



HONORS NEWS

**SPRING 2025
EDITION**

ASPIRATIONS

CATCH UP ON ALL THE LATEST HONORS NEWS

**SENIOR THESIS,
HONORIS CAUSA,
SEMINARS,
AND SO MUCH MORE!!!**



ABOUT ASPIRATIONS

ASPIRATIONS IS THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CSU HONORS COLLEGE, WHICH PROVIDES UPDATES, FEATURES, AND INFORMATION FOR THE HONORS COMMUNITY. ON BEHALF OF THE HONORS COLLEGE STAFF, WE HOPE YOU ENJOY ASPIRATIONS AND WELCOME ANY IDEAS FOR FUTURE ISSUES.

2024-2025 SENIOR PROJECTS AND THESIS

**Joshua Adams - B.S. Biology, Competitive Pre-Medical Concentration,
Minor Philosophy**

Mentor: Dr. Daniel Holt

*Thesis: Behavioral and Physiological Responses of Cyprinella venusta to
Inter- and Intraspecific Acoustic Signals*

Amanda Byars - B.F.A. Theatre Performance

Mentor: Professor David Turner

Thesis: Stop Suffering for Your Art

Marcos Falck - B.A. Communications, Film Production

Mentor: Professor Adam Bova

Thesis: Crossing Borders

Cassidy Fine - B.S. Biology

Mentor: Dr. Daniel Holt

*Thesis: Quantification of Perceived Audible Chemical Changes: Numerical Assessment
of Experiments of Introductory Chemistry Students with Visual Impairment*

Celeste Grantham - B.S. Elementary Education & Psychology

Mentor: Dr. Dawn Frazier

Thesis: Enhancing Student Outcomes Through Innovative Teaching Strategies

Jarrett Huckaby - B.S. Earth & Space Science, Secondary Education

Mentor: Professor Kenneth Jones

Thesis: Interdisciplinary Unit of Study for Eight Grade Math and Science Classes

2024-2025 SENIOR PROJECTS AND THESIS

Kangin Joo - B.M. Music Performance

Mentor: Dr. Reba Wissner

Thesis: *The Future of Classical Music Concertization in the United State: An Analysis of Structural Challenges and the Case of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra*

Apoorva Kollaram - B.S. Chemistry, Biochemistry Concentration

Mentor: Dr. Jonathan Meyers

Thesis: *Purification of Recombinant GFP-Preptin Fusion Protein*

Ma'Lon Lane - B.A. Biology and Film Production

Mentor: Professor Cremel Burney

Thesis: *Lights, Camera, Action: A Students Perspective on Reimagining Film Production Opportunities*

Yasmin Mezayek - B.A. English Language/Literature

Mentor: Dr. Judy Livingston

Thesis: *Using Lacan's Theory to Analyze Literature*

Collin Miller - B.S. Biology - Pre Vet

Mentor: Dr. Michael Newbrey

Thesis: *Dissolved Heavy Metal Concentrations in the Muscle Tissue of Bluegill (*Lepomis macrochirus*) in the Chattahoochee River Drainage, Columbus, Georgia*

Alyssa Schmitz - B.S. Health Science, Minor Biomedical Sciences

Mentor: Dr. Kerri Taylor

Thesis: *Uncovering Experimental Clues: The Role of Chemistry in Combining the Analysis of Latent Fingerprints and Arson Investigations*

SCHOLASTIC HONORS AWARDS

Interdisciplinary Studies Award



Ma'Lon Lane

Scholarly Activities in Humanities



Sal Woessner

Scholarly Activities in Fine & Performing Arts



Amanda Byars

Scholarly Activities in Professional Studies



**Celeste
Grantham**

Scholarly Activities in Sciences



Sam Kimball

Scholarly Activities in Social Sciences



**Jarrett
Huckaby**

HONORS FACULTY AWARDS

Outstanding Teaching in the Honors College



Dr. Kim Shaw

“She is very hard working and dedicated to her students and gives each and every one of them the space to achieve and succeed in the classroom. She is an amazing mentor as well. I strongly recommend her for the outstanding teaching award”.

Outstanding Mentor in the Honors College

“She is an excellent mentor, but I am also nominating her for the hard work she does outside of being an Honors College Advisor. She balances her hectic personal life with her demanding professional life, which is not an easy task, but she does it, which is outstanding”.



**Mrs. Kristi
Rehrauer**

HONORS ENRICHMENT - HONS 3000



One of this semester's standout honors seminars was Honors 3000: The Science of Beverages.

Students participated in five Saturday field trips to learn about the science behind beverages such as water, soft drinks, beer, wine, and distilled spirits



One of the trips was to Nutwood Winery in LaGrange, Georgia. This location offered a variety of fun games, delicious foods, and drinks for students of age.

HONORS ENRICHMENT - HONS 3000



DURING ANOTHER TRIP, STUDENTS EXPLORED THE FAMOUS WORLD OF COKE IN ATLANTA, GEORGIA. WHICH PROVIDED AN EXTENSIVE LESSON ON THE HISTORY OF THE COCA-COLA BRAND. THROUGHOUT THE MUSEUM, THERE WERE VARIOUS ARTIFACTS FROM VARIOUS CAMPAIGNS AROUND THE WORLD



HONORS ENRICHMENT - HONS 3000

This spring, Honors Students had fun and explored their kitchens by making exciting food in our “Bake Off Challenge” Seminar!



Each week, students followed a theme to create dishes for some friendly competition. Their culinary creations were judged by fellow peers, Dr. Ticknor and Ms. Gail, a local food reviewer.

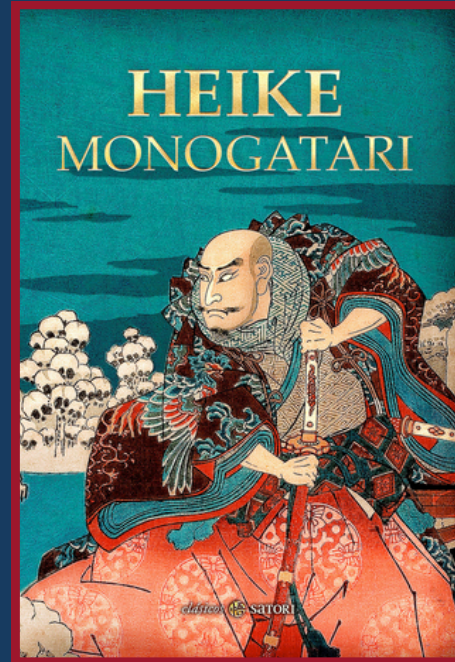


The course concluded with a trip to Columbus' EPIC Restaurant, one of our best local fine dining eateries. Students were able to cook with experienced chefs and make their own meal!



HONORS CORE - ENGL 211H

Out of our many honors course offerings this semester, we wanted to give special recognition for our Honors core course, World Literature I.



Through this course, students were able to investigate texts from various cultures and broaden their horizons with Dr. Hrach.

“World Lit has always been one of my favorite courses, and I change it up regularly. We read some challenging texts from ancient India, medieval Japan, early modern Europe, and modern takes on the Spanish conquest of Mexico and the early empire of Wagadu in present-day Ghana. Our small Honors section involved working collaboratively during every class session, such as writing on whiteboards around the room and going outside for walking discussions and activities. Everyone helped each other to make the serious work of learning into a joyful experience.”

- Dr. Hrach CSU Professor of English

2024-25 AWARDS CEREMONY



On May 4th, we held our spring awards ceremony for our Honors students at Green Island Country Club. This is our annual send off for the graduating group of Honors seniors.



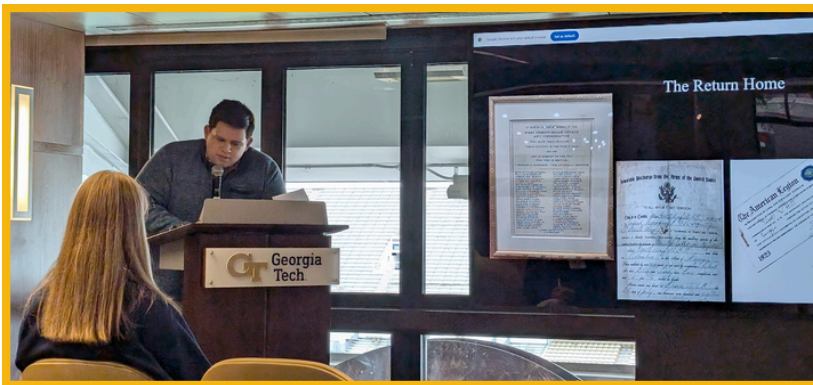
We are excited to congratulate our 32 Honors Pin Recipients, and our 12 seniors graduating with an Honors Seal!



GEORGIA COLLEGIATE HONORS CONFERENCE



This semester, our students traveled to Georgia Tech for the Georgia Collegiate Honors Conference. This was an excellent opportunity for students to present their research and interact with other scholars of honors programs.



“GCHC this year was fun, we got to visit the great Georgia Tech campus. All of the presentations I saw were great and felt relevant to our current cultural moment in a way 2024s did not. The food as always was great, but you might want a second opinion on that, as I enjoy everything with a price tag of free.”

-**Hayden Bennett** Graduating Senior, B.A. in History



Jarrett Huckaby won 2nd for the Best Essay Award from the paper he submitted based off his honors thesis.

HONORIS CAUSA



We were proud to host many events for Honors students through Honoris Causa, such as the Saint Patrick Scavenger Hunt.

This semester also saw the return of our Spring Colloquium Series where students debated hot topics of today.

Each session started with a light icebreaker, such as, “Are you an Early Bird or a Night Owl?”

From there we dived into more controversial topics like whether TikTok should be banned or if we could survive a long-term blackout.



SPRING COLLOQUIUM SERIES

LAUREATE SOCIETY

Mr. & Mrs. Gary Allen

Mrs. Peggy Batastini

Mr. Josue Becerra

Dr. & Mrs. James Buntin

Ms. Sharron Caldwell

Ms. Verna Campos

Mr. Robert Anness & Mrs. Katarine Cannella

Mr. & Mrs. Larry Cardin

Mr. & Mrs. Turner Carlisle

Ms. Stephanie Carney

Mr. & Mrs. James Cawthorne

Mrs. Kelly Cooper

Mr. Kenneth Couture, Sr.

Ms. Joan Cramer

Mrs. Diane Dana

Ms. Beverly Mack Davis

Ms. Jessica Demarco-Jacobson

Ms. Ashlyn Dewberry

Mrs. Susan Dolan

Dr. William Edwards

Dr. & Mrs. R. Clark Gillett, Jr.

Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Green

Mrs. Richard Hallock

Ms. Amy Hamilton

Dr. & Mrs. Ed Helton

Mr. John Hargrove

Mr. & Mrs. Howell Hollis III

Mr. Paul Holmer Monte

Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Howard

Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Howard

Mr. & Mrs. Edgar Hughston

Mr. And Mrs. Bill Jenkins

Mr. & Mrs. Edwin C. Johns, Jr.

Dr. & Mrs. Alonzo Jones, Sr.

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Richard Joyner

Mr. & Mrs. Kelsey Kennon

Mr. & Mrs. Jack Key III

Mr. Tyler Krug

Ms. Rachel Lambert

Dr. Kayron Laska & Mr. John Laska

Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Lewack

Dr. & Mrs. David Lewis

Dr. & Mrs. Ryan Lynch

Mrs. Hildagine Manio

Mr. & Mrs. Earnest Victor McGregor

Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Money

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Moody

Ms. Abby Moore

Dr. & Mrs. Vincent Naman

Dr. And Mrs. Eddie Obleton

Mr. Donald Osborne

Dr. & Mrs. Robert Patton

Mr. & Mrs. David Phillips

Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Ragan

Ms. Diamond Rashad

Dr. Stuart Rayfield & Mr. David Rayfield

Mr. & Mrs. Donald Regan III

Mrs. Geraldine Regnier

Mr. Richard Rodgers

Ms. Jazmin Rush

Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Sabau

Mr. And Mrs. Frank Schley

Mr. & Mrs. Todd Schuster

Mr. Harrison Sharitt

Mrs. & Mrs. John Shinkle

Mr. & Mrs. Gregory Siddall

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Smith

Dr. & Mrs. Eric Spears

Mr. & Mrs. Mathews Swift

Ms. Patty Kimbrough Taylor

Ms. Maryah Thompson

Mr. Lealava'a Tuiolosega

Mr. Michael Tullier

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Ussery

Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Van Allen

Mr. Ferrell Weatherman

Mr. & Mrs. Torrey Wiley

Mr. & Mrs. James Yancey



HONORS COLLEGE

COLUMBUS STATE UNIVERSITY

Our 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.

Our 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

We would love your suggestions!