

April 9, 2008  
8:45 am-7:00 pm  
Mars Hill College

# SLAM

STUDENT LIBERAL ARTS MOSAIC

Showcasing student research, performance, and  
creativity.

Today is YOUR day...

## LOGISTICS for



*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 instructors will ask to see your Passport as proof of SLAM attendance.*

- During Oral Presentations (Sessions I, III, and V), 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 (see presentation abstracts in the back of the program for additional details). 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 IV) are also happening simultaneously in **MULTIPLE PLACES** on campus. The performances begin at 3:15 and last for twenty minutes. They will be repeated at 3:45, 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 & Dinner at 5:45 P.M., and your passport must have four stamps that show you have attended:
  - ✓ Session II (Eric J. Saperston) AND
  - ✓ at least 3 entire sessions from the other four options (Sessions I, III, IV, V)
- **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:

Kim Perry

Slam Stage Banner Design:

Claudia Cala, Kristin Kilpatrick, Katie Ledford, Jessica Lowman, Hannah McGinnis, Elizabeth Ravel, Cody Webb

## ORDER OF CEREMONIES

*In the One Hundred Fifty-first Year of Mars Hill College  
April 9, 2008  
Moore Auditorium*

### **THE FANFARE: Mars Hill College Percussion Ensemble**

**8:45 A.M.**

Phillip Bronson, Corey Denham, Kenneth Edwards, Emory Hensley,  
Jonathan Lukes, Justin Mabry, Christopher Powell  
*Mr. Brian Tinkel, director*

### **OPENING CELEBRATION**

**9:00–9:20 A.M.**

The Invocation

Rev. Todd Boling  
*College Chaplain*

The Vice President's Welcome

Dr. Nina T. Pollard  
*Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs*

Welcome from the SLAM committee

Ms. Jessica Blanford  
*Senior Religion/Philosophy & History Major*

Charge to the Students, Faculty, and Friends

Ms. Joy Clifton  
*Instructor of Physical Education*

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**SESSION I: ORAL PRESENTATIONS**

**9:30–10:45 A.M.**

**Session I–A: *Transformers***

**Location: Owen Theater**

*Lion Pride Apparel: Student Inspired. Student Created*

Stefanie Hampton  
Hannah McGinnis  
Anne Menze  
Elizabeth Ravel  
Evelyn Siergiej  
*Fashion & Interior Merchandising Majors*

*Jim Wayne Miller: The Hero Brier*

Brandon Johnson  
*English and Political Science Major*

*A Solid Foundation: A Practical Look at Youth Strength Training*

Kyle Davis  
*Physical Education Major*

**Session I–B: *The Mirror Has Two Faces***

**Location: 108 Harris Media Center  
(Projection Room)**

*Why I May Not Be a Christian (And You May Not Be Either!)*

Joseph Quattlebaum  
*Religion/Philosophy Major*

*The Epistemologies of Women with Eating Disorders*

Alicia Andrzejewski  
*English & Psychology Major*

*The Peaceful and Violent Struggles of Rubén Jaramillo*

Tyler G. Greene  
*History Major*

**Session I–C: *Brave New World***

**Location: 108 Moore  
(Band Room)**

*Resurrection of Male Cherokee Culture*

Colbe Klein  
*History Major*

*A Possible Alternative in the Treatment of Resistant Bacteria*

Jack Delaney  
*Biology Major*

*A Path Towards Sustainability for MHC: A Call to Action*

Matthew Kupstas  
*Sociology Major*

*continued on next page*

**Session I–D: *Pack Mentality***

**Location: 200 Wren College Union  
(Belk Auditorium)**

*Why I Am Also Known as “The Wolf Lady”*

Jaelyn Bowen (Surgener)  
*Zoology Major*

*Ancient Sparta: The Unified Society*

Lance Renes  
*History Major*

*Team Velocity: Revolutionizing the Modern Sports Business*

William Mikolajczak  
*Graphic Design Major*  
Dustin Whitlow  
*Computer Science Major*

**SESSION II: PLENARY SESSION**

**11:00 A.M.–12:30 P.M.**  
**Location: Moore Auditorium**

Introduction of the Speaker

Ms. Jessica Blanford  
*Senior Religion/Philosophy & History Major*  
*SLAM Committee Representative*

***Life’s a Journey. Live in Wonder.***

**Eric J. Saperston**

*Creator and Director, “The Journey”  
President and CEO, Journey Productions, Inc.*

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**LUNCH BREAK**

**12:45–1:45 P.M.**  
**Location: Pittman Dining Hall**  
**or on your own**

**SESSION III: ORAL PRESENTATIONS**

**1:45–3:00 P.M.**

**Session III–A: *Revolutionaries***

**Location: Owen Theater**

*Holy Howl: Allen Ginsberg, Lawrence Ferlinghetti and the Fight for Free Speech*

Molly Leedom  
*English Major*

*Women in Action: Mt. Airy, NC during World War II*

Andrea McCrary  
*History Major*

*Muppets: A Science?*

Assisted by Mrs. Anne Parker

Daniel Hensley  
*Musical Theater Major*

**Session III –B: *Case in Point***

**Location: 108 Harris Media Center**  
**(Projection Room)**

*Cervical Spinal Cord Neuropraxia In a Collegiate Football Player*

Sarah Brandenberger  
Michelle Bruner  
John Burk  
Larry W. Morris  
*Athletic Training Majors*

*Yolanda Oreamuno: Mi vida es mi único documento*

Danielle Kamffer  
*Spanish & Political Science Major*

*The Criminal Justice System: Individual Rights, Law, and Ethics*

Tabatha Woodson  
*Sociology Major*

*continued on next page*

**Session III –C: “–ISMs”**

**Location: 108 Moore  
(Band Room)**

*Dostoevsky’s Ridiculous Man*

Jessica Keith  
*Religion/Philosophy & English Major*

*Screams and Dreams: Expressionism in the Arts*

Sarah Fowler  
*Music Major*

*Sexism: A Discussion of Gender, Language, and Feminism*

Keely Hollahan  
*Psychology Major*

**Session III –D: Paradox**

**Location: 200 Wren College Union  
(Belk Auditorium)**

*Metaphors We Die By*

Andrew Chilton  
*Religion/Philosophy & English Major*

*Fit or Famished? The Prevalence of Eating Disorders in Division II Female Athletes  
in Comparison to Female Non-athletic Peers*

Allison Schafer  
*Chemistry Major*

*Would Jesus Kill Hitler?  
Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s Theology of Obedience and How He Lived It Out!*

Jessica Blanford  
*Religion & History Major*

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**SESSION IV: ARTS BREAK**

**3:15–4:15 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.*

**3:15 P.M.**

**“Act I”**

**Arts Break–A**

**Location: Broyhill Chapel**

*God on the Wall* (an original one-act play)

Christine Hernandez-Cuenco  
*Special Education Major* (anticipated)

*Featured Playwright:*  
Christine Hernandez-Cuenco

*Featured Performers:*  
Kasey Boston, Maryanne Brown, Paige Epley,  
Christine Hernandez-Cuenco, Reb Knight, Joan Wilkerson

**Arts Break–B**

**Location: Peterson Conference Room  
(Blackwell, First Floor)**

*Cadenza Presentation*

Andrew Chilton, editor  
*Religion/Philosophy & English Major*

*Featured Exhibitors:*  
Various Contributors

**Arts Break–C**

**Location: The Loft  
(McConnell)**

*Drum Set and Virtual Band: The Creative Process*

Phill LaMar Bronson  
*Music Education & Music Performance Major*

*Featured Composer, Arranger, & Performer:*  
Phillip LaMar Bronson

*continued on next page*



**Arts Break–D**

**Location: Owen Theater**

*Gender Bender: An Uncouth Musical*

*Written by:*

Robert P. McDaniel and Ashley Manning

*Lyrics and Music by:*

Cole Porter, Jule Styne & Bob Merrill, Kenny Loggins, and Alan Menken

*Featured Performers:*

Jennifer Ariel, Christopher Caggiano, Daniel Hensley,  
Ashley Manning, Robert P. McDaniel, Mandy Sayles

*Assisted by:*

Virginia McKnight

***Intermission***

**3:45 P.M.**

**“Act II”**

*All performances from “Act I” will be repeated during “Act II.”  
Please attend a second Arts Break event.*

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**SESSION V: ORAL PRESENTATIONS**

**4:30–5:45 P.M.**

**Session V–A: *Mountain Magic***

**Location: Owen Theater**

*Ballad Novels of Sharyn McCrumb*

Ashley McCarthy  
*English Major*

*Economic Development: The Arts of Madison County*

Mallory Trasport  
*Art & Business Major*

**Session V –B: *Parallel Universes***

**Location: 108 Harris Media Center  
(Projection Room)**

*Jazz Idioms and Influence in Darius Milhaud's "La Creation du Monde"*

Amanda S. Inabinet  
*Music Education Major*

*Walkway Wisdom: Paths Against Prejudice*

Serena McMillan  
*Religion/Philosophy Major*

**Session V –C: *Possibilities are Endless***

**Location: 108 Moore  
(Band Room)**

*The Wizard, the Hobbit, and the Teen: Fantasy Novels and the Young Adolescent*

Heather Wright  
*English Major*

*Ad-VENTURES in Screen Printing*

Cody Montgomery  
*Business Major*

Austen Ward  
*Fashion & Interior Merchandising Major*

*Through Different Lenses: A Methodological Journey*

Michael Costello  
*Spanish Major*

*continued on next page*

**Session V –D: *Journey's End . . . ?***

**Location: 200 Wren College Union  
(Belk Auditorium)**

*Jenny's Experience at the US-Mexico Border:  
Looking at the Issue of Immigration Policy*

Jenny (Eun Jung) Lee  
*Psychology & Political Science Major*

*A Printmaker's Journey*

Emily ("Miley") White  
*Art Major*

*Today, Can Philosophy Be the Cure? Can we give Philosophy a Job?*

Carrie Vann  
*Religion/Philosophy Major*

**CLOSING CELEBRATION & DINNER**

**5:45 P.M.  
Location: Pittman Dining Hall**

***The MHC Student Liberal Arts Mosaic  
. . . of Research, Performance, and Creativity***

***Mission Statement***

The Mars Hill College Spring SLAM:

- showcases student research, performance, and creativity.
- provides an opportunity for the Mars Hill College community to celebrate, recognize, and promote student accomplishment across a range of academic pursuits.
- fosters and encourages a campus culture that honors and rewards the hard work, dedication, and discipline that lead to success and achievement in liberal education, in professional life, and in the world.

The Spring SLAM provides an opportunity for Mars Hill College students to exhibit their creativity and energy to an audience that includes not only the entire campus community (students, faculty and staff), but also the wider college family (trustees, alumni, and friends of the college). During the sessions, panels, and exhibits of the Spring SLAM, students present the best of their work in a wide variety of subject areas and formats, sharing it in a spirit of intellectual competition and cooperation.

## Presentation Abstracts

**Alicia Andrzejewski**, *The Epistemologies of Women with Eating Disorders*

Eating disorders have been trivialized, misconstrued, and ignored in our society for far too long. The National Association of Anorexia Nervosa and Associated Disorders states that approximately eight million people in the U.S. have anorexia nervosa, bulimia, and related eating disorders. What's more, there is a direct relationship between disordered eating, construed body image, and women. Eating disorders are an invisible epidemic in our society. There is no more room for the taboo, the intolerance, and the young women lost to these disorders. Each year many informative books are published that discuss eating disorders, causes, and possible solutions, yet we see an increase in the problem rather than solutions. This presentation looks at this problem from a different perspective: how do these women "know?" How does suffering from disordered eating affect their truths? The purpose of this presentation is to explore the epistemologies of women with eating disorders.

**Jessica Blanford**, *Would Jesus Kill Hitler? Dietrich Bonhoeffer's Theology of Obedience and How He Lived It Out!*

As Christians we are told to love as Christ loved, but we are also told to be obedient to God. During World War II, Christian Theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer took the command of obedience to the ultimate level. Bonhoeffer was involved in a "conspiracy" to kill Adolf Hitler, leader of the Nazi regime. Along with others, Bonhoeffer planned and executed an assassination attempt of Hitler; however, their attempt was unsuccessful. For his involvement, Bonhoeffer was punished with death.

Today Bonhoeffer is widely studied for his theology of grace. Bonhoeffer's ideology is that a Christian's response to God's grace should be living in perfect obedience. Using Bonhoeffer's *Cost of Discipleship*, other theologians, and Biblical texts, I ask a very important question to all Christians: How important is one's obedience to God? For Dietrich Bonhoeffer, obedience was so important that he would break one of the commandments AND it also cost him his life!

**Jaelyn Bowen (Surgener)**, *Why I Am Also Known as "The Wolf Lady"*

During the summer of 2007 I assisted in raising and socializing four baby timber wolf pups for Bays Mountain Nature Preserve in Kingsport, Tennessee. The pups are now a part of our captive adult pack after a smooth and successful introduction. I will share many details about this amazing experience, what socialization is, why it is important, and how it is done effectively. I will also be sharing information that I have learned about wolves in general, their intricate social structure, and their history in the southern Appalachia region, while at the same time advocating for this endangered species. There will be many adorable wolf puppy pictures, and I will be ending with a howl.

**Sarah Brandenberger, Michelle Bruner, John Burk, & Larry W. Morris**,  
*Cervical Spinal Cord Neuropraxia In a Collegiate Football Player*

This presentation involves a case study of a spinal cord neuropraxis in the cervical spine of a 20 year-old male NCAA Division II football player. The athlete experienced a sudden onset of bilateral numbness and tingling into his upper extremities following non-traumatic contact with a teammate during football practice. The athlete was participating in a blocking drill when his helmet and facemask made mild contact with another player, positioning his head and neck in slight hyperextension. Bilateral numbness and tingling into the upper extremities occurred immediately but subsided after five minutes. Four additional episodes were reported during similar drills over a time frame of nine and a half weeks; however, in each case, the numbness and tingling resolved as soon as contact during the drill was broken. The athlete had no prior episodes of bilateral numbness and tingling, although he did have a history of one or two minor brachial plexus injuries ("stingers") in high school, during which he was not withheld from practice or games. The athlete has a family history of vertebral stenosis, with which the athlete was also later diagnosed. This case study highlights the follow-up treatment and care for this injury.

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**Phill LaMar Bronson, *Drum Set and Virtual Band: The Creative Process***

At Mars Hill College there are a number of students interested in funk music; however, there is not enough interest in bringing a funk band to fruition. This poses a personal dilemma: I want to play funk, but I don't have a band. As a result, I created a virtual band using a program called Garage Band.

Since the 2007 winter break, I have composed five original songs. My inspiration for writing these songs came from rhythms discovered in practice. My instrumentation reflects that of a funk band: acoustic guitar, electric guitar, electric piano, electric bass, saxophone section, trumpet section, and percussion. The style of my compositions is a mixture of smooth jazz and funk.

When I play drum set to my compositions, I emulate the cohesive contrast of the songs by playing rhythms that are not usually heard in these two musical styles. Consequently, this enables me to truly express my style of playing the drum set. My style is based around funk and rock. The purpose of this presentation is to share these original compositions and to exhibit a variety of grooves for the drum set.

**Andrew Chilton, *Metaphors We Die By***

This presentation explores the relationship between the stories we tell and the actions we take. I investigate how ancient myths can be used for both good or evil, and how such decisions are made. In particular, I examine the myth of war as a heroic ideal, its foundations in ancient mythologies, and its embodiment in current events such as the Iraq war and the presidency of George W. Bush.

**Cadenza Contributors, *Cadenza Presentation***

*Cadenza*, Mars Hill's literary and arts magazine, will present its best work in this exciting session. There will be poetry recited, short stories read, and art work displayed--all done by Mars Hill's finest student artists. This presentation is a preview of our Spring publication and an exciting demonstration of our best creative efforts.

**Michael Costello, *Through Different Lenses: A Methodological Journey***

This presentation takes a closer look at the *process* and *ends* of my senior seminar project, which related the movie *Pan's Labyrinth* to a historical event, the Spanish Civil War (the setting of the movie). The presentation will point out the frustration accompanied by research, the methodologies used to acquire and break down information, and questions that were asked and answered during this entire process. There will also be examples of non-linear thinking, in which I employed "out of the box" methods. Conclusions and findings will be presented, focusing on the translation of a few characters and their relation to the movie and time period, as well as a challenge to the students to apply the methods I used in their everyday asking and answering of difficult questions.

**Kyle Davis, *A Solid Foundation: A Practical Look at Youth Strength Training***

As youth sports gain in popularity, and with children participating in sports programs at a younger age, strength training has become a vital part of the culture. This sudden demand on the bodies of young athletes has prompted questions and concerns about the effects of youth strength training. This presentation will ask the following questions: What are the effects of strength training on young bodies, and what is the proper age to begin training? These are the two most common questions raised by parents, coaches, and anyone else involved with children. Some of the fears surrounding youth strength training stem from misconceptions, such as bad research and just false information. This presentation aims to set the record straight on those misconceptions.

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## **Jack Delaney, *The Viability of Bacteriophages as an Alternate Treatment in Bacterial Infection***

This is a preliminary study designed to investigate the ability of bacteria-eating viruses (bacteriophages) to adequately treat bacterial infection. The presentation will cover background material needed for the understanding of this study, such as what a bacteriophage is, where to find bacteriophages, why there is a need for alternative treatment to bacterial infection, and what laboratory techniques are used for the utilization of the bacteriophages. I will also present preliminary data collected during the initial parts of the experiment.

## **Sarah Fowler, *Screams and Dreams: Expressionism in the Arts***

Expressionism, one of the most profound artistic movements of the twentieth century, sought to evoke the deepest and darkest human emotions. This presentation will compare and contrast two popular artists and their work from this movement: "The Scream," a vivid painting by Edvard Munch; and excerpts from Arnold Schoenberg's musical composition, "Pierrot Lunaire." Throughout the exploration of these two masterpieces (and the masterminds behind them), the audience will be challenged to look deep inside themselves and explore emotions that are often difficult to express.

## **Tyler G. Greene, *The Peaceful and Violent Struggles of Rubén Jaramillo***

The Mexican Revolution and the Constitution of 1917 emphasized land and labor reform to benefit the lower-class. Many poor farmers and workers, however, believed those reforms were either totally ignored or too slow to be implemented. In frustration, peasants in the state of Morelos turned to Rubén Jaramillo as their ambassador to communicate their needs and demands to the officials in power. Jaramillo—a veteran of the revolution—worked actively to petition government officials to act in favor of his peasant followers, and most of his actions were within the parameters of the legal system, although in a few instances he led armed rebellions. Because of his violent actions, Jaramillo was assassinated by the judicial police. Modern observers often vilify him as a ruthless bandit, but his peaceful struggles are usually ignored. Jaramillo's actions illuminate the failures of revolutionary Mexico's leaders to fulfill their constitutional requirements.

## **Stefanie Hampton, Hannah McGinnis, Anne Menze, Elizabeth Ravel, & Evelyn Siergiej,**

### *Lion Pride Apparel: Student Inspired. Student Created*

Imagine an apparel product that reflects the input, ideas, and efforts of Mars Hill College students. A group of Fashion and Interior Merchandising majors have teamed up with the Mars Hill College Bookstore to create a line of women's clothing that will better represent the school. This presentation consists of our entire experience, from beginning to end. Those attending will see the step-by-step process of how we researched, implemented, designed, and will market these new, exciting products. Furthermore, students, faculty, and staff will witness the unveiling of our LION PRIDE apparel, and have the opportunity to win some great merchandise!

## **Daniel Hensley, *Muppets: A Science?***

Ever since I watched Sesame Street on PBS, I have been fascinated with the different sounds the Muppets could make. What also intrigues me is how the voice could be trained to keep the same sound throughout time. Consistency is very important to a singer, but how can a person stay consistent using a foreign sound, like "Kermit the Frog?" *Avenue Q*, the new Tony award-winning Muppet musical for adults, quickly grabbed my puppet-loving heart. Using the voice training research of Jo Estill, I formulated a recipe for the different sounds that a puppeteer chooses for their character voice. Each character of *Avenue Q* has a distinct voice quality that we will analyze and that you will hear. With the sound kinesthetically learned, the actor will be able to recall their sound at any point without fault or question.

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**Christine Hernandez-Cuenco, *God on the Wall***

This is a true story, a dramatization of the most difficult event in my life. After several years of faithful service in ministry, I suddenly found myself having to choose between my reputation or my relationship. How could my faith be changed in an instant? Who could argue that what you believe to be true, is a lie? What if you first believed the lies, and then discovered the truth? Would you choose conditional love, or true love? I chose the right one for me.

**Keely Hollahan, *Sexism: A Discussion of Gender, Language, and Feminism***

This presentation examines sexism, and, in particular, gender, language, and feminism. It is hoped that spreading awareness of the gender hierarchy in our culture will encourage progress beyond it. In the words of the ever familiar 12-step program for addiction: "the first step is admitting you have a problem." Though some facts and claims may be debatable, sexism exists, and it is time that it is recognized. By discussing what sexism is, we can learn to acknowledge it as individuals and move beyond it. As a woman, I have experienced sexism, but as my knowledge of it increases, I feel more empowered to live my life in spite of it. This is my hope for other women and men--that we can continue the process of empowering women and creating space for all individuals in which to thrive.

**Amanda ("Mandy") Inabinet, *Jazz Idioms and Influence in Darius Milhaud's "La Creation du Monde"***

Upon hearing American jazz for the first time in 1923, Darius Milhaud, a French composer, became fascinated with this new style. From his new obsession came his first jazz-influenced ballet, "La Creation du Monde." This ballet synthesized the well-known classical idioms of the time with the new jazz idioms. In this session, I will explore Milhaud's ballet, examining how the jazz and classical idioms are synthesized to form an amazing interpretation of the African American folk tale of the creation of the world.

**Brandon Johnson, *Jim Wayne Miller: The Hero Brier***

Jim Wayne Miller was born in Leicester, NC, and is chiefly responsible for the establishment of Appalachian literature. Few people in Appalachia, however, have ever heard of him. Before Miller's work, Appalachian authors were left out of the canon, or lost in the broad category of "Southern Literature." It was Miller who created a regional identity. This presentation will shed light on who Jim Wayne Miller was, and what his contribution was to Appalachian Literature. Miller's poetry, novels, anthologies, themes, and essays will be included topics of discussion. Examinations of these contributions will seek to show how Miller is indeed the hero of Appalachian literature.

**Danielle Kamffer, *Yolanda Oreamuno: Mi vida es mi único documento***

This presentation analyzes the life of a Costa Rican feminist who, despite her progressive ideas, made no impact on the people whatsoever during her lifetime. Her most famous novel, *La ruta de su evasión*, only received the recognition it deserved after her death, when the Costa Rican people came to treasure her as part of their history. It is a sad story of a "feminist" who wanted nothing more than to be accepted by the nation she was born into, and by the men with whom she involved herself. Unlike the lives of many feminists, I find no inspiration in the life of Yolanda, and instead argue that her life is the opposite of what a feminist should live.

**Jessica Keith, *Dostoevsky's Ridiculous Man***

This presentation entails a philosophical analysis of a short story entitled *Dream of a Ridiculous Man* by Fyodor Dostoevsky. The presentation includes a discussion of several key philosophers such as Camus, Levinas and Buber, as well as the philosophical ideas of absurdity and despair. It concludes with an exploration into the ethical implications of a solipsistic life, and offers a way to reach out beyond one's self to the Other.

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## **Colbe Klein, *Resurrection of Male Cherokee Culture***

Today, many of the Cherokee are revitalizing their culture through the sharing of myths, playing the ball game, and performing the sacred war dance. Revitalization could be described as the "...conscious, organized attempt on the part of a society's members to revive or perpetuate neglected aspects of its culture" (Linton, 1993). It has been a true test for adolescent and adult male Cherokees to keep their heritage alive. They are turning to their past to affirm their sense of identity in today's modern world. Brothers, fathers, and elders provide guidance to the younger boys of the tribe, as a way to ensure that adolescents belonging to the Eastern Band follow in the footsteps of those who came before them. Today, the resurrection of the Cherokee myths, ball game, and war dance testifies to their desire to honor their unique traditions and pass them on.

## **Matthew Kupstas, *A Path Towards Sustainability for MHC: A Call to Action***

What does a "sustainable campus" involve? What sustainable practices is MHC doing already that are more sustainable? How are other colleges responding to the extreme environmental challenges that our generation faces? What are the roles of students in these challenges? Come see the challenges MHC faces in becoming more sustainable, as well as the opportunities the college has not taken advantage of. I will paint a picture of what a path towards sustainability looks like at MHC, and discuss what is to be gained by choosing that route.

## **Jenny (Eun Jung) Lee, *Jenny's Experience at the US-Mexico Border: Looking at the Issue of Immigration Policy***

This presentation will be based upon my experiences last semester at BorderLinks, a not-for-profit organization that aims to educate people about the situation regarding the Mexico-U.S. border (<http://www.borderlinks.org/bl/index.htm>). My time at BorderLinks broadened my view of looking at the situation of undocumented and documented immigrants. Prior to my lived experience, I had learned solely on the mass media's perspective, which uses provocative language that creates potentially negative images of the border. I concluded that education is the way to break the chain of ignorance and fear. This personal experience changed my way of thinking and living, and I--being one of many immigrants in the United States of America--would like to share this personal transformation with the community, including other immigrants. I hope this presentation will motivate people to know about their neighbors and their neighboring countries, which is always the first step to making harmony among differences.

## **Molly Leedom, *Holy Howl: Allen Ginsberg, Lawrence Ferlinghetti and the Fight for Free Speech***

Named a triumph for its courageous statement about post-World War Two America, and banned for its "lewd" content, *Howl* by Allen Ginsberg is perhaps one of the most stirring and blatantly honest pieces of literature in American history. Beat poet Lawrence Ferlinghetti found great importance in this work and published it through his own company, City Lights. Ferlinghetti was subsequently arrested for the publication on obscenity charges and the book was banned. After a series of trials and many letters of protest from Ferlinghetti and other literary figures, the judge found there to be great social importance in *Howl*, thus legalizing its publication.

In this presentation, I will be discussing *Howl* and the reasons for the controversy surrounding it. I will also examine the trial subsequent to the publication, and how the outcome of the trial affected literary censorship in America.

## **Ashley Manning & Robert P. McDaniel, *Gender Bender: an Uncouth Musical***

*Gender Bender: an Uncouth Musical* is about a group of Mars Hill College students involved in creating a project for SLAM. The students begin as a team, but soon break up over the idea of "Gender Bender." This leaves one student in despair, while another stays behind to listen to the idea. As the idea is expressed, the musical comes alive! Will the students get to do the show, or is it just a plain laugh-fest? Come and enjoy an entertaining 20 minutes of wild antics! (Special thanks to Virginia McKnight & Paul Schierhorn.)

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**Ashley McCarthy, *Ballad Novels of Sharyn McCrumb***

Sharyn McCrumb is a contemporary Appalachian writer born in Wilmington, NC in 1948. She is a *New York Times* best-selling author, known for her ballad novels. In these novels, McCrumb combines her family history and stories with a unique style of writing, which includes vivid character creation, poetic influences, and regional as well as universal themes. To explore her style of writing and the way her lifestyle has influenced it, I examine one of her best-known and most recent novels, *The Ballad of Frankie Silver*, a work that blends two parallel stories of crimes--a murder in the past that resulted in the execution of Frankie Silver, and a more recent murder that carries the death penalty. The reader is left wondering about connections between the stories and across time.

**Andrea McCrary, *Women in Action: Mt. Airy, NC during World War II***

This presentation will examine the roles of American women on the home front during World War II. Women's roles in the home as well as their new roles outside the home will be discussed. The women of Mt. Airy, NC will be highlighted to show their important roles in the community and how they supported the war effort in several unique ways. Their roles in implementing ration laws, holding donation drives, and their participation in the Red Cross will be used as some examples.

**Serena McMillan, *Walkway Wisdom: Paths Against Prejudice***

Prejudice is born out of ignorance. This presentation will examine the comparative similarities between major religions and cultures. It is my belief that many of our prejudices are continually reinforced by the repetitive stereotypes to which we are all exposed. It is time that our similarities are given equal opportunity to sink in and register within our psyche. Repetitive exposure to the ideas I am putting forth should help begin the process of balancing information about major religions and cultures. Ultimately only time will reveal those who are willing to be intellectually honest and act to further their understanding, change their prejudices, seek truth rather than malicious innuendo, and thus add one more person to the ranks of those willing to move distrust into dialogue.

**William Mikolajczak & Dustin Whitlow, *Team Velocity: Revolutionizing the Modern Sports Business***

Team Velocity is a new breed of business in the modern sports world. This business aims to provide a unique twist to runners, cyclists, and swimmers of all levels and abilities so that they may increase their potential, while working together under one roof. The Team Velocity business will also appeal to the general public by producing a full-blown clothing line that encompasses our trademark gazelle logo.

The presentation of a Team Velocity store will include a website, store floor plan, clothing line, coaching plan, amateur and professional athletics team, and more. Students and professors from multiple disciplines--including Art, Business, Computer Science, Fashion & Interior Merchandising, and Physical Education--will be able to specifically relate the information presented to their respective majors and lines of work.

**Cody Montgomery & Austen Ward, *Ad-VENTURES in Screen Printing***

"Ad-'VENTURES' in Screen Printing" showcases our research of the screen printing process. We will demonstrate the process of screen printing on wearable clothing and other items, and explain how products of art, music, fashion and interior merchandising, and similar pursuits could become the foundation of a new venture start up company. We will also clarify how to put together a business plan and how to get an idea such as screen printing out into the market. We hope to make clear that students who are not Business majors have the option of creating a business related to their scholarly discipline and personal passion. This "Ad-'VENTURE'" encourages students and the community of Mars Hill College to parlay a skill into a successful business venture.

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# Student Liberal Arts Mosaic

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## **Joseph Quattlebaum, *Why I May Not Be a Christian (And You May Not Be Either!)***

What does it really mean to be a Christian? What are the fundamental beliefs of Christians? Many Christian denominations hold many different beliefs about various tenants of faith. Some denominations may or may not affirm the Christianity of the beliefs of different denominations. Where is the line? Some philosophers of language would say that the definitions and meanings of words are much more of a gray area than Webster would have you think. This presentation will seek to study the way that people use the word "Christian," and explore the dynamics of the use of the word in Western North Carolina. All listeners who care about the use of the word "Christian" as a personal title, way of life, or an otherwise important word, will join in the conversation about what it means to be a Christian. When trying to speak reasonably about anything, especially our faith, it is important to define what it is that we are talking about. In the interest of defining a very important and sometimes ambiguous word, join me and find out why I may not be a Christian (and you may not be either!).

## **Lance Renes, *Ancient Sparta: The Unified Society***

The Spartans of ancient Greece are often depicted as fierce and efficient soldiers whose way of life was focused solely on combat. In contrast, the citizens of Athens, just north of Sparta, are known for their knowledge of philosophy, architecture, athletics, arts, and the concept of the individual. Throughout Western civilization we typically praise Athenians for their concepts, and apply these concepts to our daily lives. What if we studied a group of people, however, that was geared towards a "team" mentality for the good of their society? As a matter of fact, the concept of team influences us throughout our daily lives. It can be seen in our families, job, and athletics. This presentation examines the Spartans as the best example of a unified society.

## **Allison Schafer, *Fit or Famished? The Prevalence of Eating Disorders in Division II Female Athletes in Comparison to Female Non-athletic Peers***

The aim of this study is to present findings from a survey of Division II female athletes and non-athletes regarding the prevalence of disordered eating habits. Although extensive research has been done on Division I athletes, little has been done to look at this group. Comparisons among sport groups will be made along with how these groups compare to the non-athletic female college student. In addition to this, the found data will be compared to a study of Division I female athletes to examine similarities and differences in eating disorders.

## **Mallory Trasport, *Economic Development: The Arts of Madison County***

In the summer of 2007, I became a research intern and conducted a study on the economic development of the arts of Madison County. This presentation will offer a glimpse of my findings and discuss my experience as a researcher. After interviewing artists from every medium--from potters to painters, jewelers to photographers, and every artist in between--I found that this area is rich with a creative culture that so many places lack. I want to share with you just how fortunate we are to be a part of this artistic community.

## **Carrie Vann, *Today, Can Philosophy Be the Cure? Can we give Philosophy a Job?***

I seek to redefine the concept of philosophy, and reconstruct its task in today's society. Throughout human history, Philosophy--the love of wisdom--has been a constant and continuing conversation. Let us heed the thoughts of some humans who have impacted Western civilization: Friedrich Nietzsche, Simone Weil, Walker Percy, Cornell West, David Wood, and Jacob Needleman. Despite their vast differences, cultures, and historical contexts, they have something important to tell us. And we must not forget philosophy is an ancient human phenomenon. Our ideas are no further developed from the most important figure of western thought, Plato of ancient Greece. Plato's work has compelled us to wrestle with the greatest of human ideas: equality, justice, truth, beauty, and love. These are the matters at the heart of our being. These matters need to be and should be at the heart of society. For these are the matters that exist at the heart of philosophy.

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**Emily ("Miley") White, *A Printmaker's Journey***

American culture fosters in young women feelings of inadequacy, and a belief in a hierarchy of value based on looks and possessions. Young women's self-perceptions become skewed by the false concepts of beauty and worth, upon which American companies thrive. As a result, the mind and body suffer the consequences as young women head down a road that encourages them to become their own worst enemy.

I have sought to bring light to the details related to this issue through processes of photography and printmaking--the use of black and white references, the negative perceptions of self, the intensity of emotions present, as well as contrasts of the bright, colorful images found in misleading magazines. The creation of layers in these pieces encourages the viewer to search for meaning in the complexity. The select images show the emotional struggle associated with measuring up to irrational standards of ideal beauty. The torn and segmented feel of some of the work helps to convey the tendency of women to pick themselves apart. The use of self-portraits and photographs under transferred images and words help to show how pressures are placed on women. I hope to express both the importance of the issue, as well as the struggle in communicating and making a difference.

**Tabatha Woodson, *The Criminal Justice System: Individual Rights, Law, and Ethics***

This presentation discusses individual rights, including both historic rights (particularly those outlined in the Bill of Rights), and some more recent developments, such as the Miranda ruling. I emphasize that these rights protect citizens from possible illegal and unethical procedures, as well as the importance of a citizen's responsibility to be aware of such rights. I also provide an overview of the actions and behaviors of the various players within the criminal justice system, including, but not limited to, attorneys and police officers. Lastly, I present certain issues and pose possible problematic practices carried out by the members of the criminal justice system, while also asking what kind of ethical implications these actions have.

**Heather Wright, *The Wizard, the Hobbit, and the Teen: Fantasy Novels and the Young Adolescent***

This presentation is a literary criticism examining the literary components of fantasy novels and their appeal to young adolescents. The primary source readings for this project include: *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*; *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*; *The Elder Series: Eragon*; and *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring*. As all of the readings are works of fantasy (some high fantasy), their similar structure and thematic elements appeal very well to middle school age students. Each of the works deals with an average character who lives an average existence. Through sudden events beyond their own control, these reluctant heroes find themselves on a quest to right wrongs that have been done. On this physical journey, they also experience the more important emotional journey, where they find self-validation and acceptance of themselves. These aspects are engaging to young adolescents because they are also going through times of physical and emotional changes, while trying to find their new place in the world around them.

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*Crystalyn Morgan & the Ladies of Distinction*  
*Phil Murray & the Graphic Design students*  
*James Neadstine*  
*Kim Perry (program cover design)*  
*Nina T. Pollard*  
*JoAnna Riddle (SLAM tee-shirt design)*  
*Richard Seagle*  
*Mike Thornhill, Director of Communications*  
*Brian Tinkel & MHC Percussion Ensemble*  
*Visiting Artists and Lecturers Committee*

*The dedicated Students, Staff, Faculty, and Friends of Mars Hill College*

# **SLAM**

## *NOTES*

Student Liberal Arts Mosaic  
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**SLAM**

*NOTES*

## The Plenary Speaker



**Eric J. Saperston**

*Sometimes you take a trip. Sometimes the trip takes you.*

After graduating from college, Eric Saperston bought a 1971 Volkswagen bus, took his golden retriever Jack, and set out to follow the Grateful Dead and work a ski season in Aspen. While on the road, he called some of the most powerful and influential people in the world and asked them out for a cup of coffee. What started out as a personal quest to find the answers to life's biggest questions — “Why am I here? How can I find happiness? What is success?” — quickly turned into something much bigger than he ever imagined.

He journeyed the country for almost four years, capturing over 500 hours of video footage, while interviewing over 200 of our world's most successful, and passionate thinkers, leaders, doers, and dreamers. Three years into his travels, Walt Disney Studios awarded him a development deal to turn his adventures into a feature film. THE JOURNEY feature film premiered to standing ovations and won six major film festivals.

Saperston earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Speech Communications from San Diego State University and an Associate Arts diploma from Grossmont College where he was Student Body President. In addition to creating and directing the film THE JOURNEY, Saperston teamed up with Atlantic recording artist Edwin McCain for their critically acclaimed “Do Your Own Thing,” voted “Best College Act of 2001” by Campus Activities Magazine. Saperston has addressed thousands of people at conferences and events across America, providing keynotes, workshops, leadership seminars and interactive productions to organizations including: UC Santa Barbara, University of Texas, UCLA, The Martin Luther King, Jr. National Conference, Coca-Cola, Fast Company, NIKE, and AmeriCorps. In addition to his live performances, Saperston is a leading author of “Chicken Soup for the College Soul.”

Currently living in Atlanta, Saperston is the founder, President, and Chief Creative Officer of Journey Productions, Inc., an eco-friendly, forward-thinking, entertainment company specializing in film, literature, spoken word, music, and performance art to ignite, inspire and enliven the world. Eric's passion for life is contagious, captivating audiences everywhere with his authentic, refreshing, laid-back style. People find themselves whole-heartedly entertained and moved by Eric's insightful stories about his life's adventure, which are full of wisdom, humor, and inspiration. He calls us all to the leading edge of compassionate global citizenship and creative social entrepreneurship.

*“Never underestimate the power of the individual.*

*If you think something small cannot make a difference, try falling asleep with a mosquito in your tent.”*

*Celebrating 151 years of academic excellence*

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