoulos hold their own next to stalwarts like Poehler, who turns in another impressive performance.

Cameos from the likes of James Austin Johnson and Frank Oz use their limited screen time to create hilarious moments. It's not all roses, though: Liza Lapira falls flat at times in her attempt to replace Mindy Kaling as Disgust.

But the biggest standout has to be Maya Hawke's Anxiety, turning in one of the best supporting performances in Pixar history. Portraying

| see **SEQUEL**, page **7** |



Randall Michelson / Live Nation-Hewitt Silva

**Dedicated fans** flocked to the Hollywood Bowl to see their favorite indie group in action. For long-time fans, the night proved magical and special as Vampire Weekend enchanted the crowd.

# **VAMPIRE** | The indie group brought a magical experience to its LA supporters

| continued from page 6 |

the fan-favorite B-side from their first-ever single, "Mansard Roof."

Left alone on stage, Koenig sang through the initial strums of the "Only God Was Above Us" opening track "Ice Cream Piano," and as its instrumental swelled, the banner fell to reveal an expanded band. Accompanied by a second drummer, a keyboardist and two multi-instrumentalists, the seven-piece erupted in a distorted crash of galloping drums and overdriven feedback. Behind them, lights flashed from the depths of a New York City Subway tunnel. The stage design is undoubtedly a tribute to the Steven Siegel photographs that inspired the band's fifth album and a nod to the city where it got its start.

The "Only God Was Above Us" tour truly brings the album to life, with its wide compositions and complex production style. After a lush performance of "The Surfer," the band welcomed the album's co-producer, Ariel Rechtshaid, onstage for performances of "Capricorn" and "Gen-X Cops." Rechtshaid produced the last three Vampire Weekend releases, and as an L.A. native and ex-ska band member, he fit right in.

Though the new record took up a majority of the 29-song setlist, Vampire Weekend dished out an even sampling from each of its first four albums. With bouts of nostalgia, the band delighted longtime fans with early VW tracks like "Diane Young" and "Oxford Comma." The jam-driven grooves of "Father of the Bride" unfolded in real time with the '70s liveliness of "This Life" and the in-thepocket precision of "Sympathy."

In true Ska Night spirit, Vampire Weekend even debuted a selection of "ska-ified" takes on Vampire Weekend classics, including "Skaflower" ("Sunflower"), "Skattoman" (Ottoman) and "Giving Up the Skun" ("Giving Up the Gun").

Nearing the end of the set, nobody was prepared for the jolt of excitement that zipped through the air at the sound of a very familiar combination of opening chords. Like a musical defibrillator, "A-Punk" electrified the thousands in attendance with an immediate spark of unparalleled joy. For two minutes, not a soul stood still. The thousands in attendance wholeheartedly hit every "Oh" and "'Ey, 'ey, 'ey, 'ey," dancing along to the song's contagious shuffle.

"You guys are bringing incredible energy for a Wednesday night," Koenig said.

"And you know what, this is just our first week of really doing a real tour, so to be here in L.A., our second home, so many people we love, 17,000 people sitting outside on a beautiful night, it doesn't get better than that."

Preparing to unofficially close their set, the band gave the crowd some breathing room with the pared-down pace of tracks like "Hannah Hunt" and "Harmony Hall." Toward the end of an eight-minute send-off with "Hope," one by one, the seven band members walked into the disco ball-lit subway tunnel, stripping back the instrumentals until the stage was left empty. In an unpredictable turn of events, the band returned for the encore performing "Dangerous Knife (the Night is a Knife)." Written for the Netflix series "I Think You Should Leave with Tim Robinson," they briefly welcomed the show's creator, comedian Tim Robinson, to the stage.

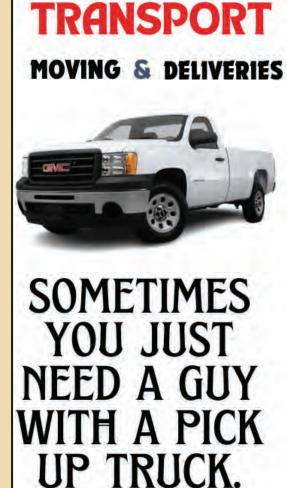
Taking on-the-spot fan requests, the band issued gibberish-filled covers of Steely Dan's "Peg," Grateful Dead's "Touch of Grey" and The B-52's "Rock Lobster." A buzzerbeater finale, Vampire Weekend ended the night with the showwrapping tradition, "Walcott," sounding its last few notes just before the Bowl's 11 p.m. cut-off.

Vampire Weekend's performance was a testament to their musicianship. Live shows usually have some sort of grit, but after playing together for 18 years, the band sounded just as tight as ever.

Managing to simultaneously display their matured sound while tapping into their characteristic collegiate preppiness, the band allows the music to grow alongside them. Vampire Weekend has perfected its craft, exploring new facets of inspiration while staying true to the band's identity.

"I really loved the spectacle of it all," said Audrey Serrano, a rising junior studying journalism as well as law, history and culture and Hollywood Bowl first-timer. "[It's] such a famed venue and I've lived in L.A. for two years and still [hadn't] gone, so I would say Vampire Weekend made it so so special ... It was really magical."





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Reviewed on Jan 31, 2022



Disney

**New emotions** acted as the main hook for the "Inside Out" (2015) sequel, bringing new flavors to Riley's mind. According to staff writer Sammy Bovitz, it's an impressive follow-up to the original film.

# **SEQUEL** | The follow-up film surprised and excited audiences of all age groups

#### | continued from page 6 |

There are moments where this sequel surprises with unique shot choices and mature in-jokes (there's a running gag that Fear really, really likes Anxiety), but this is still an "Inside Out" movie through and through. It's a testament to the original that the characters and world remain memorable and exciting nine years later, even within a new context. The same applies to the original's score, whose central piano theme is just as powerful as it was nine years ago, and is thus used sparingly. When that motif is absent, though, new composer Andrea Datzman's score doesn't quite reach the heights of Michael Giacchino's work from the original.

The legacy of "Inside Out 2" is still pending, especially given its nature as a mature sequel that takes thematically challenging directions. It makes sense to create a movie about a teen's anxiety opposing simpler emotions like joy, but it probably won't match the near-universal relatability that the first movie's message achieved.

Still, it's impressive that a sequel as good as this one was made at all — and it serves as a promising blueprint for Disney's huge slate of prequels and sequels.

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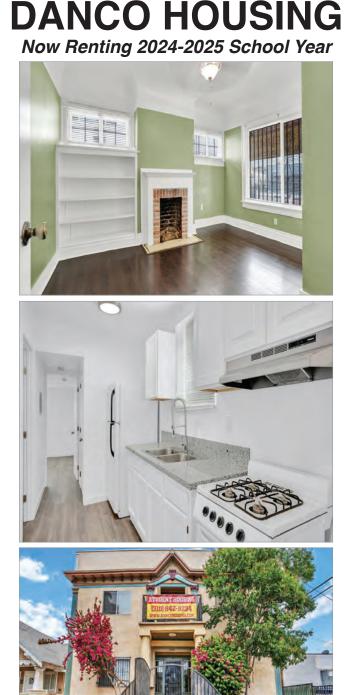
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# USC team wins 2024 Student Corporate Engagement Challenge

The team won the national challenge for the first time since its foundation in 2020.

#### **By SEJAL GUPTAN** Staff Writer

Recent graduates Sparsh Sharma graduates anRecent Sparsh Sharma and Jerrod Rabenbauer won the Intentional Endowments Network's 2024 Student Corporate Engagement Challenge on May 14.

The competition, open to both undergraduates and graduates, requires student teams to pitch an investment in a publicly traded company with a shareholder engagement strategy included, focusing on issues such as climate change, social equity, racial justice and sustainability.

"It's vitally important to the world to use finance as a key lever to achieving sustainability," said Sharma, who majored in economics. "It supports economic growth while reducing pressures on the environment or social considerations like human rights [and] human capital investment."

Over the course of five months, the 13 teams participating this year submitted a proposed investment for feedback, followed by an investment recommendation, a proposed shareholder engagement strategy and a recorded oral presentation.

After considering a utility company, a clean technology company and a waste management company, Sharma and Rabenbauer settled on the waste management sector. Aiming to find an investment that was both realistic and impactful, they narrowed their stock options by looking at financial metrics, ratings, and environmental, social and governance metrics, considering factors like the price to earnings ratio. The two ultimately decided to focus their project on employee safety.

"It's clear that the industry needs to reform a little bit. Priorities need to change," Sharma said. "I'm looking to marry together that ethical responsibility with that desire to have meaningful change.

Sharma said teamwork and open communication were the key to the team's success, which also provided him numerous networking opportunities and hands-on experience in his chosen career path.

Anu Rames, the founder and managing principal of Sustainable Investment Partners LLC and Sharma and Rabenbauer's mentor for the duration of the competition, said she thought that the team's thoroughness and emphasis on finding a plan that was actionable and impactful contributed to their victory.

"They chose to work on an issue where the impact was on a lot of people, and it was an employee thing, the changes that they were asking for," Rames said. "It was something that the company likely needs to do to be a better corporate citizen. It's something that's impactful on the bottom line, and it's something that already has momentum building behind it."

Sharma said Rames provided insight into what people were looking for in stocks within the sustainable engagement process, which he and Rabenbauer did not have as much experience in.

"Sustainability is a really interesting space, because on one hand, it goes against the grain on what's out there right now," Rames said. "[But] you see a lot of the old guard retiring. If you need this conversation to keep going forward, you need to have young students getting interested in it, get involved in it and come into the workforce looking to engage with these types of issues."

Bella Alvarez, the organizer of the competition, said the challenge intends to provide students with the resources to gain experiential learning at the intersection of sustainability and finance by providing access to mentors working



Sparsh Sharma and Jerrod Rabenbauer won the Student Corporate Engagement Challenge for their recommendations on employee safety.

in the field and consistent project feedback from judges, along with industry workshops.

While reviewing projects, the judges focused on finding an engagement strategy that prioritized open communication, was reasonable for the company they were engaging with and was not too heavy of a lift on the endowment.

"[Sharma and Rabenbauer] showed that they had a really great handle on the company that they chose to invest in, and that they really understood what its core issues were, whether those were ESG issues and challenges that could come up, but also just on the valuation of the company and how sustainable its business model was," Alvarez said. "Their engagement strategy was very actionable.'

She encouraged students who were interested in participating to reach out

to them and to view the competition as a learning opportunity to take on at any point in their academic journey.

"[Sharma and Rabenbauer] were incredibly engaged throughout the entire process," Alvarez said. "They were really interested in networking. They were really interested in improving their deliverables. They really integrated and welcomed feedback from the judges and from the mentors. Keeping that engagement with me, with the rest of our team, with the mentors, with the judges throughout the entire process showed how passionate they were, and I think that came through in their deliverables."

Disclaimer: Sparsh Sharma formerly served as a finance beat writer at the Daily Trojan until December 2023 but is no longer affiliated with the organization.

### **USC**

| continued from page 5 |

Heard said she personally also wanted to attend the event to ensure that government officials saw the perspective of pro-Palestinian Jewish student organizers.

"That's what I wanted to get out of [the event], making sure people made an actual face-to-face connection with  $% \left( f_{a}^{A} \right) = \left( f_{a}^{A} \right) \left$ a student protester, especially a Jewish student protester, to break the narrative that Jewish students are uniformly scared on campuses and not participating and just completely harmed by these protests," Heard said.

Berk said that he felt government officials were trying to ignore student protesters for as long as possible in order to "brute force" their way through the resistance to their "support and their complicity in the genocide," and that, therefore, it was important to continue appearing at these events.

"I think that meeting them in person and really relaying the student experience is important ... and continuing to say, 'I recognize that there's so much riding behind your support for Israel and your support for this genocide, but so long as you continue to do that, we're gonna stand in your way,' Berk said. "When you call on the students to campaign for you, we're going to remember this."

Raye said that one of the most interesting parts of the experience was seeing people lobbying alongside them for an offensive arms embargo against Israel had previously lobbied for The American Israel Public Affairs Committee, a pro-Israel lobby that supports strengthening the U.S.-Israel relationship and the U.S. sending Israel "security assistance." They said that their experiences with government officials and other lobbyists made them feel optimistic for the future.

"We do feel hopeful that [an arms embargo] will happen. I think that more and more people are realizing that Israel's behavior right now is not about the hostages," Raye said. "Israel's behavior right now is ... an act of genocide against people [whose] fight towards getting their land back and towards their liberation is a threat to the existence of the country as it is as a Jewish supremacist country."



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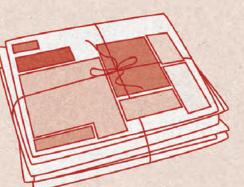
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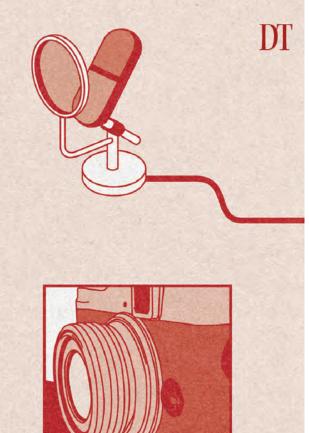
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# Men's basketball has new faces all around

First-year USC Head Coach Eric Musselman has fully retooled the Trojan roster.

#### By STEFANO FENDRICH Managing Edito

USC men's basketball endured a turbulent past couple of months. From moving on from longtime Head Coach Andy Enfield to replacing him with a coach with a breadth of NCAA Tournament experience in new Head Coach Eric Musselman, the Trojans look vastly different.

Only two players remain from the 2023-24 team — rising senior forward Harrison Hornery and graduate guard JD Plough — as Musselman navigated the transfer portal and remaining recruits to bring in an entirely new team. He has a tough act to follow, as Enfield consistently brought in highly touted players to don the cardinal and gold. Across Enfield's 10year tenure, he brought in 12 of USC's 15 highest-ranked recruits ever.

Although Musselman was late to the 2024 recruiting cycle at USC, he still nabbed two top-60, four-star recruits. Isaiah Elohim, the higher-ranked of the two, is a small forward out of Sierra Canyon School. Weighing in at 190 pounds, he's a strong forward who's effective at getting to and scoring at the rim. Musselman's other high school talent, Jalen Shelley, is much more slender than Elohim but comfortable moving with the ball in his hands.

But unlike last season when a lot of the pressure was on the freshmen to make an impact, the bulk of the players Musselman has brought in are experienced transfers. The Trojans will have a whopping 11 transfer players coming in next season. While USC only has the 17th-best transfer class - behind five other Big Ten teams - Musselman found quite a few diamonds in the rough.

The true gem out of the bunch will likely be rising junior guard Desmond Claude, who transferred over from Xavier University. Claude is the reigning Big East Most Improved Player after increasing his scoring from 4.7 to 16.6 points per game. He was ranked as the 30th-best player in the transfer portal and looks to be one of Musselman's key pieces. Claude is a high-volume scorer - with 31 games in double-digit points in the past season - and is battle-tested against tough competition, having played in the Big East.

Claude will be joined by another topranked transfer: rising senior forward

**Rising senior forward Harrison Hornery** is one of just two returning players from the 2023-24 team. He will look to be a leader for Musselman. Saint Thomas, who came over from the University of Northern Colorado. While he hasn't faced the type of competition Claude has, Thomas was a star

for the Bears a season ago. He averaged 19.7 points per game on 47% shooting while hauling in a shade under 10 rebounds per game and was named to the Big Sky All-Conference First Team. Graduate forward Josh Cohen

was already committed to transfer to Arkansas but decided to follow Musselman to USC. He's a highly efficient big man, shooting above 54% from the field in every season that he played. He was a member of the All-Atlantic 10 First Team as part of the University of Massachusetts Amherst, with an average of 15.9 points per game.

Ethan Thai / Daily Trojan

Thomas and Cohen represent a clear trend in Musselman's transfers: efficient leading scorers at midmajor programs. Graduate guards Chibuzo Agbo, with 13.7 points per game at Boise State University; Clark Slajchert, with 18 points per game at the University of Pennsylvania; and Bryce Pope, with 18.3 points per game at UC San Diego, along with graduate forward Rashaun

Agee, with 13.3 points per game at Bowling Green State University, all were first or second on their teams in scoring last season.

But potentially the biggest curveball of the bunch will be redshirt freshman guard Wesley Yates who transferred from Washington. Yates was a top-50 recruit coming out of high school with offers from the likes of Baylor, Alabama and Arkansas. He eventually chose Washington but suffered a foot injury before the season started.

Unlike the other transfers, he has no college experience under his belt, but Yates was a highly rated recruit coming out of high school for a reason. He's a dynamic guard who can muscle his way into the paint at will with his extra strength. He has the capability to be a difference-maker for Musselman's team next year.

After adding 11 transfers and bringing in two high school recruits, it seems the dust has settled a bit with all the changes surrounding USC men's basketball. With practices starting up, we can start to see how all these players will mesh together. Musselman got the players he wanted and has finalized his staff. Now, it's time to see if he can replicate his past successes at Galen Center.

### SACHER

| continued from page 12 |

here, too. It was my time to kind of represent, show awareness." The fact that he is still able to

play at a high level amid all the tragedy is a true testament to Avdija's skill and perseverance.

Avdija has also raised awareness for Israel on the court by writing "Am Yisrael Chai" -"The Jewish people live" — on his sneakers during games, as well as the names of fallen Israeli soldiers from the Oct. 7 attacks.

Social media has been another avenue of advocacy for Avdija during this difficult time.

"Knowing some victims personally adds another layer to my heartache. I'm doing my best to convey the gravity of this situation to my Wizards teammates, my NBA peers, and the Washington community at large. Israel's defense is paramount," Avdija shared in an Instagram post on Oct. 9. "My condolences [are] with the families [whose] dear ones got murdered or kidnapped."

Avdija participates in several programs designed to motivate young athletes in Israel. He participates in community events and basketball camps - such as hosting 40 kids from Israel at Capital One Arena before a game with the Milwaukee Bucks — to inspire and guide the upcoming generation of players. Avdija's support for Israel is evident through his words, actions and dedication to representing his country. Being a minority in the NBA and the United States as a whole, he doesn't let antisemitism steer him away from denouncing terrorism and supporting his culture and country. He has the weight and pressure of his entire country on his back, and he is carrying them up the mountain with ease. As a Jewish kid who grew up playing sports and has a strong connection to Israel, Deni Avdija is a huge inspiration to me and should be to others. It is vital that we recognize athletes like Avdija who are trailblazers for their cultures in sports, both on and off the court.

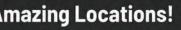
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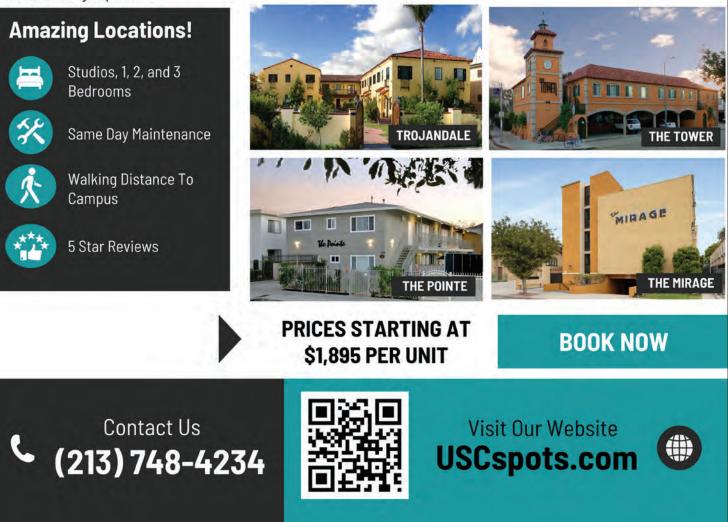




Bedrooms









Joshua Sacher is a sophomore writing about athletes who led the change for social justice in his column, "More Than An Athlete." He is also a sports editor at the Daily Trojan.



# **College to pros: Trojans take on the WNBA**

Two former Trojans carve out huge roles for new teams while another plays overseas.

#### By ETHAN INMAN Staff Writer

The WNBA season is in full swing, and this year, the league is more popular than ever. Here are three former Trojans who are making their mark.

#### Temi Fagbenle

This past women's college basketball season, the Trojans had three graduate transfers from Ivy League schools who became integral to their Elite Eight run. Those players were McKenzie Forbes (Harvard University), Kayla Padilla (University) of Pennsylvania) and Kaitlyn Davis (Columbia University). Affectionately called "the nerds," these three former Ivy greats took their game to another level in Los Angeles.

Temi Fagbenle was the original "nerd." Fagbenle transferred to USC for the 2015-16 season after graduating from Harvard. During that season, she served as a captain for the Trojans, averaged 13.6 points and 8.7 rebounds per game and was named to the All-Pac-12 Team and was an Pac-12 All-Defensive Honorable Mention.

Her outstanding year in L.A. caught the attention of the Minnesota Lynx, who drafted her in the third round (35th overall) in the 2016 WNBA draft.

Fagbenle won a WNBA title with the Lynx in 2017, but she never really carved out a consistent role with the team. She ultimately was out of the league by 2019 and went to play overseas.

Fagbenle, though, was better suited for overseas play than most. She grew up in London and played youth basketball there, even playing for Great Britain's basketball team in the 2012 Summer Olympics. She had a very successful overseas career, culminating in a EuroCup championship with the London Lions in early 2024. Her role with the Lions impressed the Indiana Fever, who offered her a training camp contract.

Eight years after being drafted and five years since her last WNBA appearance, Fagbenle has been superb for the Fever. Her ability to run the floor, cut to the basket, rebound and score in the paint plays well with Fever star Caitlin Clark. Clark is used to playing with players like Kate Martin and Monika Czinano at Iowa — bigs with similar play styles to Fagbenle.

In her first eight regular season games, Fagbenle averaged 9.1 points and 5.6 rebounds per game and earned a spot in the starting lineup. The highlight of her season thus far was back on May 24, when she returned to L.A. to face the Los Angeles Sparks. She scored a season-high 17 points and grabbed six rebounds to help the Fever to their first victory of the season, one day after returning to Galen Center for the Fever's team practice.

Unfortunately, Fagbenle suffered a foot injury back on May 29 and hasn't appeared in a game since.

But, when she returns, she shouldn't miss a step and will be a key

contributor for a Fever team that is looking like a playoff team as of late.

#### Alissa Pili

Before JuJu Watkins, before Destiny Littleton and Kadi Sissoko, Alissa Pili was the headlining star for the Trojans.

Pili played three seasons at USC, from 2019-2022. She exploded on the scene in 2019-20, winning Pac-12 Freshman of the Year after leading every freshman in the conference in scoring with 16.3 points per game, rebounding with eight rebounds per game and double-doubles with 11. She struggled with injuries in 2020-21 before the coronavirus pandemic shortened the season, but still earned All-Pac-12 Honorable Mention.

In her final season for USC in 2021-22, she saw her production take a hit, averaging only 7.8 points and 4.5 rebounds per game. Ultimately, she would transfer to Pac-12 rival Utah.

In her two seasons at Utah, she became the player it was looking like she was on track to become back in her freshman season at USC. This past season in 2023-24, she averaged 21.4 points per game on 55% shooting from the field and 40% from three.

Ironically, she was especially good against the Trojans. In the two teams' meeting in Salt Lake City, she exploded for 37 points, and in her return to Galen a month later, she scored 23 points and grabbed nine rebounds. The Utes won both games, making them the only team to beat the Trojans twice this past season.

Her superstar play for the Utes earned her All-Pac-12 First Team honors and inspired the Minnesota Lynx to draft her eighth overall in the first round of the 2024 WNBA draft.

Her role with the Lynx has been mostly very limited, but on May 31 against the Phoenix Mercury, she exploded for 20 points in only 15 minutes, making all four of her 3-point attempts in Minnesota's big 95-71 win over Phoenix. That kind of performance showed the WNBA world that Pili is capable of elite offense.

It also came on the Lynx Native American Heritage Night game. Pili — who is of Inupiaq and also Samoan descent — was recently signed as a Nike N7 ambassador. N7 is Nike's initiative designed to bring equity to the court for Native American and Indigenous communities across the country.

As Pili gets more opportunities, she is sure to have more explosive performances, like that one against the Mercury and more opportunities with Nike.

#### Kaitlyn Davis

USC fans are very familiar with Davis, one of the aforementioned "nerds" who averaged 6 points and 5.8 rebounds per game for the Trojans' Elite Eight squad. They all celebrated when she was drafted in the third round, 35th overall by the New York Liberty.

But then, she never appeared at training camp, in the preseason or on the Liberty's opening-day roster. There was never any news that she was cut, either. Some news outlets even falsely reported that she was on the 2024 roster. So many USC fans were left confused and wondered, what gives?

Well, the Liberty weren't considering Davis for their roster this season. WNBA teams can draft players and then retain their rights if they don't report to training camp and instead send them to play overseas.

Davis has been playing in Mexico while still technically a member of the Liberty, who plans to have her report to training camp in 2025. She's suiting up for the Rojos of the Liga Nacional de Baloncesto Profesional Femenil and averaging 9.5 points and 6.4 rebounds in 24.8 minutes per game in 12 contests.

Her WNBA dreams are alive and well. Keep an eye out for her to report back to New York beginning in January 2025.

# From the Holy Land to the land of the free



Israeli League MVP title with his efforts in the 2019–20 season. Additionally, he competed in the FIBA U20 European Championship, where he helped the Israeli junior national team win gold in 2018 and 2019.

In 2020, Avdija declared for the

Ethan Thai / Daily Trojan

He was drafted into the Israel

Defense Forces in April 2019. "For me, serving my country in the IDF is super important," Avdija said in a 2020 interview with *The Washington Post*.

The 23-year-old has also spoken at the Wizards' Jewish Heritage Night, celebrated Hanukkah with his teammates and worked to increase the NBA's profile in Israel.





Former USC forward Kaitlyn Davis plays overseas in Mexico, tallying

9.5 points per game. She will be back with the New York Liberty in 2025.

Here is the list of current NBA players from Israel: Washington Wizards small forward Deni Avdija. That's it. That's the list.

There have only been six players from Israel to play in the NBA since the 1946-47 season. Furthermore, Avdija is one of only a few Jewish players in the NBA today.

Born on Jan. 3, 2001, in Beit Zera, Israel, Avdija fell in love with basketball from a young age. He started playing when he was eight years old, and by the time he was 16, he was playing for Maccabi Tel Aviv — one of the best basketball teams in Europe. Then, just a year later, Avdija made his professional debut in the Israeli Basketball Premier League and the EuroLeague with Maccabi Tel Aviv's senior team.

Avdija won three consecutive Israeli League titles while playing with Maccabi Tel Aviv, and earned a great deal of experience in the EuroLeague against elite, older competition. He became the youngest player to win the playmaking ability and high basketball IQ. The Washington Wizards picked him ninth overall, making him the highest-drafted Israeli player in NBA history.

In his rookie season for the Wizards, Avdija tallied 6.3 points, 4.9 rebounds and 1.2 assists per game. Since then, he has improved in each of those categories each year. This past season, he averaged 14.7 points, 7.2 rebounds and 3.8 assists per game, including a careerhigh 43-point and 15-rebound performance against the New Orleans Pelicans Feb. 14.

His consistent improvement and commitment to his game make Avdija a potential All-Star in the near future.

However, it is not just what Avdija does on the court that makes him so special. Throughout his career as an Israeli professional basketball player, he has shown pride in and support for both his nation and Jewish people.

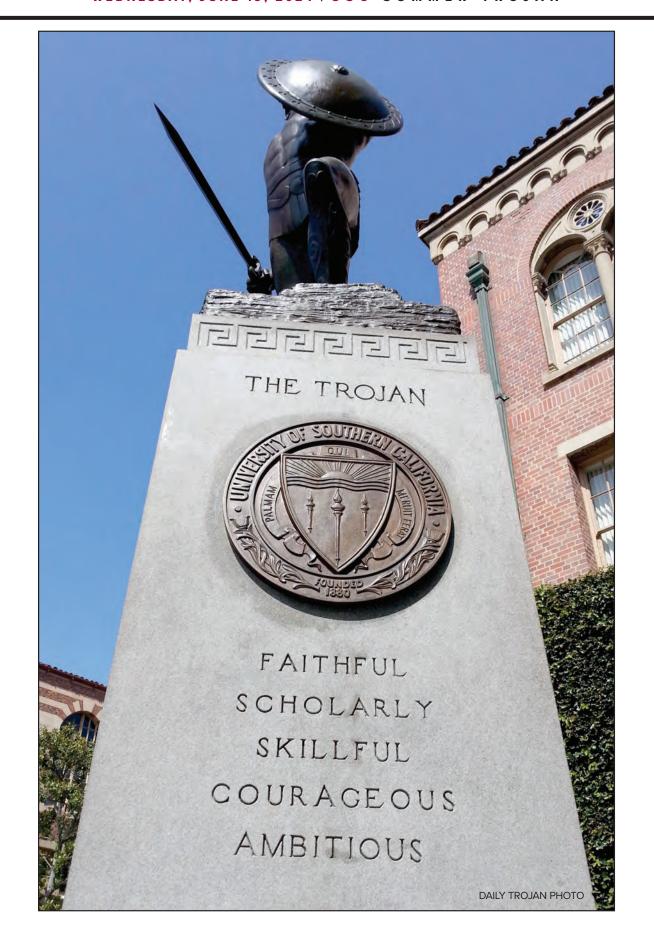
Getting drafted into the NBA wasn't his first draft that year.

Additionally, and more importantly, Avdija has utilized his platform in the NBA to show support for Israel in times of strife. He has demonstrated support for his nation and care for the security of his people following the horrendous acts of Oct. 7. After Hamas terrorists invaded Israel - senselessly murdering over 1,200 people and taking roughly 240 hostages, 120 of whom are believed to still be suffering in captivity in Gaza over 250 days later — Avdija spoke about its impact on his country and his mental state.

"It's probably the worst thing that's happened to the state of Israel, ever. We've never had such a thing, especially with civilians like that," Avdija said in a 2024 interview with *The Washington Post.* "It was tough to play. But it gave me some drive to be better | see SACHER, page 11

Joe Glorioso / Wikimedia Commons Wizards forward Deni Avdija averaged over 14 points and seven rebounds while representing Israel and speaking out against Hamas.

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# Fall Welcome 2024 Dates to Know



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#### USC PARENT ORGANIZATIONS

There are many ways for parents to get involved at USC, including organizations affiliated with various schools, groups and activities:

#### **Catholic Parents Association** catholictrojan.org/Parent\_

Association Members of the USC Caruso Catholic Center parent association have a voice and a hand in the planning and production of ministry programs. **Dornsife Parents** 

#### dornsife.usc.edu/giving/parents/ The USC Dornsife Parent Program provides resources and opportunities for parents to connect and engage with the USC Dornsife community.

#### **Hillel Parents**

#### uschillel.org/parents

The association plays a vital role in maintaining a strong and vibrant Jewish campus community.

#### **Fraternity and Sorority Parents / Families** greeklife.usc.edu/prospective-

#### <u>students/parents-family/</u>

The Trojan Greek community has special opportunities for parents and families to be involved. Parents and families with students currently in a sorority or fraternity or have a student who is interested in joining, are welcome to attend future family events and programs. **Keck Parents** 

#### https://keck.usc.edu/giving/ alumni/salerni-collegiumalumni-association/

scaa-associations/

Group provides opportunities that allow families to get a better understanding of the Keck School students' experience in the classroom, in the research lab, in patient care and in the hospital. **Parent Leadership Circle** 

#### giving.usc.edu/donor-relations/ usc-parent-leadership-circle/ USC Parent Leadership Circle serves to engage and recognize parents who support the university.

#### **Spirit of Troy Marching Band Parents**

#### https://uscband.usc.edu/parentsassociation/

A proud group of parents that have a blast supporting the Trojan Marching Band. **Trojan Athletic Parents** 

#### Association

usctrojans.com/sports/2017/ 8/3/trojan-athletic-parentsassociation

The most important benefit of a TAPA membership is the ability to stay in connected with other Trojan parents and to be informed of the variety of exciting events on campus.

#### Viterbi Parents viterbischool.usc.edu/parents/

The USC Viterbi School of Engineering is enriched by the involvement of both parent and student.

#### **USC** Parent Information

families.usc.edu/ General information for USC parents and families.

# Soul Search: resources for transfer students

Whether you are new to USC (in which case, congratulations!) or have been on campus for a while, Transfer Student Soul Search connects you to resources and opportunities to network and socialize with other transfer students:

#### firstgenplussc.usc.edu/who-we-serve/transfer-student-soul-search/.

Self-discovery modules are designed to support you in finding communi-ty and learning about the benefits of being a member of the Trojan Family. The modules can be enjoyed in any order. You can go directly to the resources that resonate with you most. For instance, you might want support with a writing project today, but you won't be applying for Academic Honors or Fellowships until next semester.

Some modules are linked with social events hosted by USC's Transfer Student Assembly — chances to build relationships with other transfer students. To get involved or learn more about the Assembly's programming, follow the TSA on Instagram @usc.tsa or contact the student leadership team by email at *tsausc@usc.edu*.

- *First Generation Plus Success Center* 



#### Matt Karatsu/USC Student Publicatior



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Since 1912, the studentrun Daily Trojan has served as the primary source of news for the USC community. Each Monday through Friday morning during the fall and spring semesters, the latest issue can be found at more than 70 distribution points around the University

# **DAILY TROJAN** EMAIL EDITION

News:	University renames field to honor
	time Olympic medalist and alumna is a wo ity collaborator.
Sports	USC takes down No. 2 Stanford
Trojans	beat the Cardinal for the first time in nearly
ASE:	Inimated: Webtoons to keep an ey
The me	dium is revolutionizing the narrative indust
	nc Editor's Epilogue: Lunar New Y nd like Incense
17650 81	can't do all the Lunar New Year activities th nalior new versions rémind me that I'm sti led with.

Park campus, as well as the Health Sciences campus.

The newspaper is among the Trojan Family, is also available online (dailytrojan.com) with companion sites in the growing social networking world that includes Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.

For Trojan alumni and parents scattered from Pasadena to Pakistan, a great way to keep up with campus news is the Daily Trojan's free email subscription, delivers headlines to your inbox each morning even before the print edition hits the news racks. It takes less than a minute



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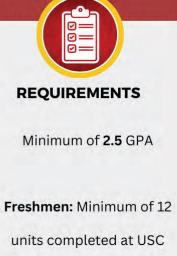


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Historically Black fraternities and sororities. It is composed of 9 organizations.



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# STUDENT WELLBEING: How families and loved ones can help students thrive at USC

#### The role of a supportive family is invaluable as students attempt to leverage their talents, strengths, and cultivate their best self

College is an exciting time for students, with many opportunities to learn and grow - personally, emotionally, and academically. Students want to feel excited, have a sense of belonging and meaning, and accomplish their goals. To truly "thrive" is to experience meaningful growth in all areas of life and to emerge as not just a smarter, but better, more compassionate citizen of the world. This means that beyond strengthening academic intelligence, students cultivate strong relationships, connect with their campus community, and are in tune with their emotions in a healthy way. Students come to USC with many strengths and talents, and this is the time for students to leverage those strengths, define who they are, and cultivate their best self.

As much as success is expected, there will also naturally be times of disappointment, challenge, and difficulties. What matters is how a student anticipates and responds to those times of struggle. Students and families can thrive amidst adversity. Students and families who can anticipate experiencing a range of successes and challenges are better able to remain resilient together.

The role of a supportive family is invaluable to a student's ability to thrive. It is important

that students and their families have conversations about anticipating successes and challenges before they come to campus. Such discussions can focus on how they will adjust to life in college including managing finances, navigating challenges of expectation and pressure, how to make friends, and how they will seek a work-life balance that allows them to achieve their goals while cultivating a strong character. Having these discussions now helps the student be better prepared once they arrive. Some additional ways to support your student include the following:

Encourage excellent self-care and the pursuit of well-being

Students who adapt and succeed at college adopt a mindset in which persistence, curiosity, self-compassion, and hard work are valued. Research supports that academic success and taking care of oneself go hand in hand; you cannot thrive academically if you are not taking care of mind, body, and spirit. Support wellness practices such as a healthy sleep schedule, a balanced diet, adequate physical activity, and an appropriate amount of time to socialize. Students should create healthy routines and habits which help them feel good, stay healthy, and be their most productive selves. Lifestyle Design sessions can help assess and develop such healthy life (chan.usc.edu/patient-care/facultyhabits practice/about).

Encourage participation in self-care Campus activities like Mindful USC (mindful. usc.edu) which helps students be aware of their emotions and make informed decisions; or take classes offered by Physical Ed. Department (dornsife.usc.edu/phed), or Rec Sports (*recsports.usc.edu*). Make sure that students also experience enjoyment daily;



Journey Begins • There are a variety of resources and services to support and assist students as they navigate the excitement and challenges of college life at USC.

"authentic happiness" creates physical and mental resilience.

Understand that not everything has to been done "perfectly"

Some things will be important and should be done to the best of one's abilities; others things just need to get done. Remember that stress is part of life and is motivating; model and reinforce healthy coping strategies such

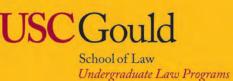
as talking to others about one's problems, avoiding alcohol and drugs, and taking a break to rejuvenate oneself. Student Health offers various workshops and groups that can help develop these skills:

studenthealth.usc.edu/counseling/. Help students recognize their strengths and goals

Teach your student that "failure" and

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disappointments are part of life; it is how we self-reflect, learn, regroup and improve that allows us to remain resilient in the face of adversity. It is important to learn from what did not go as expected. Set a tone of forgiving oneself, adapting, and carrying on.

Help students identify their priorities and actively allocate their time to match those priorities. It may be better to do a few things well rather than spread themselves thin. Emphasize the importance of focusing on one thing at a time. Research suggests that we are much more productive and creative when we don't multitask. If your student is feeling overwhelmed with all they have to do, suggest learning time management strategies such as better organization, weekly schedules, and time management logs. Occupational Therapy offers individual coaching for students on these issues (*http://chan.usc.edu/patient-care/* faculty-practice/college-students).

Celebrate academic and personal accomplishments

Students thrive when they are recognized for all they do and how they are growing. Compliment them when they have done something well to build confidence. Point out the accomplishments they overlook or ignore. If a student is not reaching their academic goals, recommend speaking with their professors, advisors, or the Kortschak Center for Learning and Creativity if they have learning differences (Kortschakcenter@ usc.edu).

#### Promote Healthy Relationships and a Sense of Belonging

It takes time to make close friends and develop a sense of belonging when first coming to college. Students may forget to see that their close relationships with friends in high school may have taken years to form. Encourage your student to take appropriate social risks such as asking an acquaintance to meet up or joining a student organization. Recommend that your student put energy in forming several social groups over time. Students should take "social media breaks" and have face-to-face contact on a regular basis.

Healthy relationships are those that bring out our best selves. It is important to identify when relationships and friendships may be more harmful than helpful. Encourage students to find support around managing those relationships. Expressing these concerns, talking to trusted significant others, or getting professional help at Student Counseling Services are all excellent coping strategies that should be encouraged. It is important to be empathetic, make no judgements, and refer students to the proper resources.

Your student has worked incredibly hard to get to USC, and you have worked hard to support them in their journey. As we work together, there are many resources on campus to assist your student and you as we help your student thrive on campus. USC Support and Advocacy in the Provost Office of Campus Wellness and Crisis Intervention is available to assist students and families in resolving concerns and questions to help your student thrive (uscsupport@usc.edu; 213-821-4710).

> - USC Campus Wellbeing and Crisis Intervention

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- (STU 206) 213-821-7373
- USC STUDENT LIFE
- USC STUDENT HANDBOOK

- 213-821-6028 vrc@usc.edu

# Trojan Family Weekend set for Sept. 26-29

**USC** families are invited to celebrate and enjoy the university experience at **Trojan Family Weekend**, Thursday, Sept. 26 through Sunday, Sept. 29

#### What is Trojan Family Weekend?

This annual celebration is an opportunity for families to visit their students and get an up-close look at how the campus community achieves excellence in teaching, research and public service.

With over 200 unique programs ranging from lectures given by award-winning faculty, open houses showcasing outstanding USC resources, to a pre-game pep

rally with the Spirit of Troy Marching Band, Trojan Family Weekend offers something special for every family member to explore. The event kicks off the morning of Thursday, Sept. 26 with an Opening Ceremony. Activities, programs, tours, workshops, lectures and events continue throughout Thursday and Friday, Sept. 27. The weekend culminates with the Saturday, Sept. 28 Trojan Family Weekend tailgate before the USC football game against the Wisconsin clude on Sunday Sept. 29.

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Family Weekend 2024? Bring everyone in your family - parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, siblings, cousins and friends. There's something for every family member! Wherever you come from, this weekend presents an opportunity to share experiences and make new memories with your student while also connecting with the rest of the Trojan Family. We hope you and your fam-

ily can join us.

Yes, registration is required to attend this event. If you do not want to attend Trojan Family Weekend programs, you do not need to register for the Trojan Family Weekend event. Current and admitted students are not required to register for Trojan Family Weekend.

Refunds on Event Registrations are available. Once registration opens, deadlines for full and partial refunds will be posted. Tailgate tickets are non-refundable.

#### What does registration include?

The Trojan Family Weekend registration fee includes entry to over two hundred sessions including Deans Receptions, faculty lectures, panel discussions, Q&A sessions, performances, open houses, exhibits and tours. A small number of programs and events may require an additional fee.

Sessions are first-come firstserve and do not require any additional registration Any exceptions will be noted in session descriptions. Tickets to the USC football game are not included in the Trojan Family Weekend registration fee. However, upon completing your registration, you will receive a confirmation email containing a USC Ticket Office link to purchase special discounted tickets to the football game.

Reservations for the Trojan Family Weekend Tailgate on Saturday are not included in the Trojan Family Weekend registration fee. These can be added on during the registration process.

*For more information visit:* familyweekend.usc.edu

Is registration required?

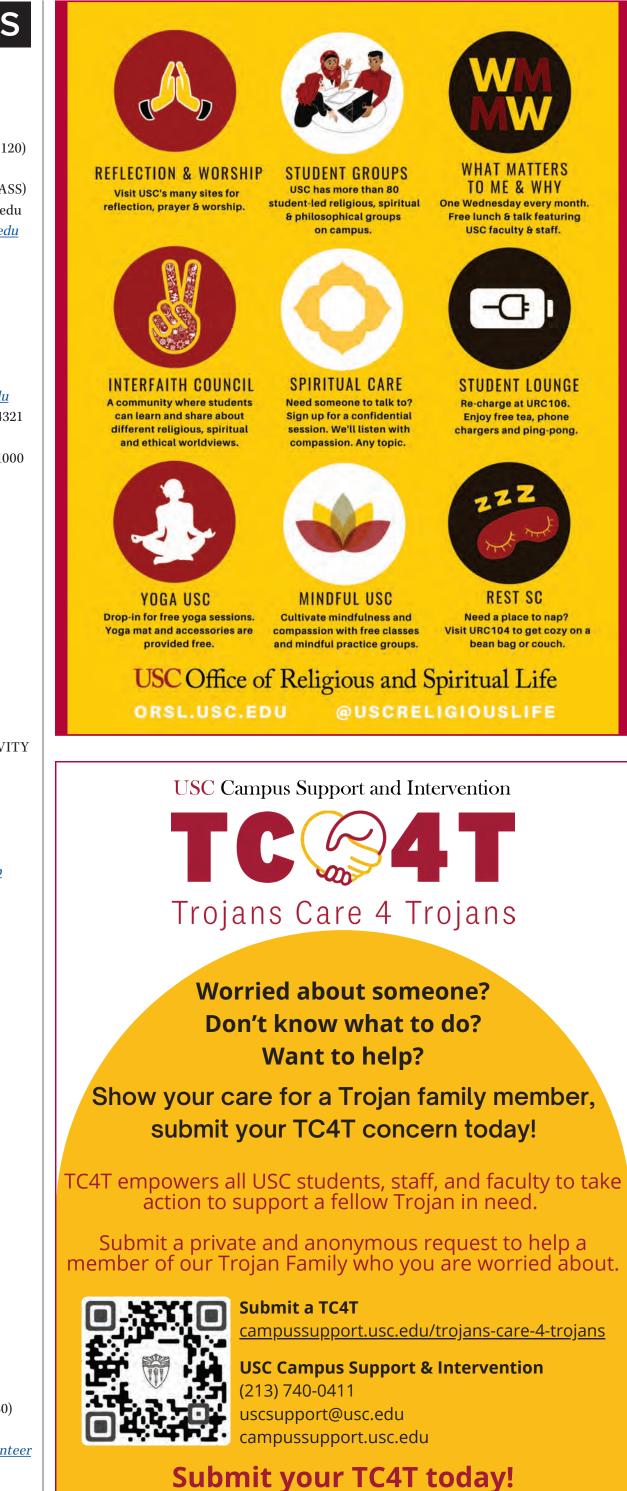
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Come to STU 110 for a scheduled advising appointment, a quick drop-in, or to earn your USC digital business card. It's never too early to "think career," and when you do, we're here for you. Complete the checklist, and don't miss a thing from the USC Career Center.

We'll see you soon.

Fight On! Jon Cleveland, PhD Associate Vice Provost, Career Services University of Southern California