

Eighteenth Annual Academic Festival

Wednesday, May 4, 2016

Message from Academic Festival Coordinators Page 1

Schedule of Events Page 2

Room Schedule at a Glance Page 19

Honors Forum Mission Page 20

Academic Festival Planning Committee Page 21

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 eighteenth 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 eight concurrent sessions in each time slot, we hope to attract large audiences our top-notch presenters last year. This year once again, we are 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. We will host a brief reception in Gannett Lobby at the end of the day to reflect upon the highlights of this celebration of excellence.

Schedule of Events

May 4, 2016

Refreshments available throughout the day:

*Gannett Lobby
Palamountain 2nd & 3rd Floor
Dana Science Center
Tisch Learning Center
JKB (p.m. only)
Ladd 2nd Floor (lunch hour only)
Sports Center (lunch hour only)
Schick Art Galley (lunch hour only)*

9:00 – 10:20 AM: SESSION 1

1. Alternative Spring Breaks / US/Mexico Border Impact on Latinos

PALAMOUNTAIN 200

Faculty Sponsor: Michelle Hubbs, Community Service Office & Latin American Studies

Presenters: Nancy Baez '16, Maria Mayboeck '16, Mayra Nunez '16, Byron Poplawski '18, Yamille Caldera '17, Ricardo Rios '18, Brittany Kent '18, Jamerly De La Cruz '18, Maryam DeWitt '18, Tessa Minardi '18, Carmen Lin '16, Hannah Van Dolsen '16, Carolyn Koestner '18, Olivia Golden '18, Fatuma Ceesay '17, Tracey Wingate '18, Ethan Brazo '18, Lieza Chan '18, Zoe Michas '19, Yedili Genao '18, Paul Yoon '18, Arena Manning '16, Eric Yu '18, Kayla Fisher '19, Sarah Coburn '16

Spring break trips travelled to Guatemala to volunteer with Safe Passage to work with impoverished families; New Orleans to volunteer with Common Ground Relief on environmental recovery after Hurricane Katrina; Lima, Peru to volunteer with Med Life, providing health care in rural areas; and New York City to volunteer with underserved populations. A student will also share her experience of Latinos at the US/Mexico border in Arizona while participating in a delegation with SOA Watch.

2. The Spread of Consciousness: Panpsychism in Modern Western Philosophy

PALAMOUNTAIN 202

Faculty Sponsor: Larry Jorgensen, Philosophy

Presenters: Elaina Aquila '16, Owen Lilly '16

This year's Senior Seminar in Philosophy studied the history of consciousness, looking in particular at traditionally marginalized theories as fruitful avenues of research. We gave special attention to Margaret Cavendish and Anne Conway, whose philosophical views are broadly *panpsychist*: the view that mentality of some sort is basic to all of reality. We traced this idea through to the recent resurgence of panpsychism among philosophers of mind today.

3. Capstone Projects in Asian Studies

PALAMOUNTAIN 300

Faculty Sponsor: Masako Inamoto, Asian Studies

Presenters: Fawzi Ghandour '16, Cindy Lan '16

Graduating Asian Studies majors will be presenting their capstone research papers. Cindy Lan will discuss how the instrumentation of Cultural Revolution model operas was integral to their political impact. In his research paper, Fawzi Ghandour will demonstrate how Oda Sakunosuke (1913-1947), a Japanese writer, constructs a sense of place and time in his home city of Osaka as a method of realizing memories of the city and its people.

4. Mount McGregor Mysteries: The Power of Doing Public History at Skidmore BOLTON 280

Faculty Sponsor: Eric Morser, History

Presenters: George Lubitz '17, Matthew Marani '16, Meaghan McDonald '18, Isaac Selchaif '18, Samuel Wallman '16

Beginning in the fall semester of 2015, Skidmore students researched the history of Mount McGregor, a medium security prison located twenty minutes north of campus, as part of a national exhibit on American incarceration. In this session, five of these students will discuss the challenges and rewards of the project, how it contributes to a larger conversation about mass incarceration in the United States, and how public historians play an essential role in a democratic society.

5. Care and Contention; Charisma and Consumption; Global Trends and Trajectories BOLTON 281

Faculty Sponsor: Pushkala Prasad, International Affairs

Presenters: Alicia Graziano '16, Maria Mayboeck '16, James Rider '16, Victoria St. Dennis '16

Using interdisciplinary approaches that traverse physical, political, economic and cultural worlds, the papers in this panel examine the complex dynamics behind such phenomena as barriers to breastfeeding, the growing popularity of volunteerism and poverty tourism in the West, the spread of xenophobia, and the trajectory of resistance movements toward violence and/or peace.

6. "The (In)Visibility of African-American Bodies in Music" EMERSON AUDITORIUM

Faculty Sponsor: Elizabeth Macy, Religious Studies

Student Co-Chair: Lea Peterson '16

Presenters: Lea Peterson '16, John (Jack) Mullin '17, Leigh Tooker '17

This panel aims to look at the social and artistic implications of African-American musical traditions from the development of jazz in the 1920s through to modern day hip-hop and rap. In examining bebop and jazz fusion alongside the music of Michael Jackson, Nicki Minaj, and Beyoncé, each paper looks at questions regarding public persona, media representation, cultural appropriation, and identity.

10:30 – 11:50 AM: SESSION 2

1. Senior Capstone Research Projects

TISCH 203

(POSTER SESSION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING FROM 12:00-1:20)

Faculty Sponsor: John Brueggemann, Sociology

Presenters: Greer Cohen '16, Kaleigh Kessler '16, Maya Obstfeld '16, Tashawn Reagon '16

Four senior sociology majors share findings from their capstone research projects, which were previously at the annual meetings of the Eastern Sociological Society.

Teaching Happiness: How Education, Class and Gender Affect Contentment - Kaleigh Kesser '16

Why do some people report being happier than others? Considering Aristotle's conception that education is inherently fulfilling, therefore increasing happiness, I propose that education positively affects happiness. Knowledge increases the likelihood for employment, which increases income. I analyze self-reported happiness and highest level of education in a random sample of 2,309 respondents from the 2014 General Social Survey. My findings indicate that income, education, and gender affect happiness most with income having the largest effect.

If It Bleeds, It Misleads? How Political Media Shapes Attitudes Towards Felon Disenfranchisement - Greer Cohen '16

Exploring the factors that shape public support for felon disenfranchisement is a critical task given the millions of Americans unable to vote due to felony convictions as well as the disproportionate rates of minorities incarcerated every year. This study examines the relationship between frequency of political media usage and support for felon disenfranchisement. The findings report no significant relationship between these variables, instead suggesting that age and conservativeness drive support for this issue.

Exclusionary Patriotism: American Patriots and Attitudes Toward Immigration - Maya Obstfeld '16

Does patriotism have an effect on American attitudes towards immigration? Analyzing the 2014 General Social Survey data, this study uses group threat theory to critically examine the connection between blind patriotism, immigration, race, and various other control variables. The multiple regression analysis (N=1064) revealed that patriotism is not a significant variable while whiteness, living in the South, and being more conservative are all statistically significant.

The Effects of Prison Privatization on Mass Incarceration in the United States - Tashawn Reagon '16

The U.S. has the record for the highest incarcerated population. This research begs the question: Can Black and poor people escape criminalization under U.S. capitalism? Data was sourced from the Bureau of Justice Statistics (2013) and U.S. Census Bureau (2010) and analyzed. Results suggest that when controlling for race and poverty, privatizing prisons does not have an effect on male imprisonment rates. Poverty rates and Black presence are strong predictors on male incarceration rates.

2. American Studies Honor Theses

PALAMOUNTAIN 201

Faculty Sponsor: Daniel Nathan, American Studies

Presenters: Hannah Doban '16, Sophia Inkeles '16, Markus Messor '16, Dan Plumer '16, Mollie Welch '16

“The Anti-Hero: How the Mobsters, Drug Dealers, and Narcissists Saved American Television” - Hannah Doban '16

Television used to be a maligned medium. Recently, though, TV has undergone a revolution. This is partly due to the emergence of compelling anti-heroes, whose proliferation is rooted in contemporary cultural shifts that have created a disjointed, broken society. This paper explores three noted TV anti-heroes: Tony Soprano from *The Sopranos*, Walter White from *Breaking Bad*, and Don Draper from *Mad Men*. Additionally, it explores the lack of a notable anti-heroine and race via *The Wire*'s Omar Little.

“The Holocaust and Jewish American Identity in Film” - Sophia Inkeles '16

Being Jewish in America means different things to different people. What is clear, however, is that Jewish identity is influenced by the past with the Holocaust occupying a central role in the collective memory of the Jewish people. This was not always the case. American awareness and attachment to the Holocaust developed over time. This paper explores the ways that Holocaust films have reflected and reproduced differing notions of Jewish American identity.

“What Mauled the Mall? The Rise and Fall of American Shopping Malls” - Markus Messor '16

The shopping mall has long been held as a quintessential landmark of American suburban culture. In recent years, however, the institution of the mall has begun to falter. This paper examines some of the cultural factors that led to the rise and the decline of the American shopping mall. It also explores the future of malls in America and its cultural legacy domestically and abroad.

“Intersectional Thinking, the Civil Rights Movement, and the Leadership of the 1963 Children's Crusade” - Dan Plumer '16

Collective memory of the Civil Rights Movement often casts Martin Luther King, Jr. as its sole architect. In reality, there were many leaders who contributed to the civil rights successes of the 1950s and 1960s. This thesis and accompanying audio documentary explore the Birmingham, Alabama Children's Crusade of 1963 from alternative viewpoints to challenge traditional narratives of the Civil Rights Movement and to unearth issues of race and class that fueled the movement.

“Ladies, Women, Bikers, People: Stories from Female Motorcyclists” - Mollie Welch '16

There is a significant gap in motorcycle literature regarding women. Many books and journal articles on the subject include thin chapters or sections on motorcycle club gender dynamics, but few offer substantive information on the lives of women motorcyclists. To help close this gap, I have written a series of creative nonfiction stories from the perspective of women motorcyclists, drawn from interviews, ethnographic sociology, and other qualitative research techniques.

3. Creative Thought Creating Value: Skidmore-Saratoga Consulting Partnership (SSCP)

PALAMOUNTAIN 202

Faculty Sponsor: Colleen Burke, Executive in Residence

Student Co-Chairs: Maddy Tank '16, Sam Mark '16, Fiona Casson '16

Presenters: Leif Catania '17, Geoffrey Inaba '16, Nathaniel Lazar '16, Elizabeth Mattimore '16, Ashley Narvaez '16, John Sloan '18, Aaron Smith '16, Ibrahima Thiam '16, Sean Timmons '18

The Skidmore-Saratoga Consulting Partnership (SSCP) is an advanced seminar and practicum (MB360). As a service-learning course, SSCP makes a positive impact on our community by applying creative thought, thorough analysis, and rigorous research to enable Saratoga's for-profit and not-for-profit organizations to realize their potential and achieve their goals. Three teams of highly accomplished student consultants will present final deliverables for three clients: The Saratoga Juice Bar, Saratoga Springs Bike Share, and The Roosevelt Baths and Spa.

4. Achievements in Anthropology

PALAMOUNTAIN 300

Faculty Sponsor: Matthew Kroot, Anthropology

Presenters: Nicole Confalone '16, Ella Kaplan '16, Rebecca Katz '16, John Kolios '16, Ellen Sweder '16, Jamie Weiner '16

Senior Anthropology majors will present the results of various projects completed while at Skidmore. The presentation will exhibit the diversity of topics and places that Anthropology students studied.

5. Current Political Challenges at Home and Abroad

BOLTON 280

Faculty Sponsor: Aldo Vacs, Department of Government

Presenters: Addison Bennett '16, Cara Cancelmo '16, Will Clark '16, Sydney France '16, Rick Landry '16, Emma Marshall '16, Charles Tetelman '16, Elena Veatch '16

This session offers a critical review and analysis of current political issues and controversies both in the U.S. and abroad. U.S. issues include crime and racism, marriage equality, young voters and progressive and libertarian ideologies, and the nature of the presidential nomination process. International issues include the international role of China, immigration in France, elections and violence in Bangladesh, and the rise of political opposition in Belarus.

6. Capstone Projects in Literary Studies

DAVIS AUDITORIUM

Faculty Sponsor: Kate Greenspan, Department of English

Presenters: Mirella Nappi '16, Jenna Wecht '16, Lily Rothenberg '16, Elissa Shea '16, Joseph Colvin '16

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.

7. Senior Thesis Presentations in Economics (CONTINUES INTO LUNCH HOUR) EMERSON AUDITORIUM

Faculty Sponsor: Qi Ge and Joerg Bibow, Economics

Presenters: Profs. Caroline Hobbs '16, Lingyan Yue '16, Claire Boucher '16, Richard Cappellazzo '16, Jebediah Clarke '16, Andrey Pertsov '16, Emebet Hailemariam Tessema '16, Cody Couture '16, Brenda Calle '16, Zhirou Shi '16

Caroline Hobbs '16: "Crude oil transport by rail in NY state: Ecosystem Value at Risk"

Lingyan Yue '16: "Sino-U.S. FDI Developments and the Future of Investment Regimes"

Claire Boucher '16: "Formalization Effects of Microfinance in Sub-Saharan Africa: Synthesizing Evidence of Potential Transitions from the Informal to Formal Economy"

Richard Cappellazzo '16: "The Future of the Euro: Assessing the Viability of the Common Currency"

Jebediah Clarke '16: "Analyzing Managerial Skill in Major League Baseball"

Andrey Pertsov '16: "College Student Perceptions Toward Prosocial Consumers"

Emebet Hailemariam Tessema '16: "Female and Male Educational Attainment in Africa"

Cody Couture '16: Salary Caps and Competitive Balance in the NBA

Brenda Calle '16: How does early negotiations in the workplace play a role the existing gender wage gap?

Zhirou Shi '16: Effects of Parental Education on Return to Schooling

8. Research in Chemistry and Biochemistry DANA 240

Faculty Sponsor: Juan Navea, Chemistry & Biochemistry

Presenters: Alex Mola '16, Jaya Borgatta '16, Sibin Wang '16 and Travers Ruel '16

Presentations in this session will be conducted by candidates for honors in the Chemistry Department who will describe their cutting-edge work in collaboration with faculty. Presenters will explain the larger context of their work as well as their individual contributions to molecular-level projects. Talks will involve understanding how molecules can help us to understand the chemistry of the atmosphere, the brain, and medical diagnostics.

LUNCH HOUR 12:00 – 1:20 PM (arranged by departments)

1. Sacred Matters: Material Objects and Religious Agency (CONTINUES INTO SESSION 3)

LADD 206

Faculty Sponsor: Gregory Spinner, Religious Studies

Presenters: Olivia Anderson '16, Lauren Booth '16, Nava Caluori '16, Rachel Ciano '16, Elizabeth Lehmann '16, Mary Kate Pierson '16, Alina Williams '16

We will examine religious agency through a fascinating selection of special objects that people make, consecrate, and use for religious purposes. Objects under discussion include children's Bibles, the fiery cross of the Klan, Mormon anointing oil, and Mormon undergarments; ritual activities within Wicca, Santeria, and Islam will also be analyzed. Presentations extend from the lunch hour session into session 3.

2. Sociology Poster Presentations

TISCH 203

Faculty Sponsor: John Brueggemann, Sociology

The Sociology Department invites you to a poster session featuring our students' best work.

3. Classics Department Presentations

LADD 207

Faculty Sponsor: Michael Arnush, Classics Department

Presenters are students from a variety of Classics courses from this academic year.

4. The Pop Culture of Work: How Career Expectations, Sex Work, and the Meaning of Work in People's Lives are Depicted in Television and Film

PALAMOUNTAIN 202

Faculty Sponsor: Caroline D'Abate, Management & Business

Presenters: Madison Centenari '16, Ella Kaplan '16, May-Lin McEvoy '16, Rebecca Stern '16

Two key questions are at the center of this lunchtime event: "What does work mean to you?" and "What do you want to be when you grow up?" Through two exploratory studies, we will examine the power of pop culture media in illustrating the work experience. We will explain media effects, gender roles, the work of prostitution, and the susceptibility of children to media's influences.

5. "Health and Exercise Sciences Department Senior Research"

SPORTS COMPLEX RM. 201

Faculty Sponsor: Stephen Ives, Health & Exercise Sciences

Presenters: Kevin Brito '17, Kevin '17, Dani Degregory '16, Daniel Ebenstein '16, Julian Egan-Shuttler '16, Daniela Escudero '16, James Ferretti '16, Leah Freundlich '16,

Ernesto Garcia '16, Natalya Martins '16, Gabriel O'Brien '16, Veronica O'Neill '16, David Parra '16, Yookee Roh '16

Health and Exercise Science students who chose to complete a senior thesis will be presenting their research projects. Their work focuses on 3 main topics: the influence of dietary supplements on muscle recovery, use of cold exposure to stimulate metabolism, and heart rate variability as an indicator of rowing performance. Come and support these students and enjoy a few novel and interesting talks where students will discuss their projects and pertinent findings.

Effects of a Combined Protein and Anti-oxidant Supplement on Recovery of Isometric Muscle Function in College-aged Males – Daniel Ebenstein '16, Daniela Escudero '16, Ernesto Garcia '16, Yookee Roh '16

Daily Heart Rate Variability Changes in Young Female Rowers during a Training Camp – Julian Egan-Shuttler '16

Effects of a Combined Protein and Anti-oxidant Supplement on Recovery of Isokinetic Muscle Function in College-aged Males – Kevin Brito '17, Leah Freundlich '16, Natalya Martins '16, Gabriel O'Brien '16

The Effects of a Two Week Cold Exposure Program on Body Composition and Resting Metabolic Rate in College-Aged Males – Dani Degregory '16, James Ferretti '16, Veronica O'Neill '16, David Parra '16

6. The Juniors Show

SCHICK ART GALLERY

Faculty Sponsor: Sarah Sweeney, Art Department; Joanne Vella, Art Department; and Rebecca Shepard, Art Department

Presenters: Paris Baillie '17, August Bomer-Lawson '17, Willa Cassidy-Gardner '17, Jennifer Davies '17, Rosa Desmond '17, Sarah Donovan '17, Sam Friedman '17, Isabel Goldstein '17, Jonathan Hernandez '17, Katie Melland '17, Tara Patrino '17, Jamie Scherzer '17, Zhiyu Zhou '17

The Juniors Show presents artwork by junior Studio Art majors nominated for participation by their art professors. It's an invitational exhibit and an honor to be nominated. *The Juniors Show* provides an opportunity for participants to gain experience presenting their work in a gallery and to refine their goals as they move on to their senior year.

7. Earth and Sky: Senior Research in Physics

2ND FLOOR DANA ATRIUM

Faculty Sponsor: Mary Odekon, Physics

Presenters: Margot Accettura '16, Wendy Collins '17, Skye Elliott '16, Porter Hall '16, Khalil Hall-Hooper '16, Mario Hyman '16, Christian Todd Jensen '16, Jie Li '16, Jack Livecchi '16, Samuel Shapiro '16, Guram Vardiashvili '16, Cody Webber '16

Students will present senior research in physics, including projects in oceanography, relativity, and astrophysics.

8. A Celebration of Anthropology

DANA 349 HALLWAY

Faculty Sponsor: Matthew Kroot, Anthropology

Presenters: Sarah Auer '16, Andrew Bosworth '16, Jackson Bryant '16, Paula Cafiero '16, Cara DeCusatis, Schuyler Fohrhaltz-Burbank '18, Kate Judge '16, John Kolios '16, MJ Lynn '16, Camille Machiels, Caitria O'Shaughnessy '18, Abby Outtersen '16, Victoria St. Dennis '16

1:30 – 2:50 PM: SESSION 3

1. Biology Research Poster Session

TISCH 100

Faculty Sponsor: Bernard Possidente, Biology

Presenters: Jamie Elsner '18, Sarah Bunney '16, Olivia Vennaro '16, Anna Lietz '16, Lisa Leung '17, Randy Cuevas '16, Agnieszka Brojakowska '17, Berke Tinaz '16

Students will present collaborative research on topics ranging from plant cell biology, computational biology, morphometric analysis of developmental effects of Lead exposure and bacterial metabolism of toxic metals to circadian rhythms in fruit fly mutants with no wings and with legs coming out of their heads.

2. Thesis Research in Psychology and Neuroscience

TISCH 1ST FLOOR HALLWAY (Psychology) & TISCH 100 (Neuroscience)

Faculty Sponsor: Holley Hodgins, Psychology & Jennifer Bonner, Neuroscience

Psychology Presenters: Elizabeth Aaron '16, Annelise Cohen '16, Robin Cooley '16, Jordan Grapel '16, Sarah Green '16, Linh Hoang '16, Daphne Preti '16, Helena Rabasco '16, Yoon Young Sim '16, Sarah Rose Slate '16, Emma Starr '16

The Psychology Department and Neuroscience Program invite you to a poster session featuring our thesis students presenting their empirical research.

A. Thesis Research in Psychology (TLC 1st floor hallway)

Evaluating mindsets and public speaking anxiety - Elizabeth Aaron '16

In good company: When and why White men view gender diversity positively - Annelise Cohen '16

The backlash effect on female athletes in male-dominant sports - Robin Cooley '16
Autism and depression: relationship between autism and depression as a function of family history - Jordan N. Grapel '16

Turning pliés into gargoyles: Mental rehearsal strategy and choreography retention - Sarah A. Green '16

Reader's perspective influences memory for text and word interpretation - Linh K. Hoang '16

Snoezelen: Examining a multisensory approach to improving cognitive performance and coping with stress - Daphne M. Preti '16

Reducing gender identity bias through imagined intergroup contact - Helena Rabasco '16

The effect of mortality salience and motivational orientation on attitudes toward work - Yoon Young Sim '16

The processing of blend words: An eye-tracking study - Sarah Rose Slate '16

The preferred viewing position in top to bottom sentence reading - Emma Starr '16

B. Thesis Research in Neuroscience (TLC 100)

Cerebellar mitochondrial deficits in SCA1: targeting a potential treatment

Faculty Sponsor: Jennifer Bonner, Neuroscience

Neuroscience Presenters: Evan Marzouk '16, Monica Villegas '16, Jenny Zhang '16

Spinocerebellar Ataxia Type 1 (SCA1) is a neurodegenerative disease that currently has no treatment. Using SCA1 cell and mice models, we posit mitochondrial deficits may exacerbate disease progression. Our results suggest dysfunctional OXPHOS respiration and morphological deficits in the mitochondria. Chronic succinic acid treatment of SCA1 mice improves balance and motor learning and restores Purkinje somatic and dendritic viability. Our work presents mitochondrial intervention as a potential therapy for slowing SCA1 disease progression.

The Role of 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} in the Anticonvulsant Effect of Cannabidiol - Kate Schoolcraft '16

Cannabidiol (CBD) is a non-psychoactive compound found in the *Cannabis* plant that has potential anti-convulsant efficacy. The mechanism by which CBD produces these effects is unknown. This study investigated the role of two serotonergic receptors, the 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A}, in mediating CBD's anti-seizure effects using an acute seizure rodent model.

Morphometric analysis of zebrafish embryos - Timothy Lehmberg '16

Using these 2D and 3D models for Place Component Analysis, we demonstrate their application in determining the percent contribution of an environmental or genetic factor on the total neuromorphology of the developing system by mathematically defining the geometry of the neurons. We also report the findings of a pilot study investigating the development of 4D morphometrics and its application to spatially defining the pathway of a developing nervous system.

Concussion and Olfactory Deficits in Undergraduate students - Zoe E. Brasher '16,

Robert M. Hallock '16

A previous study demonstrated that concussions, with respect to time from a prior concussion, significantly impacted olfactory function in football players. The purpose of the present study was to determine if these results would generalize to undergraduates. Forty eight participants were administered two standardised tests of olfaction (threshold and discrimination) and a concussion history interview. Results did not replicate but weak correlations were found relating to number of concussions and to sex differences.

3. Issues in Education: Education Studies Senior Thesis Presentations

PALAMOUNTAIN 200

Faculty Sponsor: Joan Swanson, Education Studies

Presenters: Jean-Paul Choe '16, Cynthia Gerber '16, Linh Hoang '16, Helene Oshlag '16, Jessica Pucila '16, Erica Walker '16, Katherine Williams '17

Education Studies majors and minors will present their senior thesis research on topics including educating homeless children, teacher certification exams and their implications, effective behavior management strategies, diminishing proficiency in Social Studies, the Sudbury education model, the "No Excuses" education model, and evaluating pedagogical methodology for English Language Learners.

4. Breastfeeding, Gender Politics, and Muslim Culture: Art History Today

PALAMOUNTAIN 300

Faculty Sponsor: Penny Jolly, Art History

Presenters: Mary Cleary '16, Claire Lipsman '16, Bailey Threatt '16

Art History students examine a range of topics and projects involving the visual arts from the propriety of showing women's bare breasts while breastfeeding in late medieval and Renaissance Europe, to Renaissance women's use of items of dress to gain power and prestige, to the creation of museum programs to educate today's children about Muslim culture.

Claire Lipsman '16, "Milking It: How Breasts Humanized the Divine and Eroticized the Human in Renaissance Art"

Mary Cleary '16, "Fabricating an Image: How Mary Stuart, Isabella d'Este, and Other Women of the Renaissance Used Dress to Assert Agency"

Bailey Threatt '16, "Educational Program Design for the Children's Museum of Manhattan's Exhibit, 'America to Zanzibar: Muslim Cultures Near and Far'"

5. Capstone Projects in Creative Writing

DAVIS AUDITORIUM

Faculty Sponsor: Linda Hall, English

Presenters: Corey Baumer '16, Peter O'Connell '16, Rebecca Haft '16, Quinn Martin '16, Xander Caruso '16

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. Who's Sick? Hoosick Falls Prey to PFOAs: Geosciences Senior Seminar Panel
Discussion of an emerging water contaminant case in Upstate New York
EMERSON AUDITORIUM**

Faculty Sponsor: Amy Frappier, Geosciences

Respondents: Rachel Barrachina '16, Melanie Feen, '16, Benjamin Freiberg '16, Takashi Inskeep '16, Emma McCully '16, Alex (Richard) Ng-Yow '16, Patrick Thieringer '16, and Candace Wygel '16

In late 2015, New York State declared a Superfund site in nearby Hoosick Falls, recognizing risks to human health from PFOAs in local wellwater. These organic chemicals are used in manufacturing Teflon, Scotchguard, and the like. How did this happen, and what can be done about it? The Geosciences Class of 2016 will discuss these and other aspects of emerging water contaminants in public/private water supplies, concluding with a question and answer session.

7. The Art & Science of Dance Research

GANNETT AUDITORIUM

Faculty Sponsors: Sarah DiPasquale, Dance; Mary DiSanto-Rose, Dance; Ariel Osterweis, Dance

Presenters: Emma Lanier '16, Rachel Samett '16, Nicole Becker '16, Sarah Green '16

Critical Dance Studies

Emma Lanier '16

Reappropriating Tradition to Critique Machismo in Flamenco

Presentation using documentary film to go inside the studio and onto Madrid's streets to see how a flamenco piece embodies, exposes, and revokes gender inequality.

Rachel Samett '16

Queering Mental Ability in Dance: I, too, am pedestrian

The representation of disability in dance tends to be limited to physical disability, erasing the experiences of the mentally disabled. Using queer and feminist discourse, I propose a diversification of how we define pedestrian vocabulary to accommodate all possibilities of mental experience.

Dance Science Research

Nicole Becker '16

Comparing Injury Patterns in Liberal Arts College Female Dancers Versus Athletes: Should Dancers Adopt Periodization?

Injury data of Skidmore College female dancers and athletes were collected and the patterns were analyzed to assess the effects of periodization on injury occurrence.

Sarah Green '16

Turning Pliés into Gargoyles: Mental Rehearsal Strategy and Choreography Retention

This study examined the short-term movement memory of dancers and non-dancers. Mental rehearsal strategies were considered to determine if visual imagery permits greater choreography retention.

3:00 – 4:20 PM: SESSION 4

1. Citizen Studentship: The Responsibility of Learning Together PALAMOUNTAIN 201

Faculty Sponsor: Roy Rotheim, Honors Forum

Presenters: Avalon Ward '16, Corey Brown '18, Delon Campbell '17, Finn Westergren '18, Jimmy Martucci '18, Janine Kritschugau '18, John Dang '16, Misha Lanin '18, Sovannarath In '16, Teddy Braziunas '18, Wiley Hopkins '19, Yamir Noayhed '16

With the script, expectations, and goals of the curriculum provided, the authority figure of a classroom seldom leaves space for students to incorporate their own sense of self, creativity, and autonomy into the educational process. When given the opportunity to design an entirely unique platform for learning, the pedagogy of an altruistic and interdisciplinary environment can influence motivation, learning styles, and reinforcement behaviors to fulfill the utmost heuristic potential of our human experience.

2. Documentary Studies: Year in Review PALAMOUNTAIN 202

Faculty Sponsor: MDOCS, John B. Moore Documentary Studies Collaborative

Presenters: Pheobe Radcliffe '17, Eli Ruben '17, Olivia Fidler '19; Renato Martins Dornelas '18, Jackson Bryant '16, Juliana Boucher '16, Julianna Quiroz '17, Alicia Russo '17, Leila Farrer '16, Lisa Fierstein '16, Bennett Beutel '16, Pierre Delcourt '16,

Students offer highlights of evidence-based storytelling in film, interview, sound and exhibit developed as part of MDOCS programs and courses. Documentary work by students includes projects from the 2016 Storytellers' Institute, Skidmore-Saratoga Memory Project Retirees Interviews, a multi-media exhibit by students in the January 2016 Cuba travel seminar, and individual video doc projects.

Skidmore Saratoga Memory Project: 60 Years Young

- Pheobe Radcliffe '17, *Social Work/Spanish*
- Eli Ruben '17, *Management & Business*

Skidmore Retiree Project: Oral History Interviews

- Olivia Fidler '19
- Renato Martins Dornelas '18, *International Affairs/Media & Film Studies*

Storytellers' Institute: Upstate Painters Project

- Jackson Bryant '16, *Anthropology*

How Was Cuba?: *La Patria; Tourism at Work; Omnipresent Art of Cuba*

- Juliana Boucher '16, *Psychology/Honors Forum*
- Julianna Quiroz '17, *Theater*
- Alicia Russo '17, *Art History*

Video Projects: *A Pivot in History: British Encampment at Victory Woods; The Presence Project; Dreams; FreeKing Studios: Building our Gaming Community; Indelible*

- Leila Farrer '16, *History/Arts Admin/Anthropology*
- Lisa Fierstein '16, *American Studies/Arts Admin/Media & Film Studies*
- Bennett Beutel '16, *Management & Business*
- Pierre Delcourt '16, *Management & Business/English/Computer Science*
- Maddy Tank '16, *Management & Business/Art*

3. SDM Major Senior Presentations

FOREIGN LANGUAGES RESOURCE CENTER (PALAMOUNTAIN 426)

Faculty Sponsor: Giuseppe Faustini, Self-Determined Majors

Presenters: Jonathan Alland '16, Nicole Becker '16, Nicolas Graver '16, Billie Kanfer '16, Camila Mena-Melendez '16, Jonathan Rosenthal '16, Britney Smart '16, Jonathan Alland '16

Student majors in SD (Self Determined) are required to complete a final capstone project. These seven distinctive presentations are indicative of the high quality of research undertaken by this year's SDM. Their research topics range from Dance Science to Public Health. Please join us to hear and celebrate the 2016 SDM final project presentations.

Dance Science: "Comparing Injury Patterns in Liberal Arts College Female Dancers Versus Athletes: Should Dancers Adopt Periodization?" - Nicole Becker '16
Reader: Pat Fehling and Sarah DiPasquale

*Dramatic Literature: "Trans*Equine / The Equine Equations: Multiplicities of Becoming with Horses on Stage" - Nicolas Graver '16*
Readers: Gautam Dasgupta and Andrew Bozio

Communication and Media Studies: "Vivid Values: An Analysis of Value Systems Transmitted through Visual Imagery" - Billie Kanfer '16
Readers: Mary-Beth O'Brien and Bec Krefting

Political Economy: "The Political Economy of Security" - Camila Mena-Melendez '16
Reader: Mehmet Odekon

Film Studies: "The Changing Idea of Male Stardom" - Jonathan Rosenthal '16
Readers: Mary-Beth O'Brien and Andrew Lindner

Public Health: "HIV and The Bisexual Bridge" - Britney Smart '16
Readers: Jennifer McDonald and Robin Nelson

Human-Computer Interaction: “*Twitter Redesign and Prototype*” – Jonathan Alland ’16
Readers: Michael Eckmann and Sarah Sweeney

4. Geosciences Undergraduate Research Exposition **EMERSON AUDITORIUM**

Faculty Sponsor: Meg Estapa, Geosciences

Presenters: Emma McCully ’16, Melanie Feen ’16, Benjamin Freiberg ’16, Patrick Thieringer ’16, Candace Wygel ’16, Rachel Barrachina ’16, Alex (Richard) Ng-Yow ’16, Taimur Khan ’17, Michaela Ritz ’17

Geosciences majors will present their undergraduate projects in presentation and poster formats. The 2016 Geosciences Exposition includes presentations investigating climate change, oceanography, geomorphology, and biogeochemical system modeling as well as career trajectories for women in geosciences and a live demo of a new high-tech outreach and education visualization tool in the Dana Atrium.

3:00 pm

Developing a Technique to Determine Iron-Bearing Mineral Composition in Hydrothermal Plumes Using Optical Backscattering Sensors - Emma McCully ’16

3:15 pm

Net Community Production from Autonomous Oxygen Observations in the Sargasso Sea - Melanie Feen ’16

Poster Session 3:30-4pm

Sex-based Inequalities in Academic Geoscience – Rachel Barrachina ’16

Soiled: An analysis of Saratoga Springs soils using handheld XRF and gamma detection spectroscopy - Benjamin Freiberg ’16

Continued Analysis of the Glacial Lake Warrensburg Varve Chronology Reveals Punctuated Glacial Retreat: Results from HF-300.001: Paleoclimatology Practicum - Taimur Khan ’17

Modeling Disruptions to Coastal Silica Transport from the Three Gorges Dam on the Yangtze River - Michaela Ritz ’17

XRF Analysis of Glacial Lake Warrensburg Sediment Cores: Climatic and Geologic Controls on Varve Geochemistry - Patrick Thieringer ’16

Comparing Replicate Stalagmite Records from Cave Actun Tunichil Muknal, Belize: A Test of the Hurricane Masking Hypothesis - Candace Wygel ’16

Demonstration 4:00 pm, Dana Atrium

A Virtual Reality Sandbox for the Dana Atrium: Use your hands and some sand, to

understand how contour bands reveal the shapes of land - Alex (Richard) Ng-Yow '16

5. Performance for Community Engagement

STUDIO A, JKB, 2ND FLOOR

Faculty Sponsor: Eunice Ferreira, Theater

Presenters: Marcella Adams, Director, '16

(Additional participants/actors will be recognized in an extra program.)

This interactive session explores the possibilities of theater that is created specifically to engage communities in conversations about race, gender and other intersectional identities. Marcella Adams, director of last fall's production of Ntozake Shange's *for colored girls who have considered suicide/when the rainbow is enuf*, introduces a model for theater and engagement. The audience will be invited to participate in a facilitated conversation following a performance featuring actors from a variety of majors.

ACADEMIC FESTIVAL 2016												
ROOM SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE												
	9:00 - 10:20				10:30 - 11:50				12:00 - 1:20			
									Religious Studies			
									Neuroscience & Biology Poster Session			
									Psychology Poster Session			
					Sociology				Sociology Poster Session			
									Classics			
	Alternative Spring Break								Education Studies			
					American Studies							
	Philosophy				SSCP				Management & Business			
	Asian Studies				Anthropology				Art History			
									Self-Determined Majors			
	History				Government							
	International Affairs								English (Creative Writing)			
					English (Literary Studies)							
	Music				Economics				Geosciences Senior Seminar Panel			
									Dance			
					Chemistry & Biochemistry							
									Health and Exercise Sciences			
									Art			
									Physics			
									Anthropology			
									Theater			

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. Skidmore founded the Honors Forum in 1997 as an inclusive community of highly motivated students who have promise to become student leaders and globally informed citizens. 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 develop what we refer to as "the life of the mind" by working alongside their faculty on research projects in labs, at field sites, in libraries, and in studios, often helping to shape the curriculum with which they engage. 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. We also encourage all students at Skidmore College to take an Honors course, add-on, or independent study to become invested in a community of scholars and leaders.

2016 Academic Festival Planning Committee and Members of the Honors Council:

Catherine J. Golden, Department of English and Director,
Periclean Honors Forum

Lisa Bradshaw, Honors Forum Administrative Assistant

Eunice Ferreira, Theater

Kate Greenspan, Department of English

Mahesh Shankar, International Relations

Kim Marsella, Director, Office of Academic Advising

Caroline Hobbs, '16, President, Honors Forum Student
Executive Committee

Morgan Lavoie '17, Co-Vice President, Honors Forum
Student Executive Committee

Dylan Quinn '18, Co-Vice President, Honors Forum
Student Executive Committee

Special thanks to:

Print Services

Dining Services

Media Services

Facilities Services

Office of Communications