

NAZARETH UNIVERSITY



CARS 2024

Creative Activity and
Research Showcase



April 23, 2024

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Introduction

Welcome to CARS – Creative Activity and Research Showcase

We gather as a community for CARS in celebration of the remarkable scholarship, creative activity and research of our undergraduate and graduate students across our rich array of programs.


Together with their faculty sponsors, our students engage in many forms of scholarship, creative activity and research, with inquiry at the heart of their endeavors.

Indeed, inquiry is at the heart of a Nazareth education. Inquiry fuels curiosity, shows changemakers what is possible, and encourages imagination of a better future for ourselves and our communities. It is critical for advancing knowledge, fostering creativity, inspiring innovation, and improving quality of life.

CARS also celebrates the power of mentoring and collaboration for transformational learning. Thanks to all faculty sponsors of our students' scholarship, creative activity and research.

I am so excited to see what questions our students are asking, the problems they are tackling, the possibilities they are imagining, and to see where this exceptional learning takes them.

Thank you for being here today, and for celebrating the achievements of our students and the vitality of our learning community.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth Paul". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Dr. Elizabeth L. Paul
President

Share Your Experience – #NAZCARS24

One of the most exciting aspects of doing research and creative work is sharing one's work with others. We invite you to engage with CARS participants throughout this event by asking thoughtful questions about their work, by celebrating their accomplishments with them, and by sharing highlights of the day with your friends, family members, fellow students, and colleagues.

Please share highlights from today on social media by using this year's hashtag, #NAZCARS24. We are excited to be back in person and can't wait to see all your favorite moments of CARS 2024!

Thank you!

As hosts of the annual Creative Activity and Research Showcase, we would like to thank our volunteers who have given their time to serve on the planning committee. We would also like to thank all participating faculty, staff, and students. We appreciate the commitment of both the volunteers and the participants to CARS and acknowledge that CARS would not exist without the support of the Nazareth University community.

CARS 2024 Committee

Megan Tobin-Communication Sciences & Disorders

Ashley Zaleppa-CLASBE & VPAD

Mary Maher-Public Health in Nursing

Jessica Stachowski-Chemistry

Ed Wiltse-English & Communication

Stephanie Zamule-Biology

Octavio Vazquez-School of Music

Francesca Gentile-English & Communication

Kelly Hutchinson-Anderson-Chemistry

Lindsey LaPlant-Psychology

Scott Campbell- Philosophy

Timothy Kneeland-History, Politics, & Law

Giovanna Constantino: Graduate Assistant

**CARS is taking place during Nazareth University's Centennial Celebration, which is presented by Wellington Steele & Associates and the Leva Family. In the year prior to and after the 100th anniversary of its founding in 1924, Nazareth University is marking A Century of Uniting Education and Action, and envisioning its next 100 years. Thank you for being a part of our Centennial Celebration.*



Program at a Glance

Format	Location	Time
Snacks and Coffee/Opening Remarks with President Paul	Forum, Shults Center	9:00 am – 10:00 am
Honors Capstones	Smyth Hall 247 & 249	9:30 am – 3:30 pm
Poster Presentations Session #1	Gym in Shults Center	10:00 am – 11:00 am
Paper Presentation Panel #1	Smyth Hall 160	10:00 am – 11:00 am
Paper Presentation Panel #2	Smyth Hall 161	10:00 am - 11:00 am
CER Presentations	Shults Center Reading Lounge, Hallway Ramp, Porthole Lounge, Forum	10:00 am - 4:00 pm
CME Presentations	Hallway in front of Forum, Shults Center	11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Performance Session	Arts Center, A13	11:00 am - 12:30 pm
Poster Presentations Session #2	Gym in Shults Center	12:00 pm – 1:00 pm
Sidewalk Chalk Art Contest A Capella Performance by <i>Call4Backup</i>	Outside Patio of Library	12:00 pm – 1:00 pm
Paper Presentation Panel #3	Smyth Hall 161	1:00 pm - 2:00 pm
Poster Presentation Session #3	Gym in Shults Center	2:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Evening Graduate Poster Presentations	Reading Lounge, Shults Center	4:30 pm – 5:30 pm

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Please note:

- 1. All information is included, without editing, as submitted by student participants.**
- 2. (G) next to a name denotes graduate students who are participating.**

Core Milestone Experiences

Name: Hannah Bardeen

Title: How Has Your Experience Learning Dance in Your Adolescence Affect Your Mental Health?

Faculty Sponsor: Alison Albright

Abstract: "This project brings dancer's real experiences to light regarding how their dance education affected their mental health. Mental health struggles in dance are extremely common, and I believe many struggles stem from the atmosphere teachers cultivate for learning. While it may not be intentional, there are many topics in the studio which should be addressed to support the dancer's mind-body connection. This is especially important during adolescence, a pivotal time for identity formation and holistic development. This project brought my two majors, Dance Studies and Psychology, together to answer an important question which aims to promote more positive and enriching experiences in dance education.

I conducted an anonymous survey within Nazareth University to gather self-report, written data about dancer's experiences in dance education from adolescence. Using this data, I created mock social media content to encapsulate the dancer's experiences for a larger audience. My interest in this specific topic prior to undergrad led me to study both Dance and Psychology, based on my own experiences and eagerness to hear other's experiences. I hope presenting this work can create more awareness, conversation, and necessary change in the dance education world."

Name: Wren Heron

Title: Minorities in Media: Asian Americans and Atlanta 2021

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Scott M. Campbell

Abstract: In this project, I asked, and aimed to answer, this question: “Why do the words, language, videos, images, and focus of media reporting matter?” As a Communications and Media major, I’ve been particularly invested in studying the impact of media coverage on marginalized communities in the United States. Thus, I asked this question with an intent to challenge journalists, news organizations, and the journalistic process, and my findings enter into a larger conversation about media representation and the journalism industry. I sought to answer the question by analyzing fifteen news articles from across the political spectrum regarding the Atlanta spa shootings from 2021, because the Asian American Journalists Association had specific criteria for how to cover the events. Based on these criteria, I created a scorecard, to which I compared each article. Using the scorecard, I identified the news organizations that provided the best and worst coverage and then discussed the implications for news coverage more generally. Overall, this project is significant because it exposes certain problematic reporting practices in the journalism industry and highlights how even the most reputable of news sources can violate codes of ethics.

Name: Zoe Perry

Title: Body Image and Perfectionism in the Art of Ballet

Faculty Sponsor: Alison Albright

Abstract: Throughout history, ballet dancers have always been influenced by their body image. Do ballet dancers today have a healthier mindset regarding body image, or do they continue to face challenges within themselves because of societal expectations of perfectionism? Ballet is an artistic form of expression that is interpreted uniquely within different cultures and societies around the world. Ballet is physically, socially, and emotionally demanding to the human body, and requires hard work and dedication to look “effortless.” The level of athleticism ballet requires is vigorous, yet remarkable. As a result, body image has become a major problem in the world of ballet, affecting dancers’ psychological well-being. Ballet dancers consistently strive for physical appearance and perfection of themselves and their movement qualities, striving for excellence. The CME project I accomplished through informational interviewing with childhood dance teachers, Nazareth University professors, choreographers, performing artists, and company

owners, allowed me to research the impact of body image in ballet on the mental and physical health of dancers. This project acknowledges and addresses the influences the art of ballet has had on mental health and body image, perfectionist mentalities, and its elitist historical culture. Ballet is my passion and has had a profound influence on my life. Overall, body image has created an evil darkness in this enlightened elegant art form.

Name: [Haley Glassman](#)

Title: Unveiling the Human Side of Health Crises: Personal Narratives Amidst Pandemics

Faculty Sponsor: Cindy McPhail

Abstract: The global spread of infectious diseases, notably the COVID-19 pandemic, has not only posed significant threats to physical health but has also profoundly influenced mental health and societal factors. In this CME Project, I delved into the individual stories of participants deeply impacted by the pandemic, offering touching insights into the multifaceted ways in which such crises affect human lives. Through qualitative analysis, these narratives unravel the challenges, coping mechanisms, and adaptations individuals undergo during times of health crises. The stories provide a nuanced understanding of the psychological toll, social disruptions, and systemic vulnerabilities exacerbated by the pandemic. By delving into the personal experiences of diverse individuals, we aim to shed light on the intricate interplay between infectious diseases, mental health, and societal dynamics. My project aims to highlight the importance of incorporating personal narratives into broader discussions surrounding health crises. By amplifying individual voices, we can foster empathy, understanding, and actionable strategies to support mental health and societal resilience amidst the challenges posed by infectious diseases.

Name: [Sabrina Baidwan](#)

Title: How Does Inequality Contribute To Depression?

Faculty Sponsor: Cindy McPhail

Abstract: The video elaborates on the several different barriers that can affect depression and mental healthcare access; focusing mainly on the social, economic, and legislative barriers. The video also briefly covers possible future solutions.

Name: Cecilia Blakeslee

Title: All Gender Club

Faculty Sponsor: Cindy McPhail

Abstract: My CME is the design for a club aimed at upper-elementary students. This club would be primarily student-run with the members not only learning every meeting but getting the opportunity to educate their peers. Gender identity is a great part of what makes a person their unique part of their world, and should be explained and discovered early on in life through age-appropriate discussion and education. Desensitizing gender and relationships allows students of many identities to feel empowered to create change in their communities and see the intersectionality of identity, including how each one impacts others and how to use one form of identity to raise, not harm the other. If this club were to take place in a school, it would be primarily discussion and student-led, varying each day and year on membership and climate, with the hopes of including local resources and organizations to further spread awareness of local activism and support.

Name: Sara Sluiter

Title: Unlocking Learning Potential: Behavioral Influences on Teaching Methodologies

Faculty Sponsor: Cindy McPhail

Abstract: When a teacher walks into a room and sees students with their heads down, hoods up, and slouched in their chairs, does that alter how they approach teaching? This study explores the question of whether a teacher's approach to teaching is affected by student behavior, both in everyday academic classrooms and in dance studios. At Nazareth, many dance professors believe in the importance of listening to our bodies and being present in the moment. Accordingly, professors may walk into the studio with a plan but change it based on the energy and body language of their students. This recognizes that each student is unique and may be going through different experiences in life, so there is never a preconceived expectation of the energy levels or attitude.

On the other hand, this practice is not typically seen in academic classrooms, where most teachers have a set plan and lecture regardless of their students behavior or number. However, the study suggests that teachers could improve how much information their students retain if they were more observant of behavioral factors. By considering these factors, teachers could adapt their teaching methods to better suit student needs and unlock their learning potential.

Community Engaged Research

Name: Cooper LaValley, Jaylynn Pyatt-Ramos, Cara Reynolds, Addie Washington, Arianna Klass, and Carly Simonelli

Title: Moving Beyond Violence: Valuing Yourself!

Faculty Sponsor: Professor Kia C. Brooks & Professor Tremain Harris

Abstract: In partnership with The Mayor's Youth Advisory Council of the City of Rochester, Community Youth Development scholars collaborate to educate others on the importance of resilience.

Name: Ethan Kryger, Grace Mehm, Katherine Oechsle, Katie Theobald, Joseph Alaimo, Nicole Martell Dale and Raffaella Velone

Title: Newspaper and Book Club Collaboration

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Francesca Gentile

Abstract: The Book Club and the Newspaper Club are going to collaborate with a trifold poster board, We will have information about the book club on one side, information about the newspaper club on the other side, and an interactive activity in the middle (people are going to write a headline about their favorite book as a way to combine the two clubs). We think this will be a great opportunity to expand the member base of both clubs, as well as to build community through our shared passion for rhetoric and communication.

Name: Kelsie Weeks and Sarah Daddona

Title: Nazareth University Gerontology Student in Residence Program at St. John's Meadows Senior Community

Faculty Sponsor: David Steitz

Abstract: Our creative activity was an independent study called the St. John's Student in Residence Program. This program involved us spending 3 weeks living at St. John's Meadows. During these 3 weeks, we spent time participating in activities with the residents and gaining a much stronger understanding of elder care within senior living facilities and the geriatric community as a whole. Our creative activity will consist of us being available for students and faculty to ask questions about the program we were so lucky to experience. Additionally, we will have information related to the residency program that goes along with the knowledge we gained through this experience. This project provides students the opportunity to work with older adults. It gives students exposure to the joy of working with older adults and are able to personally witness the positive impact it has on the residents as well.

Name: Sarah Danesh, Peyton Tripp and Grace Hunt

Title: My Experience at the St. Michael's Food Pantry

Faculty Sponsor: Hilda Chacón

Abstract: The St. Michael's Food Pantry is the result of shared efforts from both Foodlink and Rochester Hope. The majority population served is migrants from Latin America. Every Saturday, people start to line up as early as 4AM to get a ticket into the pantry. Beyond the opportunity for foodstuffs, the church also offers hot coffee, homemade lunch, and various health services for those without access to health insurance.

In Fall 2023, I was recruited to work at the St. Michael's Food Pantry by my Spanish professor, Dr. Chacón. As a major in both public health and Spanish, she thought I would be interested in engaging with concepts of food scarcity and community organizing with a primarily Spanish-speaking population. Every Saturday morning, I work at the pantry with fellow Nazareth students; we organize people for the food pantry, help to restock shelves, translate for the health services at the event, and connect community members to additional resources as needed.

The work done at St. Michael's Church is important. In my presentation, I will be sharing a few experiences I've had working at the food pantry, reflecting on the value of equity, and encouraging students to look for experiences that are not always comfortable.

Name: Grace Hunt, Layla Boyer, Sophie Hartz, Madeleine Jensen, Stella Knapp, Baleigh McClaren and Genevieve Vonahnen

Title: Fall 2023 Jail Project: Reflection and Discussion with Q&A

Faculty Sponsor: Ed Wiltse

Abstract: In the fall of 2023, students enrolled in ENGL.Q 133: Crime & Punishment in the U.S. had a unique opportunity. Instead of a final essay, select students took part in a book club with incarcerated students: some met online with incarcerated men in Colorado, and some in-person with women at the Monroe County Jail. The Nazareth students and incarcerated students collaborated weekly to share their thoughts and opinions on literature regarding crime and punishment in the U.S. This jail project was meant to expand the minds of all participants: those inside and outside the jail. Each Nazareth group had a distinctive experience with very different people and were forever changed by the time spent with the incarcerated individuals. We, the Naz students, have come together to recount and impart our experiences through a discussion-led presentation surrounding our preconceived ideas, meaningful conversations, and ever-changed perspectives. We have learned a lot about ourselves and what we thought we knew about society and our own biases. We are also very excited to tell you anything you desire to know about the project and what we learned in the process.

Name: Abigail Lamark

Title: Should Physician-Assisted Death be Legal Nationwide?

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. David Steitz

Abstract: I will be hosting a panel discussion with medical professionals of various departments to talk about physician-assisted death in a variety of ways. I read and outlined laws in all 11 jurisdiction's which have legalized it as well as consulted and interviewed medical professionals, religious leaders, and ethics professors to view the question in their professional lenses. I have researched some of the most prominent religions to also look at how this question is viewed religiously and why. Additionally, I compared it, legally, to the question of whether capital punishment should be legal. I chose this question because it is a question I not only find interesting but one I am very passionate about as this option is something I would use if need be.

Name: Elise Lupisella, Nina Edwards, Miranda Luis, Aniya Mister and Emily Starkweather

Title: Humanizing the Dehumanized: Hitting the Road's journey through the carceral state via literature

Faculty Sponsor: Ed Wiltse

Abstract: The way in which people perceive the world is largely determined by personal experience and presented stereotypes. Unfortunately, the incarcerated population is commonly judged by a set of stereotypes, such as dangerous and uneducated. Perceiving incarcerated individuals as a set of stereotypes is extremely debilitating to society. The class, Hitting the Road, directly confronts these stereotypes by supporting student personal experience and direct engagement with incarcerated individuals. Logistically, the class meets once a week to discuss literature with a group of incarcerated individuals being held at Arkansas Valley Correctional Facility (AVCF) in Colorado. Additionally, once a week for six weeks a secondary group of Nazareth students took part in a book club at Monroe County Jail (MCJ). Four students who are in the spring 2024 semester of Hitting the Road have elected to share their experience. These four students have all experienced both classroom settings with individuals who are incarcerated at MCJ and AVCF and while all have been impacted immensely each have their own experiences and have a unique mark that was left on their lives because of it. The perspectives of having a classroom experience over zoom and in person and still

being connected to the carceral state has been eye opening and brought some humanity back into the system for all of us.

Name: Camille Bove, Salvatore DiFilippo, Cassie Dorfman, Jill Eckert, Gianna Gonsalves Claire Jones, Georgina Keilman, Kyle Kuzniar, Rebekah Logue, Wilson Matias Pedro, Jacob Myers, Alexandra Rentzis, Donald Slattery, Matthew Terleckey and Mariana Walsh

Title: Issues in Language and Literacy Development

Faculty Sponsor: Cindy McPhail

Abstract: Students in LST 301, Language, Literacy, & Culture, created digital compositions about a compelling language/literacy topic related to our class. Through formats such as podcasts and imovies, students will present their learning from interviews, course materials, and research.

Name: Clotilde Queruel, Katell-Guillet, Mackenzie Hallyday, Caitlyn Smithers, Grace Dalessandro, Beni Luyindula, Mirable Lombardi, and Marianne Gerber

Title: Translation and Interpretation in service of the community

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Mireille LeBreton

Abstract: We will delve into the transformative experiences of translation and interpretation skills studied and trained in class to serve the Rochester Refugee Resettlement Services Center (RRRS). We have engaged with the refugee community leading to profound and meaningful exchanges that transcend language barriers. Through intimate conversations, using a variety of languages, we have shared experiences, cultures, and stories that both enriched our understanding and theirs. Another significant moment in our journey was our encounter with Mark Ward, a former government Humanitarian Diplomat for the U.S., whose insights motivated our commitment to community service who insisted for the the need for community and mutual help while sharing touching stories, cultural experiences utilizing the inestimable value that is at the core of everything possible: the meaning of languages. Our goal today, through a round

table discussion, is to offer a poignant summary of our course's goal: to empower ourselves in our linguistic journey of translating and interpreting while empowering individuals to strengthen their linguistic abilities for the betterment of society and to use our languages in service of communities that most need it and interpretation in today's immigration context. By immersing ourselves in the lives of refugees and facilitating communication, we wish to encourage our community and youth to follow in our steps and participate in assisting our partners in their journey. We aspire to create a more inclusive and compassionate community, where every voice is heard and valued and where we understand that helping one another becomes reciprocal.

Honors Thesis

Name: Willow Clark

Title: Culturally Confused? A Field Guide For U.S. University Students Studying Abroad

Faculty Sponsor: Stephanie Zamule

Abstract: Have you ever traveled to a new place, with knowledge about cultural humility and excited for new experiences, only to feel overwhelmed by cultural differences you didn't even realize exist? If so, you probably came to realize that culture is much deeper than the foods we eat or the clothes we wear. When I studied abroad in Costa Rica, I found myself immersed in a "Hot Climate Culture", where styles of communication, trust in others, hierarchies of leadership, and more are completely different from my own. Drawing on my own experiences, I studied existing literature and formally surveyed study abroad alumni to create a curriculum that encompasses every aspect of the study abroad experience. From living with host families, to speaking about different cultures with respect, to reorienting to life back home; Culturally Confused? A Field Guide For U.S. University Students Studying Abroad is an interactive and dynamic website that guides students through every phase of their study abroad experience. This website-based curriculum is currently being evaluated by Nazareth University students studying abroad across the world, and their feedback will be used to continue enhancing the website's content and usability for future students studying abroad at Nazareth and beyond.

Name: Sandra Perkins

Title: A Journey: Understanding Death and Dying

Faculty Sponsor: Stephanie Zamule

Abstract: I will be discussing how MY meaning of death and dying has been altered and redefined. It will be a cold, hard, and honest look at death and dying in the hearts and minds of the living.

Name: Adrianna Massaro

Title: An Exploration of Intersectionality - How Has the LGBTQAI+ Community Interacted with Music Throughout History?

Faculty Sponsor: Stephanie Zamule

Abstract: "An Exploration of Intersectionality - How Has the LGBTQAI+ Community Interacted with Music Throughout History?" serves as the bridge between my two major identities - an LGBTQAI+ individual and a future music educator. My project, a research paper and subsequent honors capstone, identifies the overlap between the LGBTQAI+ community and its relationship to music and the arts throughout history. I have researched and compiled a literature review and personal analytical contribution. I have chosen to research this topic as both of these identities are incredibly important to me. I recognize that a piece like this can help educate others that are unaware of their inherent connection, and foster an environment of acceptance and clarity to those it is relevant to.

Name: Abby Blount

Title: The Effects of Dance on Mental Health

Faculty Sponsor: Stephanie Zamule

Abstract: Dance has been proven to improve mental health, as movement within your body releases endorphins that can reduce stress levels and boost one's mood. College-aged students use dance as a way to connect with other dancers while building interpersonal relationships and improving one's social wellbeing. Although dance is beneficial for social, mental, and physical health, it can also be extremely detrimental, resulting in many different psychological problems, especially following an injury. This study analyzes the psychological risk factors

that dancers experience when they are injured. It will be conducted through the use of surveys in order to determine the effects of an injury on dancers' mental health and to determine the amount of clinically significant psychological symptoms among injured dancers. The overall purpose of this survey was aimed at determining if dance has more positive or negative effects on a dancer's mental health.

Name: Madison Darrell

Title: 'Twas New England's Time to Dance: The Dance Revolution of the Plymouth and Massachusetts Bay Colonies in the Late Colonial and Early Republic Era

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Thomas Lappas

Abstract: This paper focuses on the evolution of dance practice in 17th and 18th-century Massachusetts. During this time of sociopolitical turbulence and revolution, New England's dance practice spun on its heels, challenging the limitations of religious fervor in a society increasingly driven by Enlightenment values and democracy. This paper's main sources include the work of historians; court documents, diaries, and dancing manuals from digital archives; and other sources related to Puritan Massachusetts and colonial dance. This cultural history concludes that dance experienced a revolution of its own, and shifts in practice reflected the attitudes of the time. Many scholars acknowledge the revolutionary changes in dance during the early twentieth century while perceptions of colonial dance remain frozen in time. The evolution of colonial dance is a part of a larger, overlooked history in which practices such as dance build a more holistic understanding of society.

Name: Ian Avery

Title: How Has Culture Affected Theater Construction and How Shows Are Put On?

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Matthew Ames

Abstract: For my Honors Thesis, I have examined the intersectionality of both Culture and Architecture concerning theatrical and performance spaces. I have used Phenomenology and Ethnography as methods to research this topic. I chose this topic because I am graduating with a degree in Theater Design and Technology and am interested in how theater is influenced by the cultures in which it is performed. Having never seen any research relating to the architecture of the buildings in which theater is performed affects the performance, I decided that my Honors Thesis would examine specific eras that I deemed most critical to theater History, namely Ancient Greece and Rome, Medieval Europe, Elizabethan England, 19th and 20th Century Norway, and Feudal Japan, and ending with the Modern areas of Broadway and West End.

Name: Katherine Markello

Title: The Intersection of Arts and Academia: Examining the Societal Value of Dance in Higher Education

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Stephanie Zamule

Abstract: This study serves as an investigation of public perception of dance as a field of study in higher education and as a potential career path, ultimately exploring what society considers to be the value of dance in comparison to other academic and artistic disciplines. Utilizing the methodological approach of anonymous surveys promoted to the undergraduate population of Nazareth University, I examined to what extent consistent and meaningful arts education in elementary, middle, and high school influences public perception of the arts, specifically dance, as a field of study in higher education. Further, I delved into how arts education, or lack thereof, contributes to what society considers to be the value of dance in comparison to other academic and artistic disciplines. This work is imperative as my findings suggest the demand for and benefit of well-funded programs in the arts throughout K-12 education in order to produce well-rounded students ready to take a multifaceted approach to all that is offered to them in higher education. Dance must not be left out of these conversations, and it is vital that dance education be offered within the school day as early as elementary school, and continue throughout high school, as my discoveries show

that arts education at all learning stages has the potential to make an outstanding impact on developing minds.

Name: Morgan Stoecklin

Title: Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome: Uncovering Research Deficits and Proposing

Faculty Sponsor: Mathew Schoell

Abstract: This thesis paper reviews and analyzes the current state of research and clinical practice surrounding Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome. Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome is the diagnosis for neonates born addicted to opioids and who go through withdrawal. As the opioid epidemic has increased across the nation, there has been a proportional increase in the frequency of Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome. The main topics presented in this paper include diagnostic methods, treatment, and impact on fetal development. Ethical principles will be used to explain why it is difficult to have a single solution to the present problems. With the current information compiled, weak spots and gaps become clear. Using this information, I propose a framework for what solutions may be possible. This is a topic that is not widely discussed, so my purpose for choosing this topic is to spread awareness and information.

Name: Isabel Morse

Title: Selection, Training and Work of Conservation Detection Dogs (CDDs) for The Preservation of Ecosystems

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Patrick Garrett

Abstract: Conservation Detection Dogs (CDDs) refer to the use of canines for tracking specific target odors in a wide range of environments to improve ecological land survey, data sampling, and artifact collection. Introducing CDDs into fragile ecosystems to utilize the innate nature of their highly complex scent-tracing systems poses significant value to conservation initiatives. However, there are currently numerous gaps in research surrounding the successful

implementation of canine selection, training, and field protocols for CDDs in outdoor settings. By examining the existing procedures of career-related working dogs and their handlers, I aim to bring light to the vast potential and effectiveness of canines working to preserve ecosystems across the globe.

Name: Rosie Morse

Title: Maternal Health: A look at the alarming rise in maternal deaths and the populations that are disproportionately affected

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Marie Bell

Abstract: Since the start of the 21st century, maternal mortality has started to rise at an alarming pace. Despite the vast advantages in medicine over the past three decades, the number of deaths has nearly quadrupled. I take a look into the complexity of maternal health locally in Monroe County, N.Y., and on the populations that are disproportionately affected by maternal mortality in hopes of providing a window into this crisis. From local organizations supporting maternal health to initiatives implemented, each positive step taken can turn the tide towards better maternal health.

PAPER PRESENTATIONS

Name: Katherine Paulus

Title: Saving History, One Game Over at a Time: The Joystick Chronicles of Video Games as Public Historians

Faculty Sponsor: Timothy Kneeland

Abstract: Over the past thirty years, the video game industry has exploded into a multi-billion-dollar global industry. Because the industry is constantly growing and evolving, discussions surrounding video games and their cultural influence have begun to emerge. The most popular of these discussion topics focuses on the legitimacy of whether or not video games cause violence in children and young adults. However, in recent years, historians have started examining the relationship between video games and the public understanding of history. Through the immersive and entertaining experiences of video games, a growing segment of the public interacts with historical settings and learns about the past. Thus, some scholars see video games as having the potential to be a form of public history.

In my paper, I aim to answer two questions: 1) what can video games teach us about history, and 2) how can video games act as a form of public history? I focus on the Assassin's Creed, Oregon Trail, and Call of Duty series as case studies, examining the types of narratives, historical interpretations, and histories these games provide for a larger audience outside of academia. My research included a literature review of scholarly articles written on the subject and drew on the mission statements from video game companies about the type of histories they want to tell. I conclude that these video games present the educational aspect of history in an immersive and entertaining way, making it more accessible to the public and the field of public history through a modern digital lens.

Name: Erin White

Title: Body of Knowledge: Challenging Conventional Classroom Spaces with Embodied Knowledge

Faculty Sponsor: Heather Roffe

Abstract: The relationship between Western culture and the body has been a strained one, at best. The long-held belief of the mind-body split consisted of the mind being seen as superior, along with analytical reasoning, while the body being associated with primitiveness and seen as something to repress and control. As dance was assumed to be a primarily physical activity, there is an assumption made that dancers therefore have less to offer when it comes to knowledge. It is only in the last ten years or so that there is a growing interest in the ways that the dance community learns, particularly in the relationships between dance and space, and dance and teacher-student relationship. Anthropological studies have investigated the practice of embodied knowledge in dancers relating to how they process the information their bodies provide them. Through the synthesis of other studies and scholarly articles, I define embodied knowledge, identify the potential for multidisciplinary research, and evaluate the value of embodiment as an area of study, in order to advocate for adequate space and funds for dance programs in American higher education.

Name: Hannah Bardeen

Title: Movement and the Mind: Investigating Why Dance/Movement Therapy is Often Not Considered a Favored Option for Therapy for Adults Living with Depression

Faculty Sponsor: Heather Roffe

Abstract: The holistic benefits, especially mental benefits, of dance have been researched and are often communicated in the media. However, Dance/Movement Therapy (DMT) is frequently not regarded as a favored option as therapy for those living with mental health disorders, such as depression. This research aims to investigate why DMT may be stigmatized, undervalued, and underrepresented in therapy spaces. My goal is to show DMT is an underutilized

tool for improving the quality of life for those living with mental health disorders, while demonstrating this therapy mode is valuable and important.

As focus on holistic health increases, the use of Dance/Movement Therapy could be a promising alternative to common therapy practices and other creative arts therapies. However, there seems to be gaps in research, little societal understanding of what DMT is, and potential barriers to accessing this unique therapy option. Throughout this literature review and research, I aim to develop an in depth understanding of what is preventing Dance/Movement Therapy from becoming a more common therapy alternative and identify ways to eliminate barriers in this practice's validity.

Name: Wren Heron

Title: Making Visible the Invisible: Combatting Archival Silences, Redefining Archives, and Collecting Queer/Trans Asian Pacific Islander Stories

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Phillip B. Guingona

Abstract: This paper aims to demonstrate the significance of and advocate for the continued creation and maintenance of archives by the queer/trans Asian Pacific Islander (QTAPI) community. It investigates the emerging body of scholarship on QTAPI knowledge-making and archival practices by analyzing edited collections and anthologies. Analyzing five print anthologies, and pulling six accounts from two of them, this paper seeks to describe the content and themes present in QTAPI writing. In exploring common trends among the sampled literature, I outline the main concerns of QTAPI individuals and discuss how QTAPI anthologies serve as community archives. Situating this discussion within a larger framework of archival silence and power, I argue that community archives are more important and significant to the QTAPI community than inclusion in long-standing archives and institutions. I conclude that QTAPI community archives are sufficient in establishing a historical record for a community long excluded from traditional archives.

Name: Rheanna Barney

Title: Bones of Contention: Navigating the Ethical Labyrinth of Medical Museums

Faculty Sponsor: Timothy Kneeland

Abstract: In this paper, I delve into the ethical considerations surrounding the display of human remains in the presentation of medical history, using Philadelphia's Mütter Museum as a focal point. The paper examines the ongoing debate over medical museums being able to engage with the public while avoiding exploitation or sensationalism in their displays. Criticism has been directed at recent changes implemented by the museum's director, who launched an extensive audit aimed at removing potentially unethically obtained objects from public view. This crusade reignited discussions on the ethical display of human remains in museums, prompting questions about the intended purpose of such exhibits: are they ethical? Are they meant for knowledge or mere entertainment? By researching the origins of medical museums worldwide, existing ethical frameworks (or a lack thereof), and the history of the Mütter Museum, this paper seeks to understand public reactions and the museum's effort to adapt as a modern institution through collaboration and dialogue. Personal visits to the museum provide additional insights into Mütter's successes and failures in bridging the gap between medical history and public perception.

Name: Amanda Inges

Title: Girl Boss: Maintaining Femininity in the Defiance of Gender Roles

Faculty Sponsor: Ed Wiltse

Abstract: Featured from Nazareth's "Crime and Punishment in the U.S" class, I have written an analysis paper on the representation of female leads in the film Fargo, directed by Joel and Ethan Coen, and the short story "A Jury of her Peers" by Susan Glaspell. The paper discusses how the featured women are able to maintain their femininity while in a traditionally male position, transcending the societal limitations put upon them. The themes for this analysis were brought about largely through the help of class discussions, as well the use of a critical lens into the thematic choices of both medias. Such representation was important to explore as it provides an opportunity to see women of differing time periods

represented positively as something more than what society had decided they were. It also provides a less evaluated viewpoint that women can integrate femininity into traditional male roles, emphasizing that the two experiences are not exclusive. This presentation will consist of a discussion of the gender expectations at the time of each story, an introduction of each feature as well as their female leads, finishing with a reading of the final paper.

Name: Katherine Theobald

Title: Hero or Housewife: An Analysis of the Expectations for Women Across Media

Faculty Sponsor: Ed Wiltse

Abstract: This presentation will elaborate on my analysis of the primary female characters in Joel and Ethan Coen's *Fargo*, and Steph Cha's *Your House Will Pay*. Class discussion in Dr. Wiltse's "Crime & Punishment in the US" inspired a critical analysis of this film and novel. My paper examines how these characters do and do not comply with societal expectations for women, and what power this gives them or deprives them of in each of their narratives. Similarities can be found when comparing these women's depictions and experiences, despite differences in creators, time, culture, and circumstances. This is an important topic as it calls into question how gender is perceived and implemented. I will discuss these points alongside clips from *Fargo*, passages from Cha's novel, and excerpts from my paper.

Name: Jesse Benner

Title: Unveiling Racial Trauma: A Comparative Analysis of Cultural Shifts in American Society Through the Lens of Chester Himes and Steph Cha

Faculty Sponsor: Ed Wiltse

Abstract: This paper delves into the intricate intersectionality of modern American political and racial conflicts, exploring how they are deeply intertwined since the

nation's inception. Centuries of slavery, internment, riots, lynchings, and systemic discrimination have left indelible stains on the United States' history. Despite the passage of time, the emotions stemming from this legacy persist and may be reaching a boiling point, exacerbated by political rhetoric and a surge in displays of bigotry and prejudice. Recent events such as the Tops Buffalo Massacre, the Dallas shooter targeting white cops at a Black Lives Matter rally, and the public murder of George Floyd underscore the urgency of addressing these issues. The paper highlights a cultural shift where traditional racial divides are becoming blurred, evolving from a binary white vs. non-white narrative to a more complex systemic vs. citizens dynamic. Drawing from two literary texts spanning a 60-year gap—Chester Himes' "The Real Cool Killers" (1959) and Steph Cha's "Your House Will Pay" (2019)—the paper analyzes how both authors portray the perilous consequences of unaddressed racial biases and traumas which continue to cycle more hurt onto the next generations.

Performance (dance, theater, music, film)

Name: Abby Pattermann, Mikayla Avery, Abby Blount, Sara Cipolla, Amelia Douglas, Ella Falcone, Abigail Klein, Katherine Marcoccia, Myra Parzych, Alexandra Rentzis, Alaina Sprole, Ryann Stickel, Morgan Vandemark, Kristen Waltz and Sophie Wills

Title: AFRO-IRISH FUSIONS IN AMERICAN TAP DANCE

Faculty Sponsor: Cheryl Johnson

Abstract: Between 1914 and 1919, two streams of musical theater dancing evolved - one based in Black vernacular dance and black rhythmic sensibilities, the other in the jig and clog tradition of White Broadway. We will share our research, which includes tap dance icons such as Bill 'Bojangles' Robinson, Shirley Temple, George M. Cohan, Leonard Reed, The Whitman Sisters, Charles 'Honi' Coles, and Ruby Keeler. Through PowerPoint and live performance, we will present our research and studies conducted via online resources to describe the Americanization of the African and Irish cultural contributions to the eventual formation of the American dance genre known as Tap Dancing. Our performance will include snippets of historical tap pieces, as well as choreography created by the Tap II course this spring semester. Many influential dancers assisted in the complex creation of the tap genre, including those that are highlighted in our presentation. The development of the tap genre has been both an intricate and spirited evolution, and we want viewers to peer into the differences between the two biggest influences in tap: African and Irish culture.

Name: Rita Veneziale, Jennifer Cesare, Jacob Eskildsen, Madeline Downing, Braeden Ross, Andreia Krantz, Kara Boldt and Molly Connors

Title: Inside the Score: Chernobyl

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Octavio Vazquez

Abstract: Chernobyl is an eight-minute-long orchestral work depicting the 1986 nuclear disaster and its aftermath. The piece uses numerous compositional

techniques to describe the events, including musical references and extended instrumental techniques. Following the premiere with the Nazareth University Symphony Orchestra, I will take a deep dive into the score to show the significance of every measure and discuss the process of working with an ensemble leading up to a premiere.

The Creative Process (30'): Panel discussion with the leading presenters, moderated by Dr. Vazquez, followed by a Q&A

Poster Presentations

Name: Katherine Paulus, Rheanna Barney, Ashley Jenkins, Jordyn Bagely and Adriano Siesto

Title: Oral History Project

Faculty Sponsor: Joelle Carota

Abstract: What does it mean to be Italian American in Rochester? That is what the student interns at the Frank DiMino Casa Italiana have set out to answer through this Oral History Project. For the past two years, the Center for Public History and the Frank DiMino Casa Italiana have partnered to collect data for an Oral History Project. Through this collaboration, the student interns at Casa Italiana have been collecting the stories and family histories of Italian Americans living in the greater Rochester area through oral interviews. Members of the Italian American community were contacted via community programs run by the Casa so they could contribute with their stories and help to further the project. The student interns who worked on this project interviewed, recorded, transcribed, and archived these oral interviews so that one day they could be made public to preserve Italian American stories. This oral history project was spearheaded by the director of Casa Italiana, Dr. Joëlle Carota, and by the director of the Center for Public History, Dr. Timothy Kneeland. To document Italian American stories and language retention patterns in Italian American families living in Rochester, NY. The student interns of Casa Italiana will be presenting the data collected during this project in a poster format.

Name: Abbey Cronin

Title: Don't 'Like' the Self-Objectification: Social Media, Stereotype Threat, and Math Performance in Women

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Lindsey LaPlant

Abstract: Researchers studied the effects of social media posts on self-objectification, and the possible interaction of stereotype threat, on cognitive

functioning as measured by math ability. This extended previous work by looking at these variables conjointly with manipulation of posts and instructions. Social media posts did induce self-objectification, however these nor stereotype threat significantly impacted cognitive functioning. Limitations in design method, math score floor effects, and future directions for modifications and design methods are discussed.

Name: Maggie Davison

Title: Share the Magic of Literacy

Faculty Sponsor: Shirley Sommers

Abstract: Super Bowl Champion Malcolm Mitchell has done much more than win a title. Malcolm Mitchell is an active social justice activist when it comes to poverty and literacy. Through the creation of the “Share the Magic Foundation” Mitchell has provided books as well as funds to help close the gap between literacy and poverty. Students should learn about individuals like Malcolm Mitchell who are trying to help students like them and have faced their own struggles and used these struggles to empower others. “The idea that anyone’s potential is capped based on a start they never asked for” is a common issue in today's contemporary society. Mitchell is ready to open up this cap and give opportunities to children in need.

Name (G): Rose Evans, Gabby Larson, Grace Whitenack, Becca Rodriguez and Mykalia Reiter

Title: Engaging with the Early Childhood Community: Graduate Student Perspectives from a Community Assistantship

Faculty Sponsor: Lisa Hiley

Abstract: Project RISE is a model to promote workforce development that includes a New York State Advanced Certificate in Early Intervention as well as community and professional experiences that extend learning beyond the classroom. The

purpose of RISE is holistic and interprofessional preparation of graduate students and early career professionals from the allied health and early education fields to advocate for change, work with families in culturally responsive and trauma-informed ways, and promote the overall development and well-being of young children (0-8 years), and children with different abilities. RISE's holistic commitment to students includes a unique experiential opportunity for graduate students. This poster explains RISE's community assistant model that pairs graduate students pursuing the specialty training with community partners that serve young children and families. Through the community assistantship experience students work with children and families in ways that extend their class and clinical learning and expose them to the system of support, programs, and advocacy efforts that impact access and direct services for young children and their families. Through student reflections the following community partners are highlighted: WXXI PBS Kids, Summer LEAP, Parents Helping Parents, HealthiKids/PlayRocs, JFS Nurture Program and the Rochester Public Library.

Name: Vanessa Parra

Title: Perceived Racial and Gender Bias in Crimes

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Lindsey E LaPlant

Abstract: It seems like everyday we hear about a different mass shooting. In the first 100 days of 2023, there were about 146 mass shootings, which is about one a day (Everytown for Gun Safety, 2023). School shootings have been on the rise, with 377 massacres since the Columbine shooting of 1999 (Cox et al., 2023). With so many acts of violence happening in schools, it is interesting to see if there is any pattern in the perpetrators. While there is a significant amount of research on biases in a variety of forms, there is minimal research on biases regarding school shootings. Gender and racial bias can be seen across the world and can be tested in a variety of settings. We have seen a bias in assuming those from minorities as the perpetrators of violent crimes, but this bias has not been examined with school shootings. Whiteness is overlooked as a cause for school shootings and therefore, research does not exist due to political valence and emotional division on this topic (Gregory,2020).

The purpose of this study was to test people's biases about the perpetrator in school shootings. This differs from previous studies which have focused on why shootings were committed, but not by whom. I hypothesized that the main bias would be towards gender, assuming the male committed the crime. As for race, I hypothesized that the bias could be there or not depending on the participant. With all the white-passing males we see executing school shootings, I hypothesized that this candidate would be rated with the highest likelihood of being the perpetrator, regardless of photo order. A within groups study was used with four different levels of the independent variable. In all of the conditions, the crime scenario was the same school shooting story to minimize confounds. The independent variable was the given suspects, different genders (male and female) and races (black and white) of each given suspect. The dependent variable was who the participant thought committed the crime and the scale that went along with it. After reading the scenario, a Likert scale was given for the participants to assess the likelihood of who committed the crime on a scale of one to five, with one being definitely did not commit the crime and five being definitely did commit the crime. Demographic questions included gender, hometown, and political affiliation. After giving informed consent, participants read about the fictional school shooting. Next they viewed four different photos and assessed each's likelihood of being the perpetrator. Counterbalancing was employed to see if the order of the photos mattered. Once participants completed their rating of the photos they answered some demographic questions, were thanked and debriefed.

Name (G): Kari Fox, Tara Baer, Olivia Caldwell, Rachel Cook, Rose Evans, Gabby Larsen, Becca Rodriguez and Grace Whitenack

Title: Kids Can't Wait: Students Reflections on Advocacy

Faculty Sponsor: Lisa Hiley

Abstract: Early Intervention (EI) improves the long-term health, educational, and social outcomes for children with disabilities. However, a local and regional provider shortage denies children with disabilities the necessary services to support development. This poster presentation exhibits Nazareth students' partnership with 'The Children's Agenda' to engage in local and state-wide advocacy efforts addressing the workforce crisis. In bringing awareness to this

issue eight Nazareth students traveled to Albany in February 2024 along with more than 60 parents and providers to meet with elected officials and their representatives. Conversations centered on advocacy asks including increased reimbursement rates for providers, policy and cost analyses, and loan forgiveness programs. Students were positioned to share their perspectives and experiences alongside other advocates in an effort to promote policy change. This poster will include students' reflections on their experience as well as their insights into future directions for advocacy efforts.

Name: Kayla Simons, Olivia Grome and Mae Clancy

Title: Essentialism as a Philosophy of Education

Faculty Sponsor: Shirley Sommers

Abstract: Our project will be presenting research on the philosophy of essentialism and its importance in education. We will discuss what the philosophy is about and who the propagators are, while also describing what a curriculum using this philosophy would look like, and the roles of teachers and students in this philosophy. We will be researching the application of essentialism in teaching and learning. Our research will be presented using a poster. We are researching this for a class assignment.

Name: Sophia Grimm, Felicia Amadio, Faith Bennett and Ellen Turo

Title: Perennialism as a Philosophy of Education

Faculty Sponsor: Shirley Sommers

Abstract: The purpose of our presentation is to describe the philosophy of Perennialism and its relevance as a guiding principle in education. Specifically, our presentation will explain the main components of the philosophy and will provide background on its origin, including a description of the propagators of the philosophy. Additionally, we will describe how Perennialism may look in classrooms, with an emphasis on how it influences curriculum development as well as teacher and student roles. The information presented in our project

represents a combination of individual and group research focused on this philosophy. Our group completed this project as part of a class requirement and chose this topic because we thought it would be interesting to learn more about an educational philosophy that has likely influenced our own school experiences.

Name: Lauren Fairchild

Title: Quantifying the Eocene Reptilian and Fish Fauna of Birket Qarun-2, the Fayum Depression, Egypt

Faculty Sponsor: Jacob McCartney

Abstract: Today Egypt has a desert climate, but that was not always the case. During the Eocene, the region was tropical. Rocks of this age preserved at Birket Qarun-2 (BQ-2) are made of sandy clay sediment creating ideal conditions for fossilization, especially in fluvial deposits. Common macrofossils include whales, primates, rodents, crocodylians, turtles, lizards, and numerous kinds of fishes. Here we describe an abundance of vertebrate microfossils from this locality. We assessed and classified reptiles and fishes from BQ-2 through anatomical comparison utilizing primary literature and resources like the Paleobiology Database. Microphotographs were taken of the best representatives of each fossil morphotype. Representatives of each morphotype were counted, quantifying numerical abundance per species in the collection. Vertebrae of the lizard family Varanidae and shark teeth were the most common elements, followed by crocodylians. This is consistent with previously reported materials and reflects modern fauna. The abundance of shark teeth can be explained by how their teeth are shed throughout life. All fossils are typical of tropical climates, whether endemic to Africa or migrating via landbridge from Southern Asia. This gives insight into the early Cenozoic non-mammalian vertebrates of Africa, and the evolution of the modern fauna.

Name: Amelia Richards, Ivana Pierce, Maura Miller, Nishita Kumar and Miranda Nicolosi

Title: Effects of Hormonal Contraceptives vs Hormonal IUD on the Risk of Developing Cancer

Faculty Sponsor: Bonnie Walden

Abstract: Cancer is a prevalent issue in today's society affecting more than 8 million women worldwide. Many women develop breast cancer which can be brought on and advanced by the influx of estrogen within the female body. Some of these women who are diagnosed with breast cancer are around childbearing age and may have used hormonal contraception in the past, or are planning to use hormonal contraception in the future. Hormonal contraception that is controlled by the use of estrogen or progesterone that distributes estrogen or progesterone to prevent ovulation. We chose to research a possible relationship between hormonal contraceptives (whether oral pills or and IUD) and the possible risks of women developing cancer. This is a poster presentation brought about by 5 group members researching articles online or through the library database. This is a concept that many people do not have enough comprehension on, as we as a group also discovered that we did not have enough comprehension on the topic. We want to make sure there is more information on the side effects of hormonal contraceptives in academic circulation and that women are able to obtain further understanding of what may or may not happen to their bodies in the near or far future.

Name (G): [Christina Devantier](#), [Laura LaCara](#), [Kaylin Keenan](#), [Shayna Rapp](#), [Julianna and Murphy](#)

Title: Investigating Time in Positioning Devices During Early Infancy and Long Term Motor Development: A Mixed Methods Study

Faculty Sponsor: Julie Kunisch

Abstract: Infants have currently been spending increased time in positioning devices during the early months of development. Positioning devices may constrain motor performance and motor skills development. Previous research suggests that there is a correlation between increased time spent in positioning devices and infant movement and posture in the first 3-4 months of life. We

investigated whether a statistical relationship between time spent in infant positional devices and early infant motor performance persists in later motor developmental milestones, and parents' perspectives about utilizing positional devices with their infant.

Name: Lauren Fairchild, Matthew Roberson, Mykailah Kelly and Veronica Szaba

Title: Toxic Tides: Assessing cadmium [Cd] Levels In Seafood As A Human Health Threat

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Stephanie Zamule

Abstract: Exposure to cadmium has been linked to a variety of adverse health effects, including kidney damage, carcinogenicity, and reproductive abnormalities. This research assessed cadmium levels in seafood purchased in the Rochester, NY region, specifically focusing on whole black bass purchased from Great Ocean Seafood, a local seafood purveyor, and a variety of gutted fish and filets (flounder, bronzini, and red snapper) and oysters purchased from Wegmans, a regional supermarket chain. Levels of cadmium were measured using an atomic emission spectrometer. Cadmium levels varied widely between the whole black bass samples from Great Ocean Seafood, with one bass exhibiting highly elevated cadmium levels as compared to the other whole black bass and all gutted fish, filets, and oysters purchased from Wegmans. While the oysters had slightly higher cadmium levels as compared to the other seafood, the concentrations were not high enough to pose health risks from consuming a single serving in nearly all cases. This data provides valuable insights into the variations of cadmium contamination in different seafood sources and underscores the importance of monitoring and regulating seafood quality along with properly labeling packaging with sourcing (ie. location, farmed or wild-caught) to ensure consumer safety.

Name: Kara Daskiewich

Title: Challenges of Public Health Promotion in Rochester, NY: Through the Lens of a Grass Roots Non-Profit Organization

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Mary Dahl Maher

Abstract: As part of an independent study and my public health internship, I was fortunate to have the opportunity to work with the Monroe County Family Coalition, a grassroots organization from Greece, NY. This group was formed to address the racial socioeconomic barrier of public health that plagues Rochester. Their mission statement is grounded in a holistic, humanistic lens that values human connection. Still, it is a challenge to implement programs, reach the community, and unite families because of the silos and socioeconomic divides that exist in Rochester. A testament to this is the community garden project that I co-chair where indirect communication, legal stipulations, and finances negatively impact implementation according to the desired timeline. This CARS poster reflects my internship experience and how channeling passion, building resilience, and making meaningful 1:1 connections is the key to moving forward and tackling the barriers to promote health and wellness, no matter the setting.

Name: Carly Richardson, Suada Bakri, Regan Kinsella and Emma Zimmer

Title: Perinatal Outcomes Associated With Hypertension During Pregnancy

Faculty Sponsor: Bonnie Walden

Abstract: As a group we created a poster to talk about the impact that hypertension has on pregnant women and how this impacts their health and the health of their future child. We will be presenting a poster with research based articles that support what we learned about hypertension affecting perinatal outcomes. We ultimately chose this topic because we are all very interested in women's health and this is just a start on what affects women and their pregnancies, so we thought it was fascinating to learn about and bring awareness to.

Name: Jeanne Chabot and Eleanor Foster

Title: Postpartum Depression and Its Effect on Children

Faculty Sponsor: Bonnie J. Walden

Abstract: Postpartum depression is a condition that takes many forms and can remain undiagnosed for long periods of time. Sadly, it's believed that postpartum depression is much more common than the data reveals. As part of a course project, our group did a literature review to investigate the connection between postpartum depression in the mother and the effect that has on children. In our poster we shared the synthesis of the studies reviewed and discussed how the findings could be applied to practice.

Name(G): McKenna Purcell

Title: The Impact of Explicit SEL Instruction for K-2 Learners

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Kerry Dunn

Abstract: As a clinical assistant in a suburban school district, I am implementing action-based research in social-emotional learning (SEL) with kindergarten, first, and second grade students. I am working on developing the social-emotional learning skills of these students through explicit lessons, with a more specific goal of developing their ability to internalize and apply these skills in context. My instruction supplements school-based SEL instruction that students work on daily in their classrooms yet focuses directly on addressing social and self-awareness. I work with first and second graders in a small group setting, as well as with kindergarten students as a whole group twice a week for 15 to 20 minutes. My interventions thus far have focused on students' identifying and understanding emotions in themselves and others, developing self-regulation strategies, and working to recognize and develop age-appropriate social skills in the context of friendships. The data I have gathered thus far indicates that students are growing in their social and self-competencies. Research has shown that explicit instruction in SEL leads to such growth (Greene, 2023). As a future teacher, this research will help me develop strategies to support my students in their social-emotional learning and target needed areas of development.

Name: Molly Pullen and Genevieve Francione

Title: The Effects of College Drinking and Partying on Academic Performance

Faculty Sponsor: Bonnie Walden

Abstract: This project was a poster creation presenting research on the effects of college drinking and partying upon the academic performance of students. We formulated a PICOT question and we collected data and research from various sources upon this topic, compiling it into our poster. These sources were peer-reviewed and examined our topic in unique lenses. We chose this topic because drinking occurs at many colleges and universities, and it can have detrimental effects on students. It is imperative to spread awareness about how college drinking can cause grades to suffer, which can impact the acquisition of a future career and success.

Name: Cara Becker

Title: Gus Solomons Jr.

Faculty Sponsor: Mariko Yamada

Abstract: The nature of my project is to present on Gus Solomons Jr. who is a dancer and choreographer that does not get enough recognition for the impacts he has had on the dance world. I will present the information I gathered in the form of a poster. I will talk about the extensive research I did on his background in dance, how he started, where he trained, how he discovered choreography, and the impacts he left on dance. I chose to present on Gus Solomons Jr. because after talking about him in our Dance History class, I wanted to do more research on how he got his start and why he is not talked about enough.

Name (G): Lauren Sparacio

Title: Effective Strategies for Supporting Readers Using AAC Devices

Faculty Sponsor: Kerry Dunn

Abstract: As a clinical assistant and full time special education teacher for RCSD. I had the opportunity to explore and implement different strategies to increase reading skills with augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) devices. I currently teach in a second grade non-verbal Autism Spectrum Disorder classroom. I have found across five of my students there are different skill sets using their AAC devices and or verbal skills. The AAC devices use the program: language acquisition through motor planning (LAMP). In the areas of reading accuracy, comprehension, and second grade sight words myself and the classroom teaching assistant work with the students daily. Currently, I am data tracking the effectiveness of different strategies and methods of using their devices and or verbal skills to read. These methods include using LAMP cues, word finder, verbal skills, and adult support. I collected multiple data points to track trends and growth with identifying sight words, reading comprehension and reading accuracy scores. From the preliminary data, I found growth in most of the students' skills. For the next step, I have to examine the data collected to determine what strategy is most effective for each specific student and where they have gained the most growth. Once data is collected and examined to determine the most effective strategy for each student then I plan to data track the long term effectiveness of the strategy. This research has deepened my knowledge and development on how to support non-verbal students.

Name(G): Helene Becker

Title: The Effects of Differentiated Operation Intervention

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Kerry Dunn

Abstract: As a clinical assistant in a rural school district, I have had the opportunity to conduct an action research project working in a 4th grade math classroom. This research has been a continuous implementation of operation intervention using skill trajectories. Throughout this intervention process, I worked with eighteen students during what I need (WIN) periods. For this intervention, students were grouped based on the specific level (from the skill trajectories) of the operation

they needed to practice in order to reach the level of 4th grade benchmark. Twice a week, I worked with all groups to practice specific levels of operations, strictly through computations. Preliminary data analysis indicates that practice in differentiated small groups increases 4th graders computational achievement. This research also continued in whole group math lessons with cooperative word problem practice, with all thirty eight 4th graders in the building. Initial data indicated that students struggled with word problems, but were able to accurately complete the corresponding computations. For the whole group practice, students worked in partners or small groups to solve a variety of word problems. I plan to reassess at a later point to see if students are able to calculate computation and solve the corresponding word problems accurately. From this research, I have learned the strong impact of differentiated operation intervention on grade level computations and word problem practice on understanding word problems.

Name: Kayla Ringler

Title: Daystar/Rosalie Jones

Faculty Sponsor: Mariko Yamada

Abstract: Daystar/Rosalie Jones is a renowned native modern dancer, choreographer, and teacher. She received mentorship from Jose Limon during her time at The Juilliard School in New York City. In the spring of 2023, when the Nazareth Dance Department had the opportunity to learn repertoire from the Limon Dance Company, many of the dancers were introduced to Rosalie. I was particularly interested in learning more about her life and the influence she had on others, which guided the focus of my research. This presentation will be an adaptation of an in-class presentation that stemmed from learning about the pioneers of modern dance in my Dance History/Aesthetics course. I used a combination of primary and secondary sources to conduct my research. Rosalie has written many narratives which are also incorporated into my presentation. I will create a poster presentation that includes many of the aspects of Rosalie's life and the influence she had on modern dance when she created her company, DAYSTAR: Contemporary Dance-Drama of Indian America. She states that the mission of her company is, "To encourage and train Native Americans in the performing arts, and to teach others to respectfully approach the dance, music,

culture and art of Native North Americans.” I think it is important to learn about the work she has created in order to educate others about Native American life experiences.

Name: Catherine Zak and Lilianna Hanning

Title: New Material of the Early Snake Simoliophis (Ophidia, Simoliophiidae) from the Upper Cretaceous Bahariya Formation of Egypt

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Jacob McCartney

Abstract: Simoliophiidae is an extinct family of hind-limbed aquatic snakes that lived in the Late Cretaceous Tethys Sea. The type genus Simoliophis is known from two species, Simoliophis rochebrunei of Western Europe and Simoliophis libycus of North Africa. Simoliophis material has also been found in the Bahariya Formation of Egypt. The Egyptian Simoliophis was originally attributed to *S. rochebrunei*; however, this identification has more recently been questioned. Here we present an analysis of a new collection of Simoliophis vertebrae from the Bahariya Formation in Egypt, and compare them to other simoliophiid snakes. We determined morphological characteristics of the regions of the vertebral column, and assigned each vertebra a relative position therein. Our study describes numerous differences in morphology between the Egyptian material and all other simoliophiids. These results support identification of a new species of Simoliophis in the Late Cretaceous of Egypt, and increases our knowledge of the diversity of Simoliophiidae in the ancient Tethys Sea.

Name: Zackary Lovejoy, Julia Dietz, Tayler Sharp and Alexandra Sheldrake

Title: The Effects of Calcium Intake and Physical Activity on Bone Density in Women

Faculty Sponsor: Bonnie Walden

Abstract: Our project is a poster presentation about the different effects that calcium and physical activity can have on bone density in women. This was a

research project that we completed for my evidence based practice class, and our group had to complete extensive data based research and complete APA citation for the project. This involved using different databases through the Nazareth University Library such as CINAHL and MEDLINE to look into various articles and studies that were completed looking into various effects of these interventions. The reason that we chose to do a project on this topic is because we learned through our anatomy and physiology classes that the average human's bone density peaks at around 35 and starts to decline afterwards. Once an individual reaches their peak bone density age there is almost nothing that can be done to increase their bone density which leads to disease like osteoporosis. The lowering in bone density is even more severe in women because after menopause there is a dramatic drop in estrogen which is an important hormone in women to keep their bone density high. In our classes we also learned that a higher calcium intake can raise blood levels of calcium, which increases calcium deposits into bone making them stronger. Furthermore, we learned that physical activity, more specifically weight bearing exercise, increases bone mass in individuals as well. With this information, our group was interested in seeing which tactic was more efficient with increasing bone density in individuals which is what inspired us to complete our research project on this.

Name: Victoria Thompson and Bev Sainteme

Title: A U.S. Student Reflection on Maternity and Pediatric Community Healthcare in Finland

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Mary Dahl Maher

Abstract: Our CARS project is about highlighting the similarities and differences between the two healthcare systems in terms of outpatient perinatal and pediatric care. In our CARS project, we aim to show how Finnish nurses take on the role of being public health nurses when caring for pregnant mothers and the pediatric population.

In addition to completing 120 hours for our internship, we also had the opportunity to explore the country of Finland, particularly the southern part of the country. Through this internship we truly learned how the Finnish government

cares for expectant parents and the impact it has on Finnish society. Furthermore, we aim to highlight the cultural differences between the American and the Finnish higher education system and we will discuss what practices were observed and have the potential to be implemented into American practices.

Name: [Trinity Rice](#)

Title: The African American Influence In Modernized Dance

Faculty Sponsor: Mariko Yamada

Abstract: This project is to demonstrate how certain African American pioneers contributed to the timeline of modernized dance. Whether it's their technique, style, motives, etc, dance has changed overtime and defied the odds of traditional movement, gender roles, political ideas etc. Some of the pioneers are Alvin Ailey, Bill T Jones, Katherine Dunham, and Camille Brown. This is an ongoing research for my dance history class.

Name: [Sophia Caruana](#)

Title: How Students and Professors Perceive and Use Chatbots

Faculty Sponsor: Ilka Datig

Abstract:

I determined how students and professors use (or wish to use) chatbots in a college setting, as well as their general ethical views about them. The goal was to gain more insight on the social norms of using these chatbots in academia, specifically at Nazareth. I will be presenting a poster on my findings.

To do this, I created a pilot study where I had my peers and professors take a survey to gather data on their perspectives. The questions of this encompassed personal experiences with chatbots, and the ethics of chatbots in the classroom. Then, I conducted statistical analysis of the data.

Chatbots, or conversational generative artificial intelligence apps (like Chat GPT, Google Bard, Perplexity.AI) are becoming more and more commonplace in many academic settings, including Nazareth. Despite the increased usage of these chatbots, the rules around their utilization are very vague, and there is a lack of consensus as to how they should be applied in this setting. This technology is bound to change the academic landscape. Thus, we must develop an understanding of how students and professors perceive and use them to avoid miscommunications, as well as to develop ethical and beneficial AI policies.

Name: Gavin Kosmack and Connor Jackson

Title: Empiricism as an Educational Philosophy

Faculty Sponsor: Shirley Sommers

Abstract: A discussion of what Empiricism is about: Who the propagators were who emphasized its uses, what a curriculum looks like with focus on Empirical learning. Featuring a discussion on the roles of the teacher, and students in a classroom, we will explain the implementations of Empiricism as a philosophy of education.

Name: Nathan Spader, CJ Stremick, Laura Lepkowski, Lexi Jenkins and Jack Hughes

Title: Rationalism as a Philosophy of Education

Faculty Sponsor: Shirley Sommers

Abstract: We will be exploring Rationalism as a Philosophy of Education, and how the following five questions will look for an education centered around this philosophy: What is the philosophy that you are exploring about? Who are the propagators of philosophy? What would a curriculum that uses the philosophy look like? What would be the role of the teacher in this curriculum? What would be the role of the student in this curriculum?

Name: Leah Greenwich, and Lindsey Whitley and Allie Reardon

Title: Engaging Students through Interactive Math Games

Faculty Sponsor: Nicole Juersivich

Abstract: Our project explores how games and play support student learning and deepen their mathematical understanding. We researched how math manipulatives and effective learning strategies help students further their understanding on various math topics. We chose the most effective strategies and manipulatives to create both physical and digital games tailored towards the second grade math curriculum. We will share our reasoning behind our choices and discuss how they specifically assist students in deepening their understanding of mathematics.

This is important to us specifically because all three of us are future educators and we think it's incredibly important to fully engage students in learning in a fun and meaningful way. We also want to have a resource repository so we can refer back to the resources we found and implement them in our future classrooms. It is also important for students because it provides them with new and exciting ways for them to explore what they are learning.

Name (G): Jessica Rebelo, Laura Ferris, Emily Daciw, Julia Dowling and Amber Dangelmaier

Title: Assessing the Relationship Between Caregiver Attitudes and Learned Dependency among the Stroke Survivor Population: A Qualitative Exploration Based on Caregiver Report

Faculty Sponsor: Will Soles

Abstract: A lack of knowledge regarding the topic of learned dependency among chronic stroke survivors exists. This research aimed to explore caregiver attitudes and seek to understand their relationship to learned dependency among this population and how those attitudes might impact completing daily occupations.

For those study 30-45 minute, semi-structured interviews were completed. The script of the interviews was designed to elicit the attitudes of caregivers relating to their responsibilities, roles, and their perception of the capacities of the person they cared for. A total of six participants were able to complete interviews conducted by the researchers. Qualitative thematic analysis was used to identify caregiver attitudes, how they might impact care, and the possibility of learned dependency. Results indicated that unpaid caregivers often lack the time and resources to provide opportunities for independent occupational engagement among stroke survivors. Further, three themes emerged throughout the interviews, which include: 1. outside factors, 2. lack of time, and 3. lack of resources. Based on this analysis, it appears that learned dependency may be an unintended consequence of the lack of time and resources among caregivers.

Name (G): Brooke Hailston, Molly Channels, Morgan Sibble, Caitrin Rennoldson and Rachel McNamara

Title: A Short-Term Animal Assisted Anxiety Group Intervention for Undergraduates: Participant Engagement and Impressions

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Laura Poleshuck

Abstract: Due to the fact that anxiety rates are increasingly prevalent amongst the college student population, this research aimed to determine if incorporating a therapy dog into a three-session therapy group focused on anxiety reduction would increase group attendance, the participants' self-reported comfort and engagement in sessions, and reduce participants' self-reported anxiety levels. Working in collaboration with the Anxiety Toolbox (AT) facilitator at Nazareth University, our group analyzed and reconfigured the current AT handbook and setting to create a more inviting group that will hopefully increase the desire of college-age students to participate in their wellness journey. We surveyed participants in two separate AT groups on the Nazareth University campus, one with and one without a therapy dog present. Twelve of fourteen participants attended all three sessions and completed the survey. Results indicate that students perceived the presence of a therapy dog as having a positive impact on their anxiety levels. Future research with larger sample sizes is warranted to determine best practices.

Name: Vanessa Parra

Title: Increasing Gender Diversity in the Early Childhood Classroom

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Shirley Sommers

Abstract: I will be creating a poster as well as a list of resources on how to increase diversity, specifically gender diversity in the classroom. This is an important topic as we see increasing censorship and importance in gender diversity. I will be researching why it is important to teacher gender diversity to children and how to do it in an age appropriate manner. I chose this topic as a part of my gender and education class. As someone who wants to go into early childhood education, it is important to have a clear and non-bias view on gender diversity so you know how to serve your students and their families best. Gender diversity here is not just the binary of genders, it is sexual orientation, it is for families who may be considered different, children who are questioning their identity and more. It is about how you can serve your students best. Teachers need to be able to serve all their students to the best of their abilities and that means supporting their students in all ways.

Name: Genevieve Vonahnen

Title: Bebe Miller

Faculty Sponsor: Mariko Yamada

Abstract: I will be presenting on choreographer and performer Bebe Miller. I will explore her specific technique in the modern dance world and other artists who have influenced her and her movement. I will also be sharing her influence in the dance concert world and why she is an important figure in the dance world as a whole.

Name: Kurstie Gant, Adrian Neumire, Caroline DiPasquale and Madison Shaw

Title: Burnout in Nurses

Faculty Sponsor: Bonnie Walden

Abstract: In nurses, how does working in inpatient care compared to working in outpatient care affect burnout? Burnout is a long-term stress reaction that is marked by emotional exhaustion and can even cause depersonalization and a lack of sense of self, which can impact patient care. This is a research study looking at how burnout affects nurses depending on what setting they work in.

Name: Morgan Miller

Title: Day In The Life of a Public Health Nurse: Camp Cory Internship

Faculty Sponsor: Mary Maher

Abstract: Summer camp is a great opportunity for children to stay active physically, gain independence, make new friends, and create life-long memories. It is important to do this safely by having staff who are academically and clinically prepared to take care of these children by passing medications daily, being aware of certain allergies, and in the case of an emergency being able to respond quickly and efficiently.

This past summer, I had the opportunity to help be a summer camp nurse at Camp Cory. This experience showed me what the day in the life of a public health nurse at a summer camp is all about. There is a lot of work behind the scenes that makes it possible for these kids to come. Leading up to camp I spent weeks reviewing medication records of each camper and reaching out to parents to correct documentation. This was critical because if we did not have a doctor's order for a medication we were not allowed to give it. After all, that is out of the scope of practice of a nurse. While at camp, I distributed daily medications, provided routine healthcare when needed, and overall provided campers with a healthy camping experience.

I chose this project because I believe summer camps are very beneficial for children in multiple different aspects of their development. I also learned that it is also an educational opportunity for the staff as well.

Name: Elizabeth Ferguson

Title: I Promise To Make A Difference

Faculty Sponsor: Shirley Sommers

Abstract: NBA star LeBron James has paved a social justice-centered path for students and families living in poverty. He created the LeBron James Family Foundation in his hometown of Akron, Ohio to serve and provide resources for students in order to succeed academically and in life afterward. This foundation originated by providing backpacks and bicycles to students and evolved into creating after-school programs, creating a public school still currently serving a high population of kids, and building affordable housing for families in need. LeBron James has continued to serve in a social justice role by donating to multiple causes and bridging his actions to early childhood literacy by writing his two books, "I Promise" and "I Am More Than." My presentation will be the result of informal research based on articles and resources that discuss the difference LeBron James has made within society and his hometown.

Name (G): Megan Pum

Title: How does teaching phonics through discrete skills influence the fluency and reading success for 4th & 5th grade students receiving literacy intervention services?

Faculty Sponsor: Kerry Dunn

Abstract: As a clinical assistant in a suburban school district, I have had the opportunity to conduct ongoing action research working with three different groups of fourth and fifth-grade students. These students qualify for reading interventions services after being given diagnostic testing. I have been providing additive support to the students' AIS services with a focus on fluency two times a week. For this intervention, I used the 95% Program's fluency sheets to guide instruction. Throughout a period of 4 weeks, I would assess students weekly

starting with nonsense words, then 2-3 word phrases, 4-plus word phrases, and finally sentences that corresponded with the fluency sheets of the unit the intervention groups were working on. Weekly data points were collected to analyze students' growth in different phonics skills to compare with their weekly 1-minute fluency reads. The overall goal of this intervention was to provide additional fluency support to assist students with internalizing and applying fluency skills with automaticity. In my future teaching experiences, I believe this research will help me better understand the role of fluency and its importance in helping students read.

Name (G): Jenna Barnett

Title: How does explicit social emotional learning interventions impact the social development and behavior of second graders in a self-contained setting?

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Kerry Dunn

Abstract: As a clinical assistant in a rural school district, I have been working to implement explicit social emotional learning interventions in a second grade, self-contained classroom. I have been working with two students to implement interventions based on their specific needs and behaviors. Some of these interventions include close proximity to the student and caring gestures such as kind words or deep pressure. Because I have only been able to work with these students twice a week since the beginning of the school year, time is valuable. I have been collecting data on how many times per day I have seen certain behaviors, and how the interventions I use affect those behaviors, either positively or negatively. My data collection is broken down into four different parts: targeted behavior, if that behavior was seen, and positive behaviors, and if those behaviors were seen. I have broken down my data by different parts of the day to target interventions on the student's most challenging times. When I have a completed data set at the end of my project, a more comprehensive analysis will take place regarding which interventions were successful and which ones were not. The work that I have done with my students thus far shows a vast difference in not only their behaviors, but also their judgment of emotions. CASEL, a social emotional learning resource, stresses its importance in early childhood settings

(CASEL, 2024). Social emotional learning is imperative to deepen a child's emotional intelligence.

Name: Kaitlyn Nardozzi, Emma Bruning and Joe Sergent

Title: Analysis and possible diagnosis of vertebral fusion in a colubriiform snake fossil from the late Oligocene Rukwa Rift Basin of southwestern Tanzania using CT data

Faculty Sponsor: Jacob McCartney

Abstract: The late Oligocene Nsungwe Formation of the Rukwa Rift Basin in southwestern Tanzania has produced diverse invertebrate and vertebrate fossils. Among the fossils recovered from this region is a pair of pathological fused trunk vertebrae of a colubriiform snake. The specimen presents with abnormal bone growth on the ventral aspect of the centrum surrounding the condyle and cotyle, leaving the zygosphenes, zygapophyses, and costal joints unaffected. Fusion of vertebral bodies in snakes can be indicative of a variety of conditions; the most likely possibilities for this specimen include infection, neoplasm (including cancer), trauma (including fracture), and spondyloarthritis. Infection would be indicated by the presence of a drainage sinus or canal within the excess bone growth. Neoplasms are associated with the presence of porous bone, which is not present in the specimen. A healed fracture would result in the formation of a bony callus. Spondyloarthritis would show erosion of joint surfaces prior to bone fusion. The internal anatomy of the specimen was examined via CT imaging visualized using the program 3D Slicer. Based on this examination, the most probable explanations for fusion at this time are fracture, with or without infection, or spondyloarthritis.

Name: Caitlin Sisson, Aiden Arena, Becca Serna, Abigail Case and Corinne Presuto

Title: Progressivism as a Philosophy of Education

Faculty Sponsor: Shirley Sommers

Abstract: This presentation explores progressivism as a philosophy of education. The presentation will highlight the pioneers and their impact on progressivism as a philosophy. Furthermore, by taking the perspective of progressivism, the presentation will apply the philosophy to the education system to depict what academia would look like under these pretenses. We will explore the unique dynamics and expectations of students and teachers, as well as new features of the curriculum under this regime, and compare it to American education and ideals at large today.

Keywords: progressivism, American education, dynamics

Name: Hannah Swayer

Title: Unlocking Elementary Mathematics: Tips and Tricks for Parents and Teachers

Faculty Sponsor: Nicole Juersivich

Abstract: It is undeniable that the NYS Common Core Mathematics curriculum can be quite confusing. When it is confusing for adults, it is very difficult to help children understand. Even when adults can comprehend a concept, it can still be hard for our children to grasp it as they do not have the full mathematical understanding that we adults have. This podcast series, Unlocking Elementary Mathematics: Tips and Tricks for Parents and Teachers, is a resource that can be used to both help educators and parents teach themselves, and find effective strategies to ensure the children gain an understanding of mathematics, while simultaneously avoiding potential misconceptions.

Challenging mathematical topics will be explained in multiple ways to give all listeners a better understanding of the material regardless of their learning and teaching styles. Common misconceptions among children and how to correct and avoid them will also be discussed throughout the series.

The use of sharing stories and experiences through podcasts can aid in a better understanding of the math children are learning by offering common misconceptions that occur among children, provide ways to clear those

misconceptions up, and offer teaching tips and tricks. This series is not limited to just educators, as it is made to be parent and guardian friendly as well! This gives parents the resources they need to help their children excel in mathematical content areas whether it be homework assignments, extra practice, or homeschooling.

Name: Tyler Manchester

Title: Exploring new ways to teach addition and subtraction problems to 20

Faculty Sponsor: Nicole Juersivich

Abstract: This project is taking an existing curriculum unit on addition and subtraction problems to 20 and finding new ways to teach it that engage students more. I have explored the common misconceptions that students experience when learning this unit and have come up with some ways to help solve the misconceptions and make it engaging and fun for the students. To come up with the best way to redesign the unit I researched the unit and saw what others have done in New York State. Doing this research gave me ideas of what has worked and what hasn't worked. Also, reading what experts on the topic have to say gave me insight into what should be focused on the most when teaching the unit. I did this project to help students be more engaged when learning and to help them learn in a way that better suits them. Each student is unique and learns accordingly; in doing this research I found methods that worked for most students. By redesigning the unit it will give students a better chance of fully understanding the unit and be able to eventually do it on their own with complete understanding.

Name: Kelly Bottini

Title: Anna Halprin

Faculty Sponsor: Mariko Yamada

Abstract: My project will be going over the achievements that Anna Halprin has succeeded in regarding scientific body research, as well as her choreography. I will analyze her choreography, including movement choices, costuming, setting, format etc. I will go over a couple of pieces that I feel represent her style and create a connection between the pieces, showing her true authentic style. I created an initial powerpoint that was critiqued by my class in order to help my overall poster presentation. My poster will include my analysis, research, and pictures to add visuals to my words. I will have extra information on flashcards in order to provide all information. Anna Halprin is important in dance history because she provided a scientific avenue when talking about dance. She is a huge figure when talking about Dance Movement Therapy which is not widely known among the general population. This information can be life changing to someone. Her choreography is abstract and shows the extremes of post-modern dance and contemporary dance. This can also allow the general population to understand exactly what the dance department studies while also challenging the definition of dance in peoples' minds.

Name: Jamisen Lowe, Hayden VanOrman, Natalie Hoffman, Kayleen Moran

Title: What Determines Birth Satisfaction

Faculty Sponsor: Bonnie Walden

Abstract: The students investigated what factors affect birth satisfaction in childbearing women by analyzing a variety of literature. Dissatisfaction with the birthing experience is associated with postpartum depression, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and anxiety in maternal women. These lasting consequences on the mother's health make finding interventions to improve childbirth satisfaction all the more important. Improved maternal satisfaction with childbirth can increase self-confidence and increase positive expectations for any future births. Through literary review, students found such practices like partner's support, distraction, midwife involvement, delivery by vaginal birth, and the participation in birth preparation classes positively improved maternal satisfaction. Encouraging maternal autonomy was also reported to be substantial in improving birth satisfaction. Evidence based practices such as these are worth implementing in the healthcare field to prevent negative physical and psychosocial

complications in women postpartum, as well as to allow women to be comfortable with the possibility of subsequent births.

Name: Ava Basset

Title: Merce Cunningham; Chance Dance

Faculty Sponsor: Mariko Yamada

Abstract: Highlighting the accomplished modern dancer and choreographer, Merce Cunningham, this poster presentation will take a deep dive into his unique choreographic process based on chance. A combination of visuals and information on the poster will aid viewers in learning about Cunningham's utilization of chance procedures during his creative process. I chose to highlight his innovative choreographic chance procedures to both emphasize the possibilities that live within creating art and to celebrate his unique perspectives on the creation of movement composition.

Name: Danielle Andolino

Title: Judith Jamison

Faculty Sponsor: Mariko Yamada

Abstract: I will be doing a poster presentation on dancer Judith Jamison and her journey in dance. I wanted to research her because she was the artistic director of Alvin Ailey's company and I wanted to learn about her career and how she went from dancing to being artistic director. My presentation will include information about her background and how she began dancing. I will be highlighting Judith Jamison's extraordinary achievements as a dancer, choreographer, and artistic director including the many awards she has received throughout her career. Also her groundbreaking work with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and her commitment to preserving and evolving the Ailey legacy. Additionally, exploring her contributions to dance, culture, and advocacy as she inspires and educates

others. I will also share some of her most famous works and the stories behind them.

Name: [Kayleigh Ronas](#), [Kiara Roman](#), [Acacia Adams](#), [Brianna LaRose](#) and [Ismail Mohamed](#)

Title: Organ Asymmetry Determination In The South African Clawed Frog *Xenopus Laevis*

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Alin Vonica

Abstract: Vertebrates have a highly conserved visceral asymmetry, including how the heart is oriented on the left and the liver is on the right side of the body. This asymmetry can be traced to a small posterior part of the embryonic mesoderm, which is responsible for the left-side activation of the Nodal signal transduction pathway. *Xenopus laevis* embryos are an effective model for studying the mechanisms of left-right axis determination as these embryos are easily manipulated. Our research goal is to understand how asymmetric signals from the posterior pole spread to anterior structures like the heart. We used microsurgical techniques to make side-specific sections along the paraxial mesoderm of the embryos at varying stages of development. Additionally, we traced cell movement over time with live deconvolution microscopy. Changes in heart and intestine orientation after sectioning indicated that the whole paraxial mesoderm is involved in left-right axis determination, with different parts of the paraxial mesoderm required at different stages. Tracing the cells in the posterior paraxial mesoderm supports a model where anterior and lateral signal progression can be partially attributed to cell movement. Future experiments will explore the molecular biology of anterior signal propagation in the paraxial and lateral mesoderm.

Name (G): [Eric Almquist](#)

Title: The Effect of Peer Support on Veterans Mental Health

Faculty Sponsor: Elizabeth Greener and Michael Chen

Abstract: I will be presenting a literature review I have done based on my thesis topic. The review discusses and compares the effect peer support has on the mental health of veterans in the United States. I have reviewed a wide variety of programs within the veteran community and data found in this review supports the claim that peer support has a positive effect on the mental health of veterans. Previous research has sought to truly understand the daily struggles of veterans who have returned home from war. Understanding current and previous mental health programs for peer support and the struggles veterans face is essential to improve the future of care. Peer support creates a sense of belonging and community for veterans struggling with mental health and in my review I hope to present these findings to show the positive effect it has had on this population.

Name: Lily Viggiano

Title: Lorraine Hansberry and Her Contributions to Social Justice

Faculty Sponsor: Shirley Sommers

Abstract: "Lorraine Hansberry and Her Contributions to Social Justice" is a poster presentation depicting Lorraine Hansberry's life and her work regarding social issues. Through research, the presenter will speak aloud and answer questions about Hansberry and her contributions. The presenter chose to focus on an individual who is not taught in standard K-12 schooling who worked on social justice issues to highlight the flawed areas of school curriculums and how it could be improved. It is important to understand the areas in school curriculums where social justice and women's education lacks so that these ignored times of history are touched upon and learned about. Lorraine Hansberry was a playwright, most famous for her play, "A Raisin in the Sun". She also worked for LGBTQ+ rights and against homophobia and racism.

Name: Caitlin Sisson

Title: Anne Sullivan: Gender in Education

Faculty Sponsor: Shirley Sommers

Abstract: I will be telling the often overlooked story of Anne Sullivan through a physical poster. This poster will include a timeline that chronologically shows the development of Anne's career as a teacher for disabled students, and how she most famously was an educator for Helen Keller. Not only will this timeline include her career as an educator, I will also include other accomplishments that she came across in her lifetime as well as her influence that still remains strong to this day. To complete my poster, I have gathered numerous credible websites to learn more about the Anne Sullivan story that I was never taught in my school's historical curriculum. I chose to focus my presentation on the life of Anne Sullivan because it was a topic that I never learned about until I completed my own independent research on the deaf and hard of hearing community. This topic is especially important to me because I myself am hearing impaired and like to learn more about the community that I am a part of. Not only that, I am a teaching assistant at my elementary school so I often end up working with students with both physical and mental disabilities, not unlike Sullivan herself. Anne Sullivan deserves to be given the credit and recognition she deserves.

Name: Nazihah Hannam

Title: Rita Marley

Faculty Sponsor: Shirley Sommers

Abstract: For my project, I have decided to explore the life and accomplishments of Rita Marley. Rita was born in Cuba in 1946 and grew up in Jamaica. She met Bob Marley in the 1960s, and the two fell in love and got married in 1966. Rita soon became a member of Bob's band, The Wailers, as a backup singer.

Throughout her life, Rita was a strong advocate for social justice and played an integral role in Bob's efforts to promote unity and change in Jamaica. She supported his efforts to unite the country's political factions through music and was a regular participant in his concerts and rallies.

In addition to her work with Bob, Rita also pursued her solo career, releasing several albums and earning a reputation as a talented musician and performer in her own right. She was also a devoted mother to her children and played an important role in keeping Bob's legacy alive after his untimely death in 1981.

Overall, Rita Marley is a fascinating figure whose contributions to music, social justice, and family have left a lasting impact on Jamaica and the world as a whole.

Name: Emma Maskell

Title: Unveiling Perspectives: Understanding Accessibility at Nazareth University

Faculty Sponsor: Nicole Posluszny

Abstract: For my Core Milestone Experience I did a project that focused on accessibility and how it was different in the United States versus the two countries that I studied abroad in, England and Northern Ireland. In doing said project I created a survey that asked the Nazareth community some questions about accessibility and their experiences. There was also an opportunity in the survey to express any personal experiences that had happened at Nazareth in regards to accessibility. Through this poster it gives a place to display what was said in the survey by the participants. It allows their voices to be heard and hopefully be a catalyst for change in the Nazareth community, the change maker community. All responses were anonymous and were voluntary.

Accessibility is something that everyone is going to experience at one time or another. Just because someone is able bodied at this moment does not mean that they will be able bodied indefinitely. Accessibility impacts our everyday lives and how people engage with communities and go to school at Naz. Within our Nazareth campus there is room for growth and improvement within our accessibility access.

Name: Danielle Andolino

Title: Judith Jamison

Faculty Sponsor: Mariko Yamada

Abstract: I will be doing a poster presentation on dancer Judith Jamison and her journey in dance. I wanted to research her because she was the artistic director of Alvin Ailey's company and I wanted to learn about her career and how she went from dancing to being artistic director. My presentation will include information about her background and how she began dancing. I will be highlighting Judith Jamison's extraordinary achievements as a dancer, choreographer, and artistic director including the many awards she has received throughout her career. Also her groundbreaking work with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and her commitment to preserving and evolving the Ailey legacy. Additionally, exploring her contributions to dance, culture, and advocacy as she inspires and educates others. I will also share some of her most famous works and the stories behind them.

Name: Jeremy Swartz

Title: Computational Study of Furfural:H₂O Complexes

Faculty Sponsor: Josh Newby

Abstract: Intermolecular forces are the foundation of a great deal of chemistry including drug interactions, protein folding, and aerosol formation, therefore understanding these forces and their consequences is of great importance. An interesting question arises when there are more than one conformational isomer of a molecule. Do the interaction preferences of a molecule change according to conformational changes? This project investigates the weakly-bound complexes of water with furfural. Furfural has multiple interaction sites including a carbonyl group that can be either syn or anti with respect to the ring heteroatom. In this work, computational chemistry methods were used to predict stable structures of furfural : water complexes. A wide range of computational models were used to capture the most likely behavior of the complex. This poster will detail the structures and energetics of the predicted complexes. The results of this study will be used to inform future work using matrix isolation FTIR spectroscopy to determine the experimental structure(s) of this complex

Name: Molly Boozang-Hill

Title: Community Health Internship at Foodlink

Faculty Sponsor: Mary Dahl Maher

Abstract: Foodlink is a non-profit food banking organization based in Rochester, New York. Through serving the greater part of Western New York State, Foodlink aims to build healthier communities through the development of programs and providing resources to obtain nutritious foods. Foodlink maintains that access to nutritious food is a fundamental right and nutrition is the basis for a healthier community. Foodlink provides health education programs and food pantry and food bank resources to the 10 counties they service. The non profit organization aims to be innovative and collaborative in order to build healthier communities. As an intern with the Community Health Department, I was able to gain experience in the many different aspects of the company. Through community outreach, hands-on experience and program planning and evaluation, I was able to expand my knowledge of effective intervention implementation, grant research and the different areas of health education that may be provided. Those in the Community Health Department were able to share their knowledge and experience with topics such as expanding access and knowledge on governmental assistance programs such as the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infant and Children or WIC. At the end of my time with Foodlink, I was able to make my own intervention plan which focused on the health education of women, children and parents. I created accessible informational sheets that pertained to maternal health, breast feeding, diabetes, hypertension and infant health.

Name (G): Emily Thompson, Megan Cycon, Mikaela Heslin, Emma Lounsbery and Angelina Perry

Title: Connecting Sensory Strategies to Pediatric Occupations

Faculty Sponsor: Lisa Sykes

Abstract: There is a lack of research on specific sensory strategies implemented by caregivers for children between birth to three for engagement in occupations. It is important for occupational therapists to identify and understand what sensory strategies caregivers are implementing to enhance their children's participation in necessary and meaningful occupations, as well as understand the supports and barriers to implementation. As a result of the survey, we discovered that caregivers used different strategies for structured versus unstructured occupations. Examples of unstructured occupations are transitions, play, and social participation. Structured occupations for children include sleeping, eating, feeding, dressing, bathing and grooming. Caregivers tend to use sensory strategies that support the foundational sensory systems of proprioception, vestibular and tactile for unstructured activities. Environmental sensory supports of visual and auditory systems are often used for structured activities/occupations. Caregivers' understanding and comfort level with the implementation of sensory strategies were identified as the top supports. Lack of time and financial resources required to purchase equipment were identified as the top two barriers for implementation of sensory strategies.

Name: Arianna Klass

Title: Black Feminist Thought And Activism

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Shirley Sommers

Abstract: For this project, I will be studying and researching black feminism, thought and activism and creating a poster with all the information that I will research. It will consist of key figures, the history of black feminism, the black feminist thought process, and the principles of black feminism. I chose this as my project because for my women and gender studies class, I had the opportunity to work in a group on the topic of critical feminist race theory. After doing some research, I learned about black feminism, thought and activism and I felt that it is crucial knowledge to have. I now want to take the time to share what I learned with the Nazareth Community.

Name: Chloe Demick

Title: Kyle Abraham

Faculty Sponsor: Mariko Yamada

Abstract: This is a poster presentation on the dancer and choreographer Kyle Abraham. I researched his background and professional work life and how he established his dance company A.I.M. (Abraham in Motion). I also explain why he is an important individual that belongs on the dance concert history timeline.

Name: Tyler Manchester

Title: Exploring new ways to teach addition and subtraction problems to 20

Faculty Sponsor: Nicole Juersivich

Abstract: This project is taking an existing curriculum unit on addition and subtraction problems to 20 and finding new ways to teach it that engage students more. I have explored the common misconceptions that students experience when learning this unit and have come up with some ways to help solve the misconceptions and make it engaging and fun for the students. To come up with the best way to redesign the unit I researched the unit and saw what others have done in New York State. Doing this research gave me ideas of what has worked and what hasn't worked. Also, reading what experts on the topic have to say gave me insight into what should be focused on the most when teaching the unit. I did this project to help students be more engaged when learning and to help them learn in a way that better suits them. Each student is unique and learns accordingly; in doing this research I found methods that worked for most students. By redesigning the unit it will give students a better chance of fully understanding the unit and be able to eventually do it on their own with complete understanding.

Name (G): Laiken Ricker

Title: Health Education Internship with Orleans County Health Department

Faculty Sponsor: Mary Maher

Abstract: The Orleans County Health Department collaborates with the Genesee County Health to provide shared services that aim to promote a necessary safe and healthy environment and health behaviors that lead to the improvement of health outcomes and quality of life. As an intern, there must be knowledge of the community members and the environment that is being served. To gain a better understanding of the target population, a windshield survey of each town in the County was conducted. Based on the information from this survey, I created health education materials aimed towards the target audience. I was able to create health education sources adapted for social media, which includes topics such as rabies prevention, lead education, radon awareness, and Hepatitis B. I was also assigned the task of writing Fall Prevention Articles for The Office of The Aging. Both of these assignments gave me insight on the processes that health education materials go through before being published for the community. This internship was chosen because of my desire to further develop my skills in the field of public health and to work in a rural community that I am familiar with. With completion of this internship I have gained knowledge about how Health Departments work as a team and the creative processes of publishing health education materials.

Name (G): Laura Wilhelm

Title: Stressed Out: The Connection Between Perceived Stress and Health Behaviors of College Students

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Becky Fahy

Abstract: This study is being conducted to explore the relationship between stress and health behaviors in college students, including exercise, self care, sleep, health care utilization, alcohol use, e-cigarette use, and illicit substance use. I am using an exploratory survey to ascertain the perceived stress and health behaviors that college students engage in and analyzing subsequent data to see what trends emerge. I chose to conduct this study because of the amount of literature that

currently exists characterizing college students as lazy and unhealthy. I wanted to conduct an exploratory study with unbiased questions to see what health behaviors college students at Nazareth engage in. I also wanted to explore the concept of stress because stress is one of the most reported negative mental health consequences that college students face, and to see how stress is related to the behaviors that students are engaging in. The survey asks closed ended questions that include scales to measure physical activity, sleep behaviors, drinking and vaping behaviors, and illicit substance use. It also included open ended questions to understand the motivations behind students engaging in physical activity and self care. After data collection closes, scales will be applied to responses and data will be analyzed for any emerging trends.

Name: Sophie MacPherson and Erin Donahoe

Title: Amazing Race at Nativity

Faculty Sponsor: Lisa Sykes

Abstract: Community engaged learning is an opportunity to connect class content to community experiences. We were able to facilitate activities at Nativity Preparatory Academy, a private middle school in the South Wedge of Rochester. The school is private but tuition is fully supported by donors in the community. It supports middle school education with smaller classes, longer days and support with homework to prepare the students for more rigorous high school education. Students from Nativity move on to high school with a 97% high school graduation rate. The end of the Nativity school day includes an enrichment program and we provided a program, The Amazing Race, every Monday in our spring semester. Activities included relay races, obstacle courses, the floor is lava, balloon games, bowling, and other team building activities. It was an opportunity for us to analyze social determinants of health and occupational justice and how they influence occupational engagement. Students at Nativity come from a variety of diverse backgrounds, with more than 20 nationalities and are often several years behind grade level. The opportunity to engage with the students while reflecting on what we learned in the classroom is a key component of community engaged learning.

Name: Hannea Milliman

Title: Kitty Lunn's Influence on Dance

Faculty Sponsor: Mariko Yamada

Abstract: Kitty Lunn, a dancer, disability activist, and founder of Infinity Dance Theater has influenced concert dance history. After suffering a spinal cord injury, Kitty became paralyzed from the waist down. Through primary and secondary sources, I have researched how she altered the concert dance aesthetics that include people with disabilities. This poster presentation will highlight Kitty's adversity and her impact on dance aesthetics and history.

Name: Alexis Tobin

Title: Margaret Fuller: Advocate for women's education, feminism, and equal rights

Faculty Sponsor: Shirley Sommers

Abstract: I researched Margaret Fuller and the efforts she made during her brief forty years of life to bring social justice to the world around her, specifically using the document analysis method. I then compiled key points of her efforts and put them into a poster format to educate others on the work she has done for social justice. I was tasked with this project for my Gender and Education class; the goal being to highlight a person or event that I believe is pertinent to social justice education, but was not taught in k-12 schooling. I chose Margaret Fuller because although her life was brief, she always held firmly to what she believed in, had impressive achievements, and was the influence of later, more well-known activists. She was also a pioneer in her work, as some of it was deemed as a first, and although she did have her own influences, she was still starting from a fairly new way of thinking in America.

Name: Elizabeth Bruno and Indeaki Rune

Title: ADHD and Gender within the Classroom

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Shirley Sommers

Abstract: We would like to showcase our poster presentation on ADHD in the classroom, specifically when looking at gender. Executing this activity through thorough research, using past research papers, scientific studies and examining personal experiences, will ensure a more profound understanding of how ADHD is differently presented and affected within the education system. Presenting on a poster will allow us to put all of the differing information we have found and gathered into one place, providing evidence and intrigue to the question we look at. We chose this project because of our links to it, while also realizing it needs to be talked about, especially from an intersectional perspective. There are a lot of people discussing the ways a diagnosis can affect how one is treated within the classroom, but gender has never really been brought into the conversation. The amount of information about studies that take place for boys is a lot more conducive than those about girls; this issue only recently appeared on mainstream media. Looking at gender and how it can intersectionality impact a classroom experience is a topic that needs to be researched and brought into our educational lives

Name (G): Mustafa Alhabib

Title: How Can EMRs Be Optimized For Prescription Reconciliation To Enhance Pharmaceutical Accuracy And Streamline Processes In Community Health Centers?

Faculty Sponsor: Mary Dahl Maher

Abstract: Medication errors remain a significant challenge in healthcare, jeopardizing patient safety and trust in the healthcare system. This study aims to implement an automated system for reconciling prescription information across Electronic Medical Record (EMR) platforms in community health centers. The objectives include implementing automatic reconciliation, assessing EMR utilization for medication reconciliation, and identifying barriers to effective EMR use in pharmaceutical accuracy. The research draws on literature demonstrating

the effectiveness of automated reconciliation systems, the importance of interoperability between EMR systems, and the utilization of EMRs in community health centers. Additionally, barriers and challenges hindering EMR use for pharmaceutical accuracy are explored. By optimizing EMR functionality, this study seeks to streamline data entry processes, improve data accuracy, and enhance patient care within community health settings. Addressing medication errors through proactive prevention measures is crucial for ensuring patient safety and fostering trust in healthcare delivery systems. Through this study, a comprehensive understanding of medication errors and the implementation of prevention strategies can mitigate their economic and human costs, ultimately benefiting both patients and healthcare providers.

Name: Lillian Thatcher

Title: 'The Rite of Spring' and its Historical Relevance in the Dance World

Faculty Sponsor: Mariko Yamada

Abstract: In this poster the famous dance piece 'The Rite of Spring' will be explored in depth in regard to its cultural and historical significance on the dance industry. This was a piece that explored not only movement in dance's emerging modern age, but explored and exploited historic political practices and beliefs regarding the role of women, sex and virginity, all under the promise of a new Spring season. Through its reframe of ballet and its bringing of the music world into a state of emotional vulnerability, this piece and its impacts can be seen in both industries to this day.

Name: Michaela Kuper

Title: Mental Health with the LGBTQ+ Community

Faculty Sponsor: Shirley Sommer

Abstract: The nature of my project is going to be the LGBTQ+ community and their mental health. This will conclude bullying and statistics on their mental health. I

will be using a poster to deliver this project. I chose this topic because I think it's not talked about enough how the LGBTQ+ community could be more likely to have mental health issues when they don't feel accepted.

Name: Elizabeth Kabes

Title: GiGi's Playhouse through the Lens of Public Health

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Mary Maher

Abstract: The purpose of this project is to conduct a public health program evaluation of GiGi's Playhouse based on my internship experiences. GiGi's Playhouse is a non-profit and community-based organization that provides support to individuals with Down Syndrome and their families. GiGi's Playhouse mission is to "change the way the world views Down syndrome and to send a global message of acceptance for all". GiGi's Playhouse has a lifelong commitment to forming connections and aiding in developmental skills for newborns up until adults. GiGi's Playhouse programs include LMNOP, GiGi's Kitchen Kids, GiGiFIT Teen, GiGiPrep, Teen Tastic, Fantastic Friends, as well as One-on-One math and literacy tutoring. This evaluation assessed their history, their mission and goals, community-based and national achievements, program outcomes, and the effectiveness of each program.

Name: Andreia Krantz

Title: Hanya Holm

Faculty Sponsor: Mariko Yamada

Abstract: I have created a poster presentation on the dancer and choreographer Hanya Holm. She was a great pioneer of modern dance and made large strides in the dance world. I will present this as a poster with as much relevant information as I can provide. When researching, I mainly focused on the impact of her dance company and her style of dance. She focused a lot on improvisation and also choreographed for musical theater works. I chose to do this project because I

wanted to showcase the work of this great historical figure. Hanya Holm was one of the first pioneers of modern dance. She was a great catalyst in exploring outside of the box that dance had been confined to. Therefore, I want to highlight her as the important figure she is.

Name: Lauryn Obey

Title: Bayard Rustin

Faculty Sponsor: Shirley Sommers

Abstract: The nature of my project is to tell people about Bayard Rustin and the impacts that he had in the civil rights movement. To help people see the smaller names revolved around Martin Luther King Jr. and Rosa Parks. I will be presenting a poster board that will be factual and educational about Bayard Rustin accomplishments in his life. I am hoping people will be very interested. I am going to research Bayard Rustin, things he did besides the civil rights movement, his background and how he came to be so influential, and things his sexuality might have affected his life. I am going to read historical articles about him and his family and find out more details about how he advised and helped Martin Luther King, Jr. I chose to do my project on Bayard Rustin because not only did he play a crucial role in the civil rights movement by being Martin Luther King, Jr's advisor and helping organize the 1963 march for freedom, but he was also an openly gay African American. His sexual orientation affected the amount he was able to portray himself publicly but that didn't stop him from being majorly influential when it came to the civil rights movement. I picked this piece because I think people need to see all of the obstacles that Bayard Rustin overcame and was still able to have the same amount of impact or more on society than anyone thought he could have.

Name: Chloe Proctor

Title: Social Justice Issue: Lack of Inclusive Curriculum

Faculty Sponsor: Shirley Sommers

Abstract: I created a poster presentation that addresses the social justice issue stemming from the lack of an inclusive curriculum in K-12 school. This presentation discusses why inclusive curriculum is important and why this curriculum should include diverse sexual and gender identities. Through research, I was able to show the benefits of inclusive curriculum and why the lack thereof can be harmful. I chose this topic because as a teacher, we are taught about windows and mirrors which discusses the idea that we need to find opportunities for children to see themselves represented and see others represented. When the curriculum does not represent the students, you do not have a classroom environment that is built upon equity and inclusion.

Name: Peyton Sgroi, Liz Moran and Kloey Shannon

Title: My Contribution Project : Patsy Mink

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Shirley Sommers

Abstract: Our project is a poster presentation on Patsy Mink. We chose Patsy Mink because she is the primary author of Title IX, which plays a major role in both k-12 and higher education. We will be doing a literature review to write about Patsy Mink, and the role she played in the legislature, along with the gender and racial discrimination she had overcome.

Name: Olivia Grome

Title: Mary Wollstonecraft

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Shirley Sommers

Abstract: In this project I will be sharing the significance of Mary Wollstonecraft and her contribution to the feminist movement through poster presentation. This poster will be verbally presented to any peers interested in learning about people involved in the foundation of feminism. I used textual analysis to gather my information about this specific feminist and what she accomplished during her

lifetime. The text I used to gather information led to my decision to choose this individual, Mary Wollstonecraft because it gave insight to my unknown knowledge of her importance to equality for women. She stated the idea that the reason women are seen as inferior to men is not because they actually are, it is lack of education to blame. In addition to this, Wollstonecraft believed in a society that treats men and women as equal, focusing on human rights. Bringing attention to the importance of education for not only men but women as well is something she is best known for. These ideologies of hers applied to the Enlightenment and she was seen as the female voice for this. Mary Wollstonecraft earned the nickname "mother of feminism" as a result of her actions to bring equality to women. These actions are reflected in today's society and her drive for change impacted the rights women have today.

Name: Jaylynn Pyatt-Ramos

Title: Greek Life: The Divine Nine

Faculty Sponsor: Shirley Sommers

Abstract: Black Greek Letter Organizations, which are members associated with the National Pan-Hellenic Council hold rich history and long legacies that still impact and influence modern culture today. Black students on campuses were often banned or shunned from many social organizations. Students began to find ways of coping with these struggles which help create The Divine Nine. Many of our prominent figures like Martin Luther King, Jesse Jackson, Toni Morrison, Thurgood Marshall were also a part of The Divine Nine and upheld their principles of their fraternity or sorority through their social justice actions and movements.

Name: Sam Murphy

Title: LGBTQ+ Representation in the Senate

Faculty Sponsor: Shirley Sommers

Abstract: Laphonza Butler is the first openly Lesbian African-American senator, elected in October 2023. This presentation will briefly cover her life, family, and education. The main focus will be on her career, before her election into the Senate, what she has done since being appointed, and what committees she sits on. The representation of LGBTQ+ members at a federal level is virtually non-existent; there are only three sitting female members of the Senate who are openly LGBTQ+. Laphonza Butler is the only and first African-American lesbian representative. As a member of the LGBTQ+ community, this is monumental. Although Butler has not been in the Senate long she is unique and will hopefully not be the last African-American LGBTQ+ representative within the Senate. I hope through this presentation to spread representation for Laphonza Butler and her unique position in the Senate.

Name: Paige Masrouri

Title: Equal Rights, Equal Opportunities: The Disability Rights Movement

Faculty Sponsor: Shirley Sommers

Abstract: I am conducting research and creating a poster about the Disability Rights Movement. This movement, despite its profound impact on shaping societal attitudes towards individuals with disabilities, is often overlooked in K-12 education. I firmly advocate for its inclusion in the K-12 curriculum to ensure that everyone receives a comprehensive education on this vital aspect of social justice. To ensure the accuracy of my poster, I have gathered evidence from a variety of reputable sources. This evidence includes historical facts, personal narratives, and statistical data, all of which serve to underscore the significance of the Disability Rights Movement. One of the key reasons why I believe teaching about this movement in early education is crucial is its potential to foster greater empathy towards individuals facing disabilities. By educating students about the challenges and triumphs of the disability community, we can promote a more inclusive society. Furthermore, I am deeply committed to raising awareness about disability rights, as I believe it is an essential step towards achieving equality and justice for individuals with disabilities. Through my poster project and ongoing advocacy efforts, I hope to contribute to a more inclusive and empathetic society.

Name (G): Shayne Black

Title: The Association Between Seasonality and Mental Health Service Utilization

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Michael Chen

Abstract: Mental health includes emotional, psychological, and social well-being, and it can affect the way people experience multiple aspects of their daily lives (SAMHSA 2023). Social determinants of health are the conditions in the environments where people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of quality-of-life outcomes and risks (USDHHS 2024). In behavioral health, social determinants such as unfavorable environmental circumstances create variation in the general population's mental health status and overall moods (WHO 2022). Factors such as unfavorable environmental circumstances, including specific climates and changing seasons, have been documented to influence mental health status (WHO 2022). This literature review discusses the relationship between the changing seasons and mental health status in terms of volume of mental health services utilized. The general consensus of the articles in this meta synthesis support the idea that seasonality is related to the variation of mental health status and volume of utilization of mental health services. Further research should be conducted in this area, as better understanding of factors influencing seasonal trends in demand for mental health services is necessary to both prevent and treat mental health conditions.

Name: Meghan Lambert

Title: The Tanglewood Symposium and How We Benefit From Music In Our Curriculum

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Shirley Sommers

Abstract: The arts and music have been fighting for decades to stay a part of the core curriculum in K-12 public schooling. Through countless cuts and not being seen as an educational necessity, many efforts have been made to keep music and the arts alive in education. I have decided to focus my research on the Tanglewood Symposium, a week-long conference where the future role and importance of

music education was discussed. Through this, I will highlight the pathways and measures that have been taken to keep music and the arts as a beneficial part of our educational lives.

Name: John Thomas

Title: Arthur Mitchell

Faculty Sponsor: Mariko Yamada

Abstract: This project will describe Arthur's Mitchell's life, accomplishments, and contributions to modern dance.

Name: Arianna Klass

Title: Interning With Living Redemption

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Mary Maher

Abstract: For this presentation, I will be speaking on my experience interning with Living Redemption Community Development Corporation (LRCDC) for two summers. I will do this by sharing pictures from the last two summers, as well as a poster filled with information about Living Redemption. I will also have a QR code posted with an interest form for internship opportunities for the summer, as Living Redemption has recently become an official internship site with Nazareth University.

Name: Kaitlyn Avery

Title: Data Analytics in Public Health: An Internship Experience

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Mary Dahl Maher

Abstract: Value Network is an organization in Buffalo, New York. Value Network's mission is "a robust behavioral health care collaborative (BHCC) independent practice association (IPA) that enhances quality care through clinical integration, aligned financial incentives, the use of community-based recovery support services, and the collection and analysis of quality and service data to improve behavioral and physical health outcomes". Lead network providers include: BestSelf Behavioral Health, Endeavor Health Services, Horizon Health Services, and Spectrum Health and Human Services. I had the opportunity to work with Value Network on their data analytics team and was able to create multiple dashboards for various parties in the network using softwares such as SQL and Power Bi. These dashboards were then presented to the partners to use for their analysis of progress that they are making within their own organizations. I have always had a passion for math and statistics and this was the perfect opportunity for me. I was able to combine my passion for mental health and data to help companies provide support to their patients.

Name: [Alicia McLane](#), [Brandon Cruz](#) and [Bryan Cruz](#)

Title: 2 Infinity and Mathematics!

Faculty Sponsor: Nicole Juersivich

Abstract: This project establishes an online mathematical resource for students and teachers to enhance abilities to learn and teach math. We explored a range of online resources and combined them into an easily accessible format.

We recognize the struggles new and upcoming teachers face when trying to create lessons that are creative and intriguing, so with this website, teachers will have a resource that caters to all of their needs. For students, this website will allow them to access materials and games in and out of school to enhance their academic needs.

This website will equip educators and students with extra support, useful resources, and engaging material in order to enhance the quality of mathematics instruction. By providing these resources in one website, teachers will be able to

refine and improve their teaching without spending extra time searching, curating, and determining where they can easily apply the resources.

Name: Lilian Grimm, Kendal Guzyk and Gavin McAllister

Title: Amazing Race at Nativity

Faculty Sponsor: Lisa Sykes

Abstract: Community engaged learning is an opportunity to connect class content to community experiences. We facilitated activities at Nativity Preparatory Academy, a private middle school in the South Wedge of Rochester. The school is private but tuition is fully supported by donors in the community. It supports middle school education with smaller classes, longer days and support with homework to prepare the students for more rigorous high school education. Students from Nativity move on to high school with a 97% high school graduation rate. The end of the Nativity school day includes an enrichment program and we provided a program, The Amazing Race, every Wednesday in our spring semester. Activities included races, obstacle courses, music trivia, marshmallow tower construction and other team building activities. It was an opportunity for us to analyze social determinants of health and occupational justice and how they influence occupational engagement. Students at Nativity come from a variety of diverse backgrounds, with more than 20 nationalities and are often several years behind grade level. The opportunity to engage with the students while reflecting on what we learned in the classroom is a key component of community engaged learning.

Name: Julia Supernault, Cameran Pappas and Aija McIntyre

Title: After School Enrichment at Rochester Childfirst Network

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Lisa Sykes

Abstract: Community-engaged learning is an opportunity to connect class content to community experiences. We were able to facilitate activities at Rochester

Childfirst Network (RCN), a childcare facility located in South Wedge of Rochester this spring semester. RCN provides daycare services for children up to age three and then inclusive preschool programs for ages 3-5. They also provide after-school care for children ages 5-12 and this is the program that we volunteered in once a week. Their after-school program is often unstructured and for the hour that we are present each week, we provide structured activities such as group games, outdoor games, and other team-building activities. Some of the activities that the children enjoyed were “What’s in the box?”, mini Olympics, freeze tag, dancing to Kidz Bop music, and “What time is it Mr. Fox?”. We are able to interact individually with the youth in the afterschool program as well as facilitating more structured play activities. It is an opportunity for us to analyze social determinants of health and occupational justice and how they influence occupational engagement. The opportunity to engage with the youth while reflecting on what we learn in the classroom is a key component of community-engaged learning.

Name: Alexis Lakatos

Title: Thromboelastographs

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Matthew Schoell

Abstract: Take a deep dive into Thromboelastographs, or TEGs, a crucial part of the trauma laboratory evaluation. This test provides a general understanding of the coagulation status of the patient without conducting invasive tests as it is simply a tube of blood! Take some time to learn about the clinical importance, procedures, how the analyzer functions, and background for understanding the body’s coagulation status. Blood clotting is an essential function of the body when it is regulated, but a variety of disorders can result in dysregulation. This research presentation explains the coagulation cascade (how the body produces a clot), how the TEG analyzer works, and how to interpret the results. I chose this topic because it was something that I was familiar with. As a future Medical Technologist, it is essential for me to understand different types of testing and how to interpret those tests. I have enjoyed conducting research on this topic and wish to share what I have learned with you!

Name: Sabrina Baidwan

Title: My internship at Gigi's Playhouse

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Mary Dahl Maher

Abstract: Sabrina Baidwan CARS project Abstract

I plan for my CARS project to be presenting a poster on my internship at Gigi's Playhouse, covering my experiences and what I learned from my summer internship there. I will first create a poster and edit it on Canva, and present pictures as well as information about the purpose of my internship location and more information. I chose to make this project around my internship, as I want to share my internship experiences and what I learned from it, as well as bring more awareness to what my internship location stands for and destigmatize people with developmental disabilities.

My experience at my internship was a happy and hopeful experience. Gigi's Playhouse is a nonprofit dedicated to providing educational and recreational activities for people with down syndrome from infancy to adult age, giving families a support system, and breaking down stigma through educating and spreading awareness on down syndrome. I deconstructed my own stigmas when I interned here, and found it was a very wholesome and fulfilling experience to dedicate myself to helping others have fun educational experiences as well as giving their families a feeling of support.

Name: Morgan Vandemark

Title: Trisha Brown

Faculty Sponsor: Mariko Yamada

Abstract: My name is Morgan Vandemark and I am a senior dance major at Nazareth. This semester one of the courses I am taking is Dance History and Aesthetics. In this course we have discussed the origin and evolution of 20th and 21st-century concert dance including: important dance artists and their work; contemporary forms, trends and styles within the historical context of evolving cultural norms and philosophical trends; and a critical survey of dance literature

through film, video and written materials. I will be presenting a poster presentation about the dancer/choreographer Trisha Brown. I decided to choose Trisha Brown for this project because I have always been fascinated with her choreographic process and how she combines pedestrian movements and simple mechanics of body placements with improvisation. If you are studying dance in higher education, you have most likely heard of Trisha Brown, however it may only be surface level things like her choreographic style or some of her most famous works. I wanted to dig deeper into researching who Trisha Brown was and how each moment in her life made her into the choreographer/dancer that she was. For this presentation I want to take people on a journey through Trisha Brown's life starting from birth up until the end of her astounding career.

Name: Rowan Morgan

Title: The 21st Century Musician: A Pianist's Perspective

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Jacob Ertl

Abstract: This research based project seeks to explore facets of the 21st century pianist, specifically those of diversity and inclusion, pedagogy, and collaboration. While researching I also considered how factors such as technology, economic and social changes, as well as current research in the field of piano pedagogy may inform these aspects of musicianship. I attended both online and in-person workshops and conferences in order to learn more about these areas. These included two keyboard-based conferences (NCKP 2023, and the 2023 Nazareth University Piano Pedagogy Workshop) with leaders in the field, as well as a workshop titled "The Pianist's Guide to Dance Accompaniment", through the Summer at Eastman Program. These allowed me to gather information that I was then able to organize and summarize as the culmination of my research. With that said, I have barely scratched the surface of these topics, and I believe that musicianship is a lifelong journey in which there is always more to learn. This research showed me that being a musician is about going outside of your comfort zone and coming together with other musicians in order to continually refine your craft through seeking out both knowledge and creativity.

Name: Chloe Bush

Title: Foodlink Internship

Faculty Sponsor: Mary Maher

Abstract: Internship at Foodlink during the summer of 2023. Worked with other co-workers at Foodlink within the Rochester community to aid in food insecurity. Helped curate a “Summer Meals” program so that school aged children are able to obtain free lunches over summer break. Learned how to research grant proposals. Went into the community to understand the impact of having food security, how having access to healthy food is beneficial to the surrounding community.

Name: Blanca Hernandez Salaza, Lydia Coombs, Victoria Pawlak, Katherine Pieczonka, Rashid Saleh, Maham Abbas, Olivia Callon, Michaela Colacino, and Amelia Douglas

Title: Work Towards The Synthesis Of Human Milk Sugars Using An Engineered Enzyme

Faculty Sponsor: Jessica Stachowski

Abstract: Human milk oligosaccharides (HMOs) are naturally occurring sugars found in human breast milk that support digestive health, immune response, and cognitive development in breast-fed infants. Unfortunately, the limited availability and structural complexity of these sugar molecules makes it difficult to further investigate this important class of molecules. The goal of this project is to use an engineered glycosynthase enzyme, Bbhl, to make HMOs and HMO derivatives which are currently inaccessible using reported biosynthetic methods. Our current efforts include the cloning and expression of Bbhl by transforming E. coli with wild-type and mutant Bbhl plasmids for DNA amplification. Sequentially we purified our DNA and will be sending it out to sequence before moving forward with protein expression. On the organic chemistry side of this project, prior efforts involved synthesis of an impure N-acetyl-D-glucosamine 1,2-oxazoline sugar substrate. Currently, different synthetic schemes are being explored to find an

optimal route for accessing a pure form of the N-acetyl-D-glucosamine 1,2-oxazoline sugar.

Name: Laiken Ricker

Title: Health Education Internship with Orleans County Health Department

Faculty Sponsor: Mary Maher

Abstract: I will be presenting a poster presentation on my work as a health education intern at the Orleans County Health Department. I will use the health education projects as well as the other work that I completed to demonstrate what I learned and how I completed the work. I chose this project because I wanted to showcase the work that I did as an intern and describe the creative processes that a project goes through before being published in a health department.

Name (G): Mykailah Kelly

Title: The Dangers of Microplastics

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Mary Dahl Maher

Abstract: During my Internship at the Northeast Midwest Institute, one of my main tasks was to research and create social media content for the Institute regarding the Great Lakes. The Great Lakes are essential, as they provide drinking water for millions of people. One of the biggest issues that were discussed was the increased amount of microplastics that were getting deposited into the lakes. Microplastics are plastics that are less than 5mm that can originate from multiple different sources. Microplastics have been seen to have negative impacts on environmental health and human health if it gets into our bodies. For my project, I investigated a multitude of peer reviewed research articles and journals and reported how microplastics occur, the impacts that microplastics have on the human body, the impacts that microplastics have on the environment, and

possible solutions to decrease the amount of microplastics a person ingests and is exposed to.

Name: Mariana Walsh

Title: Enhancing Accessibility: Evaluating Special Children's Services within School Districts

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Mary Maher

Abstract: This internship at Monroe County Public Health explores the realm of special children's services within school districts, aiming to assess and optimize support structures for inclusive education. The findings showed valuable insights in the differences of services within school districts. This work strives to foster an environment that promotes equitable access to quality education.

Name: Brianna Villegas

Title: Racial Bias at Naz

Faculty Sponsor: Lindsey LaPlant

Abstract: How does racial bias influence our own perceptions of emotional expression amongst races? Research on these topics have found black men are often perceived as more threatening than white men. Additionally, research has explored the implications of reverse deterrent in instances of racial profiling, as well as racial bias influencing police interactions. However, not enough research is done that examines the intersectionality of how race and gender impacts our perception. Thus, in this study Nazareth students will be asked to rate different emotional expressions amongst different races and genders.

Name (G): Eric Almquist

Title: The Effect of Peer Support on Veterans Mental Health

Faculty Sponsor: Elizabeth Greener and Michael Chen

Abstract: I will be presenting a literature review I have done based on my thesis topic. The review discusses and compares the effect peer support has on the mental health of veterans in the United States. I have reviewed a wide variety of programs within the veteran community and data found in this review supports the claim that peer support has a positive effect on the mental health of veterans. Previous research has sought to truly understand the daily struggles of veterans who have returned home from war. Understanding current and previous mental health programs for peer support and the struggles veterans face is essential to improve the future of care. Peer support creates a sense of belonging and community for veterans struggling with mental health and in my review I hope to present these findings to show the positive effect it has had on this population.

Name: Sofie Fischler

Title: Impact of Senolytics On Mouse Flu Vaccination Responses

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Mary Dahl Maher

Abstract: Impaired immune responses to vaccination in older adults leave the aged population exceedingly vulnerable to severe flu infection despite widespread vaccination. Many deficits that occur with aging include increased basal inflammation in part due to the accumulation of senescent cells. Use of senolytics will reduce the senescence burden and may alleviate dysregulated immune responses to vaccination resulting in improved vaccine-induced protection. In this study, young and aged mice were treated with dasatinib and quercetin (D+Q), a well-characterized senolytic drug combination, prior to flu vaccination and subsequent challenge with flu virus. Vaccine and flu-specific immune responses were evaluated by weight monitoring following infection, quantification of serum flu antibodies via ELISA, and lung viral load via qPCR. In an unexpected finding, results showed D+Q treated young mice exhibited several markers of increased protection outside of weight gain. There were no significant differences found in aged mice cohorts treated with D+Q. Future research is ongoing to better understand the effects of senolytics on vaccination and immune responses and

determine if the use of senolytics is an appropriate treatment to address age-related immune dysfunction in older adults.

Name: **Miranda Nicolosi**

Title: Midtown Athletic Club Internship

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Mary Dahl Maher

Abstract: This project is based on my internship at Midtown Athletic Club. I am currently completing the NASM Personal Training Certification and collaborating with the certified trainers. The nature of this work involves intensive coursework, practical application, and collaborative engagement within the professional fitness environment as well as professional collaboration with the corporate team in Chicago. To successfully finish the certification I have to pass an exam that involves a structured curriculum comprising theoretical learning, hands-on experience, and mentorship under the Midtown trainers. Applying all of this information and knowledge will allow me to successfully become certified. While at my internship I have learned to deliver personalized fitness programs, conduct assessments, and encourage client progress. These are essential components of the performance aspect. The motive behind this project stems from the significance of acquiring the NASM certification in the field of personal training, coupled with the invaluable experiential learning accumulated through working with the professional trainers at Midtown. This internship not only serves personal and professional development goals but also contributes to enhancing the quality and efficacy of fitness services offered at Midtown Athletic Club. The choice to engage in this project is driven by a desire for comprehensive skill acquisition, professional growth, and a commitment to promoting health and wellness within the community.

Name: **Sara Kelly**

Title: 92nd Street Y: Harkness Dance Center

Faculty Sponsor: Mariko Yamada

Abstract: I will be presenting on the harkness dance center within the 92nd street Y to show their significant role they played in starting dance pioneer careers and promoting dance education. I will be giving a poster presentation to show that this center has brought to the dance arts and dance arts education significance.

Name: Khadra Al Badhi

Title: Helping The Newer Students

Faculty Sponsor: Mary Maher

Abstract: The mission of the Rochester International Academy is to offer newly arrived English language learners a curriculum that enables them to acquire academic skills, content knowledge, and the English language at the same time. The Rochester International Academy also emphasizes the value of community involvement, home-school ties, and social and emotional assistance in the classroom. It is an essential program for people who are new to the United States to help them adapt to their new life in a new country, especially for refugees and immigrants who do not speak English as their first language. During my internship, I was able to use my knowledge in Public Health, such as the socioecological theory and social determinants of health, to support families and their children in order to help them integrate into our community. My responsibilities included: teaching English, assisting students with projects, acting as an Arabic language translator with the nurse and also telephone triage to families to assess needs. Helping individuals learn English with a focus on language provides them with critical skills to be successful so they can graduate and go to college. This in turn will help them integrate and contribute to their new home and community.

Name: Ziah Baldwin

Title: Janet Collins

Faculty Sponsor: Mariko Yamada

Abstract: I picked this dance artist because I felt that she is an important addition to the timeline. In this presentation I will be sharing some fun facts about her and I will talk about how she has impacted the dance community. I chose to do this because I wanted to know more information about this dancer as well and I want to share with others what I found interesting.

Name: Grace Vestigo

Title: A Fatal Case of Severe Hemolytic Disease of Newborn Associated with Anti-Jkb

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Matthew Schoell

Abstract: Hemolytic Disease of the Newborn, or HDN, occurs when there is a mismatch between the maternal and the fetal red blood cell antigens. As fetal red cells travel across the placenta during pregnancy or birth, the mother's immune system will begin to make antibodies targeted toward the foreign antigen on the fetal red cells. Of the many blood groups found on red blood cells, this case study looked at the Kidd blood group which is composed of Jka and Jkb antigens. Although rare, these antigens can cause hemolysis of red blood cells in HDN. The patient in the study was a four-day-old female who presented to the ER with jaundice and lethargy. She had a hemoglobin of 11.4mg/dL, a total bilirubin of 46.1mg/dL, and a strong positive result on the direct Coomb's test. Anti-Jkb was detected in the maternal serum and in the eluate made from the baby's blood. The infant was treated with exchange transfusions and phototherapy, but ultimately died from uncontrollable seizures and acute renal failure on day four of admission.

Name (G): Sara Joerger

Title: How does understanding and regulating emotions affect a kindergartner's social interactions?

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Kerry Dunn

Abstract: As a Clinical Assistant in a suburban school district, I have worked in three Kindergarten classrooms to conduct an action research project. While using the Social Emotional Curriculum to help students name feelings and listen to SEL stories to help develop age-appropriate and culturally responsive practices. While working with three groups of four, I implemented a social-emotional learning intervention and looked at their sense of self and social interaction. I provided push-in support for each class and pulled out three groups of 15 minutes twice a week. While implementing these interventions in small group settings, I tracked and analyzed data to make informed decisions. Preliminary data showed an increase in knowledge of feelings and an increase in positive regulation and application of emotions. Data will be analyzed further after the intervention. As an educator, this data will help me to understand the importance of SEL and the influence of small-group instruction.

Name (G): Megan Morin, Colleen Lehane, Elizabeth Buisch, Morgan Hughes and Olivia Skrotzki

Title: Impact of Participation in Pickleball on Motor Skills, Functional Skills, Social Engagement, and Quality of Life in Individuals with Parkinson's Disease: A Mixed Methods Study

Faculty Sponsor: Elizabeth Hebert

Abstract: The purpose of this mixed methods study was to explore the relationship between participation in a once weekly pickleball group and quality of life, social engagement, balance, and overall perceptions of symptom management and motor functioning for individuals with Parkinson's disease (PD). The study's participants engaged in a once weekly instructional pickleball program for 8 weeks in collaboration with Rochester Accessible Adventures. The participants completed weekly journals and engaged in two interviews to gain a greater understanding of the impact that the pickleball program had on their quality of life. We conducted pre and post assessments to evaluate their balance, fine motor skills, and functional skills. We chose to complete this study due to the limited research that examines the impacts of engagement in pickleball as a leisure activity for individuals with PD. We hoped to create accessible and

inclusive leisure opportunities for individuals with PD in a community based setting.

Name: Abigail Case, Abigail Schachtler, Rebecca Serna, Stella Knapp, and Madisyn Wakefield

Title: Students for Child Care on Campus Coalition

Faculty Sponsor: Rachel Bonsignore

Abstract: The Developing Child and Families minor provides students with a whole-child perspective to ensure equitable and optimal development for all children. It is through this knowledge that HHS students know the importance of child care services and social systems in creating a healthy foundation for development. Therefore, this presentation explores the concept of having child care on the Nazareth campus, as the university is located within a childcare desert. Earlier in the Spring '24 semester, a survey was distributed to faculty and staff to gather more information on establishing child care on campus. To ensure a well-rounded perspective, it is essential to include and consider student's feedback in this decision-making process. Our 'Students for Child Care on Campus Coalition' survey seeks to determine the attitudes and potential interest among students if Nazareth were to reintroduce its child care program. The presentation will include a summary of survey results and their implications.

Name: Arianna Martinez

Title: Interactive Math Games Collection for Grade 10 (Geometry)

Faculty Sponsor: Nicole Juersivich

Abstract: I created a collection of math games designed for student and teacher use at the 10th-grade geometry level. This will include information for educators on how the games work, which lessons they lend themselves to, issues that may arise, and how to best utilize them. I researched online math games and saw which ones aligned with the next generation geometry standards. I arranged them

together using Google Sites. I performed a trial run-through of the games multiple times to create the guide. I created this project because my main career goal is to be a high school math teacher, specifically geometry. Geometry is very difficult to teach and frequently the most disliked branch of mathematics, but it has always been my favorite. Since “no one wants to teach geometry” I believe that is a good niche to pursue. Geometry necessitates visualization which can be aided by games that show moving elements that are difficult to describe on paper. Geometry also requires much memorization, which can be assisted by flashcard games, Jeopardy! Style games, and matching games. In my career, I can share this resource with other geometry teachers, and having many resources in one place may make the process of teaching geometry smoother.

Name: Caitlin Sisson, Joelle Boland, Mileena Ossman

Title: Testing the Efficiency of Water Filtration

Faculty Sponsor: Marilynn Lesczynski

Abstract: This experiment determined the effectiveness of water filters. We accomplished this by collecting samples from different water sources around campus and examining them using water test strips before and after being run through a water filter. These samples included water from: Kearney Hall bathroom, Kearney Hall water fountain, dining hall beverage machine, Smyth Hall water fountain, Peckham Hall water fountain, reverse osmosis water, snow, and a bottle of water. We tested the water samples for total hardness, free chlorine, iron, copper, lead, nitrate, nitrite, MPS, total chlorine, fluoride, cyanuric acid, chlorine dioxide, QUAT/QAC, total alkalinity, carbonate, and pH. We decided to use water contamination and filtration for our project topic because we want to promote safe water usage and consumption. If the findings prove that water at Nazareth University is not clean enough for the student standards, we can raise awareness.

Name: Caroline Johnson and Cole Doldo

Title: Tap or Fountain: Comparing the Water Quality of Tap and Fountains in Different Buildings On Campus

Faculty Sponsor: Marilynn Lesczynski

Abstract: The purpose of this experiment was to test the quality of water in different buildings on campus, and to compare them to each other. We wanted to find out if there were any buildings on campus that have better water quality than others, and if there was a difference in contaminants between the tap and the fountain in each building. To execute our project, we collected water from multiple different buildings, and tested each one of them with water testing strips. Then, we recorded our data in a table and compared them. We chose this project because as students, we wanted to ensure that the water we were consuming was not contaminated by anything, since many of the buildings on campus are nearing 100 years old. Staying healthy as a college student can be difficult, so making sure the water we are all drinking is uncontaminated is important.

Name: Ellen Turo, Rayne Peterson, Lenah Penafeather, Erin Teasdale

Title: How Does Global Warming Affect The Water In Our Environment?

Faculty Sponsor: Marilynn Lesczynski

Abstract: In this experiment we investigated how global warming affects evaporation and precipitation in different climates/ environments. As global temperatures increase, the rate of evaporation is increasing, which will cause more precipitation on average in different areas. Using a heat lamp to simulate global warming, we determined how much longer or shorter it took for water to evaporate compared to control groups. We specifically looked at desert, soil, ocean water, and glacier water environments to see how the water cycle was impacted in each environment as a result of global warming.

Name: Emma Wendt

Title: Improving Understanding in Math Through Games

Faculty Sponsor: Nicole Juersivich

Abstract: For this project I created a digital Interactive Math Games Collection to improve math education and learning. I researched a variety of topics in grade 4 that students struggle with and curated a collection of games focused on those topics to help students achieve fluency and better meet the standards required for that topic.

I realized the importance of 4th graders to become fluent in the basic facts of operations and for them to grasp the concept of applying operations to fractions and decimals, as these skills serve as stepping stones to higher level mathematics topics and without mastering these skills it will make future years of math much more difficult. Learning these skills in part comes from the repeated practice of problems related to these topics, and putting them in a game format makes this repeated action seem more fun and worthwhile as there is now an additional reward to solving the problem.

Through creating this collection, I hope to equip future educators with tools they can use to build students' interest in their mathematics instruction. Building interest will allow educators to provide higher quality instruction that will help students form a better understanding of mathematics that both helps them achieve the standards and develop their general problem-solving skills.

Name: Ethan Kryger

Title: Bias in Norton Anthologies

Faculty Sponsor: Adrielle Mitchell

Abstract: I will use the Worldcat database's collection of Norton Anthologies and export all of the data into an excel spreadsheet. From there I will use the coding language Python to sort through all of this data, looking for specific information like authors, ethnicities, volume of text per anthology, etc, and then to make visualizations of this data that show any potential biases in how Norton emphasizes certain demographics and marginalizes others. From there, I will look at the prices of these anthologies and potentially how many copies they have sold (and to what areas of the world they are being sold to) to further look for biases.

Based on this information I will analyze how Norton is contributing to colonialism (or how they are uprooting it, depending on what the data points to) through what they are choosing to publish and how they are grouping particular demographics together. I want this project to center around how the literary canon has come to exist, and what voices are being highlighted through this process.

From here, I would like to use Python to do the same process, focusing on what Norton anthologies are available to students at Nazareth. I think looking at Worldcat will do a good job of creating a foundation of knowledge that I can cross reference when looking specifically at the Lorette Wilmot Library collection. I will use primo to do this, exporting all the search results into a different excel spreadsheet and using Python to visualize this data, and how it differs from Worldcat.

At CARS, I will use a trifold with one section for each part of my research. This includes the Worldcat analysis, the Lorette Wilmot Library analysis, and an examination of poems surrounding colonization.

Name: Heather Bliss

Title: Mathematics Revolution: Redesigning the Curriculum of Fractions

Faculty Sponsor: Nicole Juersivich

Abstract: This project explores math standards used in fifth grade that involve the simplification, estimation, and multiplication and division of fractions. I assessed what teaching techniques of the different standards should be kept or redesigned to enhance students' learning. For each modification that I made, I explained why and how this will help students learn better. I specifically modified the lessons under each standard to allow for real-world applications, hands-on based learning, and group work to help students be more engaged in their learning. These standards are a part of Module 4 in the New York State Engage NY lesson plans.

I researched how students learn best and what teaching techniques are the most helpful for students. I then looked at each standard under the module and researched different lesson ideas that schools have used. I used this research to

redesign the curriculum with what involved the best teaching techniques and qualities that will help students enhance and develop their understanding. Through this research, I showcased teaching techniques that every teacher should work to include in their math lessons, no matter what grade they are teaching, so that students can learn more successfully due to becoming more appreciative and having a deeper understanding of mathematics.

Name: Isabelle Crandall and Isabelle Talley

Title: Rockin' Rock Candy

Faculty Sponsor: Marilyn Lesczynski

Abstract: Through this project we determined the best sugar for making rock candy. Typically, rock candy is made with granulated sugar for its crystal like quality. We wanted to find out if non-crystal like sugars work the same and will other sugars with a similar quality work just as well. In this experiment, we tested seven different types of sugar: granulated sugar (white sugar), brown sugar, confectioners sugar, sugar alternative (Truvia), corn syrup, and maple syrup to see the different crystal sizes that each sugar produced to determine the most effective for making rock candy.

Name: Isiah McMurray

Title: NMP : Water Weakly Bound Complexes

Faculty Sponsor: Josh J. Newby

Abstract: Weakly-bound complexes are molecules that are bound to other molecules by only intermolecular forces. Studying these interactions helps the scientific community better understand how larger systems (e.g. proteins and enzymes) are structured and how they function. Previous research in this area focused on homocyclic ring molecules' interactions with water. Recently, there has been more research involving heterocyclic molecules. The current study looks into the interactions between N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone (NMP) and water. NMP is a

common chemical used in paint thinners and removal products. It is chemically interesting as it contains multiple electronegative atoms, lone-pairs, and a bulky substituent group that can all impact the binding of a water molecule. Previous studies focused on the NMP : water interactions in bulk systems. One study did posit a favored orientation, but did not confirm it. In the current study, computational analysis and matrix isolation FTIR were used to characterize the interactions of NMP and water on the molecular scale. Our computational findings suggest that there are four orientations in which the weakly bound NMP : water complex can form. The most energetically favorable structures were observed to form a hydrogen bond from the water molecule to the ketone of NMP. Spectroscopic analysis supports the formation of the two complexes with this bonding motif.

Name: Jacob Myers, Sophia Rush, Breanna Lancto and Dyllan Sarich

Title: Plaque Attack

Faculty Sponsor: Marilyn Lesczynski

Abstract: Every day, we brush our teeth, or at least we try to. Everyone does it, but when it comes to the exact practice of how we brush our teeth, everyone has their ritual. Some people use specific toothpastes, and some specific brushes, and in most cases nine out of ten dentists support the chosen method. This experiment intended to find the most effective combination of toothpaste and toothbrush to maximize the dental health of the user, as no one wants to have unhealthy teeth and gums. We investigated multiple different combinations of brushes and toothpaste to determine the most effective combination of toothbrush and toothpaste from our chosen products. Each member of our group utilized Dental Disclosing Tablets before brushing our teeth to see which method was most effective at removing plaque from our teeth.

Name: Jamisen Lowe, Hayden VanOrman, Natalie Hoffman and Kayleen Moran

Title: What Determines Birth Satisfaction

Faculty Sponsor: Bonnie Walden

Abstract: The students investigated what factors affect birth satisfaction in childbearing women by analyzing a variety of literature. Dissatisfaction with the birthing experience is associated with postpartum depression, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and anxiety in maternal women. These lasting consequences on the mother's health make finding interventions to improve childbirth satisfaction all the more important. Improved maternal satisfaction with childbirth can increase self-confidence and increase positive expectations for any future births. Through literary review, students found such practices like partner's support, distraction, midwife involvement, delivery by vaginal birth, and the participation in birth preparation classes positively improved maternal satisfaction. Encouraging maternal autonomy was also reported to be substantial in improving birth satisfaction. Evidence based practices such as these are worth implementing in the healthcare field to prevent negative physical and psychosocial complications in women postpartum, as well as to allow women to be comfortable with the possibility of subsequent births.

Name: Kathleen Bateman

Title: Exploring Musical Sound

Faculty Sponsor: Marilyn K. Lesczynski

Abstract: This investigation explored the physics of sound allowing us to learn more about something that surrounds our life- music. The goal of this experiment was to investigate the correlation between string size on a piano/guitar, and the frequency it produces. We also investigated the correlation between bell size on woodwind and brass instruments and the frequency they produce. The correlation was seen by measuring the string size, and recording the frequency, using a graph. For the other instruments, we found the correlation by measuring the bell size, and recording the range of the instrument.

Name: Kathryn Williams, Elise Hollifield, Andrea Guterrez

Title: Vecinos Unidos - Building Connections with La Comunidad

Faculty Sponsor: Tania Giorgis

Abstract: Vecinos Unidos (United Neighbors) refers to Nazareth teams that carry out projects to support im/migrant farmworker families in the region, supported by a grant from the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation. This year, Vecinos Unidos focused on bringing families, Nazareth University students, and community members together in a relaxed environment for language and cultural exchange, family literacy strategies, community building, and educational programming. The group planned and carried out a series of Sunday afternoon family gatherings across the Fall and Spring semesters. Nazareth University GAs and Partners for Health students collaborated with faculty supervisors and key community partners (Nikki Bell - RBERN) to connect with families across a variety of culturally responsive and engaging activities. Reciprocal benefits of this community engaged program emerged along with challenges and ideas for future directions. Nazareth University prides itself on learning through action, being guided by empathy, equity and innovation. The Vecinos Unidos team embodies this mission, and the people involved love being able to support families' wellbeing in the upstate NY region.

Name: [Kaye Lawton](#)

Title: Being a Woman in Law: Then vs Now

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Shirley Sommers

Abstract: We plan to have a poster where we will discuss the history of women in law. Originally it was a male dominated field of study, but over time women have begun to overtake the number of male students. We chose this topic because we are both planning to attend law school, and have heard stories or experienced first hand how women are treated differently in this field, for better or for worse. This topic is very important to both of us, and we just want to compare how treatment / attitude toward women in law school and working in the field compare in the past and now. We will do research using scholarly sources to find out information and even tell a few personal stories.

Name: Laura Lepkowski, Olivia Brown and Edward Everts

Title: Household Chemicals and the Effects on Human Skin

Faculty Sponsor: Marilynn K. Lesczynski

Abstract: The purpose of this experiment was to determine which disinfectant products are the worst for your skin. Chemical exposures can potentially cause temporary or permanent harm to your skin. Many individuals who work with chemicals for an extended period of time experience dry, red, cracked skin. In order to explore this topic, we used similar sized segments of an aloe vera plant and added five drops of various household chemicals to the surface of the plant. Chemicals included all-purpose cleaner, disinfectant wipes, dish soap, hand soap, and hand sanitizer. We observed the plants as the chemicals sat on them for varying periods of time to identify the effect each one had on the aloe vera plant, similar to human skin in the sense that there is a protective outer layer and a flesh-like interior. Elements we watched include how the chemicals are absorbed into the plant, the resulting texture of the skin and the flesh, color changes of the chemicals and/or the plants, etc. This experiment reflects the effects of harsh chemicals on your skin, even if said effects are not as jarring as they are on the plant.

Name: Liz Hone, Katelyn Spath and Jason Case

Title: Is Homemade Paint a Good and Cheap Alternative?

Faculty Sponsor: Marilynn Lesczynski

Abstract: In this experiment, we set out to examine different recipes for homemade paint, keeping in mind allergies and utilizing accessible household ingredients. We created six different paints, three made with standard flour and three with gluten-free flour. Additionally, we experimented with different forms of edible pigments in order to create the best red paint. It is important to test these recipes so that individuals who do not have access to paint have a safe and

inexpensive alternative option. Considering individuals with allergies, we tested the recipe with gluten-free flour to see if it would produce the same quality of paint.

Name: Shannon Sgombick

Title: Math Mania: Engaging Games for 2nd and 3rd Grade Mathematics

Faculty Sponsor: Blake Frost

Abstract: The project established is a curation of a digital interactive Mathematics games collection focused on educating teachers on how to implement these games into their curriculum and how to align them with the current math standards. We researched and experimented with many math games, as well as how they aligned with the New York State mathematical standards from our targeted grades. Specifically, the collection is focused on 2nd and 3rd grade students and is designed to help educators enhance and inspire students to enjoy learning mathematics, but also to help them understand it better. My partner and I remember how helpful math games were in our learning around this age level, and believe that if implemented into the curriculum properly, students will benefit tremendously. Math games allowed my partner and I to thrive in math by giving us a different platform to learn mathematics. The standard pencil and paper problems done constantly in class can cause students to lose interest and passion in their learning, thus making math games a breath of fresh air for many students. Math games gave us a better understanding and allowed me to feel confident with the extra practice I was getting. Math games also allow for extra practice outside of the classroom. Allowing students to practice their math skills away from the school and at home. This can be beneficial because it can help students improve their math skills even more.

Name: Caitlin Sisson, Joelle Boland and Mileena Ossman

Title: Testing the Efficiency of Water Filtration

Faculty Sponsor: Marilyn Lesczynski

Abstract: This experiment determined the effectiveness of water filters. We accomplished this by collecting samples from different water sources around campus and examining them using water test strips before and after being run through a water filter. These samples included water from: Kearney Hall bathroom, Kearney Hall water fountain, dining hall beverage machine, Smyth Hall water fountain, Peckham Hall water fountain, reverse osmosis water, snow, and a bottle of water. We tested the water samples for total hardness, free chlorine, iron, copper, lead, nitrate, nitrite, MPS, total chlorine, fluoride, cyanuric acid, chlorine dioxide, QUAT/QAC, total alkalinity, carbonate, and pH. We decided to use water contamination and filtration for our project topic because we want to promote safe water usage and consumption. If the findings prove that water at Nazareth University is not clean enough for the student standards, we can raise awareness.

Name: Sophie Gueye

Title: My Public Health Internship

Faculty Sponsor: Mary Maher

Abstract: The subject of this project will be my internship in public health and nursing. I fulfilled this requirement when working at Nazareth University's Health and Counseling Center in the Fall of 2023. In order to assist in providing care for our students at Nazareth, I performed the patient's vital signs along with health assessments. In order to obtain experience and comfort in my assessments and to gain a better understanding of primary care organizations, I worked alongside a nurse for 120 hours while shadowing him at this health care center. All nursing clinicals took place at secondary or tertiary level facilities, like Unity or Strong Memorial Hospital. But I've been able to observe both nursing and public health because of my position here. My project will center on what I accomplished here as well as discuss the distinctions between the various levels of healthcare and their effects for wellness. In order to achieve this, I will examine not only physical health but also a few social determinants of health and how they affect various care levels, including transportation and financial status.

Name: Tanner Spear

Title: Critical Challenges Facing Dentistry

Faculty Sponsor: Mary Dahl Maher

Abstract: What are the critical challenges facing Rochester children's dental care and oral health? Eastman Institute for Oral Health's mission is to improve oral health care through caring, discovery, teaching and learning. The University of Rochester Medical Center's mission is to use education, science, and technology to improve health—transforming the patient experience with fresh ideas and approaches. From my work at Eastman, I conducted research on how to engage communities and form better connections to improve dental health and education.

Name: Isabella Heath and Lilianna Hanning

Title: The Effect of Mileage on the Spring Constant of Running Shoes

Faculty Sponsor: William Lammela

Abstract: Running shoes are designed to support the foot and absorb forces during high-intensity exercise. The sole's foam acts like a spring, compressing and expanding to cushion a runner upon landing and help them push off for their next step. During the course of a shoe's lifetime, the shoe breaks down and is able to provide less support. Here we show how the spring constant of a running shoe's foam changes as the shoe is worn for more miles. We found that as a shoe's mileage increases, the spring constant (Nm) of a shoe's heel region decreases. We also found that the spring constant of a shoe's forefoot region decreases, but to a lesser extent.

Name: Justin Moraza

Title: Kimberlé Crenshaw

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Shirley Sommers

Abstract: A lot professor at UCLA and Columbia law school, Kimberlé fights for race and gender equality. She's a founder of critical race theory and the creator of a think tank. She is also a founder of African-American Policy Forum which focuses on dismantling structural inequality. Her Instagram promotes her upcoming talks and interviews and raises awareness about injustice.