Walsh University Honors Program Presents

Honorable Mention

Spring 2025 Volume 8: Issue 2



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Meet Our Outstanding Senior in Honors

by: Izzy Rammel



Photo of Izzy Rammel

Hi! I'm Izzy Rammel, a senior in the Honors Program. I am originally from Greenville, Ohio, but Walsh has become my second home over the past four years. If there's one word that has defined my time at Walsh University, it's community. Whether in the classroom, on the track, or at the dining hall, I've found myself surrounded by people who challenge, support, and inspire me. The Walsh Honors Program, in particular, has been an incredibly impactful atmosphere for building and contributing to this community, and it's laid the foundation for how I plan to approach law school and my future legal career.

From my first interview, the Honors Program emphasized more than just academic excellence. I understood its goal was to cultivate service-oriented leaders who could think critically and act compassionately. The faculty and older students showed me that

the real value of education lies in how you use it to uplift others. As a tutor for HON 120: Interdisciplinary Research & Writing and later as Honors Co-Student Assistant, I worked to connect students with the tools and support they needed to thrive. Organizing service events and mentoring peers wasn't just about checking boxes—it was about making sure everyone in our growing program felt seen, capable, and valued.

This spirit of community also extended to my work outside the classroom. Recognizing a disconnect among pre-law students at Walsh, I co-founded the Pre-Law Club to create a centralized, collaborative space for students to prepare for law school together. I also was able to take on a leadership position in the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, providing a voice for student athletes on campus. What's extra special is how Honors students have consistently been involved and enthusiastic in these organizations. That kind of mutual support is rare, and it's something I'll continue to seek out and foster in law school and beyond.

I also had a chance to develop an appreciation for community in my senior Honors Thesis, "Darke County's Cause Lawyers: Analyzing Rural Attorneys and Cause Lawyering Classifications." Growing up in a rural area, I've witnessed firsthand how limited legal resources can impact entire communities. Through interviews and case studies, my project investigated how rural attorneys navigate professional identity, justice, and service. Through my research, I found that these "country lawyers" may not always fit traditional classifications, but they play a crucial role in sustaining access to justice where it's needed most. Overall, my Honors Thesis deepened my respect for the lawyers who embed themselves in their communities and work not just in the legal system, but for the people it's meant to serve.

Community, for me, means more than simply belonging somewhere; it means playing an active role in its continual betterment. My experiences at Walsh have taught me that when I seek to better understand and serve my neighbor, I can not only enrich my own experiences but also lay the foundation for meaningful change. Now, as I prepare to attend Ohio State University's Moritz College of Law, I carry with me everything the Walsh Honors Program taught me—especially the understanding that law is not just a profession, but a calling to serve communities with clarity, compassion, and conviction. I'm proud of the roots I've grown here, and I am excited to build new ones in the legal field.

Junior Student Spotlight: Ellie Radis

by: Alexis Perretta

Ellie Radis is the true meaning of what it means to be an Honors student. Majoring in Biology on the Pre-Professional track, with a minor in Chemistry, Ellie diligently balances the demands of Honors-level coursework with her extracurricular activities, including cross country and research with Dr. Underwood. Her dedication to both her academics and future career has been able to shine within the Honors Program.

Being in the Honors Program has allowed Ellie to strengthen her critical thinking skills and analyze ideas beyond face value. "The Honors Program has deepened my love for learning and sense of curiosity throughout academic disciplines." The rigor of the Honors Program has also significantly prepared Ellie for the challenges of Physician's Assistant (PA) school. The program has helped improve her professional skills, time management, and provided invaluable research experience. "It [The Honors Program] gave me the research skills needed to investigate topics independently while also teaching me how to collaborate with others."



Ellie Radis

Not only has the Honors Program equipped her with the necessary skills for a successful career, but it has also given her one of the most precious things of all: friendship. The program has allowed Ellie to meet like-minded students who share the same academic drive as her, creating a supportive community and lifelong friends. "College can be challenging as a whole, but the Honors community has made it worthwhile." The shared experience of navigating academic rigor fosters a sense of mutual understanding and resilience between Honors students, leading to connections that extend beyond the classroom.

The most impactful experience for Ellie has been her Thesis research under the mentorship of Dr. Underwood. "I really appreciate how Dr. Underwood has taken me under his wing and given me the opportunity to see how research is conducted—he is an incredible mentor." Ellie's Honors Thesis will be focused on "Investigating the Biological Significance of SOX12 in Cellular Function." Her hands-on experience with Dr. Underwood has provided her with invaluable insights into the research process and deepened her understanding of the scientific inquiry that she will face in PA school.

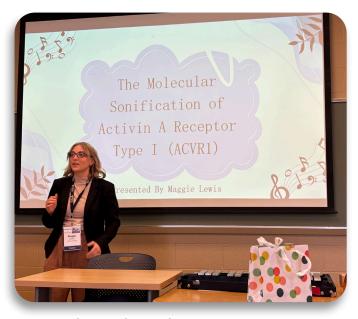
Ellie's aspiration to become a PA stems from a profound admiration for the profession's emphasis on patient-centered care. "I really admire PA's for their personability with patients." A shadowing experience with a urology PA helped make her decision final. This experience showed Ellie that treating a patient goes beyond mapping out treatment plans and prescribing medication; it's about empathizing with their situation. She watched how the PA sat down and fostered meaningful dialogue with each patient, showing real human connection.

Ellie embodies the qualities of a dedicated Honors student, driven by intellectual curiosity and a compassionate heart. The Honors Program has given Ellie the resources needed to have future success in both her academics and career. It is clear that Ellie is prepared to build a career defined by both knowledge and kindness.

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Attending the MEHA Conference

On the weekend of April 11th through 13th, Dr. Jennifer Clevinger, Dr. Nina Rytwinski, the Co-Directors of the Honors Program, Dr. Michael Dumphy, Vice President of Academic Affairs at Walsh University, and three of Walsh's Honors students, Maggie Lewis, Alexander Oswald, and Ashli Snider, attended the Mid-East Honors Association (MEHA) Conference at Hiram College. While at the conference, Dr. Clevinger and Dr. Rytwinski presented a session for Honors Program Directors on Innovative Approaches to Honors Program Leadership. Maggie Lewis, Alexander Oswald, and Ashli Snider, presented their thesis projects among college students from all throughout the mid-east region of the United States. Below is a short bio on each of these students and their research. If you see them around campus, be sure to congratulate them, along with all of our graduating seniors!



(Above) Photo of Maggie presenting

Alex Oswald is a graduating Honors student from Columbus, Ohio, with a major in Biology. He also has minors in environmental science, computer science, and history. His thesis is an examination of the role specific genes play in the expression of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). With Dr. Tom Freeland as his Thesis Advisor and Dr. Adam Underwood, Professor of Biology, as his Thesis Reader, Alex used new methods of filtering through lists of potential gene effects to determine which genes are most related to ASD. Using the "Bryan & Clare Protocol," his research revealed that the sulfamidase enzyme N-sulfoglucosamine sulfohydrolase (SGSH) may be a contributor to ASD expression. Alex was also able to explore how

Maggie Lewis is a senior Honors student from Youngstown, Ohio, majoring in Clinical Laboratory Sciences and minoring in music. Her thesis project, which was done under the supervision of Prof. Thomas Roblee, Assistant Professor of Music, and Dr. Tom Freeland, Professor of Biology, is an amazing combination of her two interests. It is titled: 'The Molecular Sonification of Activin A Receptor Type 1 (ACVR1) Piece name: "Percussive Pathways: ACVR1 in Motion."' Maggie has endeavored to create a musical composition that can describe not only the nucleotide sequence of ACVR1, but also the amino acid sequence and the overall structure. Using various percussive instruments, Maggie manipulated rhythms, notes, timbre, and volume to create a musically interesting and biologically informative piece.



(Above) Photo of Alex with his presentation

different variants of the SGSH enzyme may affect the ASD phenotype and be altered.



(Above) Photo of Ashli with her research

Lastly, Ashli Snider is a graduating Honors student with a double major in Museum Studies and Visual and Performing Arts with a focus in art history. Ashli also has a minor in history, which has had a big impact on her Honors Thesis. Titled "Back Down the Road: World War II in North Africa, 1942-1943," her project seeks to highlight the overlooked Allied military campaign in North Africa. While collaborating with Dr. Rachel Constance, Associate Professor of History, as her Thesis Advisor and Dr. Seth Hepner, Assistant Professor of English, as her Thesis Reader, Ashli decided on a 'history from below' approach which

uses the primary source accounts of people who experienced the event and have not previously been given a stage to share their stories. Thus, Ashli wrote a creative non-fiction story using books, diaries, interviews, and other resources that featured the firsthand experiences of veterans from the North African campaign. Her project is also tied to her family, as it focuses on the unpublished memoir of her great grandfather, Charles Vance Snider Jr., who fought in North Africa.



We are excited for next year's MEHA conference, which is scheduled to take place in South Bend, Indiana. Honors students, please reach out to Dr. Rytwinski or Dr. Clevinger if you are interested in attending. It is always an invigorating, stimulating, and rewarding weekend.

(Left) Group Photo at the Conference

Course Spotlight:

Team-Taught Seminar Sparks Critical Conversations on Ethics, Medicine, & **Misinformation**

by: Alyssa Cocciola

Students sit intentionally close to the board, engage in every discussion, and arrive to class with a smile. This isn't just an ideal; it's the daily environment that has been cultivated in the Walsh University seminar HON 321: Controversies in Bioethics. The course is team-taught by Walsh Professors Dr. Tom Freeland, Professor of Biology, and Dr. Leslie Whetstine, Professor of Philosophy.

"We're talking about a range of topics that will hopefully interest the students in really understanding why a singular approach to answer a question might be insufficient and why we would need multiple perspectives to answer," said Dr. Whetstine.

Using an interdisciplinary approach, students enrolled in the discussion-based seminar dive into topics such as medical misinformation, CRISPR-Cas9 (gene-editing technology), medical quackery (promotion of untrue or fraudulent medical practices), animal morality, the use of AI, and other ethical issues within the medical field.

"I believe that questioning medical information from a bioethical perspective is extremely formative in counteracting misinformation and holding healthcare organizations like the FDA and CDC accountable," said America Villegas-Camacho, a student enrolled in the course. America is a sophomore Honors student studying Biology, on the Pre-Medical track. She continued, "The bioethical dialogue presented in class has challenged my perspective on new scientific advancements and [has] encouraged me to consider ethical approaches to human development. As an aspiring OB/GYN, I am particularly interested in pediatric/ gynecologic bioethics and the ethical responsibilities of parents in bringing new life into the world."

At the beginning of each week, students complete a pre-reflection detailing their familiarity with the current week's topic. Throughout the week, students are assigned readings and come to class prepared with

discussion questions. As the week concludes, students submit a postreflection/exit ticket based on the knowledge they've acquired throughout the week. Dr. Freeland added, "Because everybody is doing the readings outside of class, when we come to class, we are just free to discuss, make comments, clarify, and come to some conclusions about the readings that we've had to do."

In Controversies in Biology and Bioethics, students have the opportunity to view topics through a philosophical and biological perspective. This experience has been beneficial to students

Dr. Whetstine discusses the requirements for a weekly group discussion.





Students leading conversation in class.

and educators alike. "I'm just really excited about [the course]," Dr.
Whetstine explained. "I love all my classes, honestly, but I really do enjoy the team-taught approach. [...] Dr.
Freeland is a wonderful colleague."
America explained that Dr. Freeland provides feedback on the validity and credibility of scientific research while Dr. Whetstine provides knowledge on ethical frameworks to help students formulate their arguments.

According to the American Psychological Association, a team-teaching approach promotes a positive learning environment and can be extremely effective for showcasing different perspectives. This can foster a deeper understanding and appreciation of varying disciplines.

"I didn't have an appreciation for philosophy until I worked with Dr. Whetstine. She puts philosophy into practice," Dr. Freeland admitted. He explained that her philosophical expertise allows her to identify decisions that need to be made in the medical field and ask which ethical principles should be implemented. Dr. Freeland further commented, "Some of these are difficult decisions, and they are life and death decisions, and she is the person that the medical staff and administrators go to [so they can] have guidance on these ethical principles and ethical decision-making in medicine."

As a student enrolled in the course, America believes team-teaching enhanced her Honors experience. She explained, "I am very appreciative of the ability to receive insights from a complementary standpoint from two incredible professors: Dr. Whetstine, a bioethicist, and Dr. Freeland, a scientist. Their perspectives are deeply intriguing, and I have enjoyed engaging in conversations to explore different strategies for combating medical misinformation at the intersection of biology and bioethics." She believes the conversations during class help foster skills, such as determining credibility, ensuring accessibility, fostering inclusivity, de-bunking misinformation, and collaborating, that are crucial both in healthcare and all professional settings. "Overall, these conversations reinforce the need to address medical misinformation by promoting collaborative team environments where physicians engage with patients inclusively rather than in an elitist manner," she said.

Towards the end of the course, students have the opportunity to work within groups to research and present on a topic of their choosing. "We have several days in the course where the students will present on the topic themselves, so they have an opportunity to go out, and anything that we're not covering, they can just go out and say, 'Okay, these are the things that we want to discuss.' They'll do group projects," Dr. Whetstine said.

Currently, students in Controversies in Biology and Bioethics are researching to discuss the role of animal consciousness and exploring how this concept distinguishes humans' moral obligations towards animal life. "In particular, this discussion will be rewarding as it relates to our group presentation," America said. "Alongside Cat Taylor and Johnathan Ardelian, [I] will be exploring CRISPR Gene-Editing in Veterinary Medicine, focusing on disease resistance in livestock, applications to human medicine, biomedical research, and reducing animal suffering. Thank you, Dr. Whetstine, Dr. Freeland, and the Honors Program for this empowering educational opportunity!"

Service: by: Gabriella Berlingieri

How Honors students Serve their Community and Build Connections

Walsh Honors students were busy this spring semester with various service projects around the Canton area. A great number of events were also organized by students, who worked with businesses and organizations to connect students with the community.

The Honors program participated in the annual MLK Jr. Day of Service on January 20th, along with Walsh University's student athletes. A group of students visited Stark Fresh and helped take down walls, as well as deep cleaning racks that could be used for food storage. Another group visited House of Loreto, where they interacted and plant.



Students at StarkFresh service event

group visited House of Loreto, where they interacted and played games with residents.

Walsh Honors students worked with Refuge of Hope once again through a volunteer event on January 26th and through the Summer Shoe Drive, which was set up by Izzy Rammel and will be running until April 25th. Students were asked to donate new or gently worn shoes for community members that will be suitable for the upcoming summer months, such as tennis shoes, sandals, and other footwear.

In an effort to bridge science and service, Dr. Clevinger arranged a service event in which a representative of Stark Parks visited campus and taught Honors students how to isolate seeds from various plants that are native to Stark County. Students spent time separating and collecting seeds from local plants at the event, which took place on February 6th. On February 22nd, Walsh's Business Club partnered with the Honors Program at North Canton Church of Christ to assist in the distribution of food to local community members. Antonio Paganelli organized the event. To finish out the month of February, students played with animals and made treats at the Stark Humane Society in an event on February 23rd organized by Natalie Mantini.

Later in the year, Justin Nienaber put together an outdoor clean-up at the Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration on March 23rd. Additionally, The Stark County Hunger Task Force Food Drive provided Honors students with an opportunity to donate non-perishable food items during the end of March and beginning of April, and some students served as ushers on March 30th and April 6th for Chorus for a Cause. Both opportunities were arranged by Honors student Dominic Gemma.

Volunteers also spent time with third graders from St. Paul's Elementary on April 9th, leading stations and working with students as they learned about the history of North Canton. Another event, arranged by Shareen Awadallah, involved Honors students working at the On-Campus Community PT Clinic on April 11th by greeting community members, helping to organize parking, and directing them to the Barrette Center for the event.

By participating in service events, Honors students left a positive impact on the people and organizations they helped, demonstrating how small acts of kindness and support can help build a better future for the Canton community. Thank you to everyone who took time out of their busy schedules to help and serve others this year.



Student seed cleaning

Grand Opening of the Honors Lounge



The Walsh University Honors Program celebrated the grand opening of its dedicated Honors Lounge in January, providing students with a new space for both academic work and relaxation. Located in Farrell Hall, the lounge creates a welcoming environment where Honors students can study, collaborate, and build community. The newly established space features comfortable seating, study areas, a television, a coffee machine, and a mini-fridge for student convenience. The Honors Lounge was made possible in part by a Portz Grant from the National Collegiate Honors Council. These grants are intended to promote and support the growth of Honors Programs. The students that are a part of the Honors Lounge Decorating Committee played a key role in preparing the space and collaborating with Dr. Rytwinski to organize a grand opening celebration earlier this year. What makes the lounge particularly special is its personalized atmosphere, achieved through student artwork submissions, decoration donations, and more. These contributions have helped transform a standard university room into a space that reflects the creativity and character of the Honors community. The space will continue to grow in character as students begin to utilize it and make it their own.

Thesis Spotlights

by: Aliya Shine

This Spring, 29 Honors Program students presented their theses projects to friends, family, and faculty. The students who presented spent the past two years having conducted endless hours of research, analyzing of information, organizing research into a thorough scholarly article, and crafted a presentation of their final results. Through all of the late nights, emails back and forth with advisors, and dedication put forth in meeting the deadlines, these 29 students crossed the finish line of the Honors Program. Congradulations, Honors Students!

Mathew Bagatta | Digital Marketing & Analytics



Thesis: "Does Dark Humor Work? A
Deeper Inspection of Social Media Based
Marketing Strategies"

Future Plans: I plan to return to Walsh and work for the university in some capacity as I pursue my Master's Degree.

Ben Feick | Legal Studies Minors in GFA and Sociology

Thesis: "The Impact of Latin American Immigration on Crime in Ohio and Texas" Future Plans: I will be attending law

school.



Katelyn Bonar | Biology - Pre-Professional, Minors in Chemistry & Psychology



Thesis: "Generation of a pHTC HaloTag® CMV-Neo Vector for the Expression of Novel SOX18 Variant F134V"

Future Plans: After graduation, I plan to take the MCAT, apply to medical school, and gain experience working at a hospital to enhance my understanding of patient care and the medical field.

Marina Foulk | Clinical Laboratory Science Minor in Music

Thesis: "Assessing the Impact of a New Streak Plate Practice Method on Undergraduate Microbiology Laboratory Students' Experience"

Future Plans: I will be studying Medical Laboratory Science at the Akron Cooperative Medical Laboratory Science Program, which is housed at Akron Children's Hospital.



Meghan Bosley | Professional Education



Thesis: "Ending Stigma in Adolescent Mental Health: Using Bibliotherapy and Other Teaching Strategies in a Ninth Grade English Linked Text Set"

Dominic Gemma | Communication Minor in Business

Thesis: "Legal Issues and Artificial Intelligence"

Future Plans: I plan to work at Fastenal



Isabella Genovese | Exercise Science -Pre-Occupational Therapy



Thesis: "Potential Effects of Caffeine Consumption on Balance and Sensory Skills in Sprinting Athletes"

Future Plans: I will be attending graduate school at Walsh University for Occupational Therapy in the fall.

Nicholas Kaluza Hauenstien | Exercise Science -

Pre-Physical THerapy

Thesis: "Examining the Correlation Between Core Strength and Power Output in College Athletes"

Future Plans: I will be attending Walsh University to obttain my Doctorate of Physical Therapy.



Gina Gildea | Biology - Pre-Professional



Thesis: "Enhancing Oral Health: Exploring the Impact of Polyphenolic Treatments on Dental Pellicle Formation and Erosion Protection"

Future Plans: I am excited to attend The Ohio State University College of Dentistry as part of the Class of 2029!

Lukas Keverkamp | Exercise Science -

Pre-Physical Therapy

Thesis: "Physiological Effects of Sodium Bicarbonate Ingestion via Maurten Bicarb on Endurance Running Performance"

Future Plans: After graduation I plan to continue my education at Walsh University completing my Doctorate of Physical Therapy.



Ryan Hanzak | Chemistry - Pre-Professional



Thesis: "SOX15 R104G Exhibits Reduced Nuclear Import"

Future Plans: I am taking a gap year to work while applying for medical schools in the summer of 2025.

Samuel Krakowski | Finance and Management

Thesis: "The Efficiency of Price Convergence: A Historical Analysis of Value Investing Strategies"

Future Plans: Enterprise Risk Analyst:

Swagelok



Heidi Kaczynski | Chemistry



Thesis: "Observing the Impact of Coffee Brew Duration on Consumer Experience and Chemical Analysis of Arabica Coffee"

Future Plans: I am not graduating until December, but this summer I will be interning at Bridgestone in Akron and then I will be applying to grad schools for Chemistry.

Nathan Lanham | Psychology -Pre-Occupational Therapy

Thesis: "The Impact of Self- Regulated vs. Regulated Study Breaks on Recall Using Short Time Intervals"

Future Plans: I will attend Walsh University for graduate school to become a pediatric Occupational Therapist.



Thesis Spotlights

Jacob O'Connor | Government and Foreign Affairs Minor in History

Thesis: "Measuring Up: A Policy Analysis of Ohio's School District Report Cards"

Future Plans: I am planning on pursuing a Master's in Education (M.Ed.) and earning my teacher's licensure at John Carroll University.



Americo Levak | Finance and Accounting



Thesis: "The Investing Habits of College Students"

Future Plans: Work at Ernst & Young in the assurance department.

Alexander Oswald | Biology with Minors in Environment Science, Computer Science, and History

Thesis: "Bioinformatics Analysis of Genes Connected to Autism Spectrum"

Future Plans: Pursuing a master's degree at Case Western Reserve.



Maggie Lewis | Clinical Laboratory Science and Biology with a Minor in Music



Thesis: "The Molecular Sonification of Activin A Receptor Type I (ACVR1)"

Future Plans: I will be attending graduate school in pursuit of a Ph.D. in biomedical science.

Isabelle Rammel | Government and Foreign Affairs, Theology, Minors in History and English

Thesis: "Darke County's "Country Lawyers:" Analyzing Rural Legal Landscapes and Cause Lawyering Classifications"

Future Plans: I will be pursuing my J.D. at Ohio State's Moritz College of Law.



Eleanor Mondok | Psychology - Pre-Occupational Therapy and Visual & Performing Arts



Thesis: "Using Musical Training to Improve Working Memory in Children with Neurodevelopmental Disorders"

Future Plans: I will be pursuing a Master of Occupational Therapy (MOT) degree at Walsh University.

Noah Sample | Finance

Thesis: "The Relationships Among Savings and Investment Behaviors, Risk Tolerance, and the Big Five Personality Traits of Young Adults"

Future Plans: I plan on returning to Walsh to receive my MBA and continue playing baseball.



Madelynne Schweiger | Exercise Science -Pre-Physical Therapy



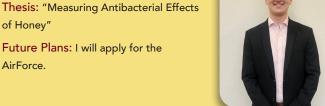
Thesis: "Physical Therapy Management of a Subject with Multiple Sclerosis and Secondary Cardiovascular Pulmonary Conditions: A Case Study"

Future Plans: To attend Physical Therapy school here at Walsh University next year!

Matthew Voegele | Biology

Thesis: "Measuring Antibacterial Effects of Honey"

Future Plans: I will apply for the



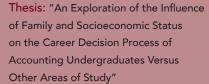
Ashli Snider | Museum Studies and Visual & Performing Arts, Minor in History



Thesis: "Back Down The Road: World War II in North Africa, 1942-1943"

Future Plans: I plan to continue working in the field of museum education.

Tessa White | Accounting



Future Plans: After graduation, I will be an audit associate in the state and local government industry at Clifton Larson and Allen.



Ryan Stahl | Computer Science - Cyber Security and Progamming



Thesis: "Building a Website to Increase Computer Science Literacy in Adolescent Students and Provide Related Career Options"

Future Plans: In June of this year, I will start working at Sherwin-Williams in Cleveland, Ohio as an IT Analyst in a Rotational Development program.

Jillian Wiersma | Exercise Science -Pre-Physical Therapy

Thesis: "Correlations Between Psychological and Physical Aspects Relating to Athletic Injuries"

Future Plans: Will be attending Mount Union for Physical Therapy school and to play soccer.



Tatiana Tolson | Chemistry - Pre-Professional, Minors in Psychology and Biology



Thesis: "How Assessment Design and **Quality Matters Implementation Support** Quality Assurance in Higher Education"

Future Plans: I will receive my Master of Health Science in Anesthesia at VCOM in Auburn, Alabama, to become a Certified Anesthesiologist Assistant.

Kyle Woods | Exercise Science - Pre-Physical Therapy

Thesis: "The Impact of Fatigue on Balance in Trained Long-distance Runners"

Future Plans: After graduation, I will begin Physical Therapy school at Walsh.







My name is Caleigh Cheatham [pictured left], a second-year Honors student majoring in psychology – pre-occupational therapy and theology. This spring I have had the amazing opportunity to study abroad! Six Walsh students left for Gaming, Austria on January 11th to be a part of the Franciscan University Study Abroad Program that Walsh has partnered with. In Gaming, there is a beautiful monastery, where we live, go to class, and can attend Mass.

Most of our weekends have an additional day, and those three days can be spent travelling all over Europe! Some of my favorite trips, so far, have been to Rome and Assisi, Italy. In Rome, we got to enter the Vatican and see beautiful Basilicas and historical artifacts!

My fellow Honors Students Jeffrey Howe, Patrick Johnson, and Josie Dages also had the opportunity to travel to Poland. In Poland there were tours of the concentration camps from World War II. Even though emotional, the students loved the experience of seeing these places in person.

One of my favorite travel experiences was spending time in Lourdes, France. There I was able to see pilgrims flocking to receive the healing waters given by Mary in her Apparitions to Saint Bernadette. While in Lourdes, I had a service opportunity to care for the sick pilgrims coming from all over the world to visit.

Other places we travelled included Ireland, Italy, Germany, Spain, Slovakia, Croatia, Greece, Denmark, and Sweden. This program has been a fantastic opportunity for us to see the world, while also working on our studies. With final exams rapidly approaching, we are all working to finish the year academically strong before we travel back to the United States in the first week of May!

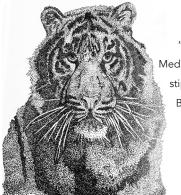
Photo Key:

- Josie and friends wearing traditional Austrian dresses.
- 2. The Krause, Gaming, Austria. Where we live and go to class!
- 3. Josie, Caleigh, and Patrick at the Kunsthistorisches Museum Vienna, Austria.
- 4. Auschwitz- Birkenau Concentration Camps.
- 5. Josie, Caleigh, and friends at The Colosseum in Rome, Italy.
- 6. Another photo of the Krause!
- 7. Caleigh and Josie at St. Peter's Basilica Rome, Italy.
- 8. Group photo in Lunz, Austria.

A gallery of our Honors students having fun and serving their community. Proud-moments and fun memories that are worthy of being hung on the "fridge" for everyone to see.



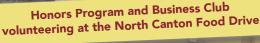




"Pointed Gaze" Medium: felt pen, using stippling technique By Olivia Huzyak









Service event spending time at the House of Loretto



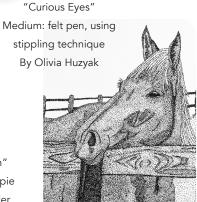


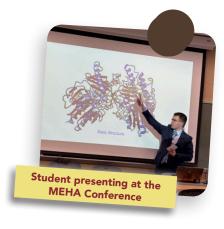






"David Lawn" Medium: sharpie By Ashli Snider







Group photo with Dr. & Mrs. Collins (left), and Caleigh in Lourdes, Italy (right).



Thank you for reading this edition of the Honorable Mention. We hope that it reveals a small piece of the work that the Honors Program students are doing to impact their lives and in the lives of those in the community.

Troy Mazzei Co-Editor Dr. Nina Rytwinski Faculty Advisor Aliya Shine Co-Editor

Special thank-you to our student writers:

Shareen Awadallah Gabriella Berlingieri Caleigh Cheatham Alyssa Cocchiola Alexis Perretta Izzy Rammel Ashli Snider

Mission

The Walsh University Honors Program provides an enhanced, values-based educational experience to intellectually curious, academically talented, and highly motivated undergraduate students. The program's curriculum is innovative, diverse, and interdisciplinary; it supports a community of scholars that is equally diverse and innovative, as well as collaborative. The Honors Program experience develops leaders who pursue academic excellence, think critically, research independently, communicate effectively, and provide service to others.

For more information about the Honors Program, please contact Dr. Jennifer Clevinger or Dr. Nina Rytwinski at honorsdirector@walsh.edu.



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