



news

MARCH | 2024

Message from the Assistant Director

Dear Honors Students,

It's so relieving to see the flowers blooming, knowing that things will be greener soon. I hope the spring semester has been treating you well. **A few important reminders:**

1. **Priority Registration** for the Fall 2024 term opens at midnight on April 3rd. Be sure to review the important honors priority registration information email I sent out to all on March 25th. We're thrilled to share the newest Honors courses offered in the fall: Jazz History, The 2024 Election, Understanding Suicide, Globalization & Migration and The Literary Lens.
2. **Graduating Seniors** who have met the honors program requirements have been invited to the Honors Convocation Ceremony on May 4th. **CONGRATULATIONS!** I'm so proud of all you have accomplished and your inspiring plans post-graduation. If you have not yet RSVP'd to your invitation, please do so ASAP.
3. **We have two open Honors Assistant positions** that we are excited to fill. Take a look at the position description and requirements sent to your email. If you're interested, be sure to apply ASAP! Don't hesitate to reach out to our current Honors Assistants to learn more about the job at honors@wcsu.edu.

There is so much to look forward to in the coming weeks! Don't forget to get outside and enjoy the fresh air.

Caithin Kennedy

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Honors Classes in Action

HON 498 POSITIVE HEALTH & STRESS MANAGEMENT CLASS STUDIED FOOD AS MEDICINE WITH SPECIAL BLUE ZONES MEAL



Professor Autuori's Honors class, Positive Health and Stress Management, studied food as medicine in the classroom and then enjoyed a field trip to the Berkshire dining Hall where Elaina Mendes had created a lovely display of antioxidant rich fruits and vegetables found in the cuisine of the Blue Zones, the places in the world where people live to be over 100 years old, enjoying healthy and happy lives. They had a delicious supper, featuring a Buddha bowl with rice, farrow, tempeh, and many colorful vegetables, and a Moroccan chickpea stew, fragrant and delicious, as well as the salad bar and other offerings.

HON 498 NAVIGATING LIFE CLASS EXPLORED BALANCED DIETS BY COOKING IN THE KATHWARI HONORS HOUSE



The HON 498 Navigating Life class recently focused on the importance of nutrition and a balanced diet. Small groups of students gave presentations about one of the five main food groups (fruits, vegetables, grains, dairy, and protein). Guided by Chef Pascale (definitely not Pano in disguise), students also made cookies using oats, bananas, applesauce, and a pinch of salt. Some students opted to include chocolate chips and coconut flakes among other ingredients. It was an incredibly delicious class!

HON 398 THE QUEER ART OF FAILURE CLASS GOT CREATIVE WHILE DISCUSSING TAUGHT ATTITUDES ABOUT FAILURE



HON 398 The Queer Art of Failure class with Prof. Greyson Hong has been working through topics and readings in queer theory. A creative discussion environment was created in which each person was given a letter in the word 'failure' and had to sculpt it out of melted marshmallow and popcorn. The students had to multitask and answer discussion questions about taught attitudes around marriage, LGBTQIA+ advocacy, and what it means to be okay with failure in a society that's against it. Though the activity was a messy one, the students had a nice treat to bring home for spring break!

Honors Student Spotlight

SPOTLIGHT ON REGINAROSE RYAN, NURSING STUDENT WHO SHADOWED A LOCAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NURSE



Reginarose, a junior nursing major, received the opportunity to shadow a school nurse for one month at Ellsworth Elementary School, just across the street from Midtown Campus! There she helped the staff and students by taking vitals and giving out ice packs and Band-Aids. She even had the opportunity to help a young student when he lost his tooth. This opportunity solidified her passion for nursing. We are so delighted to see our honors students helping the local community!

"It was really great to be able to help take care of the student because he was very scared, and I am glad I was there to help out."

Recent Honors Events

AUTHOR BRANDON BROWN VISITS WCSU FOR A STUDENT WORKSHOP & PUBLIC TALK ABOUT SHARING OUR SCIENCE AND COMMUNICATING STEM



On Monday, March 18th, Author Brandon Brown engaged the WCSU and Honors community in discussion about sharing and miscommunicating our science. A group of STEM major and honors students participated in an hour-long workshop followed by a public talk to the WCSU and local community.

HONORS STUDENTS HAD A BEHIND-THE-SCENES EXPERIENCE IN NYC WITH THE WRITER AND PRODUCER OF OFF-BROADWAY SHOW, *WHITE ROSE, THE MUSICAL*



On Saturday, March 23rd, a group of Kathwari Honors students went on a trip to NYC for a pre-show visit to LDK Studios where the group met with Brian Belding, the Writer and Lead Producer of the off-Broadway show, *White Rose, the Musical*. Students engaged him in conversation and were amazed by his remarkable story of how his show came to be. Students also learned more about the business side of theatre from the Managing Producer, Amanda Nicastro. Afterward, we joined the Producers at the theater to see the musical. "The story was so powerful and really kept the audience engaged. Tears were shed."

Upcoming Events

APRIL
2nd
 TUESDAY

HONORS REGISTRATION NIGHT

HONORS STUDENTS: Join us in the Honors House from 10:30pm - 12:30am for the opening of priority course registration for the fall 2024 term which opens at midnight on April 3rd. There will be games, prizes and yummy snacks!

APRIL
6th
 SATURDAY

HONORS VOLUNTEERS: ACCEPTED STUDENTS DAY - HONORS BREAKFAST

HONORS STUDENTS: Sign-up to volunteer at Accepted Students Day as we welcome students (and their families) who have been directly admitted to the Kathwari Honors Program for Fall 2024, based on their excellent high school academic performance. Volunteers will get free breakfast and an honors shirt.

[SIGN-UP TO VOLUNTEER HERE!](#)

APRIL
13th
 SATURDAY

HONORS TRIP: BEHIND-THE-GALLERY VISIT TO THE WADSWORTH ATHENEUM MUSEUM IN HARTFORD

HONORS STUDENTS - A FEW SPOTS AVAILABLE: You are invited for a behind-the-gallery visit to the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum in Hartford. We will arrive by bus with time for lunch in the museum cafe which will be followed by a meeting with Anne Butler Rice, the Director of Learning and Engagement at the museum for a behind-the-gallery experience. Following our visit with Anne, we will have a docent-guided tour of the museum and will have time to explore the whole museum. [REGISTER HERE](#)

APRIL
16th
 TUESDAY

HONORS FIELD DAY

HONORS STUDENTS: Join us from 11-1 outside of the Honors House for a laid-back, good old fashioned field day! We'll have games galore, volleyball, frisbee, tug-of-war, and more. We'll have prizes, food and free-giveaways for honors students. Wear your sneakers and come ready to play! **RAIN DATE: Tuesday, April 23rd.**

APRIL
25th
 THURSDAY

PERSPECTIVE, HONORS MAGAZINE, LAUNCH PARTY

HONORS STUDENTS & FACULTY: Perspective is slowly coming together, and we're looking forward to sharing it with you all soon. Our launch party is currently slated for Thursday April 25th from 11 AM to 1 PM. There will be food and refreshments, and some of the writers and artists will share their work with those who attend. Copies of the magazine will be available for free, and you do not have to stay for the whole time. Thanks, and we hope to see you there! - *Michelle and Liv, Perspective Co-Editors.*