# The Brooklyn Hound

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Graphic Credit: Samantha Castro

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# Updates From City University Of New York Board Of Trustees

On March 30, City University of New York Board of Trustees approved these policies:

**1.** Credit/No Credit Grading Policy: Board of Trustees approved a new flexible grading policy to lessen student anxiety of transiting to remote learning and other concerns due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As of April 1, students will have the option to convert their letter grade to "credit/no credit" grading, also known as pass or fail.

**A.** The "credit/no credit" grade has no effect on the students GPA.
**B.** The student has 20 business days to decide after the University's final grade submission or the actual day grade are posted.
**C.** This policy will count of all CUNY campuses except the School of Law and the School of Medicine.

**2.** Dormitory Fees Credit and Refund Policy:

**A.** For continuing students, dormitory fees will be credited for Summer 2020 or Fall 2020 on a basis that the student is in good grade standing at their campuses, paid their bills in full for Spring 2020, and vacated their dorm due to the university's efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The credit will be distributed on move-out date.
**B.** For graduating students, dormitory fees will be refunded on a basis that the student is in good grade standing at their campuses, paid their bills in full for Spring 2020, and that they are set to graduate in Spring 2020. credit will be distributed on move-out date.

**3.** Student Activity Fees Waiver Policy:

**A.** Students attending colleges with a 15-week calendar will be waived 25% of Spring 2020 student activity fees. Students at institutions with a 12 or six week calendar will be waived 50% of Spring 2020 student activity fees.
**B.** Students who receive payment from their local student government will continue to receive their full payments for the remainder of the semester.
**C.** A portion of fees that support the activities of the local student government will not be waived.

There was an approval of an establishment of an emergency relief fund from the Chancellor of the CUNY Félix V. Matos Rodríguez. The emergency relief fund will support students who need support in their basic expenses as well as access to resources such as healthcare, child care, and technology. The fund cannot exceed over 15 million. It will consist of private and individual donations that will be reported monthly to the board of trustees and entered into a separate bank account. All donations must be honored before June 30. By July 15, all donations toward the fund by June 30 will be reported to the board. No date of when the fund will be accessible to students has been announced as this is written.

# Bill Weld Suspends Long Shot Campaign



*LONG SHOT - Weld secured only one delegate throughout his campaign./AP Photo*

By Weston Loving

Bill Weld, who refused to drop out of the Republican Primary despite winning only one delegate, suspended his presidential campaign last week.

"While I am suspending my candidacy, I want to be clear that I am not suspending my commitment to our nation and to the democratic institutions that set us apart," Weld said in a statement. "Two years ago I became concerned enough about the future of this country to begin exploring the possibility of running for President. It is a job I feel certain I have the experience and vision to do."

Weld was able to secure only one delegate, in the state of Iowa, during his campaign. His campaign found it difficult to draw in supporters, including in his home state of Massachusetts. President Donald Trump closed out the Republican primary with a whopping 1,339 delegates, meeting the threshold of 1,276 to win the nomination. Weld and Trump were the only two Republicans left running in the primaries for several weeks, although Trump had the nomination locked.

The former member of the Libertarian party identified as "anti-Trump," and advocated for his impeachment. Weld's campaign centered around cutting taxes and combating climate change.

Weld launched his candidacy in April 2019. "It is time to return to the principles of Lincoln - equality, dignity and opportunity for all. There is no greater cause on earth than to preserve what truly makes America great. I am ready to lead that fight," Weld said in a statement last year.

Despite Weld's substantial net worth, his below average fundraising was one of the main reasons that he couldn't make a real run for President of the United States. He barely raised $2 million. Another dilemma that the former Governor of Massachusetts encountered was the departure of many moderate conservatives to the left of the aisle. This shrinkage of his base led to extremely little interest in his political campaign.

In 2016, Weld ran for Vice President with the Libertarian Party. His running mate was former New Mexico Governor, Gary Johnson.

Before his work as a Governor, Weld started his career in politics as a junior counsel for the House Judiciary Committee during its Impeachment Inquiry into Richard Nixon in 1974. His work for the Committee garnered the attention of Rudy Giuliani, who advised President Reagan to appoint him as U.S. Attorney for Massachusetts, advice that President Reagan followed. During his time as U.S. Attorney, Weld made financial corruption a priority, prosecuting many of the larger banks in New England on that charge. Following his time as a U.S. Attorney, Weld became the head of the Criminal Division of the Justice Department. While in that post, Weld spearheaded the operation to capture Manuel Noriega, the leader of Panama from 1983-1989, on drug trafficking charges.

During his time as the Governor of Massachusetts, Weld was known as a fiscally conservative yet socially liberal politician. This allowed him to be elected in a state that at the time had a less than 20% conservative demographic. He won by a margin of 3% and became the first Republican Governor of Massachusetts since 1975. During his time as Governor, Weld was a champion of gay and lesbian rights; he legalized same-sex marriage, introduced laws protecting gay and lesbian students, and recognized out-of-state same-sex marriages. Weld also introduced a bill to the state senate that made getting abortions in the state of Massachusetts drastically easier. He abolished an 1845 law that made abortion of any kind illegal in the state. In his reelection bid, Weld won in a landslide victory as he claimed 71% of the vote, and locked down the state's Democratic strongholds, like the city of Boston.

Following his Governorship, Weld unsuccessfully pursued a multitude of political ambitions. Weld was appointed as the Ambassador of Mexico by President Bill Clinton, but was never confirmed by the Republican-controlled Senate.

# How Artists Continue To Stay Creative During The Coronavirus Pandemic




*LIGHTS OUT- The city that never sleeps is under hibernation during COVID-19./Flickr*

By Irma Cadiz

Actress and student Miranda Elyse McCauley was isolated in her dorm in the United Kingdom until her friend saw fit to reach out and offer her companionship.

"I got really lucky how things kind of played out," said McCauley."I was in a tiny, tiny room, nobody to talk to ... We as roommates have a little family group and at first I didn't want to be taken care of. I was in denial and felt I didn't need help but she said of course you do." Luckily her friend reached out in the nick of time, right before the UK enacted its stay at home order on March 24.

Some artists' lives and livelihoods have been heavily impacted by coronavirus induced closures, finding it difficult to work while inside.

McCauley, 34, found that having a routine is important to stay creative while inside. She wrote a lot during the day, from writing Dungeons and Dragons stories to regular journaling. She reached out to her friends and roommates discussing plays they've read or stories they've written on their own time.

"Any way you can keep your brain active the better off you are," said McCauley. "For an artist it is important to discuss and do a reading. We do scenes on Skype and share stories, anything you can do to keep yourself and your brain active."

McCauley has performed theater since high school. At the age of 21, she moved to New York City and found her love for devised theater. Currently, she's studying overseas in Scotland to earn her masters in Classical and Contemporary Text at the Royal Conservatoire.

Chris De La Cruz, 29, hosts a live monthly improvised late night show called "Maaad Late" at the Magnet Theater in Manhattan. Cruz is originally from Dayton, Ohio but currently resides in the Bronx where he teaches English to high school students. The "Maaad Late" show began last summer and was gaining momentum on the live circuit, but the show came to a temporary halt after the Magnet Theater was forced to close because of the enforced quarantine.

Mayor Bill de Blasio announced an indefinite shutdown of all nightlife venues, including nightclubs, concert venues, and movie theaters starting March 18.

Cruz and his team originally pitched a digital format for a network, but the network pulled back on "Maaad Late" abruptly after losing their own investors shortly before the pandemic hit. But, with the ending of live recording of most late night shows, Cruz and his team thought to commit to the digital form of the show through Instagram Live in order to stay in touch with his audience during this time.

"We will keep doing it as long as we are in this shit, said Cruz. "I like the ability of doing it every night. It's been a life of going and putting everything into it once a month usually all the energy goes into that one show."

Victor Zarate, 45, also known as Range, is a member of the graffiti organization, "From Up Above Krew." Zarate and his crew have an exhibition at Rochester's largest art museum, The Memorial Art Gallery, which showcases FUA Krew's

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***Show host Chris De La Cruz./Instagram***

*Story continued from pg. 4*

legacy in their hometown and globally.

Museums, like The Memorial Art Gallery, have been forced to close their doors, after Gov. Andrew Cuomo ordered all non-essential businesses to shut down on March 22 under his New York State On Pause Executive Order.

Zarate's entrance and rise into the art world was through graffiti. His art mediums have ranged from spray paint, to oils and acrylic, with digital art being his current method of choice. Zarate attended Monroe Community College in 2012 and graduated with an associates degree in Commercial Illustration and Advertising.

Zarate spends his free time during the shut-down doing what he's always done: drawing. Everytime he comes home from work, even if it was a long shift, he draws at his desk. He describes that, as coronavirus updates are talked about frequently, it can't be helped to always think about it and its effects. That's why he turns to art in order to distract himself, like he always has.

"In truth, this is free time and all artists look for where you can just stay home and draw," said Zarate. "At the end of the day, this is what I am left with, this is what I have and I am gonna use it."

Got tips? Stories?

The Brooklyn Hound

Email
wbcr.nd@gmail.com
with all your questions and comments!

# WWE Continues To Air Shows Despite Growing Coronavirus Concerns

By Nicholas Williams

World Wrestling Entertainment Inc. decided that the show must go on, despite the coronavirus pandemic, as they continued to perform their matches without fans in attendance.

The shows, Raw, SmackDown and NXT have been aired from the company's performance center in Orlando, Florida for the past couple of weeks. WrestleMania 36, the company's biggest event of the year, is now scheduled to take place at that performance center instead of the Raymond James Stadium in Tampa Bay, Florida on April 5.

"In coordination with local partners and government officials, WrestleMania and all related events in Tampa Bay will not take place," said WWE in a statement. "However, WrestleMania will still stream live on Sunday, April 5 at 7 pm ET on WWE Network and be available on pay-per-view. Only essential personnel will be on the closed set at WWE's training facility in Orlando, Florida to produce WrestleMania."

CEO and Chairman of the WWE, Vince McMahon, has yet to speak on the situation but remains hesitant to postpone or cancel WWE events.

"I think that is if you canceled it, you would be conceding," WWE Hall Of Famer Mark Henry said on the Busted Open Radio podcast. "You will be letting it [coronavirus] win. And, I mean, knowing Vince McMahon? He's not gonna let it win, he's undefeated. He's not gonna allow it man."

Business Executive of the WWE, and also part-time wrestler, Paul Levesque, said he wasn't scheduled to be a part of WrestleMania 36, but stated that entertainment is a "necessity" now with the coronavirus concerns. Levesque, better known as Triple H, said it's an "obligation" for WWE to continue the event.

"Probably now more than ever, entertainment for people is a necessity," Levesque said in an interview with ESPN SportsCenter. "Having something that they can tune into, forget about everything that is going on or what they have happening in their lives or not being able to leave their house, whatever it is, and just tune out for a few hours and tune into something that is fantastical and forget about it all."

Levesque reminisced about the company's mission, which was to put "smiles on people's faces." "People need those smiles right now more than anything, so we choose to carry on and to deliver those smiles," Levesque said.

On the other hand, for WWE wrestler Joe Anoa'i, better known by his ring name Roman Reigns, the concerns of the virus were too much to handle to continue doing his job. Anoa'i was scheduled to wrestle Universal Champion Bill Goldberg at the WrestleMania 36 event, but he recently pulled out due to coronavirus concerns. The 34-year-old superstar recently battled cancer, and with his health condition, he didn't see it fit to participate in the event.

"I had to make a choice for me and my family," he said.

With professional basketball, baseball, hockey, football, and soccer seasons postponed or canceled, the WWE has made an effort to continue to produce shows while they monitor the coronavirus outbreak. No decision has been made to postpone or cancel any upcoming WWE events.

# ESPN Set For Early Release Of Highly Anticipated Michael Jordan Documentary "The Last Dance"




***HIS AIRNESS - The Documentary will feature Michael Jordan and the 1997-1998 Chicago Bulls final run as a team./ESPN***

By Jose Rohdin

ESPN officially announced on Tuesday that the Michael Jordan 10-part documentary series, titled "The Last Dance," is set to air on April 19th.

"We've heard the calls from fans asking us to move up the release date for this series, and we're happy to announce that we've been able to accelerate the production schedule to do just that," ESPN said in a statement. "This project celebrates one of the greatest players and dynasties ever, and we hope it can serve as a unifying entertainment experience to fill the role that sports often play in our lives, telling a story that will captivate everyone, not just sports fans."

Over the course of five weeks, ESPN will air the documentary on Sundays from April 19 to May 17. The highly anticipated documentary has been in the works since 1997, and it covers Michael Jordan and the 1997-1998 Chicago Bulls. Unreleased footage of the team, as well as exclusive interviews, are expected to be featured. The documentary was announced in 2018 and was originally set to air in June, but due to the coronavirus pandemic, the release is now scheduled for April 19.

"We were the best team in basketball for a long time and no one knocked us off," Former Chicago Bulls player Scottie Pippen said. "Knowing that it was the end of our run and that we had to end it that way, we made it very special and wanted to end it with a championship."

Head Coach of the 1997-1998 Bulls, Phil Jackson, used the term "The Last Dance" to describe the team, as he knew it would be their final season together. The Bulls dominated the 90s, capturing six titles with two separate three-peats.

"What they need to release is that Michael Jordan documentary," former NBA player and ESPN analyst Richard Jefferson said. "ESPN, I know I don't want to get fired, but release that shit, release that."

With every major sports league postponed or canceled, the hunger for sports content among fans is needed. A conversation occurred in early March with media members such as Stephen A. Smith and LeBron James calling for the early release of the documentary.

"Listen, if I'm Michael Jordan, I'm going in there and I'm making a conference call and I'm like, 'OK, what's the reason that we're going to hold onto it until June now?" James asked. "Compared to now when everybody is at home?' Because it's done."

Michael Jordan is widely recognized as one of, if not the best basketball player in the world. He won six NBA Finals, along with five Most Valuable Player awards. There hasn't been a recent documentary that has covered the Jordan-led Bulls team.

"Michael Jordan and the 90s Bulls weren't just sports superstars, they were a global phenomenon," director of "The Last Dance," Jason Hehir said. "Making 'The Last Dance' was an incredible opportunity to explore the extraordinary impact of one man and one team. For nearly three years, we searched far and wide to present the definitive story of an era-defining dynasty and to present these sports heroes as humans."

After the announcement, James took to Twitter to voice his excitement by tweeting, "April 19th can't come fast enough. I CAN NOT WAIT!! Yessir! #LastDance."