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FORUM

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Published by News & Information Services



Shakespeare Festival celebrates 20th anniversary

Grand Valley's Shakespeare Festival, the oldest in Michigan, celebrates its 20th anniversary of providing arts education and modern yet timeless productions that explore and celebrate William Shakespeare.

"Since our start in 1994, the festival has been providing events and activities that are available and affordable to a diverse and growing population," said James Bell, festival director since 2005. "We offer stage productions and educational programs and participate in the family friendly Renaissance Faire held at Grand Valley."

The main production this year is the comedy, "Much Ado About Nothing," opening Friday, September 27, at 7:30 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center, Louis Armstrong Theatre. The performance will be followed by a reception in the Kirkhof Center, Pere Marquette Room.

Written by Shakespeare in about 1599, this production of "Much Ado About Nothing" is set in the period just as World War I is ending. Soldiers



Photo by Amanda Pitts

Macey Madias is Beatrice and Sean Kelley is Benedick in 'Much Ado About Nothing,' which opens Friday.

returning home from the reality of war are caught up in the "merry war" of wits between the sexes. The skirmishes in this battle, including two pairs of lovers: Benedick and Beatrice, and Claudio and Hero, may be more playful and more dangerous than anyone expects.

The production will feature guest Actors Equity Association actor Christopher Seiler in the role of Constable Dogberry and local guest actor Gary Mitchell as Leonato. Students performing the pair of lovers are Macey Madias as Beatrice, Sean Kelley as Benedick, Sarah Tryon as Hero, and Justin Mackey as Claudio.

Other GVSU Shakespeare Festival events include a presentation of "The Five Keys to Understanding Shakespeare" on September 27 at 4 p.m. at the Alumni House. The free performance is presented by actor and director Jeff Watkins, president and artistic director of the Atlanta Shakespeare Company.

Additional performances of "Much Ado About Nothing" will be at 7:30 p.m. on September 28 and October 3-5; matinee performances are 2 p.m. on September 29 and October 5-6. Pre-show discussions by Jo Miller, professor of English, are set for September 28 and October 4 at 6:45 p.m.

Tickets are \$14 for adults, \$12 for faculty, staff, alumni, seniors, and \$6 for all students and groups of 10 or more. They are available at the LAT box office, or by calling x12300. For a complete schedule of events, visit www.gvsu.edu/shakes.

Across Campus

Jennrich is new Women's Center director

Jessica Jennrich has been named the new director of the Women's Center. She succeeds Marlene Kowalski-Braun, who is now assistant vice provost for Student Affairs.

Jennrich comes from Dartmouth College, where she directed the Center for Gender and Student Engagement. Prior to that, she led the undergraduate program in the Women's Gender Studies Department at Dartmouth and taught at the University of Missouri.

Bart Merkle, vice provost for Student Affairs and dean of students, said Jennrich brings knowledge and ability that will enhance the center.

"The Women's Center challenges and supports our students to explore a range of gender and social justice issues as part of their Grand Valley experience," Merkle said. "Engaging students

to learn about themselves, about other people, and about our broader society is an endeavor that we will continue to expand under Jessica's capable leadership."

Jennrich said her plans for the Women's Center include maintaining current programs and events as well as leveraging work done at the center on a local and national level.

"We'll look at how to integrate all students into the center and make sure they all feel like they have a place here," Jennrich said. "We'll make sure all aspects of our work have an intersectional lens, so we're thinking about how a student's identity is more than just gender."



Jessica Jennrich

Jennrich received a bachelor's degree in English from Bowling Green University, a master's degree in women's and gender studies from Eastern Michigan University, and a doctorate in educational leadership and policy analysis from the University of Missouri.

Arabic assistant added through Fulbright program

Grand Valley was selected as a host institution for an Arabic language teaching assistant through the Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant program.

The FLTA program works two ways, providing international teachers and scholars the opportunity to broaden their knowledge of American cultures and expand their teaching skills in the U.S., and strengthening the

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instruction of foreign languages at colleges and universities.

The teaching assistant is Yasmine Lamoum, a native of Tunisia, who is leading introductory Arabic courses during this academic year. Majd Al-Mallah, chair of Modern Languages and Literatures, said the program is similar to a cultural exchange, but with a linguistic component.

“This program will provide our students with an authentic exposure to the culture and language of someone who has lived in the Middle East and, as a result, build a cultural bridge between the two countries,” Al-Mallah said.

Lamoum earned a master’s degree in English literature while in Tunisia and said she plans to pursue a doctoral degree in the future.

“This experience offers me the opportunity to be a cultural ambassador for my country and serves as a rich cross-cultural exchange to help build connections between the two worlds,” said Lamoum.

Grand Valley recently added an Arabic minor within Modern Languages and Literatures; Al-Mallah said he hopes the FLTA program will continue to increase interest for students pursuing the Arabic language.



Yasmine Lamoum teaches Arabic language classes through the Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant program.

Stuff the Bus campaign successful

More than a dozen boxes of school supplies donated by students, faculty and staff members were collected on September 12 at the Eberhard Center as part of the Heart of West Michigan United Way Stuff The Bus campaign.

The 14 boxes of donated supplies included the most needed school supplies, along with some personal supplies that students would need to

get ready for school in the morning. All of the donations will be distributed to students in need at schools in Grand Rapids, Godwin Heights, Cedar Springs and Godfrey Lee.

“The response from Grand Valley is a huge part of our effort to help 600 students who wouldn’t normally have access to these supplies,” said Misti Stanton, program manager for HWMUW Schools of Hope. “This will help stuff the bus, which, in turn, will help students and teachers in our community. We’re always very thankful for Grand Valley’s support.”

This is the sixth year that Grand Valley has taken part in the Stuff The Bus program. Grand Valley’s effort was organized by Linda Masselink, Michelle Holstege and Jeff Mutch.

“This is a great turnout, and I’m very happy with it,” Masselink, liaison librarian, said. “I’m happy for the students, and the teachers, and I’m very excited that we get to participate in this amazing program every year.”



Supplies donated by the campus community for Stuff the Bus, a Heart of West Michigan United Way program, filled 14 boxes.

Founders’ Day celebration set

A new university tradition will launch with a special celebration. Founders’ Day will be an annual celebration of the university’s founding story of “high hopes” and the nearly 300 individuals who made this dream a reality for the citizens of West Michigan.

The inaugural event is set for October 10, from noon-1 p.m., near the Cook Carillon Tower on the Allendale Campus. It will include the unveiling of an iconic statue to honor Bill Seidman, Grand Valley’s founder. All students, faculty and staff members are invited to attend.

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Faculty and staff members can find an online “Sketches” submission form on the Web at www.gvsu.edu/forum.

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Other publications by the News and Information Services Office include:

Grand Valley Magazine, which is published quarterly for the university community. Visit its website at www.gvsu.edu/gvmagazine.

Visit Grand Valley’s online publication, GVNnow, at www.gvsu.edu/gvnow, for daily news updates and video features.

Grand Valley State University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity institution.

GVFaces

Aaron Haight, Director of Judicial and Special Programs

Although Aaron Haight has spent the last 13 years at Grand Valley working with the Office of Student Life, she is now part of a different aspect of students’ journeys that involves what she refers to as “educational moments.”

As the director of judicial and special programs, Haight works with a team of judicial coordinators and board members to oversee the judicial process and address issues of student conduct. Through this role she works with the behavior team, the College Student Affairs Leadership program, and leads other special projects for the Dean of Students Office. She also teaches courses as an adjunct faculty member for the College of Education.

“I have always had a passion for social justice and educational moments and I enjoy the opportunity this position gives me to work directly with students and help them to become a positive member of the Grand Valley community,” said Haight.

Before accepting her current position, Haight

spent seven years working with Grand Valley’s fraternity and sorority communities. She then spent the next six years coordinating the Transitions program for incoming first-year students.

Haight said this year she is looking forward to implementing a more proactive approach to student conduct, contributing to a more positive campus climate.

“Students are going to make mistakes and my role is to ensure those educational moments take place and that they are provided with opportunities to learn and grow along the way,” said Haight.

In her spare time, Haight said she enjoys spending time with her family, camping, swimming, being outside and watching all sports events, especially the Lakers.



Aaron Haight



What's Ahead

Latino leaders focus of photographic exhibition

Participants in Grand Rapids and Chicago will honor current and past Latino civil rights leaders at events in both cities on September 23, which marks the 45th anniversary of the founding of the Young Lords civil and human rights organization.

The Kutsche Office of Local History has partnered with Grandville Avenue Arts and Humanities and other organizations to showcase the rich culture of Latinos living in Grand Rapids and Chicago through a photographic exhibition, educational program, and walking tour of Latino neighborhoods.

Events will begin on Monday, September 23, at 10:30 a.m. in Grand Rapids a welcome from city Mayor George Heartwell and Grand Valley leaders at the Cook Library Center, 1100 Grandville Ave SW.

Heartwell and others will make remarks and then officially launch the opening of a photographic exhibition, "Tengo El Pueblo En Mi Corazón: Latino Civil Rights and Community," which documents Grand Rapids area Latino leaders. The exhibition is ongoing in the Cook Library Center through October 18.

Melanie Shell-Weiss, director of the Kutsche Office of Local History, said Heartwell and others will detail a new, collaborative community history and leadership program that will be part of the GAAH's Cook Library Scholars program, which engages 31 elementary and middle school students in year-round programming.

In the afternoon, a tour bus will leave Grand Rapids for Chicago's Lincoln Park

neighborhood, the birthplace of the Young Lords civil rights movement in 1968. A memorial service in the evening will honor two people who were murdered in 1969 for their work in supporting Lincoln Park residents who were displaced from their homes in the '60s.

For more information about the Young Lords visit www.gvsu.edu/younglords or www.nationalyounglords.com.

Vietnam veterans will share stories

Louis Dudeck was 22 in 1965 when the ship he and fellow Marines were on landed in Vietnam, near Da Nang. With a loaded M-60 weapon and live ammunition strapped to his chest, he was scared, then shocked to see the beach was sprinkled with little old Vietnamese ladies selling beers and sodas.

Dudeck will be among 30 veterans participating in the presentation series, "My Year in Vietnam: Vietnam Veterans Share Their Stories," organized by James Smither, professor of history and director of the Veterans History Project at Grand Valley.

"Send the Marines!," will begin the series Wednesday, September 25, at 7 p.m., in the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium. Dudeck will share his stories, along with Michael Woods and Michael Burton.

Ten presentations will run through April 9, each featuring three Vietnam veterans with overlapping experiences who will tell their stories and take questions from the audience. All presentations are free and open to the public.

"More than 2.3 million Americans served in and



around Vietnam between 1961-1973, and each one has a unique story to tell," said Smither. "Their stories go well beyond the traditional stereotypes, both negative and positive, of the American soldier in Vietnam."

For more details about the Veterans History Project and a complete schedule of the Vietnam presentation series, visit www.gvsu.edu/vethistory.

PIC to host alumni reunion

The Padnos International Center will host its first study abroad alumni reunion, and proceeds from the event will benefit a scholarship fund.

Faculty and staff members, alumni and students are invited to the reunion, set for Thursday, September 26, from 6-8:30 p.m. at the Guest House, 634 Stocking Ave. NE in Grand Rapids.

The jazz band Grupo Ayé! will provide entertainment; food and drinks will be available. Tickets for the event are \$25 for students, \$35 for non-students. RSVP online at www.gvsu.edu/pic/reunion.

Proceeds will benefit the Mark A. and Elizabeth C. Murray Study Abroad Scholarship, which supports students who would not otherwise have the financial means to study abroad.

Across Campus

Pew Campus Steelcase Library expanded

With the semester underway, students on the Pew Grand Rapids Campus will notice the Steelcase Library has been expanded and now provides a collaborative space for students.

The expansion takes over what were computer labs. They have been moved to the second floor and students will have continuous open access.

"Before the expansion, Steelcase Library offered good space for quiet study, but little opportunity for students to work in groups," said Julie Garrison, associate dean of Research and Instruction.

A Knowledge Market will have peer consultants in research and writing available Mondays-Thursdays, from 2-7 p.m. The addition also includes two presentation practice and one digital collaboration group rooms. The Learning Lab, used for library related classroom instruction, has also been expanded to accommodate groups of up to 47 students. Workspace for library faculty and staff members has also been renovated.

Jason Durham, operations manager of Pew

Campus Libraries, said: "This was badly needed to provide students on the Pew Campus with a defined space for collaborative work. It also makes it possible to maintain the Steelcase Library reading room as a quiet study space."

Brooks College kicks off professional series

The first in a series of professional events designed for students in the Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies drew more than 80 people, some from Traverse City, Muskegon and Holland.

The kick-off event was held September 7 in the Kirkhof Center. Brian Jbara, director of the Office of Integrative Learning and Advising, said the year-long series is designed to provide students with networking skills and the ability to articulate "what it means to be a Brooks College student."

"Students in our college have a variety of unique, exciting interests, and we want to help them understand all of the opportunities

that exist after graduation," Jbara said.

The Career Center gave a presentation, and round table discussions, some led by alumni, focused on mentoring, research and graduate school.

Visit www.gvsu.edu/integrativelearning and click on "Brooks Professional Series" for more information on the series.



Photo by Dianne Carroll Burdick

Sheldon Kopperl, professor of liberal studies, talks with students during the first Brooks College Professional Series event on September 7 in the Kirkhof Center.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

General Events

Through Oct. 31

Art Gallery hosts “Home Run: Laker Baseball Goes to Cuba.” Red Wall Gallery, LOH. Visit www.gvsu.edu/artgallery for hours.

Through Nov. 1

Art Gallery hosts “Cyril Lixenberg: An Artist’s Journey.” 1121 PAC. Visit www.gvsu.edu/artgallery for hours.

Mon., Sept. 23

10:30 a.m.: Kutsche Office of Local History hosts Latino Civil Rights Tour. 1100 Grandville Ave. SW, Grand Rapids. Visit www.gvsu.edu/kutsche for information.

2-4 p.m.: Flu Vaccination Clinic. 1142 KC.

Tues., Sept. 24

11 a.m.: GRCC Seminar: “Making Healthy Eating Fun.” GRCC, Grand Rapids. Register at www.gvsu.edu/seminar.

7 p.m.: School of Communications hosts James W. Carey Memorial Lecture with Brent Malin. Loosemore Auditorium, DEV. Call x13668 for more information.

Wed., Sept. 25

8:30 a.m.: Excellence Series: “Making the Transition from Staff to Supervisor,” by Beverly Washington. 2270 KC. Register at www.gvsu.edu/seminar.

10 a.m.-1:30 p.m.: GVSU Farmers Market. Parking Lot H. Visit www.gvsu.edu/farmersmarket for more information.

Noon: Allendale Toastmasters. 2259 KC. Visit www.gvsu.edu/toastmasters for more information.

Noon: Arts at Noon Series. GVSU Chamber Players with Brahms Clarinet Quintet. CDC. Call x13484 for more information.

1:30 p.m.: Excellence Series: “Making the Transition from Staff to Supervisor,” by Beverly Washington. BIK. Register at www.gvsu.edu/seminar.

5:30 p.m.: International Faculty and Friends Meeting. Westsider Café, 1180 Walker Ave. NW, Grand Rapids. Send email to swankare@gvsu.edu for more information.

6 p.m.: Latin American Studies Event: “Don Quixote, Batman and El Chapulin Colorado,” by Carlos Aguasaco. CDC. Call x18110 for more information.

7 p.m.: Veterans History Project hosts “My Year in Vietnam.” Loosemore Auditorium, DEV. Call x13422 for more information.

Thurs., Sept. 26

7:30 a.m.: Downtown Toastmasters. 107C DEV. Visit www.gvsu.edu/toastmasters for more information.

10 a.m.-noon: Flu Vaccination Clinic. 1142 KC.

Noon: Latin American Studies Event: Travelers and Dreamers. 2266 KC. Call 18655 for more information.

Noon: Health and Wellness hosts “What Daddies Do Best.” 2264 KC. Email sloops@gvsu.edu to register.

2:30 p.m.: Area Studies Author Reception with Jack Mangala & Dwayne Tunstall. Exhibition Room, MIPL. Call x18655 for more information.

3 p.m.: FTLC Workshop: Academic Advising Forum with Kathleen Bailey. 330 KEN. Call x13498 for more information.

4 p.m.: Cancer Warriors Network. 2270 KC. Send email to sloops@gvsu.edu to register.

6 p.m.: Study Abroad Alumni Reunion. The Guest House, Grand Rapids. Call x13898 for more information.

6 p.m.: Latin American Studies Event: “Challenges: Latinos Looking at the Future.” Loosemore Auditorium, DEV. Call x18110 for more information.

Fri., Sept. 27

4 p.m.: Shakespeare Festival Scholar Presentation with Jeff Watkins. AH. Visit www.gvsu.edu/shakes for information.

7:30 p.m.: Shakespeare Festival Production: “Much Ado About Nothing.” PAC, LAT. Call x12300 for tickets.

Sat., Sept. 28

7:30 p.m.: Shakespeare Festival Production: “Much Ado About Nothing.” PAC, LAT. Call x12300 for tickets.

Sun., Sept. 29

2 p.m.: Shakespeare Festival Production: “Much Ado About Nothing.” PAC, LAT. Call x12300 for tickets.

Sports

Sat., Sept. 28

All Day: Women’s Golf hosts Gilda’s Club Laker Fall Invite.

Sun., Sept. 29

All Day: Women’s Golf hosts Gilda’s Club Laker Fall Invite.

Faculty and Staff Sketches

In the News

Rick Albrecht, professor of movement science, was interviewed by WVFN’s “The Drive with Jack Ebling” radio show for a story about his book, *Coaching Myths: Fifteen Wrong Ideas in Youth Sport*.

Frank Blossom, affiliate professor of communications, was interviewed by WGVU’s “Ask the Expert” program for a story about how education and careers in advertising intersect, preparing students for work.

Sketches

The Padnos International Center hosted

Giorgio Montanari, dean of political science at the University of Perugia in Italy, last week.

Patricia Clark, Grand Valley poet-in-residence, had her fourth collection of poetry, *Sunday Rising*, reviewed by *Colorado Review*.

Michael Webster, professor of English, wrote articles, “Lugete: The Divine Lost and Found Child in Cummings” and “Three Memorials: Rushworth M. Kidder, John Edwin Cowen, and Robert Wegner,” both published in the *Journal of the E. E. Cummings Society*.

Ted Sundstrom, professor of mathematics, wrote the third edition of a book, *Mathematics Reasoning: Writing and Proof*, which is available

for free download at ScholarWorks@GVSU.

Rachel Anderson, associate professor of English, gave a presentation, “With God on Our Side: Promoting the Cults of Murdered Royal Innocents in Anglo-Saxon Mercia and East Anglia,” at the Biennial International Society of Anglo-Saxonists in Dublin, Ireland.

John Weber, professor of geology, had his research on the seismic hazard of the Central Range Fault, Trinidad, cited in the *Trinidad Guardian* as that country’s debates on how to plan for building/retrofitting moves to parliament.