After almost two years of writing these twice a week, we’re finally at my last newsletter. As I reflect on how the world has changed since August of 2020, I can’t help but feel pity for the time lost to a pandemic and really excited for the next steps as life continues getting more and more normal. Through COVID-19, the return to campus, and now a world where we can even hold an in-person Rutgers Day, I’m amazed at how much the student body has endured over the last two years. Everyone should feel proud of getting through what we did and I’m beyond happy if these newsletters made it even a little easier for anyone. Looking toward my own next steps I’m both terrified and excited. Terrified because the real world offers a whole host of trials and tribulations not even fathomed in college, and excited because we’re finally able to experience the world again. The next steps for this newsletter are pretty great: my successor, Noa Deocampo, is sure to bring tons of fresh ideas and give some new life to this thing. As I step down, the last piece of advice I would give everyone is to focus on human connection going forward as we’re finally back to a world where you can experience it. Anyway, it's really been a blast and a privilege writing these for you all. Thank you so much for reading!

Send it off right by checking out some of these events and announcements. Finals stress got you down? Check out the Honors Peer Leader hosted De-stress with Meditation Event. Join the EOF Men of Color Statewide Initiative for a discussion on the upcoming book, The Movement Made Us, at the upcoming event In Conversation: Kiese Laymon and David Dennis Jr. Show some love to our most recent Senior Spotlight: Serena Lukhoff.

Signing Off,
Justin Confalone
Your Newsletter Editor
De-stress with Meditation
Finals season is intense, like, really intense. Get some time away from your class material at the upcoming De-stress with Meditation Event hosted by Honors Peer Leader Maddie. This event, which takes place today, May 2 at 2 PM EST via Zoom, is a great opportunity to rejuvenate your mind in the middle of such a stressful few weeks. The Meeting ID is 989-8037-5216 and the Password is 965242.

In Conversation: Kiese Laymon and David Dennis Jr
The EOF Men of Color Statewide Initiative presents a special digital event. Tomorrow, May 3rd at 6:00 PM EST, Kiese Laymon (author of the award-winning memoir Heavy: An American Memoir), will be in conversation with David Dennis Jr. ahead of the release of Dennis' upcoming book with his father David Dennis Sr., The Movement Made Us. The discussion will focus on the upcoming book, its correlation between the Civil Rights Movement and modern social justice movements. It also delves into their journeys through boyhood in the South, parent/son relationship dynamics, collective trauma of Black men and boys, and Stephen Curry. Register here.

Senior Spotlight: Serena Lukhoff
Show some love to the most recent Senior Spotlight: Serena Lukhoff! After graduating with a double major in Cognitive Science and German, Serena will go on to teach English and conduct research in Austria on a Fulbright grant. Read all about Serena's incredible journey and plans for the future here.