Message from Academic Festival Coordinators

Excellence matters at Skidmore College. Students write perceptive papers, conduct insightful scientific and mathematical research, choreograph breathtaking dances, and create stimulating theatrical productions. In labs, at field sites, in libraries, and in studios, our students take ownership of their curriculum and demonstrate the mix of creativity and excellence that characterizes Academic Festival.

The twentieth annual Academic Festival brings the Skidmore community together to celebrate our students’ achievements. Departments and programs across the College have selected their very best students to present during four designated time slots. With no more than nine concurrent sessions in each time slot, we hope to attract large audiences to all of our sessions. This year we are once again offering a popular lunchtime slot for departments and programs to sponsor their own sessions; some panels will extend into or begin during the lunchtime slot.
Schedule of Events

May 2, 2018

Refreshments are available throughout the day in various locations.
9:00 – 10:20 AM: SESSION 1

1. Neuroscience Senior Thesis Projects and Independent Research Experiences
Tisch 100
Facult Sponsor: Sara Lagalwar, Neuroscience
Presenters: Donna Nguyen ‘18, Daniela Cosio ‘18, Brianne Cook ‘18, Ben Juneau ‘18, Andrew Przysinda ‘18

Senior neuroscience majors conducting a senior thesis and independent research will share their work with students and faculty.

Posters
Daniela Cosio ‘18: Disrupting the Endocannabinoid System During Adolescence: Effects on Adult Sociability
Donna Nguyen ‘18: Treatment and Causes of Mitochondrial Dysfunction in Spinocerebellar ataxia type 1
Brianne Cook ‘18: Neuropeptide F: Sexually dimorphic expression and regulation of Drosophila melanogaster sleep
Ben Juneau ‘18: Optogenetic Stimulation of sNPF Neurons Promotes Sleep in Drosophila melanogaster
Andrew Przysinda ‘18: EB Flies: Putting Flies to Sleep, Keeping them Asleep Longer & The Fight Between Sleep-Promoting sNPF neurons and Wake-Promoting Basal Ganglia Neurons

2. Psychology Senior Thesis Projects and Independent Research Experiences
Tisch 1st Floor Hallway
Facult Sponsor: Hassan Lopez, Psychology
Presenters: Alexandra Dennis ‘18, Christina Sanzari ‘18, Yedili Genao ‘18, Mariam Vahradyan ‘18, Courtney Plute ‘18, Mingqi Li ‘18, Gabriella Ponzini ‘18, Alexandra Tremblay-McGaw ‘18, Wallis Slater ‘18

Seniors psychology majors conducting an honors thesis will present the results of their research projects in this lively poster session.

Alexandra Dennis ‘18: “Backlash against men who deprioritize work”
Christina Sanzari ‘18: “Backlash against women who deprioritize caregiving”
Yedili Genao ‘18: “Biracial confronters: a replication and exploration of mediators”
Mariam Vahradyan ‘18: “The moderating effects of perceptions of motivation behind company diversity messages”
Courtney Plute ‘18: “Effect of education on clinical likelihood to recommend equine assisted therapy for autism”

Mingqi Li ‘18: “The development and validation of interpersonal outcome expectancy of thinness (IOE-T) in college students”

Gabriella Ponzini ‘18: “More than my disorder: evaluating a brief video campaign targeting barriers to treatment for social anxiety disorder”


Wallis Slater ‘18: “Downstream effects of self-distancing”

3. Engaging Buddhist Philosophy
Palamountain 201
Faculty Sponsor: Joel Smith, Philosophy
Presenters: Zhenyang Gao ‘19, Harry Hale ‘18, Isabella Hernandez ‘18, Noah Larsen ‘18, Erin Silgardo ‘18, Nate White ‘18, Tongtian Xiao ‘18
Respondents: Elliot Caron-Vera ‘18, Anthony D’Alessandro ‘18, Isa Fabella ‘18, Rachel Greene ‘18, Clara Jones ‘18, Quinn Valence ‘19, Alexander Zimmerman ‘18

The Philosophy Senior Seminar focused on Buddhist philosophy. Projects included:
1. “Hume & Nagarjuna on Causality” (Tongtian Xiao ‘18)
2. “Yogacara & the Ontological Nature of Consciousness” (Zhenyang Gao ‘19)
3. “Nishitani’s Buddhist Critique of Nietzsche” (Noah Larsen ‘18)
4. “The Compassion of Buddhist Self-Immolation” (Harry Hale ‘18)
5. “How Buddhist Compassion Reframes the Western Abortion Debate” (Isabella Hernandez ‘18)
7. “Ontology of the Work of Art in Tantric Buddhism” (Nate White ‘18)

4. SSCP: Three Client Presentations
Palamountain 202
Faculty Sponsor: Colleen A. Burke, Management & Business
Co-Chairs: Sean Timmons ‘18, Jack Sloan ‘18, Caite Opfer ‘18

The Skidmore-Saratoga Consulting Partnership (SSCP) (MB360) is an advanced practicum and seminar providing pro bono consulting services to the Saratoga community while affording Skidmore students intense, hands-on, real-world consulting experience. The three Spring 2018 clients are: The Daily Gazette, Saratoga Automobile Museum, and The Inn at Saratoga. Each of the three consulting teams will present a
condensed form of their final client deliverables including their strategic recommendations and supporting research.

5. Spain and Latin America: Literature and Religion
Palamountain 300
Faculty Sponsors: Maria Lander, World Languages & Literature
Presenters: Harry Risoleo, ‘18, Alison Ungaro, ‘18

This session will showcase the research work on topics related to the Pre-Columbian Art and Golden Age Spanish Theater.

Harry Risoleo ‘18: "Calderón and the Chiaroscuro: Light and Dark in Lazarillo de Tormes, El médico de su honra, and El pintor de su deshonra."

Alison Ungaro ‘18: "The juxtaposition of the Sun and the Moon in Chimu and Moche Art."

6. “Perspectives on Music, Culture, and Improvisation
Bolton 281
Faculty Chair: Gordon Thompson, Music
Presenters: Alastair Canavan ‘18, Sayeed Joseph ‘18

Alastair Canavan will give a presentation entitled “An Exploration of the Variation in Sean-Nós Singing” that will address this musical tradition’s history and culture as well as practitioners’ characteristic techniques of musical variation. Sayeed Joseph will give a presentation entitled “The King Kunta Era: Blues and Improvisation in Kendrick Lamar’s To Pimp a Butterfly” that deals with the recent work of a major figure in contemporary hip-hop.

7. History: By All Means
Tisch 307
Faculty Sponsor: Tillman Nechtman, History
Presenters: Sophia Eberhardt ‘19, Hongqiao (Ted) Li ‘18, Isabel Long ‘21, Aidan Walsh ‘19

How do we record and recall our past? Typically, this work is done in printed form. But, at Skidmore, students do history…by all means. This session will feature four different courses. These classes ranged from the medieval to the modern periods, from the South Pacific to the Americas, and students produced final projects using a host of media. This session will highlight these innovative ways of recording and assessing the past.
10:30 – 11:50 AM: SESSION 2

   
   Tisch 203
   
   *Faculty Sponsor: John Brueggemann, Sociology*
   
   Presenters: Abigail Gramaglia ‘18, Ana Sosa ‘18, Keara Sternberg ‘18, Ruby Thompson ‘18, Tongtian Xiao ‘18
   
   
   Abigail Gramaglia ‘18, “There's No Place Like Home? Understanding the Relationship Between Racial Residential Segregation and Self-Reported Health”
   
   
   Ruby Thompson ‘18, “Religious Mobility in the United States: The Effects of Income and Economic Mobility on Religious Conversion”
   

2. American Studies Honors Theses
   
   Palamountain 201
   
   *Faculty Sponsor: Daniel A. Nathan, American Studies*
   
   Presenters: Miller Fina ‘18, Magden Gipe ‘18, Laila Morgan ‘18, Jack Spiegelman ‘18
   
   Jack Spiegelman ‘18, “Love & Haight in the 1960s”
   
   No decade in American history has been defined by greater societal tumult and agitation to disrupt the status quo more than the 1960s. San Francisco’s Haight-Ashbury neighborhood during this period offered a bold attempt to think and behave differently, questioning the mainstream and disrupting a society historically resistant to change. This podcast will present some of the stories, sounds, and voices that shaped the Haight and would help to define generations to come.

   Miller Fina ‘18, “Bad Apples Win: Gender, Race, and the State of Exception on post-9/11 Television”
   
   My Honors Thesis is about how, in the post-9/11 world, television serials such as 24, Homeland, and the Hawaii Five-0 reboot are informed by and perpetuate trauma culture and the state of exception. I argue that these shows glorify hyper-masculinity, violent nationalism, and discrimination against the racialized Other. They also leave viewers suspicious of evil in their own backyards and in their government.
Laila Morgan ’18, “Birth Justice through Birth Stories”
My Honor Thesis is an ethnographic exploration of racial disparities in local maternal healthcare systems, focusing on how doulas understand and act on the notion of birth justice. This project highlights the birth stories of eight women in the Capital Region. It uses oral histories of birth as valuable tools for understanding and achieving birth justice.

Magden Gipe ’18, “Appropriation as Celebration: A New View of Remixing”
By critiquing the stereotype of the “remix rebel,” this paper documents a collective shift in attitudes towards copyright law and artistic appropriation in the digital age. It also refutes claims that remix artists are “copyright abolitionists” with no regard for the sanctity of ideas. Further, it discusses how remixes can express how an individual experiences popular culture. Ultimately, I argue that context is essential to understand and appreciate remix art.

3. Critical Political Challenges at in the United States and Abroad
Bolton 280
Faculty Sponsor: Natalie Taylor, Political Science
Presenters: Will Berg ’18, Izzi Bertolozzi ’18, Isabelle Fischer ’18, Chloe Singer ’18, Rachel Thomeer ’18, Olivia Cox ’18, Nosheen Hotak ’18, Kira Geary ’18
Posters: Alexis Cantor ’18, Emil Ghitman Gilkes ’18, Janine Kritschgau ’18

Students from the Department of Political Science will share their insights to political questions and controversies in America and around the world. They examine controversies surrounding free speech and Title IX on college campuses and electoral politics in the United States. They also consider economic, gender, legal, and food policies in a range of countries.

Will Berg ’18, “Repressing Repressive Forces: Marcusean Subversion of Free Speech on College Campuses Today”

Izzi Bertolozzi ’18, “Addressing Non-Compliance with Title IX in College and University Athletic Departments”

Isabelle Fischer ’18, “Who Cares about Your Error Bar? A Survey Experiment on Visualizing Uncertainty in Politics”


Olivia Cox ’18, “Why Do They Feed Us Cardboard?: School Food Policies in the U.S. and Europe”
Nosheen Hotak ‘18, “Non-State Legal Practices in Afghanistan”

Kira Geary ‘18, “Explaining Variations in Responses to Gender –Based Violence by International Organizations”

**Posters:**
Alexis Cantor ‘18, “Political Fund Raising in the Digital Age”

Emil Ghitman Gilkes ‘18, “Who Cares About Morality?”

Janine Kritschgau ‘18, “Vote 4 Me”

4. **Capstone Projects in Literary Studies**
   **Davis Auditorium**
   *Faculty Sponsor: Andrew Bozio, English*
   Presenters: Jessica Austin ‘18, Katie Jacobsen ‘18, Rachel Rest ‘18, Jess Shapiro ‘18, Allison Trunkey ‘18

   This panel will showcase some of the best of the English department’s capstone projects in literary studies. Students will give an overview of their work and read a short excerpt. There will be time for questions and comments from the audience.

5. **Senior Thesis Presentations in Economics**
   **Emerson Auditorium (Session 2 & Lunch Hour)**
   *Faculty Sponsors: M. Das & Q. Ge, Economics*
   Presenters: Ilana Antiles ‘18, Woeser Dolma ‘18, Sijia Fan ‘18, Brianna Greene ‘18, Genesis Moran Guerrero ‘18, Paul Lapinski ‘18, Erik Manditch ‘18, Brendon McDonnell ‘18, Nicholas McWharter ‘18, Mercy Paine ‘18, Byron Poplawski ‘18, Ben Rudman ‘18

   Every year the Economics Department features its best Senior theses at Academic Festival.


   Woeser Dolma ‘18, “Examining Political, Environmental and Economic Determinants of Refugee Flows from Mainland China to North and South Countries”

   Sijia Fan ‘18, “Stock Market Reactions to Industrial Disasters: Evidence from Incident Firms and Their Competitors”

   Brianna Greene ‘18, “What is the Effect of Obesity on Productivity by Industry Type?”

   Genesis Moran Guerrero ‘18, “Renting in Urban United States: Examining Determinants of Rent Prices across Metropolitan Cities”
Paul Lapinski ’18, “No hablo inglés – Language and Skill Upgrading in Mexican Migration”

Erik Manditch ’18, “Can Economic Moats Provide Investors With a Competitive Advantage?”


Nicholas McWharter ’18, “Does the Media Have an Impact on the Volatility of Bitcoin?”

Mercy Paine ’18, “Mo’ Money Mo’ Points: World Cup Skiing Success in Relationship to GDP Per Capita, Population, Snowfall, and Inequality”

Byron Poplawski ’18, “Varying effects of the European Central Bank’s Public Sector Purchase Program on Eurozone Economies”

Ben Rudman ’18, “Should We Stay or Should We Go? Investigating the Impacts of Intervention on Post-War Development”

6.  Collaborative Capstone Research in Chemistry
Dana 240 & 2nd Floor Dana South Hallway (Session 2 & Lunch Hour)
Faculty Sponsor:  Steven Frey, Chemistry
Student Co-Chair: Brian Wollocko ’18
Presenters:  Oral Session - Lieza Chan ’18, Deborah Kim ’18, Matthew Mailloux ’18, Christopher Ostaszewski ’18, Karli Rasmussen ’18, Katherine Shi ’18, Robin Stix ’18, Rebecca Wales ’18; Poster Session - Alexandra Dillon ’19, Kristina Foley ’18, Margot Friedman ’18, Laura Heinlein ’19, Laura Hynes ’18, Hannah Knaul ’18, Hillary Ramirez ’18, Natalie Stewart ’18, Sampriti Thapa ’18, Elise Tierney ’18, Emily Williams ’18, Brian Wollocko ’18, Yao Xiao ’19, Ziheng Zhou ’18

Students will present their results from chemical research done in collaboration with faculty during the academic year. They will discuss the larger context of the work and their individual contributions to these projects. In particular, the presentations will focus on how understanding the molecular nature of matter provides important insights into atmospheric processes, protein structure and function, translation of the genetic code, alternative energy sources, and the synthesis of novel organic and inorganic compounds.

7.  Achievements in Anthropology
Bolton 380
Faculty Sponsor: Siobhan Hart, Anthropology
Presenters:  Kalle Fox ’18, Anya Goodman ’18, Amanda Muir ’18, Caitria O’Shaughnessy ’18, Rachel Turk ’18, Qilin Zhao ’18, Arielle Zoland ’18
Senior Anthropology majors will present the results of research projects completed while at Skidmore including fieldwork in Vietnam, Iceland, Mongolia, Indonesia, and Saratoga Springs. The presentations will exhibit the diversity of topics, such as midwifery, materiality, museums, cultural heritage and sustainability, studied by Anthropology students. These projects incorporate a variety of anthropological research methods including ethnography, archaeology, and analyses of policy, practice, and space.

Analyzing Small Community Perspectives on Sustainability Development Through Icelandic Education
Kalle Fox ‘18
This paper reports on research combining anthropology and climate change in the Arctic, particularly Iceland. The objective of this study was to analyze the influence of environmental education and education of sustainability development (ESD) within a small community to gain insight into bottom-up initiatives. Ethnographic research was conducted by interviewing faculty members at the local schools in Ísafjörður, the capital of the Westfjörds in the northwest region. I combined this with historical document analysis of the country’s curriculum guides. My findings showed that while there is an awareness of the impact of climate change occurring in schools, sustainability efforts in Ísafjörður are individual and community-driven as opposed to being taught in a classroom setting. My analyses suggest that practicing sustainability and educating the youth through small-scale approaches allows for more community-driven initiatives that are more visible and tangible than the education of climate change alone.

Midwifery: Autonomy in Birth
Anya Goodman ‘18
This study explores the culture of midwifery in Saratoga Springs, New York. The midwifery model offers an alternative to the modern American approach to birth, which often involves strict obstetric protocol and great medical intervention. With anthropological concepts like the obstetric dilemma and obligate midwifery in mind, I investigate why some women may choose to give birth using the midwifery model of care as opposed to the medical model. My findings suggest that midwifery offers a woman-centered approach to birth, embracing biology’s natural process and only calling upon medical intervention when deemed necessary. Midwifery is often viewed as an “alternative” way to give birth, yet its practices still have a notable presence in Saratoga Springs, a town historically appreciative of natural healing customs. Through in-depth interviews, participant observation, and building rapport, I have identified the values associated with midwifery in Saratoga Springs: autonomy, comfort, and space.

Passing Information Across Language and Time: Videography in the National Museum of Mongolia
Amanda Muir ‘18
Developing nations are increasingly focusing on the conservation of cultural heritage objects. Such projects involve full time curators and multiple personnel working across language barriers and with varied backgrounds in curatorial practices. In this paper I describe how
museums such as the National Museum of Mongolia face these challenges. In 2017 the Museum undertook a collaborative project with an educational NGO, their curator, and a conservator to retag and digitally catalog their collection to protect from theft. To make training incoming interns faster and easier, and to span language barriers, I produced an instructional video. The results have been that rotating interns and employees are able to understand, across language boundaries, efficient methods of object labeling. Creating “how to” videos and papers are a good way to not only teach diverse rotating personal but also to create standard practices that are sustainable for museum contexts with limited resources.

A Case Study of Museum Culture in Vietnam: Vietnam Museum of Ethnology
Caitria O'Shaughnessy ‘18
This study examines the issues of effectiveness of presentation and intention in museums, specifically if visitors are getting out of their experiences in museums what the museum is trying to convey. Is the way museums present their information effective in educating and engaging their audience? The purpose of this study was too answer this question on the basis of a case study done at the Vietnam Museum of Ethnology. The methods used included written surveys filled out by museum patrons, participant observation of the museum’s daily goings on, and formal and informal interviews of museum staff. My results produced a thorough understanding of the museum’s goals for its exhibits; patrons’ actions, identities, experiences, and suggestions; museum history; the museum’s financial situation; and staff frustrations. The principal conclusion of the study is that the museum’s goal and message do not always reach the patrons.

Choice, alternative birth practices, and the effects of reproductive justice work in the capital region of New York State
Rachel Turk ‘18
This paper explores how the prevalence of choices influences a woman's birth experience. My research examines why the midwifery model is not available to everyone, the ways in which widening the number of models available to women expands the rights of women, and how law pertaining to modes of birth disrupts women’s available choices. I look at why a woman might choose to have a home birth and use a midwife and the role of birth advocacy in expanding women's choices in birth. My analysis shows that in the New York State Capital Region, the rich history of midwifery has provided women with relative access to the practice. My analysis shows the benefits of making midwifery a viable practice while also accounting for the effects on the birth experience that occur when there is a lack of availability.

Keeping the Soul of Borobudur: Local Community Engagement in Borobudur Cultural Heritage Preservation
Qilin Zhao ‘18
This study examines how Borobudur temple, one of the World Heritage Site in Indonesia, is delocalized from its context and how local people have responded to the delocalization. Drawing from the concept of the Authorized Heritage Discourse (AHD), I argue that the management of Borobudur has separated the site from the local community. However, ethnographic field work with the Warung Info Jagad Cleguk community revealed how
local people are rebuilding their connections with the Borobudur temple through dance performances and art festivals. Though Borobudur is now mainly managed in accordance with UNESCO’s values, local people still claim a strong sense of responsibility in preserving and reviving the soul of Borobudur – bringing back the spiritual richness of the temple created by their Javanese ancestors, through actively and creatively engaging with the stories and values embedded in this place.

Body Objectification as a Form of Empowerment: The Materiality of Drag
Arielle Zoland ‘18
I examine aspects of popular culture drag performance that contribute to the understanding of the materiality of drag. Material objects are used in drag to strengthen visual gender performativity. However, a less visible aspect of materiality in drag performance is the body of a drag performer. I argue that through drag performance the body becomes an object, and this objectification of the body is a means of empowerment. While there are many kinds of drag, my focus is primarily on the performances of drag queens from the reality TV show RuPaul’s Drag Race and YouTube series, “Untucked!” Further, I focus on two drag queens to show how gender is conceptualized within drag, as well as how it is a platform to express and transcend notions of gender. Using queer theorist Judith Butler’s gender performativity theory, I analyze the ways in which objectification and gender performativity coincide on RuPaul’s Drag Race.

8. Department of Health and Human Physiological Sciences Senior Research Sports Center 201 (Session 2 & Lunch Hour)
Faculty Sponsors: Stephen Ives and Mary Roberts, Health & Human Physiological Sciences
Presenters: Isabelle Albin ‘18, Ethan Brazo ‘18, Peter Califano ‘18, Leah Glickman ‘18, Benjamin Louchheim ‘18, Alexs Matias ‘18, Kayla Rose ‘18, Caroline Saros ‘18, Emily Schlicht ‘18, Hayden Smith ‘18, Andrei Tuluca ‘18, Julia Leslie ‘18

Does heat stress and exercise impact cardiovascular function? Does dehydration effect performance of collegiate hockey players? Does medium chain triglycerides alter fat oxidation during exercise? And does footwear alter movement biomechanics to reduce anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injuries? Get the answers to these questions and more when senior Exercise Science majors present their senior thesis results. A total of eleven students who elected to conduct senior thesis research will present results from four different projects.

The Synergistic Effects of Environmental Heat Stress and High Intensity Interval Training (HIIT): Impact on Measures of Cardiovascular Function and Performance
Isabelle Albin ‘18, Peter Califano ‘18, Leah Glickman ‘18, Alexs Matias ‘18

The Effects of Dehydration on Game Performance in Division III Male Hockey Players
Ethan Brazo ‘18
**Impacts of MCT Oil and Caffeine Pre-Exercise Supplementation on Fat Oxidation during Steady State Exercise Compared to LCT and Caffeine Supplementation**
Benjamin Louchheim ‘18, Kayla Rose ‘18, Caroline Saros ‘18, Hayden Smith ‘18

**Identifying Specific Artificial Turf Footwear to Minimize Abnormal Biomechanical Movements and Maximize Lower Extremity Alignment in Female College Athletes to Reduce Anterior Cruciate Ligament (ACL) Injuries.**
Emily Schlicht ‘18, Andrei Tuluca ‘18, Julia Leslie ‘18

**9. Medieval Rare Book Exhibit: Was Arthur Real?**
**Library**
*Sponsor: Marta Brunner, Library*
Presenters: Skye Bell ’19, Emma Berkowitz ’20, Matthew Clyne ’20, Hannah Kotler ’20, Ryann Lee ’21, Rachel Liacos ’20, Jack McCarthy ’20, Olivia Mendlinger ’20, Holly O’Byrne ’20, Rose O’Connor ’18, Rose O’Gara ’20, Bailey Ottley ’20, Natalie Shaheen ’20, John Shannon ’20, Lindsay Shinn ’20, Sara Tumulty-Ollemar ’20, Louisa Vincent ’20

A generous new donation of Arthurian rare books given by alum Kathryn (Katey) Winant, Skidmore Class of 1948, was used in a collaborative effort between the Department of Special Collections in the Library and EN229H-001 Intro to Medieval Literature students to create an exhibit highlighting significant works in the collection. Students traveled to visit the donor and interviewed her for context behind the donation and the collection’s history, designed the exhibit and wrote descriptive labels, and developed a catalog of the exhibit.

**LUNCH HOUR 12:00 – 1:20 PM**

**1. Religious Freedom: Persecution, Liberation and Power**
**Ladd 206 (Lunch Hour & Session 3)**
*Faculty Sponsor: Eliza Kent, Religious Studies*
Presenters: Lauren Berry-Kagan ’18, Willy Bresee ‘18, Ben Ginsberg ‘18, Caleb Gleason ’19, Clara Jones ‘18, Reed Logan ’18, James Martucci ‘18, Kellina Moore ‘18, Lukas Rueda ‘18, Emily Sater ‘18, Gabriel Snyder ‘18

In religiously pluralistic societies around the world, nations uphold the ideal of religious freedom. However, it has proven more difficult to actualize religious freedom in practice than to espouse it in theory. Panelists will present case studies from the Unites States, India, Morocco, and Israel to ask questions such as what varieties of religion gain state protection? What is the relationship between popular and legal support for unorthodox forms of religion that challenge prevailing norms?
2. Capstone Research in Sociology: Poster Presentations
Tisch 2nd Floor Hallway
Faculty Sponsor: John Brueggemann, Sociology
Presenters: Isabelle Alley ‘18, Kristen Donlevie ‘18, Olivia Irby ‘18, Sarah Jensen ‘18, Julian Murphy ‘18, Nicholas Papazian ‘18, Ashley Polanco ‘18, DyAnna Katherine Washington ‘18, Byron D. Smith ‘18, Emma Sturdevant ‘18

Isabelle Alley ‘18, “The Effect of Conservative Politics on Sex Education and Teen Birth: A State-by-State Analysis of Abstinence and Contraception-focused Approaches”

Kristen Donlevie ‘18, “Screen Time Versus Face Time: How Social Media Usage Affects Time Spent Face to Face”

Olivia Irby ‘18, “Strike More, Spend Less?: The Correlation between Opinions on Race Specific Government Spending and Feelings towards Police Use of Force”

Sarah Jensen ‘18, “Social Media Usage: The Impact on Feelings of Depression or Loneliness”

Julian Murphy ‘18, “Looking At the Effect of Educational Attainment on Anti-Immigrant Perceptions”

Nicholas Papazian ‘18, “Post-Truth Overexposure: Media Consumption and Confidence in Institutions”

Ashley Polanco ‘18, “Examining Spaces Associated with Dominant Cultural Capital”

DyAnna Katherine Washington ‘18, “Do Baby Boomers Want Another Baby Boom?: A Gendered Generational Analysis of Abortion Attitudes”

Byron D. Smith ‘18, “Live Performance Attendance and Happiness”

Emma Sturdevant ‘18, “Women in Politics and Views on Gender”

3. Women, Monsters, and The End of Days
Ladd 207
Faculty Sponsor: Michael Arnush, Classics
Presenters: Marley Amico ‘19, Katherine Berg ‘18, Sophie Heath ‘18, Sarah Smith ‘20

Classics students share the results of their research in courses on ancient sex and gender, apocalyptic literature, and Ovid’s poetry, with four papers:
Marley Amico ‘19, “‘It’s all Greek to Me: An Examination of the porne/hetaira Binary”

Katherine Berg ‘18, “Looking Towards the End Times: Eschatological Imagery in Hieronymus Bosch’s Paintings and John of Patmos’ Revelation”
Sophie Heath ‘18, “Dealing with Monstrosity: Receptions of Ovid's *Metamorphoses*”

Sarah Smith ‘20, “Spartan and Athenian Women”

4. Physics in molecules, the ocean, the universe, and the classroom
2nd Floor Dana Atrium
*Faculty Sponsor:* Greg Gerbi, Physics
*Presenters:* Dante Tobar, ’18, Martin Bedulskij, ’18, Joshua Hannan, ’18, Ryan Hall ’18, Raleigh Russell ’18, Thomas Cane ’19, Wilbert Chan ’18, Anna Raisner ’18, Jillian Thornton ’18

5. “This Place”: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on an Exhibition
Somers Room, Tang Teaching Museum
*Faculty Sponsor:* Mimi Hellman, Art History & Project Director, “Teaching and Learning with Museum Exhibitions: An Inter-Institutional Approach”
*Sponsoring Department:* Tang Teaching Museum & The Teagle Foundation

Students from courses in Anthropology, Dance, English, Environmental Studies and Sciences, History, and International Affairs share projects based on a Tang exhibition of photography by artists working in Israel and the West Bank. Through varied modes of study and expression, the students engage complex questions about place, identity, conflict, community, and the potential of museum-based learning.

1:30 – 2:50 PM: SESSION 3

1. Designing Students: Letting the Students Take Over
Ladd 207
*Faculty Sponsors:* Michael Arnush & Dan Curley, Classics
*Presenters:* Maisie Bernstein ‘21, Shelby Fairchild ‘21, Hannah Gross ‘21, Emily Schwartz ‘20, Nora Barry ’19, Zoe Ousouljoglou ‘20, Erika Petersen ‘19

Classics students share their design of an original Greek tragedy, and on the crafting of an IdeaLab, role-playing History course:


Nora Barry ’19, Zoe Ousouljoglou ‘20, and Erika Petersen ‘19, “Pothos: Alexander the Great and ‘World’ Conquest”
2. Education Studies Senior Thesis Poster Session
Palamountain 200
Faculty Sponsor: Hope Casto, Education Studies
Presenters: Daisy Culkins ‘18, Alexa Goldberg ‘18, Sarah Jarvis ‘18, Christina Louis-Charles ‘18, Benjamin Marks ‘18, Hannah Miller ‘18, Daniela Miranda ‘18, Sophie Parks ‘18, Natalie Plotkin ‘18

Posters will be displayed on research topics including teachers’ experiences of looping in elementary classrooms, transition to college for homeschooled students, technology use in Waldorf Schools, student engagement in varied speech therapy settings, teachers’ perceptions of school safety, standardized testing and student mental and physical well-being, effects of high school preparation on the higher education experiences of first generation students, relationships between elementary teachers and school psychologists, and student experiences in flipped classrooms.

3. Collaborative Research in Biology
Palamountain 300
Faculty Sponsor: Sylvia McDevitt, Biology
Presenters: Bruce Martin ‘18, Sylvie Finn ‘18, Eleanore Ritter ‘18, Elizabeth Williams ‘18, Rachel Golden ‘18, Gabrielle Mascarin ‘18

Students involved in Research in Biology will present their cutting-edge studies conducted in collaboration with faculty. They will explain the larger context of their work as well as their individual contributions the projects. In particular, the posters will give insight into the Biology of the Alzheimer’s disease, plant cell walls, wasps as pest control, and physiology.

4. How will climate change affect the Saratoga Springs region?
Bolton 280 & Bolton 280 Hallway
Faculty Sponsor: Kyle Nichols, Geosciences
Presenters: Eric Deutsch ‘18, Ann Hill ‘18, Samuel Hudziak ‘18

This presentation will link climate change science of the Saratoga area to interdisciplinary concerns. We will address some questions that people often ask such as, “Why is this spring so cold?” “What is a polar vortex and why do they happen?” “What will happen to the economy?” While we cannot answer these, and other, questions in depth, we hope to share information that is often lost in the global climate change discussion.

5. Capstone Projects in Creative Writing
Davis Auditorium
Faculty Sponsor: April Bernard, English

This panel will showcase some of the best of the English department’s capstone projects in creative writing, and will feature readings in nonfiction, fiction, and poetry.
6. Gender, Race, and Power in Art History Today: Bodies, Bodies, Bodies!
   Filene 115
   Faculty Sponsor: Penny Jolly, Art History
   Presenters: Laila Morgan ‘18, Helena Meier ‘18, Lindsey Poremba ‘18

Come find out about three Art History majors’ Honors projects that interrogate representations of bodies in modern and contemporary art while raising questions concerning gender, race, and power. Their presentations take us from contemporary imagery where women’s pregnant and birthing bodies reclaim power and agency, to Mary Cassatt’s paintings of the Paris Opera, which complicate the then fashionable practice of looking and being looked at, to Augustus Sherman’s photographs that document what we might call transgender immigrants to Ellis Island at the turn of the twentieth century.

Laila Morgan ‘18, “Birthing Bodies: The Pregnant, Birthing, and Postpartum Body in Modern and Contemporary Art”

Helena Meier ‘18, “Mary Cassatt’s Women at the Opera: Representations of Female Modernity”

Lindsey Poremba ‘18, “Photographing the ‘Foreign’: Portraits of Ellis Island Immigrants”

3:00 – 4:20 PM: SESSION 4

1. Dance education research: a fusion of art and science
   Palamountain 300
   Faculty Sponsor: Sarah DiPasquale, Dance
   Presenters: Jessica Kogan ‘18, Tessa Minardi ‘18, Sophia Moritz ‘18, Hannah Weighart ‘19, Cinthia Duran Larrea ‘19

Senior and junior dance majors will present their research in dance education studies including periodization in dance training, cross-cultural dance education/reconstruction, balance changes in novice dancers and the development of the educational program ‘Dance to Success’ in collaboration with the Gloversville Enlarged School District.

2. Self Determined Major Senior Presentations
   Palamountain 426
   Faculty Sponsor: Catherine Berheide, SDM
   Presenters: Langa Bakhuluma-Neube ‘18, Daisy Culkins ‘18, Nola Donkin ‘18, Caldonia Noland ‘18, Carl Vanasse ‘18, Caleb Weiss ‘18

Self-determined majors are required to complete a final capstone project. These six distinctive presentations are indicative of the diverse scholarly work undertaken by this year’s SDMs. Their capstone topics range from the effects of looping in K-12 to dance.
Please join us for the 2018 SDM final project presentations and to celebrate the completion of these SDM capstone projects.

Langa Bakhuluma-Ncube ‘18 – SDM in Public Health: “Examining the Double Burden of Undernutrition and Obesity across Sub-Saharan African Countries”
Readers: Catherine Berheide & Jennifer McDonald

Caldonia Noland ‘18 – SDM in Public Health: “Humanizing SNAP: Understanding the Lived Experience of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program within the Framework of Justice”
Readers: Nurcan Atalan-Helicke & Jennifer McDonald

Daisy Culkins ‘18 – SDM in Social & Political Foundations of Education “Teachers’ Experiences with Looping”
Readers: Hope Castro & Amon Emeka

Caleb Weiss ‘18 – SDM in Documentary Studies: “DIY-A Documentary Film”
Readers: Rik Scarce & Victoria Riley

Readers: Anthony Holland & Jill Linz

Nola Donkin ‘18 – SDM in Collaborative Arts Design: “Collaborative Arts in Performance”
Readers: Janet Sorenson & Erika Pujic

3. (Re)Claiming Global Spaces: Shifting Patterns of Ideological and Material Territoriality
Bolton 281
Faculty Sponsor: Pushkala Prasad, International Affairs
Presenters: Rafaela Iturrelde’, Renato Martins Dornelas ‘18, Tabitha Krondorfer ‘18, Olga Kanyasi ‘18

Four student projects will examine how social and institutional actors carve out spaces and niches to express themselves and achieve a range of inclusionary objectives. Topics covered include environmental agreements, refugee resettlement, gender fluidity, and national branding.
4. Documentary Studies: Year in Review

Emerson Auditorium

Sponsor: MDOCS Program

Presenters: Maryam DeWitt ‘18, Jamery De La Cruz ‘18, Emily Rizzo ‘18, Alexia Nshuti ‘18

Capping MDOCS’ fourth year, students offer highlights of evidence-based storytelling in film, interview, sound, archive, performance, and exhibition. Whether independently developed or created within a course, each project reflects the combination of research, inquiry and presentation — form and content — that are the core of the program's mission. This exciting multi-disciplinary, multi-voiced documentary student work includes a community partnership of the Skidmore-Saratoga Memory Project as well as individual doc projects.

Feature-Length Documentary Projects:
Maryam DeWitt ‘18, “The Miseducation of the Black Womyn”
Jamerly De La Cruz ‘18, “An Alterable Sign: Politics of hair and anti-Blackness in the Dominican Republic”
Emily Rizzo ‘18, “Title TBD”
Samantha Fleishman ‘20 "Becoming Rachel Carson"

Short Docs:
Alexia Nshuti ’18, "Don't Touch My Hair"
Reese Fulmer ’18, "Schuster Family Stories”

5. Research Experiences in Mathematics

Harder 203

Faculty Sponsors: Csilla Szabo & David Vella, Mathematics

Presenters: Sijia Fan ‘18, Chen Lin ‘18, Alex Smith ‘18, Ran Tao ‘18, Kaifeng Yang ‘19

This session will include two student presentations and a student panel discussion. Sijia Fan, Ran Tao, and Kaifeng Yang will present a mathematical model of how climate change influences regional instability and discuss their experience creating this model for the Interdisciplinary Contest in Modeling (ICM). Chen Lin will give a talk on her undergraduate research entitled, “Elliptic Curves Over Finite Extension Fields”. We conclude with a student panel discussion with Alex Smith, Chen Lin, and others, who discuss their experiences in both pure and applied mathematics research.

6. The Juniors Show Artists’ Talk

Schick Art Gallery

Faculty Sponsor: Janet Sorensen, Art

Presenters: Caite Canfield ‘19, Teague Costello ‘19, Dana Keyes Gibbons ‘19, Sharri Greenwald ‘19, Monica Hamilton ‘19, Wes Jansen ’19, Finley Martin ’19, Katie Salk ‘19, Riley Walzer ‘19, Lena Schwartz ‘19

The Juniors Show is an exhibition of work by selected junior art students. Art faculty nominate juniors who are making strong work and developing an artistic vision. These
students (usually about twelve) exhibit their art, and also speak about the art clearly and coherently in front of peers, faculty, and guests at the Academic Festival Artist’s Talk. Both the exhibition and the discussion deepen their understanding of this important facet of being a professional artist.

7. Femininity, Beauty, and the Black Female Body
Tisch 307
Faculty Sponsor: Kristie A. Ford, Sociology
Presenters: Miracle Freckleton ‘20, DyAnna Washington ‘18

In this session, two students (Miracle Freckleton ’20 and DyAnna Washington ‘18) from SO317R: Black Female Body will present findings from their semester-long qualitative research projects. Through in-depth interviews, focus groups, auto-ethnography, and content analysis, they respectively explore: (1) sexual identity of Black college women at white-serving institutions, (2) Black women’s relationship to emotional well-being and preferred forms of support, and (3) perceptions of Black femininity and its relationship to beauty routines.

Miracle Freckleton ‘20: Sex is often a taboo subject in America. Historically Black women's sexuality has been oversexualized and dehumanized. Images such as the Jezebel that depict Black women as having a wild sexuality still persist today and effect how, we, as Black women view ourselves and how others view us. The purpose of this research is to understand how Black women attending a white serving institution such as Skidmore College shape their sexual identity and the various social forces that have aided in this construction.

DyAnna Washington ‘18: Through content analysis of YouTube videos, self-ethnographic video diaries, and a focus group comprised of Black female identified/feminine presenting individuals, this research explores the following questions: What are Black female and feminine presenting individuals’ perceptions of femininity? How do cultural/societal definitions of femininity influence these perceptions? How do these perceptions translate into beauty routines and expressions of femininity? I assert that much of the performance of femininity is engrained in the way individuals care for themselves and their physical bodies; to explore that I concentrate my analysis on beauty routines that include skincare, makeup, and clothing. I further explicate the assertion that femininity is a performance and put these seemingly necessary, often mundane, beauty regimens in conversation with a greater discourse of how individuals do femininity and how that is informed or influenced by their race, specifically Blackness.
8. Translation for the Global Stage
JKB Studio A
Faculty Sponsor: Eunice Ferreira, Theater

Answering the call as artists and scholar, students have applied translation theory in practice and performance by translating plays into English. Audiences will witness the English language premiere of excerpts from their translations in a lively staged reading. The students make an original contribution to the field of translation studies and to theatre practice in the U.S. by introducing new audiences to plays from Swaziland, Mexico, Algeria, Guatemala, France, Germany, Russia and four Portuguese-speaking countries.
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<th>Time</th>
<th>Ladd 206</th>
<th>TLC 190</th>
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<td>Classics</td>
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Periclean Honors Forum

Skidmore College is a small, highly selective liberal arts college that fosters academic inquiry and creative thought and expression. Honors Forum promotes these goals. Honors Forum is an academic program that offers rigorous courses and extracurricular events to its members and the larger Skidmore community. Honors Forum regularly hosts field trips, campus dialogues, and lectures to foster the life of the mind and build a community of like-minded scholars and leaders. Our goal is to encourage students to take ownership of their academic and co-curricular education and to reflect meaningfully on their personal and professional goals. The Honors Forum invites all first- and second-year students with a 3.5 GPA to apply to the Forum.

Honors Forum introduces extraordinary rigor into academic programs as students consider complex questions and examine sophisticated materials. Honors Forum students pursue the life of the mind both in the classroom to outside of it. The Forum promotes and supports student-organized co-curricular activities (e.g. lectures and panel discussions) and leadership and civic engagement opportunities where students guide fellow peers, faculty, and staff within the Skidmore community and beyond.
2018 Academic Festival Planning Committee and Members of the Honors Council:

Flagg Taylor, Department of Political Science and Director, Periclean Honors Forum
Lisa Bradshaw, Honors Forum Administrative Assistant
Steven Frey, Department of Chemistry
Mahesh Shankar, Department of International Affairs
Jenny Huangfu Day, Department of History
Dylan Quinn ‘18, President, Honors Forum
   Student Executive Committee
Isabella Hernandez ‘18, Vice President, Honors Forum
   Student Executive Committee

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