



4/13/2021

STUDENT LIBERAL ARTS MOSAIC

# ORDER OF CEREMONIES

IN THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTY FIFTH YEAR OF MARS HILL UNIVERSITY

APRIL 13, 2021

[ONLINE VIA ZOOM & RECORDED VIDEOS](#)

THE FANFARE:

10:30 A.M.

***MHU Percussion Ensemble***

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

OPENING CELEBRATION:

10:45-11:00 A.M.

The Invocation

Sydney Rose

*Psychology Major*

The President's Welcome

President Tony Floyd

Welcome from the SLAM Committee & Overview of SLAM

Mrs. Joy Clifton

*SLAM Committee Chair*

PLENARY SESSION

11:00 – 11:45 A.M.

Introduction of the Speaker

Keila Mendoza Baez  
*Criminal Justice and Spanish Major*

**Marilyn “Que” Tucker**

Marilyn “Que” Tucker, Mars Hill class of 1974, is the commissioner of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association.

A native of Rockingham County, Que says she “didn’t have a clue” where she wanted to attend college. A teacher suggested she look at Mars Hill College, the teacher’s alma mater. Mars Hill was one of three schools to which she was accepted and, despite not having set foot on the campus beforehand, she chose to go to the Hill. “It was just providential that I ended up here,” she says.

Her freshman year Que was one of only four black female students, but says she never really thought much about racial issues. She says the few issues she recalls were minor, and she “always felt the support” of the institution. And she got involved on campus, serving as president of her sophomore class and as co-captain of the basketball team her senior year, among other activities.

After graduation and before entering the collegiate coaching ranks, Que was a highly successful coach at Reidsville Senior High School. As a women’s basketball head coach at the high school level, she compiled a career win-loss mark of 145-104 from 1978 through 1988 and posted a 58-16 record as a volleyball head coach.

Que had worked in some of the legendary N.C. State coach Kay Yow’s basketball camps, and as a Mars Hill player had played against Yow’s Elon College team. In 1989 Coach Yow offered Que an assistant coaching position at State. She described that job as “a wonderful experience,” which included an Atlantic Coast Conference championship in 1991.

In June 1991 Que took the newly created position of assistant commissioner for student services at the North Carolina High School Athletic Association. She began working with high school administrators, creating programs which helped student athletes with academic balance, leadership skills, and alcohol and drug resistance. “I felt like I was giving back for all that I had been given,” she says.

She worked in a few other roles with the association before the opportunity arose to serve, first as interim, and now as the permanent commissioner of the organization. “I’m the umbrella,” she says of the job, leading the efforts of the association’s staff to encourage and provide health and safety, sportsmanship direction, educational opportunities, leadership training, and more for the over 200,000 North Carolina high school athletes and their coaches.



## PRESENTATION ABSTRACTS

This year's presentations are being delivered online as video recordings..  
To access any presentation use the presenter grid at [SpringSlam.com](http://SpringSlam.com).

To access your online passport to document which presentations you viewed, go to  
<https://mhu.zoom.us/j/95180706786?pwd=a1hJMXdudmRyQ1NsbllzbXI5UkFJQT09>  
(passcode, if needed, is 737397)

**\*Note: Presentation videos will premiere Tuesday, April 13, following the plenary presentation.\***

## ORAL PRESENTATIONS

### **What Roles Do Social Attitudes About Family and Violence Play in the Case of Gabriel Fernandez?**

*A'mera Bellamy*

The role of social attitudes on family dynamics and violence played a role in the Gabriel Fernández case. By researching family dynamics and the multiple forms of child abuse, I found numerous social factors attributed to Gabriel's life ending in Gabriel's case. My research proves that individual family members' attitudes can heavily influence the family system and the surrounding community. This research concludes that violence is an accepted phenomenon within the family dynamic if their surrounding environment contains instability and a historical pattern of violence and victimization. If the surrounding community is saturated in broken homes, those involved in this case would not see the urgency to remove Gabriel from his family dynamic and into a safer environment because it was a common incident in that community. The familiarity with family violence allowed for a child-like Gabriel to suffer unnoticed.

### **From Apartheid to George Floyd: The Potential of Truth and Reconciliation Commissions in the US**

*Brendan Cyprianos*

America is a nation that has been plagued by a history of racial injustices that have become part and parcel of the make-up of the country. Even before the nation was created an entire genocide occurred on the native people of this land, from that to slavery to Asian Americans being put in concentration camps to Muslim Americans being discriminated post 9/11 and the most recent one is with regards to Latinos. With this history of America being so engrossed into society to not address past mishaps, this has led to this constant cycle of discrimination towards marginalized groups. The persistent issue of police brutality brought about the large-scale protests worldwide after graphic video evidence was shared around the world of George Floyd taking his last breath. These constant cases of police brutality and killing of innocent unarmed African Americans has led to a collective trauma and distrust between African Americans and law enforcement that was magnified to have seeped into the American society as it was magnified within the Trump era that racism is still alive and well in the USA. These racial tensions can only be solved through a process of truth and reconciliation that aims at attempting to mend the relationships between African Americans and law enforcement, with the hope that these commissions will be implemented in other aspects of American society that have faced racial injustice such as housing, banking and education.

### **Foundations of Increasing Political Polarization in the United States**

*Eleanor Dunlap*

The partisan divide has appeared to be a rising issue within American politics, especially surrounding recent election years. The purpose of this research is to analyze both past and current events contributing to the current liberal/conservative partisan divide. Due to the vast influences on this issue, I will address and analyze four subcategories in regard to their impact on political polarization within the United States. The four subcategories that I will be exploring are biological and psychological factors, economics, institutions, and sociocultural factors that have contributed to increasing polarization within US politics. The aim of research is to identify some of the facets as to why this has become such a critical issue within politics

### **Monarchs and Milkweed: Predicting Which Milkweed Species Monarchs Prefer**

*Madison J. Long*

The main contributor to the decline of Monarch butterflies (*Danaus plexippus*) is the lack of milkweed plants as habitat due to human impacts. Which milkweed species monarchs prefer is still unknown. Here, sixteen milkweed species were selected and analyzed to test which physical or chemical traits monarchs preferred. Previously published data was used to rank 16 species of milkweed based on monarchs' preference during three life stages: oviposition, caterpillar, and adult pollination. A backward stepwise model selection was used to determine the best fit model to explain preference in each monarch life stage. Overall, the caterpillar and pollination stages both had significant models that showed that monarchs preferred taller plants and bigger flowers along with more caffeic acid derivatives and total phenolics, and less leaf cardenolides. Therefore, milkweed species that favor these attributes are more likely to attract monarchs through multiple life stages and should be prioritized for monarch conservation.

# STUDENT LIBERAL ARTS MOSAIC ... RESEARCH, PERFORMANCE, AND CREATIVITY

## **MHU's Ethics Bowl Team at 2021 NC Independent Colleges and Universities Ethics Bowl**

*Ciara Mitchell, Marcus Orta, Abigail Wilson, Isaac Woodlee*

Ethics Bowl is a structured debate format in which competing teams of 4-6 collaborate to deliver oral arguments responding to a case study and prompt with ethical dimensions. MHU has participated in the NC Ethics Bowl for 6 years, including this past February 20th 2021, and the theme this year was Ethics in a Pandemic. The team would like to demonstrate the arguments they delivered to one of the case studies. Ethics Bowl represents the application and intersection of many different majors from a "real world" perspective, both in terms of the students participating and of the universal concepts of the cases they address. We want to make sure MHU knows and supports our team and how future students might participate next year and beyond.

## **The Effects of Anthropogenic Light Emissions on Bats in Southern Appalachia**

*Ally Willis*

There are approximately 12-15 species of bats located in the Southern Appalachian Mountains depending on time of year. For some of these species, anthropogenic light pollution has a negative effect by deterring bats from foraging in bright light due to increased risk of predation. Yet other species appear to benefit and even thrive from foraging on insects attracted to the light. Therefore, conservative plans regarding bats in urban and suburban areas must be tailored to meet objectives and species-specific. In the current study, I conducted acoustic transects to assess the effects of light emissions on local species of bats. Specifically, I determined how species diversity increased or decreased in relation to distance from city centers. City centers represented the highest level of anthropogenic light disruption in a natural habitat and light lumens rapidly decreased as distance from city centers increased. I also assessed which species were more likely to be found in urban/suburban habitats. There was no significant difference between the species or foraging activity found closer to city lights compared to number of species or activity found further away. However, the data displayed a trend that more bat species and increased levels of activity were located further away from the city center.

## **ARTS BREAKS**

### **Pure Imagination – Bailey Mountain Cloggers**

*Hannah Auriemma, Halea Baker, Courtney Baswell, Angie Borbon, Kathryn Bright, Bailey Clayton, Taylor Davis, Tykasia Davis, Lauren Freeman, Olivia Heim, Naomi Jack, Claire Jones, Dalerika King, Samuel Locklear, Abby McLeod, Makenzie Osborne, Paul Penderman, Tea Pennell, Riley Rickard, Enrique Rodriguez, Rachel Sealy, Christina Starck, Nubia Vasquez*

Pure Imagination, a performance by the Bailey Mountain Cloggers, is a preview of our annual spring concert. It is a spin off of the children's movie, "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory." The show combines traditional and contemporary clogging, hip hop, jazz, and various other forms of percussive dance to create the story. The full concert will be held in Moore Auditorium, April 30, May 1, and May 2, 2021.

# STUDENT LIBERAL ARTS MOSAIC

## ... RESEARCH, PERFORMANCE, AND CREATIVITY

### **The Mini-Slam at SLAM and the *Cadenza* Sneak Peek**

*A'mera Bellamy, Kendall Bines, Tayler Hodges, Jamie Jennings, Indiana Rotondo, Johannes Waals.*

The Mini-Slam at SLAM & the *Cadenza* Sneak Peek is a combination of two events: a mini slam poetry set and an early glimpse of selected works from the 2021 *Cadenza*. This is an opportunity to hear some of our poets share new works, talk about their old work and *Cadenza* submissions to better introduce our literary magazine. The mini poetry slam at SLAM will feature three poets performing their slam poetry. The event is like the various poetry slams put on by BSA, just in a smaller setting. The *Cadenza* unveiling, however, is a sneak peek at work and an inside look at how the magazine itself is assembled.

### **Movie Musicals in Action!**

*Emma-Leigh Brookshire, Brianna N. Brunner, Steven T. Capers, Connor J. Evans, Dalton Davidson, Jamie-Lynn Carcia-Lopez, Righteous J. Luster, Kevin May, Ina M. Messer, Paul D. Penderman, Adam E. Sellers, Regan, S Sellers, Christina R. Starck, Alexis B. Stephens, Sarah V. Wheeler, Kiera E. Whittemore, Kyndall J. Winberry, Seth M. Wynn*

During the past year of the pandemic, we have all gained a new appreciation for the arts. Whether you are binging Netflix or joining in on virtual theatre experiences, the arts remain present despite the lack of opportunity for live performances. For our musical theatre performance ensemble group, Showstoppers, we've explored all kinds of group performance pieces. All these songs showcase moments from movie musicals or television shows that feature musical theatre moments. These songs are a true effort in creating as an ensemble. Each student takes on the responsibility of creating this group performance focusing on their strengths, whether teaching the music to their peers, working on acting moments throughout the songs, or choreographing the piece.

### **Acting the Song – MHU Theatre Voice Studio**

*Connor Evans, Jamie Lynn Garcia, Alexis Stephens*

In our Musical Theatre voice studio, each piece we study requires an extensive character study so that the objectives and given circumstances are clear for the audience. When a song is selected, the students do extensive research about the show, time period, composer, and content by completing a "Song Anatomy" Profile. In doing this, we discover the plot line of the show and what the character's story arch is. We also research how the events in the history of the time period that the show was written affect our interpretation of the song. Applying this information to the performance of the song proves to enhance the audience connection to the piece. When the song is not from a musical, we examine the story of the real life artist in addition to their style and mannerisms to provide the most authentic performance

### **MHU Woodwind Ensemble**

*Harlee Black, Jared Dunn, Daneille Fann, Kari Gibson, Alondra Barrera-Hernandez, Sarah Leon, Mariah Oliver, JP Perason, Tailynn Pardue, Cailyn Plummer, Tyler Reese, Abby Wilson*

The Woodwind Ensemble performs Shimmer by Ryan Meeboer, Elegy by William Grant Still (Arr. by Marcus Ballard) and Sheep May Safely Graze by Johann Sebastian Bach

STUDENT LIBERAL ARTS MOSAIC  
... RESEARCH, PERFORMANCE, AND CREATIVITY

THE SLAM COMMITTEE

Mr. Ryan Bell, Director of First Year Academic Success and Advising  
Dr. Greg Clemons, Division of Arts and Humanities  
Mrs. Joy Clifton, Division of Professional Programs and Social Sciences, Committee Chair  
Dr. Brett Johnson, Division of Professional Programs and Social Sciences  
Dr. Amanda Knapp, Division of Mathematics and Sciences  
Ms. Kelsey Taylor, Student Life  
Mrs. Misty Theisen, Division of Arts and Humanities  
Mr. Mike Thornhill, Marketing & Communications

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