

# SLAM

*Student Liberal Arts Mosaic*

*Celebrating your...*

*research*

*performance*

*creativity*

2009

## LOGISTICS for

# SLAM

*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, II, 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 **1:45** and last for twenty minutes. They will be repeated at **2:15**, so you can attend more than one.
- To be eligible for one of the Fabulous SLAM Door Prizes, you must be present at the Closing Celebration & Dinner at 5:30 P.M., and your passport must have four stamps that show you have attended:
  - ✓ Session V (Rod Smith) **AND**
  - ✓ at least 3 full sessions from the other four options (Sessions I, II, III, IV)
- **What next?** Select one of the exciting presentation groups from Session I. Hurry on over to its location. Some may be Standing Room Only, so get there quick to get a seat!

**HAVE FUN and GET SLAMMED!**

### CREDITS:

Cover Design:

Kim Perry

Slam Stage Banner Design:

Claudia Cala, Kristin Kilpatrick, Katie Ledford, Jessica Lowman, Hannah McGinnis, Elizabeth Ravel, Cody Webb

**Student Liberal Arts Mosaic**  
... of Research, Performance, and Creativity

**ORDER OF CEREMONIES**

*In the One Hundred Fifty-second Year of Mars Hill College  
April 15, 2009  
Moore Auditorium*

**THE FANFARE: Mars Hill College Percussion Ensemble**

**8:45 A.M.**

Phill Bronson, Corey Denham, Kenneth Edwards, Emory Hensley, Keegan Fidis,  
Justin Mabry, Brad Moore, Christopher Powell, Mychael Shelton, Dwight Williams  
*Mr. Brian Tinkel, director*

**OPENING CELEBRATION**

**9:00–9:20 A.M.**

The Invocation

Rev. Todd Boling  
*College Chaplain*

The Vice President's Welcome

Dr. Nina T. Pollard  
*Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs*

Welcome from the SLAM committee

Ms. Jessica Blanford  
*Senior Religion/Philosophy & History Major*

Recognition of Graphic Designer, Kim Perry

Ms. Tandra Landers  
*Senior Business Administration Major*

Charge to the Students, Faculty, and Friends

Ms. Joy Clifton  
*Instructor of Physical Education*

# Student Liberal Arts Mosaic

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## SESSION I: ORAL PRESENTATIONS

9:30–10:45 A.M.

### Session I–A: *Lend a Hand*

Location: **Owen Theater**

*Response to Intervention: Changing the Foundation of Education*

Ashley Koontz  
Sam Fridd  
Loreta Akins  
*Special Education Majors*

*Real Life GIS Models: Farmland Preservation in Cherokee County*

Reb! Knight  
*Zoology & Biology Major*

*Red Pandas: Peril & Rescue*

René Carr  
*Zoology & Business Major*

### Session I–B: *Rich Man, Poor Man*

Location: **Broyhill Chapel**

*Determining Factors in Popularity in WNC Schools*

Lindsey Collins  
*Sociology Major*

*What Do You Know about Gypsies?*

Joo En “Grace” Kim  
*Biology Major*

*Blessed are the Poor [In Spirit]*

Kacie Cardwell  
*Religion/Philosophy Major*

### Session I–C: *The Looking Glass Self*

Location: **108 Moore  
(Band Room)**

*Where Do MHC Students Stand on the Fitness Scale?*

Lady Westmoreland  
*Physical Education Major*

*Catalytic Asymmetric Synthesis of Unnatural Peptides*

Zach Rinehart  
*Chemistry Major*

*Examining Hurricane Katrina via Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs Theory*

Ashley McCasland  
*Psychology Major*

*continued on next page*

**Session I–D: *Crime and Punishment***

**Location: 200 Wren College Union  
(Belk Auditorium)**

*Using Social Psychology to Understand the Holocaust*

Megan Percy  
*History & Psychology Major*

*The 1925 Coal Glen Mining Disaster: North Carolina’s Deadliest Workplace Accident*

Tyler Greene  
*History Major*

*Changing our Attitudes about Criminals—A Step Toward a Better Society*

Alicia Andrzejewski  
*English Major*

***INTER-SESSION Snack Break***

***10:45 – 11:00 A.M.***  
***Location: Near Oral Session Venues***

**SESSION II: ORAL PRESENTATIONS**

**11:00–12:15 P.M.**

**Session II–A: *Legends of the Fall***

**Location: Owen Theater**

*Review and Management of an Orbital Blowout Fracture*

Caleb Lott  
Bryan Reyes  
*Athletic Training Majors*

*The “Real” Henry VIII*

Ashley Griffin  
*History & Art Major*

*The St. Valentines Day Massacre*

Courtney King  
*History Major*

*continued on next page*

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## Session II –B: *Lesser Known Tales: I*

**Location: Broyhill Chapel**

*The 1942 Doolittle Raid: America's First Attack on Japan*

Jessica Blanford  
*History & Religion Major*

*Mahler's Metaphysics*

Kevin Hertlein  
*Music Major*

*The White Pines Road to the American Revolution:  
The King's Broad Arrow Policy*

William (Wes) Skidmore II  
*History Major*

## Session II –C: *Knowledge is Power*

**Location: 108 Moore  
(Band Room)**

*Are We All Manipulated? The Power of the Media over Information*

Frithjof Hoegener  
*Business Administration Major*

*How Do We Know What We Know?*

Emma Murphy  
*Math Major*

*What Does your Index Finger Indicate?*

Jamie Kuehl  
*Biology Major*

## Session II –D: *A Better Future (in a small world)*

**Location: 200 Wren College Union  
(Belk Auditorium)**

*How Culture Affects Interpretation: The Universal Declaration  
of Human Rights in the United States and India*

Allison Collins  
*International Studies Major*

*The Viability of Bacteriophages as an Alternative Treatment in Bacterial Infection*

Jack Delaney  
*Biology Major*

*The Processes of Forgiveness*

Kayla N. McCurry  
*Religion/Philosophy Major*

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## **LUNCH BREAK**

**12:30–1:30 P.M.**  
**Location: Pittman Dining Hall**  
**or on your own**

## **SESSION III: ARTS BREAK**

**1:45–2:45 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.*

**1:45 P.M.**

**“Act I”**

**Arts Break–A**

**Location: The Loft**  
**(McConnell)**

*A Study of Appalachian Music*

Brandon Johnson  
*English & Political Science Major*

**Arts Break–B**

**Location: Peterson Conference Room**  
**(Blackwell, First Floor)**

*Cadenza Presentation*

Alicia Andrzejewski, editor  
*English Major*

*Featured Exhibitors:*  
Various Contributors

*continued on next page*

# Student Liberal Arts Mosaic

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## Arts Break–C

*Costume Design in Live Theatre*

**Location: Owen Theater**

Anna Thrift  
*Theatre Arts Major*

## Arts Break–D

*Koinonia Partners: Q & A*

**Location: Fellowship Hall  
(Broyhill Chapel)**

Bren Dubay  
*Executive Director, Koinonia Partners, Inc.*

## *Intermission*

**2:15 P.M.**

**“Act II”**

*All performances from “Act I” will be repeated during “Act II.”  
Please attend a second Arts Break event.*

## ***INTER-SESSION Snack Break***

**2:45 – 3:00 P.M.**

***Location: Near Oral Session Venues***

## **SESSION IV: ORAL PRESENTATIONS**

**3:00–4:15 P.M.**

### **Session IV–A: *Do-Re-Mi***

**Location: Owen Theater**

*Creating the Character’s Voice: A New Method for Actors using Estill Voice Craft*

Daniel Hensley  
*Musical Theater Major*

*Exploring Dialect Through Song Variability in the Tufted Titmouse*

Reb! Knight  
*Zoology & Biology Major*

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**Session IV–B: *Lesser Known Tales: II***

**Location: Broyhill Chapel**

*Female Servants at the Biltmore House*

Natasha Cannon  
*History Major*

*North Carolina War Zone: World War II in Carteret County*

Elizabeth Fitzpatrick  
*History Major*

*American Bondage: The Rise of Chattel Slavery*

Rick Miller  
*History Major*

**Session IV –C: *A Fair Deal***

**Location: 108 Moore  
(Band Room)**

*Discrimination Against Homosexuals in Society*

Kasey Boston  
Ryan Cauble  
*Psychology & Religion Majors*  
Lara Brockwell  
Abby Toms  
Victoria Franz  
*Psychology Majors*

*Bringing HOPE to MHC: Exploring student interest in  
socially responsible products at the MHC Bookstore*

Kristina Donahue  
*Fashion & Interior Merchandising Major*

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## Session IV –D: *Treasure Hunt*

**Location: 200 Wren College Union  
(Belk Auditorium)**

*How Jane Got Her Groove Back:  
The Jane Austen Phenomenon in the Twenty-First Century*

Heather Wright  
*English Major*

*A New Future For Chemotherapy*

Holly Schaeffer  
*Chemistry Major*

*Unveiling our Treasures: The Cherokee Collections  
of the Southern Appalachian Archive*

Tyler Greene  
*History Major*

## SESSION V: PLENARY SESSION

**4:30- 5:30 P.M.**

**Location: Moore Auditorium**

Introduction of the Speaker

Ms. Jessica Blanford  
*Senior Religion/Philosophy & History Major  
SLAM Committee Representative*

## *Why Excel?*

**Rod Smith**

*NFL Denver Broncos, Retired*

## CLOSING CELEBRATION & DINNER

**5:30 P.M.**

**Location: Pittman Dining Hall**

***The MHC Student Liberal Arts Mosaic  
... of Research, Performance, and Creativity***

***Mission Statement***

The Mars Hill College Spring SLAM:

- showcases student research, performance, and creativity.
- provides an opportunity for the Mars Hill College community to celebrate, recognize, and promote student accomplishment across a range of academic pursuits.
- fosters and encourages a campus culture that honors and rewards the hard work, dedication, and discipline that lead to success and achievement in liberal education, in professional life, and in the world.

The Spring SLAM provides an opportunity for Mars Hill College students to exhibit their creativity and energy to an audience that includes not only the entire campus community (students, faculty and staff), but also the wider college family (trustees, alumni, and friends of the college). During the sessions, panels, and exhibits of the Spring SLAM, students present the best of their work in a wide variety of subject areas and formats, sharing it in a spirit of intellectual competition and cooperation.

**Presentation Abstracts**

**Alicia Andrzejewski**, *Changing our Attitudes about Criminals—A Step Toward a Better Society*

A wealth of evidence demonstrates that many prisons in the U.S. criminal justice system house offenders in buildings that barely resemble any aspect of the outside world, making transfer of learning impossible. The system places individuals with drug addictions in an environment in which they can obtain any drug they choose, and gives seasoned criminals the opportunity to make further criminal connections. This environment demands corruption for survival. Taken together, the evidence suggests that society does not care about rehabilitating criminals or their well-being. Indeed, the American public has created an “us vs. them” dichotomy that allows citizens to ignore this situation. The system creates the delusion of safety when, in reality, individuals are leaving prison worse off than they arrived. This presentation will argue that in order to better our society, the American public must change its traditional perception of offenders.

**Jessica Blanford**, *The 1942 Doolittle Raid: America’s First Attack on Japan*

Japan’s attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941 left Americans fearful of what would come next. The U.S. government, caught off guard, responded four months later with a retaliatory attack involving 16 army bombers that took off from a naval carrier in the Pacific Ocean. The plan was to bomb several cities in Japan and fly to safety in China. However, because of an early take-off, low fuel, and bad flying conditions, none of the planes made it to the scheduled destination. Many of the planes crash-landed and one landed in Russia. Some of the raiders died during the mission, while others were tortured and executed; remarkably, however, most made it home. This presentation tells their story. Despite a negligible military impact, the Doolittle Raid nonetheless boosted American morale in a time of turmoil, and caused Japan to launch an ill-fated assault on Midway Island.

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# Student Liberal Arts Mosaic

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**Kasey Boston, Lara Brockwell, Ryan Cauble, Abby Toms, Victoria Franz, *Discrimination Against Homosexuals in Society***

This presentation reviews the results of a social experiment to determine whether homosexuals were given equal service as heterosexuals in business settings. The sites of the experiments included a car dealership, a restaurant, and an apartment complex from the surrounding area. The purpose of our research was to test theories of homophobia as well as gender. Many psychologists argue that negative stereotypes profoundly affect the everyday lives of gay and lesbians. Our data supported these claims. This study also explores why people discriminate, and the important role society and culture play in people's behavior.

**Cadenza Contributors, *Cadenza Presentation***

In this session, Mars Hill College's literary and art magazine will spotlight some of the excellent submissions from the upcoming spring publication. Come hear your peers share their creative talents as they read their short stories and poems, and show their art work.

**Natasha Cannon, *Female Servants at the Biltmore House***

This presentation will explore one of the many untold stories of the American experience—the history of working women around the turn of the 20th century, with special focus on female domestic servants at the Biltmore House. The study of history typically has focused on those who hold the reins of power, especially landholding men. Missing are the stories of individuals who lived and worked on the bottom tier of society. Many of these people, including women, have been pushed to the margins of history. Previous studies on the prestigious Vanderbilt family have emphasized the spectacular wealth of the Biltmore estate while overlooking the work of female domestic servants who maintained the largest, privately owned home in North America.

**Kacie Cardwell, *Blessed are the Poor [In Spirit]***

"Blessed are the poor!" Jesus is quoted as blessing the poor twice in the New Testament and in the Gospel of Thomas, but the question remains: what is the nature of "the poor?" Does Jesus' blessing concern physical, economic poverty, or a kind of spiritual "poverty of the soul" instead? Unlike the Gospels of Luke and Thomas, which describe Jesus simply blessing "the poor," in the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus blesses "the poor in spirit." Does Matthew's addition imply a spiritual meaning for Luke and Thomas, or should it be considered as a "spiritualization" of Jesus' original saying? Answers to these questions can be revealing. This presentation questions the identity of "the poor" in these blessings through use of Biblical literature, theological study, scholarly work, and the original ancient languages of the texts. It also proposes that an individual's interpretation of the phrase is directly related to his or her representations of Jesus, God, and Christianity.

**Rene Carr, *Red Pandas: Peril & Rescue***

During the summer of 2008, I interned at the Knoxville Zoological Park. The Knoxville Zoo is best known for acquiring the second-most red pandas born in captivity as well as the oldest red panda in captivity in the world. I will be sharing my experiences to explain how the zoo is successful at providing a favorable environment for this species, how it continues to help pandas in the "big picture," and how all of us can help this species in the wild. This presentation will include numerous images of the pandas (old and young) and their environment at the Knoxville Zoo. At the conclusion, an opportunity will be afforded to donate money to the Red Panda Network, thus allowing the MHC community to make a difference for Red Pandas worldwide.

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**Allison Collins, *How Culture Affects Interpretation: The Universal Declaration of Human Rights in the United States and India***

This presentation will focus on how the United Nations document, The Universal Declaration of Rights, came into being, and more specifically, how a Western-developed nation such as the United States varies its interpretation of the document compared to a developing Asian nation such as India. The document itself was written following the horrible incidents against humans during World War II and the formation of the United Nations. It was created in hopes of ensuring that every human would have their basic needs met, such as food, shelter, and healthcare, as well as freedom in daily choices. The declaration, however, is grounded in Western ideals, prompting the question of the degree to which non-Western nations should be expected to adhere to the document.

**Lindsey Collins, *Determining Factors in Popularity in WNC Schools***

While popularity rituals have been recognized as important components of the “hidden curriculum” (Merton 1968), research on popularity has tended to focus only on upper-middle class public schools. This research expands this idea and focuses on an upper class private school, as well as a working class public school in Western North Carolina. Surveys were conducted at both schools that asked students what made themselves and their peers either popular or unpopular. The results differed depending on where the students went to school. This research shows that socioeconomic status is a determining factor in popularity among high school students.

**Jack Delaney, *The Viability of Bacteriophages as an Alternative Treatment in Bacterial Infection***

This presentation investigates the ability of bacteria-lysing viruses (bacteriophages) to adequately treat bacterial infection. Essential background material needed to understand this study will be covered, such as: what a bacteriophage is; where to find bacteriophages; why there is a need for alternative treatment to bacterial infection; and what laboratory techniques are used for the extraction and utilization of the bacteriophages. Results of the research project will also be presented.

**Kristina Donahue, *Bringing HOPE to MHC: Exploring student interest in socially responsible products at the MHC Bookstore***

Mars Hill College, as exemplified in its mission statement, encourages students to become engaged citizens in their communities. By incorporating socially responsible products into the MHC Bookstore’s inventory, customers will have the opportunity to purchase products that actively contribute to the larger community. Using a two-part survey and focus group research methodology, the wants and needs of MHC students regarding integration of socially responsible clothing products at our campus bookstore was explored. Specifically, Jedidiah USA’s HOPE Collection was used as an example of a socially responsible clothing company. This research brought to light important issues, including student interest in socially responsible options as well as their relative knowledge of initiatives already integrated into the bookstore’s current business plan.

**Elizabeth Fitzpatrick, *North Carolina War Zone: World War II in Carteret County***

Throughout the course of World War II, citizens of Carteret County, North Carolina, lived with the threat of German U-boat warfare. The Nazi U-boat offensive, Operation Paukenschlag, targeted the entire North American coast. Though miles away from the beaches of Normandy, the beaches of North Carolina became part of the European Theater of conflict. While the U.S. government armed Cape Lookout, citizens participated in blackouts and air raid drills. Coast Guard officials and local fishermen searched for U-boats off the coast as they made their rounds. Offshore explosions from U-boat attacks lit the night sky so bright citizens were able to read the newspaper by the fiery glow. The local hospital was forced to dedicate entire floors to burn victims from U-boat attacks. This presentation will argue that the citizens of Carteret County experienced the Second World War more intimately than most U.S. citizens.

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### **Tyler Greene, *The 1925 Coal Glen Mining Disaster: North Carolina's Deadliest Workplace Accident***

This presentation traces the history of coal mine accidents in Chatham County, North Carolina, with special emphasis on the Coal Glen Disaster of 1925. This explosion killed fifty-three men, making it still today the deadliest workplace accident in the state's history. Major coal mine explosions previously occurred in Chatham County in 1895 and 1900, yet these accidents failed to prompt extensive safety regulations or inspections. In fact, North Carolina's sole legal statute establishing a system of mine safety inspections was rarely, if ever, enforced. The years of nonchalance toward safety in North Carolina's coal industry culminated with the 1925 Coal Glen disaster, and the men who worked the Chatham County mines were left unprotected from the inherent dangers of their job.

### **Tyler Greene, *Unveiling our Treasures: The Cherokee Collections of the Southern Appalachian Archive***

This presentation entails a summary and analysis of the presenter's findings while serving as a student research fellow to the Liston B. Ramsey Center for Regional Studies, and will showcase for students the impressive archival holdings of the college's Southern Appalachian Archives. The Archives at Mars Hill College contain a large collection of Cherokee artifacts that can provide interesting insights into Cherokee society. For many years, these artifacts have gone unnoticed, despite the fact that several are on par with what one would expect to find at a major museum. Artifacts from the Cherokee collections will be discussed, as well as placed within the context of Cherokee and Native American history.

### **Ashley Griffin, *The "Real" Henry VIII***

The royal court of famed English monarch Henry VIII is often viewed as having been full of strife, public and private. Modern textbooks, documentaries, cartoons, and films routinely portray Henry VIII as a caricature—as a gluttonous, crazed ruler who signed death warrants while throwing chicken bones over his shoulder to his hungry dogs. This presentation will provide an alternative and more historically accurate depiction of Henry VIII, one that sheds light on his high standing among peers, quick mind and erudition, natural curiosity, and linguistic skills. When and why Henry VIII's public image began to decline will also be discussed.

### **Daniel Hensley, *Creating the Character's Voice: A New Method for Actors using Estill Voice Craft***

Drawing from my MHC education, including courses in voice, theatre, and acting, I will present a new method for actors using Estill Voice Craft. This study guides the actor to use the "vocal instrument" in any style, genre, or situation. It does not explain the infinite possibilities an actor may face, nor prescribe specific answers. Instead, this process allows the actor to make choices as a character with the voice as a part of the creation process. When actors THINK voice rather than simply "listen" to their voices, it begins the process in which characters "speak the truth." The truth as a character is the magic an actor can bring. But an actor cannot tell the TRUTH until he or she knows who they are and have found their VOICE! Come hear how this process works and see it LIVE in action.

### **Kevin Hertlein, *Mahler's Metaphysics***

The life of Austrian composer Gustav Mahler was filled with isolation and disappointment, and surrounded by death. As a result, his ideas on life, death, and what came next, became embedded in his musical works. What were his metaphysical beliefs, and how did he express them in his music? The popular opinion of Mahler is that he was a dark and disturbed individual. But perhaps there was another side to him—one of optimism, hope, and redemption. We will explore Mahler's metaphysical ideas as portrayed in his music and life. Mahler once remarked: "Strange--when I hear music—even when I am myself conducting it—I hear quite definite answers to all my questions, and am wholly clear and sure." As Mahler found his answers to life in music, that is where we must get our answers about him.

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**Frithjof Hoegener, *Are We All Manipulated? The Power of the Media over Information***

Adolf Hitler noted as early as 1924 in his book, *Mein Kampf*, the importance of the media in influencing public opinion. Within five days of becoming the German “Bundeskanzler” in 1933, Hitler consolidated all media sources under state control. In 1934, the state took full control over all information broadcasts and could therefore manipulate a whole nation. Today, in the United States, we enjoy a free press, but the question persists: are we still being manipulated? Despite all the available newspapers and television stations, the fact remains that most are owned by six big corporations (Time-Warner/Disney/Gannett /GE/News-Corp/ Viacom). Further, although these companies themselves claim to be leading media and entertainment sources, they are principally for-profit businesses. In light of these realities, this presentation seeks to address the following question: If, in fact, we do enjoy a free and independent press, then how do we explain the lack of dissenting opinion among the media for the justification of the invasion of Iraq?

**Brandon Johnson, *A Study of Appalachian Music***

In my research I aimed to assimilate into the fabric of the local music community by developing artistic relationships with musicians, and learning a variety of musical styles from them. This presentation reports on my interviews of several local musicians, as well as my attendance at Appalachian musical events. It also displays--through performance--some of what I have learned. By sharing my experiences, I hope to debunk some of the stereotypes of mountain music and introduce the audience to this special art form.

**Joo En “Grace” Kim, *What Do you Know about Gypsies?***

Gypsies--or “Roma”--are a minority group in Europe, and especially in Greek society. In Greece, Roma have created their own unique community in wild fields outside of the cities. These communities, however, seldom have clean water, a sewage system, or electricity, mainly because of a lack of help from the state. This presentation will share research into the social and medical status of Roma. Special attention will be paid to their history, current living situation, how many non-profit organizations are working for them, how much health support they get from society, and what kind of illnesses they suffer from the most. The presentation will conclude with a look at one study’s report on the prevalence of E.coli in the water supply serving three communities.

**Courtney King, *The St. Valentines Day Massacre***

This presentation will examine one of the most spectacular mob hits in American history, the Saint Valentines Day Massacre, which has assumed almost a mythical status in the nation’s collective consciousness. The massacre involved the seven gory killings in an empty warehouse on the upper North Side of Chicago in February 1929. It was a result of the arch rivalry between the South Side Italian gang led by Al Capone, and the North Side Irish led gang by George “Bugs” Moran. Few characters of the 1920’s are more infamous than Al Capone and George Moran. Both built a criminal empire founded on bootlegged booze barrels and gangland wars, making them some of the most powerful men in Chicago during the Prohibition era. Because of these events, Capone and the St. Valentines Day Massacre have come to symbolize gang violence, and confirm popular images associated with Prohibition, Chicago mobsters, and stunning killings.

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### **Reb! Knight, *Exploring Dialect Through Song Variability in the Tufted Titmouse***

Many animals have regional dialects, much like humans do. Song birds are frequently used for studies in dialect because they are so vocal. Of these, Tufted Titmice are especially useful because they have a simple song, a small vocabulary, and occur throughout the eastern United States. Songs from Tufted Titmice were taken from a variety of states and converted into sonographs, which are pictures of their song. The sonographs were then analyzed through sound-analysis software, and by visual comparison and categorization. These differences were analyzed statistically to discover if there were significant differences between songs of different regions. It was found that birds from the same state have more similar songs than those between regions, and birds from different regions had significantly different songs. It was also discovered that birds from regions which were far away had more differences than those from neighboring regions.

### **Reb! Knight, *Real Life GIS Models: Farmland Preservation in Cherokee County***

The conversion of agricultural land to residential areas is a growing problem throughout the world. Not only does this change reduce the amount of food able to be grown, but it also has a detrimental effect on wildlife and even real estate prices. One method of slowing and even halting this progress is through the use of farmland preservation plans, wherein the local government intervenes and allows landowners to protect their land from development for a certain number of years. Cherokee County, North Carolina is currently implementing such a plan. One part of the Cherokee County plan entails determining which land has the greatest need for protection. This is where geographic information system (GIS) models can be helpfully, by aggregating a variety of information and giving land a "preservation ranking." Multiple models can be created, depending on the weight given to each individual category.

### **Ashley Koontz, Sam Fridd, Loreta Akins, *Response to Intervention: Changing the Foundation of Education***

Response to Intervention (RTI) is a general education initiative that provides early intervention for all students at risk for failure (Fuchs, 2007). This initiative is set in a three-tier model and provides scientifically based researched interventions in the general education setting, along with additional support. Currently, No Child Left Behind asks for an increase in accountability, requiring all children to meet higher academic standards. The use of RTI in the classroom will help all students succeed. The three tiers of RTI will aid in identifying students at risk and plan different levels of interventions according to the needs of individual students. This research on RTI included looking at two local school systems, one fully embracing RTI, and a second just beginning the process. The presentation will define, discuss, and explore the implementation process of RTI in local area schools.

### **Jamie Kuehl, *What Does your Index Finger Indicate?***

Is the digit ratio of the second and fourth finger an indicator for athleticism? Both traits are influenced by the level of testosterone an individual is exposed to in the womb. To investigate this theory, I conducted a study to examine whether such a correlation is reflected among MHC students. The survey included questions about sex, age, weight, height, BMI, present body fat, the lengths of their index and ring finger, and their participation in athletics. The results of my study will further determine if more research should be conducted to examine a correlation between digit ratios and obesity, and other health risks related to fitness.

### **Caleb Lott, Bryan Reyes, *Review and Management of an Orbital Blowout Fracture***

Blowout fractures--fractures of an orbital wall--are a common result of eye injuries. In such injuries, the bone that supports the eye is fractured, resulting in a "sag" of the eye. Blunt, direct trauma is usually the source of this type of injury, such as a ball to the eye. This presentation will review the case and management of a collegiate football player who sustained such a fracture in order to better recognize, evaluate, and intervene in any future cases. The majority of blowout fractures typically occur in sports without equipment for facial protection. This case is unique in that the athlete was wearing a football helmet. Treatment usually requires surgical intervention in order to avoid unfavorable outcomes such as partial or complete loss of vision. Currently there is no specific protective equipment (besides helmets) that would prevent an orbital blowout fracture.

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**Ashley McCasland**, *Examining Hurricane Katrina via Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs Theory*

This presentation aims to better understand Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs Theory by examining the behaviors and attitudes of the survivors of Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans. Not having the necessities in life will cause a person to become irrational and erratic, as explained by Maslow in his Hierarchy of Needs. This theory explains why the survivors of Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans began looting and became chaotic after the storm due to lack of aid and supplies that guarantee one's life. This research demonstrates that the survivors went out of character, putting Maslow's theory in action.

**Kayla N. McCurry**, *The Processes of Forgiveness*

"Forgiveness is all I have to offer," replied Imaculee Ilibagiza when asked why she forgave the Hutu man who murdered her entire family during the 1994 Rwandan genocide. Why did she forgive? How can any of us, particularly those of us who have suffered greatly, forgive? What would our lives be like if we truly could achieve forgiveness? Through phenomenological discourse, this presentation will explore the social, political, philosophical, and theological processes of forgiveness. By looking at real life examples from women living in poverty and violence in Rwandan war zones, present day Ugandan villages, and in rural Madison County, I will discuss how those who have suffered greatly have found meaning through forgiveness, and that ultimately, in the words of South African human rights activist Desmond Tutu, "There can be no future without forgiveness."

**Rick Miller**, *American Bondage: The Rise of Chattel Slavery*

Despite common belief, the first Africans to arrive in British North America were not enslaved. In fact, these original Africans were considered indentured servants and were subject to the same laws as white Europeans arriving in the colony. This system of racial equality did not last long—in its place, a system of un-free labor gradually developed. Also known as "chattel slavery," this system relegated Africans to second class citizenship and subjected them to lifelong, hereditary servitude. Why did slavery, the "peculiar institution," develop the way it did? This presentation will explore how various factors led chattel slavery to gradually develop in colonial America. Although the system was abolished nearly 150 years ago, the racial effects from slavery live on to this day, despite the recent election of President Barack Obama.

**Emma Murphy**, *How Do We Know What We Know?*

How do you know God? How do you know other human beings? As we struggle to answer the big questions in life, we stumble on barriers in the pursuit of logical answers. Soren Kierkegaard and Jane Addams, two modern philosophers, have similar theories about how to overcome these obstacles in order to obtain such knowledge. In my presentation, their philosophies will be discussed through the example of Horton from Dr. Seuss's *Horton Hears A Who*.

**Megan Percy**, *Using Social Psychology to Understand the Holocaust*

One of the most devastating events in history was the Holocaust. In hindsight, many people have asked what social psychological factors may have contributed to it. This study enhances our understanding of the Holocaust through discussions of prejudice, discrimination, the bystander effect, obedience and conformity, sexism, racism, anti-Semitism, and the role of roles. These theoretical concepts will shed light on how Hitler gained power and the psychological tactics that were used to keep it. They will also reveal aspects about human nature and how not "going against the grain" can spiral out of control. By being aware of these social psychological theories, society can potentially prevent similar situations from occurring again.

*continued on next page*

# Student Liberal Arts Mosaic

## ... of Research, Performance, and Creativity

### **Zach Rinehart**, *Catalytic Asymmetric Synthesis of Unnatural Peptides*

Many organic chemical compounds exist naturally in two mirror-image forms (essentially as right-handed or left handed molecules). Chemicals that are mirror images of each other (enantiomers) affect the body differently. For this reason, it is important that pharmaceuticals be homochiral (not a mixture of mirror image molecules). It is difficult, however, to attain a batch of molecules that are all a single structure (not enantiomers). This presentation focuses on an aspect of a specific method of production (the Maruoka technique) of enantiopure drugs. In particular, I have tested a chemical to see whether it would successfully catalyze an asymmetric precursor to yield only single-handed molecules. I selected a specific peptide (chain of amino acids), and attempted to alkylate it in hopes of attaining a product with a significant level of enantiopurity. This experiment tested this method's limits, particularly the effectiveness of the catalyst on the experimental peptide.

### **Holly Schaeffer**, *A New Future For Chemotherapy*

Laurenditerpenol is found in the alga *Laurencia intricate*. Laurenditerpenol has been the subject of research in the last few years as a possible chemotherapy for the treatment of hypoxic tumor cells that are typically resistant to radiation and current chemotherapies. This presentation reviews research I have done with Dr. Ciochina to successfully make Laurenditerpenol in the lab for commercial use. In order to do this, Laurenditerpenol was broken down into smaller reactions. The procedure used the first reaction, and was performed using different lengths and catalysts. Future research is needed to further progress the production of Laurenditerpenol.

### **William (Wes) Skidmore II**, *The White Pines Road to the American Revolution: The King's Broad Arrow Policy*

The King's Broad Arrow Policy of 1691 was one of the key factors that led to the American Revolutionary War. This policy ensured British ownership of the American forests, and specifically, control over American White Pines, which were crucial in construction of the British "Man-of-War" warship. The massive Man-of-War held over 100 cannon and was nearly 200 feet long. This warship enabled the British to defeat the Dutch and Spanish, and helped England gain recognition as the world's strongest navy. The American colonists, however, resented the King's Broad Arrow Policy, seeing that it compelled the British, in their exploitation of White Pines, to evict colonists from their settlements. This policy contributed to the deterioration of the British and American relationship, and illustrates how environmental issues played a role in forces leading to the American Revolution.

### **Anna Thrift**, *Costume Design in Live Theatre*

This spring I designed costumes for *The Dining Room*, a play written by A.R. Gurney and performed by the MHC Theatre Arts Department. In this presentation, I will discuss the design process for this show, which included script analysis, drawing, color and character analysis, shopping for costumes, pulling costumes, building costumes, working with the actors, conducting costume fittings, and attending rehearsals. I will show sketches, photographs and actual costumes during the presentation. I will further examine and discuss the importance of costumes in theatrical productions, and why they are important to the actor, the audience, and the performance.

### **Lady Westmoreland**, *Where Do MHC Students Stand on the Fitness Scale?*

Obesity is a term Americans know all too well. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention notes that in 2007 more than 25 percent of Americans were reported as being obese, which equates to a Body Mass Index greater than 30. Obesity is a major risk factor for heart disease, the number one killer in the United States. Most Americans are well aware of this information, and yet obesity rates continue to climb. Studies have linked these increasing rates to people's exercise and nutritional habits. Researchers have conducted nationwide, statewide, and even countywide studies. This presentation reviews a study that aimed to determine how MHC students stood on the fitness scale.

### **Heather Wright**, *How Jane Got Her Groove Back: The Jane Austen Phenomenon in the Twenty-First Century*

The nineteenth century English novelist Jane Austen has regained immense popularity over the last several years. But why? What would a writer from more than 200 years ago have to say to us today? The presentation looks at how fans of Austen are reading her today, and discusses what they are taking away from her works as well as what they are missing.

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*The dedicated Students, Staff, Faculty, and Friends of Mars Hill College*

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# The Plenary Speaker

## Rod Smith



The mark of a true professional is someone who consistently performs at a higher level than others. Today's speaker is the epitome of a true professional: someone who completed his college career with three degrees (economics and finance, general business, as well as marketing and management), earning the title, "Missouri Southern Outstanding Graduate." That would be a daunting accomplishment for anyone, but while he was earning all three degrees, he also set conference football records in career receiving yards (3,043) and touchdowns (34). He also broke the school's reception record (153) and was named first-team All-America by AP, Kodak, Football Gazette and NCAA Div. II sports information directors. Our speaker is a true professional.

For many of us, today's speaker "caught" our attention on the football field:

- First and only undrafted player to reach the milestone of 10,000 receiving yards, and the 24th in history to eclipse that figure
- Has the most catches (849), receiving yards (11,389) and touchdown receptions (68) of any undrafted wide receiver in NFL history
- Ranked 15th in NFL history in career receptions and 16th all time in receiving yards
- Holds Denver Broncos franchise records in career receptions, receiving yards and touchdown catches
- Ranks first on Denver's all-time yards from scrimmage list
- Only the sixth player in NFL history to have 100 receptions against at least three teams (Kansas City Chiefs, San Diego Chargers and Oakland Raiders)

Ironically, he was a receiver on the field and does nothing but give off of the field. He's an outspoken advocate for blood donation, with a lengthy association with the annual Drive for Life, one of the largest single-day blood-donation endeavors of its kind.

He works to raise money and awareness for the Boys and Girls Clubs, Bonfils Blood Center, sickle-cell research and Hurricane Katrina relief. And he's also putting his degrees to good use as an accomplished entrepreneur. Rod Smith International is a premier land development company and property investment-consulting firm that has investments in multiple properties and holding companies. He is a founding member in a Healthy Coffee business that is ground floor and looking for new distributors all across North America. The focus is to "Put Health Into Your Habit."

He is committed to serving the community so that others can also have the help they need to succeed in life. Rod Smith is someone who consistently performs at a higher level than others. Rod Smith is a true professional.