



HONORS COLLEGE  
COLUMBUS STATE UNIVERSITY

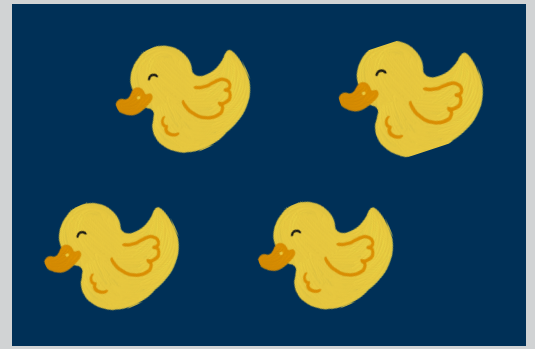
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# ASPIRATIONS



*Aspirations* is the newsletter of the Columbus State University Honors College, which provides updates, features, and information for alumni, faculty, students, and the community. On behalf of the Honors College staff, we hope you enjoy *Aspirations* and welcome any ideas for future issues.

This Fall Semester has gone swimmingly, thanks to the successful formation of the Honoris Causa Rubber Duck Legion at our first-ever Honors College Convocation! Between the waves of classes, some honors students traveled to Atlanta on October 1st to visit the Georgia Aquarium. They had a whale of a time!



Many Honors College students may agree that this fall has been quite the whirlwind, but their resilience is commendable. Freshmen are settled in, sophomores and juniors have explored their majors through research and seminars, and seniors worked hard to prepare their theses while getting ready for graduation. What amazing things are in store for them!



# Honors College Convocation

Sunday, August 14th  
Be There or Be Square



The Honors College Convocation we held before school began was a hoot! For the first time, nearly every student currently in the Honors College had the opportunity to gather in the RiverSide Theatre to hear words of encouragement from our faculty to and meet (or reconnect with!) their fellow Honors students.

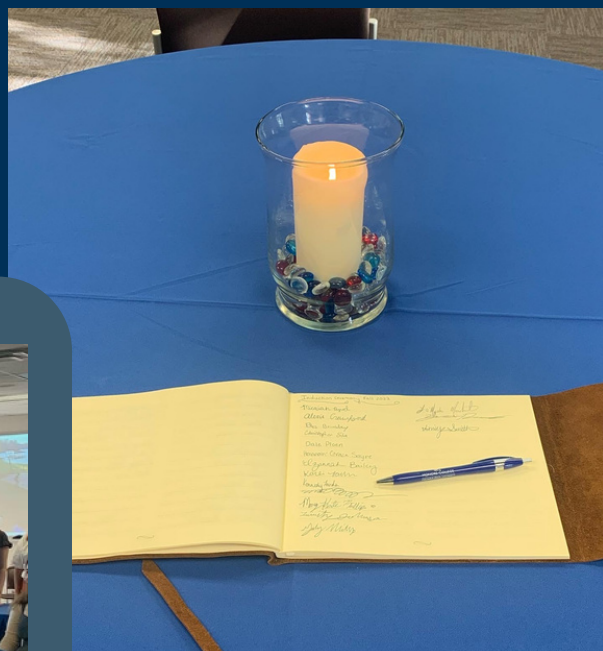


Afterward, students walked together to the Coca-Cola Space Science Center for an ice cream social. Students had free entry to the center and were able to check out all of the exhibits, view movies in the Planetarium, and even check out the Observatory!





# Induction



We thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to greet our newest students at the Honors College Induction this year. They heard from our Interim Provost and celebrated with cupcakes!





# DAY OF SERVICE:

August 27th, 2022

The Honors College came together once again for CSU's annual Day of Service. As always, we had such a large number of participants that were split into two groups. This was a great opportunity to gather as a group and support our local community!





# BACK TO SCHOOL PICNIC



We enjoyed bringing honors students back together and introducing new students to our annual picnic! Everyone had a great time playing games in the backyard and eating delicious food!





# WE'RE STUDYING ABROAD... HOW ABOUT YOU?

## Honors 3555 - Quebec City, Canada



I learned about the summer study trip to Quebec, Canada in the first months of my freshman year. It was the first study abroad opportunity I had heard about at Columbus State, but it immediately caught my attention as a fleeting opportunity if I didn't take it. Shortly after I heard about the trip, I chose to take such swift action in participating in this class because of the wonderful, promised experience of exploring and researching a new city to better our community back at home in Columbus. The topic of discussion in this class was to make a change in our home city based on our time abroad which I deemed incredibly important and something that I could make definite strides in doing.

Besides learning how to compare cities, I gained so much valuable knowledge about life in another country, how a different city functions from day to day, and how outside cultures impact the culture seen abroad. By going out in the city, whether that be solo or with a group, I got to interact with natives of the city and learn the social customs (as well as use a little bit of French!) to make my way around. Perhaps the most intriguing information that I learned was the vast history of the city found in every place we went, and this greatly aided in my research of historical preservation. Of course, learning about the city in its entirety would take weeks or months, maybe even years, to do, yet the curriculum of the course set us up to gain as much knowledge as possible in our time in Quebec.

There were so many incredible benefits to joining this trip, but the most exciting event that has stemmed from this experience is the opportunity to collaborate with fellow classmates on a presentation for the Columbus mayor. Besides this unique opportunity, the research we completed was self-determined which helped us figure out what interests us most out in the real world. For some students, perhaps the research builds off of previous interests and majors, and for some, this research could lead to deciding on an area of study to pursue. The possibilities really are endless with this class and the experiences are those that last a lifetime.

-Erin Fowler, Sophomore, Schwob School of Music-



# Honoris Causa Meetings & Events



Gingerbread  
Houses



Gratitude Turkeys!!



## Meeting Topics:

- August: Welcome Back
- September: Study Abroad
- October: Emotional Awareness
- November: Gratitude



At the September Honoris Causa meeting, students had an exclusive opportunity to introduce themselves to many of the professors who will be venturing abroad in the near future, as well as Honors students who recently traveled abroad.

*"Being in the Honors College here at CSU has helped me to get engaged on campus and introduced me to some of my closest friends. One of the highlights of my experience is the annual picnic, which includes boat rides at Lake Oliver, fun games, and meeting new people! Our advisors welcome a sense of family and are very helpful during finals season."*

*Elise Snow*



# HOMECOMING

The Honors College was well represented during Homecoming week! We participated in Paint the Paw and Paint the Town. Our students created beautiful work!



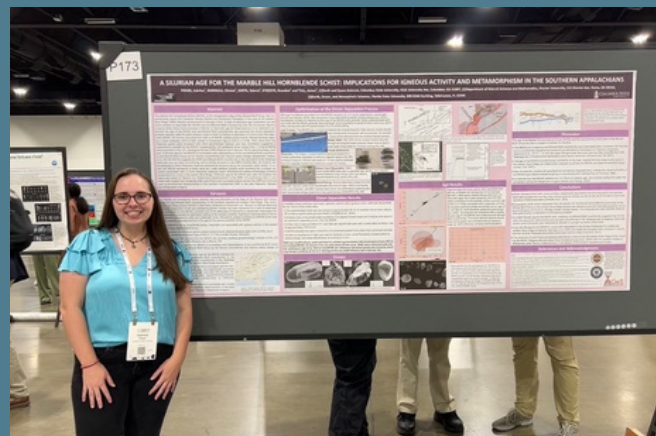


**Sabrina Fisher**

## **Student Spotlight**

This fall, Ms. Sabrina Fisher was able to present her Honors senior thesis at the annual Geological Society of America Conference held in Denver, Colorado. Her thesis is titled "A Silurian Age for the Marble Hill Hornblende Schist: Implications for Igneous Activity and Metamorphism in the Southern Appalachians."

Sabrina's honor thesis highlights a breakthrough in Southern Appalachian Geology. The Marble Hill Hornblende Schist, a rock formation located in the Western Blue Ridge of Georgia, has proven difficult for geologists to radiometrically date until now due to the silica-poor nature of the rock and the challenge of recovering enough minerals. Sabrina and her team were able to optimize the mineral extraction process, which yielded enough minerals for radiometric dating which yielded a younger Silurian age than previously determined. This research calls into question the nature and extent of Ordovician metamorphism in the Western Blue Ridge and whether the Southern Appalachian Mountains formed at the same time as the Northern Appalachian Mountains. This finding has significant implications for our current interpretation of how and when the Southern Appalachian Mountains formed.



The conference itself allowed her to network with others on a national level which may lead to future collaboration. Discussions with fellow students and faculty gave her new skills and techniques to help advance her research and her arguments. Sabrina also says it was very important for her to remember that everyone else presenting was just as nervous as her, and that it was okay to make a mistake and correct it while speaking.

As a final note, Sabrina writes: "The Honors College as a whole has been so supportive and encouraging and has pushed me academically since my very first class, including learning how to write a research paper and transferring that to researching and writing my honors senior thesis. I would specifically like to thank my geology professor, Dr. Clint Barineau, for teaching me the skills I need to be successful both academically and professionally. Dean Ticknor has been a wonderful mentor as well and has always encouraged and supported me in all of my endeavors."



# Fall 2022 HONS 3555: Songs of Love & Longing

## The Music and Poetry of the Middle Ages

### Course Spotlight

This semester, Dr. Godlove, a professor of literature, and Dr. Wissner, a professor of music, worked together to bring ancient poetry and lyrics to a class of Honors College students. These students analyzed medieval writings for their meaning, and discussed many common themes. The professors "toured" a different topic or country each week, covering things like student life, courtly love, and religious hymns across places such as France, Italy, and Germany. They also visited specific time periods, looking at Middle English, the influence of many cultures in the Iberian Peninsula, and even the origin of carols in the week leading up to finals.



"This class was very enriching and engaging. We traveled through time and around the globe without ever leaving Howard 102. For instance, early in the semester, the students entered a darkened room. There was a scroll and writing implement at each desk alongside a candle. For about 20 minutes, each 3555 student was suddenly a medieval manuscript copyist - and all of us were entertained by the thought. To some, it was very hard to get everything perfect.

To others, our hands hurt. We were all grateful for our innovations in technology, but also grateful to our professors for being able to replicate an ancient practice long forgotten with the invention of the printing press and many other methods of print reproduction." - Sonya, who was a student in HONS 3555 this semester





Music Appreciation - Guest Masterclass

# Honors Academic Enhancement: Core & Enrichment Courses

While HONS 3555 - also known as Great Conversations - is perfect for upperclassmen looking to explore topics of interest, there are also many other honors courses offered to enhance our students' experience!

This semester, our students had the chance to enjoy a variety of engaging options alongside their core and major courses.

Students had the option to choose a smaller and more engaging version of a required course - such as Music Appreciation - where instead of the standard lectures on Eurocentric music, students explored the evolution of jazz and its impact on modern culture through racial identities and social change throughout history.

Or they could take a U.S. History course that skipped the lectures, instead investigating the hidden history of Phenix City, AL, and the famous assassination of Albert Patterson. Or maybe, instead of in a tensely polarized lecture hall, students went much deeper into the American political system in POLS 1101H.

But there were also classes purely for the love of learning - ours Honors 3000 courses. They included a course dedicated to analyzing mindfulness poetry and taking time to meditate and relax during the first half of the semester and a course with a musicologist to directly study music used in video games.

HIST 2112H:  
Investigating the  
Murder of Albert  
Patterson

HONS 3000:  
Mind,  
Meditation, &  
Poetry

POLS 1101H:  
American Government

Honors music students hard at work  
creating their own video game music





## *Honors College Vision*

The Honors College will make Columbus State University a first choice institution for students who strive to succeed by championing innovative instruction, undergraduate research, and interdisciplinary studies.

## *Honors College Mission*

Our dual mission provides an innovatively delivered curriculum for high achieving students and advances the intellectual growth and recognition of the university. Our college challenges a diverse community of students to individualize their academic experiences, while serving as an institutional champion for undergraduate research, interdisciplinary studies, and creative instruction.



Do you have a student or faculty member you would like to spotlight? Or just have a suggestion for an upcoming edition of Aspirations?

Please send us an email at [honors@columbusstate.edu](mailto:honors@columbusstate.edu)  
We would love your suggestions!



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