2017

Exhibition of Academic Success, 2017

Honors Program, Arcadia University

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Exhibition of ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Gather as Arcadia students share their research and scholarly achievements.

Wednesday, March 29 • 4-5:30 p.m.
Kuch Gymnasium Track

Thank You.

ARCADIA UNIVERSITY
Olivia Romano ’20, International Studies
“Let Me Finish: A Sociolinguistic Pilot Study on the Differences of Conversational Interruption Patterns Between Men and Women”
This sociolinguistic pilot study challenges the commonly held belief that the majority of interruptions come from men interrupting women by interviewing four friends to explore their interrupting patterns when telling stories and explaining situations. The results showed women interrupting more than men and possibilities for further studies were discussed.

Erika Raskay ’19, Political Science
“Students Helping Students: the Benefits of Mentorship”
An examination of student mentorship through a college student’s perspective as a College Access Mentoring Program counselor and former volunteer teacher for the Breakthrough Collaborative, this presentation showcases how student teachers and assistants are most able to encourage confidence-building and common understanding in the classroom.

Deb Gilmore ’19, Communications
“The Kite Collective: A New Artist Collective and Promotion Company”
A group of Arcadia students have started a small company aiming to bring visual artists together, promote them, sell merchandise, and overall strengthen the artistic community.

Nicole Gieselman ’19, Communications
“Hidden Voices”
In this abstract audio-visual presentation, I explore how mental illness affects the lives of college students. My project centers around first hand accounts of mental illness, which are illustrated with original poetry, music, and an abstract video.

Alyssa D’Esposito ’19, Biology, Pre-Physician Assistant
“What Are You Doing For Others?”
This project includes understanding what procedures are taken into constructing a service trip such as Alternative Spring Break by Arcadia University’s Community and Civic Engagement Center, engaging in the service trip to New Iberia, Louisiana, learning about hydroponic systems, and following up with the coordinators and peers about the learning experience and what I can provide to my own community.
Isabella Bumbera ’19, Spanish
“Comparing Different Writing Systems”
Are certain written languages easier to learn for monolingual English speakers? This past semester, I was determined to find out. Seven Arcadia University students with no prior experience studying non-Romance languages were shown two words each written in Japanese, Hindi, Elvish, Korean, Russian, and Chinese.

Claire Murtha ’19 Criminal Justice, Pre-Law
“Evaluating the Death Penalty”
Capital punishment is highly contested within the United States, yet it survives in 31 states. When examined under the parameters set forth by the Supreme court as well as the 8th and 5th amendments, there is legal precedent as to why it remains.

Samantha Compitello ’17, Criminal Justice
“College Students’ Perceptions of Parenting Programs for Mothers in Prison”
This research was conducted using an electronic survey that was administered to undergraduate students at a mid-Atlantic university to determine their awareness of prison parenting programs. Preliminary findings suggest university students generally accept these programs and find them necessary to maintain contact between mother and child.

Shivani Mansharamani ’19, Psychology
“The Wall: from Isolation to Society”
The Wall, rock opera by progressive rock band Pink Floyd is explored through the lens of: as a critique against the many aspects of English society, a critique against the rock music industry itself and an exploration of the psychological process of alienation.

Lilah Fleishman ’18, Sociology
“An Upcycling Journey”
Throughout the course of a semester I have been working on gathering recycled materials and repurposing them to be re-used and sold. As people, we contribute to massive amounts of waste each day, accruing to whole islands of garbage. I aspire to encourage others to reuse the materials that still have life in them.

Brianna Caprio ’17, Criminal Justice
“The Role of Film and Television in the Perpetuation of Rape Myths: A Law & Order: Special Victims Unit Content Analysis”
This study critically analyzes Law & Order: Special Victims Unit’s representation of rape victims in campus rape-related storylines through the use of commonly adhered to rape myths. Findings indicate the presence of multiple rape myths and instances of victim blaming in each of the nine episodes examined.

Amber Amin ’17, Criminal Justice
“A Spatial Analysis of Registered Sex Offenders and Social Disorganization in Philadelphia”
This study looks at Philadelphia County to see if Registered Sex Offender clustering is apparent in a place with no residential restriction laws. The results show clustering of RSOs in neighborhoods with high social disorganization. It is concluded that even without residential restriction laws RSOs are forced into bad neighborhoods.

Sierra Elmore ’19, Sociology
I wrote a sociological research paper theorizing that adolescent girls manipulate social factors in order to gain agency in a world that offers them little. My young adult contemporary novel, Death by Society, is similarly themed. This presentation explores links between the two, and how fact influences fiction.

Nicole Byrne ’17, Chemistry
“From Chemistry to Poetry”
For my Honors Project, I transformed a Chemistry textbook from 1887 into a blackout poetry book. The original book came from a poet’s personal library, and has plenty of its own character to add to the project. Since starting the project, it has evolved into an extremely unique piece.

Maya Walker ’19, Business Administration, Marketing
“Photography as Literature”
This presentation compares the processes of photography with writing literature by highlighting the similarities and differences in the creation of a visual narrative. Set to bring awareness to those unfamiliar with the concepts, this presentation outlines each step to reveal the final product.

Kiersten Griesback ’19, Biology
“A Study of the History and Culture of Quilting”
This presentation provides information on the history of quilting, as well as various techniques prominent in modern quilting. Different patterns and styles are described and ranked based on the level of skill required to successfully replicate them. There is also visual representation of quilts from different areas of the United States.
Michael Costigan ’20, History, Secondary Education
“The Court of Public Opinions finds the Death Penalty...Guilty”

The death penalty has been a controversial subject in the area of criminal justice for a number of years. Based on the current available research, it is imperative the United States prohibit the use of the death penalty in sentencing crimes, due to the common occurrence of wrongful convictions, discrimination, cost, and the lack of a deterrent effect.

Tessa Paige ’18, Studio Art
“The Art of Pati Hill: An Exhibition”

A presentation on student research completed in preparation for Arcadia University Art Gallery’s exhibition, PATI HILL PHOTOCOPIER: A Survey of Prints and Books (1974-83). This presentation includes a timeline of the late artist Pati Hill’s life, a complete list of her exhibitions, and contemporary criticism of her work.

Tessa Paige ’18, Studio Art
“Exploring Liquid Forms”

An exhibition of jewelry work by a BFA jewelry student that explores the malleability of metal and hidden fluidity of an otherwise unyielding material. The pieces evoke rippling waters or fabrics and a portion were included in a student-run exhibition concerning environmental pollution.

Rachel Young ’17, Political Science
“Leadership Training Across Campus”

By examining leadership values across campus, I am able to see how community values span across various departments and programs.

Ruby Zenteno ’17, Psychology
“Emotional State Context: Influence on Profanity”

Does being in a happy or angry mood affect the frequency and choice in profanity from moderate to heavy users? Let’s see.

Olivia Bates ’18, Early Elementary/Special Education
“Differentiation in Elementary Mathematics and Literacy”

Differentiating instruction on students’ readiness, interests, and learning profiles is essential for meaningful learning. In stations and centers, students foster specific skills while rotating in flexible groups. In order to highlight these strategies in elementary mathematics and literacy, I created a guide and two lesson plans based on curricular standards.

Dominic Bierwisch ’18, Chemistry
“Minima Structure and Data of a Lithium Ion Cluster”

A six nitromethane, twelve tetrahydrofuran lithium ion’s global minimum potential was determined by use of the genetic algorithm in Fortran, and ion-dipole, dipole-dipole, Lennard-Jones, and Lee-Barker Abraham interactions. The lowest one hundred of minima’s coordinates were plotted in three dimensions which allowed for analysis of common features of the structure.

Kristyn Ehleben ’18, Biology
“The Many Faces of Injustice”

For HN390L Radical Arts, I volunteered at Philadelphia FIGHT’s Institute for Community Justice. Many of the students felt that people used stereotypes as excuses to judge and punish them. Therefore, for my art project, I created this “wanted” poster to show that injustice does not come in one form.

Emmie Parker ’19, Acting
“Get Jump Started”

Ever learn how to change your tire? Neither did I, until now. Stop by to learn some quick things about your car that will help you out in a jam. This presentation includes checking your oil, parallel parking, and changing a tire.

Ashley Romanoff and Samantha Middleton ’18, Psychology
“Online Social Facilitation and Eating”

Participants were shown a set of videos: either a neutral video group or the food video group, and given snacks to eat during said video set. The hypothesis predicted that the participants viewing the food condition would eat significantly more than the group of participants who viewed the foodless condition.

Christina Kocol ’18, International Peace and Conflict Resolution, Counseling
“International Interprofessional Education Experience: Ambergris Caye, Belize”

In August of 2016 a delegation of Arcadia students and faculty from six different departments traveled to Ambergris Caye, Belize to run pro-bono programs, and learn across disciplines. The focus of this trip was to engage in interprofessional education abroad while also providing necessary services to the community.
Sarah Obuchowski ’17, Biology
“Raising Awareness about Local Homelessness”
The prevalence of homelessness in urban areas is highly broadcasted. However, its frequency in less populated areas, such as suburbs, is not as widely known. The goal of this project was to raise awareness about suburban homelessness and to provide support to those experiencing homelessness in their time of need.

Elizabeth Gillen, ’19, Computer Science
“Spotify Database Search/Recommendation Tool”
This Spotify Database Search/Recommendation Tool uses real Spotify data to allow a user to search and receive recommendations for artists, playlists, and other users, as well as to create new playlists, based on the selection of data available. Using a custom-designed database, this tool uses SQL implemented via Java programming to create a user-friendly, interactive service.

Alejandra Martinez Lopez, ’17, Biology Pre-Med
“Elite Integrative Wellness Center: How an Integrative Health Plan Can Impact You”
I was able to help my mentor Dr. Sareta Coubarous with launching her new health product line. It has been an awesome experience as an entrepreneur, I was able to give her some advice on advertising techniques. This experience has allowed me to learn about the different medical healing products that are currently being offered. My mentor Dr. Coubarous has created her own product line of weight loss and wellness products! Check out her website: TotalLifeChanges.com/WeightLossandWellness to purchase and see how these products may work for you!

Nicole Daly, ’18, Psychology
“Social Perceptions of Online Interactions”
This study is about social interactions in an online setting. It examines cyber bullying and the perceptions behind this phenomenon. Specifically, whether bystander intervention changes perceptions of cyberbullying.

Kyle Kammerle, ’18, Biology Pre-PT
“The Physiology Behind Increased IGF-1 and its Effect on Skeletal Muscle Hypertrophy”
This presentation will explore the various mechanisms by which the hormone, IGF-1, alters mammalian body chemistry to ultimately induce skeletal muscle growth. Future implications of IGF-1 research will be discussed regarding muscular hypertrophy that results from multiple signaling pathways and cascades activated in IGF-1 physiology.