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EVAN REINHARDT | SPARTAN DAILY

San Jose State homecoming tradition returns after two years, hundreds attend

**By Christine Stevens** 

STAFF WRITER

Many San Jose State community members expressed joyous relief about reconnecting with peers at the university's 14th annual "Fire on the Fountain" Thursday night.

While the homecoming tradition was canceled in 2020 because of the coronavirus pandemic, hundreds of people gathered on Tower Lawn from 4-9 p.m.

International business junior Anika Puri said it was her second time at Fire on the Fountain since attending her freshman year.

"It reminds me of high school in the sense that everyone comes out and has this spirit and there's this whole atmosphere of everyone coming together," Puri said.

The event featured an alumni social, student organization fair, student performers and a pyrotechnics show followed by the homecoming court announcement.

Puri said she enjoys the Fire on the Fountain performances because they portray a wide variety of cultures, reflecting SJSU's diverse campus.

Some performances included Spartan WUSHU, a contemporary Chinese performance based martial art, Korean Entertainment Club, the Sikh Student Association, Spartan Mambo and Grupo Folklorico.

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**Justin Amanita performs** corn starch fire breathing on a Tower Lawn event stage Thursday at about 8 p.m. Amanita is part of the group Organic Pyrotechnic, also known as OG Pyro, who perform fire breathing with acrobatics, technical skill and dance style, according to its website.

## Local activists: agricultural protesters in India need US backing

By Saumya Monga

STAFF WRITER

Many San Jose State and Bay Area community members continue to support farmers in India who've been protesting since three contentious agricultural laws passed in September 2020 pertaining to the "mandi system."

Amar Singh, Bay Area Kisaan Movement co-founder, said the mandi system is a market for farmers to sell their crops.

As "Kisaan" stands for farmers in Punjabi, Singh said the group has been organizing local protests in support of repealing India's recent agricultural laws for more than a year.

"With these new laws that went into place, the [minimum support price] was taken away in the mandi system. When the farmers go there to sell their crop, they're going to be at the mercy of these big corporations that can literally put any price on anything," Singh said. "These laws also take away the governance."

The minimum support price is the lowest price farmers are guaranteed for their produce, according to a Feb. 3 Juggernaut article.

The Juggernaut is a media company that reports on South Asia, which consists of countries in the Indian subcontinent, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Afghanistan, according to its website.

India's recent farm laws eliminate the minimum

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