THE MOLLOY COLLEGE HONORS PROGRAM

2018-2019 Academic Year
The 2018-2019 academic year was incredibly eventful for our fellow honors students. Honors students were given multiple opportunities to fulfill their roles as global citizens through
Academic research and service to our communities. The Honors Program continues to engage in its partnerships with several external organizations such as Mercy First, Island Harvest, the Hance Family Foundation, and the Partnership for Global Justice. Listed below are just a few of the highlights from the 2018-2019 academic year:

- Students had the opportunity to visit The United Nations Headquarters in New York City in order to listen to presentations about global issues such as migration, poverty, immigration and human rights.
- In February 2019, Students had the opportunity to see the opera “Don Giovanni” at the Metropolitan Opera House in New York City.
- The Molloy College Honors Program was represented by current honors students at the National Collegiate Honors Conference in November 2018.
- Senior students presented their Capstone projects at the end of the Fall 2018 and Spring 2019 semesters.
- Several students were chosen to present their research at the annual Northeast Regional Honors Conference in April 2019.
- At the end of the spring semester, the Freshman Class were participants in the Seminar on Global Citizenship in Salzburg Austria hosted by the Global Citizenship Alliance.
- Finally, The Honors Program hosted their first annual Summer Academy on Global Citizenship, a week-long intensive program that engaged and challenged high school students on global issues.

The Partnership for Social Justice & the United Nations

The collaboration between the Honors Program and the Partnership for Global Justice has allowed students to attend an average of four presentations and two tours at the United Nations annually. This year, students visited the United Nations on January 11th, 2019 and April 5th, 2019. Presentation topics included updates, cybersecurity, and UN global health initiatives, poverty, human rights, migration and immigration.
Additionally, The Partnership for Global Justice welcomed Briana Stephenson and Gabrielle Anzelone as their new youth representatives. Briana Stephenson published two editorial pieces, “Our Future Will Become the Past of Other Women” and “The SDGs and Infrastructure: Turning Billions into Trillions” in two separate editions of PGJ’s monthly newsletter during the spring semester. Briana described her experience as a United Nations Youth Representative: “I was able to experience different nations coming together to brainstorm ways to make the world a better place. I was presented with economic and social issues in which I could formulate my own ideas about these issues that I was previously unaware of. It opened my eyes, increased my global awareness and gave me hope that I could one day be a part of the chance that we need to see in the world”.

Northeast Regional Honors Conference

The 2019 Northeast Regional Honors Conference was held in April in Baltimore, Maryland. This year’s theme was entitled, “Generating Power: Impact. Influence. Endurance,” and several Honors students were selected to present their research at the annual conference. Austin Verdejo, an aspiring art major, was selected to present his research and a paper presentation entitled, "Graffiti’s Call for Social Change". Grace Crockett, Emily Cruz, and Kristen Lacey were selected to present their research entitled, “Homelessness through a Global Lens,” as part of a panel discussion. Sarah Estevez presented her research, entitled “Veganism: Just Another Fad or a New Way of Life,” as a paper presentation. According to Sarah Estevez, “After extensive research, my group and I realized that choosing a more vegan-friendly diet affects global warming. I felt such a strong community of people at the conference. They were looking at the big picture and trying to really get to the root of the world’s problems”.

Briana Stephenson was chosen for the position of Student Research Journal Editor. Students were also given the opportunity to meet this year’s annual keynote speaker, Mary Washington. Mary Washington is a Maryland legislator, public policy leader, and professor.
trailblazer in regards to public policy and legislation. The Honors Program would like to thank Dr. Kathleen Lamaute, as she offered a great deal of guidance and mentorship to the first two groups selected to present at the conference.

Capstone Presentations

To finalize the Fall 2018 and Spring 2019 semesters, Honors Program students who completed the required curriculum utilized their knowledge to engage in a service or research project that addressed one of the Seven Revolutions and exemplified global citizenship. The external relationships that the Honors Program has maintained with the Partnership for Global Justice, Mercy First, Island Harvest, and the Hance Family Foundation have allowed Honors students to engage in service projects that accomplish these goals for several years. These organizations extend further than the Capstone requirement, as they have helped students in the Molloy College Honors Program secure internships and gain valuable experience working in service of others. Presentation topics included:

- “Preventative Measures as a Way to Decrease Healthcare Costs in the United States” by Daria Castrogiavanni, Stephanie Danisi, Stephney Jacob, Kimberly McGuiness, Mary O’Sullivan and Jessica Skripko,
- “Fight Against Illiteracy” by Sherin George, Kevin Sebastian, Archana Senthikumar and Gina Sinatro,
- “Food and Shelter Island” by Meghan Bevan
- “Your Day Around the World” by Chloe Nidds.

Additionally, two Capstone presentations were selected for presentation for the Northeast Regional Honors Conference. These presentations include “Homelessness through a Global Lens” by Emily Cruz, Kristen Lacey, and Grace Crockett and “Veganism: Just Another Fad or a New Way of Life?” by Mary Roedig, Sarah Estevez, Lisa Waterhouse, Charlene Abogado, Gina Guido, Jacquelyn Ehmer and Tanina DiLeo.

Salzburg, Austria

The Spring of 2019 proved most exciting for the Honors Program freshman class, as they travelled to Salzburg, Austria to participate in a weeklong seminar hosted by the Global Citizenship Alliance accompanied by Daniel McGann Director of the Honors Program and Professors Howard Ponzer, Noelle Cutter, and Jodi Evans. The seminar was designed to offer

While students work in groups in order to tackle issues regarding global citizenship, faculty chaperones enjoy the incredible view of the Austrian countryside.
students varying perspectives on key Global Topics and help them understand the tenets of global citizenship.

The week also included a trip to Dachau Concentration Camp in Germany, after which the students discussed the tragedies of the Holocaust and the importance of utilizing global citizenship to prevent such atrocities for future generations. Jamie Altar, a sophomore nursing major, described her experience in Austria as follows: 

“I feel blessed that I was able to be in the presence of such history and to gain a new understanding of such an aspect of my family history”.

**National Collegiate Honors Conference**

The National Collegiate Honors Council hosted its annual conference in Boston, Massachusetts in November 8th-11th, 2018. Honors Program students Anika Chowdhury, Emily Cruz, and Kristen Lacey accompanied Daniel McGann Director of the Honors Program to engage with faculty members and students who represented their institutions at the conference. New connections with other member institutions were developed, progressive ideas were discussed, and new resources were discovered. In comparison to other institutions on a national scale, the Molloy College Honors Program possesses a strong foundation, great propensity for growth, and valuable offerings for its students.

**Summer Academy on Global Citizenship**

The Molloy College Honors Program hosted its first Summer Academy on Global Citizenship during the Summer of 2019. The Summer Academy on Global Citizenship is a one week a comprehensive pre-college program that teaches students the importance of what it means to be a global citizen in today’s society. The program provides high school students the opportunity to experience life on a college campus while critically engaging with faculty and other students those pertinent questions regarding world order and current state of affairs. Twelve students entering their junior or senior year of high school were selected to participate in this novel Academy in order to explore the ideas of global citizenship.
The students were given a taste of the life of a Molloy College Honors Program Student, as they engaged in lectures with Professor Daniel McGann, Eileen McGann, Dr. Howard Ponzer, Dr. Karin Ponzer, and Dr. John Tanacredi. The program was further facilitated by the following current and former honors students: Kristen Lacey, Emily Cruz, Megan Pfundstein, Shannon Ward, Anika Chowdhury and Briana Stephenson. The students also ventured on excursions to the Nassau County Holocaust Museum, the United Nations Headquarters, and the CERCOM (Center for Environmental Research and Coastal Oceans Monitoring) Center.

Upcoming Events

- **Molloy College Fall Open House**: Sunday, November 10th, 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM.

- **Molloy College Honors Program Capstone Presentations**: Friday, December 13th, 2019, 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM, Larini Room, Public Square Building 2nd Floor

- **Molloy College Honors Program Information Session**: Saturday, December 14th, 2019, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM, Larini Room, Public Square Building 2nd Floor

- **United Nations Visit**: December 18th, 11:30 AM, New York City, New York
• **Molloy College Honors Program Information Session II:** Saturday, February 1st, 2020, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM, Larini Room, Public Square Building 2nd Floor

• **Marriage of Figaro:** February 22nd, 1pm, Metropolitan Opera House, New York, New York.

• **NRCH / Northeast Regional Honors Conference:** Thursday, April 2nd - Sunday, April 5th, 2020, Albany, NY
  - [http://nrhchonors.org/](http://nrhchonors.org/)

• **Salzburg Global Citizenship Seminar:** June 3rd – June 10th 2020, Salzburg, Austria.

• **Tenement Museum Visit:** Date/Time TBA, New York City, New York

## Admissions

Admission to the Honors Program involves a Holistic evaluation of each student. While student GPAs along with ACT, SAT, AP, and High School College courses are important for evaluation, other characteristics are also taken into consideration: Community Service; High School Extra-Curricular Activities; Volunteerism; Campus Ministries; Theatre Arts; Music; Athletics; Mentoring; Employment; and additional life experiences.

Students deemed eligible by Admissions are sent a letter **inviting them to apply** using the online Honors application. All information regarding the above items must be entered along with an essay choosing from three topics. Once the application is submitted, the student is asked to come in for an interview. Here is the link to the Honors application:

[https://www.molloy.edu/academics/honors-program/honors-application](https://www.molloy.edu/academics/honors-program/honors-application)
Contact Information:
Professor Daniel McGann
Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies
Honors Program Director
Department of Music
Faculty Athletic Representative
516-323-3017

dmcgann@molloy.edu

Elizabeth Mandracchia
Administrative Assistant, School of Arts and Sciences
516-323-4051
emandracchia@molloy.edu

Shannon Ward
Newsletter Author/Editor
Honors Program
sword@lions.molloy.edu

https://www.molloy.edu/academics/honors-program