

HONORS PROGRAM

February 2024

Volume 12 Issue 3

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HAPPY
VALENTINE'S
DAY

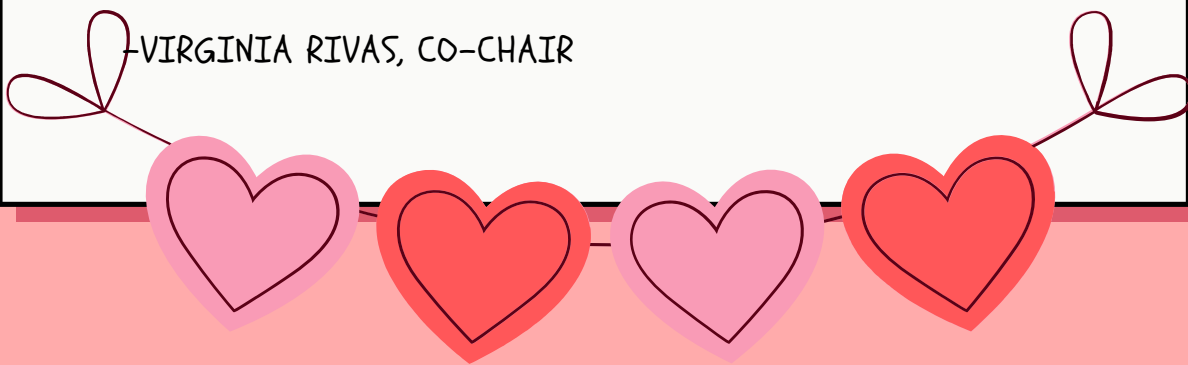
GREETINGS FROM HPSAB

WELCOME TO THE LATEST EDITION OF OUR HONORS NEWSLETTER, WHERE WE BRING THE STORIES AND VOICES THAT SHAPE OUR HONORS COMMUNITY. TAKE THE CHANCE TO EMBRACE YOUR CHALLENGES AS OPPORTUNITIES AND MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE. FOR STUDENTS READING, HPSAB MEMBERS SEND A WARM INVITATION TO ALL PASSIONATE AND DEDICATED HONORS STUDENTS WHO WOULD LIKE TO JOIN THE HONORS PROGRAM STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD. LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO MAKE A LASTING IMPACT IN THE HONORS COMMUNITY AND ON YOUR COLLEGE EXPERIENCE. HPSAB MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE TO ANSWER ANY OF YOUR QUESTIONS. DON'T FORGET TO TAKE IT EASY WHEN THINGS DON'T GO YOUR WAY. BELIEVE IN YOUR ABILITIES, AND NEVER UNDERESTIMATE THE IMPACT YOU CAN MAKE. HAPPY READING!

-BRENDA LIS PUIG, CO-CHAIR

HELLO EVERYONE! WELCOME BACK TO A NEW SEMESTER. I HOPE EVERYONE IS HAVING A PRODUCTIVE AND MEANINGFUL SEMESTER. ALL HPSAB MEMBERS ARE EXCITED TO HAVE YOU ALL READING OUR LATEST EDITION OF THE NEWSLETTER. FROM THE FUN AND COLORFUL VALENTINES DAY THEMED DECORATED PAGES TO THE IMPACTFUL STORIES AND ARTICLES, THIS EDITION WILL BE HARD TO PUT DOWN! ALWAYS REMEMBER TO REACH OUT IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS AND WE HOPE YOU ENJOY YOUR READ! HAVE A WONDERFUL SPRING SEMESTER

-VIRGINIA RIVAS, CO-CHAIR



ALUMNI NEWS

SHANIEYA HARRIS



Greetings HP Family,

I am sending you all a warm hug from Spain. These first four months in Galicia Spain has been a blast. I cannot express how grateful I am for this opportunity. Something that I enjoy most about the country is the work/life balance. It has enabled me to capitalize my free time.

My leisure time is filled with long walks throughout the beautiful city, traveling around Europe, trying new cuisines, going to jazz concerts, resting in the hot water springs, learning Gallego (a language in my region of Spain), and writing like usual. I can say that the tale is true that a lot of non-US cultures emphasize the importance of having longer lunch breaks, leisure time, vacation time, etc.

Since I made my move to Spain life has been less stressful due to our Siesta time (a short nap taken in the early afternoon, often after the midday meal.) and frequent breaks throughout the region to celebrate traditional holidays such as Carnival, Bo Nadal, and San Froilan to name a few. I've always had dreams of going to Spain for as long as I can remember. I spent many years studying Spanish and receiving foreign language scholarships up until this very point.

Since graduating my goals have remained the same but I now have a greater desire to explore the world around me whether it be for work or leisure. There is so much around me that I never knew existed. Each day I am left in awe. My mom left the USA for the very first time to spend Christmas with me in Spain. It was beyond an incredible experience. She finally had the chance to do the unthinkable and I was happy to be alongside her.



I encourage all students to take part in the application process. The next award cycle will provide college graduates with prestigious Teaching Assistantships and Research grants for the year 2025-2026. Application: Open in April 2024! The sooner you apply the better. The process takes time to complete the requirements which can be found at us.fulbrightonline.org

As for Barry Universities impact on my life... I will forever hold on to our universities core values as my very own. All of that combined has enabled me to practice knowledge and truth, inclusive communities, social justice, and collaborative service. My final advice would be "to dream big and expect bigger."

EVENTS CALENDAR

Honors Program Spring 2024

VALENTINE'S DAY GREET & MEET

Tuesday, February 20th
2:30 TO 3:30PM
Kostka Hall

FRUITS AND PASTRIES WILL BE PROVIDED
RSVP BY 02/11
PSIRIMANGKALA@BARRY.EDU



Appreciation and Graduation Celebration
Tentative Date: May 1
Location TBA



Spring 2024 Honors Program
Guest Lecture Series
Presenter: Dr. Laura Alonso-Gallo
in response to the film
"Lone Star: Rethinking History,
Race, and Heritage"
Monday, March 25, 2024
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
Library Room 103

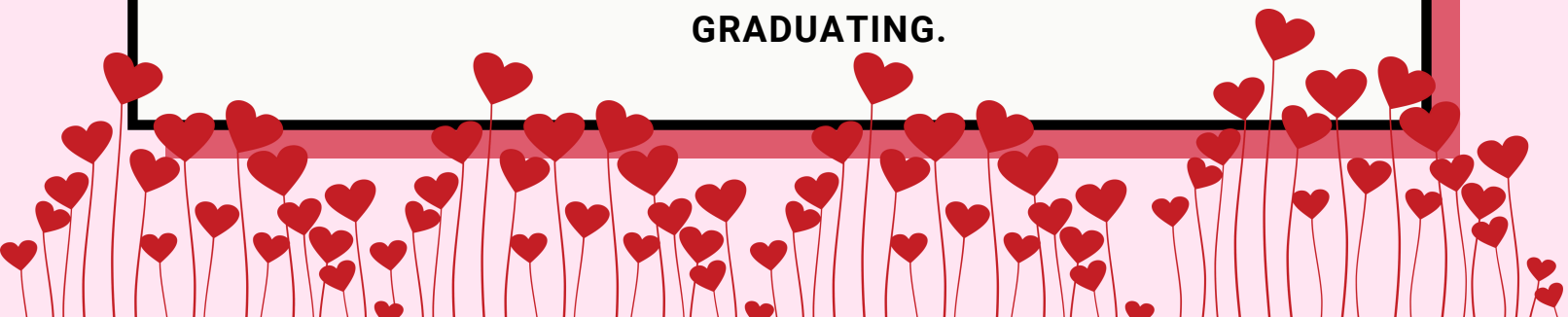
Honors Program's Spring 2024
Scholarship Engagement:
People Acting for Community
Together (PACT)'s
Nehemiah Action
On High Rent and Homelessness
April 15
On Campus (Broad Auditorium)



Words From Graduating Senior



MY NAME IS REBECKA MELLOR. I AM A SENIOR EDUCATION MAJOR IN THE HONORS PROGRAM. AS PART OF MY PATH TOWARD GRADUATING THIS SPRING, I AM COMPLETING AN INTERNSHIP WITH A SECOND-GRADE CLASS AT MATER ACADEMY-BISCAYNE. I WAS LUCKY ENOUGH TO BE OFFERED A JOB AS A TEACHER'S ASSISTANT AS WELL! IT HAS BEEN SUCH AN AMAZING OPPORTUNITY TO COMPLETE MY INTERNSHIP AND WORK AT MY FIRST JOB IN THE EDUCATION SYSTEM THESE PAST FEW MONTHS! SENIOR YEAR CAN GET VERY DIFFICULT AND TIRING BUT BEING WITH THE 30 INCREDIBLE STUDENTS IN MY CLASS REMINDS ME OF WHY I AM WORKING SO HARD TO GRADUATE. DR. S TOLD ME THE THEME OF THIS NEWSLETTER WAS "LOVE," AND MY STUDENTS HELP SHOW ME EVERY DAY HOW TO LOVE ALL THE LITTLE JOYS LIFE HAS TO OFFER. CHILDREN SEE THE WORLD SO DIFFERENTLY THAN WE DO AS COLLEGE STUDENTS, AND THEY TEACH ME AS MUCH AS I TEACH THEM. OUR WORLD IS A VERY INTERESTING PLACE AND IS IN NEED OF MUCH CHANGE, AND THE CHILDREN WE SEE AROUND US TODAY HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO BE A BIG PART OF THIS CHANGE. THE WORK ETHIC AND LEADERSHIP SKILLS I HAVE GAINED FROM THE HONORS PROGRAM HAVE BEEN VERY BENEFICIAL TO MY JOB AS A TEACHER. I AM GRATEFUL FOR ALL THE EXPERIENCES I HAVE HAD BEING IN THE HONORS PROGRAM THE LAST 3 YEARS, AND I LOOK FORWARD TO COMPLETING MY SENIOR THESIS THIS SEMESTER AND GRADUATING.





Honors Class Takeaways:

SPRING 2024 HUM 300H DIMENSIONS OF CULTURE II WITH DR. BRYNE,

Written By: Grace Steffan

IN HUM 300H, WE ARE LEARNING ABOUT WHAT IT TAKES TO BE TRULY CREATIVE. THE BOOK THAT WE ARE READING FOR THE COURSE IS **CREATIVITY: THE PSYCHOLOGY OF DISCOVERY AND INVENTION** BY MIHALY CSIKSZENTMIHALYI. ACCORDING TO THE AUTHOR, CREATIVITY CAN ONLY OCCUR IF ONE HAS BECOME AN EXPERT ON A SINGLE TOPIC. YOU MUST COMPLETELY UNDERSTAND THE INS AND OUTS OF A TOPIC BEFORE SOMETHING NEW CAN BE CREATED. MIHALY USES THE EXAMPLE OF ASTRONOMER VERA RUBIN. HER PASSION AND ENJOYMENT CAME FROM STUDYING THE GALAXY, WHICH PROVIDED HER WITH THE PATIENCE AND ENDURANCE THAT REQUIRED HER TO BECOME AN EXPERT ON THE SUBJECT BEFORE SHE COULD MAKE ADVANCES AND DEVELOP THEORIES ON SUBJECTS SUCH AS DARK MATTER. SHE SPENT HER ENTIRE LIFE STUDYING ASTRONOMY. FOR THIS BOOK, MIHALY INTERVIEWED 91 HIGHLY CREATIVE PEOPLE LIKE VERA RUBIN TO DISCOVER WHAT IT TAKES TO BE CREATIVE.

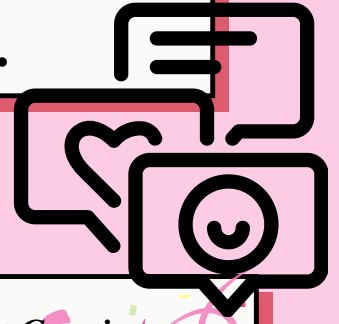
HAVE YOU EVER BEEN SO WRAPPED UP IN AN ACTIVITY THAT TIME STOPS EXISTING? THIS IS FLOW, A CONCEPT THAT MIHALY DISCUSSES IN THE BOOK THAT COMES HAND IN HAND WITH CREATIVITY. FLOW OCCURS WHEN YOU DO SOMETHING THAT CAPTIVATES YOUR INTEREST AND IMAGINATION SO THAT YOU LOSE TRACK OF TIME AND CAN THINK DEEPLY ABOUT THE SUBJECT. THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO EXPERIENCE FLOW. ATHLETES, ARTISTS, RESEARCHERS, AND SCIENTISTS MAY ALL EXPERIENCE FLOW IN DIVERSE WAYS. AN ATHLETE MIGHT DISCONNECT FROM THE EXHAUSTION OR PAIN THEY FEEL, FOCUS ON THE FUNDAMENTALS, OR GET CAUGHT UP IN THE RHYTHM, AND LOSE TRACK OF TIME. THIS IS HOW SOME ELITE ATHLETES PUSH THROUGH LONG RACES FAST OR FEEL REJUVENATED IN THE MIDDLE OF A HARD GAME. ARTISTS CAN GET CAUGHT UP IN THE VISION OF THE PAINTING, THE EXECUTION OF THE PROJECT, AND THE CHANGES THAT COME WITH A BRUSHSTROKE SO THAT ALL SENSE OF TIME IS LOST. SCIENTISTS AND RESEARCHERS WORK ON ACQUIRING SO MUCH KNOWLEDGE ON THEIR SUBJECT THAT ONCE THE TIME COMES TO DO AN EXPERIMENT OR WRITE ABOUT RESEARCH, THERE IS ENOUGH INFORMATION IN THEIR MIND FOR THEM TO EXECUTE, NO PAUSE IS REQUIRED. FLOW COMES THROUGH LOVE AND ENJOYMENT OF THE ACTIVITY BEING DONE.

I HAVE NOT EXPERIENCED FLOW TO THE EXTREME THAT SOMEONE THAT IS AN EXPERT IN THEIR FIELD MIGHT EXPERIENCE, BUT I DO EXPERIENCE IT IN SMALL ACTIVITIES SUCH AS PAINTING, DOING PUZZLES, AND READING. IN EACH OF THESE ACTIVITIES THE FLOW FEELS DIFFERENT. WHEN I PAINT THE FLOW IS FOCUSED ON THE PAINTING. I MIGHT START WITH A VISION FOR THE PAINTING, BUT I NEVER FORCE MYSELF TO STICK WITH THE PLAN, AS CHANGES ALWAYS HAPPEN BASED ON HOW I FEEL THE PAINTING LOOKS. WHEN I DO A PUZZLE, THE FLOW IS INTROSPECTIVE, AS I GET TO SPEND TIME WITH MY THOUGHTS AND THE RHYTHM OF PLACING PIECES TOGETHER IS SOOTHING. IT IS SOMETHING I OFTEN DO WHEN I NEED TO ORGANIZE MY THOUGHTS. FINALLY, WHEN I READ A BOOK (FOR ENJOYMENT) I GET CAUGHT UP IN THIS NEW WORLD AND THE IMAGES IN MY HEAD THAT I FORGET ALL ABOUT LIFE. IN EACH OF THESE EXPERIENCES, I LOSE MY SENSE OF TIME.



SOCIAL CORNER

.Hot Topics. Statistics. &. Updates.



STUDENTS

This Spring semester, the Honors Program is home to 64 Barry students, representing different majors from across various disciplines, 19 of the current Honors students are also student athletes. Prior to the start of Spring 24', the Honors Program accepted 32 new students to the program. The Honor Program looks forward to graduating two Honors students at the May 2024 Commencement, Isabella 'Bella' Tusa and Rebecka Mellor. They will soon join the HP Alumni ranking, in shaping this world to be a better world for all.

HON 192H CLASSES

Students from both sections of HON 192H Honors Inquiry Experience class collaborated with the Adrian Dominican Institute for Mission and Leadership in response to People Acting for Community Together (PACT). PACT is working on its current campaign on High Rent and Homelessness and is organizing its annual Nehemiah Action event, to take place in Barry's Broad Auditorium on April 15.

COUNCIL

The Honors Program Council (HPC) welcomed Drs. Stephanie Bingham and Christoph Hengartner on board the council, Drs. Bingham and Hengartner are now the HPC mentors for all science majors in the Honors Program.

NOTE: If you would like to be a part of future issues, please send your information to Viviana Rivas, Chief Editor or Sierra Johnson, Social Corner Writer (contact us via email using our names)

Title: "*AI in Content Creation for Enhancing Digital Advertising*"

On December 6, 2023

**Isabella Tusa defended
her Senior
Honors Thesis
SUCCESSFULLY!**



HPSAB Retreat

On February 3, 2024 Dr. Victor Romano, Vice Provost for Student Success & Undergraduate Studies, joined HPSAB members and faculty advisor at a retreat in Dania Beach.

**SO
FUN**

New Student Experiences Recap

Written by: Sierra Johnson

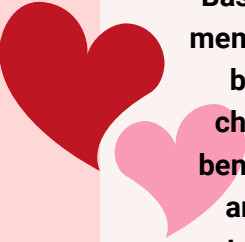
OVERVIEW:

Several students from the pool of 32 students who were recently accepted into the Barry University Honors Program were asked three questions as follow:

1. What are your expectations from the program?
2. What can you contribute to the program?
3. What plans do you have for yourself as you finish your undergraduate degree at Barry?

The purpose of this study is to gather insight on what students expect to receive from their membership in the Honors Program and their reasoning for joining.

LET'S SEE WHAT THEY SAID!



Based on the feedback generated from a survey conducted by Sierra Johnson, an HPSAB member, it's evident that students possess a keen eagerness: to explore new perspectives, both within themselves and in others; to embark on journeys of growth by embracing challenging academic endeavors; to courageously introduce unspoken subjects; and to benefit from the invaluable mentorship and guidance offered. Moreover, students eagerly anticipate forging meaningful connections not only within the HP community but also extending beyond its borders. They aspire to engage in enlightening conversations, where they can glean insights from diverse backgrounds while sharing their own experiences. Additionally, they seek active participation in enjoyable activities, all the while striving to acquire new skills that will equip them for the opportunities that lie ahead.

In response to the second inquiry, numerous students have provided candid insights into their potential contributions to the Honors Program. Among their responses, certain themes emerge repeatedly, while others uniquely distinguish themselves. It's apparent that students are eager to offer their expertise not only in academic pursuits, but also in various forms of volunteering. Examples abound, from advocating for change through vocal expression to fostering a sense of community through collaborative efforts. Their eagerness to learn, actively participate in discussions, and contribute their creative talents toward producing exceptional work are notable. Overall, our newest members exhibit a commendable dedication and passion, extending their involvement beyond the confines of the classroom to enhance the Honors Program and leave a lasting impact.

Lastly, the dataset outlines the future plans and aspirations of several students from diverse backgrounds. Responses include pursuing higher education, such as master's degrees and certifications, in various fields such as software engineering, nursing, and anesthesiology. Additionally, there is a focus on entering the workforce, either in nursing roles or in cybersecurity and webpage development. Some respondents express intentions to create their own businesses or platforms, leveraging skills in content creation and technology to make a positive impact. Overall, the common themes include academic and professional growth, community involvement, and entrepreneurial aspirations. We look forward to seeing the impact our new members make in the Honors Program and in the world!



Honors Program Student Advisory Board (HPSAB)



Ms. Brendalis Puig

Position: Co-Chair

Major: Communication and Media Studies

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Ms. Virginia Rivas

Position: Co-Chair

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Ms. Viviana Rivas

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Ms. Sierra Johnson

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REACH OUT TO YOUR MENTOR!

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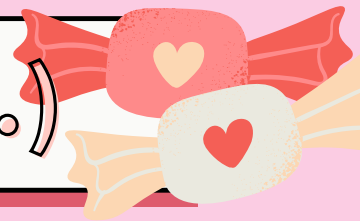
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Rivas, Virginia

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