



PennWest **CALIFORNIA**



## OVERVIEW

### 9 – 10:40 am **Morning Session**

*Creative Works and Posters in Lobby*

*Oral and Honors Thesis Presentation Sessions in Film Room & North Wing 6 & 7*

*A Midsummer Night's Dream Production Panel in Media Room*

*Retro Bites: A 90s Diner-themed Art Gallery with Interactive Stations in North Wing 8/9*

11 am – 12:15 pm **Keynote Session in South Wing**

*Introduction – Dr. Jon Anderson. University President*

*Performance Panel – Excerpts from Bright Star with music, lyrics, and story by Steve Martin and Edie Brickell, and A Midsummer Night's Dream by William Shakespeare.*

*Alumni Panel Discussion – Reimagine Your Future: Reflections on Career Paths and Opportunities*

*Ashley Potts LCSW, Vice President Operations, Wayspring*

*Amanda Folkemer, Microbiologist*

*Maxine Neiberg, MA, MFS. Anthropology Faculty and Head Women's Volleyball Coach, Penn State Beaver*

*Hannah Wyman, reporter, St. Louis Post-Dispatch*

*Valerie Herrero, Artist in Residence, Carlow University*

12:15 – 1:00 pm **Break**

1:00 – 2:40 pm **Afternoon Session**

*Creative Works and Posters in Lobby*

*Oral and Honors Thesis Presentation Sessions in Film Room & North Wing 6 & 7*

*Theatre Capstone Panel in Media Room*

*Retro Bites: A 90s Diner-themed Art Gallery with Interactive Stations in North Wing 8/9*

The following abbreviations are used throughout the program:

**EAH** – College of Education, Arts & Humanities

**HSHS** – College of Health Sciences and Human Services

**STB** – College of Science, Technology and Business

## ORAL PRESENTATIONS SESSION IA

9 – 10 am

Film Room

- 01. Wayeera Robertson.** *Private Ownership, Public Price: The Impact of Private Ownership on Residential Electric Utility Rates in the United States.* Business, Economics and Communication (STB)
- 02. Diletta Mungo.** *Breaking the Glass Ceiling: The Impact of Female Leadership on Company Performance.* Business, Economics and Communication (STB)
- 03. Braden Staats.** *The Dual Legacy of Henrietta Lacks: Ethical Challenges and Scientific Innovation.* Biology, Earth, and Environmental Sciences (STB)
- 04. Emma Danielson.** *An Analysis of Art Created During the Holocaust.* Visual and Performing Arts (EAH)

## ORAL PRESENTATION SESSION IB

9 – 10 am

Media Room

- 05. Brent Winzek and Dr. John Paul “JP” Staszal with students from the Midsummer Night’s Dream Production.** *A Midsummer Night’s Dream: A Contemporized Retelling.* Visual and Performing Arts. (EAH)

## ORAL PRESENTATION SESSION

1 – 2 pm

Media Room

- 06. Dr. John Paul “JP” Staszal and students from the Theatre Capstone course.** *Theatre Capstone Panel.* Visual and Performing Arts (EAH)

## HONORS THESIS PRESENTATIONS SESSION IA

9 – 11 am

North Wing 6

- H1. Morgan Griffith.** *The Role of miRNAs in Copper Homeostasis and Their Involvement in Nitrogen Stress Responses in Arabidopsis thaliana.* Honors Program

**H2. Lucia Pasquale.** *RND Efflux Pumps as a Survival Mechanism in Pseudomonas Species.* Honors Program

**H3. Mia Ola.** *ChREBP Mutations and the Implications in Insulin Resistance in Drosophila melanogaster.* Honors Program

**H4. Brady Shore.** *Attitudes Towards Refugees.* Honors Program

**H5. Maddie Scheidler.** *SLP Burnout in a School-Based Population.* Honors Program

**H6. Monica Forte.** *The Role of Student Engagement in Retention: Analyzing Extracurricular Impact Across PASSHE Institutions.* Honors Program

## HONORS THESIS PRESENTATIONS SESSION IB

9 – 11 am

North Wing 7

**H7. Sydney Cochran.** *Religious Freedom: Legal Inconsistencies and Power Imbalances in American Supreme Court Cases.* Honors Program

**H8. Paul Shriner.** *Privacy Implications of Human Digital Twins: Exploring and Addressing Legal, Ethical, and Moral Challenges.* Honors Program

**H9. Ty Kress.** *Advancing Deep-Space Logistics: A Reusable Transorbital Chemical Rocket Booster.* Honors Program

**H10. Tyler Donnelly.** *ALZ-113 Retrovirus: Made for Plot or Made from Science.* Honors Program

## HONORS THESIS PRESENTATIONS SESSION II

1 – 3 pm

North Wing 6

**H11. Aly Hice.** *How The F\*\*\* Did We Get Here?: An Evolution of Swear Words in The English Language.* Honors Program

**H12. Oscar Press.** *An analysis of a purported paradigmatic crisis regarding sex.* Honors Program

**H13. Riley Walls.** *From Ancient Rituals to Modern Dentistry: The Story of Dental Modifications Across Eras.* Honors Program

## INTERACTIVE ART GALLERY

9 – 10:40 am and 1 – 2:40 pm

North Wing 8/9

**CW1. Krystal Anderson, Maya Anderson, Ariel Schurg, Haj Abdullah, Faith Mukora, Arsyn Csencsics.** *Retro Bites: A 90s diner-themed art gallery with interactive stations.* (MD)

## CREATIVE WORKS SESSION I

9 – 10:40 am

Lobby

**CW2. Percy Khoury.** *Trauma, Death, and Little Dinos.* Visual and Performing Arts (EAH)

**CW3. Desaray Cossar.** *“Once Upon a December” Dream.* Visual and Performing Arts (EAH)

**CW4. Hope Yeardie.** *Pen and Paper.* Visual and Performing Arts (EAH)

**CW5. Oumer Abdulkadir, Alec Gilmore and Trent Cornell.** *Dumm- E Robot Arm.* Computing and Engineering Technology (STB)

**CW6. Nikkisha Thompson.** *Bringing Costume Design to Life: With Practice, Comes Creativity!* Visual and Performing Arts (EAH)

## CREATIVE WORKS SESSION II

1 – 2:40 pm

Lobby

**CW7. Haley Marie Sanner.** *Alternative of Pesticides by Using Praying Mantises.* Visual and Performing Arts (EAH)

**CW8. Keira Mayer.** *Drawing and Printmaking in Natural Science.* Visual and Performing Arts (EAH)

**CW9. Junior/Senior Cohort, Motion Design.** BDes Graphic Design. *The scroll as a linear, narrative storytelling device.* Visual and Performing Arts (EAH)

**CW10. Alina Gorbachyova, Jane Gorski, Alyssa Grim, Kiera Mayer, Jules May, Liz Mcloy, Sarah Pawlak, Haley Sanner, Alex Seman, Marlee Sinagra, Krysta Tower, Abbygael Wargo, Anny Winkleblech, Hope Yeardie.** *Art of Natural Science.* Visual and Performing Arts (EAH)

## POSTER PRESENTATION SESSION I

9 – 10:40 am

Lobby

**P1. Benjamin Price.** *Deposition of Mesoporous HKUST MOF via Surfactants in Solvothermal Deposition and its Adsorption of Crystal Violet in Aqueous Solutions.* Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics (STB)

**P2. Dominic Santia.** *Photochromic and Thermochromic Anils in Polymer Films.* Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics (STB)

**P3. Rachel Kancir.** *Identifying Inorganic Components of PM2.5 from Burning Biomass.* Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics (STB)

**P4. Jessica Samol and Declan Johnson.** *Temperature Dependent Sensitivity Study of Gas Sensors Based on Polyaniline/TiO<sub>2</sub>/Graphene Oxide Ternary Nanocomposites.* Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics (STB)

**P5. Zachary M. Seaman.** *Targeted Knockout of oprM Gene in Pseudomonas Species to Investigate its Role in Toxin and Antibiotic Resistance.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)

**P6. Amanda Anderson.** *Exploring the Genomic Diversity and Metabolic Potential of Environmental Prokaryotic Isolates.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)

**P7. Brian Little.** *Assessing the Prevalence of Bacterial Metal Resistance Genes in Local Abandoned Mine Drainage Areas.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)

- P8. Amelia Passarelli-Roberts, Tyler Mercer, Evan Malie and Sarah Poskin.** *Abandoned Mine Drainage: It's Impact on Sewickley Creek (Lowber, PA).* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)
- P9. Morgan Griffith.** *The Role of miRNAs in Copper and Nitrogen Homeostasis in Arabidopsis thaliana.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)
- P10. Morgan Griffith.** *Fluorescent Protein Release: A Novel Approach to Cytotoxicity Assessment.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)
- P11. Nikki Akor.** *DNA Damage in Preimplantation Embryo and Gametes: Specification, Clinical Relevance and Repair Strategies.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)
- P12. Daniel Harris, Maria Centellas, Tyler Donnelly and Maddie Kowalski.** *Cell-to-Cell Transfer of Chloroplasts: A Review.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)
- P13. Allison Hoover, Cheyenne Weld, Holly Dzamba and Adrianna Campbell.** *Review and Critique of "Lowering Mutant Huntingtin by Small Molecules Relieves Huntington's Disease Symptoms and Progression".* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)
- P14. Grant Hopple and Leandra Guldemann.** *How the Immune Microenvironment Drives Resistance to Cell Cycle Inhibitors in Breast Cancer Treatment.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)
- P15. Morgan Twombly, Sefika Ozturk and Sebnem Ozturk.** *Cystic Fibrosis and the Importance of Actin Cytoskeleton, cAMP and PKA Activity in Cystic Fibrosis Transmembrane Conductance Regulator.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)
- P16. Morgan Twombly.** *Isolating and Screening Soil Microbes for Potential Antibiotic Properties.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)
- P17. Prashmi Shah.** *The Oral Microbiome and Dental Hygiene: Assessing the Impact of Hygiene Habits on Microbiome Composition.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)



- P18. Alycia Harris.** *Microbiome at the Helm: Rewriting the Role of Bacteria in Human Labor.* Exercise, Health and Sports Science (HSHS)
- P19. Cole Benning.** *Effectiveness of Mirror Therapy on Motor Function for Post-Stroke Patients.* Exercise, Health and Sports Science (HSHS)
- P20. Hannah Morton.** *Improving Communication and Social Skills in Children with Autism: The Role of Speech Therapy.* Exercise, Health and Sports Science (HSHS)
- P21. Kacie Rockwell.** *Hormonal and Lifestyle Influences on Migraine.* Exercise, Health and Sports Science (HSHS)
- P22. Kyle McCormick.** *Platelet-Rich Plasma (PRP) Injections as a Treatment for Hamstring Injuries.* Exercise, Health and Sports Science (HSHS)
- P23. Sean Knight.** *The Effects of Dry Needling with Electrical Stimulation.* Exercise, Health and Sports Science (HSHS)
- P24. Tasha Betina Nakhulo.** *Effects of Naegleria fowleri in the United States and parts of Asia.* Exercise, Health and Sports Science (HSHS)
- P25. Tatia Battiste.** *Rehabilitation Strategies of an Achilles Tendon Tear/Rupture.* Exercise, Health and Sports Science (HSHS)
- P26. Tina Duong Anderson.** *The Mechanism of Hamstring Injuries if it is an Injury or a Spasm.* Exercise, Health and Sports Science (HSHS)
- P27. Jacob Pedley, Cole Villa, Ian Mulligan and Owen Reichelderfer.** *Birdie Basics.* Exercise, Health and Sports Science (HSHS)
- P28. Madeleine Bloomquist.** *TRAP-18 Characteristics in Lone Actor Terrorism Manifestos.* Education (EAH)
- P29. Diletta Mungo.** *Breaking the Glass Ceiling: The Impact of Female Leadership on Company Performance.* Business, Economics and Communication (STB)
- P30. Abigail Marino.** *The Importance of the Vulcan Mascot Sculpture.* Visual and Performing Arts (EAH)

- P31. Angelina Tome.** *Wings Across Westmoreland.* Visual and Performing Arts (EAH)
- P32. Ashley Marino.** *Pitching A Curveball to Public Art.* Visual and Performing Arts (EAH)
- P33. Eli Barbacow.** *A World of Kindness.* Visual and Performing Arts (EAH)
- P34. Elliott Sullivan.** *War Memorials, Should they Remain Established?* Visual and Performing Arts (EAH)
- P35. Erika Hollis.** *Memorials in Our Local Community.* Visual and Performing Arts (EAH)
- P36. Jacob Haugh.** *The Fighting Scot Statue: A Scottish Symbol for PennWest Edinboro.* Visual and Performing Arts (EAH)
- P37. Maddie DiDomenico.** *Monument to Modernity: Exploring the Art and History of the George Westinghouse Memorial.* Visual and Performing Arts (EAH)

## POSTER PRESENTATION SESSION II

1 – 2:40 pm

Lobby

- P38. Aeden Jezorski.** *Electrochemical Synthesis of Metal-Organic Frameworks (MOFs) onto Substrates.* Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics (STB)
- P39. Nicholas Climes.** *Chemical Composition of Organic PM2.5 from Biomass Burning.* Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics (STB)
- P40. Zachary M. Seaman.** *Fluorescent Imidazopyridines: Synthesis and Photophysical Analysis.* Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics (STB)
- P41. Benjamin Price.** *MexB CRISPR Gene Knockout in Pseudomonas Strains via Two Step Chemical Transformation.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)

- P42. Holly Dzamba.** *Interactions and Survival of Gut Bacteria in Dairy-Based Environments: Effects on Growth and Metabolic Activity.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)
- P43. Adrianna Campbell.** *Investigation of Nutrient Enrichment Effects on Bacterial Pathogenicity and Antibiotic Resistance in River Ecosystems.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)
- P44. Hollie Hiles.** *Biomining Abandoned Mine Drainage to Recover Lanthanum.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)
- P45. Lindsey Claytor.** *Culturing and Screening Bacteria for La<sup>3+</sup> Uptake via Arsenazo III Assay.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)
- P46. Jalyn Cook, Lucia Pasquale and Amanda Anderson.** *Investigating Gene Expression of RND Efflux Pumps in Pseudomonas Species.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)
- P47. Amanda Anderson and Logan Kremposky.** *The Dual Role of GLP-1 in Mood Regulation: Insights into Anxiety and Depression.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)
- P48. Logan Kremposky.** *Genetic Transformation of Saccharomyces cerevisiae for Xylindein Production Using Selected Genes from the Chlorociboria aeruginascens Xylindein Biosynthetic Gene Cluster.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)
- P49. Krysta Tower.** *Study of the Fungal Pathogens Found on Wild Lycorma Delicatula.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Science (STB)
- P50. Kyleigh Trecki.** *Impact of Reynoutria japonica on microbial diversity in soil.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)
- P51. Owen Murphy.** *Screening for New Staphylococcus Aureus-Specific Bacteriophage Species.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)
- P52. Cheyenne Weld.** *Acetylcholinesterase: Function, Significance, and Implications in Neurodegenerative Diseases.* Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics (STB)

- P53. Bella Gilberto.** *Adenosine Deaminase: Characterization and Role in Purine Metabolism and Immune System Function.* Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics (STB)
- P54. Adriana Marina.** *Phenylalanine Hydroxylase: A Key Enzyme in Amino Acid Metabolism and Human Health.* Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics (STB)
- P55. Adriana Marina and Ari Kaser.** *Assessing Transformation Efficiency in Environmental Soil Bacteria.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)
- P56. Ari Kaser.** *Acetylcholinesterase: A Comprehensive Review of its Structure & Function.* Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics (STB)
- P57. Antonia Gheorghita.** *The Effects of Calcium Depletion on Tooth Development in Zebrafish.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)
- P58. Antonia Gheorghita.** *The Biochemical Role of Human Phenylalanine Hydroxylase (PAH) - A Biochemistry Review.* Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics (STB)
- P59. Emily Greene.** *Comparative Analysis of Physiological and Immunological Factors in Canine Allergy.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)
- P60. Allison Hoover.** *Impact of Vitamin E and Cocoa on Behavior and Survival of Drosophila Models of Alzheimer's Disease.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)
- P61. Sefika Ozturk.** *Examining the effects of glyphosate on cell and tumor development.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)
- P62. Mia Ola.** *Isolation of a Novel Methylobacterium Species from the Monongahela River.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)
- P63. Braden Staats.** *The Role of Matrix Metalloproteinase-13 (MMP-13) in Osteoarthritis.* Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics (STB)

**P64. Braden Staats.** *Comparing Generalized Anxiety Disorder to the Oral Microbiome.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)

**P65. Prashmi Shah.** *Phenylalanine Hydroxylase: A Biochemistry Review.* Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics (STB)

**P66. Prashmi Shah and Braden Staats.** *Investigating the Relationship Between Anxiety and Oral Microbiome Using qPCR.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)

**P67. Daniel E. Harris.** *Investigating Exchange of DNA Between Grafted Individuals of *Arabidopsis thaliana*.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)

**P68. Sarah Stygler.** *Alpha-L-Iduronidase: A Biochemistry Review.* Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics (STB)

**P69. Sarah Stygler.** *The Effects of Alprazolam on Planarian Regeneration.* Biology, Earth, and Environmental Sciences (STB)

**P70. Abilene DeNunzio and Morgan Arthurs.** *TDR1 Expression in Tardigrades Isolated from Varying Polluted Aquatic Environments.* Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences (STB)

**P71. Kaitlyn Achtermeier.** *Connections Beyond the Canvas: Art Therapy and Alzheimer's Disease.* Psychology, Counseling and Art Therapy (HSHS)

**P72. Deven Freeland.** *What are the Effects of Cannabis Use on Patients Undergoing Cancer Treatments and How Effective are Cannabinoids in Trying to Alleviate Symptoms Like Nausea, Pain, and Loss of Appetite?* Exercise, Health and Sports Science (HSHS)

**P73. Kyle Rizzo.** *Caffeine's Role in Recovery Time, Muscle Soreness and Performance in College Athletes.* Exercise, Health and Sports Science (HSHS)

**P74. Roman Capucha.** *The Effectiveness of Acupuncture in Treating Lower Back Pain.* Exercise, Health and Sports Science (HSHS)

**P75. Alexis Rodriguez.** *The Impact of the Progression of Teaching Science on Student Learning.* Education (EAH)

**P76. Arwen Ikach.** *Eerily Eye-Catching Artwork.* Visual and Performing Arts (EAH)

**P77. Aubrey Booth.** *'Love Your Wild Neighbor' Mural Analysis.* Visual and Performing Arts (EAH)

**P78. Bethlehem E Linde.** *The Prophet "You Tired"?* Visual and Performing Arts (EAH)

**P79. Brady Shore.** *The Impact of Local Art.* Visual and Performing Arts (EAH)

**P80. Connor Berg.** *Historical Analysis: Taylor Square's Forgotten Statue - Investigating the Significance of the "War Soldiers Memorial".* Criminal Justice, History and Politics (EAH)

**P81. Emily Sherman.** *The Turning Point.* Visual and Performing Arts (EAH)

**P82. Michael Paterno.** *Reservists and Recovery: The 14th Quartermaster Memorial.* Visual and Performing Arts (EAH)

**P83. Raina Bowser.** *A Legacy Long Gone.* Visual and Performing Arts (EAH)

**P84. Skylar Dickens.** *Walking with History: Hans T. Lubich's Hiker.* Visual and Performing Arts (EAH)

**Special gratitude is extended to the individuals below who volunteered as judges for this event.**

Michael Baranski, *Psychology, Counseling and Art Therapy*

Becky Barnhart, *Student Success Center*

Nancy Carlino, *Communication Sciences and Disorders*

Dori Eichelberger, *Student Success Center*

Jeffrey Giovannucci, *Exercise, Health and Sport Sciences*

Maggie Habeeb, *Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics*

Chad Hanna, *Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences*

Scott Hargraves, *Exercise, Health and Sport Sciences*

Doug Hoover, *University Libraries*

Sabrina Hykes-Davis, *Visual and Performing Arts*  
Connie Monroe, *Education*  
Susan Morris-Rutledge, *Education*  
Deidre O'Dell, *Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences*  
Carrie Pavtis, *Student Success Center*  
Nik Roberts, *Criminal Justice, History and Politics*  
Ryan Sittler, *University Libraries*  
Mark Tebbitt, *Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences*  
Laura Tuennerman, *Criminal Justice, History and Politics*  
Michelle Valkanas, *Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences*  
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Robin Weaver, *Nursing and Health Professions*  
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