

PERFORMANCE

CREATIVITY

**SLAM!**

APRIL 12,  
2017

STUDENT LIBERAL  
ARTS MOSAIC

RESEARCH



## LOGISTICS for **SLAM**

*Please Read Carefully!*

*Remove your SLAM Passport from the program.  
Add your name and signature to the back of the Passport.  
Your Passport is your personal ticket into SLAM activities.  
It will be stamped at the door of each session you attend.*

**DO NOT LOSE IT!**

*Many professors will ask to see your Passport as proof of attendance.*

- During Oral Presentations (Sessions II and IV), thematically arranged groups of presentations will be happening **SIMULTANEOUSLY** in **MULTIPLE PLACES** on campus. Check your program carefully and decide which you want to attend. You will only be able to attend one group of presentations in each session. Please remain in that session for all presentations.
- The Arts Break Performances (Session III) are also happening simultaneously in **MULTIPLE PLACES** on campus. The performances begin at 1:30 and last for twenty minutes. They will be repeated at 2:00 so you can attend more than one.
- To be eligible for one of the Fabulous SLAM Door Prizes, you must be present at the Closing Celebration at 3:30pm in Moore Auditorium and your passport must have four stamps that show you have attended:
  - ✓ Session I (Plenary – David LaMotte) AND
  - ✓ All 3 other sessions (Sessions II, III, IV)
- **What next?** Select one of the exciting presentation groups from Session I. Hurry on over to its location. Some may be Standing Room Only, so get there quick to get a seat!

**HAVE FUN and GET SLAMMED!**

### **CREDITS:**

Cover Design:

Courtney Jo Simpkins (SLAM designs are produced each year by MHU Graphic Design students)

Slam Stage Banner Design:

Claudia Cala, Kristin Kilpatrick, Katie Ledford, Jessica Lowman, Hannah McGinnis, Elizabeth Ravel, Cody Webb  
(2007 Apparel & Interior Merchandising students)

# ORDER OF CEREMONIES

IN THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTY FIRST YEAR OF MARS HILL UNIVERSITY  
APRIL 12, 2017  
MOORE AUDITORIUM

THE FANFARE:

9:15 A.M.

## *MHU African and Brazilian Percussion Ensemble*

*Dr. Brian Tinkel and Mr. Justin Mabry, directors*

*Jordan Domangue  
Jordan McCray  
Elizabeth Maynard  
Raven Poplin  
Luke Rathbone  
Kendyl Robertson  
Spencer Taunton  
Edward Tobiasson  
Amber Towles*

OPENING CELEBRATION:

9:30 – 10:00 A.M.

The Invocation

Garrett Farrimond  
*Biology*

The Vice President's Welcome

Dr. Carol Boggess  
*Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs*

Welcome from the SLAM Committee

Raven Brooks  
*Business & Spanish*

Charge to Students, Faculty, and Friends

Mrs. Joy Clifton  
*Asst. Professor of Physical Education*

*Mars Hill University*

SESSION I: PLENARY SESSION

10:00 A.M. – 10:45 A.M.

LOCATION: MOORE AUDITORIUM

Introduction of the Speaker

Andrea Garber  
*Spanish and Sociology*

WORLDCHANGING 101:  
CHALLENGING THE MYTH OF  
POWERLESSNESS

**David LaMotte**

INTER-SESSION SNACK BREAK

10:45 – 11:00 A.M.  
NEAR ORAL SESSION VENUES

## SESSION II: ORAL PRESENTATIONS

11:00 – 11:45 A.M

**Session II – A: Brainiac****Location: Belk Auditorium***Determining the Decision Making Styles of Mars Hill University Basketball Players in Competition*Ricky Hawks, Jr.  
*Psychology**Concussions: More Than Just a Headache*Meredith Cottrell  
*Athletic Training***Session II – B: “Wasted” Time****Location: Owen Theatre***Is Student Engagement Related to Academic Achievement?*Katelyn Puckett  
*Psychology**Alcohol: The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly*Dakota Martin  
*Psychology***Session II – C: Compound Composition?****Location: Broyhill Chapel***Muscle Composition and Athletic Performance*Danielle Dunn  
*Physical Education**Synthesis and Lipophilic Properties of Metformin Drug Derivative*Lauren Hochstetler  
*Chemistry*

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**Session II – D: Music and Madness**

**Location: Fellowship Hall**

*Exploring the James H. Montgomery Music Collection*

Ian Kirkpatrick  
*Political Science*

*Predictive Analytics for March Madness Using Google PageRank and the Perron Frobenius* Nathan Jones  
*Math*

**Session II– E: A Matter of Conscience**

**Location: Band Room**

*The Struggle for Conscientious Objection: The Amish Experience During the American Civil War*

Daniel Nelson  
*History*

*Public Lands Policy Under the Trump Administration*

Savannah Spratt  
*Biology*

**Session II – F: Sax and Drugs**

**Location: Peterson**

*The Nexus of Classical Saxophone and Sounds of Traditional Japanese Music: Interpreting and Performing Compositions by Ryo Noda*

Kendall Ramsey  
*Music Education and Performance*

*Quantum Dots As a Disease Detective*

Becca Butler  
*Chemistry*

LUNCH BREAK

12:00 – 1:15 P.M.

Location: Pittman Dining Hall or on your own

SESSION III: ARTS BREAK

1:30 – 2:20 P.M.

**Each “Act I” performance lasts 20 minutes.  
After a 10-minute intermission, the performances  
will be repeated during “Act II.”  
Please use the intermission to change locations.  
This makes it possible to attend a second Arts Break event.**

**Act I**

**1:30 P.M.**

**Act II**

**2:00 P.M.**

**Arts Break – A**

**Location: Timberline**

*The Slam at SLAM: Passion, Anger, Rhythm, and Rhyme in Student Spoken Word Poetry*

Marlon Allen  
*Recreation & Sport Management*

Patrick Bakari Harris  
*Elementary Education*

Raven Brooks  
*Business and Spanish*

Jaime Kelly  
*Criminal Justice*

Sabrina Hartzell  
*Criminal Justice*

Spencer Taunton  
*Music Education*

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**Arts Break – B**

**Location: Moore Auditorium**

*Far From the Railroad*

The Bailey Mountain Cloggers

Hannah Batten  
*Elementary Education*

Adeline LeMaster  
*History Education*

Mian Brown  
*Biology*

Morgan Leverett  
*Integrated Education*

Caitlin Drummond  
*Elementary Education*

Caitlin Lydia  
*Physical Education*

Cullen Finley  
*Elementary Education*

John Lyle  
*Business*

Jackie Freeman  
*Nursing*

Dayleigh Martin  
*Elementary Education*

Rachel Fuqua  
*Nursing*

Dallas Moffat  
*Criminal Justice*

AnahBelle Hall  
*Criminal Justice*

Morgan Murphy  
*Nursing*

Ashely Hartley  
*Middle Grades Education*

Allyson Puckett  
*Elementary Education*

Kaitlyn Hedrick  
*Business*

Katie Puckett  
*Psychology*

Brianna Horrell  
*Integrated Education*

Jessica Stigall  
*Business*

Sierra Jackson  
*Elementary Education*

Jessica Toney  
*Elementary Education*

Maryanne Kenna  
*Nursing*

Sarah VanWinkle  
*Undecided*

**Arts Break – C****Location: Peterson**

Cadenza 2017:

Nicholas Bingham  
*English Education*

Brittany Leckrone  
*Art*

Erin Francey  
*Zoology*

Janie Parker  
*English*

Matt Foster  
*Religion*

Hannah Stapelton  
*Art*

Fallon Jae Hyder  
*Social Work*

Christina Williamson  
*Art*

Ian Kirkpatrick  
*Political Science*

**Arts Breaks - D****Location: Chapel***The Gospel According to the Choir*

Mars Hill University Gospel Choir

Stephen Blount  
*Criminal Justice*

Mae Ervin  
*Criminal Justice*

Randi Brewton  
*Biology*

Randolph Scott Fair Jr.  
*Art*

Raven Brooks  
*Business and Spanish*

Marcus Foster  
*Art*

Jayla Bunn  
*Business Administration*

Corinthia Friday  
*Music Education*

Raezhon Chapman  
*Recreation & Sport Management*

Deondre Grier  
*Social Work*

Briniya Edrington  
*Business Administration*

Ja'Bria Hill  
*Political Science*

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Braeden Johnson  
*Theatre Arts*

Anthony Phillips  
*Athletic Training*

Kyler Kee  
*Criminal Justice*

Alauna Reckley  
*Social Work*

Imani McCain  
*Apparel and Interior Merchandising*

Taija Smith  
*Athletic Training*

Kayla McClendon  
*Social Work*

D'Aja Tyler  
*Zoology*

Jamie Pemberton  
*Social Work*

**Arts Break – E**

**Location: Marshbanks 103**

*You Are Part of a Bigger Picture- Exploring Our Community Through Art – Part II*

Sarah Harkleroad  
*Art Therapy*

Keana Littlejohn  
*Psychology*

Michalea Jones  
*Art Therapy*

Emily Price  
*Art Therapy*

Sierra Keaton  
*Psychology*

Patricia Thompson  
*Art Therapy*

Elizabeth Hope Kihm  
*Art Therapy*

**Arts Break – F**

**Location: Nash**

*Therapeutic Art: Differently-abled Adults of Open Heart Shine Through Clay and Photography*

Devika B. Prasad Penland  
*Art Therapy & Psychology*

## SESSION IV: ORAL PRESENTATIONS

2:30 – 3:15 P.M.

**Session IV – A: Clear or Not****Location: Belk Auditorium***The Fight for Bluff Mountain: Our Public History Experience*

Digna Bermudez  
Elementary Education

Adrienne Enoch  
History

Brandon Cheek  
History

Jamie Whitesides  
History

Jennifer Cardona-Alfaro  
History

*Moving To A Solution*

Heather Darling  
Criminal Justice & Psychology

**Session IV – B: Pushing to End Pushing****Location: Owen Theatre***Ethics Bowl: Behind the Screens: The Law and Cyber-Bullying*

Raven Brooks  
Business and Spanish

Riley Lipman  
Art Therapy and Art

Erin Francey  
Zoology

Sarah Lorick  
Athletic Training

**Session IV – C: Mozart, Music, and Me****Location: Broyhill Chapel***Gender, Class and Mozart: Analyzing Opera From the Enlightenment*

Sydney Bryant  
Music Education

Kelsea Holmes-Ross  
Music Education

Elisa Brunner  
Music

Tristan Turnbull  
Music

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**Session IV – D: Resilience to Overcome**

**Location: Peterson**

*Art: Enhancing Mood*

Michalea Jones  
*Art Therapy & Psychology*

*Empowering Communities Facing Sexual Assault: Comparing Two Rural Counties*

Jordan Efirid  
*Social Work*

**Session IV – E: Putting MHU in the UN**

**Location: Fellowship Hall**

*Is SRMUN For Me: Gaining Professional Knowledge and Personal Growth Through SRMUN*

Elinor Howard  
*Political Science*

Brandon Rice  
*Political Science*

**Session IV – F: Uncovering Secrets**

**Location: Band Room**

*After Gatsby: F Scott Fitzgerald's Summer of 1935 in Asheville*

Thomas Propest  
*Art*

*Examining the Cytokine Production in Asbestos Exposed Macrophages*

Michael T. McLawhorn  
*Biology*

CLOSING CELEBRATION

3:30 P.M.

LOCATION: MOORE AUDITORIUM

## PRESENTATION ABSTRACTS

**Marlon Allen, Raven Brooks, Patrick Bakari Harris, Sabrina Hartzell, Jaime Kelly, Daniel Knight**

*The Slam at SLAM: passion, Anger, Rhythm, and Thyme in Student Spoken Word Poetry*

The Slam at SLAM: Passion, Anger, Rhythm, and Rhyme in Student Spoken Word Poetry--Every February, the Black Student Association hosts a poetry slam featuring students from across campus competing for prizes and glory. This is your opportunity to hear the contenders and champions from the 2017 poetry slam perform passionate, rhythmic, and exciting spoken word poetry about topics important to MHU students.

**Digna Bermudez, Brandon Cheek, Jennifer Cardona-Alfaro, Adrienne Enoch, Jamie Whitesides**

*The Fight For Bluff Mountain: Our Public History Experience*

The story of the controversial proposed cut of Bluff Mountain in the late 1990s has a complicated history that has yet to be fully researched and explained. This presentation will contain valuable information and insight gained from our research into the fight for Bluff Mountain, the community of Hot Springs, as well as the new proposal put forth by the National Forest Service. Students involved in the creation of the Bluff Mountain exhibit will discuss their personal experience and opinions in relation to the issue of Bluff Mountain as well as their insight into putting this particular exhibit together. We will also offer our perspectives on the field of Public History and discuss the lessons we were able to take away from the experience of working with the Bluff Mountain story.

**Nicholas Bingham, Erin Francey, Matt Foster, Fallon Jae Hyder, Ian Kirkpatrick, Brittany Leckrone, Janie Parker, Hannah Stapleton, Christina Williamson**

*Cadenza 2017*

Now in its 52nd year, the editors of the Cadenza Student Literary Arts Magazine recognize and display some of the works that will be published in the newest edition. Material may include: fiction, nonfiction, poetry, photos, paintings, drawings, and more. All works were created by the students of Mars Hill University. The newest edition of the Cadenza will be unveiled on April 27th. The editors thank all students who submitted this year, and we encourage any student who would like to submit for next year's edition to contact us at CADENZA@mhu.edu.

## Student Liberal Arts Mosaic . . . of Research, Performance, and Creativity

**Stephen Blount, Randi Brewton, Raven Brooks, Jayla Bunn, Imani McCain, Kayla McClendon, Raezhon Chapman, Briniya Edrington, Mae Ervin, Randolph Scott Fair Jr., Marcus Foster, Corinthia Friday, Deondre Grier, Ja'Bria Hill, Braeden Johnson, Kyler Kee, Jamie Pemberton, Anthony Phillips, Alauna Reckley, Taija Smith, D'Aja Tyler**

### *The Gospel According to the Choir*

This presentation will focus on the roots of gospel music and how it evolved into its platform now. There will be narration and music to take you back to your grandmother's kitchen on Sunday Morning. Gospel music has always been the foundation of the African American church as well as a huge factor in the struggles and victories of eras like slavery, civil rights and much more. Travel back in time and enjoy the soulful sounds of the Mars Hill Gospel Choir and listen to the words that they sing. It's a powerful experience that can't be explained. The Gospel According to the Choir.

**Raven Brooks, Erin Francey, Riley Lipman, Sarah Lorick**

### *Behind the Screens: The Law and Cyber-Bullying*

The Mars Hill Ethics Bowl Team will take a deeper look into the ethics of punishing bullies in courts of law. The discussion will look specifically at bullying through technology and what new ethical challenges are presented with the use of the internet and cell phones opposed to face-to-face interactions. We will use many of the frameworks discussed in FYS and other ethics courses to unpack the ethical dilemma of punishing cyber-bullies by law. We will work through a case with a given prompt to present the scenario from multiple angles, ultimately giving a few possible solutions to the problem at hand.

**Sydney Bryant, Elisa Brunner, Brad Curtioff, Kelsea Holmes-Ross, Tristan Turnbull**

### *Gender, Class, and Mozart: Analyzing Opera from the Enlightenment*

The music of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was revolutionary for many different reasons. Mozart's operas incorporate ideals from the Enlightenment era that still resonate with today's society, such as themes of gender and socioeconomic status. By analyzing examples from the operas *Le Nozze di Figaro* and *Die Zauberflöte*, we will explore the political themes and meanings of the music from one of the world's greatest composers.

**Becca Butler**

### *Quantum Dots As a Disease Detective*

Quantum dots are semiconductor particles that are extremely small in size and possess unique electronic and fluorescent properties that allow them to be used in pharmacy and biomedicine. The main use of quantum dots is for drug delivery, but research has proven that they are capable of preventing diseases due to early detection of cancerous cells. These nanoparticles have fluorescent properties, as stated above, that allow them to stain cells in order to detect apoptic cells that should not be in the body. The synthesis of quantum dots can be conducted with many different materials and methods, but some methods prove to be better than others. For example, synthesizing with ZnO is less expensive, less toxic, and requires less time in the lab. The goal of this research is to develop a synthesis of quantum dots that are nontoxic, and prove that these nanoparticles can be used as biosensors.

**Hannah Batten, Mian Brown, Caitlin Drummond, Cullen Finley, Jackie Freeman, Rachel Fuqua, AnahBell Hall, Ashely Hartley, Kaitlyn Hedrick, Brianna Horrell, Sierra Jackson, Maryanne Kenna, Adeline LeMaster, Morgan Leverett, Caitlin Lydia, John Lyle, Dayleigh Martin, Dallas Moffat, Morgan Murphy, Allyson Puckett, Katie Puckett, Jessica Stigall, Jessica Toney, Sarah VanWinkle**

*Far From The Railroad*

The Bailey Mountain Cloggers will be performing various routines from their spring concert that will occur on April 28-30. The dances will be focused on classic folktales from Hans Christian Andersen, Aesop, and the Brothers Grimm. There will also be a few routines based on stories of Mars Hill University through the years. The performance will involve several genres of dance including clogging, jazz, ballet, and hip hop.

**Meredith Cottrell**

*Concussions: More Than Just A Headache*

In the past, concussions have been portrayed as minor injuries. Colloquial terms such as “ding,” “bell ringer,” “getting your bell rung,” and “clearing the cobwebs” have been used when diagnosing and describing concussions. Using these terms in relationship to brain injuries lessens the significance of the injury to athletes. Concussions, unlike most injuries, can be difficult to diagnose because many of the symptoms can be associated with common ailments. Because of this, athletes need to be informed. According to the NATA Position Statement on Management of Sport Concussion, “about 70% of collegiate football players failed to report concussions during their season.” This was because they were uninformed and did not know the signs and symptoms of a concussion. Like any injury, if the athlete is returned to playing too soon, there can be adverse effects, however, with concussions these effects can be fatal.

**Heather Darling**

*Moving To A Solution*

Have you ever faced a problem that led you to such a point of frustration you just had to get up and walk away, but once you got up and started moving around new solutions begin to surface? Or have you ever been trying to tell a friend a story and a word escapes your mind so you begin flailing your arms around to gesture what you are trying to say? We use either one of two forms of movement when we get stuck in a problem – but which form is more effective? This presentation is designed to explore those two forms of movement used to help ease the frustrations in problem solving.

# Student Liberal Arts Mosaic

## . . . of Research, Performance, and Creativity

### **Danielle Dunn**

#### *Muscle Composition and Athletic Performance*

Within the discipline of Physical Education and Exercise Science, unlike any other field, it is abundantly clear that some individuals are more likely to excel than others. Some attribute this to willingness to work hard and participate, however, there is some physiological argument for “natural ability.” This differentiation between the ability of individuals can be attributed to muscle composition: muscle fiber types. This presentation focuses on the function of the different muscle fiber types as they relate to athletic performance. It will provide a general introduction to the characteristics of the different muscle fiber types and how these characteristics are advantageous to specific sports and types of activity. The presentation will also include information about training to improve function of specific muscle fiber types to enhance athletic performance and efficiently reach performance goals.

### **Jordan Efir**

#### *Empowering Communities Facing Sexual Assault: Comparing Two Rural Counties*

Sexual assault comes in many forms and environments, and affects countless people. As a college in a rural county, our campus needs to be knowledgeable about sexual assault, and create a community that discourages assault in all its forms. Not only will this presentation focus on our campus, but this presentation will include my own journey of becoming passionate about the realities of sexual assault. This includes my research into how a Southern Baptist Church can support teens facing assault in healthy ways. Together, we will dispel many myths surrounding assault through discussion about real issues, and will examine how to be active and effective community members. Please be aware that this presentation will include discussion that may be uncomfortable, especially for survivors of assault. However, the goal of this presentation is to build an atmosphere of empowerment for survivors, and all are welcome.

### **Sarah Harkleroad, Michalea Jones, Sierra Keaton, Elizabeth Hope Kihm, Keana Littlejohn, Emily Price, Patricia Thompson**

#### *You Are Part of a Bigger Picture - Exploring Our Community Through Art – Part II*

As a student at Mars Hill University, you are a part of the campus community. We believe that everyone at MHU brings their own unique talents, quirks, and ways of being/identifying which all help to enrich our community. Please join the Art Therapy Applications class in Marshbanks 103 during the SLAM art break in order to express the uniqueness that is YOU. Students will be asked to create an image representing how they contribute to the MHU community. These will all become a part of a final art piece, representing that you are a part of a bigger picture. No art experience necessary!

**Ricky Hawks, Jr.*****Determining the Decision-Making Styles of the Mars Hill University Basketball Players in Competition.***

An athlete makes numerous decisions consciously or subconsciously in competition. All sports are different with some sports allowing more time to make decisions. Other sports require a higher level of reactivity in order to make the appropriate decision or get a significant result. The game of basketball requires quick conscious and subconscious decision-making, but under what conditions can those decisions be manipulated? High anxiety plagues many athletes thought-processing which in return affects their performance. By manipulating the anxiety levels of the athletes in this study, can we affect their decision-making styles?

**Lauren Hockstetler*****Synthesis and Lipophilic Properties of Metformin Derivative***

Metformin is a common pharmaceutical drug, most known for its use in the treatment of type II diabetes. Type II diabetes is a hyperglycemic effect in which the insulin produced by the pancreas is not able to transport sugar properly from the blood to tissue cells. Metformin is a guanidine drug that works to sensitize the cells to insulin, a function that is lacking in type II diabetes. Prodrugs are inactive bioreversible derivatives of molecules that improve the physiochemical properties of the original drug. Research into the mechanism and absorption shows potential in synthesizing metformin prodrug derivatives to improve its overall lipophilicity. This research is being conducted in hope of finding and synthesizing a prodrug of metformin that displays more favorable physiochemical properties that may eliminate negative side effects of the drug and lower the dosage that is currently required for the treatment of type II diabetes.

**Elinor Howard, Brandon Rice*****Southern Regional Model United Nations and MHU - Is Model UN For Me? Gaining Professional Knowledge and Personal Growth through SRMUN***

Students will learn about the Southern Regional Model United Nations (SRMUN) from their colleagues who have participated in this competition which takes place every March in Charlotte. At SRMUN, students from over 60 institutions compete as delegates of their country in all of the committees in which their country has representation in the real United Nations. Delegates must perform extensive research of the issues to be debated in their committees, their country's position on these issues, the positions of the other delegates, as well as the rules of UN diplomacy in order to reach resolution. Student participants at SRMUN will discuss the importance for others to become knowledgeable of international events and the role that the United Nations plays in global politics. They will also share the importance of gaining practical experience in rigorous scholarly research, library resource literacy, and public speaking in moving into the world of work

# Student Liberal Arts Mosaic

## . . . of Research, Performance, and Creativity

### **Michalea Jones**

#### *Art: Enhancing Mood*

In the United States, as of 2016, approximately one in every five adults is diagnosed with a mental illness, that can cause negative consequences that effect their everyday life (NAMI, 2016). Approximately 20.9% of American adults suffer from at least one mood disorder ranging from depression to bipolar disorder, with women being 50% more likely to be diagnosed then men (Elements Behavior Health, 2017). Creating art can result in self-discovery, personal fulfillment, empowerment, relaxation, stress relief and relief from symptoms of mental and mood disorders. Studies are being done that are showing that art therapy is becoming a very effective treatment when used with other forms of therapy and treatment, but what form of art is best? Results will be presented from a recent study investigating what form of artistic creation is better for enhancing a negative mood, is it better to be distracted or to express yourself?

### **Nathan Jones**

#### *Predictive Analytics for March Madness Using Google PageRank and the Perron Frobenius Theorem*

This project involves investigating different ranking methods in an attempt to create a predictive model. Specifically, the project takes on the medium of the 2017 Division 1 NCAA basketball tournament. Using historical data already provided, the Perron Frobenius Theorem and Google 's PageRank are explored as a basis for a ranking technique. Further, the rankings generated by this technique are then utilized to create predictions of match ups in the tournament. The model is implemented in the programming language R and is designed in a way to optimize a log loss score for each tournament over the course of the past 30 years. The project highlights the ways in which math and big data can be used in order to predict outcomes of future events

### **Ian Kirkpatrick**

#### *Exploring the James H. Montgomery Music Collection*

In 2015 Mars Hill University received the James H. Montgomery Music Collection, which includes 1023 LPs and 1368 CDs of American music. The collection focuses on country, bluegrass, old-time, western swing, and other forms of traditional music. Through the Hart-Melvin Fellowship, Instructor Brandon Johnson and I researched this collection - a wealth of rare and unique recordings ranging from commercial country to preservation-minded albums with academic-quality notes. The collection yields the early work of many influential musicians and folklorists, and in doing so uncovers some forgotten cultural traditions developed by - and for - traditional music. Our research focused on creating and augmenting curriculum for multiple classes at Mars Hill University. This presentation will seek to showcase the efforts of James H. Montgomery as an influential collection of traditional American music.

### **Dakota Martin**

#### *Alcohol: The Good, The Bad and The Ugly*

This presentation will focus on data from a student survey that was conducted on student engagement behaviors in 2016. The survey focused on targeted student population of students who were of sophomore and junior status. In particular this presentation will evaluate questions related to alcohol consumption, risk taking, and academic performance. We will also discuss information about binge drinking and the outcomes of alcohol use.

### **Michael T. McLawhorn**

#### *Examining the Cytokine Production in Asbestos Exposed Macrophages*

Exposure to amphibole asbestos fibers has been linked to the development of systemic autoimmune diseases (SAIDs). The amphibole asbestos-exposed population of Libby, Montana exhibits a higher than average rate of various autoimmune conditions, including lupus and rheumatoid arthritis. Recent studies have suggested that the secretion of specific cytokine profiles by macrophage immune cells stimulates the differentiation of lymphocytes into pathways associated with chronic inflammation and the development of autoimmunity. It is thought that these immune pathways may be activated differently by various asbestos subtypes, thus leading to the diverse diseases observed in exposed populations. Recently, large deposits of amphibole asbestos have been found outside of Las Vegas, Nevada and in Northern Arizona. We examined the hypothesis that Arizona amphibole activates macrophage cells in a similar way as Libby amphibole. Data suggest that macrophages do respond similarly to these different asbestos fibers, suggesting that people exposed to Arizona amphibole in and around Las Vegas may be at risk for developing SAIDs similar to those seen in the Libby amphibole-exposed population

### **Daniel Nelson**

#### *The Struggle for Conscientious Objection: The Amish Experience in the American Civil War*

The purpose of this research project has been to interpret the varied experiences with military service and conscription of Amish young men from Holmes County, Ohio during the Civil War. By examining and piecing together the stories of individuals through official draft documentation, military records, newspaper articles, and some more personal writings I was able to conclude that many young Amish men did have their first amendment rights to freedom of religion, as we now understand them, violated. This presentation also gives a brief amount of historical context, especially as it pertains to Amish theology applied to the ideas of military service and conscription. The overall examination reveals how the Civil War presented the earliest challenge to ideas in the U.S. regarding the freedom of religion for pacifist faiths and what it meant to be religiously exempted from war.

### **Devika B. Prasad Penland**

#### *Therapeutic Art: Differently-abled Adults of Open Heart Shine Through Clay and Photography*

Open Hearts is a center that helps differently abled adults learn about and create art. At Open Hearts these individuals are empowered to express their creativity through music and art. They participate in musical shows and have their artwork exhibited around Western NC. The Open Hearts staff are known to be hands-on and supportive of the artists. Come join us for this art break, where you will be able to view the artists' work, a collaborative ceramic piece, and documentary photographs of the staff and the artists.

# Student Liberal Arts Mosaic

## . . . of Research, Performance, and Creativity

### **Thomas Propest**

#### *After Gatsby: F. Scott Fitzgerald's Summer of 1935 in Asheville*

In the summer of 1935 author F. Scott Fitzgerald came to Asheville, NC hoping that the mountain air would assist in curing his physical health. This presentation will examine the events which gave way to the tremendous success of both Fitzgerald and this small mountain city during the 1920s, and the circumstances surrounding the downfall of each a mere decade later. It will look at the highlights of Fitzgerald's stay through the eyes of Tony Buttitta, an author and bookshop owner who spent much time with Fitzgerald that summer and chronicled this time in his 1974 *After the Good Gay Times*. It will review the life and death of Fitzgerald's wife, Zelda, at the Highland hospital in Asheville, and finally will examine how this period of time influenced the lives and legacies of the Fitzgerald's and the city of Asheville.

### **Katie Puckett**

#### *Is Student Engagement Related to Academic Achievement?*

This research was conducted for student organizations and the faculty and staff to get a better understanding about student engagement in campus events in comparison to students' academic performance. We will look at reported social involvement rates and reported academic achievement and engagement at MHU, and also look at similar research from other universities. The findings for our campus are very interesting and somewhat unexpected. Come and learn more about why students participate in campus activities and how this relates to academic outcomes.

### **Kendall Ramsey**

#### *The Nexus of Classical Saxophone and Sounds of Traditional Japanese Culture: Interpreting and Performing Compositions by Ryo Noda*

Composer and performer Ryo Noda has been hailed throughout the world for his masterful control of the saxophone, powerful avant-garde improvisations, and innovative performance techniques. Noda combines his Japanese heritage and his knowledge of the saxophone to produce compositions that synthesize Western and Eastern musics. Noda's pieces for the saxophone imitate the sounds of the shakuhachi (Japanese flute) by the use of extended techniques. These sounds are achieved by the special musical notation found in compositions such as his *Fantaisie et Danse*, *Murasaki No Fuchi*, and *Maï*.

### **Savannah Spratt**

#### *Public Lands Policy Under The Trump Administration*

The federal government currently owns and manages 640 million acres of public lands, including national parks, national forests, and Bureau of Land Management lands. These lands provide timber, ranch lands, mining products and recreational opportunities for the public. Pisgah National Forest and Great Smoky Mountains National Park are popular federal lands near Mars Hill University. Changes in public land management and ownership have been proposed under the Trump administration, specifically the expansion of resource extraction on existing public lands and a movement to transfer public lands to state or private ownership. I conducted a policy analysis of the public land management under the Trump Administration from December 1, 2016 to April 1, 2017. My presentation will give detailed information about current public land policy and explore some potential effects of the passage of new bills.



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Richard Seagle  
Brian Tinkel & MHU Percussion Ensemble  
The dedicated Students, Staff, Faculty, and Friends of Mars Hill University

# NOTES

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# The Plenary Speaker

## David LaMotte

*“Charm, stories, humor, insightful songs, sweet voice, and dazzling guitar ability.” ~ BBC Radio Belfast*

David LaMotte is an award-winning songwriter, speaker and writer. He has performed over 3000 concerts and released twelve full-length CDs of primarily original music, touring in all of the fifty states, as well as five of the seven continents. The Boston Globe writes that his music “pushes the envelope with challenging lyrics and unusual tunings, but he also pays homage to folk tradition,” while BBC Radio Belfast lauds his “charm, stories, humour, insightful songs, sweet voice and dazzling guitar ability.”

LaMotte suspended his eighteen-year music career at its peak in 2008 to pursue his other passion by accepting a Rotary World Peace Fellowship to study International Relations, Peace and Conflict Resolution at the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia. As part of that study, he also spent time in rural Andhra Pradesh, India working with a Gandhian development organization.

In 2004, David and his wife Deanna founded PEG Partners, a non-profit organization that supports literacy, critical thought, and artistic expression in Guatemala. He continues to serve as the President of PEG. He is also a consultant on Peace and Justice for the North Carolina Council of Churches, and recently completed his sixth and final year on the AFSC Nobel Peace Prize Nominating Task Group.

David has published three books, including two illustrated children’s books. The first based on his award-winning children’s song SS Bathtub and the second, White Flour, tells the true story of a creative and whimsical response to a Ku Klux Klan march in Knoxville, Tennessee by a group called the Coup Clutz Clowns. His most recent book, Worldchanging 101: Challenging the Myth of Powerlessness, is being used as a textbook in several colleges and universities.

LaMotte’s newest album, The Other Way Around, features musicians from every inhabited continent, and guest appearances from Ed King of Lynyrd Skynyrd, Nicky Sanders and Graham Sharp of the Steep Canyon Rangers, and Tim O’Brien, among a large cast of musicians. It was released in September of 2016, and debuted at #8 on the Folk-DJ chart.

Touring full-time for over twenty-five years, LaMotte has developed a large and loyal following around the world. His music has been honored with numerous awards and artist grants, and has been featured on dozens of artist compilations. Notably, his song Dark and Deep was included on Songs Inspired By Literature, Chapter One, a benefit CD to raise money for adult literacy. Other artists on that CD include Suzanne Vega, Aimee Mann and Bruce Springsteen. Several independent films feature David’s music, and it has been heard on the Today Show and the Showtime television series This American Life.

LaMotte is also a public speaker and workshop leader, offering Worldchanging 101 workshops around the world for more than a decade. As a result of his work with schools in Guatemala, he was named a “Madison World Changer” by his undergraduate alma mater, James Madison University.

David LaMotte makes his home in Black Mountain, North Carolina, with his wife Deanna and son Mason. He is currently touring extensively, speaking and performing.



