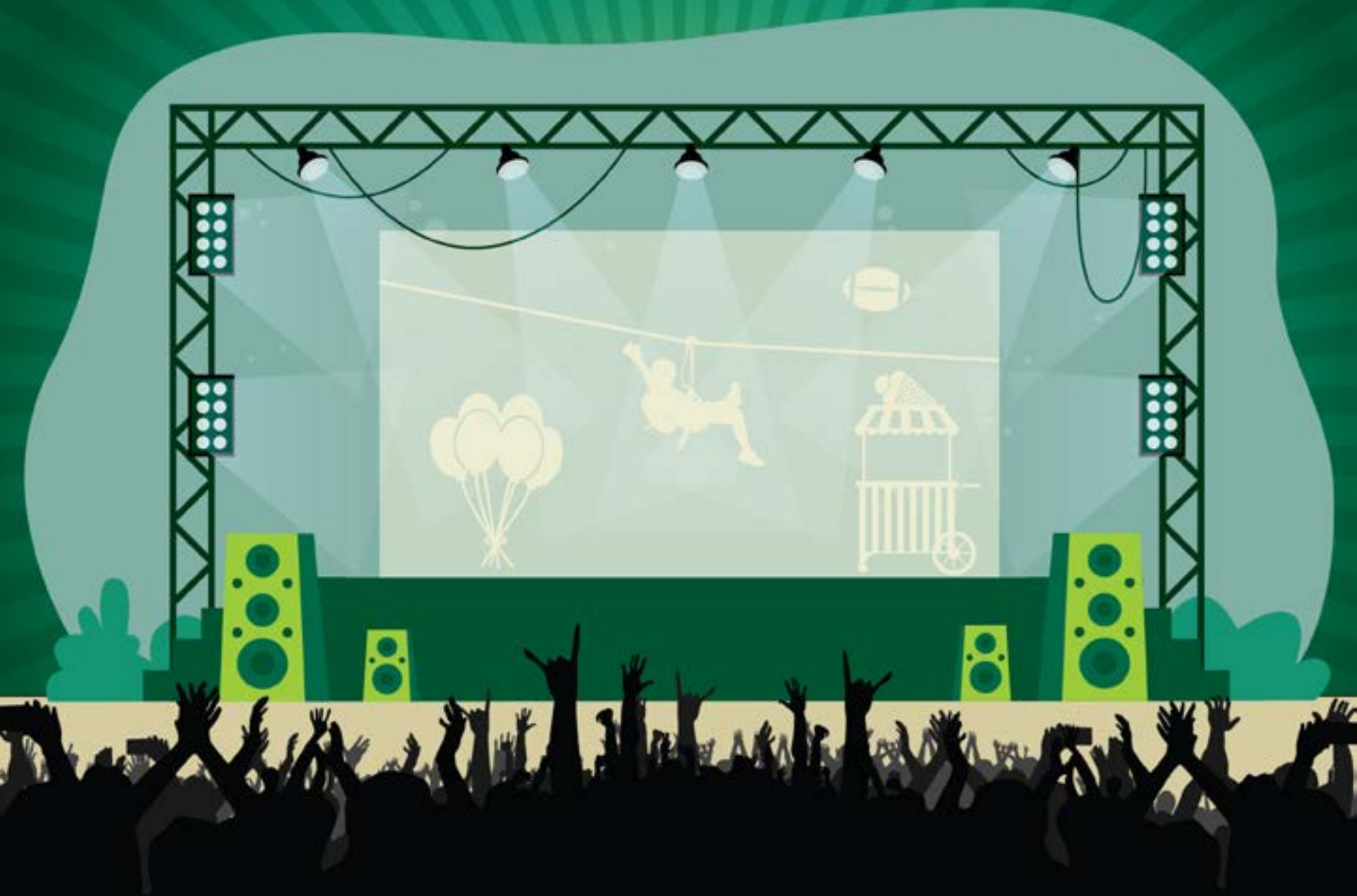


USE Week



The Oracle

|

Spring 2023

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USF Week preview

By Julia Saad



Center for Student Involvement Associate Director Joshua Wilson said he hopes students leave the last event of USF Week with a new affinity towards the university.

ORACLE PHOTO/JUSTIN SEECHARAN

This year's series of events to celebrate Bull pride with USF Week, organized by the Center of Student Involvement (CSI) and Campus Activities Board (CAB), will be spread out around campus, ending celebrations on Saturday at Tampa's Riverwalk.

The 13th annual USF Day was first established in 2010, according to CSI Associate Director Joshua Wilson. The week of events began Sunday with interactive Instagram games, challenges and giveaways on the @USF_CAB account stories.

USF Week will be celebrated at all three campuses, with events

occurring through Saturday.

The in-person events will start on Monday with the USF Kick-off, taking place at 6:30 p.m. at the Marshall Student Center (MSC) Ballroom. Students will hear from President Rhea Law and Student Government President Nithin Palyam and Vice President Amy Pham, as well as participate in activities.

"They will also have the opportunity to roller skate at the event, we will have two different crafts, trivia and surprise giveaways," Wilson said.

The University Lecture Series (ULS) will be held on Tuesday

with actors Lesley David Baker and Kate Flannery from "The Office" speaking at 8 p.m. at the MSC Ballroom. Student Programs Coordinator Hannah Sutherland said CSI is excited to welcome "The Office Duo."

"They are going to talk about everything 'The Office' related," Sutherland said "They are really known for being hilarious."

Although Sutherland mentioned all events are open to all students, she encouraged students to register for the ULS on BullsConnect prior to the date in order to guarantee a seat. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. and

preference will be given to those who pre-registered.

Tuesday will also kickoff the National Student Employment week, provided by USF Career Services. USF athletics will also have an opportunity to show off bull pride on a baseball game at 6 p.m., hosted at The Red against Bethune-Cookman.

The Ultimate Bull Talent Show will take place on Wednesday at the MSC Oval Theater, starting at 7 p.m. The winner of the talent show will receive a trophy and swag bags will be awarded to participants. Wilson said the regular Bulls Market held at the

MSC lawn will also be USF Week themed, with the USF Giving Week food drive.

The fourth day of USF Week will start with the Rockyverse Costume Contest, where students will compete presenting their most original version of USF's mascot Rocky the Bull. The event will be held at the MSC Amphitheater from 7 to 9 p.m.

Thursday will also be the mascot's Birthday Bash. The cake cutting and cupcake sharing events will be held at the MSC starting at 6 p.m. Wilson said

■ See PREVIEW on PAGE 5

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PREVIEW

Continued from PAGE 3

the birthday celebration will incorporate Rocky's need for speed theme.

"There will be racing games like Mario Kart and Virtual Reality games," Wilson said. "The movie 'Cars' will be showing indoors and outdoors, we will have bumper cars for students."

The last day of on-campus events will be marked by the free concert, Bullstock. Located at the parking lot in front of the Greek Village, the concert will start at 7 p.m., while doors open at 6 p.m. Students should be aware of the size and rules pertaining to personal bags, which are all displayed on USF's website,

according to Sutherland.

The Bullstock concert will be performed by five different artists, including pop artists Lasso and Sam Fisher, and indie band Coin. The stage will also be shared with USF's Battle of the Bands winners.

USF's Corbett Stadium will also host the spring football game on Friday. The game starts at 7 p.m., leaving students with two options of events on that day.

The last event scheduled for the week will take place at Tampa's Riverwalk. The Recreation and Wellness center will host USF's Riverfest from noon to 6 p.m. on Saturday, with

activities like zip lining and boating for students.

USF Week celebrations intend to proote school spirit and togetherness amongst students and staff, according to Wilson. He said the CSI administration hopes to give graduates a good experience before ultimately walking the stage.

"I want to say USF Week is like a second Homecoming, but to celebrate the spring semester. It is a time to celebrate the university," Wilson said.

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BY ALICE AUSTEN

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USF to bring more than just football in spring game

By Lanie De La Milera
SPORTS EDITOR



USF football will complete its spring preparations this week for the spring game. ORACLE PHOTO/HANNAH HALILI

South Florida football will host its spring game on Friday, but there is more than just a spring scrimmage going on at Corbett Stadium this year.

The action doesn't just start at kickoff, as USF Athletics will host a Fan Fest starting at 5 p.m. for all Bulls fans to enjoy. Along with the pregame celebration is a unique halftime event, with the USF football alumni game making its return after the first half.

During Fan Fest, attendees can find a variety of activities and goodies around Corbett, from food trucks to meet and greets. Here is what the Fan Fest includes:

-Multiple giveaways from sponsors and USF

-Kick to Win promo

-Three areas to purchase USF gear

-Multiple food options including a Kona mini, trucks and concessions

-Beer garden

-Kids Zone with a variety of children's activities

-HOT Band roadshow

-DJ and on-field MC Greg Wolf

Along with Fan Fest, supporters are also allowed and encouraged to tailgate beforehand in the lots of Sycamore Drive and the Yuengling Center.

Once the game begins, the players in green and gold won't be the only athletes that Bulls admirers will be looking forward to. During halftime, USF football will present the alumni game.

USF's alumni game will showcase 55 former Bulls athletes, 14 of which are former NFL players, six Super Bowl team athletes, four Super Bowl champions, three active NFL players, two USF Athletic Hall

of Fame members and one three-time CFL Grey Cup champion.

Five alumni will lead the green team, four of which are former or currently in the NFL. Four former USF athletes will lead the gold, with two formerly in the NFL and one currently playing.

Some notable names in the coaching rosters include Super Bowl champions Marquez Valdes-Scantling of the Kansas City Chiefs and Sam Barrington Kawika Mitchell of the New York Giants. The Bulls' Super Bowl competitor is Mitchell Wilcox, who was once with the Cincinnati Bengals.

Filling in the roles of the quarterback on both ends

is Blake Barnett and Super Bowl champion BJ Daniels for the green team and Super Bowl participants Eric Lee and Sampson Genus for the gold.

Down the list of players is a wide variety of those who have represented the program since 1997, many of whom have left a legacy at USF.

Now, spectators can watch some of their favorite alumni while taking a sneak peek into what South Florida football has in store for its upcoming season.


Both the spring game and the alumni match will be available to watch on ESPN+.



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USF Week to conclude with RiverFest activities

By Hannah Wagner
NEWS EDITOR



Students will be able to engage in a series of physical and social activities during the six-hour event.
SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE/UNSPLASH

RiverFest will conclude USF Week with an all-day schedule of festivities at Riverfront Park hosted by the Recreation and Wellness Center.

Activities will be free to students and occur on Saturday from noon to 6 p.m. Transportation is planned to be provided between the Riverfront Park and the Marshall Student Center to the park during the event’s duration.

The last bus will leave the park at 6 p.m. and carpooling is recommended due to the event’s limited parking space, according to the Recreation and Wellness website.

Attendees will be able to engage in a variety of activities, including boating, beach volleyball, disc golf, a slip and slide,

ziplining, walking around to different food trucks and participating in a treasure hunt.

There will also be time slots for students to participate in zumba classes on Riverfest Pavilion A from 1 to 2 p.m., according to the Recreation and Wellness website.

The first 100 attendees to sign in will also be entered into a giveaway of Recreation and Wellness Center merchandise — such as bags, cups and sunglasses — according to the Recreation and Wellness website.

A total of eight people have registered to attend as of Sunday, according to the Recreation and Wellness BullsConnect page.

‘The Office’ actors to speak at Tuesday’s ULS

By Nicole Vitale
CORRESPONDENT

As USF week approaches, the Tampa campus is preparing to welcome its second and last university lecture series speakers for the spring semester, actors Kate Flannery and Leslie David Baker.

The pair are best known for their roles as Meredith and Stanley in the Emmy Award-winning American sitcom series “The Office.”

The lecture will take place on Tuesday from 8-9 p.m. in the Marshall Student Center Ballroom. Although it is not

required, students can register for the free event through BullsConnect. There are 226 attendees pre-registered for the event as of Sunday, according to BullsConnect. Doors will open at 7:30 p.m.

Flannery and Baker were a part of “The Office” ensemble that won them not only the 2006 Outstanding Comedy Series Primetime Emmy Award, but also two Screen Actors Guild Awards in 2007 and 2008 among several other notable awards.

The actors have also had

notable appearances in other hit television shows such as “Young Sheldon,” “Steven Universe,” “That ‘70s Show” and “Malcolm in the Middle.”

In July 2020, Baker launched a kickstarter campaign to help fund a spin-off centered around his character. The goal is to raise \$300,000. Baker’s “Office” spinoff is titled “Uncle Stan: Coming Out of Retirement”.

For USF Week’s lecture, Flannery and Baker will focus on inspiring USF students through their experiences with

“The Office” and other acting pursuits, according to Center of Student Involvement (CSI) graduate assistant for programs Hannah Sutherland.

Flannery and Baker are being paid a combined \$40,000 by the Center of Student Involvement (CSI). Due to the rising cost of speakers, airfare and other components of bringing notable people to campus, the CSI has had to be strategic about when and how often the university hosts ULS events, according to Sutherland.

For this reason, she said USF was only able to host two lectures last semester and two this semester, as opposed to the three or four lecture events they have hosted in previous semesters. Though CSI is still navigating these cost challenges, Sutherland said the team dedicates their time to figuring out how to continue building ULS events that are worthwhile for students.

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COIN to headline Bullstock

By Ananya Siragavarapu
CORRESPONDENT

Every year, thousands of USF students storm parking lot 35 at the intersection of USF Holly and Genshaft for the annual Bullstock arts and music festival.

After months of preparation, Campus Activities Board's (CAB) annual Bullstock festival will occur on Friday from 7 to 11 p.m. with doors opening at 6 p.m. and a novel nonstop music line up.

Bullstock – a tradition older than most undergraduate students – has been a recurring favorite since 1997, and has swiftly claimed its place as CAB's signature event, according to Student Programs Coordinator Hannah Sutherland.

"It used to be more for local performers, but it's grown into this bigger event where we get to bring all these professional artists and well-known celebrity musicians. Around 2012, it ended up becoming an event that we specifically did at the end of USF week to really end with a bang and have a really great time," she said.

The headliners for this year's show will be COIN, a pop-rock band from Tennessee, accompanied by Latin artist Lasso and pop-rock opener Sam Fisher. Interspersed with the performances of these celebrity artists will be the bands Hot Honey and 10-76, respective judge choice and audience choice winners from the Battle of the Bands competition hosted by USF on March 24.

As the conclusion of USF Week with upwards of a thousand attendees expected, the event will foster loyalty to both the school and enhance interconnectedness between the students, according to Sutherland.

"We see that a student feeling a connection to the university is supplemented by activities



The annual music festival will feature COIN, Lasso and other artists for nonstop music for its entire four-hour duration.

INSTAGRAM/@coin

like this where we can bring people together," Sutherland said. "We've gotten really great feedback about our artists so far, so we expect a really great turnout."

Sutherland said Bullstock allows a social respite from the stresses of final exams and papers, which students will soon be facing.

"It's a good opportunity for USF students to take a break, because we know that people who are happy, students who are happy, and having a good

time and building a community with one another are going to do better in other facets of their higher education," Sutherland said.

2023 Bullstock will be the first year in which CAB hopes to maintain a nonstop stage presence for all four hours. Performances will be constantly conducted all throughout the evening, according to Sutherland.

An exciting lineup of artists and constant musical stimulation are not the only appealing aspects of this year's Bullstock.

Sutherland said the lineup will also reflect USF's diverse student population.

"I am really excited about this Bullstock because we are featuring a Latin artist, Lasso... we've got such a fantastic population of Latinx students here at USF. It just makes sense to have a Latin artist, and that is going to set us apart from previous years," Sutherland said.

CAB has hired an extensive array of food trucks and will supply two carnival rides and mystery giveaways.

"Any person could come to this event and find something they like because there's so many different genres of music, there's rides if you're not interested in the music, there's great food. There are all sorts of things to do," Sutherland said.

"It's all about bringing the USF community together to have fun, to have safe fun and to enjoy some really great music with one another."

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