

RCAH SPRING CELEBRATION



**RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE IN
THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES
AT MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY**

RCAH SPRING CELEBRATION WELCOME!

Today we celebrate the people, projects, and passions that make the Residential College in the Arts and Humanities at Michigan State University such a special place—our vibrant community, our shared creativity, and our deep commitment to learning.

From hands-on workshops to heartfelt conversations, from honoring achievements to sharing snacks and stories, this day is about connection. Whether you’re an alum, a student, a family member, or a friend, thank you for being part of this moment and part of the RCAH story.

With gratitude and excitement,
The RCAH Spring Celebration Committee

**ALUMNI SHOWCASE
SESSIONS**
1:30-4 p.m.

RCAH alumni will facilitate breakout sessions with workshops, presentations, and roundtable/panel discussions.

**COMMUNITY
GATHERING**
4:30-6:30 p.m.

Join us for food, drinks, and merriment, while we honor scholarship recipients and graduating students.

STUDENT SHOWCASE
7-8:30 p.m.

Don’t miss presentations, performances, and posters showcasing the work of our current students.

ALUMNI SHOWCASE

Session 1
1:30-2 p.m.



Collaborative Design & Professional Brainstorming Simulation (Workshop)

Samantha Kinjorski, Graphic Designer, Avanti Press
Come expand your brainstorming skills and walk away with a stronger, more versatile creative toolbox. Using an eclectic mix of materials we will guide participants to move past the obvious, discover new approaches, and build on each other’s ideas, turning raw concepts into tangible multifaceted outcomes.

Location: Art Studio, Terrace Level

Pursuing Life as a Performing Artist and How to Get There (Workshop)

Christopher Michael, Musical Theater Performer, Actors Equity Association
Are you an artist? Nervous about how to sustain yourself post grad? This workshop will focus on the need-to-knows of being a creative in a big city: from pursuing your artistry to paying your electricity bill from a working NYC Off-Broadway actor.

Location: Classroom C202, 2nd Floor

Queer Spaces as Revolutionary Action: An Oral History of Sidetrack Bookshop (Presentation)

Chelsea Kinjorski, Bookseller, Sidetrack Bookshop
An oral history of a Michigan based queer-owned bookstore and how an extremist group protest of Drag Storytime turned into a radical moment of coalition building in a small town. This session seeks to investigate how to build and maintain queer-friendly spaces in our communities.

Location: LookOut Gallery, 2nd Floor

Attending Grad School (Panel)

Are you thinking about grad school? Hear from alums who have been there: from the application process, finding the right program for you, the difference between the RCAH curriculum and grad school work, and where higher degrees can take you.

Location: Classroom C203, 2nd Floor

Panelists:

Sadie Shattuck (moderator), Communications Analyst, AARP of Michigan (Master’s of Social Work)
Alexis Ringman, Law Clerk, Kyra H. Bolden, Michigan Supreme Court (Juris Doctorate [Law School])
Amelia Herron, Youth & Teen Services Librarian (Master’s in Library Science)
Micah Ling, Public Programs Coordinator, Michigan Traditional Arts Program (PhD Candidate, Folklore)
Dan Finegan, Social Worker, Simply Mindful Counseling (Master’s of Social Work)



ALUMNI SHOWCASE

Session 2
2:10-2:40 p.m.

ALUMNI SHOWCASE

Session 3
2:50-3:20 p.m.



Comic Making, from a Comic Writer-Illustrator (Workshop)
Brandon Hankins, Cartoonist
Take a walk through the comics-making process! See traditional tools in use, and ask questions about comics and art-making and life!
Location: Art Studio, Terrace Level



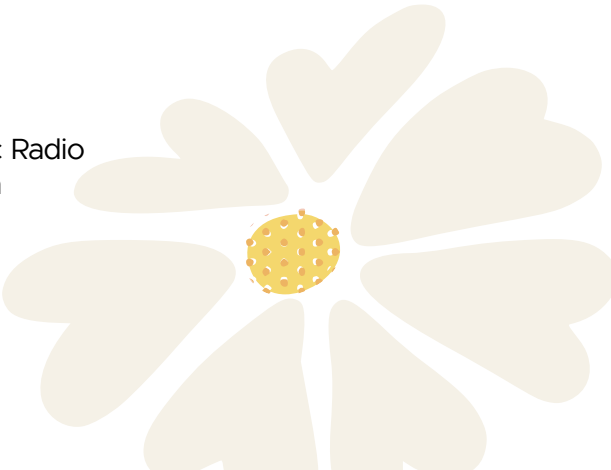
Healing Communities through Language (Presentation)
Bronson Herman, Community Organizer, North American Marine Alliance
Reflecting on my personal, professional and academic experience with second language acquisition's impact on this journey. An informal session with ample time for discussion and audience participation. Personal antidotes and multiple art forms will be utilized during the session.
Location: LookOut Gallery, 2nd Floor



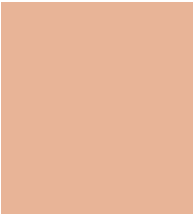
Environmental Justice and Philosophy (Presentation)
Reese Haller, PhD Student, MSU Department of Philosophy
Environmental justice movements are challenged to develop substantive responses to environmental racism through the total transformation of the social metabolism with nature. Renewed categories of environmental political philosophy are necessary to organize political unity for a sustainable and just alternative.
Location: Classroom C203, 2nd Floor



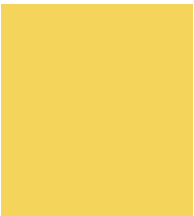
Transitioning to New City (Panel)
Hear how these alums landed in and navigated new cities. They'll discuss how to find a community of like-minded people, challenges and surprises, how they evaluated where they considered moving, and advice for starting fresh.
Location: Classroom C204, 2nd Floor
Panelists:
Zack Bissell (moderator), Chief Program Officer, Living Arts
Margy Hunter, Graduate Student, University of Michigan
Miriam Huebner, Donor Operations Specialist, Minnesota Public Radio
Zac Johnson, UniServ Director, National Education Association
Hilary Higgins, Photographer



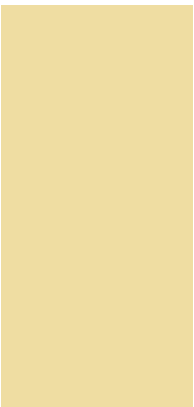
Hands-on Art Therapy (Workshop)
Claire Nowinski, Art Therapist, Ascension School of Healing Arts
Participants will experience how an art therapy session is conducted. They will engage in a creative process that explores how art supports emotional and mental well-being by allowing one to express themselves, develop coping skills, process emotions, and enhance self-awareness.
Location: Art Studio, Terrace Level



Furthering Health Equity Through Community & Research (Presentation)
Bonnie Bremer, Development Coordinator, American Cancer Society
This session will discuss the American Cancer Society's VOICES of Black Women research study, aimed at better understanding and improving the health of Black women across the nation through the lens of community fundraising and ambassador recruitment.
Location: Classroom C204, 2nd Floor



Designing & Building Creative Youth Spaces (Presentation)
Aileen Dwyer, Youth Creative Technology Specialist, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board
Learn about the development of creative spaces being built in Minneapolis neighborhood recreation centers offering local youth access to innovative technology, hands-on programming, and open studio time to build new skills, connect with community, and create meaningful projects.
Location: LookOut Gallery, 2nd Floor



Interviewing Tips & Community-Building Conversations
This session will address How do you learn to feel confident and comfortable in interview settings? How do you evaluate organizations and opportunities when you're being interviewed yourself? How can you connect with people authentically?
Location: Classroom C201, 2nd Floor
Panelists:
Christina Igl (moderator), Career Exploration Advisor, MSU College of Natural Science
Rachel Brauer, Marketing & Communications Consultant
Jamia Henry, Owner/Travel Agent, Pretty Lavish Adventures
Margaret Mooney, Membership Associate, Michigan Municipal League
Grace Feather, Educational Leader, MSU Extension



ALUMNI SHOWCASE

Session 4
3:30-4 p.m.

ALUMNI SHOWCASE

Session 4
3:30-4 p.m.



Career Industry Chats (Roundtable)

Hear from RCAH alums about what life is like in their professional industry. We'll go through several rotations, so you can chat in small groups with folks in several field areas if you choose, or spend the entire time learning from folks in one specific area.

Location: Classroom 201/203, 2nd Floor



Social Work/Counseling

Dan Finegan, Social Worker, Simply Mindful Counseling
Amelia Paliewicz, Primary Research Coordinator, Clinical Research Institute of Michigan



Visual Arts & Curation

Shayla Croteau, Art Registrar, Michigan State Capitol
Rachel Brunhild, Studio Manager, Cranbrook Academy of Art
Michaela "Mike" Martin, MFA Candidate, University of Michigan STAMPS



Communications & Digital Art and Design

Jacob Templin-Fulton, Video Producer/Director, MSU Communications
Ryan Roehler, Electronic Printer, Creative Projects Department, Michigan Education Association



Theater & Performing Arts

Kandra Harper, Booking & Event Coordinator, Wharton Center for Performing Arts
Christopher Michael, Musical Theater Performer



Publishing/Writing/Libraries

Emma Hintzen, Editor, Sourcebooks
Amelia Herron, Youth & Teen Services Librarian, Chelsea District Library



Law/Unions/Advocacy

Alexis Ringman, Law Clerk, Kyra H. Bolden, Michigan Supreme Court
Zac Johnson, UniServ Director, National Education Association
India Everson, Organizer, Reproductive Freedom for All



Education

Katie Morris, Teacher, Lansing Public Schools
Kaleb Smith, Lincoln Park Middle School and Chess Wizards
Ava Bennett, College Advisor, MSU College Advising Corps



Nonprofits/Social Impact

Sophie Beeckman, Philanthropy Manager, Detroit Habitat for Humanity
Berkley Sorrels, College Advisor, MSU College Advising Corps
Angel Snyder, Activity Director, Boys and Girls Club Camp Mendocino



Environment

Charlotte Krause, Naturalist, Johnson Nature Center
Bekah Galang, Partnership Specialist, Center for Regional Food Systems @ MSU
Madeleine Gorman, Project Manager, Cooperative Institute for Great Lakes Research

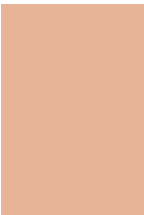


What is a teaching artist? Practice, Tips, and Tricks (Workshop)

Tabor Vits, Teaching Artist, Performer, Resource Development Coordinator; *Self-Employed/All of The Above Hip Hop Academy*

Are you an artist interested in teaching, or an educator or facilitator inspired to teach in the arts? This workshop will introduce you to teaching artist work as well as helpful tips to deepen your practice.

Location: Classroom C204, 2nd Floor



Mindful Marketing within the Local Food System (Presentation)

Emily Row, Director of Communications, Taste the Local Difference

This session will explore how mindful marketing can benefit small farms and food businesses, highlighting its positive impact on regional food systems and community growth. Attendees will learn how marketing can strengthen connections and support local food economies.

Location: LookOut Gallery, 2nd Floor

Photo Exhibition

Hillary Higgins, Photographer

My dad has been battling Parkinson's Disease for eleven years now. I have taken these photos for my own heart, but share them now in the hopes that you can see what I see—a good man who has lived life well.

Location: 2nd Floor Hallway, Wall Left of LookOut! Gallery





COMMUNITY GATHERING

4:30-6:30 p.m.
RCAH Theater,
Terrace Level

COMMUNITY GATHERING

4:30-6:30 p.m.
RCAH Theater,
Terrace Level



Mingling and Music

4:30 p.m.



Dinner

5 p.m.



Program

5:45 p.m.

Welcome Remarks – Professor Dave Sheridan

Community Recognition – Professor Dave Sheridan

Honoring Graduates - Grace Feather, RCAH '24

Honoring Scholarship Winners - Corrine Williams, Coordinator of Student and Engagement and Belonging

Closing Remarks - Professor Dave Sheridan



Congratulations, Graduating RCAH Students!



Finn Bilbey



Sara Blashill



Ashe Brooks



Sophia Bullard



Olivia Delgado



Corinne DeYoung



Edward Eichenhorn



Caitlin Houting



Aviana Irrer



Mantra Jackson



Chase Jerome-Davis



Angel Johnson



Jenna Koch



Analise Krawczuk



Kathleen Mayer



Esli Mendoza



Itzel Mendoza Lopez



Maddie Myers



Fatima Nunez-Sanchez



Sydney Phillips



Abigail Rodriguez



Grace Schneider



Kiley Slevin



Benjamin Steiner



Charlotte Tanner



Jo Troxell



Carly Wholian





STUDENT SHOWCASE

7-8:30 p.m.
2nd Floor Sny-Phi

RCAH's oldest tradition, the **Student Showcase**, will feature work from a range of courses throughout the 2nd floor of Snyder Phillips Hall. Explore exhibitions, performances, and posters on view in the LookOut Gallery and RCAH Classrooms and chat with students and faculty about their coursework and creations.

The **Trash Clown Collective Troupe** (from Professor Richmond's RCAH 314 "Theater for Social Change") presents..."Getting It Right," an actors adaptation of Ayana Elizabeth Johnson's "What If We Get It Right: Visions of Climate Futurity" at **7 p.m. outside the LookOut Gallery**.

Students in **Professor Delgado's RCAH 215: Creativity in Everyday Life** explored songwriting exercises with RCAH's music search candidates and local singer songwriter Jen Sygit. **Assistant Director of Arts and Media Learning Marcus Fields** taught and assisted the class in sound recording (Logic Pro) and design (Photoshop) workshops. The creative works shared in this exhibit are song tracks and album designs. To listen to the students' song track, scan the QR code using your phone camera.

Students in **Professor Hamilton-Wray's RCAH 492 Senior Seminar** explored interpretations of America, American culture, American identity and American myths through the lens of American Studies and Film Studies. For their final project, students were tasked with reflecting on their MSU academic career and drawing on 492 course concepts to interrogate and interpret a cultural product, phenomenon or figure. Students adopted a number of formats, such as syllabi, art projects, and digital magazines, to share their findings and outcomes of their inquiry.

The **2024-2025 RCAH Graduate Fellows** cohorts will showcase their work with the RCAH community. These presentations provide an overview of the Fellows and their mentors' community engagement, classroom activities, and research through poetry, art, film, language, culture, photography, and youth engagement.

STUDENT SHOWCASE

7-8:30 p.m.
2nd Floor Sny-Phi

The **18th Spring Showcase presentation of RCAH 112 Public Knowledge** features creative work from students enrolled in **RCAH 112: Writing, Research, and Technologies**. This course asks students to design research projects that produce new knowledge in the arts and humanities. Students present their findings in the form of posters and other media. **Individual sections include:**

Students in **Professor Richmond's section, "Environmental Justice in Michigan,"** began their research journey by investigating environmental hazards impacting their home communities. They then turned our questioning towards environmental (in)justice: How are different communities impacted inequitably by these hazards, and what societal shifts would be necessary for those most impacted to lead the charge toward repair? In their posters, these students share their research into ongoing environmental justice movements in the state.

Students in **Professor Sheridan's section of RCAH 112** designed research projects around a "cultural problem" and then proposed strategies for addressing that problem.

Students in **Professor Aronoff's section** have been researching issues of "modernist" culture, art, and society in the 1920s, and the relevance of these issues today.

Professor Yoder's section of RCAH 112 has been exploring both public and scholarly discussions on healthcare ethics to deepen our understanding of these important issues and develop research and writing skills. Student projects cover topics ranging from reproductive rights and assisted reproductive technologies, to palliative care and medical assistance in dying, to personal responsibility for health and the allocation of health care resources.





Design by Kristin Phillips