

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

- During Oral Presentations (Sessions I 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. You only need to attend one to get your passport stamped.
- 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 II (Plenary Keith Flynn) AND
 - ✓ All 3 other sessions (Sessions I, III, IV)
- What next? Select one of the exciting presentation groups from Session I. Some may be Standing Room Only, so get there early to get a seat!

HAVE FUN and GET SLAMMED!

CREDITS: Cover Design:

Slam Stage Banner Design:

Deja Smith (SLAM designs are produced each year by MHU Graphic Design students; this year's participating classes are ART 209-Graphic Design I, ART 311-Illustration, and ART 409-Graphic Design III) 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 Sixth Year of Mars Hill University May 3, 2022 Moore Auditorium

The Fanfare:

9:00 A.M.

MHU Percussion Ensemble

Dr. Brian Tinkel, director

Judah Barak *Music Performance*

Music Education

Luke Holt

Jared Dunn *Music Education/Music Performance*

Tyler Domangue *Music Performance*

Tayler Hodges English/Music Minor William Pooser *Music Performance*

Isaac Woodlee *Music Performance*

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OPENING CELEBRATION:

9:15 - 10:00 A.M.

The Invocation

The President's Welcome

Welcome from the SLAM Committee

Charge to Students, Faculty, and Friends

Blaine Hovis Musical Theatre

Tony Floyd, J.D. President

Shannon Hall Health & Human Performance

> Abby Wilkerson Fashion Marketing

Mrs. Joy Clifton Assistant Professor of Health & Human Performance

Session I: Oral Presentations

Session I - A: Women Tear It Up

The Prevalence of Anterior Cruciate Ligament (ACL) Tears in Females

Shannon Hall Health & Human Performance

Location: Belk Auditorium

10:00-10:50 A.M.

 The Fe(Male) Centered World: Feminist International Relations and its Importance
 Ciara Mitchell

 History and Political Science

Session I - B: You Gotta See This!

Eyewitness Evaluation of a Crime Scene

The Beast, Borderlands, and Building Connections: INS 235's Community Engagement Experience in Southern Arizona

Piper Alexander Social Work

Cassidy Belcher

Hunter Bridges

Elementary Education

Jon-Laurence Fleming Integrated Health Sciences

Coleson Garrett *Biology*

Drew McMillan Elementary Education

Session I - C: Drippy Fits

Nursing

The Fashion of Mars Hill: Expressing Identity

Chandler M. Adams	Aliyah L. Brewer	Nicholas T. Thorpe
<i>Nursing</i>	Fashion Marketing	<i>Computer Science</i>
Seth L. Adams	Katherine Dale A. Cromer	Jennifer H. Williams
<i>Psychology</i>	Fashion Merchandising	Fashion Marketing
Jonas R. Babb <i>History</i>	Amber M. Emerson <i>History</i>	

MARS HILL UNIVERSITY

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Location: Owen Theatre

Location: Broyhill Chapel

Breanna Myers Psychology

Session I - D: Start to Finish: What's the Cost?

Location: Nash 212

Madison County Transportation: Cost Efficiency and Waste

Roland Chacon	Kristy Lee
Chemistry	Chemistry
Claudia Chandler	John Moss
<i>Math</i>	<i>Math</i>
Kaylon Jones	Jordan Schmucker
Chemistry	<i>Math</i>

Survey of Retirement of Elite Volleyball Players

Jana Cuk Psychology

Session I - E: Stop Bugging Me!"

Location: Ferguson Health Sciences 306

Sampling the Arthropod Diversity of Mars Hill University's Prairie Lab

Hailey Harwick *Biology*

Exploring Gender Bias From a Labeling Perspective: A Regional Survey of Police Officers Dean Fox Criminal Justice (M.A.C.J.)

INTER-SESSION SNACK BREAK

10:50–11:00 a.m. Near Oral Session Venues Session II: Plenary

11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Moore Auditorium

Introduced by Jade McDonald Integrated Health Sciences

Music and Poetry Make Up the Tapestry of Our Lives

Keith Flynn

LUNCH BREAK

12:00–1:20 p.m. Pittman Dining Hall or on your own

SESSION 3: ARTS BREAKS

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.	Various Venues
Act II	2:00 P.M.	Various Venues

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Arts Break A: The Mini Slam at SLAM and the Cadenza Sneak Peek Location: Nash 212

Brandon Abranches Art

Audrey Davis Graphic Design

Danielle Fant Fashion Marketing

Davaughn Frazier Social Work

Riley Gall *Psychology* Tayler Hodges *Music and English*

Sabrina Kennedy International Studies and Political Science

Jade MacDonald Integrated Health Sciences and Psychology

Leah Matney Business Administration Brianna Moffitt *Music Education*

Aaron Newlon *Art*

Braxton Robinson *Psychology*

Catherine Varela-Ruiz *Psychology*

Arts Break B: Mental Health Matters in Musicals

Ivy Brooks *Musical Theatre*

Emma-Leigh Brookshire *Musical Theatre*

Alondra Barrera Hernandez *Musical Theatre*

Blaine Hovis *Musical Theatre* Righteous Luster *Theatre Arts*

Paul Penderman *Musical Theatre*

Adam Sellers *Psychology*

Regan Sellers *Musical Theatre*

Location: Owen Theatre

Alexis Stephens *Musical Theatre*

Ethan Weber *Theatre Arts*

Sarah Wheeler Musical Theatre

Seth Wynn Musical Theatre

Arts Break C: Villains: The Untold Stories

Halea Baker Integrated Health Sciences

Courtney Baswell *Criminal Justice*

Tykasia Davis Chemistry

Samuel Evans Business Administration

Lauren Freeman Business Administration/Pre-Law Olivia Heim *History*

Naomi Jack Social Work

Samuel Locklear Integrated Health Sciences

Abby McLeod Business Administration

Paul Penderman *Musical Theatre*

Enrique Rodriquez *Criminal Justice*

Location: Moore Auditorium

Keyshawn Sanders Business Administration

Rachel Sealy Nursing

Eden Southerland *Nursing*

Christina Stack *Theatre Arts*

Emily Travis Elementary Education

Arts Break D: Creation Station—Come Take A Break and Create With Us! Location: Marshbanks 107

Marlee Austin *Psychology*

Ebanie Bailey Integrated Health Sciences

Kasandra Clouatre Art Therapy and Psychology

Gracie Cook Art Therapy and Psychology

Riley Gall *Psychology*

Kayla Gallagher *Psychology* Ana Garcia-Leyva Art Therapy and Psychology

Brooke Grabowski Art Therapy and Psychology

Michael Houge *Psychology*

Carli Knight Art - Ceramics

Seanna Milton Art Therapy and Psychology

Rakiyan Moss *Psychology* Kaitlyn Raby *Psychology*

Adam Sellers *Psychology*

Amber Vernon Social Work

MARS HILL UNIVERSITY

Arts Break E: Senior Visual Art Exhibition

Location: Weizenblatt Gallery

Brandon Abranches Art

Victoria Franklin *Visual Arts* Santos Gonzales *Visual Arts*

Kendell Johnson *Visual Arts*

DeAndre Gamble Art Marissa Morrell Art

INTER-SESSION SNACK BREAK

2:20-2:30 p.m. Near Oral Session Venues

Session IV: Oral Presentations

Session IV – A: What You See May Not Be What You Get

Antibiotics Effects on Microbiome in Clostridium Infections

The Threat of a World Without Gender

Session IV - B: Shifting the Balance

How Establishment Method and Plant-Soil Feedback Affect the Species Diversity of Prairie Plots

Pagans and Fiction Writers: Feminist Subcultures of the 1960's and 70's

2:30 - 3:20 P.M.

Location: Belk Auditorium

Coleson Garrett *Biology*

> Seth Adams Psychology

Location: Broyhill Chapel

Shaelyn Roberts *Biology*

> Olivia Heim *History*

Location: Owen Theatre

MHU's Ethics Bowl Team Demonstration Cassie Berry Chemistry

Session IV – C: Democracy Rules!

Marcus Orta Music Education and Performance

Lauren Sermersheim Religion & Philosophy

History and Political Science

Ciara Mitchell

Session IV - D: Hear the Forgotten

"Homelessness" The Effects of Framing on Public Perception

A Woman's Right to Compose: The Influence of Fanny Mendelsohn and Clara Schumann on 21st Century Music

Tailynn Pardue Psychology

Kiana Tuckett Psychology

Session IV – E: Am I Lichen Me?

Increasing Student Self-Efficacy with Positive Psychology

Sarah Boler Psychology Gracie Comer

Biology

Rock Climbing and Its Effect on Vegetation on the Bailey Mountain Boulders

Session IV – F: Service In the South

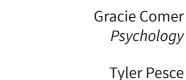
Service on the U.S.-Mexico Border: An Experience as Told by MHU Students Gisselle Michua Carina Carcamo Elementary Education Pre-Nursing

Daniel Loredo Pre-Nursing

CLOSING CELEBRATION

LOCATION: MOORE AUDITORIUM

MARS HILL UNIVERSITY



Location: Ferguson Health Sciences 306

3:30 P.M.

Location: Ferguson 135

Evan Rogers Biology

Location: Nash 212

PRESENTATION ABSTRACTS

Brandon Abranches, Victoria Franklin, DeAndre Gamble, Santos Gonzales, Kendell Johnson, Marissa Morrell

Senior Visual Art Exhibition

Featuring the work of six students graduating with degrees in the visual arts. The exhibit will show examples of a variety of art forms.

Seth Adams

The Threat of a World Without Gender

The transgender community is especially susceptible to extreme prejudice and discrimination that pervades their lives. A majority of society feels discontent, disgust, or an aversion to the trans community completely. What is crucial to understanding their social predicament and why people receive them the way they do are the motivators and predictors of anti-trans attitudes. The present research argues that trans prejudice is motivated by traditionalist anxiety, or the fear of losing conservative ideals. For example, gender roles not being mutually exclusive and distinct from one another are a cause of this type of anxiety. Explored in this presentation are the dynamics of the trans community with other, more accepted social groups and how they challenge the aforementioned components of a conservative mindset. The research conducted measures dominance, transphobia, and critical consciousness to determine how these attitudes change when the categorization of one's gender identity is threatened. The current hypothesis for this study is that when cisgender individuals are presented with an understanding of their gender that is not distinct and separate, they will be more likely to respond in behavior patterns associated with traditionalism and transphobia.

Bailey Mountain Cloggers: Halea Baker, Courtney Baswell, Tykasia Davis, Samuel Evans, Lauren Freeman, Olivia Heim, Naomi Jack, Samuel Locklear, Abby McLeod, Paul Penderman, Enrique Rodriquez, Keyshawn Sanders, Rachel Sealy, Eden Southerland, Christina Stack, Emily Travis Villains: The Untold Stories

This arts break will be a mixture of clogging, Appalachian dance, hip hop, tap, jazz, and modern. It will be a short showcase to highlight our Spring Concert, Villains, "The Untold Stories". Through dance, we will create a one of a kind performance that retells the back stories of some of the most famous villains we all know.

Sarah Boler, Gracie Comer

Increasing Student Self-Efficacy with Positive Psychology

Does having a growth mindset improve life satisfaction? Will self-compassion help in times of crisis? Based off our senior research projects, we strove to find out: will growth mindset and self-compassion interventions create significant results such as improvements in both self-compassion or positive mindset for first year students in a short period of time. For our research, we created three sets of online activities (videos, articles, surveys, goal suggestions) that will evoke: 1) higher levels of self-compassion, 2) a mindset geared towards the importance of effort, or 3) time management skill development. Gracie and I served as First Year Mentors last semester, and we would love to share our research about our first-year students with the overall student body. We believe that it will lead to better practices and that positive psychology can give them tools to succeed for the rest of their college careers.

Cadenza: Brandon Abranches, Audrey Davis, Danielle Fant, Davaughn Frazier, Riley Gall, Taylor Hodges, Sabrina Kennedy, Jade MacDonald, Leah Matney, Brianna Moffitt, Aaron Newlon, Braxton Robinson, Catherine Varela-Ruiz

The Mini Slam at SLAM and the Cadenza Sneak Peek

The Mini-Slam at SLAM & The Cadenza Sneak Peak is a combination of two events: a mini slam poetry set and an early glimpse of student artworks from the 2022 Cadenza Arts and Literature Magazine. This is an opportunity to hear our slam poets share new works of rhythm, rhyme, and emotion, and to hear our artists talk about the artwork featured in the magazine and the process of creating it. The Mini-poetry slam at SLAM will be similar to the various poetry slams put on by BSA, just in a smaller setting. The Cadenza unveiling will also offer an inside look at how the magazine itself is assembled.

Carina Carcamo, Daniel Loredo, Gisselle Michua, Evan Rogers

Service on the U.S.-Mexico Border: An Experience as Told by MHU Students

During the 2022 spring break, the Center for Religious and Spiritual Life took a small group of students and staff to the Texas-Mexico border. During our time on the border we visited three separate communities in Mexico an abandoned hotel turned immigrant shelter, La Colonia on the outskirts of Matamoros, and Playa Bagdad (Bagdad Beach) on the Gulf coast. Hear first-person stories from the students who participated in this trip to the border, and how you can get involved in future trips!

Roland Chacon, Claudia Chandler, Kaylon Jones, Kristy Lee, John Moss, Jordan Schmucker *Madison County Transportation Cost Efficiency and Waste*

The Madison County Transportation Association, or the MCTA, provides essential transportation to many Madison County residents. To ensure the services they offer remain affordable and available in the future we examined their system and proposed ways to improve. The Our main goals were to examine cost efficiency, adjust transportation routes to save time and money, and consider eco-friendly options. Assessing financial input and cost revealed which areas of transportation were the most cost intensive. We employed geographic software to recognize patterns in the transportation routes and suggested improved route options. To determine the practicality of minimizing environmental pollution through bi-fuel vans, we compared the initial cost and long-term fuel and maintenance cost of gas vans and bi-fuel vans. We believe our research will aid in the creation of an efficient and enhanced transportation system that will benefit the residents of Madison County and provide flexibility that may lead to new opportunities.

Chandler M. Adams, Seth L. Adams, Jonas R. Babb, Aliyah L. Brewer, Katherine Dale A. Cromer, Amber M. Emerson, Nicholas T. Thorpe, Jennifer H. Williams

The Fashion of Mars Hill: Expressing Identity

Fashion is a way to express yourself and be stylish. Fashion is also a way to analyze society. My goal for the runway show is to give the community some insight into fashion trends that we predicted will emerge next season based on the study of European and American collections for Fall 2022/23. This show will also give our student-models the opportunity to express their identity, personality, and their relation to the university in a judgment-free environment. The end goal is to help students understand that dressing in a creative way is acceptable and that the way they dress can open doors, give a better sense of self-worth, help them find others with similar interests, and boost their confidence.

Jana Cuk

Survey of Retirement of Elite Volleyball Players

Sports career termination is one of the most significant and potentially traumatic experiences for athletes. The current study is designed to compare student-athletes in Europe and student-athletes in the USA and examine if athletic retirement is smoother in the USA. In other words, the goal is to compare if the student-athletes in the USA school system are better prepared for career termination than European student-athletes. The path to career termination is usually different for athletes in the US compared with athletes in Europe has a club-based sporting system where players are considered professional athletes because they usually just do their sport and do not go to college. North America has a school-based sporting system.

Dean Fox

Exploring Gender Bias from a Labeling Perspective: A Regional Survey of Police Officers

This exploratory study examines the presence of gender bias in policing from a labeling theory perspective by analyzing officers' perceptions of female officers using a quantitative methodology. An online questionnaire was administered to seven different municipal police and sheriff departments throughout Western North Carolina to measure gender bias, perceptions of female officers, and community and traditional policing practices. Bivariate correlations were used to examine the relationships between variables of interest and a series of logistic regression analyses determined the predictability of gender bias and attitudes on policing. This presentation will discuss implications that stem from the research findings, including the impact that gender bias has on the recruitment and retention of females working in law enforcement.

Coleson Garrett

Antibiotics Effects on Microbiome in Clostridium Difficile Infections

For decades antibiotic use to treat bacterial infections has been the primary source of treatment. An unforeseen result for the use of antibiotics is the disruption of the gut microbiota caused by antimicrobial treatment and can result in susceptibility to pathogens such as Clostridium difficile. This public health concern brings to question the use of antibiotics and the development of new therapeutic approaches to treat bacterial infection. Until recently increasing attention to the gut microbiome in models of inflammatory diseases like Clostridium difficile colitis as well as its progress through antibiotic treatment has led to multiple areas for research on the potential role of gut microbiota in inflammatory bowel diseases. I chose this research to review and develop broader ideas into the use of antibiotics to treat bacterial infection and their effects on the microbiome.

Piper Alexander, Cassidy Belcher, Hunter Bridges, Jon-Laurence Fleming, Coleson Garrett, Drew Mcmillan

The Beast, Borderlands, and building Connections: INS 235's Community Engagement Experience in Southern Arizona

Students enrolled in INS 235 traveled to Southern Arizona during Spring Break as part of their community engagement course. The students put politics aside to learn and serve with humane action agencies that are responding to the migrant crisis in the Arizona Borderlands. The group witnessed the border wall, interacted with asylum seekers, heard personal stories of migrants, met Border Patrol personnel, and participated in community action to raise awareness and ease suffering of migrants. Students sought to understand root causes of migration, the migrant experience, and solutions to this difficult issue. During this presentation, the students of INS 235 will share stories of their inspirational experience in the Arizona Borderlands and their transformational learning that resulted from this course.

Shannon Hall

The Prevalence of Anterior Cruciate Ligament (ACL) Tears in Females

The purpose of this literature review is to investigate factors related to the prevalence of anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) tears in females. Research indicates a higher rate of ACL tears among female athletes, compared to their male counterparts, with the highest incidence rate occurring in the sports of soccer and basketball. Contributing factors specific to females have been identified, some of which include structural anatomy, neuromuscular imbalances, biomechanical factors, and hormones. In response to the greater risk of female ACL tears, researchers and practitioners have focused on comprehensive and preventative strategies to address these concerns, including extensive analysis into movement patterns associated with the mechanism of ACL injuries, proper warm-up, targeted muscle strengthening around the knee joint, and recovery techniques.

Hailey Harwick

Sampling the Arthropod Diversity of Mars Hill University's Prairie Lab

Prairie habitats can serve as homes for a variety of different organisms. Prairie habitats house the most abundant native pollinating insects, the highest diversity of native plants, and even the most diverse microorganism populations in their soils. Prairies are resistant against drought and erosion; without them our soil would be loose and cause disasters such as landslides. The destruction of habitats such as prairies has displaced many of these organisms as well as caused environmental distress. The purpose of my study was to survey arthropod population and diversity in a native grassland prairie. Mars Hill University has established a living prairie restoration lab consisting of three separate restoration treatments across nine separate plots. The information collected can help guide restoration efforts to increase the resilience of native prairie and bring benefits of both resistance to drought and erosion, as well as providing a native home for arthropods and other organisms.

Olivia Heim

Pagans and Fiction Writers: Feminist Subcultures of the 1960's and 70's

This presentation delves into pagans and fiction writers, two subcultures of the Feminist Movement of the 1960s and 70s. These two subcultures were the focus of the study because they provide a different perspective of feminism from the mainstream movement. The two subgroups also collaborated in recontextualizing mythological stories and goddesses through a feminist empowering lens. The women of these groups used aspects of their lifestyle to promote and spread the message of the feminist movement. From a historical perspective it is important to view mainstream topics like the famous movement of the 60s and 70s through a less mainstream lens to better understand the significance and weight that the feminist movement had for all women.

MHU Ethics Bowl Team: Cassie Berry, Ciara Mitchell, Marcus Orta, Lauren Sermersheim

MHU's Ethics Bowl Team Demonstration

Ethics Bowl is a structured debate format in which competing teams or 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 7 years, including this past February, and the theme this year was Ethics in a Democracy. The team would like to demonstrate an Ethics Bowl using one of this year's case studies. Ethics Bowl represents the application and intersection of many different majors in a "real life" way, both in terms of the students participating and the universality 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.

MHU Showstoppers: Ivy Brooks, Emma-Leigh Brookshire, Alondra Barrera Hernandez, Blaine Hovis, Righteous Luster, Paul Penderman, Adam Sellers, Regan Sellers, Alexis Stephens, Ethan Weber, Sarah Wheeler, Seth Wynn

Mental Health Matter in Musicals

For our musical theatre performance ensemble group, Showstoppers, we've explored all kinds of group performance pieces. All these songs showcase moments from musicals that feature moments that highlight mental health in musical theatre. These songs are a true effort to bring awareness to the mental health of each character(s). 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.

Ciara Mitchell

The Fe(Male) Centered World: Feminist International Relations Theory and its Importance

International politics have been dominated by male leadership for centuries. This presentation argues that, without utilizing feminist theories of international relations, international political, economic, and social progress will stall and may, in fact, regress. Utilizing case studies of states where political leaders switched from predominantly male to predominantly female, it is evident that by incorporating and potentially shifting to an international political system which reflects predominantly feminist perspectives rather than patriarchal perspectives, there is a chance for substantial political growth on an international scale. While international relations have progressed over the last century, many perspectives have been limited or forgotten and, to further progress as a global society, we need many more voices, including the voices of women.

Breanna Myers

Eyewitness Evaluation of a Crime Scene

In criminal justice, eyewitness testimony is a highly valued type of evidence. Eyewitness testimony is used in courts and in the early stages of an open criminal case. Psychological research of eyewitness testimony has focused on the accuracy of the recollection of events in memory. Many factors can affect accuracy of memory including the stressfulness of the event and the salience of details during the event. In addition, how a person reviews an event can change their memory. In my research a short film of a crime was presented to participants who acts as the eyewitness. Then, I offer varying information to see how it affects their memory of the video.

Tailynn Pardue

A Woman's Right to Compose: The Influence of Fanny Mendelsohn and Clara Schumann on 21st Century Music When a man presents his music, he is titled as a performer, a musician, a composer. Once a woman presents her music, however, she is labeled a female performer, a female musician, a female composer. As modern students of music, we have unconsciously assimilated these concepts as titles identified with men. No one accommodated these concepts to students, to associate them with women as well, to create a neutrality regarding the gender of these titles. While one might argue that perhaps women were simply not composing in the nineteenth century backward and onward, there is indisputable evidence to refute that statement. The patriarchal society that silenced the voices of women, barred them from an equal education or equal opportunity to that of men is the cause for the underrepresentation of women in western classical music. Clara Schumann and Fanny Mendelssohn were only the tip of the iceberg; their names were made known to students of this era by association instead of merit. In a way, this was a bit of a mixed blessing; it gave them the fame but overshadowed their accomplishments. As society moves farther and farther away from archaic gender roles, it is imperative for educators and musicians to regard women in the past, present, and future of music with the same level of respect, scholarship, and performance as men.

Tyler Pesce

Rock Climbing and its Effect on Vegetation on the Bailey Mountain Boulders

The boulders within Bailey Mountain Preserve, Madison County, NC, may be opened to rock climbing. If they are, these boulders and the vegetation growing on will experience unprecedented disturbance. Cliff ecology is a relatively understudied field, and we don't fully understand how climbing affects vegetation. I will survey all the vegetation growing on the boulders including lichens, mosses, and vascular plants. My hypothesis is that the vegetation richness and density will decrease with climbing use. My research will elucidate the relationship between climbing and species richness and diversity of vegetation and will help make an ecologically informed decision about whether to open the boulders to climbing.

Shaelyn Roberts

How Establishment Method and Plant-Soil Feedback Affect the Species Diversity of Prairie Plots

Invasive species outcompete native species and can even cause native species to go extinct. This can make restoring or establishing native habitats difficult. In this experiment three establishment methods were used to remove invasive species before planting native prairie species: black plastic, clear plastic, and burning. Our hypothesis was that the burning treatment will make plots more vulnerable to reinvasion by invasive plants because invasive plants can tolerate a wider range of soil pHs and establish more rapidly than native species after fire. We found that burned plots had a significantly higher soil pH than either type of plastic plots. Species richness was highest in the clear plastic plots. This means that preparing sites by smothering with clear plastic would best prevent reinvasion by invasive species, while burned plots are least likely to prevent reinvasions. This contradicts conventional recommendations that burning a prairie site is always advantageous.

Marlee Austin, Ebanie Bailey, Kasandra "Kas" Clouatre, Gracie Cook, Riley Gall, Kayla Gallagher, Ana Garcia-Leyva, Brooke Grabowski, Michael Houge, Carli Knight, Seanna "CC" Milton, Rakiyan "Deondre" Moss, Kaitlyn "Kat" Raby, Adam Sellers, Amber Vernon

Creation Stations: Come Take a Break and Create With Us!

We understand that self-care is important and we recognize that this is often needed even more near the end of the semester. As art therapy students, we believe that art and creativity can be used to decrease stress and build community. Please join the Intro to Art Therapy class on the upper quad during the SLAM arts break in order to participate in the art stations focusing on play, stress-relief and the empowerment of others. We will have marble painting, balloon splatter painting, and rock painting stations for you to explore. This is open to everyone – students, faculty, staff, community members, etc. No art experience necessary!

Kiana Tuckett

Homelessness: The Effect of Framing on Public Perception

We all have opinions, but to what degree are yours swayed by the information around you? Framing, a way in which an issue is defined or presented, can affect the way that you intake information, develop judgements on the subject being introduced, and even skew your perceptions of the people around you. News and media sources use framing to manipulate the information they broadcast in pursuit of influencing your perspective on a certain topic or event. This presentation will specifically focus on how framing effects perceptions of homelessness in America and aims to educate you on the examples of homelessness that we often see in our community as well as show you how they may be able to identify framing in broadcasts and news.

THE SLAM COMMITTEE

Mr. Ryan Bell, Director of First Year Academic Success and Advising Dr. Greg Clemons, Division of Arts and Sciences Mrs. Joy Clifton, Division of Professional Programs and Social Sciences, Committee Chair Ms. Shannon Hall, Student Representative Dr. Brett Johnson, Division of Professional Programs and Social Sciences Dr. Amanda Knapp, Division of Arts and Sciences Ms. Kelsey Taylor, Director of Campus Engagement and Leadership Ms. Misty Theisen, Division of Arts and Sciences Mr. Mike Thornhill, Director of Communications Ms. Abby Wilkerson, Student Representative

Special Thanks To

Chartwells Staff Tony Floyd Danielle Hagerman Kristie Hollifield Information Technology Staff Kenn Kotara & Graphic Design Students Tracy Parkinson Nina T. Pollard Richard Seagle Laura Steil & Alpha Chi Brian Tinkel & MHU Percussion Ensemble Andrew Zebroski The dedicated Students, Staff, Faculty, Alumni, Trustees and Friends of Mars Hill University NOTES

MARS HILL UNIVERSITY

NOTES

The Plenary Speaker Keith Flynn

Keith Flynn (www.keithflynn.net) is the awardwinning author of eight books, including six collections of poetry: most recently *Colony Collapse Disorder* (Wings Press, 2013) and *The Skin of Meaning* (Red Hen Press, 2020), and two collections of essays, entitled *The Rhythm Method, Razzmatazz and Memory: How To Make Your Poetry Swing* (Writer's Digest Books, 2007), and *Prosperity Gospel: Portraits of the Great Recession* (RedHawk Publications, 2021). From 1984-1999, he was lyricist and lead singer for the nationally acclaimed rock



band, The Crystal Zoo, which produced three albums: *Swimming Through Lake Eerie* (1992), *Pouch* (1996), and the spoken-word and music compilation, *Nervous Splendor* (2003). His latest album is *Keith Flynn & The Holy Men, LIVE at Diana Wortham Theatre* (2011). He is the executive director and producer of the TV and radio show, "LIVE at White Rock Hall," (www.liveatwhiterockhall.com) and Animal Sounds Productions, both which create collaborations between writers and musicians in video and audio formats. His award-winning poetry and essays have appeared in many journals and anthologies around the world, including The *American Literary Review, The Colorado Review, Poetry Wales, Five Points, Poetry East, The Southern Poetry Anthology, The Poetics of American Song Lyrics, Writer's Chronicle, The Cimarron Review, Rattle, Shenandoah, Word and Witness: 100 Years of NC Poetry, Crazyhorse,* and many others. He has been awarded the Sandburg Prize for poetry, a 2013 NC Literary Fellowship, the ASCAP Emerging Songwriter Prize, the Paumanok Poetry *Award,* and was twice named the Gilbert-Chappell Distinguished Poet for NC. Flynn is founder and managing editor of *The Asheville Poetry Review,* which began publishing in 1994.

MUSIC AND POETRY MAKE UP THE TAPESTRY OF OUR LIVES

This presentation will illustrate how music and poetry are related to one another, how they are different, and how our lives are defined by the music we listen to and the poetry that is everywhere. How children acquire language to tell the stories that are already within them. How poetry is actually a musical construct and forms the basis of many of our cultural celebrations and individual memories. How rhythm defines the Natural World and how we may learn from our early exposure to and recognition of those rhythms. The performance will include a cappella vocals and recitation of dynamic poems to illustrate these relationships. A question-and-answer session with the audience will follow this wide-ranging and dynamic presentation.

