

Muriel A. Howard Honors Program Newsletter

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE BUFFALO STATE HONORS PROGRAM

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1 Honors donated hundreds of household supplies to help Afghan refugees start a new life in Buffalo, NY

2 Fare Well Friday artwork by Honors student Stephen Forman

3 Honors Night at the Whitworth Ferguson Planetarium

4 Honors Office Winter decorations

5 Students crafting intricate paper snowflakes at Fare Well Friday



WELCOME BACK!

Meet the Honors Staff

(Clockwise from top left)

Celestine Simmons, Administrative Assistant

Francesca Ovalle, Honors Work Study

Grace Dosdall, Graduate Assistant

Matt Baran, Assistant Director

Leigh Duffy, Faculty Coordinator

Carol Beckley, Faculty Assistant Director

Elizabeth Stevens, Honors Academic Advisor

Amy McMillan, Director



Hello and welcome back to Spring Semester! We hope you had a fantastic break and are ready to dive back into life at Buffalo State.

Congratulations to our 19 Honors students who graduated in Fall 2021! Check out pages four & five to learn more about the graduates. Throughout the Spring we will be featuring Honors seniors in our newsletters, so watch for calls for information if you are graduating.

When you visit our Honors Hub in South Wing 320 this semester, you will see it has been rearranged to be more open and inviting! Take a seat at a sunny table, relax on the couches, grab a bite to eat, or take advantage of the computers with free printing available. Our first event of the semester, the Welcome Back Social on February 1st 12:00-2:00pm, is a great time to explore the improved space and mingle with other Honors students.



Muriel A. Howard Honors Program

The Muriel A. Howard Honors Program events & activities page

Speaking of events, we have a ton of amazing Honors programming planned for this semester! Highlights include ice skating at Canalside, two different shows at the planetarium including a laser rock concert, a week of environmental events celebrating Earth Day, and the return of Honoring Honors [H2], our Spring recognition event! Starting this semester, you will find all Honors events on our new Bengal Connect organization page. Make sure to join the page and check out the full list of Spring events! Our Honors Organization Bb page will remain a central communication hub as well.

Career Development Center [CDC] at Buffalo State

Located in Cleveland Hall 306

Your one-stop-shop for resources and guidance related to your career

Student Services

Choose a Major/Career

- Find out what you can do with your major
- Understand what "Career Readiness" means

Gain Valuable Experience

- Use **BengalLink** to find part-time and summer jobs, internships, volunteer, and work-study opportunities

Prepare for a Job Search or Graduate School

- Attend workshops on Writing Resumes, Cover Letters, and more
- Practice in a mock interview

Find a Job or Internship

- Attend job fairs and employer visits
- Learn how to use LinkedIn to attract employers

3 Tips for a successful job search:

1. Stand out from the crowd

- A professional-looking resume and personalized cover letter can go a long way! Use job descriptions to help inform your application materials so employers can tell you're a perfect match for the position.

2. Make sure employers can find you!

- Include updated contact information on all your application materials and prepare your LinkedIn page or other professional social media pages for viewing.

3. Work smarter, not harder

- Use job search engines to your advantage and narrow your search using filters and key terms related to your career field.



CDC Workshops in the Honors HUB

How to Navigate the Job Search
February 23rd 3:00p-4:30p

So Tell Us About Yourself?
Interviewing Crash Course!
March 15th 3:00p-5:00p

CDC Spring Highlights

Suit Up @ JC Penney
March 6th 3:00p-6:00p

Resumarathon
March 8th 12:00p-2:00p

Job & Internship Fair
March 22nd, 11:00a-2:30p

Awards/Accomplishments: Cum Laude, Dean's List, Bronx High School District and Pathways To Graduation Scholarships/Recognition Award, Hispanic Scholarship Fund Award, HACU alumni, Ladders For Leaders alumni.

Favorite Memory from Honors: Being an RA in Bishop Hall and creating programs for the Honors students there.

Would you like to give a shout out to anyone?: Dr. Amy McMillan and Jude Jayatilleke

What's Next?: Starting my career at Deloitte as a Risk & Financial Advisory Analyst.

Do you have a message for current Honors students?: Write down your goals in a checklist and complete them every month until you succeed!

Any final thoughts?: When my life ends, can a scholarship under my name be created for the EOP and Honors community? Scholarships were something I always strived for in order to support me during my educational journey and should be available for many more students who lack resources! A scholarship under my name could help inspire people who come from nothing to give college a chance, while being involved in the EOP & Honors community. These organizations were crucial resources I utilized during my stay at Buffalo State, which unlocked my potential as a lifelong student.

Jean Brito

Business Administration

Hometown: Dominican Republic

Awards/Accomplishments: Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society, Luis Antonetti Student Humanitarian Award (2021), Professor Arthur L. Bradford Endowed Scholarship Fund (2021), Zachary John Beveridge '08 Scholarship (2020-2021), President's Certificate of Recognition for Community Engagement (2020), Estelle M. Engel Memorial Scholarship (2020), Bies Award for International Travel (2020), Muriel A. Howard Honors Scholarship (2018-2021) President's Scholarship (2018-2021), United University Professions (UUP) Scholarship (2018-2021) Dean's List (2018-2021), Hazel G. Macartney Scholarship (2019)

Favorite Memory from Honors: Analyzing the film Ex Machina with Dr. McMillan and Dr. Grinnell.

Would you like to give a shout out to anyone?: I would like to give a shout out to Dr. Grinnell, Professor Shine, and Dr. Bryant for helping me along the way!

What's Next?: My future is a little uncertain but, for the time being, I plan to stay in Buffalo and work on local film projects that come to the city. I would also like to travel the world when the threat of Covid-19 goes down again.

Do you have a message for current Honors students?: If I would give advice to any Honors students I'd say to take in as much knowledge as you can and try to see if it can apply to your other majors. My favorite part of taking honors classes was to apply topics we were learning about to my majors, like when we analyzed films and I connected them to my film degree.

Camden Gradwell

English Literature & Television and Film Arts

Hometown: Lancaster, NY



Senior

Nadine Budzynski

**International Relations,
Peace & Conflict
Resolution Concentration
Hometown:** Paris, France

Awards/Accomplishments: Honors cum laude, Dean's List 5/7 semesters, Honors Ambassador, M&T Mentoring Program participant, Pi Sigma Alpha Honor Society member, NSLS member

Favorite Memory from Honors: As Honors Ambassadors we have the opportunity as a team, to support and encourage students and welcome prospective high school students. I enjoyed the round table and meetings including parents and students. The Honors Ambassadors shared their experiences in achieving academic and campus success. Being a Muriel A. Howard Honors Student was a fantastic and rewarding experience!

Would you like to give a shout out to anyone?: I would like to thank my husband for his continued support and encouragement, and dedicate my diploma to my parents and daughter. Also, I am very grateful for the support and encouragement of the Honors Program Leadership team. I want to thank the Department of Political Science and Public Administration Faculty Members, and the professors who encouraged me during my academic journey.

What's Next?: As a current affairs enthusiast, I would like my next opportunity to be a position in public policy and international relations where I can make a difference for social policy.

Do you have a message for current Honors students?: Pursue your dreams!

Jake Jasie

Television and Film Arts

Minor in Film Studies

Hometown: Fairport, NY



Awards/Accomplishments: Honors, Summa Cum Laude

Favorite Memory from Honors: The Annual Honors BBQ!

Would you like to give a shout out to anyone?: I have a lot of people to shoutout, but to keep it short: My family, The Senior TFA 450 Class, The Cast & Crew of Maelstrom, TFA Professors Aaron Daniel Annas & Jeff Hirschberg, Dr. Amy McMillan, Professor Andrea Guiati, Studio 716 Crew Members, and the Friday Night Live Cast Members

What's Next?: I will be staying in Buffalo for the short term, continuing to work on feature films, television shows, commercials, and broadcasting events. I plan to move to Los Angeles sometime this year, with the hope of continuing growing my career as a Producer!

Do you have a message for current Honors students?: Enjoy the college ride while you're still on it. Learn something new if you can. Explore all of your post-undergrad options, and choose the one that will make you the most happy. Spend your money wisely. Check in with your friends often. And most importantly, don't compare yourself to others, it will only bring you down.

Highlights

Devanshi Malaviya

*Computer Information Systems
Minor in Mathematics*

Hometown: India



Awards/Accomplishments: Summa Cum Laude with a 3.96 GPA, Dean's Honors Program, Summer Research Fellowship Award, Certificate of Excellence – Machine Learning Project, Frances Siu Tyau International Student Award, Eleanor Blackburn International Student Award, President of Math Club

Favorite Memory from Honors: The Intro to Honors class in my first semester. Getting new assignments every week and I remember walking around campus with other fellow Honors students, going to different departments and completing the tasks. Doing that in the first semester helped in getting to know the campus better and getting to know everyone from different departments.

Would you like to give a shout out to anyone?: Dr. Sarbani Banerjee (advisor) for providing valuable advice throughout my journey at Buffalo State College, Dr. Santa Maria (internship coordinator of CIS) for giving guidance regarding job search, Dr. Amy McMillan for supporting and advising for the past 3 years and for organizing various programs/events especially the mentorship program with M&T and Dr. Susan McCartney (Director of Small Business Development Center on Campus) & Mr. Mauricio Canton Diaz (supervisor at SBDC) for giving me an opportunity to do my internship there and creating an amazing environment to work with clients where I had a chance to develop skills

What's Next?: I started a new position as an Investment and Operations Risk Analyst at the Kresge Foundation. In the next few years, I plan to get a Masters in Business Analytics or a Master in Data Science.

Do you have a message for current Honors students?: Explore as much as you can and don't hesitate to ask any questions to faculty or staff, especially the staff in the Honors Program.

Awards/Accomplishments: President of Alpha Lambda Delta Honors Society, Vice President of Technology and Engineering Education Collegiate Association, Summa Cum Laude

Favorite Memory from Honors: My favorite memory is how helpful and welcoming the Honor's staff was. It made my college experience so much better.

Would you like to give a shout out to anyone?: I'd like to thank my family for being so supportive through my educational and professional career. Their support and enthusiasm for my education made everything worth it.

What's Next?: I'm currently teaching STEM at Iroquois Middle School. I'm also pursuing a Master's degree in Curriculum Development and Instructional Technology at the University at Albany.

Do you have a message for current Honors students?: Don't be afraid to reach out for help! There are resources there for your benefit, it doesn't make you any less of a student. Make sure you take time for yourself, and have fun!

Kayla Wdowka

Technology Education

Hometown: Akron, NY



Other Fall '21 Graduates

Dania Cardenas

Spanish

Christina Carlisle

Psychology

Hailey Cavanagh

Psychology

Megan Dust

English Education

Alexis Gabryszak

Childhood Education

Kaylee Gorney

Childhood Education

Alana Gould

Early Childhood and

Childhood Education

D'nequa Mellanson

Biology, Chemistry

Ashley Mendola

Psychology

Emmaus Nakagawa

Television and Film Arts, Writing

Steven Swiatek

Psychology

Chelsea VanRoo

Psychology, Art Therapy

Theresa West

Psychology

Hometown: Grand Island, NY

Awards/Accomplishments: President of Buffalo State Pom Dance Team

Favorite Memory from Honors: As a member of the Honors program at Buffalo State I took full advantage of

the mentoring program and have received vast support from advisors. As the President and four-year member of the Buffalo State Pom Dance Team, I have gained many friendships that will last a lifetime. I will never forget coming in as a first-year student and being welcomed with open arms into my dance family allowing me to continue dancing. I will always remember my first day of college and am so happy to have started my journey of self-discovery, education, and growth at Buffalo State College.

Would you like to give a shout out to anyone?: I would like to thank, my parents for all their wisdom and guidance as well as Alumni Elaina Mondoux for her friendship, tips, motivation and for reminding me that I am not alone.

What's Next?: I will be seeking further education and or a position in my field.

Do you have a message for current Honors students?: Savor these days, they go by way too fast. Be involved in your Buffalo State community, work hard, and have fun!



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Huewayne Watson '09



Ancestral Fiber, 2017, silver gelatin, acrylic, paper, chicken wire, and wood. 12" x 14"

I currently serve as lecturer in African and African American Studies at Arizona State University in the School of Social Transformation. I hold a bachelor's degree from SUNY Buffalo State College '09, a master's degree from Columbia University, and an MFA degree from Moore College of Art and Design.

My work combines curatorial practice, studio art, and pedagogical practice and historicizes concepts of embodied and metaphysical ancestor in Black culture around the Americas. Combining practices of archival research, writing, documentary photography, and printmaking, I attend to the ways Black artists mobilized various visual media to create strategic ancestral linkages in their contentious efforts at reshaping social, political, and geographic terrains throughout the Americas.

In 2020, I presented my research and scholarship on the "Votes for Women: American Women Artists and Strategies for Inclusion" plenary panel for the Association of Historians of American Art at the 108th College Art Association Conference and was invited by the African American Museum in Philadelphia as a guest curator to further research, interpret and exhibit the works of Anna Russell Jones which culminated in the 2021 exhibition, *Anna Russell Jones: The Art of Design*.

What are some memories or experiences from your time at Buffalo State?

My most memorable moments are connected from time spent in and passing through the Student Union. No matter if residential, commuter, international or etc. it was truly a warm place on campus where things were happening, people were out and about (in and out from the cold), grabbing meals, talking, scheduling events, planning, or sharing ideas, holding programs, playing music, dancing, mixing, laughing, acting, stunting, doing it all and on, and on, and on. It was something to remember. Things ebbed out from there across campus and Buffalo, even throughout NYS and important things too. It made our campus and college its own in many particular and infinite ways. The way the campus lit up, flickered, got light, and notably fastidious during those moments and years are truly unforgettable. They were not by chance. Those moments came together and were made up by the relations, connections, conversations, and showing-up-and-showing-out that is, that indelibly is, Buffalo State—on and at its very best.

What were your favorite things to do or places to go in Buffalo?

Truly, I enjoyed walking up and down Elmwood. Starting from the gates of the College and walking down past the myriad of architectures, checking out all the good food, stepping into all the random small or independently run shops and restaurant that flow into Allentown. I spent probably way too many "quiet" moments between the Burchfield-Penney (back when it was still in Rockwell Hall) and the Albright-Knox along with meandering around to find coffee shops and bookstores. That was my thing, I guess. But my favorite thing was to "chill" and just hang-out with different people. Getting on the bus, figuring out who's-riding-with-who, and just checking out everything that was in the city and region. I was fortunate enough to enjoy some very, very spicy wings at the wing fest downtown; randomly ride the elevators to the top of some the historic buildings to overlook the city's "spokes" as I was learning about it; eat some amazing soul food at Gi Gi's on the eastside of Buffalo with Dr. Felix L. Armfield (who also introduce me to the wonderment of history and scholarship that is both the Michigan Avenue/Street Baptist Church and Nash House); Juneteenth at MLK; breakfast, brunch, and dinner at Pano's, of course; road-trips to Clifton Hill and Toronto to pick up authentic handsewn Carnival costumes for a student-led event; riding down along the lake to see Graycliff and wandering around the Darwin D. Martin House; walks in Delaware Park (both sides); snowboarding in the mountains a short drive away; trekking around Squaw [now Unity] Island; eating some amazing Puerto Rican food on the westside; checking out decks and trucks at the skate shop on Elmwood, especially with my younger brother; planning programs, and prepping and cooking food for events on campus and in Buffalo, especially with my older brother.

What advice would you give to current Honors students at Buffalo State?

Within reason, love and trust yourself. Think often with genuine curiosity. Study and work with sincerity. Learn much and share much. Time and moments hold much unexpected wonderment and unanticipated realizations. Even if patiently, believe in yourself.

Any final thoughts?

Thank you to my family, friends, peers, the staff, administrators, professors and broader community for making Buffalo State College the academic and intellectual space that it was, is, and continues to be.

Learn more and view more artworks at huewaynewatson.com.

Upcoming Events

Welcome Back Social

Tuesday, Feb 1st

Honors HUB @ 12:00p-2:00p

- Stop by to catch up with the Honors community, enjoy hot chocolate and snacks, and check out the new Honors Hub layout!

Cookie Decorating & Artboards

Friday, Feb 11th

Honors HUB @ 2:00p-4:00p

- Design your own Valentines Day cookie with our Graduate Assistant Grace, and create a mixed media artboard with Ms. Stevens!

Laser Led Zeppelin Planetarium Show

Tuesday, Feb 15th

Whitworth Ferguson Planetarium

@ 5:00p-6:00p

- Get ready to rock at this thrilling laser show at the Planetarium! Featuring the music of rock band Led Zeppelin and tons of captivating visual effects. **RSVP on Bengal Connect.**

How to Navigate the Job Search

Wednesday, Feb 24th

Honors HUB @ 3:00p-4:30p

- Feeling overwhelmed by the job search? Hear from Denise Harris, the Director of the Career Development Center, about how to negotiate the various career workshops, job fair, interviews, etc. and come out successful!

Jackbox Game Night

Thursday, Feb 24th

Honors HUB @ 5:00p-7:00p

- Jackbox Game Night is back by popular demand!

Ice Skating @ Canalside

Friday, Feb 25th

Canalside @ 7:00p-8:30p

- Take a trip downtown to go ice skating with Honors at Canalside! Admission and skate rental included! **RSVP on Bengal Connect.**



SAVE THE DATE...

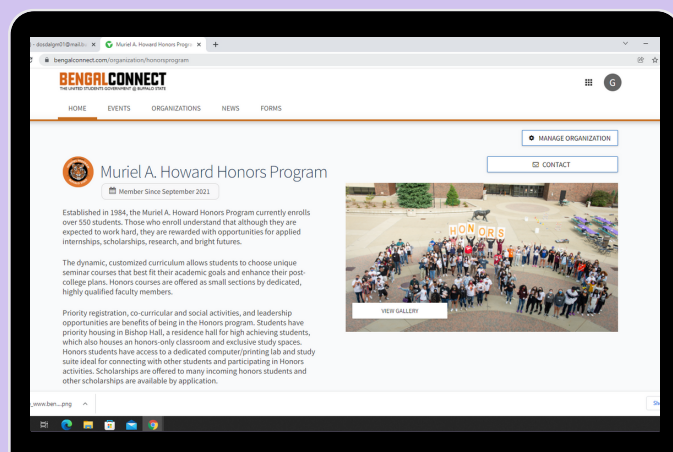
HONORING HONORS

Friday, March 18th, 2022

Student Union Social Hall | 5:00 PM

Join our Honors Organization on Bengal Connect

Stay informed on the events that we are hosting and get your spot for events that require an RSVP.



Scan this QR code to find our page!



2022 HONORS T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST!



Want to leave your mark on Buffalo State? We're looking for students to **be bold** and design our next Honors t-shirt!

Guidelines:

- You must be a current Honors Student
- Submissions must be original artwork
- You must incorporate the following phrases:
 - Muriel A. Howard Honors Program
 - Buffalo State College
- Entries should be in EPS format (preferred) or high quality JPG or PNG for printing
- You may submit up to 3 entries

Contest Timeline:

Entries Accepted	January 10 - February 25
First Round Voting	March 1 - March 4
Final Round Voting	March 8 - March 11
Winner Announced	March 18 at Honoring Honors

Winning Entrant Awarded:

- Bragging rights as designer of the official 2022 Honors t-shirt!
- Right to use design in their portfolio

Email submissions to honors@buffalostate.edu

