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## **Binghamton Fraternities Organize against Alcohol Abuse**

*Four fraternities come together to spread alcohol awareness*

*University Forum to be held at 7pm on April 23<sup>rd</sup> in Rm 149 Science Building #1*

(BINGHAMTON-NY) SUNY Binghamton Fraternities have had enough of dealing with negative stereotypes. On April 23<sup>rd</sup> 2009 a group known as “The Machine” is hosting an interactive forum to educate fellow students on the dangers of alcohol abuse. Many students have agreed in that entering college, the media have always portrayed Greek life as nothing more than just drinking and partying. Though many school affiliated programs have been created to deal with underage drinking, none have been effective at getting the message out to students.

In efforts to minimize alcohol abuse, campus directors have created a mandatory online course known as Alcohol EDU. At a minimum this program takes 3 hours to complete and many students do not sit in front of the computer screen during the whole duration of the course.

“This program has become a chore and to be honest, I didn’t really get anything out of it” said a 20 year old student. When asked about what the legal BAC (Blood Alcohol Content) level was, many students did not know.

Members of “The Machine” will speak about their real life experiences in conjunction with guest speaker, James F. May, coordinator of Broome County’s Stop DWI program, in an interactive discussion of alcohol related incidents. This forum hopes to create awareness within the student body on the decision of how much one should drink at a party.

“I think this is a great thing that these gentlemen are doing” said Larry King, Health Professor at the university. “Not only will the audience listen to these men because they are their classmates, but they can also relate to many of their experiences.”

“The Machine” is a group formed by four different fraternities with different cultural backgrounds. Established in 2008, “The Machine” has worked to spread diversity and contribute to the community through many service events.

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If you would like more information regarding this topic, please call Stanley at (917) 499-0615 or e-mail Stanley at [stanley.yee01@gmail.com](mailto:stanley.yee01@gmail.com)