

Honorable Mention

Spring 2024- Volume 7: Issue 2

A Publication of the Walsh University Honors Program

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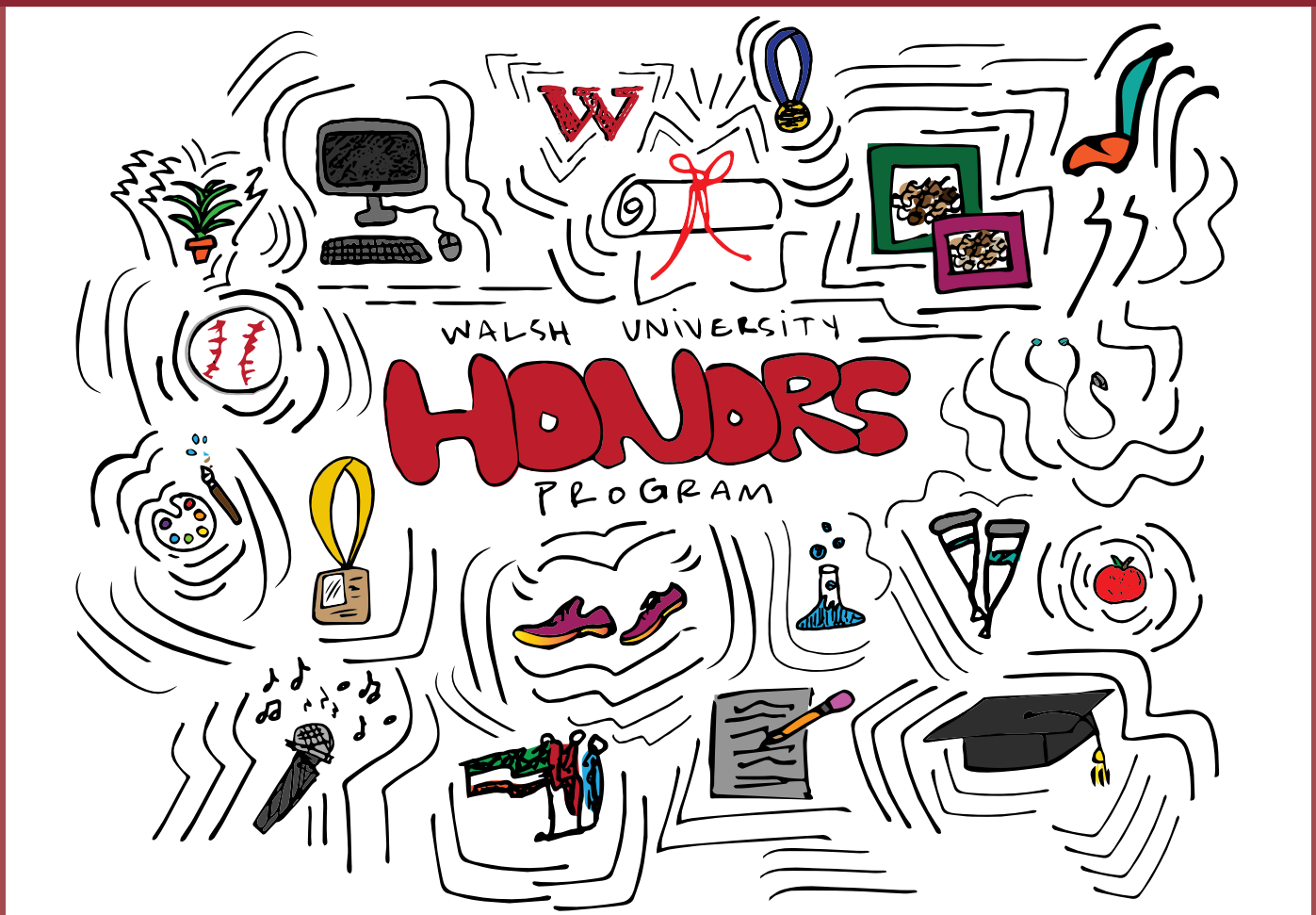
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Letter from the Honors Mentors

By: Isabelle Rammel & Kayla Testa

As the weather gets warmer and the tulips start to peek up around campus, we wish to reflect on a blessed semester full of great learning, service, and social events in the Honors Program. It has been an honor (pun intended) to serve as the Honors Student Assistants the past two semesters, and we hope to bring back many popular service and social opportunities in the upcoming school year!

At the very start of the semester, two service groups from the Honors Program joined the greater Walsh community in a day of service on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. The first group went to the House of Loreto nursing home to engage with the residents and help staff with cleaning high-use equipment. Students were able to attend Mass with the residents and got to know them while completing a winter themed craft. The second group went to Stark Fresh Community Kitchen in Canton to help update their social justice campus. Students used their artistic skills to paint lively murals in the building and help with construction and cleaning tasks. It was significant to celebrate MLK's memory through one of the core tenants of the Honors identity: service.



A mural in progress at Stark Fresh

We would also like to recognize the Honors class representatives who organized service events this semester. Sophomore Honors student, Troy Mazzei, coordinated with Canton for All People in late January to provide an opportunity for students to help improve the quality of life for the residents of downtown Canton. Jack Shanor, senior class representative, led his annual event with St. Paul's elementary school, where volunteers helped teach third grade students about the history of North Canton through interactive presentations and activities. Both of these events received overwhelmingly positive feedback from our community partners as well as the students who participated!

The semester wasn't just all work, no play; social events like Game Night with the Dean provided opportunities for students to relax and mingle with peers. Dean of Arts and Sciences Dr. Jackie Novak joined Honors students for a night of Walsh-themed Jeopardy and Family Feud! Looking ahead to the remainder

of the Spring semester, the Honors Program will soon hold our final social event of the year. We are eager to celebrate a year of hard work with an end-of-semester tailgate on the David Campus Center Lawn, complete with yard games like cornhole and spikeball, as well as homemade snacks!

As the academic year comes to a close, Kayla will be graduating this May and then working at Aultman Hospital, and is incredibly thankful for her time serving the Honors community. Izzy looks forward to returning to her role in Fall 2024, alongside Sophia Rosa, our new Student Assistant! We hope you have a relaxing summer, and thank you for providing us with the opportunity to serve you!



Students hard at work at House of Loreto

New Honors Courses- Enriching & Exciting!

By: Ashli Snider

Looking around campus this Spring, there are many Honors students hard at work! Further there were three exciting new courses that were offered this semester: Biological Exploration and Exploitation, Theology in Science, and Philosophy of Art. The Honors Program at Walsh seeks to expand students' knowledge and teach them the skills needed to be better leaders in service. These three classes do just that, by helping students to understand the world around them.

In Spring 1, Dr. Jennifer Clevinger taught Biological Exploration and Exploitation, a class that dove into the scientific studies that have built the world we know today. Students learned about endangered species, agricultural practices, conservation, and several other topics. They also focused on the scientists and explorers who made the discoveries and practices possible. Dr. Clevinger not only provided lectures, but also gave students the chance to pick an explorer and present them to class, explaining their research and impact on our world. This course left these students with a more solid outlook on the exploration of our world and the way they can help save some of it, if they so choose.



Dr. Clevinger discussing tea-making in her lecture

So far, Spring 2 has been full of exciting discussion! Professor Cary Dabney and Dr. Tom Freeland are making sure of that in their Theology in Science class. For this course, discussion is the name of the game. Professor Dabney and Dr. Freeland start class with a thought-provoking lecture. Then, they open the floor to the students and encourage them to address questions about how theology and science interact through conversation with their fellow peers. With this variety of opinions and perspectives, students are learning more about faith, science, and other people. This class prepares students for the thought-provoking questions of today's society and gives them the skillset to have a productive discussion with those around them.



Learning about Galileo in the Theology in Science Class

Lively discussion continues in Dr. Joseph Vincenzo's Philosophy of Art course. Delving into various philosophers, Dr. Vincenzo is teaching students the valuable art of deciphering philosophy and the written word. However, he is not stopping there. He encourages students through class discussion to share their interpretations of the philosophers and how their ideas might connect to art. The class looks into the commonalities between artists and philosophers throughout time, connecting several eras of philosophy with modern art.

Our Honors students have a variety of classes to choose from, and there is no wrong option. Each of our new classes this semester are thought-provoking, and help students learn more about the world both past and present. These classes will certainly help prepare them to be the founders of our future.

Student Athlete Spotlight

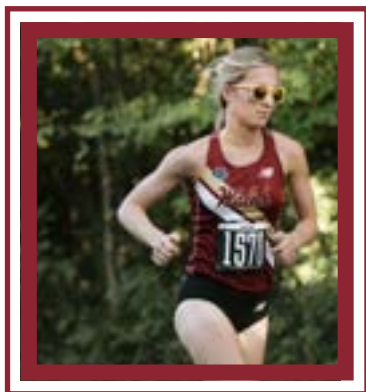
By: Olivia Vuyancih

As members of the Honors Program, students are required to complete a Senior Thesis. With this can come feelings of stress, but also great feelings of joy and a feeling of accomplishment. For athletes especially, these emotions are quite familiar. Being a Division II athlete is no easy task. On top of practice and competitions, athletes also experience the pressure that comes with their academics. They are expected to be the best they can on the field, court, or track, and off. Still, these athletes seem to handle it almost effortlessly. Let's meet some of our outstanding Honors athletes!



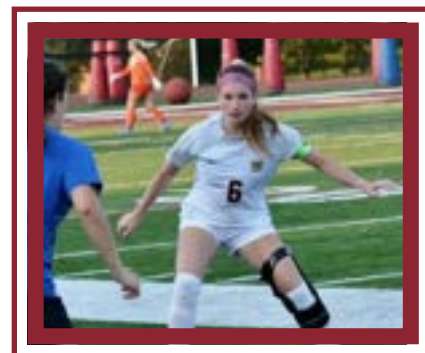
Anthony Toskin is a senior Chemistry Major and runs Cross Country and Track for the Cavaliers. He just presented his thesis, and is in the process of making final revisions. Throughout the process, he says how he has felt, "lots of ups and downs – but it is very fulfilling! Finishing this level of research in undergrad is quite an accomplishment that I'm proud of!" If he were to give a piece of advice to students who are just beginning their thesis process, he says, "Just put a little bit of work in everyday – chipping away at a daunting task like this is a lot better than trying to cram at the end."

Matthew Bagatta is a junior attacker for the Men's Lacrosse team. He is studying Digital Marketing and Analytics. Academically, Matthew has just finished his final thesis proposal, and is now gearing up to begin his research. If he could provide advice to students who are going through this process, he would say, "Just take it easy on yourself...the thesis process is not that frightening and actually quite fun if you just give yourself some moments to take a deep breath...One last piece of advice I would offer is the power of prayer. I have found this to be super beneficial as it gives me much strength."



Camryn Barker is a sophomore nursing major who is also a member of the Cross Country team. She will be beginning her thesis process in the upcoming fall semester, and is considering tying her life as an athlete and her future career together within her project. While only in the beginning stages of the thesis process, Camryn still shared some advice: "Take the time to think about your thesis project early on and only consider topics you are truly interested in. I have more confidence about entering the process since I started thinking about it as a sophomore."

Our final spotlight student is Ellie Accordino. Ellie is a senior nursing student who is a forward for the Women's Soccer team. Ellie has just presented her thesis in March. She says that her best piece of advice would be, "Time manage the best you can. It helped me to write my schedule out one week at a time. Also, it's best to choose a thesis topic that you are truly interested in so that you can have some fun throughout the process!"



Lenten Reflections from Campus Ministry

By: Caleigh Cheatham



Campus Ministry is a place for students at Walsh to experience the love of Christ and to find community! Every week, multiple events are offered to help students connect with one another and with their faith, such as Ignite, Brotherhood/Sisterhood, and various retreats throughout the year. Two weeks before Easter, many students in campus ministry put on a beautiful prayer service and display of the Living Stations of the Cross. The stations of the cross follow the sufferings Christ experienced on his way to Calvary to his Death. Members of the student body were invited to partake in and share their unique talents. Some students wrote reflections of each station, some were actors in the scenes, and others provided peaceful music with well thought out orchestrations and harmonies.

Jeffrey Howe, a current freshman and Honors student, received the opportunity to play Jesus. Jeff embraced this role, amidst the rigor of his academic schedule. Jeff certainly displayed a beautiful image of Christ during his Passion. Jeff stated that Living Stations enhanced his spiritual journey, and said further, “The beautiful symphony of the vocalists, musicians, actors, and the reflection readers, created a beautiful sound of the resonant saving love of the Triune God.” Many other Honors students were involved as well, either musically or by playing weeping women, guards, or crowd members. Through the beauty of their acting and prayerfulness, Jeff noted, “I believe it’s a blessing that the Lord allows us to reenact His Passion and Death, just to show us a fraction of how much He loves us through His people.”

Living Stations of the Cross served as an added element that left students, staff, and parents alike more aware of the extent and solemnity of the crucifixion. Other events in Campus Ministry are similarly moving for our students. Jeff is no stranger to the busy schedules that all college students balance. He mentions, “With the eight-week terms, my Honors course workload, making deadlines, and even maintaining a social life, the collegiate experience can get overwhelming. In these times of work and stress, I turn to Jesus, who is Truth and my rest.” Campus Ministry serves as a fabulous place for students to find peace during an academically stressful week. Those who seek Christ as their rest are welcome, as well as those who do not know much about the faith and are looking for peace during a stressful time. Jeff believes that “Campus Ministry is the gateway to God on campus” and further shares that participating in it has been the defining part of his college experience.



Professor Spotlight: Dr. Freeland

By: Antonio Paganelli



Dr. Thomas Freeland is a Professor of Biology at Walsh University, and an esteemed supporter of the Honors Program on campus. First arriving at Walsh in 1995, Dr. Freeland felt immediately at home. He especially revered the work that the Brothers of Christian Instruction were doing on campus and found their “everyone is welcome” attitude to be inspiring. Speaking about his involvement in our school’s Honors Program, Dr. Freeland says, “it is an academic and intellectual body, unified in having motivation to explore intellectual pursuits, which is something to be proud of.”

Born in 1957, the year the Russians launched Sputnik, Dr. Freeland says, “I grew up in an America where the focus was on scientific exploration and innovation, because we worried we were falling behind the Soviets in space. My first hero at four years old was John Glenn.” Young Dr. Freeland’s interests further developed into other areas such as dinosaurs, in which he connected the “dots” of what space, dinosaurs, and John Glenn had in common, science. Furthermore, some of his favorite comic book heroes were biochemists, so the idea of becoming a scientist remained in his mind throughout his childhood into college.

While in college, Dr. Freeland taught gymnastics, and excelled working as a crisis hotline volunteer, after taking several courses in psychology and undertaking the necessary training. Deciding that he wanted to change direction and pursue his true aspirations, he attended West Virginia University to earn both his M.S. in Genetics and Developmental Biology (1988) and Ph.D. in Pharmacology and Toxicology (1991). At Walsh, Dr. Freeland has found a home away from home in West Virginia. Throughout his teaching career, he has especially enjoyed engaging and working with students and is excited by new courses he gets to teach with colleagues from other departments. He says that he is, “often paired with professors that I really respect and admire that are not in my field. That is a real treat, to teach a class along with a philosophy or theology professor.”

Outside of school, Dr. Freeland enjoys several hobbies including those that he began in college, such as learning how to play the classic guitar. Since then, Dr. Freeland has played for various bands when time permits, and has performed at weddings and festivals. When asked about his advice for Walsh students, Dr. Freeland believes that, “resilience and the understanding that you are still you—you are not your mistakes” are the keys to success and overcoming challenges.

“You are not your mistakes” - Dr. Freeland

Recent Honors Alumni Check-In

By: Eleanor Mondok

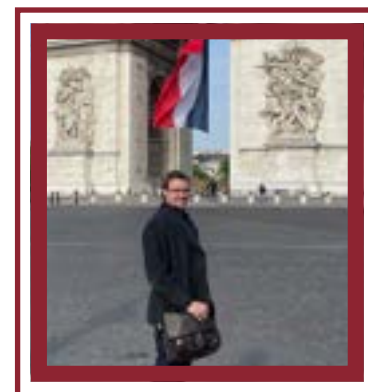
The one-of-a-kind experience of completing the Honors Program at Walsh University benefits graduates for years to come. Here's a sneak peek into the current lives of three Honors alumni, who share how the Honors Program helped them to get where they are today:

What did you do after graduation?

I started full time as a public tax accountant at Deloitte, a Big Four firm in that fall. I'm now approaching a year in that field while also juggling buying a house and getting married. - Michael Sproull, '23

After graduating, I started grad school at Walsh for Occupational Therapy and have been here since. I will graduate with my Master's degree in August 2024. - Ellie Molitor, '22

I became a high school chemistry and biology teacher within the Columbus City School District. - Myla Demko, '23

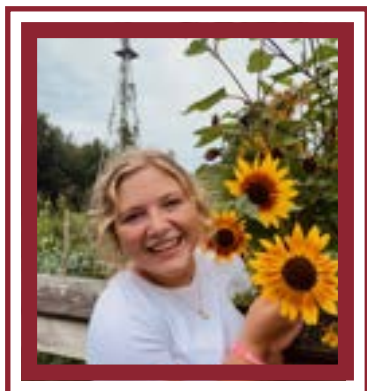


Michael Sproull,
May 2023 Grad

How has completing a thesis helped you after graduation?

Completing a thesis truly sets you apart; I was able to talk in length about my project with employers for graduate assistant positions and applications for graduate school. - Ellie Molitor, '22

I frequently use the skills that I obtained from my research project to find information and read challenging academic journals material so I can simplify it for my students. - Myla Demko, '23

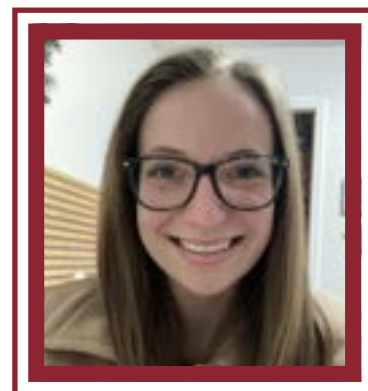


Ellie Molitor,
May 2022 Grad

How did the Honors Program prepare you for life after graduation?

Despite the Honors Program being very humanities- and science-based, there are some important crossover skills between the Honors Program and the business world, especially endurance and the ability to break down complex information. In both the Honors Program and my career as an accountant, a mountain of material must be understood, condensed, and used appropriately. The Honors Program absolutely prepared me for these mountains. - Michael Sproull, '23

The discussion-based classes, expansive assignments, and writing expectations prepared me for the rigor of graduate school as well as the overall time management skills needed for independent adult life. The biggest skills I gained from completing the Honors Program at Walsh are time management and managing priorities throughout the week. - Ellie Molitor, '22



Myla Demko,
May 2023 Grad

Student Spotlight: Hannah Blawas

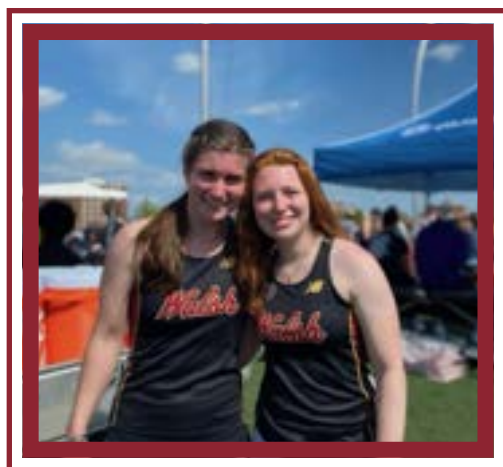
By: Alexis Perretta

Hannah Blawas is a sophomore in the Honors Program, majoring in Biology Pre-Professional. One of the many things that makes Hannah unique is that prior to her college education, she was homeschooled. Hannah received her education through The Way of St. Joseph Holy Family Homeschool Co-op at St. Paul's in Akron. Hannah believes that being homeschooled prepared her well for the demands of the Honors Program. Though it was at first difficult for her to feel confident in an environment that she wasn't used to at college, she believes that the "fake it till you make it" method is a big part of gaining confidence. This attitude has certainly worked for Hannah, as she is incredibly well-integrated and involved at Walsh. By keeping herself accountable, knowing how to keep herself motivated, and learning how to manage her time, Hannah has found great success in her college career as an Honors student.



Hannah Blawas

Now as a fully immersed Honors student, Hannah is a constant presence on campus, and within a multitude of extracurricular activities. Hannah's most beloved involvement has been Campus Ministry, which she has been a part of since her freshman year. Every week, she attends Ignite and The Sisterhood, two religious-themed organizations on campus that provide deep theology, worship, and community. As a member of these organizations, Hannah has solidified herself as a part of the campus ministry family. Further, being active in Campus Ministry encouraged Hannah to begin a personal spiritual leadership initiative: being the leader of a Fiat 90 prayer group for 2 years in a row. This group meets weekly in the 90 days before Easter with the purpose of holding each other accountable for certain spiritual disciplines, such as fasting, daily rosary, and following a bible reading plan.



Hannah (left) with fellow Honors student, Olivia Huzyak (right) at the 2023 GMAC Championship

Aside from Campus Ministry, Hannah is also involved in many other ways. This year, she began tutoring students for Pathophysiology, Pharmacology, and Anatomy & Physiology. She shares, "I've always loved science, but sharing my passion and seeing students light up when they finally feel confident is my favorite thing. Tutoring and academic success coaching have really become a ministry for me to share what I have learned to be academically successful." Hannah is also an academic success coach, where she helps students to hone healthy habits, such as time management, studying skills, and memorization techniques. In terms of future plans, when Hannah graduates from Walsh, she hopes to attend graduate school to pursue a PhD to teach undergraduate college students, or to practice medicine!

Senior Thesis Highlights

Compiled By: Katie Flickinger

As we approach the end of the 2023-2024 academic year, we would like to extend our congratulations to our Honors Seniors who completed their final theses this spring. They did an exceptional job! We commend them for their dedication and effort throughout their participation in the Honors Program. Seniors, may your future endeavors be filled with much success and fulfillment!



Ellie Accordino

Major: Nursing

Thesis Project: Investigating the Role of Coaches in Their Student Athletes' Mental Health

Future Plans: I am planning on pursuing a career as a nurse in the Intensive Care Unit for two years before becoming a travel nurse.

Quote: When you feel like quitting, remember why you started.



Sydney Braunscheidel

Major: Exercise Science, Pre-Physical Therapy

Thesis Project: The Correlation Between Core Strength and Hip Strength on the Likelihood of Lower Extremity Injury with DII College Athletes During One Season

Future Plans: I will be attending Walsh University's Doctor of Physical Therapy program.

Advice to Honors Freshmen: Don't take the Honors classes for granted, they are a great opportunity to grow and learn in ways that you don't get with traditional classes!



Claire Campbell

Major: Exercise Science, Pre-Physical Therapy

Thesis Project: Five Times Sit to Stand Reference Data for Young Adults

Future Plans: I will continue my education with Walsh University's Doctor of Physical Therapy program.

Advice to Honors Freshmen: There can be some really tough days, but don't wish the time away. Four years goes quickly, live in the present.



Abby Eifrid

Major: Exercise Science, Pre-Occupational Therapy, Minor: Psychology

Thesis Project: The Effects of a 10-Minute Low Intensity Treadmill Walk Compared to 10-Minutes of High Intensity Interval Training (HIIT) on Self-Reported Mood and Cognitive Function

Future Plans: I have just accepted a seat in the Master of Occupational Therapy program here at Walsh.

Quote: "Limits, like fear, is often an illusion." -Michael Jordan



Ben Fantauzzo

Majors: Government and Foreign Affairs & Criminal Justice, Minor: Philosophy

Thesis Project: Confronting Cosmic Existentialism: Using Camus' Revolt to Accept Human Insignificance in the Universe

Future Plans: My plan is to work for a few years, then go to grad school for Philosophy.

Advice to Honors Freshmen: Make sure your thesis is about something you're already passionate about!



Katie Flickinger

Majors: Psychology, Pre-Occupational Therapy & Psychology, Community/Clinical

Thesis Project: The Relationship Between College Students' Perceptions of Academic Stress, and Their Levels of the Character Strengths of Persistence and Enthusiasm

Future Plans: I will be entering Walsh's Master of Occupational Therapy program in the fall.

Advice to Honors Freshmen: Work hard and play hard. Strongly dedicate yourself to your studies, but also portion out intentional time for fun with friends to make memories with them!



Ethan Frost

Major: Biology, Pre-Professional, Minor: Medical Humanities

Thesis Project: Self-Evaluation of Speech Pathologist's Opinions on Additional Time and Different Types of Stuttering Therapy Needed to Increase Fluency in Their Clients

Future Plans: I plan to work as an EMT for a year before going to medical or PA school in 2025.

Quote: Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God.



Louis Gentile

Major: Biology, Pre-Professional, Minor: Medical Humanities

Thesis Project: Evaluation of Phenylidosyl Benzene Tosylate Dihydrate as an Antimicrobial Agent

Future Plans: I am attending medical school at Northeast Ohio Medical University.

Advice to Honors Freshmen: Throughout your Honors classes, many topics will be outside of your major, but still, you might find the information to be really beneficial. Take pleasure in learning about a variety of subjects!



Rachel Harker

Majors: Management & Marketing

Thesis Project: Exploring the Relationship Between Employee and Employer Wants Following the COVID-19 Pandemic

Future Plans: I plan to get my MBA at Walsh, and then to continue on to Akron Law School.

Advice to Honors Freshmen: Believe in yourself and in all the good that you are capable of doing.



Libby Howard

Major: Nursing

Thesis Project: An Analysis of Nursing School Disciplinary and Assessment Policies on Upperclassmen Undergraduate Nursing Student Behavior and Stress Levels

Future Plans: I have accepted a pediatric nursing position at Akron Children's Hospital!

Quote: "Humility is not thinking less of your self, but thinking of your self less."
- Joshua Medcalf



Oskar Johannessen

Major: Finance, Minor: Data Analytics

Thesis Project: ESG Investing in the Oil and Gas Industry

Future Plans: I would like to attend grad school in Norway or Denmark.

Advice to Honors Freshmen: Be sure of all the methods you are going to use in your thesis. This will help you in the long run.



Lucas Jorstad

Majors: Accounting & Finance

Thesis Project: The Relationships Among Schooling, Family Structure, and the Financial Socialization of Young Adults

Future Plans: I am working towards being a Certified Public Accountant and Assurance Associate at 415 Group.

Quote: Whatever is worth doing at all, is worth doing well.



Nick Leonatti

Majors: Graphic Design & Web Design

Thesis Project: Beyond the Game: The Impact Visual Branding has on College Baseball Through Social Media

Future Plans: I will be coming back to Walsh to complete my Master's degree in Marketing.

Advice to Honors Freshmen: In your thesis, work on something that you have a passion for, and that you want to share with others.



Hannah Lesko

Majors: Graphic Design & Communications, Minor: Art

Thesis Project: Utilizing Visual Communication Design to Support Sustainability on College Campuses Through Repurposed Clothing

Future Plans: After graduation, I plan to travel for a few months, then move home and get a job in Cincinnati!

Advice to Honors Freshmen: Appreciate everyone around you. There's never another time in your life you are going to live so close to so many friends. Enjoy it while you can!



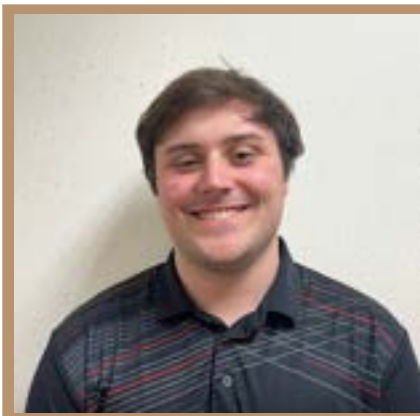
Claire Martin

Major: Legal Studies, Minor: Government and Foreign Affairs

Thesis Project: Comparing Involvement to Feelings of Community and Belonging in College Students

Future Plans: I will be attending the Ave Maria School of Law.

Advice to Honors Freshmen: Have fun and cherish the Honors Program. It is hard work, but the experience, knowledge, and relationships that you gain through Honors are absolutely worth it.



Bailey McGinnis

Major: Legal Studies, Minors: Sociology & Management

Thesis Project: A Hidden Path to Success? The Impact of Prosecutors Background on Success in Appeals Cases

Future Plans: I plan to attend law school at The University of Akron.

Quote: "If you are going to do something, do it with Gusto!" -Eiichiro Oda



Justin Nienaber

Majors: Biology, Pre-Professional & Chemistry, Pre-Professional

Thesis Project: Evaluation of Singlet Oxygen Generation, Chemical Analysis, and Comparison to Other Synthetic Dyes of Anthraquinone as a Photosensitizer in Photodynamic Therapy

Future Plans: I will attend medical school to become a doctor!

Quote: "Pray as if everything depended on God, and work as if everything depended on you."



Isaac O'Rielley

Major: Finance , Minors: Data Analytics & Economics

Thesis Project: An In-Depth Analysis of Bitcoin: Is it Speculative

Future Plans: Post-graduation, I plan on returning home to Columbus, Ohio to work in the financial advising/wealth management field.

Advice to Honors Freshmen: Pick a research topic that you find exciting, and try not to procrastinate throughout the thesis process.



Allie Sabol

Major: Exercise Science, Pre-Physical Therapy, Minor: Psychology

Thesis Project: Physiological Effects of Wearing N95 Masks During Exercise to Mimic Physical Demands During Occupational Hazard Exposure

Future Plans: Next year, I plan to begin Walsh University's Doctor of Physical Therapy program.

Advice to Honors Freshmen: Find an Honors project you really enjoy. The final outcome is so much more meaningful when the project truly relates to your interests.



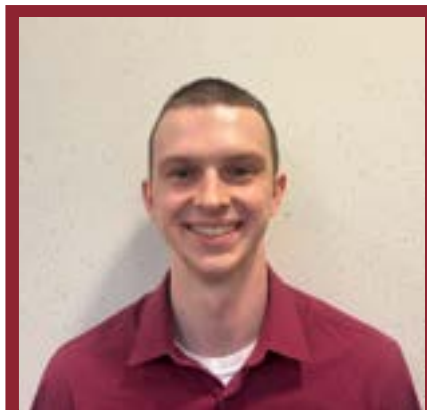
Sara Scavuzzo

Major: Nursing

Thesis Project: The Impact of Patient's Sleep on the Healing Process and Its Protection Through Nursing Interventions

Future Plans: I have accepted a position at The Bellevue Hospital in Bellevue, Ohio as a Labor and Delivery Nurse.

Advice to Honors Freshmen: Enjoy the ride, it will go fast but make sure you make memories along the way.



Jack Shanor

Major: Nursing

Thesis Project: Essay Formats: How Structure Impacts Academic Writing

Future Plans: I have an RN job lined up at Cleveland Clinic Akron General on their Behavioral Health Unit.

Advice to Honors Freshmen: My best advice is to create a to-do list week-by-week; I've used a weekly planner for as long as I can remember and it helps keep my assignments in line very well.



Kayla Testa

Major: Nursing, Minor: Psychology

Thesis Project: Perspectives of Undergraduate Nursing Students and Faculty: YouTube Usage for Academic Purposes

Future Plans: I will be working as a nurse at Aultman Hospital in the Surgical Intensive Care Unit.

Quote: "There are two ways of spreading light: to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it."

- Edith Wharton



Anthony Toskin

Major: Chemistry, Minor: Mathematics

Thesis Project: Betulin Extraction Processes and Functionality as a Paint Additive with Reflective Properties

Future Plans: I will be pursuing a graduate degree at Carnegie Mellon University.

Quote: "A man who dares to waste one hour of time has not discovered the value of life."

- Charles Darwin



Olivia Vuyancih

Majors: Elementary Education (P-5) & Intervention Specialist, Minor: Psychology

Thesis Project: Evaluating What Current Educators and Parents Know Regarding the Science of Reading and How to Make Programs More Readily Available to Them

Future Plans: After graduation, I plan on getting a teaching position, preferably in my hometown!

Quote: "You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think." -Winnie the Pooh



Natalie Yoder

Received the award for Outstanding Senior in the Honors Program

Majors: Criminal Justice & Sociology- Applied Famil Studies, Minor: Psychology

Thesis Project: Addressing the Relationship between Alcohol Use and Community on College Campuses Using a Restorative Approach

Future Plans: I plan to work in the field for a year before going to graduate school.

Quote: Focus on the step in front of you, not the whole staircase.



Senior Honors students alongside the Honors Co-Directors at the Honors Convocation

Creative Submission: An Ode to the Gazebo

By: Hannah Lesko

Oh, my sweet, sweet gazebo. How I have such a love for you.
You are steadfast, unwavering, and a staple on campus.
Overlooked by many, but still, looking over us all.
You see students at their best and at their worst -
anxiously skimming notes, last minute for exams
enjoying sunset strolls from the Chapel
walks to the Grille for dinner with a roommate
chats after class with a professor
picnic lunches with a classmate
notecard shuffling before the big presentation
relationships' beginnings and endings -
or even a nice spot to sit for a deep talk with a friend.
You are the perfect companion for a nice sunny afternoon
to journal, to pray
or provide a nice resting spot for a nostalgic call home.
You see every part of us -you see us all.
Students growth, resilience, and faith.
Faith in God, and faith that we can create a better future.
Thank you for providing shade on the hot August days,
looking so beautiful decked with snow in January,
and bringing smiles to faces when your neighboring tulips come out for April's spring.
They don't know it yet, but those seniors will miss you
when they're gone and moved on...
You are there for us in our darkest times and our best days - watching over us
from the orientation day class picture,
to the senior year photoshoot with cap and gown in hand.
Thank you,
our campus giving tree.
our sweet, sweet gazebo.





Senior Honors Students Abby Eifrid, Louis Gentile, and Anthony Toskin presented their theses at the Undergraduate Research Symposium at Wittenberg University

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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