

# [***Silent Disco event evokes Barbie Dreamland | Lifestyle | dailytitan.com***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6BRP-3MH1-JBSN-3023-00000-00&context=1516831)

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**Body**

A sea of pink engulfed student housing last Wednesday evening as students and staff, dressed as their favorite ***Barbies***, assembled for the ***Barbie*** Dreamland Silent Disco for a vibrant celebration to conclude this year's Women's History Month.

The silent disco was a collaborative project hosted by the Women's Resource Center and the Athena House, designed to provide a safe space for female and non-binary students, foster a community and dance the night away.

Coordinators decided ***Barbie*** Dreamland as the theme after surveying students on what they wanted to see at the event.

Brianna Guzman, community coordinator for the Athena House, works on efforts to provide programming that encourages gender empowerment, and said she felt the theme was an effective way to complete the month.

"It drew a lot of attention in terms of what women go through in a patriarchal society," Guzman said. "What better way to make a connection to a movie that has created a lot of conversations and sparked a lot of dialogues about wanting to do better by women and for women."

The occasion capped off a series of events hosted by the Women's Resource Center; many of which were educational and explored important issues surrounding women and gender equity.

Guzman said she hoped the event would allow students to end the month with an uplifted spirit, rather than solely focusing on the critical topics surrounding women's history.

"Sometimes people aren't ready to learn or unlearn certain things," she said. "So this was kind of a good introduction to that to make people feel more included and feel like they can kind of participate and do more reflecting on their own."

In addition to commemorating Women's History Month, the event was intended to create a welcoming and secure dance atmosphere for students; a setting where many individuals do not always feel safe.

The event featured fruity mocktails, festive pink snacks and multiple ***Barbie*** inspired photo booths intended for students to take advantage of.

Music was provided by Titan Radio, however, the playlist was not audible on the dance floor. Instead of speakers, students were offered headphones that allowed them to tune into three different music channels: Latin, Hip-Hop and Titan Radio stations.

Parmeeda Nasab, a third-year public health major, said she appreciated the event's convenience for students on campus and felt it allowed her to enjoy a comfortable experience with her friends.

"I think this is very good where you had your own space, your own music," Nasab said. "It was much better than an actual bar experience."

Many of the participating students and staff felt that the ***Barbie*** phenomenon had ignited important conversations surrounding the female experience.

Rogelia Mata-Villegas, coordinator for the Women's Resource Center, commented on how the movie highlighted issues like body inclusivity stigmas and cultural differences. She said she hoped it would encourage students to embrace its message and recognize they too can be their own ***Barbie***.

"I think at the end of the day, ***Barbie*** was supposed to be shaped to us," Mata-Villegas said. "We weren't supposed to be shaped to ***Barbie***."

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