

Celebration of Excellence



MUSKINGUM
UNIVERSITY

Brown Chapel

Friday, April 11, 2025

3:30 p.m.

Celebration of Excellence

Processional

Prelude Music Dr. Harsha Abeyaratne, *Accompanist*

Welcome Dr. Susan S. Hasseler
President

Invocation Rev. Derek Wadlington
University Chaplain

Anthem

“God of Wisdom, Truth, and Beauty” by Jane Parker Huber
Concert Choir
Dr. Daniel Strychacz, *Conductor*
Dr. Harsha Abeyaratne, *Collaborative Accompanist*

Hymn: “God of Wisdom, Truth and Beauty”

God of wisdom, truth and beauty, God of spirit, fire and soul;
God of order, love and duty, God of purpose, plan, and goal:
Grant us visions ever growing. Breath of life, eternal strength,
Mystic spirit, moving, flowing. Filling height and depth and length.
God of drama, music, dancing, God of story, sculpture, art,
God of wit, all life enchanting, God of every yearning heart;
Challenge us with quests of spirit, Truth revealed in myriad ways,
Word or song for hearts that hear it, Sketch and model forms of praise.
God of atom’s smallest feature, God of galaxies in space,
God of every living creature, God of all the human race:
May our knowledge be extended, For the whole creation’s good,
Hunger banished, warfare ended, All the earth a neighborhood.
God of science, history, teaching, God of futures yet unknown,
God of holding, God of reaching, God of power beyond each throne:
Take the fragments of our living, Fit us to your finest scheme,
Now forgiven and forgiving, Make us free to dare and dream.

Introduction Dr. Dinah Meyer
Chair of Division of Business, Education, and Social Sciences

Address Dr. Kristen DeBois
Associate Professor of Public Health

Musical Reflection

Eloyi.....arr. Mbosu Ndlovu & Sydney Masetlhe
Concert Choir
Keeley Carter, *Soprano Soloist*
Addie Young, *Percussion*

Presentation of Faculty Awards.....Dr. Jennifer Dugan
Provost

Presentation of Co-ValedictoriansPresident Hasseler

Presentation of Senior Fellows.....Provost Dugan

Presentation of Academic Department Awards

Dr. Jane Varley.....*Division of Arts and Humanities*

Dr. Paul Szalay*Division of Natural, Applied, and Health Sciences*

Dr. Dinah Meyer*Division of Business, Education, and Social Sciences*

Presentation of Academic HonorsPresident Hasseler

ClosingPresident Hasseler

Recessional

Postlude MusicDr. Harsha Abeyaratne, *Accompanist*

Faculty Awards

William Oxley Thompson Award for Excellence in Teaching

This award is named for a Muskingum graduate of the Class of 1878. Dr. Thompson was one of the most renowned educators of his time and served for nearly three decades as a transformational President of The Ohio State University.

William Rainey Harper Award for Outstanding Scholarship

This award is named for a Muskingum graduate of the Class of 1870. Dr. Harper was a leading scholar and educator of his time and became the first President of the University of Chicago.

Cora I. Orr Faculty Service Award

This award honors the expansive service to Muskingum by Professor Orr as an instructor, counselor, and Dean of Women. The award embodies Professor Orr's influence on campus programs, impact on students, and contributions to the community.

Co-Valedictorians

Slade Bee

Jacquelynn Grinnell

Alexandra Huck (December 2024)

Kyra Kiessling

Kara Loader

Brock Pfister

Samuel Vansickle

Fellows Programs

The Summer Muskie Fellows have completed a summer research project under the direction of a faculty advisor.

Summer Muskie Fellows

The program provides an opportunity for students to work closely with faculty members as mentored research partners, gaining knowledge and skills in the discipline while developing a first-hand understanding of research practice and applications within the field.

Gracy Armstrong

Ethan Carpenter

Christopher Brison

Rebekah Nolette

The graduating seniors have completed academic study, field experiences, and individually designed projects building their leadership, communication, and problem-solving skills.

John and Annie Glenn Public Service Fellows

The goal for the JAG Public Service Fellows Program is to transform participants into active citizens and public servants.

Gretchen Cogan	<u>December 24:</u>
Luke Gill	Bailee Magnani
Kyra Kiessling	Rylee Magnani
Jillian Laposky	Eloise Voytko

David and Karin Kratoville Entrepreneurship Fellows

The David and Karin Kratoville Entrepreneurship Fellows explore problems from a variety of perspectives, creating solutions that will positively impact their own lives, the lives of their family and friends, and the lives of those in their communities.

Serenity Byers
Emily Keylor

Otto and Fran Walter Humanitarian Fellows

The Otto and Fran Walter Humanitarian Fellows program looks to expand students' understanding of local and global peace and justice initiatives and develop their ability to serve as leaders of social change.

Marissa Blauch

International Fellows

The program mentors students as they experience a deeper understanding of global connections guided by multiple interdisciplinary perspectives and develops leaders for an international society.

Hesham Khedr (December 2024)
Nathan Wehr

Academic Department Awards

Arts and Humanities

Joyce Alesandrini Award for Exemplary Leadership

Awarded to a graduating senior whose contributions to the Music Department include musical excellence, outstanding service, and a spirit of selflessness to the Department's students, faculty, and staff.

John Logan Kasinecz

E. L. Alesandrini Award for Excellence

Recognizes a junior Speech Communication major who has demonstrated excellence in limited preparation speaking events, service, character, and integrity. This award was created to honor the 30+ years of forensics service and teaching of Eugene L. Alesandrini.

Alyssa Derry

Amos Family Awards

Awarded to superior sophomore or junior students who major in Communication, Media, Theatre, and English.

Katelyn Lindsey, English

Doris Anderson Memorial Award in Humanities and Language

Awarded to students who exhibit interest in and devotion to the study of the classics in memory of the former Muskingum University Classics professor.

Rader Felumlee
Robin Matthews

Matilda Bailey Award in English

Awarded to students majoring in English who demonstrate academic merit and high moral character, with preference given to prospective teachers.

Jessica Dotson
Samantha Larrick-Goodrich
Ryleigh Lawhorne
Natalie Long
Dalton Phillips

Beulah Brooks Brown Creative Writing Award

Awarded by the English Department to upper-class students majoring in English who exhibit outstanding talent in the area of creative writing.

Trey Kirssin
Sydney Swihart

Joe L. Dubbert Award in History

Awarded to junior History students in memory of the late Muskingum University History professor.

Kylie Andres
Cohen Cabot
Kayden Ellis
Aidan West

William L. Fisk Endowed Scholarship Fund

Awarded by the History or Political Science Department to a rising senior who intends to pursue a graduate education.

Eva Finni

Mabel Woodrow Gill Art Award

Awarded to a senior student whose artwork in the Senior Capstone Art Exhibition is recognized as exemplary.

Oriana Krieg

Gleason Memorial Award

Awarded by the Communication, Media, and Theatre Department to an outstanding Theatre student in memory of Nancy and Marilyn Gleason, former Muskingum University students.

Cayden Nicholson

Amy B. Leiendecker Award in Music

Awarded to a senior for four years of outstanding service.

John Logan Kasinecz

Layton Memorial Scholarship Fund

Awarded by the Communication, Media, and Theatre Department to outstanding students in memory of Charles and Ferne Layton, former Muskingum University professors.

Adyson Baesmann
Augustus Niner

John McCance Scholarship in Broadcast Media

Awarded to a student interested in radio technology and engineering. The scholarship was established by Grant Hafley in memory of John McCance, a well-known area broadcast engineer who served many years as the Chief Engineer for AVC Communications. Mr. McCance was also instrumental in developing radio broadcasting facilities at Muskingum University.

Alex Dillon

Agnes Moorehead Scholarship in Theatre

Awarded to outstanding junior Theatre students in memory of the late actress who was a Muskingum alumna.

Alyssa Derry
Logan Moore

H.P. Mount Scholarship

Awarded to a student pursuing studies in the field of theology.

Luke Dunlap

Prout Family Creative Award in Visual Arts

Awarded by the Art Department to students who have produced an outstanding work of art.

Logan Horton
Oriana Krieg

Prout Family Creative Writing Award in Literary Arts

Awarded by the English Department to students who have produced an outstanding written work.

Kyra Kiessling
Sam Vansickle

Rivingston Vocal Scholarship

Awarded by the Music Department to assist two qualified and deserving students studying voice at Muskingum University.

Macy Morgan
Alaina Snodgrass

George and Jean Schooley Phi Alpha Theta Prize in History

Awarded to outstanding senior History students in recognition of the Muskingum alumnus and longtime area high school History teacher.

Eva Finni
Sam Vansickle

Mary Sharp Award in Spanish

Awarded by the World Languages Department to outstanding students of Spanish in memory of the former language professor.

Kilikina Schultz

The Emily Wasserman Music Scholarship

Established by the family and friends of Emily Wasserman, Muskingum Class of 1998, to be awarded to a deserving Music major from a small rural Ohio high school.

James Lones

Sara P. Wilhelm Award in English

Awarded to a student who shows unusual promise in English, Journalism, or Speech Communication in memory of the former Muskingum University professor.

Katelyn Lindsey

Ashwan Khanna Award for Journalism

Awarded to the Editor-in-Chief of the Black and Magenta.

JW Dennison

Academic Department Awards

Natural, Applied, and Health Sciences

American Chemical Society Award

Awarded by the Columbus section of the ACS to an outstanding junior and an outstanding senior Chemistry student.

Boe Marcum, *Senior*

Reno Yurco, *Junior*

ACS Award in Analytical Chemistry

In recognition of a student displaying an aptitude in the field of Analytical Chemistry.

Reno Yurco

General Chemistry Achievement Award

Awarded to outstanding General Chemistry students.

Christopher Burdiss

Jasmine Matthews

MacKenzie Krous

Claire McGowan

Sarah Lute

Kapil Thapli

Gordon L. Griffith Endowed Scholarship for Physics and Engineering

Awarded by the Physics and Engineering Department to the student who exhibits both academic and personal excellence.

Cara Taylor

Charles B. and Alice V. Moody Healthcare Scholarship

This scholarship fund was created by Mrs. Moody as a memorial for her beloved husband Charles. Funds are used to provide scholarships for students pursuing healthcare degrees at Muskingum University, where she was a graduate.

Jacklynn Watts

Charly Coulter

Computer Science Award

Awarded to an outstanding Computer Science student.

Sydney Belville

Clement E. Dasch Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement

Awarded annually to an outstanding sophomore or junior life-science major based on excellence in academic or research performance.

Elyssa Dabila

E.R. “Rudy” Gerlach Chemistry Award

Awarded to individuals majoring in Chemistry who demonstrate departmental involvement in and dedication to their education.

Taylor Metz

A. Bruce Gill and Mabel Woodrow Gill Scholarship Fund

Awarded to an outstanding student majoring in Biology, Chemistry, or Physics who is pursuing a degree in a medical field.

Matthew Vascura

Genesis Healthcare System Ronnica Dodson Scholarship in Nursing

The Ronnica Dodson Scholarship was established in 2001 in memory of Ronnica Dodson, former Bethesda Hospital Foundation Director of Development. This scholarship was created and funded by volunteers at Genesis Bethesda Hospital. The scholarship provides funds for students pursuing a degree in Nursing from Muskingum University or Ohio University – Zanesville or a degree in Allied Health from Zane State College.

Taryn Burkett-Sanders

Carmen Tratnik

Emily Smith

Isabella Trujill

Jordan Smith

Cierra Warne

Payge Stoneburner

Health Professions Award

Awarded to Chemistry majors pursuing a career in the medical field and who maintain a GPA of 3.5 or above.

Boe Marcum

Matthew Vascura

L. Coleman Knight Award in Mathematics

Awarded to an outstanding freshman in memory of the former Muskingum University professor.

Haylee Kinsey

Hugh Kuhn Award in Biology

Awarded annually to a senior life-science student exemplifying excellence in academic performance or research.

Abigail Derry

Mathematics Award

Awarded to an outstanding senior Mathematics student.

Slade Bee

Award for Performance in Organic Chemistry

Awarded to students who earned a grade of A in both semesters of Organic Chemistry.

Elyssa Dabila
Reno Yurco

Vishnu P. and Sudha S. Saxena Award in Conservation Science

Awarded to juniors majoring in Conservation Science who exhibit outstanding accomplishments in the area of research and scholarship. This special award was endowed by Dr. Vishnu P. and Dr. Sudha S. Saxena.

Haley Maksin
Alexis Sharb

Vishnu P. Saxena Beta Beta Beta Award for Outstanding Service

Awarded to a student for outstanding service as a member of the Muskingum University Beta Beta Beta Biology Honorary Society.

Logan Roberts

Vishnu P. and Sudha S. Saxena Award in Nursing

Awarded to a student for outstanding academic achievement and patient care as set forth in the department's mission statement.

Kenzi Combs

James L. Smith Awards in Mathematics

Awarded to an outstanding sophomore and junior in recognition of the Muskingum University emeritus professor.

Caroline Kennel, *Senior*
Adam Johnson, *Junior*

Robert Ellis Smith Scholarship in Physics and Engineering

Endowed by a distinguished Muskingum University alumnus, Robert Ellis Smith Scholarships are awarded to outstanding students who major or minor in Physics or General Engineering.

Hannah Dodd
Trent Lewis

Alice and Si Vellenga Award

Awarded to outstanding sophomore Chemistry majors who display the Christian principles of Dr. and Mrs. Si and Alice Vellenga.

Gracyn Armstrong
Kapil Thapli

William J. Wallace Award in Chemistry

Awarded to an outstanding junior or senior Chemistry major.

Boe Marcum, *Senior*
Reno Yurco, *Junior*

C. F. Moses Award

Awarded to outstanding Geology students who have shown excellence in academic studies or have demonstrated outstanding research ability.

Elizabeth Harry
Hannah Ritchie
Lane Smith

Outstanding Achievement in Exercise Science Award

This award recognizes dedicated students who have demonstrated exceptional knowledge, skills, and passion in the field of Exercise Science through academic excellence, practical applications, and commitment to promoting health and wellness through exercise science.

Tori Jones
Lindsey Masters
Averi Wallace

Health and Fitness Leadership Award

This award celebrates students who have shown exemplary leadership and dedication in the field of Health and Fitness. Recognizing outstanding academic performance and the embodiment of health and fitness promotion and excellence.

McKenzie Bicking
Brooke Pauley
Avery Warix

ACS Award in Inorganic Chemistry

Awarded to a student who displays excellence in the field of Inorganic Chemistry.

Braylon Buchanan

ACS Award in Organic Chemistry

Awarded to a senior student who displays an aptitude in the field of Organic Chemistry.

Boe Marcum

Academic Department Awards

Business, Education and Social Sciences

Miriam S. Allison Award in Education

Awarded to an outstanding student who will be entering a career in teaching.

Kelsey Wilson

John Anthony Brown Scholarship in Political Science

Awarded in memory of Muskingum University's seventeenth president to Political Science students who exemplify Dr. Brown's commitment to academic excellence and intellectual integrity.

Tyson Lewis

Criminal Justice Top Scholar Senior Award

Awarded to graduating seniors in Criminal Justice who have demonstrated high interest, commitment, and achievement throughout the students' course of undergraduate study.

Marissa Blauch
Lynsey Dudley

Criminal Justice Top Scholar Junior Award

Awarded to juniors majoring in Criminal Justice who have demonstrated high interest, commitment, and achievement throughout the students' course of undergraduate study.

Alexandria Marsh
Nicole Young

Mark Euken Award in Psychology

Awarded to a student who shows exemplary independent scholarship in psychological studies.

Amber Bowering

Andrew Frese Award

Awarded by the Education Studies Department to an Adolescent Young Adult or Multi-Age (K-12) candidate who has demonstrated exceptional ability in building rapport with students.

Elijah Baker

Gary and Paula Golden Award

Awarded to seniors majoring in Business Management or Marketing who have demonstrated persistence and the ability to achieve academic success at Muskingum University. This award was established by friends and family of Professor Golden, who was gifted at recognizing and developing unrealized potential in students.

Kamari Hill
Logan Horton
Evan Thro

Marigold Marsh Social Action Award

Given to students who engage in exemplary social action or social justice activities during the academic year.

Kylie Andres

Bill and Ruth McCauley Scholarship

Awarded by Muskingum University's Department of Education Studies to an outstanding upper-class Education major.

Kara Loader

Miller Family Award in Education

Awarded to outstanding students pursuing a career in the teaching profession in memory of three members of the Miller family, all teachers and Muskingum University alumni.

Grace Rinard

Cora I. Orr Award

Given by the Psychology Department in recognition of the awardee's academic excellence and service in the department. This award is given in memory of the former Muskingum professor.

Karisa Bowers

Political Science Top Scholar Award

Awarded to a graduating senior Political Science major who has demonstrated high interest, commitment, and achievement throughout the student's course of undergraduate study.

Seth Morrison

M. Wesley Roper Scholarship in Sociology

Awarded to outstanding Sociology students in memory of the former Muskingum University professor.

Rebekah Nolette
Paige Struchen

William Trumpeter Award in Psychology

Awarded to a senior Psychology major judged most likely to contribute to the profession.

Jacquelynn Grinnell

Dorothy D. Vellenga Award in Sociology

Awarded to an outstanding junior student in memory of the former Muskingum University professor.

Miu Kumagai

William L. Fisk Endowed Scholarship Fund

Awarded by the History or Political Science Department to a rising senior who intends to pursue a graduate education.

Kylie Andres

Academic Honors List

*To view the Fall 2024 President's, Dean's,
and Academic Merit list scan the QR code
to be directed to our website.*



<https://www.muskingum.edu/administration/academic-affairs/academic-honors-lists>

Kristen DeBois

Kristen DeBois is an Assistant Professor of Public Health Studies. She earned her PhD in Public Health Prevention Science from Kent State University's College of Public Health in 2020. Following, she worked as a research coordinator on a National Institutes of Health funded study aimed at identifying support needs of adolescents with a terminally ill parent.

In 2022, she joined the Muskingum University faculty, where she teaches courses in health promotion, community health, global health, and epidemiology. Her current research focuses on the role of technology, including social media use and internet gaming, on adolescent mental well-being.

Kristen also received her master's and bachelor's degrees from the University of Akron.

Recordings of the ceremony can be retrieved from the Celebration of Excellence webpage at www.muskingum.edu/coe