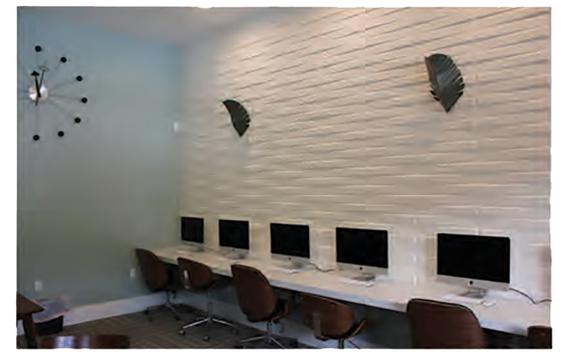


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Socially distancing under the stars: Drive-in theaters make a comeback



Around the Tampa Bay area, students can experience a drive-in theater like Fun-Lan Drive-In Theatre, located at 2302 E Hillsborough Ave, and the Ruskin Family Drive-In Theatre, located at 5011 US-41, Ruskin, for as little as \$6 per person. **SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE**



Lauren Pieper

STAFF WRITER

When the coronavirus began to spread throughout the U.S., many businesses were forced to close their doors to the public as a safety precaution, including movie theaters. Despite the theaters being closed, some students still found a way to enjoy a movie with friends.

Drive-in movie theaters are considered to be a retro activity that is making a comeback. In the Tampa area, there are two

nearby drive-in theaters. Funlan Drive-In Theatre is located at 2302 E Hillsborough Ave and the Ruskin Family Drive-In Theatre is located at 5011 US-41, Ruskin.

Tickets at Funlan Drive-In, are free for anyone under the age of 4, \$2 for children ages 5 to 11 and \$7 for anyone ages 12 and older. At the Ruskin Family Drive-In, admission is free for those four and younger, \$1 for children ages five to eight and \$6 for people ages 9 and older.

Reagan Gaitens, a sophomore majoring in humanities, said that he and some friends visited the Ruskin Family Drive-In back in July.

"They play two movies back-to-back," Gaitens said. "You pay to get in and you can leave whenever, so you can watch one

or both."

Because theaters haven't released many new movies, the drive-in is playing old movies, according to Gaitens.

"We watched 'Jaws' and 'Back to the Future,'" he said.

Gaitens said that drive-ins are safe for people worried about COVID-19.

"Cars are parked away from each other, so it is automatic social distancing," he said. "Also, masks are required at the snack bar."

Senior accounting major Annamaria Nicotra also believes that going to drive-ins is a safer form of entertainment.

Nicotra said she went to the Fun-Lan Drive-In twice since March.

"I do think it's a safe option

because most people stayed in their cars and everyone was spaced out," Nicotra said.

Along with going to the actual movie theater, Nicotra said she has had a few homemade, drive-in style movie nights at her house as well where she and some friends projected a movie onto a wall at her house.

Other students have also hosted homemade drive-ins in the last six months.

After growing up going to the Ruskin Family Drive-In, Paul Menendez, a junior majoring in electrical engineering, said he organized a drive-in in his backyard in early March for him and some friends.

"I had been excited about the new Pixar movie 'Onward' coming out," Menendez said.

"I also own a projector, and we used a speaker system. I built a couple frames and hung a white bed sheet in order to watch the movie, and it looked really good. We had a lot of people show up and chill in their cars."

Roughly 10 of his friends between six cars showed up to the homemade drive-in, according to Menendez. He said he was happy to have been able to watch the movie alongside his friends.

"I wanted to watch the movie with my friends, but most of them weren't comfortable meeting in person to watch," he said. "I figured that people would feel safe if they were in their own cars."

One of his friends in attendance, CJ Paskert, a senior

■ See **DRIVE-IN** on **PAGE 16**

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Video games to keep you entertained



Nolan Brown

SPORTS EDITOR

There aren't very many options to keep yourself entertained outside of your own home right now. Even if there were, you really shouldn't be leaving your home during a pandemic.

I've pretty much sifted through every streaming service available, so I've turned to some of my favorite video games to keep me distracted in these less-than-ideal times.

Here's a list of new-ish video games you should sink your teeth into.



"Animal Crossing: New Horizons" will captivate your attention for hours. There's just so much to see and do, and with the addition of seasonal updates, plenty more is yet to come. **SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE/NINTENDO**

These are five video games that'll keep you entertained for hours on end and make you forget all about the year 2020.

Animal Crossing: New Horizons

This terribly addicting game

See VIDEO GAMES on PAGE 8

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VIDEO GAMES

Continued from PAGE 6

has been one of the best-selling games on Nintendo's eShop since its release in early March. The current king of the Nintendo Switch is a simple island simulator game, but its charm is what makes it great.

You start off having just recently won an exclusive island getaway package. Once you reach your island destination you're joined by two animal villagers — the first inhabitants of your fledgling town — and you immediately owe a lump sum of money to the business tycoon Tom Nook.

How do you pay off your debt? Explore the island — catch bugs, pick fruit, plant flowers, build lots of stuff and slowly turn your measly deserted island into a bustling community. Over time, you'll have enough bells — that's the currency — to pay off your eventual island mansion in full.

With hundreds of unique and often hilarious animal villagers to interact with, countless challenges, contests and unlimited building possibilities, there's something here for everyone.

"Animal Crossing: New



"Microsoft Flight Simulator" is perfect for those who want to get out and see the open skies without, well, actually getting out. Each plane is detailed to be like its real-world counterpart, including all the knobs and switches you'd find in a real cockpit. **SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE/MICROSOFT**

Horizons" is available on the Nintendo Switch for \$59.99.

Ghost of Tsushima

In this open-world action-adventure game set in 13th century Japan, you play as Jin Sakai, a samurai who usually plays by the books and follows a traditional code.

That all changes when the Mongol Empire invades his island home of Tsushima, and Jin has to turn to alternative and

un-samurai-like tactics to combat this new ruthless enemy.

As a result, he becomes the terrifying and notorious warrior known as the Ghost of Tsushima.

This is a game for those who love a good revenge plot or those who have always dreamed of being in an Akira Kurosawa film. There's actually a grainy black and white film mode that you can play the game in, so feel free to live out your "Seven Samurai" dream.

A solid story of redemption and revenge coupled with some of the most beautiful visuals ever seen in a game make "Ghosts of Tsushima" well worth it for anyone who's looking to be immersed in Kamakura Period Japan or wants to experience what it's like to be a badass samurai.

"Ghosts of Tsushima" is available on the Playstation 4 for \$59.99.

Microsoft Flight Simulator

Here's a dilemma — you really want to fly a plane anywhere in the world, but you don't have the time, money or desire to go to flight school.

Well if you have an extra \$60 lying around, you're in luck.

"Microsoft Flight Simulator" lets you fly more than 20 different planes to 37,000 unique airports from all over the world, all while soaking in a hyperrealistic map that uses data from Bing Maps in real time.

Yes, you can even fly over your own home. It's ridiculously cool.

It's a pretty straightforward game with a super detailed environment based on terabytes of textures and satellite imagery. Play it too long and you'll probably start to lose a grip on reality.

If you're an aviation enthusiast or if you just want to get lost in some photo-realistic clouds, then "Microsoft Flight Simulator" has everything you could ever want, if not more.



"Mount & Blade II: Bannerlord" will satiate your hunger for dominating a fictional world. While you can join an existing faction, start your own or roam the world on your own, be wary of some zones on the map, as you might end up running into enemies that won't show much mercy. **SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE/TALEWORLDS**

"Microsoft Flight Simulator" is available on PC and Xbox One for \$59.99.

Mount & Blade II: Bannerlord

Live out your fictional medieval fantasies of storming castles, raising armies and selling butter.

"Mount & Blade II: Bannerlord"

is your go-to game for anyone looking for a balance between strategy and role-playing.

You play as a customized character in the fictional land of Calradia during a time of war. The Empire faction is crumbling, and eight unique factions are scrambling for control. As the player, you can join any faction, or if you're feeling adventurous, you can start your own.

After a short tutorial, how you play is entirely up to you. Want to help the Empire rebuild itself and take over the map? How about joining the Khuzait, a Mongol-like faction, and wreak havoc? Or you can avoid the war altogether and make your way as a traveling merchant and become a butter-selling mogul.

The choice is entirely up to you, and whatever route you take

leads to different experiences. That means you'll have to put in the hours to discover everything this game has to offer. Expect it to keep you busy for a while.

If you're into strategy, medieval warfare and politics... or butter, then this is the game for you.

"Mount & Blade II: Bannerlord" is available on PC for \$49.99.



"Ghost of Tsushima" transports you back to Kamakura Period Japan and lets you roam free on the breathtaking island of Tsushima. **SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE/SUCKER PUNCH PRODUCTIONS**

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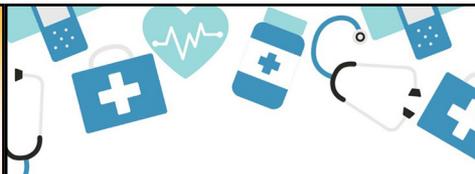
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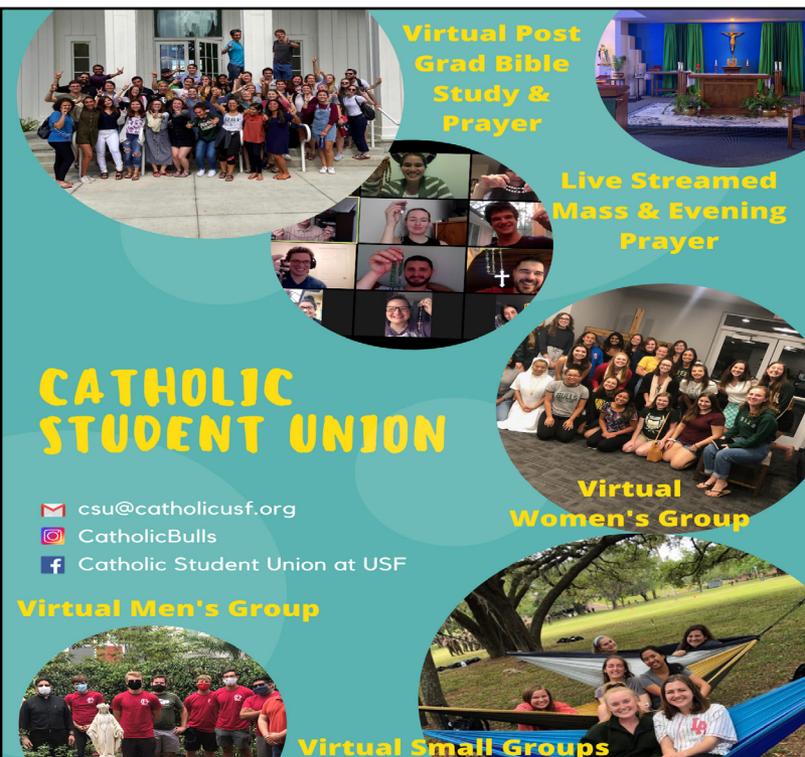
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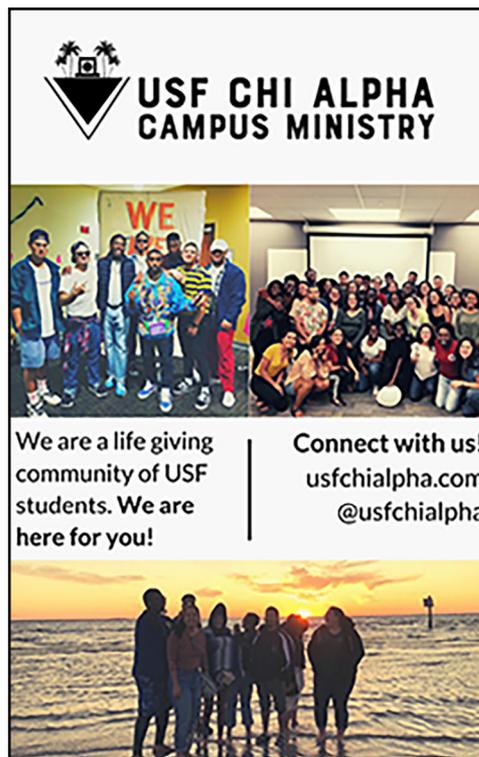
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The new era of streaming services



Jorgelina Manna-Rea

STAFF WRITER

After public facilities closed nationwide in late March, COVID-19 has affected various industries — but none seemingly as much as the movie theater industry.

It's no surprise that movie theaters have been hit hard by the public health guidelines implemented, with a \$10 billion loss in revenue as of May, according to Statista Research Expert Amy Watson.

Many movie production companies have had to adjust to the nationwide closure that happened in March by delaying the release dates for highly anticipated movies. Movies such as "Antebellum," "A Quiet Place Part II," "Black Widow," "Candyman," "The French Dispatch," "In The Heights," "No Time to Die," "Wonder Woman 1984" and "Mulan" were supposed to come out in theaters over the summer.

The National Association of Theater Owners requested financial assistance from the government back in March, when the pandemic first began shutting down many public theaters, according to AP News.

It doesn't help that some big studios elected to move their films onto streaming services so that audiences can access them at home, including Warner Brother's "Birds Of Prey" and Universal Pictures' "The Invisible Man."

One of the biggest media

conglomerates, Disney, made a bold move and skipped an appearance in the theaters altogether.

Lately, the delay of Disney's live-action "Mulan" has been of particular discussion by Disney fans and viewers when Disney made the decision to not release it in theaters at all and just release it on its streaming platform Disney+.

Although "Mulan" was released on Disney+ on Sept. 4, subscribers to the streaming service must pay an additional fee of \$29.99 for unlimited access until it's released on the service under normal streaming circumstances on Dec. 4.

Unlike Disney's unique decision to avoid releasing its movie in theaters, director Christopher Nolan chose to release his anticipated movie "Tenet" in theaters on Sept. 3.

Unlike other movies, which continued to postpone their release dates due to the limited capacity of movie theaters, "Tenet" was actually released. The release of the action movie starring John David Washington and Robert Pattinson detailing their interactive journey through inverted time was postponed from its July 17 release date to Sept. 3.

Nolan received backlash from his colleagues in the movie industry as well as columnists like Kyle Buchanan at The New York Times for his decision to show the movie in theaters, knowing the high anticipation for it and the large fanbase Nolan holds among moviegoers.

"WWCND" is basically what we're saying at all times. 'What would Chris Nolan do?' actor Seth Rogen told The Hollywood Reporter regarding his studio production company Point Grey



With the drop in attendance and revenue across movie theaters around the country, film studios like Disney and Universal are skipping the traditional movie release and going straight to their own streaming platforms. **SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE**

Pictures' decision to release new movies. "For a while, it seemed like the answer was to kill his greatest fans. But that's not the answer of today, it seems, so that's good. But we have no idea. We don't want to be the first to rush into anything."

Nolan became a very popular director through his work with "Inception," another time-bending movie that grossed \$833.6 million at the box office upon its release. He is also well-known for directing "The Dark Knight" trilogy of the Batman franchise.

If the release of a popular, highly awaited movie wasn't enough to incentivize people to head to the theater in their

free time, AMC Theaters had a special deal for its reopening date on Aug. 20 of about 100 locations nationwide, according to online media company Insider.

Movie tickets were sold for 15 cents — an almost 99 percent decrease from what an adult movie ticket usually costs. This price point is unheard of, even for student or senior discounts.

AMC promoted its 15 cent price for reopening as "movies in 2020 at 1920 prices," according to various articles from CNN, CBS and the Tampa Bay Times.

The theater chain has also lowered the cost of its AMC Stubs A-list membership, charging those who sign up for the three-month contract only \$5 for

their first month. The program allows its members to see three movies per week for the monthly subscription price, which is usually \$20 a month.

Even with these deals, the theaters are remaining relatively empty, especially with plenty of streaming services offering a wide range of movies, documentaries and TV shows to pass the time at home.

Many have been taking advantage of the Google Chrome extension feature "Netflix Party" which allows multiple users to watch movies or shows on Netflix together while in different locations by syncing their accounts.

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If you are interested in becoming a member of Florida Eta Chapter of Pi Gamma Mu please contact Christine Bergmann at clbergma@mail.usf.edu or Diane Wallman at dianewallman@usf.edu for additional information.



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THE IMPORTANCE OF CLEAR COMMUNICATION

THE IMPACT

Those who are hard of hearing, Deaf, interpreters, and children who are learning language have elevated difficulties when it comes to communication involving conventional face masks.

WHY IT'S A PROBLEM

Conventional masks cover the mouth which inhibit visual cues like lip movement and facial expression.

Visual cues are vital to communication, especially in Deaf culture as some ideas cannot be conveyed without the use of the mouth and lips.

SOME SOLUTIONS

- Transparent masks
- write information down
- speak loud and clear
- reduce background noise
- check for understanding
- maintain eye contact
- utilize interpreters



Dr. Sertoma, USF Anthropology Class of 2020

For more information contact Sertoma Collegiate club at

Email: usfccpresident@gmail.com Instagram: [sertoma_USF](https://www.instagram.com/sertoma_USF)
Facebook: [USFCollegiateSertoma](https://www.facebook.com/USFCollegiateSertoma)

USF Pre-Dental Society



The USF Pre-Dental Society has many events planned for the semester to continue providing our members with experiences to learn more about dentistry!

Connect with us to stay up to date on upcoming events!

BullSync: Pre-Dental Society at USF
Instagram @usfpredents



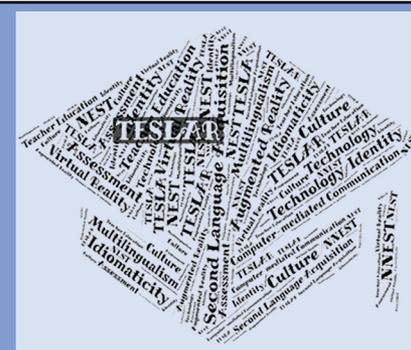
STUDENTS OF INDIA ASSOCIATION

LARGEST MULTICULTURAL ORGANIZATION AT USF

Upcoming Events

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| - Movie night:
September 18th | - Movie night:
October 10th |
| - GMB 1: September 19th | - Diya painting workshop: Oct 31st |
| - Game night: Sept 26th | - Diwali event: Nov 7th |

siausfbulls@gmail.com



The purpose of Technology and Second Language Acquisition Research (TESLA) is to enhance its members' research skills and to encourage research collaboration among its members. Similarly, the goal of this organization is to enable members to conduct successful research in a collaborative manner. This student organization will be composed of students from the TESLA Program in COEDU, but it will also be open to students from any other programs or colleges who may share our interests.

Connect with us on BullSync!

MOVIES

Continued from PAGE 11

From dramas to comedies, Netflix has acquired new movies that are worth watching for those who have a subscription and don't want to venture out to theaters.

For those looking for an eerier thriller, "Nightcrawler" starring Jake Gyllenhaal is a perfect pick for a night after finishing your studies. It follows the story of a man who goes the extra mile to make it as the premiere videographer for local news outlets.

If a more conventional love story is preferred, "Pride and Prejudice" is a period piece perfect for those who want a nice encapsulated romance from start to finish. Based on the 1813 classic

by Jane Austen, the story follows the unlikely relationship between a vivacious young woman from a lower-middle class family and a wealthy, unfriendly man with little emotionality.

Hulu also has some worthwhile picks — and students can access it through a monthly student subscription partnered with Spotify for only \$5 per month throughout all of their years as a student.

"Booksmart" is a fun, lighthearted comedy about two young teens' first time going to a party. Since it is unadvised to attend parties at this time, "Booksmart" will let you relax and enjoy the atmosphere of a party without actually going.

One could go in a different direction with a more recent

genre-mixing film and watch "Parasite," — available on Hulu — which is the critically acclaimed film that started conversations in the Hollywood community about its commentary on classism.

HBO is another streaming service with plenty of quality movies to choose from, and it's available for free for students who are living on campus.

Whether you choose to access HBO, use Netflix Party to watch a movie while physically distancing with friends or visit a movie theater to take a break from your studies, there are endless options for safe, visual entertainment so long as the pandemic continues.



From Netflix to Hulu, students can enjoy thousands of movies at the tip of their fingers for a monthly fee ranging from \$6.99 to \$15.99. **SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE**

GET INVOLVED! STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS GET INVOLVED!

UNDERGRADUATE PUBLIC HEALTH STUDENT ASSOCIATION



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Join us on BullSync for more information!

USF WOMEN'S RUGBY CLUB

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NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!

Women's Ultimate Frisbee

Come out and play!

**Mondays & Wednesdays
6-8 PM at Sycamore Fields**



Bring a dark and white shirt, water, and your student ID

Please be sure to sign a waiver on BullSync to join our team!

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS SPORTS CLUBS FRATERNITY & SORORITY LIFE

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Some Restrictions apply. Total ad value may not exceed \$150 per student organization per semester in Fall & Spring, and \$100 in Summer.

DRIVE-IN

Continued from PAGE 5

majoring in communication, said that the homemade drive-in made him feel a sense of togetherness.

“While the drive-in serves to remind us that we are to keep separate, it’s still nice to have an outlet where we can find a way to be together safely even if we are cars apart,” Paskert said.

Katie Kunselman, a freshman majoring in dance, also used a homemade drive-in to share a fun moment with friends while social distancing.

Kunselman made her own drive-in to watch her high school graduation with her friends.

“My school actually came up with the idea to host a big-screen drive-in where everyone could pull up their cars and watch graduation, but my friends and I wanted to be together so we could talk about the video, make comments and laugh at the memories and the fun times together,” Kunselman said. “My friend, Sara, remembered she had a projector and invited my whole friend group over that night where we all watched it on a wall in a big room in her basement.”

Although it was not exactly a drive-in, Kunselman said it felt like one.

“The screen was projected and bigger than a TV, and getting to be with all my friends and sharing laughs and one last memory all together before we went our separate ways was what made it so special,” she said. “Although it wasn’t the graduation any of us pictured at all, or the senior year even, we made the best out of what the last three months ruined for us, and to me, it’s almost better because it made it more of a memory.”

Even though drive-ins are not the same as going to the theater and sitting in a plush chair with lots of people, it is a way to be socially distant and still enjoy the cinematic experience of a movie.

“I think drive-ins are a great way to spend time [with people] and still be able to social distance,” Kunselman said. “This pandemic is so hard for all of us that anything that feels the least bit normal and like how things used to be is how I like spending my time, just to remind myself that this is all temporary.”



While drive-ins are not the same as going to a movie theater, you can still recreate a cinematic experience from your own backyard.

SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE

Ways to virtually hang out with friends while socially distancing



Hannah Halili

STAFF WRITER

As we approach the fourth week of the semester, it is common to face challenges when trying to socialize with friends, especially while following social distancing guidelines. Whether staying at home or on campus with nothing to do, here are some ways you can still have fun while socially distancing.

Virtual Dance Parties

Video calls have become the main way to “hang out” with a large group of people since the start of the pandemic in March. If you can’t be with your friends in one place, throw it back to 2010 and host a “Just Dance” party over Zoom. Original “Just Dance” videos and choreography are uploaded on YouTube and by sharing your screen, you can have a dance competition similar to if you were in middle school.

At-Home Workouts

Because we aren’t able to fully do everything in public, the free time we have is the perfect opportunity to work on yourself. A twist on exercising is YouTube workouts. There are so many free workouts whether it is High Intensity Interval Training (HIIT), Kickboxing, Zumba or even full body weight training. Grab a yoga mat and your roommate and burn calories in



From hosting a virtual dance party to game nights, there are many ways to socialize with friends and family while staying safe. **SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE/SNACKNATION**

your own living room.

Jam Sessions

Sharing music with others is a great way to grow relationships and create bonds with friends and family. Spotify has a group sharing feature where you can listen to the same music with others no matter where you are. To enable the feature, tap on the “connect menu” in the bottom left corner and then tap “start group session.” You can either scan the code to join or text your friends and family a link to join.

Each person can then add, skip or pause the music as it reflects on all devices. This feature is perfect to set up a group jogging playlist, a podcast date for a long-distance partner or for hosting a virtual cookout with friends and family.

If you don’t have a membership, Spotify has a discounted option where students pay only \$5 a

month. The membership also comes with Hulu and Showtime.

Game Nights

Game nights are a ritual for many families and friend groups and there are still ways you can play virtually. By creating a group and online video chat, you can still host a game night.

For ideas on games to play, the website Puzzlebreak is offering virtual escape room events while Random Trivia Generator creates different questions on a broad range of topics to play during a group video call.

For those looking to play some of the most traditional board and card games like “Checkers,” “Crazy Eights” and “Chess,” then check out the website PlayingCards. Play live with all your friends through a private room some of the most classic card games out there.