

Welcome...

The College of Arts and Sciences is now in its 11th year of formally recognizing the amazing work of its student scholars through the annual Celebration of Research and Creative Activities. Since the College officially came into being in 1970, it has developed a rich tradition of encouraging student academic development. Today's reception culminates a week long celebration that embodies this tradition by honoring many of College's brightest scholars for their recent studies in varied academic disciplines.

The students whose work is displayed here today received support from either the College of Arts and Sciences Research and Creative Activities Award fund. For some of these projects, additional support was provided by individual departments, faculty research grants, or the Lee Honors College. Each student also enlisted the help of a College of Arts and Sciences faculty member who served as a mentor and advisor throughout the project.

Through their individual studies, the students have reinforced WMU's commitment to being a student-centered research university. Each scholar also has contributed to the advancement of his or her particular field of study.

The College of Arts and Sciences congratulates these students for their outstanding work!



Dr. Thomas Kent
Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

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The College of Arts and Sciences proudly presents the 2007- 2008 Undergraduate Research and Creative Awards



WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

2007-2008 Award Recipients

- Gavin Bates, Documentary Film Making of "Rich"
Mentor: Heather Addison, School of Communication
- Patrick Birkholz, "Investigation of ACh in an invivo model of glaucoma"
Mentor: Cindy Linn, Department of Biological Sciences
- Ashley Bishop, "Evaluation of Indoor Vegetable Gardening"
Mentor: Todd Barkman, Department of Biological Sciences
- Boe Bisset, "Testing Inbreeding Avoidance in a Solitary Wasp"
Mentor: David Cowan, Department of Biological Sciences
- Adam Brown, "The Effects of Habitat Quality on the Social Behavior of the Neotropical Bat Species (Thyroptera Tricolor) Through Genetically Examining Patterns of Parentage and Relatedness"
Mentor: Maarten VonHof, Department of Biological Sciences



- Lance Pride, "Analysis of Sinorhizobium Melioli Mutant Strains in Response to Heavy Metals"
Mentor: Sylvia Rossbach, Department of Biological Sciences
- Elyse Cornett, "Effects of Orexin-A microinjections in the rat lateral hypothalamus on conditioned place preference"
Mentor: Lisa Baker, Department of Psychology
- Amanda Counts, "Chronicling Rape Since Reform"
Mentor: Susan Caringella, Sociology
- August Holtyn, "Probabilistic Discounting: Does Age Affect Risk Sensitivity?"
Mentor: Cynthia Pietras, Department of Psychology
- Scott Kamen, "The Congress for Cultural Freedom and American Foreign Policy"
Mentor: Edwin Martini, Department of History
- Brian Lee, "Rites of Passage: Gross Human Anatomy and the Inter-Subjective Impressions of the Modern Medical Student"
Mentor: Ann Miles, Department of Anthropology
- Jacob Durrett, "The 2007 Cannes Film Festival"
Mentor: Jennifer Machiorlatti, School of Communication



- Bryan Phinezy, "Singular Coloring of Graphs"
Mentor: Ping Zang, Department of Mathematics
- Joshua Shultz, "Companion Planting, Trellising, and Rainwater Collection for Sustainable Urban Food Production"
Mentor: Lynne Heasley, of Environmental Studies Program
- Heather Tanner, "The Political Dimensions of Environmental Decision Making: An Ethnographic Study of the Kalamazoo River Clean-up"
Mentor: Vincent Lyon-Callo, Department of Anthropology
- Vanezia Ray, "Prodigal Son: Catholicism and Redemption in the Films of Martin Scorsese"
Mentor: Heather Addison, School of Communication