

2006

## GVSU Press Releases, 2006

Grand Valley State University

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January 3, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, Grand Valley State University News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Exhibition focuses on art as status

Greek and Roman artifacts from the ancient world to present day can tell us much about the concepts of taste, status and identity across time. A new exhibit at Grand Valley State University explores these concepts and more.

Echoes of the Ancient World: Adaptations of the Classical Tradition runs January 9 through March 3 at the Grand Valley Art Gallery, located on the Allendale Campus. Admission is free and open to the public Mondays through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Greek and Roman ceramics, architectural fragments and lamps, as well as antique furniture and clothing from the 18th to 19th century and ceramics, such as Wedgwood and transferware, will be on display. Souvenirs brought back from grand tours by 19th century residents of Grand Rapids include postcards, diaries and ashes from Pompeii. A collection of various prints and lithographs that illustrate classical themes will also be displayed.

The exhibit will focus on the ways that classical elements in these objects were transformed by their owners into markers of status and identifiers of membership in an elite. This is a collaborative exhibit, with participation by students and faculty from the Grand Valley Classics and Art and Design departments.

Both departments and the Art Gallery are sponsoring an Opening Reception and Guest Lecturer on Thursday, January 19.

"Pots, Gems and Books: Sources for 18th Century Artists," will be presented by Nancy Ramage, an expert on ancient and Italian Renaissance Art from Ithaca College in New York. Ramage has published extensively and is co-author of "Roman Art: Romulus to Constantine," which has been translated into German and French. She is a Fellow of the Royal Society of the Arts in London and an Academic Trustee of the Archeological Institute of America.

Her lecture, from 4 to 5 p.m. in the Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, will be followed by the exhibition's opening reception from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Art Gallery. Both venues are located in the Performing Arts Center, Allendale.

For more information call the Art Gallery at (616) 331-2564.

## Neurosurgeon, humanitarian will highlight Grand Valley's MLK celebration

For immediate release

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, 616-331-2221

January 3, 2006

A pediatric neurosurgeon who beat the odds to rise from poverty and become a well-respected doctor, author and humanitarian will give the keynote speech during Grand Valley's Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration.

Dr. Benjamin Carson, director of the pediatric neurosurgery division at Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, will speak at 2:15 p.m. on Monday, January 16, at the Fieldhouse Arena on the Allendale Campus. His speech follows the annual campus silent march, which will begin at 1:45 p.m. at Zumberge Library.

Carson was born in Detroit and lived with his mother and an older brother. His mother worked two or three jobs at a time to support the family. When she learned Carson was at the bottom of his fifth-grade class, she forced her boys to read two library books a week, limited their television time and refused to let them play outside until their homework was complete.

Her strategy worked — within a year, Carson was at the top of his class. After graduating from high school with honors, he earned a degree in psychology from Yale and then enrolled in medical school at The University of Michigan.

He joined Johns Hopkins as a neurosurgery resident and at age 32 became the hospital's director of pediatric neurosurgery. Carson made medical history in 1987 when he successfully separated conjoined twins, who were joined at the back of the head.

Carson is president and co-founder of the Carson Scholars Fund, which recognizes young people for exceptional academic and humanitarian accomplishments. He addresses audiences around the country and has written three motivational books: *Gifted Hands*, *THINK Big* and *The Big Picture*. He sits on numerous corporate and philanthropic boards and was appointed by President Bush in 2004 to serve on the President's Council of Bioethics.

Carson will also speak at the 20th annual Grand Rapids MLK celebration, beginning at 6:30 p.m. on January 16 in the Ford Fieldhouse at Grand Rapids Community College. His visit to Grand Rapids is sponsored by Grand Valley, GRCC and the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance.

January 4, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Eilleen Lyon, Grand Valley State University's News and Information Services office, (616) 331-2221  
photo of Murray available online

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- President Mark A. Murray of Grand Valley State University today announced that he will leave the university later this year to accept the position of president at Meijer Inc.

"I am very thankful for having worked with so many good people at Grand Valley," said Murray. "This is an outstanding university that serves its students well. I am confident that it will continue to build on its successes in the years ahead."

Jessie A. Dalman, chair of the Grand Valley State University Board of Trustees, expressed appreciation for Murray's leadership. "We wish Mark well," said Dalman. "He has been a wonderful leader for Grand Valley. The board wishes he would have stayed longer, but we know this is a great opportunity for him. We are pleased he will be remaining in the area."

Murray is only the third president of Grand Valley State University which was founded in 1960. He became president on July 1, 2001, following a two-decade career in state government and education.

Grand Valley State University attracts more than 22,000 students with high quality programs and state-of-the-art facilities. Grand Valley is the comprehensive regional university for the state's second largest metropolitan area and offers 69 undergraduate and 25 graduate degree programs. It has campuses in Allendale, Grand Rapids, and Holland and centers in Muskegon and Traverse City. The university is dedicated to individual student achievement, going beyond the traditional classroom experience, with research opportunities and business partnerships.

The university has experienced more than a 40 percent increase in applications in recent years. This fall, Grand Valley was again named one of America's 100 Best College Buys. This is Grand Valley's 10th consecutive year of being lauded as one of the 100 institutions offering the very highest quality education at the lowest cost. Grand Valley's graduates are routinely among the state's leading performers on professional exams. In the past two years, the university has been recognized with having the best overall sports programs in Division II of the NCAA by earning the Director's Cup.



For Immediate Release

Contact: Brian J. Bowe, (616) 331-2221 or [boweb@gvsu.edu](mailto:boweb@gvsu.edu)

January 5, 2006

Media Advisory: 2006 Economic Outlook Revealed

January 13 event will give forecasts for national and regional sectors

Wondering what the economy will bring in 2006? A group of experts will present the real estate and economic forecast for the upcoming year during an event at Grand Valley State University on Friday, January 13.

Dr. Hari Singh, chair of Seidman College of Business' economics department, will present his annual economic forecast for West Michigan -- a forecast that has become a much-anticipated annual benchmark of the local market. Singh will be joined by Robert Bach, national director of market analysis for Grubb & Ellis Co.

The breakfast event begins at 7:30 a.m. in the Loosemore Auditorium of the DeVos Center, 401 W. Fulton St. The presentations start at 8 a.m. In addition to Singh's forecast, there will be a summary of the commercial real estate market. The event is presented by Grand Valley State University's Seidman College of Business and Grubb & Ellis/Paramount.

MEDIA NOTE: Media coverage is encouraged. Parking is available in the Seward Lot. A mult box will be available for broadcast outlets. After the event, copies of Singh's results will be available by calling Brian J. Bowe at (616) 331-2222 or e-mailing [boweb@gvsu.edu](mailto:boweb@gvsu.edu).

Visit GVNow, Grand Valley's online news source: <http://www.gvsu.edu/gvnow>

January 6, 2006

Contact: Joel J. Orosz of the Johnson Center (616) 331-7589 or Dottie Barnes of News and Information Services (616) 331-2221.

Johnson Center at Grand Valley State University names Dr. Robert F. Long as Distinguished Professor

Note: Photo of Dr. Long available

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership at Grand Valley State University has named Robert F. Long as Distinguished Professor of Philanthropic Studies. Long joins the staff while still holding his position of vice president for programs in the Philanthropy and Volunteerism Program at the W.K. Kellogg Foundation in Battle Creek, Michigan.

Long is contributing his time to help the Johnson Center with a range of projects, including guest lecturing in the School of Public and Nonprofit Administration's courses and advising on the direction setting and development efforts for the center. He will assist in strategic planning among the center's main components including The Grantmaking School, Nonprofit Good Practice Guide, Community Research Institute, and Management and Leadership Support Services.

"I am humbled by the opportunity to serve the university's mission and excited about the chance to be a part of the wonderful team of faculty and staff of the School of Public and Nonprofit Administration and the Johnson Center," said Long. "The appointment gives me a concrete way of fulfilling the Kellogg Foundation's mission of helping people help themselves through the practice application of knowledge and resources to improve their quality of life and that of future generations."

Long will open doors to cooperation with similar academic centers nationwide and even internationally through his networks built over the past dozen years at the Kellogg Foundation. "In extending our offer of a Distinguished Professorship to Dr. Long, we mean to honor him, but his acceptance honors us far more," said Mark A. Murray, president of Grand Valley State University. "His offering of time and expertise is an invaluable gift to students, the center, university and community as a whole."

"This is a tremendous opportunity for the center," said Joel J. Orosz, interim executive director

and Distinguished Professor of Philanthropic Studies at the Johnson Center. "Dr. Long has done more than anyone to build the field of academic centers for the study of philanthropy from a handful of pioneering institutions to a national network of centers for thought and action."

With the Johnson Center a part of the university's College of Community and Public Service, Long's expertise brings added value to the college as well. "His ability to work across disciplinary boundaries will be an invaluable asset," said Rodney Mulder, dean of the College of Community and Public Service. "It will allow him to capitalize on all the assets of the college and the university to make the Johnson Center even more useful to the communities that it serves."

Prior to joining the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, Long served as McElroy Professor of Youth Leadership Studies at the University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls, and was also the director of the Division of Youth and Human Service Administration. He has served as an extension youth development specialist for the Cooperative Extension Service in Illinois and Nevada, and is a founding member of the International Society for Third-Sector Research. He received a master's degree in program and facility administration and a doctoral degree in educational leadership and organization from the University of Illinois at Urbana.

The Johnson Center grows the greater good by promoting effective philanthropy, community improvement, and excellence in nonprofit leadership through teaching, research, and service. For more information about the center, visit [www.johnsoncenter.org](http://www.johnsoncenter.org).

For Immediate Release

Contact: Brian J. Bowe at (616) 331-2221 or [boweb@gvsu.edu](mailto:boweb@gvsu.edu)

January 6, 2006

#### WMSTI hosts Life Science Business Showcase 2006

The West Michigan life science industry is growing quickly, and the West Michigan Science and Technology Initiative is holding an event on February 2 to showcase that growth.

The event is being held at Grand Valley State University's Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences on February 2, 6-8:30 p.m. It will showcase 15 life science companies from Michigan that will be displaying product samples and marketing materials. Representatives from each company will be available to answer questions and better explain the work their company is doing in the life science industry.

"The purpose of this event is to highlight the extraordinary life science companies that call Michigan their home. The life science industry is expanding and it is important for Michigan to be a key player," Matt Dugener, executive director of WMSTI.

The event's theme draws inspiration from the Monopoly board game. Each of the exhibiting companies and sponsors will represent a property on the Monopoly board. When attendees arrive they will be given a Chance card telling them where to go and giving them the chance to win prizes, which will encourage networking. There will also be Community Chest cards around the lobby with different tidbits of life science and Grand Rapids history on them.

The exhibiting companies include: Avalon Laboratories, ATEK Medical, VAI, Jasper Research & Development, Kalexsyn, Inc. and more. The event is sponsored by Grand Valley State University; the Michigan Economic Development Corporation; Price, Heneveld, Cooper, De Witt & Litton; and MiBiz West.

For more information, visit [www.wmsti.org](http://www.wmsti.org) or call Kim Bode at (616) 331-5841.

Visit GVNow, Grand Valley's online news source: <http://www.gvsu.edu/gvnow>

January 9, 2006

**Grand Valley Women's Center, city neighborhood program will celebrate leaders**  
-- Mayor George Heartwell to join in celebration, graduation

For immediate release

Contact: Michele Coffill, News and Information Services, 616-331-2221

Seven Grand Rapids women will be honored by the mayor and city leaders for creating positive, sustainable changes in their Baxter and Garfield Park neighborhoods.

The women will share their stories as members of a panel discussion during an event sponsored by Lighthouse Communities' Healthy Neighborhoods Initiative and Grand Valley State University's Women's Center. The event is scheduled for Wednesday, January 18, from 6-8 p.m. in Loosemore Auditorium of GVSU's DeVos Center, 401 W. Fulton St. in Grand Rapids. Mayor George Heartwell will present diplomas to the women as they graduate from a year-long leadership program, sponsored by Lighthouse Communities.

Two Grand Valley alumnae, who work for Americorps, coordinated the project. Kaytie Robinson, a 2004 graduate, said the initiative's goal is to "develop communities from the inside." Robinson and Olivia Peters have been working in the neighborhoods for two years. By training these seven women leaders, Robinson said, Baxter and Garfield Park will continue to flourish.

"We've worked on things like beautification, large-scale plantings and block parties," Robinson said. Other aspects of training covered fund developing, media training, public speaking, using city resources and resolving conflicts.

It's coincidental that all seven are women, Robinson said, although most households in the Baxter neighborhood are headed by women. "There are men who are involved and are leaders," Robinson said. "In fact, one of the men we asked to be involved wanted his wife to do it."

One of the seven leaders, Cynthia Deans, said participating in the program aided her leadership skills.

"The whole program has really made me grow with helping my neighbors out, being a listening ear, really working hard to keep my neighborhood up," she said. "This has been a learning experience. When I have more people encouraging me, it enables me to be strong and know that I can do this."

Media note: Robinson can be reached by calling 616-340-4996, or via e-mail at [kaytie@lighthousecommunities.org](mailto:kaytie@lighthousecommunities.org)

January 10, 2006

For Immediate Release Contact Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2228 or [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu)

### Art expert speaks at Grand Valley

"Pots, Gems and Books: Sources for 18th Century Artists," will be presented Thursday, January 19 at Grand Valley State University by Nancy Ramage, an expert on ancient and Italian Renaissance Art from Ithaca College in New York. Ramage has published extensively and is co-author of "Roman Art: Romulus to Constantine," which has been translated into German and French. She is a Fellow of the Royal Society of the Arts in London and an Academic Trustee of the Archeological Institute of America.

Her lecture, sponsored by the Grand Valley Classics and Art and Design departments and the Art Gallery, runs from 4 to 5 p.m. in the Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall. It will be followed by the opening reception from 5 to 7 p.m. of the exhibition "Echoes of the Ancient World: Adaptations of the Classical Tradition" in the Art Gallery. Both events are free and both venues are located in the Performing Arts Center, Allendale.

Greek and Roman ceramics, architectural fragments and lamps, as well as antique furniture and clothing from the 18th to 19th century and ceramics, such as Wedgwood and transferware, are included in the exhibition. Souvenirs brought back from grand tours by 19th century residents of Grand Rapids include postcards, diaries and ashes from Pompeii. A collection of various prints and lithographs that illustrate classical themes will also be displayed.

The exhibit focuses on the ways that classical elements in these objects were transformed by their owners into markers of status and identifiers of membership in an elite. This is a collaborative exhibit, with participation by students and faculty from the Grand Valley Classics and Art and Design departments.

The exhibition runs through March 31, Mondays through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., with extended hours on Thursdays to 7 p.m. For more information call the Art Gallery at (616) 331-2564.

January 10, 2006

### Grand Valley News and Information wins awards for photo, videos

The News and Information Services Office at Grand Valley State University received recognition in six categories from the Communicator Awards. The Communicator Awards is an international awards competition that recognizes outstanding work in the communication field. Winners were chosen from more than 3,000 entries.

Crystal Awards of Excellence were presented to those whose ability to communicate elevates them among the best in the field. A video tribute to Vern Ohlman, written and narrated by Mary Eilleen Lyon, won an Award of Distinction and Crystal Award of Excellence-Writing. Her Around Grand Valley Tour Video won a Crystal Award of Excellence: On-Camera Talent and Award of Distinction. A video of the engineering program won an Award of Distinction and Honorable Mention-Writing.

NIS also won four awards at the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) District V conference in December.

The 2005 convocation video, written and narrated by Mary Eilleen Lyon and edited by Bill Cuppy, received awards for Best Video Feature and Best Videos/DVDs Student Recruitment, and a video tribute to architect Vern Ohlman received an honorable mention award. A photo taken by Bernadine Carey-Tucker of Buddhist monks won a silver medal for Best Individual Photo.

Dottie Barnes

News and Information Services

January 11, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2228 or  
pirkolam@gvsu.edu

### Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra performs at Grand Valley

The Grand Valley State University Arts at Noon series presents a free concert by the Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra on January 17 in the Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. Bringing the symphony to campus has become an ongoing tradition.

The symphony will perform works by Beethoven, Russell Peck, and the classic Music for the Theatre by American master Aaron Copland. The third piano concert by Beethoven will feature piano soloist Aviram Reichert, an artist-faculty at Grand Valley and winner of the bronze medal at the tenth annual Van Cliburn Piano Competition in 1997. The concert begins at noon and will last about one hour.

For more information contact:

Grand Valley Music Department (616) 331-3484

Arts at Noon Coordinator Pablo Mahave-Veglia (616) 331-3386

Aviram Reichert (616) 331-3618



January 16, 2006

For Immediate Release

Photo available, contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2228 or [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu)

### Grand Valley presents authentic performance of Bach Cello Suites

On the night of his 37th birthday, Pablo Mahave-Veglia will give a baroque cello concert at Grand Valley State University. In the audience will be his 72-year-old mother, from Chile, who has never before heard him perform professionally.

The concert on Friday, January 27, is at 8 p.m. in the Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall in the Performing Arts Center on the Allendale Campus. He will perform Bach's Solo Suites No. 1, 2 and 3, which are as much alike as they are different.

The professor of cello at Grand Valley credits his mother, the noted piano pedagogue Mercedes Veglia, as his earliest musical influence. Mahave-Veglia says he's known he wanted to be a cellist since he was 6 years old. Part of that decision came from not wanting to take piano lessons from his mother, as his brother was, but instead find his own instrument. His interest in string instruments came in part from the physical aspect of playing them and also the intrigue of what he refers to as their wide range of "human voice sound."

Mahave-Veglia's first trip to the U.S. was when he came to attend Interlochen Arts Academy for his last year of high school and studied cello with Crispin Campbell. He graduated in 1987 and returned to Interlochen for the first time last year to conduct a Master Class. Mahave-Veglia holds degrees from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Indiana University and the Eastman School of Music. After completing his master's degree Mahave-Veglia had what he calls an "inverse crisis."

"I took a position teaching at the University of Evansville solely to support myself as I took auditions, hoping to join an orchestra," said Mahave-Veglia. "What I wasn't prepared for was how much I enjoyed teaching. I decided to pursue my doctorate degree and have enjoyed both teaching and performing ever since."

Mahave-Veglia is among a very small percentage of cello performers who play baroque. His concert is a rare opportunity to hear an authentic performance of Bach's Cello Suites. His cello is a faithful reproduction of an Amati in original setting, with no endpin, gut strings and a shorter fingerboard. The music source for his performance is from the hand-written copy by Anna

Magdalena Bach, the composer's second wife and musical partner, since no manuscript exists from the composer's hand.

Media may contact Pablo Mahave-Veglia at (616) 331-3386.

For Immediate Release

January 17, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

### Same Sex Marriage: A Civil Debate

Grand Valley State University hosts debate on controversial topic

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Two panelists will debate the issue of same sex marriage at Grand Valley State University. Gay rights activist John Corvino and Focus on the Family marriage analyst Glen Stanton travel the country expressing their views on this often heated topic.

Corvino is a philosophy professor at Wayne State University where he specializes in ethical theory and applied ethics. Stanton is the senior analyst for marriage and sexuality and the director of social research and cultural affairs for Focus on the Family.

"I'm very pleased that this debate will take place on campus," said Mark A. Murray, president of Grand Valley. "It allows the campus community to hear two effective advocates with strongly held views present a respectful and informative debate. I hope many will attend, not just to learn the positions on this timely issue, but to witness a case study in how we can properly engage each other on highly charged and important issues."

The debate will take place Wednesday, February 15, from 4-5:30 p.m. in the Grand River Room of the Kirkhof Center on Grand Valley's Allendale Campus.

The debate is sponsored by several Grand Valley organizations including Work Life Connections, Office of Planning and Equity, Housing and Residence Life, The Women's Center, Dean of Students Office, University Bookstore and Human Resources.

For more information, contact Sue Sloop at (616) 331-2215 or News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

January 17, 2006

For Immediate Release

Photo available, contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services at [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu) or (616) 331-2228.

Grand Valley State University Writers Series presents Junot Diaz

Grand Valley State University Writers Series presents Junot Diaz, a rising star in contemporary writing, on Wednesday, January 25 at 7 p.m. in the Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale campus.

His 1997 debut collection of short stories, the bestseller "Drown," draws from his impoverished youth in the Dominican Republic and his struggle with immigrant life as an adolescent in New Jersey. He is a graduate of Rutgers University and received his Master of Fine Arts Degree from Cornell University. He is also the fiction editor of the Boston Review.

Once praised by Newsweek as having 'the dispassionate eye of a journalist and the tongue of a poet,' his stories have appeared in The Paris Review, Best American Short Stories, and The New Yorker. Diaz will read from his new and previously published work, then take questions. A book signing and reception will follow. For more information call the Grand Valley Writing Department at (616) 331-3411.

For immediate release:

Contact: GVSU News and Information Services (616) 331-2221

January 17, 2006

**GVSU, MSU to sign collaborative agreement to enhance area's health care education**

-- Memo of Understanding signing Jan. 23

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. -- The presidents of Grand Valley State University and Michigan State University will sign a collaborative agreement on Tuesday, January 23, that will help enhance health care education in West Michigan.

The official signing ceremony is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. on January 23 at Grand Valley's Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences, 301 Michigan St. NE in Grand Rapids. Media coverage is welcome; a mult box will be available.

Scheduled to speak are Grand Valley President Thomas J. Haas, Michigan State University President Lou Anna Simon, GVSU Provost Gayle R. Davis and MSU Provost Kim Wilcox.

After the ceremony, tours of the building will be available.

In February 2005, various community institutions and organizations committed resources and expertise to support MSU's expansion of its College of Human Medicine to Grand Rapids. The stakeholders are GVSU, MSU, Grand Action, Spectrum Health Systems, St. Mary's Health Care, The Right Place Inc., and Van Andel Research Institute.

For more information, contact GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221.

**Subject: Tip Sheet GVSU Events for January 22- 29**

**Tuesday, Jan. 23 --- GVSU and MSU presidents to sign agreement**

The official signing ceremony for the collaborative agreement to help enhance health care education in West Michigan will take place. Both university presidents are scheduled to speak in addition to GVSU Provost Gayle R. Davis and MSU Provost Kim Wilcox. 9:30 a.m., Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences, 301 Michigan St. NE , Grand Rapids. For more information contact (616) 331-2221.

**Wednesday, Jan. 24 --- GVSU and local businesses partner to promote health**

The 3rd Annual Fitness and Wellness Expo will have informational exhibits and interactive games to inspire community wellness. 11 a.m., Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room, Allendale Campus. For more information call (616) 331-3659.

**Thursday, Jan. 25 --- International guest to speak on slave experience**

Rev. Dr. E. A. Obeng, the vice chancellor at the University of Cape Coast in Ghana, will lead the lecture. "'Sankofa': Contemporary Ghana and the Historiography of the Slave Experience." This event serves as the launch of the yearlong project, "Remembering the Crossings: The Struggle to Abolish the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade and Slavery." 7 p.m., Loosemore Auditorium, Pew Grand Rapids Campus. For more information, call Steeve Buckridge at (616) 331-3298.

January 18, 2006

**GVSU Women's Center invites you to 'Indulge in a Cause'**

For immediate release

Contact: Michele Coffill, News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

The area's best chocolate desserts and a silent auction highlight a fundraiser scheduled for February 2 that will benefit Grand Valley State University's Women's Center.

"Indulge in a Cause" will run from 5-7:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 2, in the exhibition hall of the DeVos Center, 401 W. Fulton St. in Grand Rapids. Tickets are \$30 (\$5 for GVSU students) and available by calling the Women's Center at (616) 331-2748 or sending an e-mail to [womenctr@gvsu.edu](mailto:womenctr@gvsu.edu).

Proceeds from the event will benefit the Women's Center scholarship endowment and Women's Center programming. Scholarships are offered annually to nontraditional female students who may not otherwise qualify for financial aid. "Indulge" is the center's key annual fundraiser.

"The Women's Center uniquely serves as a place of intersection for various organizations, departments and individuals to come together on areas of mutual interest for women," said Marlene Kowalski-Braun, director of the Women's Center. "Collaboration is the cornerstone of our current and future success and we appreciate the support we get from the campus and community to continue our work."

Ashley Nickels, a Grand Valley graduate student, has been involved in Women's Center programs for several years. This year, she serves as adviser to the student-run production of Eve Ensler's "Vagina Monologues," which is scheduled for February 10, 11 and 14.

"I've gained leadership skills through my work at the Women's Center, which helps me in my classes and will definitely help in the future," she said. Nickels will graduate with a master's degree in public administration in April.

January 19, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, at (616)331-2221 or  
pirkolam@gvsu.edu

### Concert launches new ensemble

Grand Valley State University Artist-Faculty Series: Woodwind Trio performs Tuesday, January 31 at 8 p.m. in the Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale. This concert launches a new GVSU faculty ensemble collaboration with Marlen Vavříková, oboe; Arthur Campbell, clarinet; and John Clapp, bassoon.

Marlen won the Presser Musical Award and the Kate Neal Kinley Musical Fellowship, and was awarded the Fellowship for the Creative and Performing Arts at the University of Illinois. A member of the Sarasota Opera Orchestra 2005, she has taught chamber music and oboe at the AMEROPA international festival in Prague and the Illinois Summer Youth Music Festival. She came to Grand Valley in 2005.

Campbell has won numerous international and national competitions including the 2001 International Web Concert Hall Competition, the prestigious U.S. Department of State Artist Abroad Award (2000), the 1996 International Clarinet Competition sponsored by the ICA Recording Project, and the top clarinet award in the 1988 National Music Festival of Canada.

John Clapp joined the Grand Valley State University music faculty in the fall of 2003. Mr. Clapp has been contrabassoonist of the Grand Rapids Symphony since September 2000. Prior to his appointment in Grand Rapids, he held the position of contrabassoon with the Charlotte Symphony in Charlotte, North Carolina.

The wind trio's music program includes works by Françaix, Villa-Lobos, and Schickele. For more information call the GVSU Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.



January 20, 2006

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services 331-2221 or  
pirkolam@gvsu.edu

Media Advisory - Photo Opportunity

On Monday, January 23, Yosay Wangdi, of the Grand Valley State University history department, will conduct a sari wrapping lesson and teach application techniques of traditional Indian make-up to a very select few. The session is with the costume designer and key cast members in the upcoming Grand Valley production of *The Secret Garden*.

Wangdi, a native of India, is offering her expertise to help authenticate the costumes of several characters, including Ayah, the Indian nanny. Costume designer Jill Hamilton is providing several saris from her personal collection, which range from 5 to 9 yards of fabric from cotton to silk.

Media are invited to this photo opportunity, which will begin at 10 a.m. and last about 2 hours. We are meeting in the lobby of the Louis Armstrong Theatre, in the Performing Arts Center on the Allendale Campus.

*The Secret Garden* is presented by the GVSU Opera Theatre on February 3, 4, 10 and 11 at 7:30 p.m. and February 5 and 12 at 2 p.m. Tickets may be purchased at the LAT Box Office, Mondays through Fridays, from noon to 5 p.m. or through Star Tickets Plus outlets.

For more information contact Producer/Artistic Director of GVSU Opera Theatre Dale Schriemer at 331-2573.

For Immediate Release

January 20, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, News and Information Services

Gov. Granholm State of the State address

Grand Valley State University experts offer analysis

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Gov. Granholm's State of the State address is scheduled for Wednesday, January 25. The following Grand Valley State University experts are available for comment.

**ECONOMIC REACTION:**

Gregg Dimkoff, (616) 331-7428 (H) 662-1518, chair of the finance department in the Seidman College of Business

Hari Singh, (616) 331-7420, chair of the economics department in the Seidman College of Business

**PUBLIC POLICY REACTION:**

William Byl, (616) 331-7180, director of the Public Policy Institute at Grand Valley

**POLITICAL REACTION:**

Roger Moiles, (616) 331-3283 (H) 735-5529, instructor of political science

Erika King, (616) 331-2320, professor of political science

Kevin den Dulk, (616) 331-2991 (H) 459-5274, assistant professor of political science

January 20, 2006

For Immediate Release

For photos or more information contact Mary Isca Pirkola at Grand Valley State University News and Information Services (616) 331-2221 or [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu)

## February 2006 Events at Grand Valley State University

### ART

[Photo available]

Echoes of the Ancient World: Adaptations of the Classical Tradition exhibition at Grand Valley State University Art Gallery continues through March 31. This is a collaborative exhibition with participation by students and faculty from the GVSU Classics and Art and Design departments.

Highlighting a variety of works dating from the ancient world to the present day, this show explores what the appropriation of classical motifs can tell us about concepts of taste, status and identity across time. GVSU Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. Hours: Mondays - Fridays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursdays to 7 p.m. For more information call (616) 331-2564.

Informative programs are presented from 12:15 p.m. to 12:45 p.m. each Wednesday during the exhibition.

February 1 - Gallery talk by Jane Connell, Director of Collections and Exhibitions and Senior Curator of the Muskegon Museum of Art, with emphasis on the MMA loans to the exhibition.

February 8 - Lecture presentation in the Grand River Room, 250 Kirkof Center, "The Figure of Sound in Hopkins and Pindar" by James Wells, Visiting Professor, Classic Department.

February 15 - Department of Writing professor and poet-in-residence Patricia Clark and her students will read selected poetry during "Poetry: Ancient and Classical."

February 22 - Gallery talk regarding the classical and neoclassical designs of the public museum's furniture loans to the exhibition will be presented by Chris Carron, Grand Rapids Public Museum Curator of Collections and Marilyn Merdzinski, Grand Rapids Public Museum Collections Manager.

### MUSIC

[Photo available]

2/1 Wednesday

Thomas Robertello performs on flute at noon in the Cook-DeWitt Center, Grand Valley State University, Allendale. A former member of the National Symphony, the Pittsburgh Symphony and the Cleveland Orchestra, Robertello is currently on the faculty at the distinguished Indiana

University School of Music. He will also conduct a master class from 3-5 p.m. in the Cook-DeWitt Center. Both events are free and open to the public. Call (616) 331-3484 for more information.

February 3 - 5 and February 10 - 12

Grand Valley State University Opera Theatre presents *The Secret Garden*. A musical adaptation of the classic novel by Frances Hodgson Burnett, this Tony Award winner is a family favorite. This is a 2 1/2 hour production and not recommended for children under five years of age. Performances at 7:30 p.m. on February 3, 4, 10, and 11. Matinees at 2 p.m. February 5 and 12. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center. General public tickets, \$12 may be purchased at the Louis Armstrong Theatre Box Office in the lobby of the Performing Arts Center, M-F, 12-5 p.m. and one hour prior to performance. Telephone ordering is not available through the LAT Box Office (in-person sales only). Tickets may also be purchased, with a service fee, by calling Star Tickets Plus at (616) 222-4000 or (800) 585-3737 or by visiting [www.starticketsplus.com](http://www.starticketsplus.com) or any Star Tickets Plus outlet.

2/8 Wednesday

GVSU Faculty Brass Ensemble, the newest ensemble-in-residence at Grand Valley State University, makes their debut at this Arts at Noon Series performance. Members Dorival Puccini and Robert McCabe, trumpets, Sherry Baker, horn, Jim Cumiskey, trombone, and tubist Kent Eshelman, performs at noon, in the Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale. (616) 331-3484.

2/10 Friday

Jean Moorehead Libs, former principal trumpet with the Singapore Symphony, presents a master class for brass students, open to the public. Libs remains active as a performer and educator throughout the Midwest. 3- 6 p.m. Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center, Grand Valley State University, Allendale. (616) 331-3484.

February 10 - 12

GVSU Opera Theatre presents *The Secret Garden*. A musical adaptation of the classic novel by Frances Hodgson Burnett, this Tony Award winner is a family favorite. This 2 1/2 hour production is not recommended for children under five years of age. Performances at 7:30 p.m. on February 10, and 11. Matinee at 2 p.m. February 12. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. General public tickets, \$12 may be purchased at the Louis Armstrong Theatre Box Office in the lobby of the Performing Arts Center, M-F, 12-5 p.m. and one hour prior to performance. Telephone ordering is not available through the LAT Box Office (in-person sales only). Tickets may also be purchased, with a service fee, by calling Star Tickets Plus at (616) 222-4000 or (800) 585-3737 or by visiting [www.starticketsplus.com](http://www.starticketsplus.com) or any Star Tickets

Plus outlet.

**2/11 Saturday**

String Students Seminar. A unique opportunity for students of all ages to work with professors in a master class setting at Grand Valley State University. Given by distinguished professor of music, Dylana Jenson, violin; assistant professor of music, Pablo Mahave-Veglia, cello; and artist-faculty member Robert Byrens, viola. Free to participating students. Lunch will be provided. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. To register e-mail [dyalana@dylanajenson.com](mailto:dyalana@dylanajenson.com).

**2/13 Monday**

Grand Valley State University Department of Music Concert. Jazz Orchestra. Tim Froncek, director. 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. (616) 331-3484.

[Photo available]

**2/16 Thursday**

Free Play Series 2. Free Play is a new experimental concert series at Grand Valley State University featuring the most innovative performers and composers of our time. Michael Lowenstern, considered one of the finest bass clarinetists in the world, has performed and recorded with musicians and groups as diverse as The Klezmatics, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, Steve Reich and the Musicians, The Chamber Society of Lincoln Center and John Zorn. He performs at 8 p.m. Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. (616) 331-3484.

**2/18 Saturday**

Steven Hendrickson, professor of trumpet at the University of Maryland, will present a master class for brass players at Grand Valley State University's Cook-DeWitt Center, from 2-4 p.m. The principal trumpet of the National Symphony Orchestra will also give a performance for the Guest Artist Series at 8 p.m. in the Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. Both events are free and open to the public. (616) 331-3484.

**2/19 Sunday**

The 15th Annual High School Honors Band Concert with the Grand Valley State University Symphonic Wind Ensemble. Barry D. Martin, conductor. Marlen Vavriková, oboe soloist, 3 p.m. GVSU Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. (616) 331-3484.

**2/20 Monday**

Grand Valley State University Concert Band, Kevin Tutt, conductor, performs at 8 p.m. Louis

Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. (616) 331-3484.

2/21 Tuesday

A trumpet master class with William Lucas, a member of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra who serves on the faculty of the University of Michigan, is open to the public, 1 - 3 p.m. Grand Valley State University, Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. (616) 331-3484.

2/21 Tuesday

Grand Valley State University Festival Women's Chorale and University Singers performances with the Select Women's Ensemble conducted by Janice Dudley. 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. (616) 331-3484.

[Photo available]

2/22 Wednesday

Grand Valley State University Arts at Noon Series presents Esta. This multi-ethnic Israeli ensemble performs an eclectic mix of Middle Eastern, Balkan, Mediterranean, Jewish, Celtic, and African influences laid on top of contemporary rock and roll and jazz. Noon, Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale. (616) 331-3484.

2/22 Wednesday

Grand Valley State University Varsity Men, Charles Norris, conductor, and University Arts Chorale, Janice Dudley, conductor, perform at 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. (616) 331-3484.

2/24 Friday

Students from the award-winning GVSU Trumpet Studio of Professor Richard Stoelzel perform in concert as they prepare for the finals of the National Trumpet Competition. 8 p.m. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale. (616) 331-3484.

[Photo available]

2/25 Saturday

Grand Valley State University Artist-Faculty Series presents Richard Stoelzel and Dorival Puccini, trumpets. Stoelzel, associate professor of music at Grand Valley, has performed throughout China, Europe, and the United States. An internationally designated Yamaha Performing Artist, his CD, Born to be Mild, has been heard throughout the United States, Europe, and Thailand on classical music stations. Puccini joined the GVSU music faculty in 2005. He was the first GVSU graduate to attend the Juilliard School and received his master's

degree in 2004. The Brazilian trumpeter is an active orchestral and chamber musician. 8 p.m. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale. (616) 331-3484.

## GENERAL EVENTS

2/16 Thursday

Grand Valley State University's Annis Water Resources Institute environmental seminars bring a variety of experts to speak to faculty, staff and the community the third Thursday of each month at Grand Valley's Lake Michigan Center, 740 W. Shoreline Drive, Muskegon. This month brings University of Michigan associate research scientist Dr. Edward Rutherford from the School of Natural Resources and Environment. He will speak from 3 to 4 p.m. on Recruitment dynamics of Chinook salmon in the Muskegon River Watershed. Call (616) 331-3749 for more information.

2/23 Thursday

Grand Valley State University Middle East Studies Guest Lecturer: Yvonne Haddad of Georgetown University's Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding will speak on "The Arab-American Community After 9/11." 1 p.m. Grand River Room, Kirkhof Center, Allendale Campus. For more information call Jim Goode in the History Department at (616) 331-3184.

[Photo available]

2/23 Thursday

Grand Valley State University Writers Series presents Honorée Fanonne Jeffers, a poet with two books and a growing number of awards to her name. The Gospel of Barbecue was chosen by Lucille Clifton as winner of the Stan and Tom Wick Prize for Poetry. Her second book, Outlandish Blues, was published by Wesleyan University Press in 2003. Jeffers teaches at the University of Oklahoma. She will read from new and published work at 7 p.m. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale. For more information call the Writing Department (616) 331-3411.

## **Grand Valley to host variety of Black History Month events**

January 24, 2006

Michele Coffill

State Sen. Bill Hardiman (R-Kentwood) will talk about the legacy of Rosa Parks during a Black History Month event at Grand Valley State University. It's one of many events planned during February; all events are free and open to the public. For more information, call the Office of Multicultural Affairs at (616) 331-2177.

The Rosa Parks Tribute will begin at 12:30 p.m. on Monday, February 6, in the Cook-DeWitt Center at GVSU's Allendale Campus. In addition to remarks by Hardiman, the Voices of GVSU Gospel Choir will perform and a documentary about Parks will air. Hardiman earned a bachelor's degree from Grand Valley in 1977 and later a master's degree from Western Michigan University. He was elected to the Statehouse (representing Grand Rapids, Kentwood and Cascade) in 2002.

Other events are as follows:

The Niagara Movement: The Legacy of the American Civil Rights 100 Years Later  
Thursday, February 2, 11 a.m., Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room

The Niagara Movement was the precursor to the civil rights movement of the 1950s and '60s. This small movement led by W.E.B. DuBois became the stepping stone to the NAACP. Learn how and why this movement began. The discussion will be led by Professor Randal Maurice Jelks from Calvin College. Jelks is also author of the upcoming book "African Americans in the Furniture City: The Struggle for Civil Rights in Grand Rapids."

African American Read-In

Tuesday, February 7, all day

Volunteer readers from Grand Valley will read selections from African American authors to students in Ottawa Montessori, Alexander, Buchanan and Potter's House elementary schools.

African American Health Forum

Thursday, February 16, 7 p.m., Loosemoore Auditorium, DeVos Center, 401 W. Fulton St., Grand Rapids

Wayne Boatwright, chief diversity officer for Saint Mary's Health Care, Battle Creek Health System and Mercy General Health Partners, will moderate a panel of health professionals from the Grand Rapids community to identify and offer solutions to various health care concerns in the African American community.

"Jazz is a White Man's Word!" Miles Davis and the Fusion of Jazz and Rock in the 1970s  
Friday, February 17, 7 p.m., Loosemoore Auditorium, DeVos Center, 401 W. Fulton St., Grand Rapids

Craig Benjamin of Grand Valley's History Department will lead a discussion with local musicians on Miles Davis and the fusion of jazz and rock. A short musical performance will follow the lecture.

Toyia T. Taylor: Taking Back the Hip Hop Generation

Tuesday, February 21, 6 p.m., Cook-DeWitt Center

New York performance artist Toyia T. Taylor will discuss the history of hip hop and bridging the gap between the hip hop generation and other generations. She will talk about the positive and negative effects of the music industry through an interactive lecture. The event is co-



sponsored by the National Society of Black Engineers.

The University of Alabama: Integration Then and Now

Tuesday, February 28, noon, Loosemoore Auditorium, DeVos Center, 401 W. Fulton St., Grand Rapids

Gary Hoover, associate professor of economics at the University of Alabama, will speak about integration of the University of Alabama from the 1960s to the present. The event is co-sponsored by the Seidman College of Business.

For immediate release

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services (616) 331-2221

January 24, 2006

### **Asian New Year celebration begins week of GVSU events**

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- Vivid colors, samples of ethnic foods, music and traditional dances will highlight the Asian New Year Festival at Grand Valley State University and kick off events for the Asian Pacific American Heritage Celebration.

The festival, including a performance of the dragon dance, is scheduled for Thursday, February 8, from 6-9 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room on the Allendale Campus. Representatives from China, Vietnam, Cambodia and the Philippines will talk about their traditions and how they celebrate the New Year.

Connie Dang, interim director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs, said community groups from the Grand Rapids area, including Chinese Association of Grand Rapids, Asian Center, and Filipino Cultural Group of Michigan, will participate in the program.

Other Asian Pacific American Heritage Celebration events follow. All events are free and open to the public. For more information, call (616) 331-2177.

#### **Ethnic Settlements in U.S. Counties**

Friday, February 9: 3-4 p.m., Kirkhof Center, rooms 204

Gang Xu, assistant professor of geography and planning, will present on his study of the growing presence of Asian ethnic groups in the United States and their effect on the country's cultural landscape, demographics, labor market, technological innovations and global connections. Using the U.S. Census, this study investigates the geographic patterns and spatial dynamics of Asian ethnic groups across 3,136 U.S. counties.

#### **Asian Adoptee Journey**

Monday, February 12: 6-7:30 p.m., Kirkhof Center, rooms 215/216

Take a journey with Carissa Woodwyk, an Asian adoptee, and see how the dynamics of being a person of color and an adoptee affect one's identity. Specific issues regarding parenting and healthy adoptee identity will be highlighted and personal stories encouraged.

#### **Diversity Theatre -- Inside the Model Minority**

Tuesday, February 13: noon-1:30 p.m., Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale Campus

Hosted by Kennedy Management Resources Inc. The dreams of religious freedom, economic prosperity, and opportunity have historically driven immigrants to the United States. Audience members will laugh and cry when they meet these Asians and they share their experiences in their pursuit of the American Dream.

#### **Asian Success Stories: We the People**

Thursday, February 15: noon-1 p.m., Kirkhof Center, rooms 215/216

Three Asian community leaders will share their journey of ingenuity, perseverance and achievement. Panelists are Bing Goei, owner of Eastern Floral, chairman of the board of Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce; Susan Im, attorney and Gov. Jennifer Granholm's appointee to the Asian American Council; and Alice Kennedy, president of Kennedy Management Resources Inc.

January 25, 2006

For Immediate Release

Photos available, contact Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221 or [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu)

Grand Valley Opera Theatre presents "The Secret Garden"

Performances run February 3-12

Grand Valley State University's Opera Theatre will present the family musical, "The Secret Garden," with six performances over two weekends.

Performances will be February 3, 4, 10 and 11 at 7:30 p.m. and February 5 and 12 at 2 p.m. All shows are held in the Louis Armstrong Theatre of the Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus.

Tickets are \$12 general public, and \$6 for all students. Tickets may be purchased in person at the LAT Box Office, weekdays from noon to 5 p.m. For more information call (616) 331-2300. Tickets are also available with a service fee through Star Tickets Plus at (800) 585-3737 or online at [www.starticketsplus.com](http://www.starticketsplus.com). This production runs 2 1/2 hours, so it is not recommended for children under the age of 5.

"The Secret Garden," was written in 1911 by Frances Hodgson Burnett, who was born in Manchester, England. Marsha Norman adapted the novel into musical theatre in 1992, which ran on Broadway. Film versions were made in 1949 by Metro Goldwyn Mayer and in 1993 by Warner Brothers. A Hallmark Hall of Fame television production was done in 1987.

The plot is interesting on various levels to both children and adults. It is a story about change and has a strong spiritual aspect. Each of the main characters has been dealt a major blow. Set in the year 1906, young Mary Lennox awakens in India to discover that her parents, and everyone she knows in the English compound of Bombay, have died of cholera. She is sent to live with her Uncle Archibald in his mansion in England. He is a hunchback, whose wife died in childbirth. He is overprotective and fearful about the health of his son, Colin.

A dead and neglected garden becomes a metaphor for the play's characters. It belonged to Mary's Aunt Lily who died and it has been neglected and hidden ever since. There are several spirit characters from Mary's past in India, called the Dreamers. They enter her life in England and become part of the healing force of change.

The production's music, written by Lucy Simon (sister of Carly Simon), is very beautiful and lush. It will be performed by the GVSU Orchestra, conducted by Brian Asher Alhadeff, a full-time visiting professor of music at Grand Valley where he serves as director of orchestras.

Dale Schriemer is artistic director of GVSU Opera Theatre and an associate professor of music. He has been part of the GVSU music faculty for 19 years and remains an active performer and member of AGME (opera) and Actors Equity.

Stage director Karen Babcock was in the national tour of this production from New York. She came to Grand Valley last year as stage director for Opera Theatre's production of "Guys and Dolls." Babcock is one of several New York theatre professionals brought here to bridge the students' experience from academic theater to the professional theater.

Scenic designer Scott Aronow and music director Jeff Biering are also from New York. Biering handles rehearsals and coaches the singers in diction. He even got someone to replace him in an Off-Broadway show so he could come here.

Research and resources provide genuine period stage props and costumes. Grand Valley history professor Yosay Wangdi, who has lived in India, recently spent a morning with several cast members and costume designer Jill Hamilton. She taught them where to place a bindi forehead jewel, how far to extend eyeliner and how to wrap a sari — just a few examples of the attention to detail used to authenticate the Indian characters' costumes.

"The mistress doesn't work, so her sari wrapping can have a loose shoulder wrap," said Wangdi, "whereas the character Ayah needs to tuck hers in at the waist as she performs household duties."

The Opera Theatre production is a large-scale collaboration between Grand Valley's theatre and music departments and dance program.

"Since we added the dance program at Grand Valley, we've been able to develop 'triple threat' students," said Schriemer. "They are able to sing well, act well, and dance well."

Main roles and cast members include:

\_ Mary Lennox - This role is shared with alternate performances by 11-year-old Hannah Melton, a fifth grade student at Emmons Lake Elementary in Caledonia, and 12-year-old Mary Lehmann, a seventh grade student at Mill Creek Middle School.

\_ Colin Craven - is played by 10-year-old Preston Mulligan, who has performed in 10 previous shows, including last year's Opera Theatre production of "Street Scene."

\_ Archibald Craven - is played by Jason Lee Coffey, a junior vocal performance major at Grand Valley who previously performed in "Street Scene" and "Guys and Dolls" at Grand Valley.

\_ Lily - This role is shared with alternate performances by Chrissy Amon, a freshman vocal performance major, and Sara Schrier, a senior music major with performance honors who is getting married this spring and moving to New York.

For more information contact Dale Schriemer at (616) 331-2573.

January 26, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services (616) 331-2221 or  
pirkolam@gvsu.edu.

Human Rights Watch films to be shown

Grand Rapids, MICH. — Four films are coming to Grand Rapids in February before screenings scheduled for March in London and June in New York.

Human Rights Watch International Film Festival has become a leading venue for distinguished fiction, documentary and animated films and videos with a distinctive human rights theme. Each year the festival's programming committee screens more than 500 films and videos to create a program that represents a range of countries and issues. The films are made available to wider audiences through a traveling festival.

Grand Valley State University School of Communications, Latin American Studies, Department of Modern Languages and Literatures and the Grand Rapids Community Media Center, are co-sponsoring the Grand Rapids Human Rights Watch Film Series at Wealthy Theatre. Four films will be shown between February 12 and 27. Tickets for each screening are \$5 for general public and \$2 for students. One of the filmmakers, State of Fear's Peter Kinoy, will be on hand at two events to discuss his work.

Human Rights Watch is an independent, nongovernmental organization dedicated to protecting the human rights of people around the world. It was started in 1978 as the Helsinki Watch, to monitor the compliance of Soviet bloc countries with the human rights provisions of the landmark Helsinki Accords. They currently track developments in more than 70 countries around the world, including the U.S. Some issues they follow include women's rights, children's rights, and academic freedom.

"Watching the films provides an opportunity to bear witness to human rights struggles around the world," said John Schmit, event organizer and professor in the School of Communications at Grand Valley. "It is both humbling and inspirational to see brave individuals rising above adverse conditions to claim their humanity."

Filmmaker Peter Kinoy will attend the February 12 screenings of State of Fear and hold discussions with audiences afterwards. He will also give a lecture on Monday, February 13 that is free and open to the public. It will be held at 7 p.m. in room 154 of Lake Superior Hall at

Grand Valley.

Kinoy has worked for 25 years as a producer and editor in the New York media industry, has taught editing at Columbia University and has frequently worked on PBS documentary specials. He was editor on Michael Moore's TV Nation and the Showtime documentary Brotherhood of Hate.

Media note: Peter Kinoy can be reached at [peter@skylightpictures.com](mailto:peter@skylightpictures.com). His photo and biography are available online at [www.skylightpictures.com/peterbio.html](http://www.skylightpictures.com/peterbio.html).

For more information about the Grand Rapids Human Rights Watch Film Series contact: John Schmit at Grand Valley State University (616) 331-8510 or [schmitj@gvsu.edu](mailto:schmitj@gvsu.edu) or Jeff Smith at Community Media Center (616) 459-4788 or [jsmith@grcmc.org](mailto:jsmith@grcmc.org)

The following films will be shown on dates listed at Wealthy Street Theatre (616) 459-4788x122 or [www.wealthytheatre.org](http://www.wealthytheatre.org). Still photos and complete descriptions are available from the Human Rights Watch Web site: <http://hrw.org/iff>.

Sunday, February 12 at 7 and 9 p.m. - STATE OF FEAR  
Pamela Yates, Paco de Onís and Peter Kinoy - USA/Perú - 2005  
In English and Spanish with English subtitles

State of Fear dramatizes the human and societal costs a democracy faces when it embarks on a war against terror, a war potentially without end, all too easily exploited by unscrupulous leaders seeking personal political gain. The film follows events in Perú, yet it serves as a cautionary tale for a nation like the United States. Filmmakers Pamela Yates, Paco de Onís and Peter Kinoy masterfully blend personal testimony, history, and archival footage to tell the story of escalating violence in the Andean nation and how the fear of terror undermined democracy, making Perú a virtual dictatorship where official corruption replaced the rule of law. Filmmaker's Web site <http://www.skylightpictures.com>

Wednesday, February 15 at 7 and 9 p.m. - STREET FIGHT  
Marshall Curry - USA - 2005

Called "the best American political documentary since 1993's The War Room" by the Washington Post, Street Fight tells a riveting story about the underbelly of American democracy. It chronicles the bare-knuckles race for Mayor of Newark, N.J. between Cory Booker, a 32-year-

old Rhodes Scholar/Yale Law School grad, and Sharpe James, the four-term incumbent who uses any means necessary to crush its opponents.

Street Fight is the winner of the Audience Award at Tribeca Film Festival, SilverDocs Festival (Washington DC) and Hot Docs Festival (Toronto), and was given the Jury Prize for Best International Documentary at Hot Docs. Filmmaker's Web site  
<http://www.marshallcurryproductions.com>

Sunday, February 19 at 7 and 9 p.m. - VIDEOLETTERS

Katarina Rejger and Eric van den Broek - Bosnia and Herzegovina/Slovenia/Macedonia/Croatia/Serbia and Montenegro (including Kosovo) - 2004/2005. In Albanian, Bosnian, Croatian, Macedonian, Serbian and Slovenian with English subtitles

Videoleters is remarkable for many reasons, not least because it exemplifies the power of change inherent in the documentary form; the very making of the films fostered reconciliation between estranged individuals of the war-scarred former Yugoslavia. After the war that claimed hundreds of thousands of lives and drove millions from hearths and homes, the country crumbled into five separate republics: Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro.

In Videoleters, which was shot over the past five years frequently in tough and often dangerous conditions, the filmmakers act as initiators, mailmen, and recorders of a dispersed population who hardly have contact beyond the borders. In each episode, two people of different nationalities send each other a video letter, explaining how this could have happened. In each case, they were friends, neighbors, or colleagues before the war drove them apart. After exchanging the video letters, the participants usually arranged a meeting, the first since the war erupted.

Winner of the 2005 HRWIFF Nestor Almendros Prize. Film's Web site  
<http://www.videoleters.net>

Monday, February 27 at 7 and 9 p.m. - MARDI GRAS: MADE IN CHINA

David Redmon - USA - 2004

In English, Cantonese, Fujianese and Mandarin with English subtitles



This film tracks the "bead trail" from the factory in China to Bourbon Street during Mardi Gras, poignantly exposing the inequities of globalization. Filmmaker Redmon gained unprecedented access to follow the stories of four young Chinese women working and living in the largest Mardi Gras bead factory in the world, located in Fuzhou, China. We witness their economic realities, self-sacrifice, and dreams of a better life.

Redmon inter-cuts these stories with strikingly candid interviews with the factory manager and the US businessman (who owns the factory) who offer their own visions on why globalization is a success. Brilliantly interweaving factory life with Mardi Gras festivities, the film opens the blind eye of consumerism by visually introducing workers and festivalgoers to each other. A dialogue results when bead-wearing partyers are shown images of the Chinese workers and asked if they know the origin of their beads, while the factory women view pictures of Americans exchanging beads, soliciting more beads, and celebrating.

Film's Web site <http://www.mardigrasmadeinchina.com>

For Immediate Release

January 30, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, News and Information Services

State of the Union address

Grand Valley State University experts available for comment

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The following Grand Valley State University experts are available before and after President Bush's State of the Union address scheduled for Tuesday, January 31.

War on Terror:

Brian Kingshott, (616) 331-7149 or (616) 453-7809, assistant professor of criminal justice  
Kingshott is an expert on terrorism, law enforcement and criminal investigation. He was in London last year during the bombing of the city's public transport system and was interviewed daily by radio and television stations in and around London.

Economic reaction:

Hari Singh, (616) 331-7420, chair of the economics department in the Seidman College of Business

Gregg Dimkoff, (616) 331-7428, chair of the finance department in the Seidman College of Business

Health Care:

Andrea Bostrom, (616) 331-7172, associate dean of Academic Programs in the Kirkhof College of Nursing

Presidential Address:

Gleaves Whitney, (616) 460-7955, director of the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies  
Whitney is a presidential historian and author who served in the Engler Administration for 11 years as chief historian and speech writer. Visit [www.allpresidents.org](http://www.allpresidents.org) for more information.

Congress:

Roger Moiles, (616) 331-3283, instructor of political science

Moiles is an expert on American politics including elections, Congress and public policy.

January 31, 2006

For immediate release

Contact: Michele Coffill, News and Information Services, 616-331-2221

The next speaker in the Professionals of Color Lecture Series, sponsored by Grand Valley State University, is a Native American activist and advocate for environmental, women's and children's rights.

Winona LaDuke will speak twice on Thursday, February 2, from 5:30-7 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room, at the Allendale Campus; and from 8-9 p.m. in Loosemore Auditorium of the DeVos Center, 401 W. Fulton St..

LaDuke is a two-time vice presidential candidate, joining Ralph Nader on the Green Party ticket in 1996 and 2000. She serves as program director of Honor the Earth, a Native American foundation working on environmental and energy policy issues. She is also founder and co-chair of the Indigenous Women's Network.

She has written five books, both fiction and non-fiction. LaDuke graduated from Harvard and Antioch universities.

The lecture series is sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs; call (616) 331-2177 for more information.

-- GVSU production now in fifth year

For immediate release

Contact: Michele Coffill, News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

January 31, 2006

Three performances of Eve Ensler's "The Vagina Monologues," produced by Grand Valley State University students and community members, will benefit area women's organizations.

Sponsored by GVSU's Women's Center, with support from the Nokomis Foundation, the play will be performed at Fountain Street Church, 24 Fountain St. NE in Grand Rapids, on February 10 and 11; and at the Cook-DeWitt Center on GVSU's Allendale Campus on February 14. All performances will start at 7:30 p.m.

Nearly 70 students, faculty and staff members are involved in the production. Ensler's acclaimed play is a collection of powerful, engaging and, at times, provocative monologues about women who speak frankly about their bodies, childbirth, sex, rape and love.

Tickets are \$16 (\$8 for students) and available at the GVSU Box Office in the Performing Arts Center, 20/20 Desk in Kirkhof Center or the Pew Campus Student Services Office, 101B of the DeVos Center. They are also available with a service fee at StarTickets Plus outlets or by calling (616) 222-4000, (800) 585-3737, or visiting the Web site [www.starticketsplus.com](http://www.starticketsplus.com).

Last year, Grand Valley's production raised more than \$14,000 for area organizations. This year, proceeds will benefit the Grand Rapids YWCA, Center for Women in Transition in Holland, GVSU's Women's Center, GVSU student organization Eyes Wide Open, and Justice to Comfort Women, the national spotlight organization. Each year, worldwide performances of "The Vagina Monologues" benefit one group of women who are experiencing violence.

Justice to Comfort Women refers to the campaign to draw attention to the survivors of military sexual slavery. The term "comfort women" dates back to imperial Japan and means young women who were forced to offer sexual services to Japanese troops between 1932-45. The number of comfort women is estimated at 50,000 to 200,000. Special benefit performances of "The Vagina Monologues" will be staged in Seoul and Tokyo this summer.

Ashley Nickels, Women's Center volunteer coordinator, said campus organizations will stage events leading up to the weekend performances and drawing attention to preventing violence against women. Other community events include a lecture by Andrea Smith, Native American activist and co-founder of INCITE Women of Color Against Violence. Smith will speak on February 7, 7 p.m., at Wealthy Theatre in Grand Rapids. Her speech is sponsored by the Grand Rapids Institute for Informational Democracy.

Media note: Photos of cast members are available by calling News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

February 1, 2006

For Immediate Release

### Grand Valley State president to receive Distinguished Service Award

Mark A. Murray, president of Grand Valley State University in Allendale, has been selected by the board of directors of the Michigan Capital Area Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration as the 2006 recipient of the Frank J. Kelley Distinguished Service Award. It will be presented to Murray during an awards banquet on May 3 at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing.

In announcing the award, Michigan Capital Area Chapter President Gregg Guetschow noted Murray's long and varied career in public service.

Murray became president of Grand Valley State University July 1, 2001, following a two-decade career in state government and education. During his years in state government, he held the posts of state treasurer, state budget director, director of the Department of Management and Budget and acting director of the Family Independence Agency. As special policy adviser to the governor, Murray was responsible for a variety of initiatives aimed at K-12 public school reform. He directed the state's Merit Scholarship Award program. Murray was a member of the Board of Education for the City of Detroit. He also served as vice president for Finance and Administration at Michigan State University.

Named for former Michigan Attorney General Frank J. Kelley, the Distinguished Service Award recognizes individuals who have demonstrated a long-term, sustained commitment to public service throughout much of their careers. Past recipients of the Distinguished Service Award include state Budget Director Mary Lannoye, former Michigan State University President M. Peter McPherson, former State Rep. H. Lynn Jondahl, and former Lansing Mayor David C. Hollister.

The Michigan Capital Area Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration is a non-profit organization of federal, state and local government administrators and public administration students and academics in the mid-Michigan area. The chapter serves its nearly 100 members by providing educational programs and networking opportunities. Through its annual awards program, the chapter recognizes and celebrates exemplary performance by individuals employed in government and academia. The Michigan Capital Area Chapter is one of 115 chapters affiliated with the American Society of Public Administration, which is dedicated

to advancing the art, science, teaching, and practice of public and non-profit administration.

Grand Valley State University attracts more than 22,000 students with high quality programs and state-of-the-art facilities. Grand Valley is the comprehensive regional university for the state's second largest metropolitan area and offers 69 undergraduate and 25 graduate degree programs. It has campuses in Allendale, Grand Rapids, and Holland and centers in Muskegon and Traverse City. The university is dedicated to individual student achievement, going beyond the traditional classroom experience with research opportunities and business partnerships.

For additional information, contact Gregg Guetschow, president, Michigan Capital Area Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration, at (989) 725-0568, or Grand Valley State University's News and Information Services office at (616) 331-2221.

## Grand Valley Lakers honored by lawmakers

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- The national champion Grand Valley State football and volleyball teams will be honored at the State Capitol in Lansing on Thursday, February 9. About 100 players and staff will be recognized in the Senate and the House and will meet with Governor Granholm.

### The schedule:

10:00 a.m. - Gather on Senate Floor - recognition by Sen. Wayne Kuipers, R - Holland

10:45 a.m. - Gather in Gallery of the House - recognition by Rep. Barb Vander Veen, R - Allendale

11:30 a.m. - Meet the Governor - Ceremonial Office in Capitol, 2nd floor - photos

Call News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221, for more information.

For Immediate Release

February 1, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, News and Information Services

Super Bowl ads cost about \$83,000 per second

Grand Valley State University experts comment on effectiveness of ads

ALLENDALE, Mich. — The parties have already started in Detroit for Super Bowl XL as the players and fans gear up for the big game on Sunday. All eyes will be on the Steelers and Seahawks, as well as the clever Super Bowl commercials. The following Grand Valley State University experts are available for comment.

Kristen Heilman, (248) 797-1579, Grand Valley advertising and public relations major  
Heilman is a junior who has landed a unique opportunity for Super Bowl XL. She is working with the sponsorship director for Super Bowl activities. Sponsors include GM, Ford, Chrysler and Compuware.

Joe Helgert, (616) 331-3645, associate professor of communication  
Helgert is an expert in advertising. He was an international marketing manager at Motorola Corporation and continues to research the Japanese advertising industry.

Tim Penning, (616) 331-3478, assistant professor of communication  
Penning specializes in public relations and can comment on the advertisers' ability to effectively launch a new brand in a short advertisement. Penning encourages his students to watch the commercials for class discussion.

Roy Winegar, (616) 331-3668, assistant professor of communication  
Winegar is an expert in advertising and has a special interest in the Internet's interactive marketing and advertising capabilities. He encourages his students to watch the Super Bowl ads for class discussion.

Ben Rudolph, (616) 331-7473, professor of marketing in the Seidman College of Business  
Rudolph is an expert on marketing strategy and management and is the past president of the West Michigan Chapter of the American Marketing Association. Rudolph can also comment on the economic impact the Super Bowl is expected to have on the city of Detroit.



February 2, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221 or  
pirkolam@gvsu.edu

**Concerts added to Grand Valley schedule**

A Grand Valley State University alumnae recital by Ksenia Leletkina, piano, is scheduled for Thursday, February 9 at 8 p.m. in the Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall in the Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus.

"From the Studio of Professor Aviram Reichert, a concert featuring pianists in the Grand Valley State University Piano Studio, will be held Sunday, February 26 at 5 p.m. in the Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall in the Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus.

Both events are free and open to the public. For more information contact the GVSU Music Department at (616) 331-3484.

February 3, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, Grand Valley State University News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221 or [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu).

### Grand Valley Concert Changed

The Grand Valley State University Arts at Noon concert schedule for Wednesday, February 8 has been changed. The debut performance of the GVSU Faculty Brass Ensemble has been postponed.

Performing in their place will be the Woodwind Trio, a GVSU faculty ensemble collaboration with Marlen Vavrikova, oboe; Arthur Campbell, clarinet; and John Clapp, bassoon. The noon performance will be in the Cook-DeWitt Center.

For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

For Immediate Release

February 3, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, News and Information Services

Ticket to a college education

College Goal Sunday set for February 12 with three West Michigan locations

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — College costs can be affordable. Students may qualify for thousands of dollars for a college or technical education without realizing it. Most families overestimate the cost of college and underestimate how much financial aid helps.

The first step toward receiving financial aid is filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid form, or FAFSA, and College Goal Sunday helps students do just that. February 12 is a day set aside across the state when financial advisers meet one-on-one with students and parents.

"We can help prospective college students and their parents by answering questions or we can help them complete the entire form," said Jo Ann Litton, assistant director of financial aid at Grand Valley State University.

The FAFSA form is the primary document for determining most loans, grants and other aid nationwide. Litton said many families overestimate the cost of college and underestimate how much financial aid helps. She said students should fill out the form even if they are unsure about college because a decision can be made later about whether to accept the aid.

College Goal Sunday is February 12 at 2 p.m. at these local sites:

(Parents or students should bring their families completed 2005 IRS 1040 tax return if possible and W-2 records.)

Grand Rapids

Grand Valley State University-Pew Campus

125A DeVos

Holland

Davenport University/Room 214

643 S. Waverly Rd.

Muskegon  
Muskegon High School/Cafeteria  
80 W. Southern Ave.

**MEDIA INTERVIEWS:** contact Jo Ann Litton at (616) 331-3234 or Grand Valley News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

College Goal Sunday is sponsored by the Michigan Student Financial Aid Association and Partnership for Learning. Visit [www.MICollegeGoal.org](http://www.MICollegeGoal.org) for more information.

February 3, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, Grand Valley State University News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221 or [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu)

Oprah's Book Club reads Elie Wiesel  
Grand Valley expert available for comments

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Grand Valley State University English professor Rob Franciosi can comment on the Holocaust as well as the life and work of Elie Wiesel, whose book "Night" is the current selection of the Oprah Winfrey Book Club. Wiesel is expected to make an appearance soon on Oprah's television show. Programming is announced each Friday for the following week's shows at [www.oprah.com](http://www.oprah.com).

Franciosi has edited a collection of Wiesel's interviews spanning from his early career to present.

Learn more about "Elie Wiesel: Conversations" at [http://www.upress.state.ms.us/catalog-bak/fall2002/elie\\_wiesel.html](http://www.upress.state.ms.us/catalog-bak/fall2002/elie_wiesel.html).

Franciosi is also the editor of "Good Morning" a Holocaust memoir by survivor Joseph Stevens. Learn more about this book at <http://msupress.msu.edu/bookTemplate.php?bookID=755>.

His current research interests center on American cultural responses to the Holocaust. He is completing a study of John Hersey's epic novel of the Warsaw Ghetto.

As a Grand Valley professor Franciosi teaches two Honors courses, "The Holocaust" and "Culture and the Holocaust" in which he regularly teaches Wiesel's "Night." His students are currently following Oprah's online discussion board to learn what the average person thinks about the Holocaust.

Franciosi and Dan Balfour, director of the School of Public Administration, have developed a new class for this spring semester which includes a two-week trip to Germany and Poland. The class will study the nature of memory and how the Holocaust has been memorialized and remembered by the cultures where it occurred, by both perpetrators and victims.

Media may contact Franciosi at (616) 331-3069 or [francior@gvsu.edu](mailto:francior@gvsu.edu).

For Immediate Release

Contact: Brian J. Bowe, (616) 331-2221 or [boweb@gvsu.edu](mailto:boweb@gvsu.edu)

### New lab to boost Michigan biotech industry

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — A new partnership between Grand Valley State University and the Van Andel Institute could lead to the development of groundbreaking new drugs and give a boost to West Michigan's growing biotech industry.

Construction will begin soon on a new FDA-approved Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) facility housed in Grand Valley State University's Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences. The facility will support the development of new drugs to treat cancer and other diseases for delivery to the marketplace. The state of Michigan awarded the Van Andel Institute an appropriation of \$4.5 million to establish the lab. It is the first GMP facility in the state that is not affiliated with an individual company.

A GMP facility is a dynamic 21st century workshop designed to produce highly specialized treatments suitable for use in human clinical trials. This process will make the new drug more attractive to pharmaceutical companies by reducing the risks typically associated with drug development.

"This pioneering public-private collaboration will improve innovation, creativity and sustainable business development in West Michigan. It eliminates the need to contract with laboratories outside of the state and becomes the catalyst for future life science ventures in the region," said Matt Dugener, executive director of the West Michigan Science and Technology Initiative.

Located in what is becoming known as Grand Rapids' own life science cluster, the new 5,000-square-foot facility is expected to open by summer 2007.

"The new facility will provide a critical component to our region's collective efforts to turn what we discover in the laboratory into treatments that will benefit patients. We will now be able to produce new, high quality pharmaceutical and biological therapies in sufficient quantity and at a reasonable cost for use in clinical trials. Through this partnership, VAI will play an expanded role in bringing new drugs to the marketplace," said David Van Andel, chairman and CEO of the Van Andel Institute.

Grand Valley State University President Mark Murray lauded the collaboration that is making the facility possible. "This GMP facility is absolutely necessary to foster the development of the life sciences in Grand Rapids. We are pleased that Grand Valley and the Van Andel Institute have been able to work collaboratively to secure such an important regional asset. It also illustrates Grand Valley's continued commitment to growing the life science industry in Grand Rapids."

The project was aided by legislators at the state and federal level. Gov. Jennifer Granholm and State Sen. Ken Sikkema were instrumental in securing the \$4.5 million in state funding, while U.S. Rep. Vernon Ehlers helped secure \$462,555 of federal funding for the project. The Michigan Economic Development Corporation matched the federal award with a grant to Grand Valley State University to develop the facility on its campus.

Visit GVNow, Grand Valley's online news source: <http://www.gvsu.edu/gvnow>

For Immediate Release

February 6, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, News and Information Services

Nonprofit academic centers receive \$7.5 million for first large-scale collaboration  
Joint effort will strengthen diversity of nonprofit sector

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership at Grand Valley State University, along with The Center for Nonprofit Leadership and Management at Arizona State University and The Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University, has been awarded a \$7.5 million dollar grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation in Battle Creek.

This pioneering collaboration will utilize each center's strengths to increase the capacity and diversity of the nonprofit sector. The three universities will operate programs under the banner of the AIM (Arizona-Indiana-Michigan) Alliance.

"There has never been a comparable alliance of academic centers for philanthropy and nonprofit leadership," said Joel J. Orosz, interim executive director of the Johnson Center. "It's not about the benefits for the individual institutions, but rather about the advancement of the field as a whole. It is the rising tide that will lift all boats."

Main components of the AIM Alliance include: knowledge sharing and strengthening communities of color, cross-delivery of flagship programs, development of standardized research protocols and joint publication and dissemination of research, and cross-participation in significant events.

The AIM Alliance will connect each of the three nonprofit academic centers' work to local and national institutions within the nonprofit sector. The centers will focus on those organizations that serve communities of color and that promote their leadership.

The Johnson Center is recognized for its applied research that benefits practitioners and nonprofits through its Community Research Institute, Nonprofit Good Practice Guide and The Grantmaking School.

For more information, contact Angela Vander Hulst, associate director for the Nonprofit Good Practice Guide for the Johnson Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership at (616) 331-7589 or [vanderha@gvsu.edu](mailto:vanderha@gvsu.edu).

February 6, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221 or  
pirkolam@gvsu.edu

[Lowenstern photo available]

### Innovative performers featured in Grand Valley's Free Play Series

Michael Lowenstern, considered one of the finest bass clarinetists in the world, will perform a free concert at Grand Valley State University.

The performance is at 8 p.m. on Thursday, February 16, in the Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. It is the second concert in the new Free Play Series at Grand Valley, arranged by Bill Ryan, a composition professor and a tireless advocate of contemporary music.

"I've designed this series to feature some of the most innovative performers and composers of our time," said Ryan.

From 1997-2005, Ryan founded and produced Open Ears, a quarterly new music concert series, which received national recognition as it won three Adventurous Programming Awards from Chamber Music America.

Lowenstern has performed and recorded with musicians and groups as diverse as The Klezmatics, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, Steve Reich and the Musicians, The Chamber Society of Lincoln Center and John Zorn. Much of his repertoire involves the use of computers, props and electronic gizmos.

The Free Play Series will also feature renegade violinist Todd Reynolds on March 23 and new music specialist Daan Vandewalle on March 27.

Ryan is also director of the New Music Ensemble at Grand Valley, which performs adventurous music written during the past 20 years. Their inaugural concert is scheduled for April 4 at Grand Valley and will include the world premiere of a new work by Kurt Ellenberger, "Gormenghast Overture," commissioned to celebrate the event. Ellenberger is head of the jazz program at Grand Valley.



For more information about Lowenstern see his Web site [www.earspasm.com](http://www.earspasm.com). For more information about this concert or the series contact Bill Ryan, who is available for interviews at (616) 331-3087 or the GVSU Music Department at (616) 331-3484.

February 6, 2006

For immediate release

Contact: Michele Coffill, News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

### **GVSU Asian festival includes presentation on adoptee issues**

A festival to showcase the rich traditions of Asian countries kicks off a week of events planned for Asian Pacific American Heritage Celebration at Grand Valley State University.

The Asian New Year Festival is scheduled for Sunday, February 12, from 6-9 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center on GVSU's Allendale Campus. A dragon dance, samples of ethnic food, storytelling and entertainment are planned. The event is free and open to the public.

Connie Dang, associate director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs, said this year she extended invitations to the Asian organizations in the community to not only attend the event but also to be a part of the program. Members of the Chinese Association of Grand Rapids, Asian Center, Filipino Cultural Group of Michigan and the Asian Hour, a community access television program, will participate in a cultural and educational New Year celebration.

Other events planned include the following:

-- Asian Student Forum; February 13, 2-3:30 p.m., Cook-DeWitt Center

Dang will moderate a student panel of domestic and international Asian students, who will discuss their experiences at Grand Valley.

-- The New Gender Roles of Chinese Immigrant Wives; February 14, 1-2 p.m., Kirkhof Center, rooms 215/216

Yan Yu, associate professor of sociology at Grand Valley, will give a presentation of the social and family problems encountered by Asian women as they enter the workforce -- a new role for many. Traditionally, Asian women stayed at home to care for their families. Yu gave a presentation on this topic at the Fifth International Conference on Diversity in Beijing, China, in 2005.

-- Asian Adoptee Issues; February 14, 5:30-7 p.m., Kirkhof Center, Pere Marquette Room

Dr. D. John Lee, licensed psychologist and member of the Multi-Ethnic Counseling Center at Michigan State University, will talk about the increased popularity of Americans adopting Asian children. Lee said that as these children grow up, they frequently encounter adjustment and ethnic identity issues about their "place" in society. This session is ideal for current parents of adopted children or those considering adoption.

-- Establishment of the Advisory Council on Asian and Pacific American Affairs; February 15, noon-1:30 p.m., Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room

Susan Im, attorney and a member of the Michigan Advisory Council on Asian and Pacific American Affairs, will discuss the council's activities since it was established by Gov. Jennifer Granholm in 2005.

-- Documentary Video: Searching for Asian America; February 15, 5-6:30 p.m., Cook-DeWitt Center

This 2003 video profiles several prominent Asian Americans: Gary Locke, governor of Washington; Martin Bautista and Jeffrey Lim, Filipino doctors in Oklahoma; and Lela Lee, actress and creator of the popular comic strip and Web site "Angry Little Girls."

• RICE Conference: Realizing and Addressing Issues in our Culture and Education; April 8, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., DeVos Center, Pew Grand Rapids Campus

The annual RICE conference serves to educate and raise awareness of Asian issues in the community. The conference is free and open to the public; register online at [www.riceconference.com](http://www.riceconference.com). Workshop topics can be found at the Web site.

For more information about the events, call the Office of Multicultural Affairs at (616) 331-2177. The celebration is also sponsored by Grand Valley's Asian Student Union, East Asian Studies, Padnos International Center and Office of Institutional Marketing.

February 7, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, Grand Valley State University News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221 or [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu)

The sustainability of groundwater pumping is under scrutiny as the state Legislature is considering Michigan's first water-use laws.

The final report submitted this week to the Legislature by the Groundwater Conservation Advisory Council presents more than a dozen findings and recommendations based on several years of study.

Council member Al Steinman, director of Grand Valley State University's Annis Water Resources Institute, says the report is only the first step in what should become an ongoing process.

"This report will hopefully be a blueprint for the sustainable use of Michigan groundwater resources," said Steinman. "Though current pumping does not pose a threat in most areas of Michigan, it is essential to plan now to ensure the needs of future generations."

Most Michigan residents depend on groundwater as their source for drinking water. Large quantities are also used by farmers and various industries. Yet Michigan is the only Great Lakes state without laws regulating groundwater pumping quantities.

The report also recommends development of criteria and indicators to evaluate the sustainability of Michigan's groundwater use and conduct ongoing evaluations.

The full report is available online at [www.deq.state.mi.us/documents/deq-gwcac-legislature.pdf](http://www.deq.state.mi.us/documents/deq-gwcac-legislature.pdf)

Al Steinman is available for interviews and comments by calling the Annis Water Resources Institute at (616) 331-3749. He was appointed to the council in 2002 by Senate majority leader Ken Sikkema to represent conservation interests and advise on groundwater resource issues and served as chair of the sustainability subcommittee from 2003 to 2005.

The Grand Valley State University Annis Water Resources Institute is a multidisciplinary research organization committed to the study of freshwater resources. The mission of the Institute is to integrate research, education, and outreach to enhance and preserve freshwater resources. The Institute occupies the Lake Michigan Center on Muskegon Lake.

For Immediate Release

February 9, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, News and Information Services

Business Journal names 50 most influential women  
Grand Valley State University women to be honored

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Three women at Grand Valley State University were named by the Grand Rapids Business Journal to its list of 50 Most Influential Women in West Michigan.

Gayle Davis, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs; Pat Oldt, vice president for Planning and Equity; and Margaret Sellers Walker, associate director of the Johnson Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership, were chosen for their leadership qualities and contributions to the community.

"I am honored to be chosen as one of our region's 'most influential' women for this year, especially so, given the strong community of women leaders who enrich West Michigan," said Davis.

"I feel so fortunate to be recognized among this outstanding group of influential women," said Oldt.

Fifty women were chosen from 162 nominations. A luncheon to honor the women will be held at 11:45 p.m. on Wednesday, March 8, at Noto's restaurant in Cascade. The keynote speaker will be Michigan State University President Lou Anna Simon.

MEDIA INTERVIEWS: Contact Gayle Davis at (616) 331-2400, Pat Oldt at (616) 331-3296, and Margaret Sellers Walker at (616) 331-7585. Photos are available by calling Grand Valley News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

February 9, 2006

For Immediate Release

Photo available - Contact Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221 or [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu)

### Grand Valley hosts musical melting pot ensemble

Listeners will be treated to an eclectic mix of Middle Eastern, Balkan, Mediterranean, Jewish, Celtic, and African musical influences laid on top of contemporary rock and roll and jazz during a free concert by Esta at Grand Valley State University.

This multi-ethnic Israeli ensemble is as distinctive as it is diverse. For 22 years, they have entranced audiences with fiery cross-cultural collaboration at venues such as New York City's Blue Note Club, the Los Angeles House of Blues, and, the White House.

The world music group performs at noon on Wednesday, February 22 as part of Grand Valley's Arts at Noon Series in the Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale. The performance is also part of the Midwest World Fest, which fosters an understanding and appreciation for global uniqueness and differences through cultural exchanges. For more information call (616) 331-3484.

For Immediate Release

February 10, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, News and Information Services

National University Transportation Center announced  
Grand Valley State University partners with four universities

DETROIT — The U.S. Department of Transportation has awarded \$2 million for the creation of a National University Transportation Center (UTC). The center, tentatively named MI-OH UTC, will combine the resources of five universities in Michigan and Ohio to best address transportation issues critical to the area.

Grand Valley State University, Wayne State University, University of Toledo, and Bowling Green State University are joining lead partner, University of Detroit Mercy. The center, announced today at a luncheon in Detroit, will focus on alternative energy, infrastructure utilization and supply chains.

"Our national transportation system is stressed," said John C. Taylor, associate professor of marketing in Grand Valley's Seidman College of Business. "We need to work toward adding capacity and utilizing the capacity we have. We need to become more efficient and work on improving intermodal transportation."

Grand Valley's business and engineering colleges will be involved with the center.

Congressman Pete Hoekstra, R-Holland, played a key role in designating funding in the federal highways and transit bill for the UTC. "The movement of goods throughout the Midwest directly impacts West Michigan's competitiveness," Hoekstra said. "A platform on which to analyze opportunities to improve and streamline the transportation infrastructure will significantly elevate the economic and environmental value of the region."

MEDIA INTERVIEWS: John C. Taylor can be reached at (517) 719-0275 or (616) 331-7479. For more information, contact Grand Valley News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

## **Media opportunity -- Asian New Year festival Sunday**

For immediate release

Contact: Michele Coffill, News and Information Services, 616-331-2221  
February 10, 2006

A colorful festival on Sunday to showcase the rich traditions of Asian countries kicks off a week of events planned for Asian Pacific American Heritage Celebration at Grand Valley State University.

The Asian New Year Festival is scheduled for Sunday, February 12, from 6-9 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center on GVSU's Allendale Campus. A dragon dance, samples of ethnic food, storytelling and entertainment are planned. The event is free and open to the public.

Connie Dang, associate director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs, said this year she extended invitations to the Asian organizations in the community to not only attend the event but also to be a part of the program. Members of the Chinese Association of Grand Rapids, Asian Center, Filipino Cultural Group of Michigan and the Asian Hour, a community access television program, will participate in a cultural and educational New Year celebration.



February 10, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221 or  
pirkolam@gvsu.edu

Lubbers and Rowe publish historical book

Former Grand Valley State University president Arend D. Lubbers and current Grand Valley professor of philosophy Stephen Rowe have collaborated and released a new book, "Old Hopes for a New Place."

Part historical retrospective and part discourse on the value of a liberal education, this collection of Lubbers' speeches covers the 32 years of his presidency, from academic years 1969-2001. It is the same period that brought us the Vietnam War, Cold War, counterculture, energy crisis, financial crisis, Reaganism, Generation X, and technological revolution.

Lubbers was president of an unusual and rapidly developing state university during a very significant period of American and global history. One significant element of his highly successful leadership style is that on a regular basis he articulated the goal of providing liberal education in a public context in relation to the currents of contemporary culture.

Rowe is an award-winning teacher and the author of several previous books. This book is being released through MSU Press.

Bookcover art and more information is available at  
[www.msupress.msu.edu/bookTemplate.php?bookID=2943](http://www.msupress.msu.edu/bookTemplate.php?bookID=2943)

February 13

For Immediate Release

Photo available - Contact GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221

Grand Valley hosts poet

Grand Valley State University Writers Series presents Honorée Fanonne Jeffers, a poet with two books and a growing number of awards to her name.

"The Gospel of Barbecue" was chosen as winner of the Stan and Tom Wick Prize for Poetry. Her second book, "Outlandish Blues," published by Wesleyan University Press in 2003, has been described as part history, part song, popular and classical African American culture, and, mostly, the blues. It is dedicated "to Mama and Mr. Langston Hughes."

Jeffers teaches at the University of Oklahoma. On Thursday, February 23, she will read from new and published work at 7 p.m. in the Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale. For more information call the Grand Valley Writing Department at (616) 331-3411.

Media Interviews: E-mail Dr. Jeffers at [hfjeffers@ou.edu](mailto:hfjeffers@ou.edu)

February 14, 2006

For immediate release

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, 616-331-2221

A panel discussion this week will identify and offer solutions to various health care problems for African Americans.

The forum is scheduled for Thursday, February 16, 7 p.m., Loosemore Auditorium, DeVos Center, 401 W. Fulton St., Grand Rapids. It continues the events planned for Black History Month at Grand Valley State University.

Wayne Boatwright, chief diversity officer for Saint Mary's Health Care, Battle Creek Health System and Mercy General Health Partners, will serve as moderator.

Other participants are Dr. Tracy Mathis Blount, Dental Design, P.C.; Dr. Scott Metcalfe, St. Mary's Health Care; Birthale Archie, MSN, RN, president and CEO, Nursing Care Professionals; Dr. Andola Mathis; and Barbara White, medical education director, Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital.

For more information, call the GVSU Office of Multicultural Affairs at 616-331-2177.

February 17, 2006

For immediate release

Contact: Michele Coffill, News and Information Services, (616)-331-2221

U.S. Sen. Carl Levin, D-Detroit, will meet with area senior citizens on Monday, February 20, to address their concerns about the Medicare prescription drug plan.

The meeting is scheduled from 9:45-10:30 a.m. in the Eberhard Center, room 215, at Grand Valley State University's Pew Grand Rapids Campus. Levin will join Jo Murphy, from the Area Agency on Aging West Michigan Chapter, at a meeting of the Grand Forum.

The Grand Forum is an education outreach program of GVSU's Continuing Education Department. Grand Forum members are age 55 and older; they meet throughout the year to hear and participate in discussions about current events, arts, history and business.

About 75 people are expected at Monday's meeting.

February 21, 2006

For Immediate Release

Photos available, contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221 or [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu)

Grand Valley presents Modern Commedia

The unique theatrical style known as Commedia dell'Arte will be featured at Grand Valley State University with performances in March and April.

Under the guest direction of theater artists Todd Espeland and Allison Williams, known collectively as Commedia Zuppa, the show on Wednesday and Thursday, March 1 and 2 will be a two-hour, double bill. It features Grand Valley acting students in their original work, "The Actor and the Mask," and Espeland and Williams who will perform their acclaimed touring piece, "Boxhead."

Commedia Zuppa is a Kalamazoo-based company focused on creating and teaching physical theater, including mask, stage combat, circus, and Commedia dell'Arte. They travel six to eight months each year, sharing their work with theatres, festivals, colleges and schools across North America and Europe through performances, guest residencies and workshops. They have won wide acclaim on New York's Off-Broadway stages, as well as at the Edinburgh and London Fringe Festivals, the Kentucky Shakespeare Festival, and other venues.

At Grand Valley, Commedia Zuppa has been training theater students since mid-February with a 50-hour workshop in mask work and other Commedia performance skills. The culmination is their performance of the short group-developed piece, "The Actor and the Mask."

"The mask and how the mask's physicality is speaking, is what's actually playing," said Espeland. "I tell students that they're simply a vessel that the mask is working through."

The student performance will be followed by "Boxhead," a one-hour series of vignettes, ranging from comic to poignant, centering around one man's journey to learn how to fit into the world. The title character wakes up one day to find he has a box for a head. The performers use a myriad of masks from cultures throughout the world to tell the story of Box Head's quest for his own identity. It is a show that foregrounds the expressive possibilities of movement on-stage, the humor and originality of improvisational acting, and the transformative power of the mask in human culture.

"After the show, the audience should feel that the time they spent with us was well worth spending," said Williams. "They may also feel puzzled or amazed or confused or enlightened or just entertained." She added that the two-hour evening event will be appropriate for all ages as it doesn't deal with adult themes, but is accessible to everyone on a variety of levels.

Grand Valley will also produce Goldoni's famous masterpiece, "Servant of Two Masters," in a period style and setting. Seven performances of this Italian farce are scheduled from March 24 to April 2.

All productions will be presented in the Louis Armstrong Theatre, located in the Performing Arts Center on the Allendale campus. Ample free parking is available for each performance. "The Actor and the Mask" and "Boxhead" performances are March 1 and 2 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$6 for all seats, and may be purchased at the door, or in advance at the LAT Box Office, noon to 5 p.m. weekdays. Tickets are also available, with a service fee, through Star Tickets Plus outlets, online at [www.starticketsplus.com](http://www.starticketsplus.com), or by calling (616)222-4000 or (800) 585-3737.

Contact Person: Roger Ellis, GVSU Theatre, (616) 331-3485 or [ellisr@gvsu.edu](mailto:ellisr@gvsu.edu)

## BACKGROUND

Commedia Zuppa's modern approach to Commedia dell'Arte is based on the well-known form of renaissance comic theater originating in Italy, in which dialog was improvised around a loose scenario involving a set of stock characters, each with a distinctive costume, mask and traditional name. In Italian, Commedia dell'Arte means "plays of professional artists." It's also a distinct theatrical genre that evolved from outdoor performances by acrobats, jesters and the first professional actors in Italy. With stylized masks, gestures and plot improvisations, Commedia players satirized well-known types.

Between the 16th and the 18th centuries, the Italian Commedia troupes spread across Europe, performing in streets and squares and even for courtly audiences, influencing writers like Shakespeare and Molière. Over time their artistic style became more formal and less pop. They reached their artistic zenith in Italy in the late 18th century under famous authors like Goldoni and Gozzi, who wrote many comedies for the beloved Commedia players.

Although Commedia Zuppa's characters are based on those of Commedia dell'Arte, it's clear that they present modern themes and characterization skills rather than more scenario-based

characters, or mask interactions within the framework of a story. And even though their scripts are very "tight," there are frequent improvisational moments (traditionally called "lazzi") such as interactions with video cameras and cell phones. In Commedia Zuppa's own words, "Commedia dell'Arte is a theatre tradition rooted in Europe, but the way we interpret is very American."

This modern approach is most vividly reflected in the work of the United States' most famous Commedia group, Dell'Arte International, a performance ensemble and advanced theater conservatory founded in the early 1970s in northern California by the acclaimed European artist, the late Carlo Mazzone-Clementi. Comedia Zuppa's Todd Espeland is a graduate of Dell'Arte, as is Grand Valley's producer-director Roger Ellis, who has brought a number of Dell'Arte artists to campus since 1979 including Carlo Mazzone-Clementi, GVSU alumna Amy Tetzlaff, and Dell'Arte's current artistic director Joan Schirle.

February 21, 2006

For Immediate Release

For photos or more information contact Mary Isca Pirkola at Grand Valley State University News and Information Services (616) 331-2221 or [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu)

## March 2006 Events at Grand Valley State University

### ART

Continuing through March 31 - Echoes of the Ancient World: Adaptations of the Classical Tradition. This collaborative exhibition by students and faculty from the GVSU Classics and Art and Design departments highlights a variety of works dating from the ancient world to the present day. This show explores what the appropriation of classical motifs can tell us about concepts of taste, status and identity across time. Grand Valley State University Art Gallery, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. Call (616) 331-2564 for more information.

Informative programs are presented from 12:15 p.m. to 12:45 p.m. each Wednesday during the exhibition. For more information call (616) 331-2564.

March 1 - A presentation of ancient Greek music, with remarks by classics professor William Levitan and performances by an ensemble of Grand Valley faculty and students, conducted by history professor Craig Benjamin.

March 8 - Spring Break - no presentation.

March 15 - Gallery talk by Joseph Antenucci Becherer, director and curator of the sculpture program at the Frederik Meijer Gardens on selected works of art.

March 22 - The final exhibition program brings exhibition designer Paris Tennenhouse to give an informal presentation regarding the exhibition's design and installation challenges.

Grand Valley State University Art and Design B.F.A. and School of Communications Senior Thesis Exhibitions throughout March at various locations. Call (616) 331-2564 for more information.

### THEATRE

March 1 and 2



The Actor and the Mask and Boxhead featuring internationally acclaimed performance artists Allison Williams and Todd Espeland of Commedia Zuppa, a performance troupe specializing in Dell'Arte, mask, circus, and physical theatre. All seats \$6, unreserved seating. 7:30 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, in the Performing Arts Center at Grand Valley State University, Allendale. For more information call (616) 331-3668.

The Servant of Two Masters a classic Italian farce about an ambitious, and a bit foolish, servant who tries in vain to serve two troubled masters. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Grand Valley State University, Allendale. March 24, 25, 30, 31, April 1 performances at 7:30 p.m., March 26, April 2 performances at 2 p.m. General Admission: \$12; Alumni, Faculty, Staff, and Seniors: \$10; All Students: \$6. For more information call (616) 331-3668. Tickets are also available with a service fee through Star Tickets Plus by calling (616) 222-4000 or (800) 585-3737, online at [www.StarTicketsPlus.com](http://www.StarTicketsPlus.com), or from any Star Tickets Plus outlet.

## MUSIC

March 12

Grand Valley State University Artist-Faculty Series/Downtown Showcase: The Perugino String Quartet performs music by Mozart and Dvorak. Members are Eric Tanner and Diane McElfish, violins; Barbara Corbato, viola; and Stacey Bosman Tanner, cello. 3 p.m. Loosemore Auditorium. DeVos Center, Grand Valley State University Pew Grand Rapids Campus. Call (616) 331-3484 for more information.

March 14

Guest Artist Series. The Music of Britton Theurer. Grand Valley State University faculty and students perform compositions for brass by Dr. Theurer, professor of music at East Carolina University. 8 p.m. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale Campus. Call (616) 331-3484 for more information.

March 15

Grand Valley State University Arts at Noon Series: Perugino String Quartet performs at noon in the Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale Campus. Call (616) 331-3484 for more information.

[Photos available]

March 16 Thursday

Grand Valley State University Guest Artist Series. Cellist Christopher Hutton and pianist David Gross are both artist faculty members at Furman University in South Carolina and often perform together in different chamber music settings. For this recital they present, among others, the sonatas by Debussy and Rachmaninoff. 8 p.m. Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. Call (616) 331-3484 for more information.

[Photos available]

March 19 Sunday

The Early Music Ensemble, features Grand Valley State University students and faculty perform on period instruments lead by Professor Pablo Mahave-Veglia. Guest artist Anita Rieder joins the ensemble in works by Eiemann and Bach. The winner of the National Flute Association Baroque Artist Competition, Rieder is recognized as a leading expert in her field. 3 p.m. Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center. Call (616) 331-3484 for more information.

[Photo available]

March 23

Grand Valley State University Free Play Series 3. Todd Reynolds, renegade violinist/composer from New York City's "Ethel" and "Bang On A Can," performs his own "Nuove Uova – new works for violin and electricity," and pieces by Michael Gordon, Ingram Marshall and others, wedded with film by Bill Morrison and his own electronic performance design. 8 p.m. Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. Call (616) 331-3484 for more information.

March 27

Grand Valley State University Free Play Series 4. Daan Vandewalle enjoys an international reputation as new music specialist, with a strong focus on 20th-century American piano music. Since his debut in 1992 his recitals and projects have increasingly become more diverse and challenging. His programs are often highly unusual both on a technical or intellectual level, frequently combining the classical repertoire with premieres of new works. 8 p.m. Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. Call (616) 331-3484 for more information.

March 28

Grand Valley State University Chamber Orchestra, Brian Asher Alhadeff, conductor. 8 p.m. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale Campus. Call (616) 331-3484 for more information.

[Photo available]

March 30

Grand Valley State University Arts at Noon Series. Ensemble Radieuse is dedicated to making a broad range of classics and new music accessible and enjoyable to a variety of audiences. This trio features flutist Christopher Vaneman, oboist Kelly McElrath Vaneman, and pianist Melanie Foster Taylor, all faculty members at the Petrie School of Music at Converse College, South Carolina. Their eclectic repertoire will include Tim Grundmann's Junk Mail, a work inspired by the wonders of e-mail spam. Noon. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale Campus. Call (616) 331-3484 for more information.

## GENERAL EVENTS

3/16 Thursday

Grand Valley State University's Annis Water Resources Institute environmental seminars bring a variety of experts to speak to faculty, staff and the community the third Thursday of each month at Grand Valley's Lake Michigan Center, 740 W. Shoreline Drive, Muskegon. This month brings Michigan State University assistant professor of Zoology Dr. Elena Litchman from the W.K. Kellogg Biological Station. She will speak from 3-4 p.m. on Physiological tradeoffs, ecological strategies and selective pressures in phytoplankton. Call (616) 331-3749 for more information.

[Photos available]

3/25 Saturday

Michigan Science Olympiad Regional Tournament at Grand Valley State University Fieldhouse. Middle and high school student teams from more than 80 schools in Kent and Ottawa counties participate in 46 events in biology, chemistry, physics, earth science, computers and technology during this science competition. Winners advance to the state tournament held at Michigan State University on April 29, 2006. Opening Ceremony, 8:30 a.m. – Competition, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Awards, 4:30 to 6 p.m. The public is invited to attend the open events. Contact: the GVSU Regional Math and Science Center at (616)331-2267.

[Photo available]

March 27

Women in the World, a new series at Grand Valley State University, invests in college women, tapping their desire for inspiration and role models both in their local communities and from around the state in various professions. This first event focuses on political life with guest speaker Lana Pollack, Michigan Environmental Council President. Pollack was the Senate's

only Democratic woman for eight years and became a leading advocate for the environment, children and women's rights. She will present "My Life in Politics" at 7:30 p.m. in the Pere Marquette room in the Kirkhof Center, Allendale Campus. For more information call Kathleen Underwood, Women and Gender Studies coordinator, at (616) 331-8516.

**March 27**

"Collaboration with the Enemy: The Chinese Experience in the War against Japan, 1937-45" will be presented by Professor David P. Barrett from Grand Valley State University East Asian Studies, 2 to 4 p.m. in the Pere Marquette Room, Kirkhof Center, Allendale. For more information call (616) 331-8110.

**March 28**

"Turning Wealth into Power: The Political Impact of China's Private Entrepreneurs" will be presented by Bruce Dickson, Professor of Political Science from Georgetown University at 7 p.m. in Loosemore Auditorium at Grand Valley State University, Pew Grand Rapids Campus, 401 W. Fulton. For more information call (616) 331-8110.

For Immediate Release  
Contact: Brian J. Bowe, (616) 331-2221  
February 23, 2006

**MEDIA ADVISORY: U.S. assistant energy secretary visits MAREC**

MUSKEGON, Mich. -- U.S. Assistant Secretary of Energy Karen Harbert will visit Grand Valley State University's Alternative and Renewable Energy Center in Muskegon on Friday afternoon, February 24. The event is open for media coverage.

EVENT DETAILS: Harbert is scheduled to arrive in Muskegon at the Alternative and Renewable Energy Center at 2:15 p.m. She will be given a tour of the facility by MAREC executive director Imad Mahawili to learn what the center is doing to promote alternative energy -- including an innovative biomass-to-energy program that harnesses power from animal waste. H. James Williams, the dean of the Seidman College of Business will also be in attendance, along with many business leaders from the Muskegon area.

The Michigan Alternative and Renewable Energy Center is a business incubator and research and development center for alternative and renewable energy technologies. It is also a major demonstration project of those technologies. Located on the Muskegon waterfront, MAREC serves as an example of a distributed system using renewable energy sources, including a microturbine, a fuel cell that turns natural gas into electricity, photovoltaic cells to capture the sun's energy, and a nickel metal hydride battery system to store excess energy from peak times for use later. It is thought to be the first building of its kind to use all of those technologies to become completely self-sufficient.

MAREC is one of 11 SmartZones created by the Michigan Economic Development Corp. in 2001 as part of an effort to promote and attract high technology business development in the state. Grand Valley was the only university in the state to be granted two SmartZones -- one in Grand Rapids and one in Muskegon.

Visit GVNow, Grand Valley's online news source: <http://www.gvsu.edu/gvnow>

For Immediate Release

Contact: Brian J. Bowe at (616) 331-2221 or [boweb@gvsu.edu](mailto:boweb@gvsu.edu)

February 24, 2006

#### **MEDIA OPPORTUNITY: GVSU helps West Michigan Marines learn Arabic**

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The U.S. military faces a tough task in Iraq every day. With the help of Grand Valley faculty, a group of local Marine reservists are learning the language and cultural skills to help them perform those tasks better.

Around 25 Marine reservists from the Grand Rapids-based Alpha Company 1st Battalion 24th Marines are taking a five-week course designed to provide them with basic proficiency in Iraqi Arabic and cultural sensitivity to help deal with daily life.

The Marines are meeting once a week for a four-hour session on Grand Valley's Pew Grand Rapids Campus. The group has not yet been deployed, and the training is voluntary, Gunnery Sgt. Gregory Keeler said.

"We've really got to know how to conduct ourselves to represent the Marine Corps and the United States in the proper way," Keeler said.

\*\*\*MEDIA NOTE: There will be a media availability during this week's class from 11 to 11:30 a.m. The class meets in Room 309E of the DeVos Center on Grand Valley's Pew Grand Rapids Campus.

During the course, the Marines will learn how to pronounce and understand the sounds of Iraqi Arabic, learning simple sentences related to daily life and work experiences. They will also learn the difference between Arabic-speaking cultures and develop some knowledge of social life and interaction between people in the Middle East. The hope is that they will become aware of the cultural differences that can create misunderstandings and avoid stereotypes and common misconceptions.

"We know we're not going to be fluent after five classes, but we do think we'll get some good understanding of the Iraqi culture and some dos and don'ts of dealing with the Iraqis," Keeler said. "The university has really worked well with us and we appreciate their supporting us in this program," Keeler said.

Keeler approached Grand Valley in December about arranging the class. He was assisted by the university's Division of Continuing Education, which has arranged other professional language training programs — including Spanish classes for Grand Rapids municipal workers.

"There is increased interest in acquiring language skills in the Grand Rapids community," said Diane Phelps, director of professional programs for Continuing Education. "I think this reflects a growing realization about the diversity of the workforce here and the implications for running a business."

The course is being taught by Grand Valley Arabic professors Majd Al-Mallah and Sebastian Maisel. It will focus not only on language, but on cultural knowledge like the history of Iraq and the contemporary politics of the region.

"Our goal is to show them that the people of Iraq are as ordinary as we are," Maisel said. "We hope to make the Marines aware that it is a hard time for the Iraqis as well."

Visit GVNow, Grand Valley's online news source: <http://www.gvsu.edu/gvnow>

## Innovative software eases informed consent

For Immediate Release

Contact: Patricia Mathews, (616) 638-8553

February 27, 2006

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich — A new interactive animated software program aimed at improving the informed consent process has gotten high marks from users in its first trial.

ADVOCA software allows patients to learn about their upcoming medical and surgical procedures by viewing an animated program that provides current medical information and checks their comprehension with interactive questions. The software was developed by Grand Rapids-based INFORMD, with assistance from the West Michigan Science and Technology Initiative at Grand Valley State University.

Test results are printed for the physician to personalize discussions and plans with each patient. This system streamlines the informed consent process, may reduce liability and significantly increases the quality of patient care.

"Patients learn about the benefits, risks, alternatives and procedural steps in a non-threatening way so that they can make the best and most informed decision whether or not they want to undergo the procedure," said INFORMD founder and CEO, Dr. Richard Towbin. "It is exciting to see our idea of animated informed consent come to life."

The company launched ADVOCA in the offices of Dr. David Moore, of Plastic Surgery Associates, PC, Grand Rapids.

"We are very pleased with the acceptance of ADVOCA. More than 87 percent of patients prefer our system with their physician compared to traditional informed consent," INFORMD founder and president Ian Fellows said.

With the support of the West Michigan Science and Technology Initiative (WMSTI), INFORMD uses a combination of technologies to bridge patient education, communication and the increasingly complex legal and administrative challenges facing health care providers and insurance companies. WMSTI provides facilities for product development, access to clinicians, university resources and assists with introductions to investors.

The West Michigan Science and Technology Initiative is a life sciences business incubator and research center dedicated to growing and diversifying the region's economy by creating an environment that inspires innovation and supports the commercialization of science and technology. WMSTI provides commercialization and new business development services to establish a seamless collaborative network of researchers, entrepreneurs, business service providers, and capital.

WMSTI is one of 11 SmartZones created by the Michigan Economic Development Corp. in 2001 as part of an effort to promote and attract high technology business development in the state. Grand Valley was the only university in the state to be granted two SmartZones -- one in Grand Rapids and one in Muskegon.



February 27, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, at (616) 331-2221.

**MEDIA ADVISORY: CONCERT POSTPONED**

The Grand Valley State University Chamber Orchestra concert scheduled for Tuesday, March 28, 2006 has been postponed. The concert has been rescheduled for Saturday, April 15 at 2 p.m. in the Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale. For more information call the music department at (616) 331-3484.

February 28, 2006

Media Advisory - Secretary of State on Grand Valley's campus

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- Students and others wanting to renew their license or register to vote will have an easy opportunity on Thursday. The Mobile Branch Office will be at Grand Valley State University, on March 2 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. It will be located at the Cook Carillon Tower, 1 Campus Drive, Allendale.

Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land will be at Grand Valley with the branch office from 1 - 2 p.m. and will be available for media interviews.

Contact News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221.

## March Madness in the White House

### Hauenstein Center at Grand Valley sets up tourney of presidents

Media Advisory - Kick-off event: A display and computer will be set-up for Grand Valley State University students and faculty to begin the voting on Presidents' Day, February 20, 2006. The display will be in the DeVos Center atrium on the GVSU Pew Grand Rapids Campus from 7 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Monday, February 20. Media encouraged to cover. Story details below.

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. -- You don't need a big screen TV or knowledge of the best three-point shooter to enjoy another type of bracketed tournament during this college basketball season. What you need for the Tournament of the Presidents is a love of history and a competitive edge about your top presidential pick.

The Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies at Grand Valley State University, [www.allpresidents.org](http://www.allpresidents.org), is setting up an online competition among 24 of the 42 men who have served in the White House. Beginning on Presidents' Day, February 20, the presidents will go head-to-head in a five-round college basketball style tournament to determine the answer to the following question:

Which U.S. president has had the most impact on the world?

"We want to start a national discussion about the presidents," said Gleaves Whitney, director of the Hauenstein Center. "This question is central to understanding our times and our nation's role in the world. Some people will emphasize wartime presidents, like FDR; others will emphasize peace-time initiatives, like Truman and his Marshall Plan; still others may emphasize moral stature and select Washington or Lincoln."

The Hauenstein Center is inviting anyone who is interested to go to [www.allpresidents.org](http://www.allpresidents.org), go through the rounds, pick their presidents and participate in online discussions. Whitney will also be contacting more than 200 noted historians and authors to get their answers to the survey question. These scholars include Richard Norton Smith, H.W. Brands, Kiron Skinner and Robert Caro.

The 24 presidents to be included in the Hauenstein Center tournament were picked based on three criteria: Every wartime president (19), everyone with a named foreign policy doctrine (11), and one more (Andrew Jackson), who got a spot after ranking high in three of the largest presidential polls already conducted.

Brian Flanagan, assistant director of the Hauenstein Center, came up with the idea of running this presidential survey like a basketball tournament.

"We wanted to do something different to attract people to this survey and give people a fun and interesting way to participate and interact on the Web," said Flanagan. "We know that long after we announce the winner, the discussion threads and information, from the scholars as well as the general participants, will provide learning opportunities about the presidency."

The tournament is set up like this:

Round 1: February 20 - 26

Round 2: February 27 - March 5

Round 3: March 13 - 19

Round 4: March 13 - 19

Final round: March 20 - 26

Visit [www.allpresidents.org](http://www.allpresidents.org) for more information or to participate. Media may call News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221 or the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies, (616) 331-2770.

Grand Valley State University attracts more than 22,000 students with high quality programs and state-of-the-art facilities. Grand Valley is the comprehensive regional university for the state's second largest metropolitan area and offers 69 undergraduate and 25 graduate degree programs. It has campuses in Allendale, Grand Rapids, and Holland and centers in Muskegon and Traverse City. The university is dedicated to individual student achievement, going beyond the traditional classroom experience, with research opportunities and business partnerships.

## March Madness in the White House

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March 7, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221 or  
pirkolam@gvsu.edu

[2 photos available]

Guest cellist and pianist perform at Grand Valley

The sonatas of Debussy and Rachmaninoff, among others, will be performed during the Grand Valley State University Guest Artist Series concert on Thursday, March 16. Cellist Christopher Hutton and pianist David Gross are both artist faculty members at Furman University in South Carolina and often perform together in different chamber music settings. This recital is at 8 p.m. in the Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. Call (616) 331-3484 for more information.

March 8, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, at (616) 331-2221 or  
pirkolam@gvsu.edu

### It's a Classic

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — While many people will spend March 17 celebrating the luck of the Irish, for others the focus is on all things Greek and Roman.

Nearly 250 middle and high school students from throughout Michigan will convene at Grand Valley State University for the Michigan Junior Classical League spring convention. MJCL is a state branch of a national organization sponsored by the American Classical League, founded in 1919 to foster the study of classical languages. Current state chair is Deborah Stakenas, who teaches Latin at East Kentwood High School.

The event, sponsored this year by the Classics department of Grand Valley, runs from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. in the Eberhard Center, 301 W. Fulton. The morning will include some public speaking events in Latin and "certamen," a venerable quiz-bowl on topics of ancient Greek and Latin culture and grammar, with fierce competition between rival schools.

The afternoon provides sessions with college faculty speaking on a variety of topics related to Latin and Roman culture and the classical tradition. Grand Valley Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Fred Antczak will be the keynote speaker. Professors Diane Rayor, Karen Libman and Peter Anderson from the Classics department will be joined by professors Rachel Anderson, English, and Ian Borden, Theatre. Gill McIntosh, from the Classics department at Calvin College, will also participate. The evening includes a costume contest, based on characters in Greek mythology, a parade and a Roman banquet.

For more information contact Peter Anderson at (616) 331-3611.



## **Paralympic athlete, star of 'Murderball' to speak at GVSU**

For immediate release

March 8, 2006

Contact: Michele Coffill, News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

During an appearance at Grand Valley State University, one of the stars from "Murderball," a documentary that chronicles the efforts of the U.S. paralympic rugby team and its quest for gold in 2004, will shatter stereotypes of people with disabilities.

Mark Zupan will speak to staff and students on Wednesday, March 22, from 4:30-6 p.m. in the Cook-DeWitt Center on GVSU's Allendale Campus. The event is open for media coverage; it's part of the Professionals of Color Lecture Series sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs.

Zupan, a quadriplegic who has been in a wheelchair since he was 18, started playing wheelchair rugby, or murderball, in 1996. He quickly embraced the game's hard-hitting action and, after graduating from Georgia Tech in 1999, moved to Austin, Texas, to join the Texas Stampede and later the U.S. paralympic team. Quad rugby combines the finesse of soccer with the bone-jarring collisions of a demolition derby. The athletes use custom wheelchairs.

A rising star in the sport, Zupan was named U.S. Quad Rugby Association Athlete of the Year in 2002 and has earned four MVP awards at tournaments around the country. The 30-year-old civil engineer is now training for the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing.

Media note: Advance interviews with Zupan can be arranged by calling News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221 or sending an e-mail to [coffillm@gvsu.edu](mailto:coffillm@gvsu.edu).

For Immediate Release

March 8, 2006

Contact: Brian J. Bowe, (616) 331-2221 or [boweb@gvsu.edu](mailto:boweb@gvsu.edu)

#### GVSU ethics lecture looks at Enron

As the trial of Enron executives Kenneth Lay and Jeffrey Skilling continues, a best-selling author on Enron will visit Grand Valley to discuss business ethics.

The first Barry Castro Business Ethics Lecture will feature New York Times journalist Kurt Eichenwald. He is an investigative reporter for the New York Times and author of the best-selling book on Enron, Conspiracy of Fools.

The lecture will be March 21 at 7:30 p.m. in the Loosemore Auditorium of the DeVos Center on Grand Valley's Pew Grand Rapids Campus. Parking is available in the Front Street lot at the corner of Front and Watson. Media coverage of the event is encouraged.

The lecture is the inaugural event in an annual series that pays tribute to longtime Grand Valley State University professor Barry Castro, who died in 2005. When it came to applying ethics to business, many people -- from college students to some of the biggest CEOs of the Grand Rapids area -- turned to Castro.

Castro joined the Grand Valley community in 1973. He was a champion for ethics, teaching courses on the topic and establishing the Center for Business Ethics in Seidman College of Business. The center is a roundtable of CEOs, faculty and other community leaders who meet together to discuss ethical issues related to business. Castro also initiated and led seminars with CEOs who read Plato and discussed the ethical applications of his works to businesses.

Visit GVNow, Grand Valley's online news source: <http://www.gvsu.edu/gvnow>

March 13, 2006

For Immediate Release

Photo Available, Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2228 or [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu)

### Renegade violinist and composer performs at Grand Valley

Todd Reynolds' expertise is sought out by composers from Tan Dun to Steve Reich, and performers from Joe Jackson to Yo-Yo Ma. The renegade violinist and composer from New York City's "Ethel" and "Bang On A Can" will perform at Grand Valley State University on Thursday, March 23.

Reynolds, who has appeared on stage and in clubs around the world to critical acclaim, will perform in Grand Valley's Free Play Series 3. The new experimental concert series, arranged by Bill Ryan, a composition professor and tireless advocate of contemporary music, features some of the most innovative performers and composers of our time.

The performance will include his own "Nuove Uova," new works for violin and electricity, along with pieces by Michael Gordon, Ingram Marshall and others, wedded with film by Bill Morrison and his own electronic performance design. The concert begins at 8 p.m. in the Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus.

For more information about this concert or the series contact Bill Ryan at (616) 331-3087 or the Grand Valley Music Department at (616) 331-3484.

For Immediate Release

March 13, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

Grand Valley partners with Burton Middle School  
Reading marathon will help restock school library

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — It's all about books. Grand Valley State University is partnering with Burton Middle School in Grand Rapids to raise \$25,000 to help restock the school library. A 24-hour reading marathon will be held to raise money toward that goal. Organizers for the project are looking for readers and donors.

Grand Valley students, faculty and staff, along with members of the community, will read from the Chronicles of Narnia in 15 minute intervals. The nearly 100 participants will get sponsors to support them.

Nancy Patterson, chair of the Reading Language Arts Program at Grand Valley and organizer of the event, said there are less than 100 paperback books in the Burton Middle School library. Though the library collection has roughly 7,500 books, most are outdated. She said the size of the library is less than half of what it should be.

"Students use Burton's library all the time," said Patterson. "They are hungry for books, but there simply aren't enough books to feed that hunger. We cannot expect students' literacy rates to improve if we cannot supply them with books to read."

The middle school years are the exact time when students lose interest in reading, said Patterson. The biggest factor in literacy is a well-stocked library.

\*\*\* The 24-hour reading marathon begins at noon on Thursday, March 23 and ends at noon on Friday, March 24 at the DeVos Center on Grand Valley's Pew Grand Rapids Campus. \*\*\*

Burton Middle School will hold a reading marathon to kick off the event and celebrate reading. On March 21 and 22, students, teachers, administrators and community members will read all day for two days.

MEDIA INTERVIEWS: Contact Nancy Patterson at (616) 331-6226 or at [patterna@gvsu.edu](mailto:patterna@gvsu.edu). For more information contact News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

March 15, 2006

For immediate release:

Contact: Michele Coffill, News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

### Hispanic politicians highlight Grand Valley's celebration of Cesar Chavez

Two Texas brothers who are rising young political stars will highlight a week of events at Grand Valley State University to celebrate civil rights leader César Chavez.

Texas State Rep. Joaquin Castro and his twin brother Julian Castro, San Antonio councilman, will speak during a César Chavez reception on Thursday, March 30, from noon-2 p.m. at GVSU's Alumni House on the Allendale Campus. The event is open to media coverage.

The Castros were born in San Antonio 31 years ago. They both attended Stanford University and Harvard Law School. Their interest in public service developed from watching their parents serve on many political and civic campaigns.

Joaquin Castro is one the youngest members elected to the Texas Legislature. He serves on the Border and International Affairs, Juvenile Justice and Family Issues committees. Julian Castro was the youngest person elected to the San Antonio Council at 26. Last year, he was an unsuccessful candidate for mayor.

Other events for César Chavez Week include:

- PBS documentary "The Fight on the Fields" will be shown March 27, 6-8 p.m. in the Cook-DeWitt Center.
- Panel discussion on immigration issues, led by Latin American Studies Coordinator Russell Rhoads, will be held March 28, 2:30-3:30 p.m. in the Cook-DeWitt Center.
- Candle vigil and ofrenda is scheduled for March 29, 5:30-7 p.m. in the Cook-DeWitt Center.
- March in honor of César Chavez will be held March 31, 11:45 a.m., beginning at Zumberge Library and ending at the Kirkhof Center.

Chavez would have turned 79 on March 31. The civil rights activist died in 1993. He founded the first successful farm workers' union and later served as president of the United Farm Workers of America AFL-CIO.

César Chavez Week sponsors are the Office of Multicultural Affairs, Women's Center, Modern Languages and Literatures, Latin American Studies, Career Services and the Latino Student Union. For more information, call the Office of Multicultural Affairs at (616) 331-2177.

March 15, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2228 or  
pirkolam@gvsu.edu

### Conference integrates science and religion

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — John F. Haught, who lectures internationally on the relationship between theology and evolution, is the keynote speaker for the Grand Dialogue in Science and Religion spring conference, April 1, at Grand Valley State University.

Grand Dialogue is an association of eight greater Grand Rapids area colleges, universities, and related organizations exploring the relationship between science and religion. It is supported by a grant to Grand Valley from the Metanexus Institute with funds from the Templeton Foundation. Thanks to the grant, this conference is free and open to the public.

The conference, held at Grand Valley's Pew Grand Rapids Campus, runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, April 1. More than a dozen breakout sessions will be presented by faculty and representatives from Grand Dialogue member colleges and institutions.

Haught's presentation, "Darwin, Intelligence, and Religion: How Much Can Evolution Explain?" is at 10 a.m. He is a distinguished research professor in the theology department at Georgetown University and the author of more than a dozen books.

For more information or registration visit [www.GrandDialogue.org](http://www.GrandDialogue.org).

March 16, 2006

Grand Valley State's Hauenstein Center sponsors tours of presidential sites  
Renowned author and historian Richard Norton Smith leads the bus

Grand Valley State University's Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies is teaming with nationally acclaimed presidential historian Richard Norton Smith on his renowned series of bus tours that take 30-40 participants deep into America's heritage. The tour will be part of Smith's conversation with C-SPAN's Brian Lamb airing live Friday, March 17 from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. EST.

Participants will tour presidential sites, national parks, historic sites, and battlefields. "There's no better way to learn about our heritage than getting out and exploring the places where history was made," said Gleaves Whitney, director of the Hauenstein Center. "Richard Norton Smith is a master historian who knows how to make the past come alive. We can't think of a better partner in the Hauenstein Center's on-going mission to explore the presidency."

Smith began offering his tours in 2000 when he was executive director of the Gerald R. Ford Foundation and the first director of the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies.

The next tour, "Presidents and Patriots," will depart from Washington, D.C., on April 28, 2006. After 10 days of traveling through Virginia and Pennsylvania and touring key sites to America's founding and the Civil War, participants will wind their way back to the nation's capital on May 7.

To learn more about the tour go to [www.allpresidents.org](http://www.allpresidents.org). To schedule an interview call the Hauenstein Center at (616) 331-2770 or Grand Valley's News and Information Services Office at (616) 331-2221.

More on Smith:

Richard Norton Smith is a nationally recognized authority on the American presidency and a familiar face to viewers of C-SPAN, as well as The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer, where he appears regularly as part of the show's round table of historians.

Perhaps best-known as a historian and biographer, Mr. Smith is currently at work on a life of Nelson A. Rockefeller to be published in 2006, and based on extensive original research and interviews with Rockefeller associates.

In March 1996, Mr. Smith became Director of the Gerald R. Ford Museum and Library, where he supervised a \$5 million renovation as well as a series of temporary exhibits and conferences which generated national interest and dramatically boosted museum visitation and fundraising.

In September, 2000 he became the first executive director of the Gerald R. Ford Foundation and director of the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies at Grand Valley State University, positions he left in December, 2001 to assume the directorship of the Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics at the University of Kansas in Lawrence.

In November, 2003, Smith became director of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, Illinois. He oversaw the opening of the world-class complex that contains nearly 40,000 square feet of museum exhibits and a 47,000-item library collection. He resigned in January 2006 to accept an academic opportunity at George Mason University.



March 16, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, at (616) 331-2228

### Young love hits Grand Valley stage

The Main Stage Series of theatre at Grand Valley State University presents seven performances of a classic Italian farce, "The Servant of Two Masters." An ambitious, and a bit foolish, servant tries in vain to serve two troubled masters, one a disguised woman intent on finding her missing love who, as it turns out, is the other master. Another set of young lovers plans for marriage also hang in the balance. This Carlo Goldoni production is directed by Ian Borden and features characters, themes, the comic wit and slapstick style of the Commedia Dell'Arte tradition.

Performances in the Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center are scheduled for March 24, 25, 30, 31, April 1 at 7:30 p.m. and March 26 and April 2 performances at 2 p.m. General Admission: \$12; Alumni, Faculty, Staff, and Seniors: \$10; All Students: \$6. Tickets may be purchased at Box Office in the lobby of the PAC, Mondays through Fridays from 12-5 p.m. and one hour prior to performance. For more information call the LAT Box Office at (616) 331-2300. Telephone ordering is not available through the LAT Box Office - in person sales only.

March 17, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2228

**Grand Valley State University — Shakespeare Festival  
Auditions for Love's Labour's Lost**

Sign up for a half-hour audition slot at the GVSU Performing Arts Center Box Office, Allendale Campus from 12-5 p.m. Monday-Friday, or call (616) 331-2300. Auditions are in the PAC on March 31, 4-7 p.m. and April 1, 1-5 p.m. and will be held in groups of six. Arrive 15 minutes early to fill out paperwork.

Memorize a 1-minute Shakespeare monologue and 1-minute contrasting contemporary monologue. May also be asked to perform some movement and improv. Callbacks will be held evenings, April 3-4. Love's Labour's Lost is a romantic comedy with 18 featured roles. Casting for named roles except for the role of Berowne. Performances September 29 - October 8. For more information see [www.gvsu.edu/theatre](http://www.gvsu.edu/theatre).

March 17, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services (616) 331-2221

### Science Olympiad tournament returns to Grand Valley

For the 22nd year, Grand Valley State University will be the site of balloon races, rocket launches and bridge building. It's just part of the excitement during the upcoming Michigan Science Olympiad Regional Tournament on Saturday, March 25.

More than 80 teams from schools in Kent and Ottawa counties will spend the day competing in more than 50 events that stretch students' scientific and technological knowledge while challenging their processing and application skills. They are divided into two groups. Division B includes students in grades 6-9, while division C is for grades 9-12.

The public is welcome to attend and watch many of the problem-solving events. A complete schedule and list of participating schools and events can be found online at [www.gvsu.edu/mso-r12](http://www.gvsu.edu/mso-r12). Registration and welcome begin in the Fieldhouse Arena at 8:30 a.m. A full day of events branch out to nearby buildings, including Padnos, Henry, Loutit and more.

When teams finish their own competitive event, they can watch other teams, or relax and watch March of the Penguins in the Big Screen Theatre, 107 Manitou Hall, from 1-3:15 p.m. Afterwards, its back to the fieldhouse for the Coaches Turn and Robot Demo, followed by the awards ceremony.

For more information call the GVSU Regional Math and Science Center at (616) 331-2267.

March 17, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221 or  
pirkolam@gvsu.edu

Grand Valley State University

April 2006 Events

## ART

GVSU Art and Design BFA and School of Communications Senior exhibits are featured in a series of one-week exhibitions throughout April. Call the GVSU Art Gallery at (616) 331-2564 for specific dates, exhibit locations and names of participating students.

[Photos available]

Through Silence Broken, an exhibition of GVSU senior photography students' work, opens Monday, April 17 and runs through April 29 in the Art Gallery located in the Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. A reception with the artists will be held on Thursday, April 20, from 5-7 p.m. Call (616) 331-2564.

## THEATRE

GVSU presents Carlo Goldoni's *The Servant of Two Masters* directed by Ian Borden. An ambitious, and a bit foolish, servant tries in vain to serve two troubled masters, one a disguised woman intent on finding her missing love who, as it turns out, is the other master. Another set of young lovers' plans for marriage also hang in the balance. This classic Italian farce features characters, themes, the comic wit and slapstick style of the Commedia Dell'Arte tradition. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. March 24, 25, 30, 31, April 1 at 7:30 p.m. March 26, April 2 at 2 p.m. General Admission: \$12; Alumni, Faculty, Staff, and Seniors: \$10; All Students: \$6. Tickets may be purchased in person only at the box office in the lobby of the Performing Arts Center, M-F 12-5 p.m. and one hour prior to performance. For more information call (616) 331-2300.

## MUSIC AND DANCE

[Photo available]

April 4

GVSU Arts at Noon Series: Clear Fork Bluegrass Quartet combines classic bluegrass tradition with elements of gospel, blues, fiddle music, and even polkas. Founded by Paul Kovac, the group features the banjo playing of Jim Metz, bassist Bill Watson, and fiddler Ray Sponaule. Noon. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale. (616) 331-3484.

April 4

The inaugural concert of the GVSU New Music Ensemble, directed by Bill Ryan, presents adventurous music written during the last twenty years, including the world premiere of a new work by Kurt Ellenberger, commissioned to celebrate this event. 8 p.m. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale. (616) 331-3484.

[Photo available]

April 7- 8

The GVSU Spring Dance Concert directed by Jefferson Baum, includes modern dance, jazz and ballet. Tickets: \$10 general admission; \$5 children ages 12 and under. Call Star Tickets Plus at (616) 222-4000 or (800) 585-3737, or purchase online at [www.starticketsplus.com](http://www.starticketsplus.com) or any Star Tickets Plus outlets. Also available weekdays at the Louis Armstrong Theatre Box Office from noon to 5 p.m. (in-person sales only/no phone orders). Performances at 8 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. (616) 331-3484.

April 10

GVSU Jazz Orchestra directed by Tim Froncek, at 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. (616) 331-3484.

[Photo available]

April 11

GVSU Arts at Noon Series presents a rare American performance by Russian pianist Elena Kuschnerova, known to American audiences chiefly by her distinguished recordings of repertoire, ranging from Bach to Stravinsky. Noon. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale. (616) 331-3484.

April 11

GVSU University Band directed by Barry D. Martin at 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre,

Performing Arts Center, Allendale. (616) 331-3484.

April 12

GVSU Varsity Men, conducted by Charles Norris and Select Women's Ensemble, Janice Dudley conductor, perform at 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. (616) 331-3484.

April 15

Grand Valley State University Chamber Orchestra, conducted by Brian Asher Alhadeff, performs at 2 p.m. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale Campus. Call (616) 331-3484 for more information.

April 17

GVSU Concert Band, Kevin Tutt conductor, performs at 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. (616) 331-3484.

April 18

GVSU Symphonic Wind Ensemble, with conductor Barry D. Martin, concert features the winner of the annual student concerto competition. 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. (616) 331-3484.

April 19

GVSU Festival Women's Chorale and University Singers, with the University Arts Chorale, conducted by Janice Dudley. 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. (616) 331-3484.

April 21

GVSU Symphony Orchestra, Brian Asher Alhadeff conductor, performs at 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. (616) 331-3484.

## GENERAL EVENTS

April 1

John F. Haught, who lectures internationally on the relationship between theology and evolution, is the keynote speaker for the Grand Dialogue in Science and Religion spring conference, April 1, at Grand Valley State University's Pew Grand Rapids Campus. Haught's presentation, "Darwin, Intelligence, and Religion: How Much Can Evolution Explain?" is at 10 a.m. For more information or registration visit [www.GrandDialogue.org](http://www.GrandDialogue.org).

April 5

The GVSU Ott Lectureship in Chemistry presents distinguished research professor Robin D. Rogers, from University of Alabama, who will present "Green Chemistry: Can Society and the Chemical Industry Co-exist?" The lecture begins at 7 p.m. in the Loosemore Auditorium, Pew Grand Rapids Center. Call (616) 331-3317.

April 20

The Grand Valley State University Annis Water Resources Institute environmental seminars bring a variety of experts to speak to the community on the third Thursday of each month at Grand Valley's Lake Michigan Center, 740 W. Shoreline Drive, Muskegon. This month brings Mark Walbridge from West Virginia University Biology Department and Division of Environmental Biology of the National Science Foundation. He will speak from 3-4 p.m. on The Biogeochemistry of Forested Floodplains: Nutrient Availability, Phosphorus Retention and Microbial Diversity. (616) 331-3749.

April 29

Grand Valley State University Commencement will be held on Saturday beginning at 10 a.m. at the Van Andel Arena. Juan Enriquez, founding director of Harvard Business School's Life Sciences Project and one of the world's preeminent authorities on the economic and political impacts of the life sciences, will give the address.

Sent today to W. MI Events media list

## Michigan History Day convenes at Grand Valley

More than 180 youth are taking history into their own hands this weekend.

Students from area elementary, middle and high schools will present a piece of history through the use of art, literature, drama, music and visual communications during the Michigan History Day western regional contest. They have researched an individually chosen topic to present before judges at Grand Valley State University on Saturday, March 18 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Kirkhof Center on the Allendale Campus.

There are four categories and two competitive divisions: Junior (grades 6-8) and Senior (grades 9-12.) There is also a noncompetitive division for fourth and fifth grade students. On Saturday, after students present their entries, judges interview them for about ten minutes and select the top three in each division and category, which will then advance to the state contest, held at Grand Valley on April 22. Judging is done by Grand Valley's history department faculty and senior students, local teachers and community historians. Each year the students are asked to keep a theme in mind while they work on their entries. This year the theme is "Taking a Stand in History."

The National History Day mission statement says in part, "History Day is designed to promote the study of history in schools and to create a higher degree of appreciation for its value in the students, educators and community members who participate. The spirit of History Day is not based upon winning and losing, but on the encouragement of achievement, the recognition of excellence and the positive critical evaluation of every student participant. It is the goal of the program to empower students with research skills, critical thinking skills and outlets for creative expression which will enhance their academic abilities in all areas of study."

Sponsors for Michigan History Day include: Grand Valley State University and its history department; the Historical Society of Michigan; The Michigan Council for History Education; Meijer and Alticor corporations.

A complete list of participating schools follows, below. For more information contact the Western Michigan Regional Coordinator and Michigan Co-state Coordinator Sean O'Neill, via the GVSU history department, at (616) 331-3325.



This year the schools and teachers include:

Comstock Park High School, Karen Auwers  
Grant High School, Maxine Schneider  
Cedar Springs High School, Maxine Schneider  
Morely Stanwood High School, Dan Boyer

Ada Christian Middle School, Vonda Brasser and Kristin Contant  
Cedar Springs Middle School, Maxine Schneider  
Chandler Woods, Becky Underwood and Becky Tasma  
Forrest Hills Central Middle School, Libby Stefanowski  
Forrest Hills Eastern Middle School, Lea Sevigny  
Forrest Hills Northern Middle School, Marybeth McMahon  
Fruitport Middle School, Jeanne Olovson  
Holland West Middle School, Mark Knopf and Gary Vosburg  
Holland East Middle School, Gary Vosburg and RaeMichele Arnold  
Jenison Christian Middle School, Deb Dykstra  
Morely Stanwood Middle School, Dan Boyer  
Whitehall Middle School, Tammy Stachowicz

#### Youth Category

East Oakview Elementary, Becky Underwood and Tammy Cannon  
Forrest Hills Central Woodlands, Ms. McFarlane and Ms. Smith  
Longfellow Focus, Holland, RaeMichele Arnold  
Whitehall Ealy Elementary School, Deryl Boughton

March 20, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221

### Another national championship for Grand Valley

The Grand Valley State University Trumpet Ensemble, under the direction of Richard Stoelzel, associate professor of music, won first place in the 2006 National Trumpet Competition Trumpet Ensemble Division this past weekend at George Mason University in Fairfax, VA.

Fifty tapes were submitted for consideration for this year's competition in the Trumpet Ensemble Division. Of the 29 ensembles selected as semi-finalists, two were from Grand Valley.

The GVSU ensemble placed higher than those from such prestigious music schools as Eastman, Juilliard, Oberlin, Cincinnati Conservatory, Boston University, DePaul, and others. Members of the GVSU Trumpet Ensemble are Quincy Ream, Robby McCabe, Jonathan Ruffer, Paul Mueller, and Jeff Lewandowski. Last year the ensemble won second place, losing by just one vote to UCLA.

Additionally, three Grand Valley students were awarded prizes in the National Trumpet Competition College Solo Competition. They are Robby McCabe, third prize; Jonathan Ruffer, fourth prize; and Jeff Lewandowski, sixth prize. One hundred twenty tapes were submitted for consideration. Five students from Grand Valley were among the 49 who were accepted as semi-finalists. Three of the six finalists were Grand Valley students.

### Contact Information:

Professor Richard Stoelzel at [Rps25@aol.com](mailto:Rps25@aol.com)

Quincy Ream at [gimonette@yahoo.com](mailto:gimonette@yahoo.com)

Robby McCabe at [Robby\\_mccabe@yahoo.com](mailto:Robby_mccabe@yahoo.com)

For Immediate Release

March 20, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

Grand Valley's Johnson Center for Philanthropy gets new leader

Kathy Agard named executive director

Photo available

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Kathy A. Agard has been selected executive director for the Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy & Nonprofit Leadership at Grand Valley State University. Agard is currently the executive director of Learning to Give, a supporting organization of the Council of Michigan Foundations.

"Grand Valley's board, faculty, and donors have created and continue to support an extraordinary resource at the Johnson Center," said Agard. "I am thrilled at the opportunity to work with the talented staff and to work in support of the development of the philanthropic and nonprofit sector."

Agard has 28 years of philanthropic and nonprofit leadership experience. In her most recent role, she founded the Learning to Give organization in 1997 to create and integrate the teaching of philanthropy into the K-12 school curriculum. Her prior experience includes senior leadership positions with the Community Foundation for Muskegon County, Council of Michigan Foundations and Hackley Hospital. She has served as an adjunct faculty member for several public universities.

"Kathy Agard embodies all of the skills needed to successfully lead a multifaceted academic center focusing on philanthropy and nonprofit leadership," said Joel Orosz, interim executive director of the Johnson Center. "She is both a scholar and a teacher, both an organization-builder and a community volunteer. Kathy will bring both local support and national renown to the Johnson Center."

Agard earned a master's degree in Public Administration and a doctorate in Educational Leadership from Western Michigan University. She currently serves as a board member for Hackley Hospital, Muskegon Area Intermediate School District and Temple United Methodist Church in Muskegon Heights.

Established in 1992 with support from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the Dorothy A. Johnson

Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership promotes effective philanthropy, community improvement, and excellence in nonprofit leadership through teaching, research, and service. The Johnson Center is recognized for its applied research that benefits practitioners and nonprofits through its Community Research Institute, Nonprofit Good Practice Guide and The Grantmaking School.

**MEDIA INTERVIEWS:** Kathy Agard can be reached at (231) 767-8600. For more information, contact Grand Valley News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

March 21, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services (616) 331-2221

Innovative artist to perform at Grand Valley

An artist with an international reputation as a new music specialist will perform at Grand Valley State University's Free Play Series.

Daan Vandewalle's performances have a strong focus on 20th-century American piano music. Since his debut in 1992, his recitals and projects have increasingly become more diverse and challenging. His programs are often highly unusual both on a technical or intellectual level, frequently combining the classical repertoire with premieres of new works.

Free Play is a new experimental concert series featuring some of the most innovative performers and composers of our time. Vandewalle will perform at 8 p.m. on Monday, March 27 at the Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. Call (616) 331-3484 for more information.

March 22, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221

### GVSU coastal wetlands expert called to Lansing

MUSKEGON, Mich. — An expert from Grand Valley State University has been asked to present research on the Great Lakes coastal wetlands to joint committees in the state House and Senate on Tuesday, March 28.

The Senate Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Committee and the House Natural Resources, Great Lakes, Land Use and Environment Committee will meet for a joint session at 3 p.m. in room 519 of the Anderson House Office Building. Don Uzarski, a professor of water resources and research scientist from Grand Valley's Annis Water Resources Institute, will address the committees. He will speak about the general Great Lakes coastal wetlands structure and function and the results of a two-year study on the impacts of the removal of vegetation from Great Lakes bottomlands.

The study, conducted by Uzarski, several Grand Valley students and collaborators from Michigan State University, determined that vegetation removal impacted chemical and physical conditions as well as the fish and invertebrate communities of the wetlands. Their work was the result of a directive from earlier legislation.

In 2003, the Michigan Legislature enacted legislation allowing beach grooming of Michigan Great Lakes bottomlands by owners of lakefront property on any of the Great Lakes and Lake St. Clair. Beach maintenance activities of exposed bottomlands between the ordinary high water mark and the existing waters edge were exempted from the requirement to obtain a permit before such activities could occur unless mowing in excess of 100 feet of frontage was planned.

A second type of activity consisting of mechanical removal of certain types of vegetation was restricted to pilot areas and requires that a letter of approval be obtained from the director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality before such activities take place. Saginaw and Grand Traverse bays were designated as the two pilot areas where mechanical removal of vegetation could occur.

This legislation directed the MDEQ to determine the impacts of beach grooming on groomed areas. Uzarski, with students Keto Gyekis and Matthew Cooper, and MSU collaborators Thomas M. Burton and Dennis A. Albert conducted the research needed to determine such

impacts on groomed beaches and adjacent wetland ecosystems.

The GVSU Annis Water Resources Institute, located since 2001 in Muskegon, Michigan, was established in 1986 to preserve, protect and improve natural resources. The institute conducts research at the local, state and national levels with the goal of generating the critical information necessary to make informed decisions about our water resources. The work of Uzarski and other AWRI faculty and staff has become a major resource for other scientists, policymakers, citizen groups, regulators and the general public to meet and exchange ideas about the Great Lakes.

Media may contact Don Uzarski at (616) 331-3989.

March 23, 2006

For Immediate Release

Photo available, contact Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services (616) 331-2228 or [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu)

Eclectic repertoire performed for diverse audience

The Grand Valley State University Arts at Noon Series presents Ensemble Radieuse, a performance group dedicated to making a broad range of classics and new music accessible and enjoyable to a variety of audiences.

This trio features flutist Christopher Vaneman, oboist Kelly McElrath Vaneman, and pianist Melanie Foster Taylor, all faculty members at the Petrie School of Music at Converse College, South Carolina. Their eclectic repertoire will include Tim Grundmann's Junk Mail, a work inspired by the wonders of e-mail spam. They perform Thursday, March 30 at noon in the Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale Campus. Call (616) 331-3484 for more information.



For Immediate Release

March 23, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Advocate for faith-based initiatives to speak at Grand Valley State University  
Barbara Elliott was recognized by President Bush for her human rights efforts

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies at Grand Valley State University is sponsoring a presentation by Barbara Elliott. Elliott is the executive director and founder of the Center for Renewal, a resource center for faith-based groups working in America's inner cities. A nationally renowned speaker, she is an advocate for faith-based and community initiatives.

"Barbara Elliott has been called a 'hands-on hero,'" said Gleaves Whitney, director of the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies. "She has such rich experiences working in the non-profit sector to solve social problems of those most in need. Her presentation to the Grand Valley community will reflect a wealth of experience, from the White House to the halfway house."

President George W. Bush awarded Elliott the Eleanor Roosevelt Award for Human Rights in December of 2001. She has been named Senior Fellow for the Council of Leadership Foundations. During the 14 years she lived in Europe, she worked as an international television correspondent for PBS's European Journal.

She later launched a private initiative to assist refugees fleeing communist countries. She is the author of "Street Saints: Renewing America's Cities," and "Candles Behind the Wall: Heroes of the Peaceful Revolution that Shattered Communism." Elliott was appointed by President Reagan to the Office of Public Liaison the first year of his presidency.

#### MEDIA OPPORTUNITY:

Elliott will be speaking Friday, April 7, at 10:30 a.m. in Loosemore Auditorium in the DeVos Center of Grand Valley's Pew Grand Rapids Campus, 401 W. Fulton Street.

For more information, contact the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies at (616) 331-2770, or visit the Web site [www.allpresidents.org](http://www.allpresidents.org), or contact News and Information Services at (616)331-2221.

For Immediate Release

March 27, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

GVSU sponsoring "Dollars and Data" census workshop

Businesses and nonprofits learn to use powerful information to leverage resources

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Several local institutions are sponsoring a workshop designed to help businesses and nonprofits use the U.S. Economic Census to get a snapshot of industries at the county, state or national level.

The event is sponsored by the Community Research Institute which is part of Grand Valley's Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership. Other sponsors include Grand Valley's Seidman College of Business and Michigan Small Business & Technology Development Center, as well as The Right Place of Greater Grand Rapids.

The workshop will focus on investigating current market situations and discovering new markets. Business owners and nonprofit leaders will learn about the Economic Census and how to apply the data to their companies and products. They will also receive assistance in identifying new opportunities from online resources.

\*\*\*The census workshop, "Dollars and Data" will be held Tuesday, April 11, from 8 a.m.-noon at Loosemore Auditorium in the DeVos Center of Grand Valley's Pew Grand Rapids Campus, 401 W. Fulton.\*\*\*

For more information, contact the Michigan Small Business & Technology Development Center at (616) 331-7370, the Community Research Institute at (616) 331-7585, or GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

For Immediate Release

March 28, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

FDR has had the most world impact

Hauenstein Center announces 'Tournament of the Presidents' results

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Thousands of voters have spoken and the results are in. The Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies at Grand Valley State University asked people across the United States which American president has had the most impact on the world. More than 8,500 voted and a majority chose Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

The presidential survey was set up like a basketball tournament with participants casting their votes online at [www.allpresidents.org](http://www.allpresidents.org). Besides FDR, the final four included George Washington, Abraham Lincoln and Ronald Reagan.

"President George W. Bush's legacy is already being weighed, and the Tournament of the Presidents succeeded in starting a national conversation about which presidents had had the most impact on the world," said Gleaves Whitney, director of the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies. "We are pleased that so many people from around the nation visited our Grand Valley Web site."

The Tournament of the Presidents kicked off on Presidents' Day, February 20. Over the next five weeks, thousands visited the Web site, [www.allpresidents.org](http://www.allpresidents.org), to cast their votes and participate in online discussions about 24 of the 42 men who have served in the White House. Voters engaged in lively discussion of the presidents and history with more than 500 messages posted on the tournament forum.

The 24 presidents included in the survey were picked based on three criteria: Every wartime president (19), everyone with a named foreign policy doctrine (11), and one more (Andrew Jackson), who got a spot after ranking high in three of the largest presidential polls already conducted.

Whitney is in the process of contacting more than 200 noted historians and authors to get their answers to the survey question including Richard Norton Smith, H.W. Brands, Kiron Skinner and Robert Caro.

For more information, contact the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies at (616) 331-2770, or News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

Grand Valley State University attracts more than 22,000 students with high quality programs and state-of-the-art facilities. Grand Valley is the comprehensive regional university for the state's second largest metropolitan area and offers 69 undergraduate and 25 graduate degree programs. It has campuses in Allendale, Grand Rapids, and Holland and centers in Muskegon and Traverse City. The university is dedicated to individual student achievement, going beyond the traditional classroom experience, with research opportunities and business partnerships.

**Subject: GVSU Coverage Op: Eco-friendly house groundbreaking 3/29**

For Immediate Release

Contact: Brian J. Bowe, (616) 331-2221 or [boweb@gvsu.edu](mailto:boweb@gvsu.edu)

**GVSU Coverage Op: Eco-friendly house groundbreaking 3/29**

As energy costs increase, the effects on the basic budget for lower income families can be disastrous. This is an engineering challenge that the Grand Valley State University School of Engineering takes seriously as a neighbor on the West Side of Grand Rapids. That's why engineering students and faculty are joining forces with Westtown Jubilee Housing and Heartland Builders to build an exceptionally energy efficient and environmentally responsible house.

The house, dubbed the Green House on Watson, will be certified under the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design for homes (LEED-H) program. Grand Rapids is a pilot site for LEED-H and this will be one of the first homes certified under the pilot program.

"We are definitely on the leading edge of something here," said Shirley Fleischmann, a professor in the Padnos College of Engineering and Computing at Grand Valley. She's helping spearhead the project. "What happens here, when you do the heat loss calculation for this house, it's less than half of what you would normally use to heat a house this size."

**MEDIA NOTE:** The groundbreaking ceremony will be at noon Wednesday March 29 at 845 Watson S.W. (one block south of Fulton near intersection of Watson and Straight). Expected speakers include Fleischmann and Rev. Richard TerMaat of Westtown Jubilee Housing.

For more than 20 years Westtown Jubilee Housing has provided an opportunity for families that might not qualify for a conventional mortgage to purchase and own a home on the West Side through its homesteading program.

Daniel and Melita Powell have been selected as homestead family No. 37. The couple has eight children. Melita is the director of the food pantry and as a staff member of The Other Way Ministries, a sister organization to Westtown Jubilee Housing and also a non-profit community development organization. Her husband, Dan (affectionately known as Boone), works at a Grand Rapids YMCA and officiates at college basketball games. Her mother also lives with them.

The utility costs will be very low, even with a large family living in it. The home will have nine-inch thick insulated concrete form walls and windows that beat Energy Star requirements by a third. Nu-Wool is donating insulation to make an attic with an insulation factor of R-50. The house will have Energy Star appliances, a high efficiency furnace, low-flow faucets and toilets to further reduce demand.

The Green House will also capture energy from the sun. Solar panels on the roof will provide hot water, and photovoltaic cells will generate 2 kilowatts of electricity. Any excess electricity generated will be sold back into the grid.

"We will be able to learn a lot from the house once it is occupied. The solar panels will be remotely monitored, sensors embedded in the walls will provide temperature data, and the

family has agreed to provide copies of their gas, electric, and water bills. This data will be shared with other engineering schools, with schools in the K-12 system, and with professionals in the building industry," Fleischmann said.

This community-built house is the biggest community service project undertaken by the School of Engineering — but it's not the first with benefits to the West Side neighborhood.

"This is exactly the way that a university like Grand Valley should be active as an urban neighbor — by applying the expertise at the university and combining it with practical skills and information from the building industry to provide an exceptionally energy efficient house that demonstrates environmental responsibility while improving the quality of life for our neighbors," Fleischmann said.

For more information, contact Shirley Fleischmann at (616) 331-6761. The project is still seeking volunteers and financial supporters. For more information on contributing, contact Rev. Richard TerMaat at Westtown Jubilee Housing, (616) 458-4841.

Visit GVNow, Grand Valley's online news source: <http://www.gvsu.edu/gvnow>

For immediate release - 03/29/06

# Ott Lectureship on Green Chemistry

An expert on the use of ionic liquid systems and their application in green science and technology will speak at two Grand Valley State University events during the fourth Arnold C. Ott Lectureship in Chemistry on April 5.

Robin Rogers is a distinguished research professor in the Department of Chemistry and director of the Center for Green Manufacturing at the University of Alabama. In 2005, he was awarded The Presidential Green Chemistry Award for his work on the use of ionic liquids in sustainable technology. He currently holds research grants from the National Science Foundation, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Energy, the U.S. Air Force, and various companies and foundations. He also holds seven issued patents and has published more than 550 papers on a diverse array of topics.

At 1 p.m. on Wednesday, April 5, Rogers will present a chemistry seminar at 123 Manitou Hall on the Allendale Campus. His topic is "The Past Present and Future of Ionic Liquids: From Designer Solvents to Advanced New Materials."

At 7 p.m. he will present a lecture "Green Chemistry: Can Society and the Chemical Industry Co-exist?" in the Loosemore Auditorium, DeVos Center, on the Pew Grand Rapids Campus. Both events are free and open to the public.

The Arnold C. Ott Lectureship in Chemistry was created and endowed by a generous gift from Dr. Arnold C. Ott and Marion Ott. Dr. Ott received his Ph.D. in 1943 from Michigan State University in Chemistry/Physics/Bacteriology and is a leading chemist and entrepreneur in West Michigan. He is one of the co-founders of Grand Valley State University and served on the Grand Valley Board of trustees for 28 years.

For more information call (616) 331-3317 or visit [www.gvsu.edu/chem](http://www.gvsu.edu/chem).

March 29, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services (616) 331-2221.

### Grand Valley Spring Dance Concert

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, Red Riding Hood and the Wolf, Puss-in-Boots and the White Cat, are just a few of the characters on stage during the Grand Valley State University Spring Dance Concert. They all appear in the first segment of the program, "Aurora's Wedding" from Act II of "Sleeping Beauty," which is followed by pieces in jazz and modern dance.

"We've put together a very eclectic program ranging from the 19th century Sleeping Beauty, to dance set to a percussion ensemble by the modern American composer John Cage," said Jefferson Baum, director of the dance program. "There are a wide range of pieces by our own faculty as well as guest artists."

Guest artists include Mary-Beth Cabana, artistic director of Ballet Tucson, who staged Sleeping Beauty and Patrick Corbin, who came in February to choreograph the modern dance piece "Bartly Cloudy." He also wrote the music and conceptualized the costumes. He was a principal dancer with the Jeoffrey Ballet for four years and with the Paul Taylor Dance Company of New York for 15 years.

The three program pieces by Grand Valley faculty are world premieres. "Girls" is a jazz number choreographed by adjunct professor Amy Cova that is set to Duke Ellington's "Wicked Little Girls." "Huapango," a lively Mexican dance of Spanish origin that showcases classical ballet, is choreographed by Ana Coppelia Sandford-Lopez, a pointe instructor and rehearsal assistant. And Lisa Catrett-Belrose, assistant professor of dance, has choreographed and conceived costumes for "Caged," a modern dance set to the music of John Cage. It will include live music performed by Andrew Damman, Sam Gould, Kris Grant and Grand Valley Artist-Faculty Greg Secor.

Three performances are scheduled at the Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus: Friday, April 7 at 8 p.m., Saturday, April 8 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for all students and \$10 for the general public. Tickets may be purchased through Star Tickets Plus at (616) 222-4000 or (800) 585-3737, online at [www.starticketsplus.com](http://www.starticketsplus.com) or any Star Tickets Plus outlets. Also available weekdays at the Louis Armstrong Theatre Box Office from noon to 5 p.m. (in-person sales only/no phone orders). For more information call the LAT Box Office at (616) 331-2300.

Media may reach Jefferson Baum at (616) 331-2548.



For Immediate Release

March 30, 2006

Contact: Brian J. Bowe at (616) 331-2221 or [boweb@gvsu.edu](mailto:boweb@gvsu.edu)

### GVSU hosts robotics competition

Teams of high school students will design and building robots to compete against each other during an event at Grand Valley State University.

Grand Valley hosts the West Michigan FIRST Robotics Regional competition beginning Friday, March 31, and Saturday, April 1. Competing will be 48 teams from Michigan, Ohio, Illinois, and Indiana.

FIRST stands For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology. The students work alongside mentors to make their ideas a reality. The mentors are engineers and technicians who volunteer their time to inspire students to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and math — areas critical to the U.S.'s performance in the global economy.

The event is free and open to the public. Competition starts Friday, March 31, with opening ceremonies at 9 a.m. in the Grand Valley State University Fieldhouse in Allendale. The event runs 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday.

For information, contact Jeff Ray at [rayj@gvsu.edu](mailto:rayj@gvsu.edu) or (616) 292-9205.

Visit GVNow, Grand Valley's online news source: <http://www.gvsu.edu/gvnow>

March 31, 2006

For immediate release

Contact: Michele Coffill, News and Information Services, 616-331-2221

Fans can meet several players and coaches from the national champion Grand Valley State University women's basketball team at a community celebration event.

The celebration is planned for Wednesday, April 5, from 5-7 p.m. at the Standale Meijer store, on Lake Michigan Drive and Wilson. GVSU won its first national championship in women's basketball on March 25, after beating American International, 58-52.

Those scheduled to attend are seniors Niki Reams, Dawn Maynard and Jaida Bourke and coaches Dawn Plitzuweit and Mike Williams. Louie the Laker will also make an appearance. Reams was named to the Kodak/WBCA All-American team for the second straight season. Plitzuweit earned national coach of the year honors.

The event is sponsored by Meijer, Licensing Resource Group and Grand Valley State University.

April 3, 2006

For Immediate Release

Photo available. Contact Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221 or [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu).

### Russian pianist performs at Grand Valley

The Arts at Noon Series at Grand Valley State University is proud to end this season with a rare American appearance by Russian pianist Elena Kuschnerova. This major artist was born into a musical family and has made her home in Germany since 1992. She is known to American audiences chiefly by her distinguished recordings of repertoire, ranging from Bach to Stravinsky. Many of these have been awarded prizes by such publications as the American Record Guide and the music magazine SCALA. Kuschnerova performs Tuesday, April 11 at Noon in the Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale campus. For more information call (616) 331-3484.



**For Immediate Release by Grand Valley State University & the Frey Foundation**

Contact: Mary Eilleen Lyon, News & Information Services, Grand Valley State University

## **Grand Valley State establishes nation's first endowed family foundation chair Frey Foundation challenge grant goes to Johnson Center**

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- The tremendous power of some 32,000 charitable family foundations and their billions of grant dollars will begin to be harnessed more effectively thanks to the establishment of the nation's first endowed chair focusing on family philanthropy. The Frey Foundation is pledging \$1.5 million to Grand Valley State University's Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership to establish this chair which will lead to a pioneering program of study on family foundations and how they are led and managed to help society.

"Few institutions in American life are so vitally important, and so poorly understood, as family foundations," said Joel J. Orosz, interim executive director of the Johnson Center. "The Frey Foundation's bold gift will allow the Johnson Center to identify their keys to success, and most importantly, to find ways to enhance their beneficial impact upon society."

The Frey Foundation has made its pledge as a challenge to help the university raise \$5 million in endowment for the Johnson Center. The university's campaign for the center has raised \$3.5 million toward this goal. To meet this challenge, the university will need to raise the remaining \$1.5 million.

In many American communities, family foundations define and enhance the quality of human life. More than 32,000 family foundations provide critical assistance to America's 1.2 million nonprofit organizations, supporting their programs in health care, education, human services, religion, arts and culture, and the environment. In 2003, the top 50 family foundations in Michigan awarded more than \$885 million in grants. This represents 74 percent of the \$1.2 billion given by all types of Michigan foundations in 2003.

A distinguished scholar-practitioner will be selected as the new Frey Foundation chair. That person will take the lead on this innovative program, which will research family foundation formation and grantmaking practices, and teach effective operating techniques to family foundation trustees.

"We believe the Johnson Center holds the promise to be the premiere university center of its kind in the

nation," said David Frey, chairman of the board of trustees of the Frey Foundation. "Exploring and understanding the role of private family foundations is critical to the Johnson Center's mission. This challenge grant from the Frey Foundation should do much to acknowledge and promote the increasing importance of family foundations in the realm of philanthropy. It is our hope that thoughtful and effective philanthropy will benefit from the skills and focus the new Frey chair can provide."

Relatively few universities have programs for the study of philanthropy and nonprofit leadership recognized by the Nonprofit Academic Centers Council. The Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership is one of the oldest of these centers, having been founded in 1992, with major support from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. It is considered one of the top institutions in the nation for helping nonprofit organizations and foundations work more effectively through the use of best management practices and better access to research data.

This is the second fully endowed chair for Grand Valley State University announced this year. "These chairs signal Grand Valley's growing academic maturity and commitment to academic rigor and innovation," said Mark A. Murray, president of Grand Valley. "We applaud the Frey Foundation and the Frey family for their vision, leadership and generosity."

A nationwide search for the person to fill the Frey Foundation chair will commence as soon as possible. Orosz noted the position will require an unusual combination of skills and background (scholarship, family foundation experience, teaching ability and record of community service). Due to the unprecedented nature of the position, the center will look in a wide range of settings for the right candidate to launch this new field of study.

Grand Valley State University, established in 1960, is a four-year public university. It attracts more than 22,000 students with its high quality programs and state-of-the-art facilities. Grand Valley provides a fully accredited liberal arts undergraduate and graduate education and has campuses in Allendale, Grand Rapids, and Holland and centers in Muskegon and Traverse City. Grand Valley is the comprehensive regional university for the state's second largest metropolitan area and offers 69 undergraduate and 25 graduate degree programs.

The Frey Foundation, based in Grand Rapids, is one of Michigan's largest family foundations. Grants are provided primarily to nonprofit organizations in western Michigan for projects to enhance children's development, protect natural resources, promote the arts and expand philanthropic and civic action. The Frey Foundation was established in 1972 and was permanently endowed in 1988 from the estate of the late Edward J. and Frances T. Frey.

For more information visit the following Web sites: [www.gvsu.edu](http://www.gvsu.edu), [www.johnsoncenter.org](http://www.johnsoncenter.org), [www.freyfdn.org/](http://www.freyfdn.org/)

For interviews, contact GVSU's News and Information Services office at (616) 331-2221, and Milton Rohwer, Frey Foundation (616) 451-4561.

For Immediate Release

April 7, 2006

Contact: Brian J. Bowe, (616) 331-2221 or [boweb@gvsu.edu](mailto:boweb@gvsu.edu)

**Coverage Op: Student Scholarship Day Focuses on Sustainability**

This year, Grand Valley State University's annual showcase of student scholarly works will focus on sustainability. Around 500 students are expected to participate in Student Scholarship Day on April 12.

Sustainability relates to the environmental impact of human activity, the enhancement of social systems, and the improvement of economic prosperity - a triumvirate of factors commonly known as the "triple bottom line." Sustainable growth involves striking a balance among these three elements. The students participating in Student Scholarship Day address sustainability in many ways - from investigating the impact of government policies on farmland preservation in West Michigan to examining race and gender bias in geology textbooks to exploring the relationship between U.S. economics and Latin America.

"Sustainability is an intellectual act, one that explores boundaries, encourages collaboration, and fosters knowledge and growth," said Kathryn Remlinger, an associate professor of English and director of Student Scholarship Day.

Grand Valley is in the midst of a university-wide sustainability effort. A report was issued last October that detailed Grand Valley's sustainability performance for the past five years and started a conversation about ways to improve that performance.

Now in its 11th year, Student Scholarship Day has grown from a forum for presentations by math and science students to a university-wide event. This year's event includes posters, oral presentations, exhibits, and performances that represent the scholarship of students from throughout the university.

"The interdisciplinary nature of Student Scholarship Day reflects the university's mission of providing students a liberal education - one that educates students to actively and consciously shape their lives, their professions, and their communities," Remlinger said.

This year's Student Scholarship Day will be Wednesday, April 12 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Members of the Grand Valley community and the general public are invited to attend. **MEDIA COVERAGE IS ENCOURAGED.** The keynote speaker will be Mary Beth Cabana, artistic director for the Tucson Ballet. Cabana will also lead a ballet demonstration at 1 p.m. in the Calder Art Center. Other events include student oral presentations in the Padnos Hall of Science, poster presentations in Henry Hall, and a B.F.A. exhibit in the Calder Art Center. For a complete schedule of events, visit [www.gvsu.edu/ssd](http://www.gvsu.edu/ssd).

Visit GVNow, Grand Valley's online news source: <http://www.gvsu.edu/qvnow>

April 10, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221

#### GVSU faculty showcase sabbaticals

Recent media attention to university sabbatical programs has highlighted what many people have often wondered: What do faculty do during their time away from teaching responsibilities? Grand Valley State University's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences has not only asked the question, but provided a forum for answers.

"For many months previous to the media attention, we had been working on a vehicle to allow CLAS faculty to share their sabbatical experience with their peers on campus," said Associate Dean Jann Joseph. "As our faculty numbers have grown over the years, we've found it increasingly challenging to share this information with everyone in the college."

The vehicle chosen is an upcoming CLAS Faculty Sabbatical Showcase on Wednesday, April 19. The event will be held in the Grand River Room of Kirkhof Center, Allendale Campus, beginning at 2:30 p.m. Though the event is geared to faculty by faculty, it is open to the public. Media are invited to attend.

Of the 420 tenure track CLAS faculty eligible for sabbatical, 50 took the opportunity over the past three semesters. Of those, about 30 will give brief presentations supplemented with posters, media or artwork. CLAS Dean Fred Antczak will make a brief presentation at 3 p.m. and begin the college's annual meeting. Faculty presentations will resume at 4:15 p.m., followed by an opportunity to mingle among displays.

"We are very excited about this event and hope it will become a tradition for our faculty," said Joseph.

For more information contact Jann Joseph at (616) 331-3454.

For Immediate Release  
April 14, 2006  
Contact: Michele Coffill, News & Information Services

**Media Opportunity: Nursing students will be surprised by scholarship announcement**

More than 20 Grand Valley State University nursing students will be very surprised when they come to orientation this afternoon.

They will learn that they are recipients of a \$10,000 stipend from the State of Michigan to be used for scholarship money.

Phyllis Gendler, dean of the Kirkhof College of Nursing, said the stipend continues a program developed last year by the state to increase the number of nurses in the workforce. Last July, Grand Valley was one of 13 Michigan universities and community colleges that will receive more than \$17 million in grants to accelerate training for nurses and other health care professionals.

The students will meet in room 123 of the Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences at 1:30 p.m. today. Media members are welcome to cover the event.



## Grand Valley uses iPods as portable language labs

ALLENDALE, Mich. — The 63 students studying intermediate French at Grand Valley State University each received an iPod on the first day of class. While they've listened to a lot of music, it has been music with French lyrics. Though iPods have been used at other universities to distribute lectures, this may be one of the first instances of their use for language acquisition.

Each week the students were assigned four songs and worked on vocabulary, listening comprehension and pronunciation. The iPods were programmed with text files including the lyrics of each song.

"The music we've selected spans eight decades," said David Eick, who along with Janel Pettes-Guikema developed the idea for their classes. "Students give oral presentations, discuss the historical and cultural contexts which gave rise to the songs and then are tested on the knowledge presented by their classmates."

In addition to music, students listen to authentic podcasts of news from French radio and complete assignments on the content of these. Also, the vocabulary lessons in their textbook are supplemented by flash card slide shows on the iPods, with images accompanied by sound of the words being pronounced.

For their final class project, students will become French DJs, creating podcasts including their favorite French songs, mock interviews with the artists, commercials and weather forecasts.

MEDIA ARE INVITED TO ATTEND production sessions in the Language Media Center, located on the second floor of Mackinac Hall. Please pre-arrange with faculty. Sessions begin Monday, April 17. Pettes-Guikema's classes meet on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday at noon. Call her at (616) 331-3657. Eick's classes meet on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 1 p.m. Call him at (616) 331-3497.

"Research has indicated that motivation and time on task are the biggest predictors of success," said Pettes-Guikema, who specializes in language acquisition research. "By providing students with the iPods, we've given them a portable language lab, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week." She's conducting a study on the effectiveness of the iPod as a tool in language learning, focusing on listening comprehension, vocabulary development, and cultural knowledge and understanding.

Student response has been enthusiastic. Though they are the first to admit they spend more

time than ever anticipated studying French, they say the challenge has paid off in unexpected ways, such as giving a broader exposure to "street French" as well as a deeper understanding of historical and contemporary culture.

Grand Valley's Language Resource Center, already the most advanced language lab of all universities in Michigan, has reinvented itself and provided tremendous support in terms of pedagogical vision, technical expertise, and lots of labor. Now the Department of Modern Languages is looking into implementing iPods in other language courses.

April 18, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services (616) 331-2221.

Great Lakes restoration to be discussed at briefing

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — A subcommittee of the Michigan House Science Committee will meet in Grand Rapids on Friday, April 21, for a field briefing on Great Lakes restoration. Among witnesses giving testimony will be Alan Steinman, director of Grand Valley State University's Annis Water Resources Institute.

The Subcommittee on Environment, Technology, and Standards will meet at Grand Valley State University's Eberhard Center, 301 W. Fulton Street, at 1 p.m. for Great Lakes Restoration: How? How Soon?

The subcommittee is interested in looking at the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration science recommendations more closely. They want to find out what the top priorities should be, given current resources and whether those priorities would change if new funding becomes available.

The subcommittee will also be asking to what extent has the GLRC encouraged and enabled effective scientific input for resource management policy decisions and to what extent has the GLRC helped foster new or stronger collaboration between scientists and policy makers, among other things.

Great Lakes members on the Subcommittee on Environment, Technology and Standards include:

Vern Ehlers, R-Mich., chair, Gil Gutknecht, R-Minn., Judy Biggert, R-Ill, Timothy Johnson, R-Ill and Joe Schwarz, R-Mich. Other Great Lakes members on the full Science Committee include: Curt Weldon, R-Pa., Michael Sodrel, R-Ind. and Jerry Costello, D-Ill.

Other witnesses at the briefing will include representatives from the Great Lakes National Program Office of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; the Coastal Management Program of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and the Healing Our Waters Coalition.

For more information contact: Alan Steinman at (616) 331-3749.

April 18, 2006

For immediate release; contact: Michele Coffill, News and Information Services, 616-331-2221

### **GVSU nursing students surprised by stipend announcement**

There was stunned silence, then a round of applause and more than a few tears.

That was how 23 Grand Valley State University nursing students reacted to the news that they would each receive a \$10,000 stipend to help them concentrate on clinical and classroom work during the next year of an accelerated bachelor's degree nursing program.

Phyllis Gendler, dean of the Kirkhof College of Nursing, and other faculty members announced the surprise news April 14 during an regularly scheduled student orientation meeting.

Gendler said the stipends continue a program developed last year by the state to increase the number of nurses in the workforce. Last July, Grand Valley was one of 13 Michigan universities and community colleges that received more than \$17 million in grants to accelerate training for nurses and other health care professionals. This \$1.4 million grant is supported by the Michigan Department of Community Health and will, in part, include a match from Grand Valley and partnership support from Spectrum Health.

"We want you to be very successful in this program," Gendler told the students. "We don't want you to have to work, just concentrate on these classes."

Through the accelerated program, the cohort of 23 students will graduate with a nursing degree next April and then be eligible to sit for state licensure exams.

Amanda Dentler tried quickly to process the news. "It's not every day someone gives you \$10,000," she said.

Kimber Tritten said the stipend was the second best piece of news she heard recently. The first? Her husband, who is serving in the Army in Iraq, would be home soon for a visit. "Now I have two things to look forward to," she said.

Tritten is typical of the students who enter the new accelerated program. She has bachelor's degrees from Michigan State in psychology and human biology, but wanted to enter the nursing field.

"I've done a lot of work with research but decided I wanted more interaction with people," she said. Tritten added that nursing job will provide flexible job opportunities, allowing her to move to wherever her husband is stationed.

For Immediate Release

April 19, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, Grand Valley State University News & Information Services

Soldier recounts untold stories of Vietnam  
Jim Hodges reveals details of secret mission

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Jim Hodges was one of a group of soldiers sent on a secret mission into the mountains of Laos during the Vietnam War. He was the only one from his unit to walk out alive. A Sergeant Infantry and a light weapons specialist, Hodges fought in battles that are unrecorded by history.

Hodges will reveal details of this secret mission at "Laos: The Untold Story" sponsored by the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies at Grand Valley State University. The program will accompany a viewing of the Ford Museum's exhibit, "Requiem: By the Photographers Who Died in Vietnam and Indochina."

"Jim Hodges has an extremely moving story that will speak to veterans and to Americans who remember this painful part of our history," said Gleaves Whitney, director of the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies. "Jim's talk will bring to life the powerful photographs in the Requiem exhibit at the Ford Presidential Library."

\*\* "Laos: The Untold Story" will take place Wednesday, April 26, at 7 p.m. at the Gerald R. Ford Museum Auditorium in downtown Grand Rapids. The event is open to media.\*\*

After three years of service in the Army, Hodges returned to his home state of Texas where he conducted police, security and detective work. He is currently the president of Shared Technologies & Jim Hodges Productions.

For more information, contact Gleaves Whitney at (616) 331-2770 or GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221, or visit the Hauenstein Center's Web site at [www.allpresidents.org](http://www.allpresidents.org).

For Immediate Release: April 19, 2006

Contact: Brian J. Bowe, (616) 331-2221 or [boweb@gvsu.edu](mailto:boweb@gvsu.edu)

Book takes a novel approach to making decisions

Economics professor wraps lessons in making choices into murder mystery

**Framed!: Solve an Intriguing Murder Mystery and Master How to Make Smart Choices**

By Hari Singh, Ph.D.

(HRD Press)

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. -- When economics professor Hari Singh set out to write a book about making decisions, he decided to wrap the lessons in a murder mystery to make them easier to understand.

The resulting book -- "Framed!" -- teaches critical decision-making guided by recent breakthroughs in psychology, economics and management disciplines. Those concepts are explained through a fictitious murder mystery. As the story unfolds, the reader applies those decision-making tools to solve the mystery. The intrigue of the story compels the reader to pay close attention to many subtle nuances that are relevant for making smart choices. It has been consistently praised by senior executives and professors for its innovative content, writing style and broad appeal.

A business case study is woven into the plot of the mystery to challenge executives to discover a successful strategy for a major pharmaceutical company. Many critical aspects of business decision-making are analyzed as corporate intrigue and the ongoing murder investigation propel the story to an unexpected climax.

Professors are increasingly using the fiction format as a vehicle to explain complex subjects. Singh said there are distinct advantages in presenting educational concepts within a story.

"This approach makes a complicated topic more accessible to a broader audience," Singh said. "Readers will enjoy reading an intriguing mystery that enables them to absorb complex ideas. They can readily apply these ideas to their decision-making every day."

The book consists of 20 short chapters that tell the story. Each chapter presents key concepts like thinking outside a conventional frame, proactively seeking feedback about decisions, avoiding post-decision regret and facing up to your mistakes and biases. The book includes resources like a glossary of terms, a conceptual overview, a checklist for common pitfalls, and references. Questions at the end of the book challenge readers to reflect on their own decision-making process.

Singh is a professor of economics in Grand Valley State University's Seidman College of Business. He has been a consultant for the World Bank, National Science Foundation, U.S. Information Agency, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and American Express. He has published 25 professional articles, many on decision-making issues.

The book is published by HRD Press, 22 Amherst Rd., Amherst MA 01002 ([www.hrdpress.com](http://www.hrdpress.com)). For a review copy or to schedule an interview with Singh, contact Brian J. Bowe at (616) 331-2221 or [boweb@gvsu.edu](mailto:boweb@gvsu.edu).

Visit GVNow, Grand Valley's online news source: <http://www.gvsu.edu/gvnow>

For Immediate Release  
April 19, 2006

Contact: Mary Eilleen Lyon, (616) 331-2221, Grand Valley State University News & Information Services

Ralph Hauenstein honored for lifetime of military and intelligence service  
The Jamestown Foundation brings notables together for 94-year-old's reception

Washington, D.C. -- Ralph Hauenstein has lived an extraordinary life that exemplifies service and leadership. That life, which includes working as chief intelligence officer in Europe during World War II and turning a successful entrepreneurial career into growing philanthropic ventures, will be honored by the Jamestown Foundation on April 24, 2006.

Former Michigan Governor John Engler and award-winning author and historian Richard Norton Smith will be guest speakers for the reception in Washington, D.C.

West Michigan and Grand Valley State University have been recipients of Hauenstein's generosity and his desire to inspire a new generation of leaders devoted to public service. The university carries out this mission with the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies. "Ralph Hauenstein's story illustrates why the Greatest Generation is indeed the greatest," said Gleaves Whitney, director of the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies. "His life is the embodiment of the American Dream. Besides recognizing Ralph's brilliantly successful business career, we honor him as a hero in the struggles against racism, the Great Depression and totalitarianism."

The reception also marks the newly published book, "Intelligence was My Line, Inside Eisenhower's Other Command," as told to Donald Markle by Ralph Hauenstein.

During the Second World War, the former city editor of the Grand Rapids Herald rose to the rank of colonel and served under General Dwight Eisenhower as chief of the Intelligence Branch in the Army's European theater of operations. In 1945, he was among the first Americans into liberated Paris, war-torn Germany, and Nazi concentration camps. After the war, Hauenstein saw opportunities to build bridges between the United States and a Europe devastated by war. He went into international trade and partnered with European enterprises to provide goods and services to consumers in Europe, the Middle East, and elsewhere where democracies were struggling. A risk-taker, he underwrote a modern bakery in Haiti, providing jobs for hundreds of workers and thousands of individual distributors at a difficult time in that nation's history. He also

set up a school in Florida that taught people from developing countries how to run a fully-automated bakery and provide good jobs in their local economy. By his own admission, Hauenstein has never retired. At the age of 94, he works almost every day and is active in numerous causes. He served as an auditor at the Second Vatican Council in Rome, was part of the team that supervised the first free elections in Russia, and contributes to numerous charitable causes. His philanthropy has benefited a variety of organizations devoted to medical research and to education.

Reception: Intelligence Was My Line: A Portrait of Ralph W. Hauenstein

Willard InterContinental Hotel

1401 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

Washington, D.C.

April 24, 2006 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Media coverage of the event is encouraged. Advance interviews can be arranged by calling Grand Valley's News and Information Services office (616) 331-2221 or the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies (616) 331-2770.

More on the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies: [www.allpresidents.org](http://www.allpresidents.org)

More on Grand Valley State University: [www.gvsu.edu](http://www.gvsu.edu)



April 20, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services (616) 331-2221

**MEDIA ADVISORY: Ehlers to address media before Great Lakes briefing**

U.S. Rep. Vernon Ehlers, R-Grand Rapids will hold a press conference on Friday, April 21, on the bank of the Grand River, just before a field briefing on Great Lakes restoration.

A subcommittee of the Michigan House Science Committee is meeting at Grand Valley State University's Eberhard Center, 301 W. Fulton Street, at 1 p.m. Friday for the briefing "Great Lakes Restoration: How? How Soon?" The Subcommittee on Environment, Technology, and Standards is looking at the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration science recommendations and discussing what the top priorities should be.

The briefing comes following the recent introduction of a multi-billion dollar bill by a bipartisan group of U.S. legislators, including Ehlers, to clean up the Great Lakes. This year has been identified as a critical time for the Great Lakes. A December 2005 report, endorsed by more than 60 of the Great Lakes region's leading scientists, stated that the Lakes are on the verge of ecological collapse.

**\*\* Ehlers, who chairs the subcommittee, will address media just outside the Eberhard Center at 12:30 p.m. Media are also invited to attend the briefing.\*\***

Other speakers at the press conference will include: Dr. Don Scavia, Ph.D., Healing Our Waters Coalition and University of Michigan; Andy Buchsbaum, National Wildlife Federation; and Dan Radloff, Michigan United Conservation Clubs Statewide Vice President.

Among witnesses giving testimony at the briefing will be Alan Steinman, director of Grand Valley State University's Annis Water Resources Institute. Other witnesses include representatives from the Great Lakes National Program Office of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; the Coastal Management Program of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and the Healing Our Waters Coalition.

For Immediate Release

April 24, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

West Michigan teachers honored at Grand Valley convocation

Photos available

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Grand Valley State University's College of Education will honor two area teachers during convocation ceremonies Thursday, April 27 at 7 p.m. in the DeVos Place Ballroom of the DeVos Place Convention Center in Grand Rapids.

More than 600 graduates are expected to participate in convocation, which is a precursor to Grand Valley's Commencement, scheduled for April 29 at Van Andel Arena in Grand Rapids.

#### OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR

During convocation, Mary Adams, a fourth grade teacher for Greenville Public Schools, will receive the award for Outstanding Educator. Adams graduated Cum Laude in 1991 from Grand Valley and earned her master's degree from Western Michigan University in 2002.

During her 13 years in Greenville, Adams co-authored the application that earned her school a Blue Ribbon Exemplary School Award. She also helped create "Mentor-A-Mom," a school-age mentoring program designed to support at-risk mothers. She assisted her students at Lincoln Heights in starting a school store and a student newspaper, and has written several successful grants for enrichment programs and equipment.

#### OUTSTANDING ADMINISTRATOR

Jean Carroll-Hamilton will receive the award for Outstanding Administrator. Hamilton earned a bachelor's degree and master's degree from Western Michigan University. She earned a second master's from Grand Valley in 1996. Hamilton has spent the last 15 years at Grand View Elementary in the Grandville Public School District. She began as a first grade teacher, followed by several years as assistant principal. Hamilton has served as principal for the last three years. Grand View is one of the largest elementary schools in the area with an enrollment of almost 700 students. Hamilton was instrumental in helping her school obtain its National and Michigan Blue Ribbon Exemplary School status.

For photos or more information, contact GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

April 26, 2006

For immediate release

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, 616-331-2221

### **Author, life sciences expert to give lecture at GVSU**

Juan Enriquez, author and expert on the economic and political impacts of the life sciences, will lecture on "The United States of America" at Grand Valley State University on Friday, April 28.

During his lecture, which will begin at 3 p.m. at GVSU's Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences, 301 Michigan NE, Enriquez will talk about why some countries disappear and others flourish as technology advances. His lecture is based on his latest book of the same title. The event is open to media coverage; Enriquez is also Grand Valley's commencement speaker. Commencement ceremonies are scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. April 29 at Van Andel Arena.

Enriquez is the chairman and CEO of Biotechnomy LLC, a life sciences research and investment firm that he founded. He also serves as president and chief business officer for Synthetic Genomics, a company he co-founded last year.

He was the founding director of Harvard Business School's Life Sciences Project. While at Harvard, he wrote the best-selling "As the Future Catches You," an analysis of the impact of genomics on business and society. Enriquez, who has earned bachelor's and master's of business administration degrees from Harvard University, is part of a world discovery voyage led by the man who sequenced the human genome. The sailing voyage, which involves numerous institutions and scholars, will sample microbial genomes throughout the world's oceans.

He had served as CEO of Mexico City's Urban Development Corporation, chief of staff and economic policy coordinator for Mexico's secretary of state and as a member of the Peace Commission that negotiated a cease-fire in Chiapas' Zapatista rebellion in 1994.

## **GVSU Summer 2006 Events**

For more information contact Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221 or [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu).

Friday, June 2 - GVSU President Emeritus Arend Lubbers and Steven Rowe will sign copies of their book, "Old Hopes for a New Place" at 7 p.m. at River Bank Books and Music, Monroe Center, 40 Fountain NW, Grand Rapids. [Photo available]

June 5 – September 22, Grand Valley State University Art Gallery exhibition "Sources and Resources: Works in Textiles and Metals" features art by Ann Baddeley Keister, Patricia Nelson, Anne McKenzie Nickolson, Margaret Jo Morasco and the late Diane Itter. Object makers all, each artist uses sources from art history, the decorative and/or ethnographic arts to inform the imagery in their work. Reception with artists on Thursday, September 7. Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. Call (616) 331-2564. [Beautiful photos available]

The Grand Valley State University Summer Carillon Series brings many opportunities to hear some of the world's finest carillonneurs on both campuses. All performances are free and held rain or shine, except during severe weather alerts. For more information call (616) 331-3484.

Cook Carillon Series, Allendale Campus  
Sundays at 8 p.m. (rain or shine)

June 18 – August 20

June 18 – David Hunsberger, University of California, Berkeley

June 25 – Julianne Vanden Wyngaard, GVSU Carillonneur

July 2 – Ray McLellan, Michigan State University

July 9 – Julia Ann Walton, Okemos, MI

July 16 – Christine Power, Naperville, Ill

July 23 – Helen Hawley, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Grand Rapids

July 30 – GVSU Carillon Collaborative: Karen Meyers, Anna Colby, Diane deVries and Loretta Lanning

August 6 – Todd Fair, University of Denver

August 13 – Lee Cobb, Assistant Carillonneur, Historic Bok Sanctuary, Lake Wales, FL

August 20 – Karel Keldermans, Carillonneur, Rees Memorial Carillon, Springfield, IL

Beckering Family Carillon Center, Lacks International Plaza, DeVos Center, Pew Grand Rapids Campus

Wednesdays in July at 12 Noon (rain or shine)

July 6 – 26

July 6 – Dennis Curry, Organist, Kirk in the Hills, Bloomfield Hills, MI

July 12 – Julianne Vanden Wyngaard, GVSU Carillonneur

July 19 – Steven Ball, Carillonneur, University of Michigan

July 26 – Linda Dzuris, Carillonneur, Clemson University, South Carolina

April 26, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

### Grant funds GVSU study of science education

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Grand Valley State University has been awarded a grant of \$1,307,990 from the National Science Foundation to fund a five-year project known as Target Inquiry. Effective May 1, the NSF funding builds on financial support from the Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation 2005 Special Grant Program in the Chemical Sciences and Grand Valley.

The TI model emphasizes the importance of the inquiry process in teaching and learning science by combining a research experience for teachers with curriculum adaptation and action research. To implement the TI model at Grand Valley, seven new graduate courses have been carefully created to comprise a new chemistry emphasis for the existing M.Ed. program.

A longitudinal study examining differences between the participant and comparison groups, as well as measures of participant change over time, will investigate the nature of the impacts of the TI program on teachers and their students. Two teacher cohorts, a comparison teacher group, and approximately 5,000 high school students will be studied.

"The new science education standards demand a lot of our high school teachers but they do not supply adequate support," said Deborah Herrington, one of the project's two principal investigators from Grand Valley's Chemistry Department. "The TI program is important as it provides teachers with both the tools and the support to promote continued improvement in their teaching."

The award from NSF will allow the impact of the TI program to expand beyond West Michigan through broad dissemination of their results.

"What we learn from TI teachers and their students can positively impact students across the nation," said Ellen Yeziarski, also a principal investigator from Grand Valley's Chemistry Department. "This award will fuel the broad dissemination of our work. It would be amazing to see the TI model implemented at other colleges and universities."

Grand Valley has strong commitments to both high quality education and service to the K-12 community. The TI program supports both of these missions as well as helps to build networks of high school chemistry teachers and university chemistry faculty in West Michigan.

For more information visit [www.gvsu.edu/chem/concentration](http://www.gvsu.edu/chem/concentration)

Contacts: Ellen Yeziarski at (616) 331-3808 or [yezierse@gvsu.edu](mailto:yezierse@gvsu.edu)

Deborah Herrington at (616) 331-3809 or [herringd@gvsu.edu](mailto:herringd@gvsu.edu)

April 28, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221 or  
pirkolam@gvsu.edu

Stand up comedian sits down with GVSU students

Writer and producer of TV's "Everybody Loves Raymond" brings advice and new film

**MEDIA ALERT - CALTABIANO IS AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEWS DURING AND PRIOR TO VISIT. CONTACT FRANK BORING AT (616) 331-3668.**

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Tom Caltabiano has worked as a standup comedian, writer, producer, photographer and most recently, director of the new documentary, "95 Miles to Go." The film follows Caltabiano and comedian Ray Romano, star of the television sitcom "Everybody Loves Raymond," on a road trip of standup gigs. Caltabiano will debut the film (Midwest premiere) and share his vast experience with students at Grand Valley State University during a visit May 15-18.

"This is an outstanding opportunity for our students to learn from a professional at the top of his game," said Frank Boring, a documentary filmmaker who teaches in the School of Communications at Grand Valley and arranged for Caltabiano's visit. "Tom is being very generous with his time and has agreed to do a number of public events and meet with several of our classes."

**PUBLIC APPEARANCES AND EVENTS OPEN TO MEDIA:**

Tuesday, May 16 - a free debut screening of the film begins at 7 p.m. at GVSU's Loosemore Auditorium, DeVos Center, 401 W. Fulton, Grand Rapids. - following screening, an onstage seminar with Tom Caltabiano and Frank Boring will include questions from the audience. This event is being shot in three-camera view to be used as a teaching event for GVSU students and to be included in the DVD release of "95 Miles to Go."

"95 Miles to Go" posters signed by Caltabiano and Romano will be raffled off at GVSU after screening.

Wealthy Theatre will host additional screenings as ticketed events. See [www.wealthytheatre.org](http://www.wealthytheatre.org).

These are the only Midwest screenings of this film. Film trailer and still photos are available for promotional use at [www.95milestogo.net](http://www.95milestogo.net).



Background: Caltabiano began doing standup comedy in New York City in 1989, about the same time as Ray Romano. Their paths crossed continuously as they each made the circuit of clubs and television appearances. A growing personal and professional relationship led to his becoming a regular writer on Romano's television show, "Everybody Loves Raymond," which premiered in 1996. He held the position for nine years and, as co-executive producer, won two Emmys when the show was awarded "Outstanding Comedy Series" in 2003 and 2005.

From the start, Caltabiano took behind-the-scene photos of Romano and other cast members, which amounted to about 25,000 photos and inspiration for the book, "Everybody Loves Raymond: Our Family Album," published by Simon & Schuster in 2004. Caltabiano also performed as the opening act for Romano at standup comedy tours they did during hiatuses of the television show's production. He started shooting videotape, which lead to the idea of a behind-the-scenes film.

"Let's do it one time for real," Caltabiano told a less than enthusiastic Romano. "I basically brow-beat him into doing it, by keeping the crew to a minimum. He's the only guy I know that's starred in a film against his wishes."

With two cameras and then USC film student Roger Lay, Jr., they shot 130 hours of fly-on-the-wall video during a series of standup gigs and road trip through Florida. The ensuing 75-minute film, "95 Miles to Go," opened in Los Angeles and New York on April 7, to rave reviews.

For Immediate Release

May 2, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

Grand Valley's Community Research Institute awarded national membership  
CRI becomes Michigan's only member

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The Community Research Institute, in Grand Valley State University's Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership, has been awarded membership in the National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership (NNIP).

In achieving membership, CRI joins a select group of 30 institutions representing cities from across the country. Grand Rapids will be the only Michigan member and will represent the Midwest along side Indianapolis, Milwaukee, Cleveland and Des Moines. Other members include Los Angeles, Boston, Washington, Seattle and Denver.

The National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership is a collaborative effort by the Urban Institute and local partners to further the development and use of neighborhood information systems in local policymaking and community building.

Kathy Agard, executive director of the Johnson Center, said NNIP membership acknowledges the work of CRI and provides an opportunity to have national impact. "This membership will give our work access to other committed and seasoned community change agents," said Agard. "It also will give them the opportunity to know us as we develop the capacity of our neighborhoods and institutions."

To become an NNIP partner, an institution must demonstrate that the following are central to its mission: (1) building and operating an advanced information system with integrated and recurrently updated information on neighborhood conditions in its city; (2) facilitating the direct practical use of data by community and city leaders in community building and local policymaking; and (3) giving emphasis to using information to build the capacities of institutions and residents in distressed neighborhoods.

Examples of CRI's work in these areas include: Grand Rapids neighborhood profiles; census and education data by region with trend analysis; and crime and housing data used by neighborhood, city and regional stakeholders.

For more information on the Community Research Institute or NNIP membership, call Mary McDonald, director of the Community Research Institute at (616) 331-7258 or Grand Valley News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

For Immediate Release

May 4, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

Black River Public chosen as one of America's top 100 high schools

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Black River Public School in Holland, Michigan, has been selected as one of America's top 100 high schools by Newsweek magazine. Black River is a college preparatory liberal arts school, chartered in 1996 by Grand Valley State University.

Newsweek recognized schools that do the best job of preparing students for college. Black River's programs were ranked 55th nationally and second in Michigan. Black River was the only West Michigan school to make the list.

"We recognize this as a strong commitment from our students and teachers to work with an engaging and challenging curriculum," said Greg Dykhous, director of Academics at Black River. "We built our AP program from scratch 10 years ago. This is a nice indication that our programs are working well."

Black River enrolls more than 700 students, with an average class size of 20 students.

"Black River Public School represents so much of what is right about public schooling," said Ed Richardson, director of Charter Schools for Grand Valley. "They have put together a program that students and parents embrace and have a track record of organizational and academic success."

For more information, contact Greg Dykhous at (616) 355-0055 ext. 117, or GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

For immediate release

May 5, 2006

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

**Area nurses celebrate profession at annual gala**

-- speakers include Michigan chief nurse executive, Los Angeles hospital vice president

More than 300 area nurses will celebrate their profession next week at a gala, which will include a presentation from a vice president at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles.

The event is scheduled for Wednesday, May 10, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel on 28th Street in Grand Rapids. Sponsored by the West Michigan Nursing Advisory Council for the Alliance for Health, it will run from 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Media are welcome to cover the event. Linda Burns Bolton, vice president and head nursing officer at Cedars-Sinai is the keynote speaker; she will address "The Face of Nursing," including information on diversity in the field, supply and demand, research and professional barriers. Burns Bolton is also president of the American Academy of Nursing.

Jeanette Klemczak, chief nurse executive for the State of Michigan, is also scheduled to speak at the event. Klemczak works closely with Gov. Jennifer Granholm to tackle the issue of a nursing shortage in the state.

Phyllis Gendler, dean of the Kirkhof College of Nursing at Grand Valley State University, said Klemczak has helped push healthcare and nursing issues to the forefront in Lansing. Gendler serves as chair-elect of the West Michigan Nursing Advisory Council.

For information about the May 10 event, call the News and Information Services Office at (616) 331-2221. A photo of Burns Bolton is available.

For immediate release

May 8, 2006

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

**Grand Valley offers first Alumni College**

-- participants will spend weekend on campus, take classes (with no quizzes)

Grand Valley State University is hoping many of its alumni will return to school -- at least for one weekend.

The first Alumni College, planned for June 9-11, offers Grand Valley alumni and friends opportunities to enroll in special academic programs and enjoy the on-campus experience.

Participants will visit the Allendale and Pew Grand Rapids campuses and experience today's Grand Valley from the viewpoint of current students. Alumni College: "Enlightenment, Information, Inspiration" will offer informative courses (without quizzes) taught by Grand Valley faculty in writing, engineering, performing arts, history, business, health sciences and others.

Participants will sleep and eat on campus; special events are planned throughout the weekend. People interested can visit the Web site [www.gvsu.edu/alumni](http://www.gvsu.edu/alumni), look for the Alumni College icon. Reservations will be limited to the first 150 people to register; the deadline to register is May 19. Questions can be directed to (616) 331-3590.

For Immediate Release

May 10, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

Community Foundation of Holland/Zeeland grants \$10,000 to Grand Valley State University  
Gift to benefit Johnson Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The Community Foundation of the Holland/Zeeland Area has provided a \$10,000 grant to the Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership at Grand Valley State University.

The gift is designated for the "Growing the Greater Good" campaign to raise \$5 million for endowment and programming to take the Johnson Center to the next level of excellence. The funds will assist the center in expanding the programs and services offered to charitable foundations and the nonprofit sector and allow the center to disseminate them to a wider audience.

In its short tenure, the Johnson Center has established itself as a pioneering philanthropic leader and distinguished itself for serving as a bridge between research-based knowledge available and the practitioners whose work directly improves the quality of life in the region, state and the nation.

As an example of its work in the nonprofit sector, one Johnson Center program conducted an arts and culture survey for the City of Holland. It also assisted the Holland Community Hospital Foundation by researching and analyzing data on smoking during pregnancy and its relation to low birth rates.

"We are very gratified with this support," said Joel Orosz, interim executive director of the Johnson Center. "Community foundations provide critical assistance for the areas they serve, and our job is to help all foundations make the most of their grant dollars as they try to benefit those in need."

The Community Foundation of the Holland/Zeeland Area looks for innovative projects that encourage, establish, protect and foster strong families and communities. The foundation is especially interested in active, early interventions and solutions to challenges being identified within the area-wide community.

For more information, contact Joel Orosz at the Johnson Center, (616) 331-7585, or GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

For Immediate Release

May 11, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

Grand Haven and Sherwood Foundations grant \$10,000 to Grand Valley State University  
Gifts to benefit Johnson Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The Grand Haven Area Community Foundation has provided a \$5,000 grant to the Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership at Grand Valley State University. The Marion A. and Ruth K. Sherwood Foundation, a supporting organization of the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation, has provided an additional grant of \$5,000.

The gift is designated for the "Growing the Greater Good" campaign to raise \$5 million for endowment and programming to take the Johnson Center to the next level of excellence. The funds will assist the center in expanding the programs and services offered to charitable foundations and the nonprofit sector and allow the center to disseminate them to a wider audience.

In its short tenure, the Johnson Center has established itself as a pioneering philanthropic leader and distinguished itself for serving as a bridge between research-based knowledge available and the practitioners whose work directly improves the quality of life in the region, state and the nation.

As an example of its work in the nonprofit sector, one Johnson Center program conducted a regional demographic comparison for the Women's Resource Center. The center conducted surveys, focus groups and interviews that helped establish a baseline understanding of the employment status of women in Ottawa, as well as Kent and Muskegon counties.

"We are very gratified with this support," said Joel Orosz, interim executive director of the Johnson Center. "Community foundations provide critical assistance for the areas they serve, and our job is to help all foundations make the most of their grant dollars as they try to benefit those in need."

The Grand Haven Area Community Foundation, located in Grand Haven, Michigan, and founded in 1971, is a permanent community endowment built by gifts and bequests from thousands of individuals, families, and organizations. The foundation is committed to improving



and enhancing the quality of life in the Tri-Cities area. Guided by a volunteer Board of Trustees made up of community leaders, the foundation serves donors and makes grants to outstanding charitable projects and programs primarily benefiting the foundation's service area of northwest Ottawa County, Michigan.

For more information, contact Joel Orosz at (616) 331-7585 or GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

May 11, 2006

For Immediate Release

Photo available, contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221 or [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu)

Vanden Wyngaard returns to teach and perform

Grand Valley State University Carillonneur Julianne Vanden Wyngaard spent the winter months traveling and performing around the country, but now she's back.

Vanden Wyngaard will spend the summer teaching and will perform June 25, during the Cook Carillon Concert Series, and July 12, during the Beckering Family Carillon Concert Series. See [www.gvsu.edu/music](http://www.gvsu.edu/music) for a complete schedule. Prospective students may contact Vanden Wyngaard at (616) 331-2112.

Another special performance is planned for July 4, in conjunction with a nationwide simultaneous bell-ringing ceremony. "Let Freedom Ring" will be initiated at the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia, with 13 tolls rung at 2 p.m. to commemorate the original 13 colonies. At that moment, carillons, church bells, city halls, courthouses, national monuments and ships at sea will join in the celebration. Vanden Wyngaard will follow the bell tolls with a Cook Carillon concert of patriotic selections.

A member of Grand Valley's music faculty since 1965, she served as chair of the Music Department from 1984-1996. When the university built the Cook Carillon in 1994, Vanden Wyngaard was selected to learn to play the instrument.

Named university carillonneur in 1997, she achieved carillonneur status in the Guild of Carillonneurs in North America in 1999 and in June 2000, completed the rigorous diploma requirements at the Netherlands Carillon School, in Amersfoort, Holland.

May 15, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

#### Grand Valley team to focus on scholarly communications

ALLENDALE, Mich. - A team from Grand Valley State University has been selected to attend the inaugural Scholarly Communications Institute at UCLA, sponsored by the Association of Research Libraries and the Association of College and Research Libraries. Selection was competitive with about 200 applicants. One hundred were accepted into the program, including Grand Valley, University of Michigan, Ohio State University, Indiana University Libraries and University of Notre Dame.

The immersive learning experience will prepare participants as local experts within their libraries and equip them with tools for developing campus outreach strategies. By becoming fluent with scholarly communication issues and trends, they will be positioned to educate others.

A team of three Grand Valley faculty members will attend the institute this July: Millie Jackson and Nan Schichtel from the library and Mark Luttenton from biology. In addition, Lee Van Orsdel, Grand Valley's dean of libraries, is one of only four primary faculty for the institute. She will be facilitating the Faculty Activism section of the program.

May 17, 2006

For Immediate Release

GVSU Summer 2006 Events

For photos or more information contact Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221 or [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu).

Friday, June 2 – Grand Valley State University President Emeritus Arend D. Lubbers and Steven Rowe will sign copies of their book, "Old Hopes for a New Place" at 7 p.m. at River Bank Books and Music, 40 Fountain NW, Monroe Center, Grand Rapids.

This collection of 15 years of Lubbers' speeches emphasizes his political, religious and educational philosophy, with an emphasis on the value of a liberal education. Edited by Rowe, the speeches represent the 32 years of Lubbers' presidency, from academic years 1969-2001. [Photo available]

June 5 – September 22, Grand Valley State University Art Gallery exhibition "Sources and Resources: Works in Textiles and Metals" features art by Ann Baddeley Keister, Patricia Nelson, Anne McKenzie Nickolson, Margaret Jo Morasco and the late Diane Itter. Object makers all, each artist uses sources from art history, the decorative and/or ethnographic arts to inform the imagery in their work. Reception with artists on Thursday, September 7. Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. Call (616) 331-2564. [Beautiful photos available]

The Grand Valley State University Summer Carillon Series brings many opportunities to hear some of the world's finest carillonneurs on both campuses. All performances are free and held rain or shine, except during severe weather alerts. For more information call (616) 331-3484.

Cook Carillon Series, Allendale Campus

Sundays at 8 p.m. (rain or shine)

June 18 – August 20

June 18 – David Hunsberger, University of California, Berkeley

June 25 – Julianne Vanden Wyngaard, GVSU Carillonneur

July 2 – Ray McLellan, Michigan State University

July 9 – Julia Ann Walton, Okemos, MI

July 16 – Christine Power, Naperville, Ill

July 23 – Helen Hawley, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Grand Rapids  
July 30 – GVSU Carillon Collaborative: Karen Meyers, Anna Colby and Loretta Lanning  
August 6 – Todd Fair, University of Denver  
August 13 – Lee Cobb, Assistant Carillonneur, Historic Bok Sanctuary, Lake Wales, FL  
August 20 – Karel Keldermans, Carillonneur, Rees Memorial Carillon, Springfield, IL

Beckering Family Carillon Center, Lacks International Plaza, DeVos Center, Pew Grand Rapids Campus

Wednesdays in July at 12 Noon (rain or shine)

July 5 – 26

July 5 – Dennis Curry, Organist, Kirk in the Hills, Bloomfield Hills, MI  
July 12 – Julianne Vanden Wyngaard, GVSU Carillonneur  
July 19 – Steven Ball, Carillonneur, University of Michigan  
July 26 – Linda Dzuris, Carillonneur, Clemson University, South Carolina

May 22, 2006

For immediate release

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

**GVSU, Hispanic community leaders host panel discussion**

Grand Valley State University and several Hispanic community leaders will talk about their experiences, career paths and issues that Hispanic and Latino students face during a half-day seminar.

The Hispanic/Latino Student Experience is scheduled for Wednesday, May 24, from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Eberhard Center, 301 W. Fulton Street in Grand Rapids. The event is free and open to the public; it is targeted toward people who work with K-12 or college Hispanic/Latino students.

Speakers include Juan Olivarez, president of Grand Rapids Community College; Philip Batty, director of GVSU Institutional Analysis; and José Infante, GVSU board of trustees member. Reniero Araoz, Lansing School District area director, will moderate a panel discussion of high school students; and Julie Guevara, associate provost at Grand Valley, will moderate a college student panel discussion. President Mark A. Murray will give the welcome remarks.

A continental breakfast and lunch will be served. Register online or view the day's agenda at [www.gvsu.edu/052406](http://www.gvsu.edu/052406). For more information, call (616) 331-2182.

May 23, 2006

For Immediate Release

Photos available, contact Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2228 or [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu).

#### **New GVSU exhibition features textiles and metals**

ALLENDALE, Mich. - Sources and Resources: Works in Textiles and Metals, a new exhibition opening Monday, June 5, at the Grand Valley State University Art Gallery, showcases the work of five distinguished artists.

The art, by Ann Baddeley Keister, Patricia Nelson, Anne McKenzie Nickolson and Jo Morasco, is informed by travel and collecting and references specific sources, including fine and decorative European and American art, as well as ethnographic objects. Also included in the exhibit is work in textiles by the late Diane Itter, who died in 1989 at the age of 43.

In the fall, a slide lecture will be given by metalsmith Nelson and fiber artist Nickolson on Thursday, September 7, from 4:30-5:30 p.m., in the Grand River Room, 250 Kirkhof Center. On the same date, a reception with the artists will be held in the GVSU Art Gallery from 5-7 p.m. The exhibition will continue through September 22.

Ann Baddeley Keister, fiber artist and curator of this exhibit, is an assistant professor in the Art and Design department at Grand Valley. Her elegant, narrative and abstract tapestries are included in numerous corporate and private collections.

Fiber artist Anne McKenzie Nickolson teaches at Indiana University and creates dynamic, detailed, narrative and non-objective textile constructions.

Metalsmith Patricia Nelson is a professor of art at Ball State University's College of Fine Arts in Muncie, Indiana. She creates objects combining metal armatures, organic sculptural elements and colorful, enameled floral forms.

Mixed-media fiber artist Jo Morasco has been a weaver for 40 years. She resides in Missouri and the Bahamas. Her vibrant work is influenced by African art, Haitian Voodoo Banners and her close connection to water.

Many textile artists of the 1960s and '70s worked on a large scale using natural, undyed fibers

and unevenly tied knots to create hangings and woven sculptures. Diane Itter, who began working in the early 1970s, took a very different approach, creating small-scale works from fine, vividly colored threads. In 1979, she completed forty pieces, working exclusively in the double-half-hitch knotting technique from that time onward.

The GVSU Art Gallery, located in the Performing Arts Center on the Allendale Campus, is open summer hours from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, June through August. During the Grand Rapids area Evening Gallery Crawl on Friday, June 30, the gallery will remain open from 5-7 p.m. It will also be open from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, July 1, during Convergence, the international conference sponsored by Handweavers Guild of America, held in Grand Rapids. In September, the gallery returns to fall hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Mondays through Fridays and evening hours on Thursdays, from 5-7 p.m.

The exhibition, lecture and reception with artists are free and open to the public. For more information call (616) 331-2564.



May 26, 2006

For Immediate Release

Photos available. Contact Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services (616) 331-2221.

**GVSU Fall Arts Celebration 2006:  
Enriching the Arts and Humanities in West Michigan**

Mark your calendars now for these exceptional opportunities to enjoy distinguished speakers and outstanding performers at the Grand Valley State University Fall Arts Celebration. Overall support for these events is provided by Macatawa Bank.

**September 14** brings the Distinguished Academic Lecturer, **Henry Louis Gates, Jr.**, to campus. Gates is an influential cultural critic who will speak on "W.E.B. and the Digital Divide." Gates is the W.E.B. Du Bois Professor of the Humanities, chair of African and African American Studies, and director of the W.E.B. Du Bois Institute for Afro-American Research at Harvard University.

The **Faculty Showcase Concert** on **September 26** combines solo and collaborative performances in a varied program featuring Grand Valley's artist-faculty from the Music Department. A spectacular opening and a surprise finish will bring some of Grand Valley's award-winning students to the stage as well.

**October 5** is the opening reception for the Grand Valley State University Art Gallery Exhibition "**Ancient Sites Revisited: Watercolors of Egypt by Rana Chalabi**," sponsored by a gift from URS Corporation. The Syrian-born artist, who now lives in Cairo, will discuss her new body of work depicting Egypt in the tradition of 19th Century Scottish artist David Roberts, featured in a concurrent exhibition.

**Poetry Night** on **October 11** brings award-winning poets **Sharon Olds** and **Sonia Sanchez** for an evening of readings and conversation, sponsored by gifts from Liesel and Hank Meijer, and Charles and Stella Royce.

The **Van Cliburn Medalist Concert Series**, on **October 16**, features **Gold Medalist Alexander Kobrin**. This annual favorite and highlight of the series is sponsored by a gift from Robert and Judith Hooker.

On **October 27 and 28**, **Dance Stars of the New Millennium V** will bring dancers from **New York City Ballet**, **American Ballet Theatre** and **Paul Taylor Dance Company of New York City**, to perform with the GVSU Dance Ensemble.

For event details including times, locations and ticket information, please visit [www.gvsu.edu/fall\\_arts](http://www.gvsu.edu/fall_arts) or call (616) 331-2100.

Distinguished Academic Lecturer, Art Gallery Exhibit and Poetry Night are made possible in part by a grant from Michigan Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

May 30, 2006

For Immediate Release

Photo available, contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221.

### GVSU student succeeds in national competitions

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Baritone Jason Coffey, a Grand Valley State University junior, recently took sixth place at the 37th annual Palm Beach Opera Vocal Competition. While earning a \$3,000 cash prize, he was just as excited to compete at this high level. Coffey was one of 278 applicants to the competition and one of 25 chosen for the junior division, for ages 18 to 23.

Music professor Dale Schriemer, who has worked with Coffey for several years, said that while other Grand Valley students have applied to the competition in the past, Coffey is the first to be accepted into the finals.

"Beyond Jason's obvious gift for singing, he is a creative actor and gifted musician," said Schriemer. "His love for singing and performing are his discipline, guide, and focus."

Coffey also won the recent Bel Canto vocal competition in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, earning him the role of baritone soloist in the Bel Canto Chorus fall production of Haydn's "Creation." He plans to pursue a master's degree in voice after completing his undergraduate degree.

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

**May 31, 2006**

**GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. - The Grand Valley State University Board of Trustees has scheduled a special meeting for June 1, 2006 at 11 a.m. in the Amway Board Room on the 5th floor of the DeVos Center on the Pew Grand Rapids Campus.**

**The Board chair has indicated that Gayle Davis, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, will be nominated to serve as an interim president, if needed, following the departure of current President Mark A. Murray on August 1, 2006 and the hiring of a new president.**

**See agenda below:**

### **SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES June 1, 2006**

#### **AGENDA**

##### **I. Secretary's Report**

- 1) Roll Call**
- 2) Motion to Adopt Agenda**

##### **II. General Reports**

- 3) Acceptance of President Murray's Resignation**
- 4) Appointment of Acting/Interim President**
- 5) Motion to Adjourn**

**For more information, contact Mary Eilleen Lyon in the News and Information Services office at (616)331-2221.**

June 1, 2006

For Immediate Release

Photos of performers available, contact Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221 or [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu).

### GVSU Summer Carillon Series begins

The Grand Valley State University Summer Carillon Series brings many opportunities on both campuses to hear some of the world's finest carillonneurs.

The June 18 performance by David Hunsberger from University of California, Berkeley, opens the Cook Carillon Series, which runs Sundays at 8 p.m., on the Allendale Campus, June through August, rain or shine. See the full schedule below.

Video cameras mounted in the carillon playing chambers provide live images, which are transmitted to large monitors at the base of the towers, giving audiences a visual treat as well. The Cook Carillon Tower contains 48 bells — the largest weighing nearly 3,000 pounds, the smallest 14 pounds — which the carillonneur plays from a large, wooden keyboard by striking the keys, or batons, with a loosely closed fist. There is also a two-octave pedal board, operated by the feet.

Hunsberger has taught music at Washington University and at Webster College in St. Louis, and the Thailand Theological Seminary in Chaing Mai. His recital activity has included participation in carillon festivals in Belgium, The Netherlands, France, New Zealand and tours in the United States, Canada and Australia. He is now a senior contracts analyst at the University of California and organist-choirmaster at St. John's Presbyterian Church in Berkeley, where he plays a 1979 organ of 22 stops by John Brombaugh. His Grand Valley performance will include the music of Bach, Joplin and Sousa.

Also this month is the June 25 Cook Carillon performance by Julianne Vanden Wyngaard, university carillonneur at Grand Valley. A noted concert pianist, Vanden Wyngaard joined the university's music faculty in 1967 and has been principal performer on the Cook Carillon since its dedication in 1994, and the Beckering Family Carillon, added in 2000. She has studied at the Netherlands Carillon School since 1996 and, in 2000, successfully completed the requirements for the diploma in performance, literature and arranging. She gives lessons and makes the carillon accessible to students and area musicians who seek to learn to play this extraordinary instrument.

**Cook Carillon Series:**

June 18 David Hunsberger, University of California

June 25 – Julianne Vanden Wyngaard, GVSU Carillonneur

July 2 – Ray McLellan, Michigan State University

July 9 – Julia Ann Walton, Okemos, MI

July 16 – Christine Power, Naperville, Ill

July 23 – Helen Hawley, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Grand Rapids

July 30 – GVSU Carillon Collaborative: Karen Meyers, Anna Colby and Loretta Lanning

August 6 – Todd Fair, University of Denver

August 13 – Lee Cobb, Assistant Carillonneur, Historic Bok Sanctuary, Lake Wales, FL

August 20 – Karel Keldermans, Carillonneur, Rees Memorial Carillon, Springfield, IL

The Beckering Family Carillon Series runs Wednesdays in July at noon, rain or shine, at the Lacks International Plaza, DeVos Center, Pew Grand Rapids Campus. Performers include:

July 5 – Dennis Curry, Organist, Kirk in the Hills, Bloomfield Hills, MI

July 12 – Julianne Vanden Wyngaard, GVSU Carillonneur

July 19 – Steven Ball, Carillonneur, University of Michigan

July 26 – Linda Dzuris, Carillonneur, Clemson University, South Carolina

## Provost named interim president at Grand Valley State University

For immediate release June 1, 2006

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- The Board of Trustees of Grand Valley State University appointed Gayle R. Davis, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, as the interim president to serve between July 1 and the hiring of a new university president at a special meeting held this morning on the Pew Grand Rapids campus.

The board also formally accepted the resignation of President Mark A. Murray who announced in January that he will leave the university to become president of Meijer Inc. Murray's resignation takes effect August 1, but he will begin taking earned vacation time July 1.

The board unanimously passed the resolution and Davis got a standing ovation from board members and colleagues present at the meeting. She said it's very natural for the chief academic officer to be tapped for the interim role and she already is involved with the president's work. "Mark and I already work so closely together," Davis pointed out. "There's not a lot I'm not familiar with, and Mark and I plan to work even more closely in the next month getting me prepared to serve as interim president for as long as I'm needed."

Donna Brooks, chair of the President Search Advisory Committee (SAC), said the university may only need an interim president for a short period of time. The SAC is charged with getting a list of suitable candidates to the Presidential Search Committee by June 30. "We are right on schedule, perhaps even ahead of schedule," said Brooks. "I am very pleased with the candidates we have so far."

Davis, who has been at Grand Valley since 2002, said she does not want the job permanently. She stressed that she's very comfortable working with the academic side of the university and looks forward to working with another strong leader as president.

For more information, contact Mary Eilleen Lyon, News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221.

June 2, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221 or [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu).

### Shooting begins on GVSU Summer Film Project

ALLENDALE, Mich. - Shooting a short film at more than half a dozen locations is not unusual; doing it in less than two weeks is. Such is the schedule for the Grand Valley State University Summer Film Project - again.

Now in its 12th year, the unique project offers Grand Valley students in the School of Communications an opportunity to work side-by-side with film industry professionals and use a half-million dollar Panaflex Super 16 film camera, on loan through a generous program with Panavision. They produce a short film, from start to finish, during two 6-week classes, and premiere the finished project at a local theater in the fall.

This year's screenplay, "Story Time," was written by Elizabeth C. Grant of Sherman Oaks, California. Grant's writing credits include a produced one-act play and an article in Playboy. She currently teaches sociology at Chabot College and continues with her screenwriting. Her script was selected out of 68 competition entries from 13 states and three countries. It is a serious, character-driven story that unfolds as the film progresses, about a woman in her 30s who is a recovering alcoholic.

"My connection to the subject of alcoholism in 'Story Time' is indirect," said Grant. "Many people close to me have had a parent who struggled with alcohol ... My focus was not on their drinking struggle, but on redemption after the person decided to stop drinking."

"Story time" will be produced and directed by Robert Hurst, an independent filmmaker and visiting professor in the GVSU film and video production major. Hollywood cameraman Jack Anderson has returned for his 5th Summer Film Project as director of photography. Hurst and Anderson will lead an all-student film crew made up of GVSU film/video majors.

The pre-production class time was spent on tasks such as scouting locations, gathering props and auditioning for the 30 cast members. The second class jumped into filming, beginning on June 3, at the Grand Haven pier, with hopes of completing post production work by August 5. That is the date Hurst is scheduled to move for a new position he's accepted at University of Kansas.

"A certain level of anxiety keeps things moving along," said Hurst. "My favorite time is to be on set with the actors. We don't really rehearse much, so it's really fresh, with a lot of energy."

Last year's summer film project was a comedy, "The Gospel According to Roy," produced and directed by John Harper Philbin, from Grand Valley. It has been making the current film festival circuit, including the Big Island Film Festival in Hawaii, the Durango Independent Film Festival in Colorado, and Michigan film festivals in Muskegon, Detroit, and East Lansing. It also was one of six winners in the Film and Video Competition at the Grand Rapids Festival of the Arts 2006.

Two GVSU student-directors, Andy Fortenbacher and Todd Campbell, won one of three top prizes at the Muskegon Film Festival in February, for their short film "Delirium." Jeremy Howe, who studied film at Grand Valley, is a finalist in the upcoming Waterfront Film Festival in Saugatuck, June 8-11, for his film drama, "Beautiful Loser."

The Grand Valley film & video production major emphasizes the integration of theory and practice, of liberal and professional studies, and of film, video, and digital technologies. The curriculum integrates hands-on production experience with the insights offered by media history, theory and interpretations.

Media may contact Robert Hurst at (616) 331-3607 or [hurstr@gvsu.edu](mailto:hurstr@gvsu.edu).



For immediate release

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221  
June 7, 2006

**Media opportunity: GVSU conference Thursday**

College employment associations, businesses network at conference

Representatives from Michigan colleges and businesses will discuss and strategize ways higher education and employers can partner to prepare tomorrow's workforce.

More than 130 people will meet at Grand Valley State University's Allendale Campus on Thursday, June 8, for the annual conference of the Michigan Association of Collegiate Career and Employment Services and the Michigan Council for Internships and Cooperative Education.

A highlight of the day is an afternoon "think tank" discussion with the following people:

- George Erickcek, Upjohn Institute
- John Macilroy, Michigan Manufacturers' Association
- Mike Corbin, Michigan Nonprofit Association
- Anne Rosewarne, Michigan Health Council
- Mark A. Murray, GVSU president
- Norman Christopher, GVSU Sustainability Initiative
- David Rule, Muskegon Community College president.

The think tank will run from 1:45-3:15 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room. Media members are welcome to cover the event.

During an earlier luncheon, Alticor will receive the Intern/Co-op Employer of the Year award. The luncheon begins at noon, also in the Kirkhof Center.

For more information about the conference, contact News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

June 7, 2006

For immediate release

Contact Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services,  
(616) 331-2221 or pirkolam@gvsu.edu

### Camp shows girls the steps to engineering careers

ALLENDALE, Mich. – Select middle school girls from throughout the state will attend classes in aerodynamics, plastics technology and computer aided design, and then use the skills to construct a remote controlled plane. It's all part of the STEPS Camp experience, or Science Technology and Engineering Preview Summer day camps. Two sessions at Grand Valley State University will run June 19-22 and June 26-29.

The goal of the camp is to show young women what it takes to become an engineer. The program targets girls at two critical stages. As they enter seventh grade and again in 10th and 11th grade. Introducing them early to the opportunities for technical careers allows them to choose appropriate math, science and technical courses throughout middle and high school.

STEPS is tuition-free and was created in 1997 at the University of Wisconsin-Stout as part of an effort to attract more women and minorities into the field of engineering. The program at Grand Valley is one of 12 schools in seven states. STEPS was brought to Michigan by the Society of Manufacturing Engineers Educational Foundation, located in Dearborn, Mich.

The program at Grand Valley is structured for middle school girls. It is sponsored by Grand Valley's Padnos College of Engineering and Computing, the School of Engineering, and the Regional Math and Science Center. This year's program has received funding and support from the Alcoa Foundation, Michigan Space Grant Consortium and Grand Valley State University. More than 100 girls statewide qualified for the 80 openings. Campers were selected by lottery. This is the fifth year that GVSU has sponsored the STEPS Program and upon completion will have hosted more than 380 girls.

Twenty female engineers from Howmet Castings, an Alcoa business in Whitehall, are involved in the STEPS program and will provide a tour and participate in laboratory operations. Campers receive hands-on experience working with engineers, faculty from Grand Valley, and other volunteers. The girls learn how to adapt, modify and assemble parts for construction of their airplanes.

## **MEDIA OPPORTUNITY**

**\*\*Campers will fly their airplanes at the Warped Wings Fly Field located at the corner of Alger and 56th Avenue in Allendale, Mich. Fly dates for the two camp sessions are from 6-8:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 22 and June 29.**

**For a complete schedule of camp events or more information, contact Margo Dill at (616) 331-2267 and visit [www.gvsu.edu/steps](http://www.gvsu.edu/steps).**

June 9, 2006

For immediate release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221.

Media Day scheduled for GVSU Summer Film Project

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. - Hollywood cinematographer Jack Anderson has returned to Grand Rapids for his fifth year as director of photography. California native Elizabeth C. Grant is coming on location to see her script "Story Time," translated to film. It's all part of an intensive 12-weeks known as the GVSU Summer Film Project.

Now in its 12th year, the unique project offers Grand Valley State University students in the School of Communications an opportunity to work side-by-side with film industry professionals and use professional equipment, including a half-million dollar Panaflex Super 16 film camera, on loan through a generous program with Panavision. They produce a short film, from start to finish, during two 6-week classes, and premiere the finished project at a local theater in the fall.

**\*\*\*MEDIA OPPORTUNITY\*\*\***

Due to many requests, a Media Day has been scheduled on the filming location for Tuesday, June 13 from 3:30 p.m. to about 6 p.m. The location is the home of Toni Perrine, a professor in the GVSU Film Program. The address is 220 Jefferson SE, at the corner of Aurora, in Grand Rapids. The scene being filmed is exterior shots of a party.

"Story Time" is being produced and directed by Robert Hurst, an independent filmmaker and visiting professor in the GVSU film and video production major. Hurst and Anderson are leading an all-student film crew made up of GVSU film/video majors, including first assistant director Adam Werth and camera operator Bob Jardien.

Filming challenges have included an evening accident scene where a child actor is trapped in a car in a river. Art Director Dave Soukup said among the many safety precautions they planned are an off-camera tow truck cable securing the car in the river and a crew member with blankets and life jackets hiding in the back seat.

This year's screenplay, "Story Time," was written by Elizabeth C. Grant of Sherman Oaks, California. Grant's writing credits include a produced one-act play and an article in Playboy. She currently teaches sociology at Chabot College and continues with her screenwriting. Her script was selected out of 68 competition entries from 13 states and three countries. It is a serious, character-driven story that unfolds as the film progresses, about a woman in her 30s who is a

recovering alcoholic.

For more information contact Mary Isca Pirkola at GVSU News and information (616) 331-2221.

For Immediate Release

June 9, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, Grand Valley News and Information Services

NASA expert to speak at Grand Valley State University conference  
Workshops highlight service-learning and science

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. - Teachers and administrators can gain a firm knowledge of civil society and citizen action at Grand Valley's Learning to Give Summer Institute, sponsored by the College of Education.

The Summer Institute will take place June 19-21, in the DeVos Center at the Pew Grand Rapids Campus. A schedule of events and a list of speakers can be found at [www.gvsu.edu/coesummerinstitute](http://www.gvsu.edu/coesummerinstitute).

The institute focuses on methods of academic service-learning, combining service-learning in the community and classroom learning. "Students tend to better remember trips they take outside of school or service they perform in school," said Clay Pelon, assistant director of Community Outreach in the College of Education. "We help teachers prepare lessons to make the most of these 'teachable moments.'"

#### MEDIA OPPORTUNITY

The Summer Institute features a number of keynote speakers including Sheila G. Bailey and Joseph Kahne.

Bailey's presentation, "Science Throughout the Curriculum," will be given June 19, at Celebration Cinema where participants will spend the afternoon and watch an IMAX movie.

Bailey is a senior physicist in the Photovoltaic and Space Environments Branch at NASA's John H. Glenn Research Center. She is currently the lead investigator in nanomaterials and nanostructures for Space Photovoltaics, a part of the Exploration Systems initiative. Bailey earned her bachelor's degree in physics from Duke University, her master's degree in physics from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and her doctorate in solid state physics from the University of Manchester in England.

Kahne will give his presentation, "Teaching Democracy," June 20, at the Gerald R. Ford Museum from 8-9:30 a.m.

Kahne holds the Kathryn P. Hannam Chair and is the director of the doctoral program in educational leadership and research director for the Institute for Civic Leadership at Mills College. Kahne publishes regularly in leading educational journals on the democratic purposes of education and on urban school reform.

For more information, contact Clay Pelon at (616) 915-2791 or Grand Valley News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221, or visit [www.gvsu.edu/coesummerinstitute](http://www.gvsu.edu/coesummerinstitute).

For immediate release

June 19, 2006

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

**Partnership could help improve health of Muskegon area residents**

– New initiative will draw on strengths of Grand Valley, Muskegon Community Health Project

A new community/university research partnership between the Muskegon Community Health Project and Grand Valley State University will aggressively expand health research in Muskegon County and West Michigan.

Representatives from both institutions said they hope this partnership will lead to the establishment of a permanent interdisciplinary health research center.

The partnership will tap the resources and community insight of MCHP and the research capabilities of faculty members from Grand Valley's Kirkhof College of Nursing, College of Health Professions and other university departments.

Vondie Moore Woodbury, director of the MCHP, said the partnership began about three years ago when nursing faculty members conducted a study on diabetes. Funded by the Blue Cross/Blue Shield Foundation, it focused on diabetes self-management among African Americans in the Muskegon area. At the conclusion of the study, participants had improved in controlling their diabetes.

"After that project, we were intrigued by the notion of doing more," Woodbury said. "We're excited to partner with Grand Valley; it allows us to bring in more resources. We're not such a large city that we get a lot of research dollars.

"This is a good marriage and it will be good for researchers: Muskegon County demographics are reflective of Michigan as a whole. This population exceeds state norms for diabetes and hypertension." Woodbury graduated from Grand Valley in 1971; she then earned a master's of public administration degree from Western Michigan University.

Cynthia Coviak, associate professor of nursing and KCON director of Nursing Research and Faculty Development, said she and other nursing faculty members will staff the center's office at least once a week. The office is in the Michigan Alternative and Renewable Energy Center, 200 Viridian Drive. An open house to introduce the partnership to the community is planned for early September.

Future research studies could include women's awareness of cervical cancer screenings and methods to improve bone health, Coviak said. Translation research will also be a major emphasis of the partnership. That research brings pioneering remedies for health problems that were previously tested in controlled environments to "real world" communities, she said.

"The center has great potential to benefit the community," she said. Grand Valley students will be involved in conducting some research projects with faculty members. Coviak said the partnership fits well into Grand Valley's mission of scholarship and service to the community.

Jane Toot, dean of GVSU's College of Health Professions (comprised of eight programs including physical therapy, occupational therapy and physician assistant studies), echoed that



sentiment and said it is important for Grand Valley to be involved throughout the West Michigan region.

She added that occupational therapy faculty members are interested in conducting a mental health study in Muskegon, and PAS faculty are interested in studying obesity trends and senior citizens who have trouble with balance.

Media note: Interviews with Toot, Coviak and Woodbury can be arranged by calling the News and Information Services Office at (616) 331-2221.

About the Muskegon Community Health Project: It opened its doors in 1994 with a goal of moving the community toward a state of wellness. It is now recognized as one of the most innovative and successful incubators for health initiatives in the nation, hosting a variety of collaboratives, service programs and initiatives.

June 20, 2006

For immediate release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221.

Research vessel to gather samples from White Lake

Urged by an association of 288 concerned citizens and the support of Rep. David Farhat, R-Fruitport, an analysis of the White Lake water quality will be launched on Wednesday, June 21.

**\*\*\* MEDIA OPPORTUNITY\*\*\***

State Rep. David Farhat will be on hand, as will Al Steinman, director of Grand Valley State University's Annis Water Resources Institute and Jim Duncan, president of the White Lake Association, when the Mucksucker, a pontoon research vessel, is launched at the Montague Municipal Boat Launch at 7:30 am. The possibility of inclement weather could delay the launch by one day, though the representatives will be at the site to address the media on Wednesday. Call (616) 502-3419 that morning to determine if the launch will take place. The rain date is the following day, Thursday, June 22, same time and location.

Directions to the ramp are simple. Take 31 north to Colby/Whitehall exit. Take Colby over the lake into Montague. Make left at first stoplight, make next left (toward lake), which leads to ramp.

The study will be led by Steinman. A team of scientists from Grand Valley's AWRI, located in Muskegon, will spend the day collecting sediment cores from throughout White Lake, taking water quality data and bringing the sediment cores back to their labs for further study.

"Studies are currently underway in White Lake to look at the importance of external sources of phosphorus, but we do not know if internal sources of phosphorus, such as the sediments, are affecting water quality," said Steinman. "We've conducted previous studies on internal phosphorus loading in Mona Lake and Spring Lake, and found that the sediments were a major source of nutrients to the water column, and contributed to algal bloom formation. We need to know if a similar phenomenon is occurring in White Lake."

The sediment cores will be placed in special tubes and transported to AWRI labs where they will be observed over the following three weeks. The amount of phosphorus that diffuses out will be measured and results will determine if further action should be recommended.

"I am happy that Grand Valley is able to help complete this very important study of one of our most cherished resources," said Rep. David Farhat, R-Fruitport. "Through their research, I am confident that the expertise Grand Valley brings to the table will yield results in determining the source of the nutrient loading. This effort would not have been possible without the hard work of GVSU President Mark Murray and Director Al Steinman. My special thanks go out to both of them."

For Immediate Release  
June 23, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

MEDIA NOTE: Terrorism expert available  
Grand Valley State University's Jonathan White in Grand Rapids today

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Jonathan White, terrorism expert and director of the Homeland Defense Initiative, will be available to media today, June 23, for media interviews.

White is traveling the country briefing law enforcement officials about the recruitment of prison gangs and Americans for Jihadists. White said he's been tracking this type of activity for nearly a year.

\*\*Interviews will be held Friday, June 23, from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in room 202A in the DeVos Center on Grand Valley's Pew Campus, 401 W. Fulton.

For more information, contact News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

For Immediate Release

June 23, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

Grand Valley to offer new animal control officer training  
Program first in the state to offer comprehensive training

ALLENDALE, Mich. - Grand Valley State University is the first in Michigan, possibly the nation, to provide comprehensive animal control officer training. Beginning in fall 2006, Grand Valley's Criminal Justice Education Center will offer 135 hours of training in topics ranging from animal identification and behavior to legal procedures and investigative techniques.

To be eligible for employment as an animal control officer in Michigan an individual must successfully complete 100 hours of training accepted by the Michigan Department of Agriculture. Williamson N. Wallace, director of Criminal Justice Training at Grand Valley, said currently there are no standardized training requirements.

"This program has the full support of the MDA," said Wallace. "Upon successful completion, graduates will have satisfied all training and educational requirements necessary to seek employment as an animal control officer in Michigan."

The program runs from Oct. 2 to Dec. 15, 2006, and has the endorsement of the Michigan Department of Agriculture, Michigan Association of Animal Control Officers and the Michigan Humane Society. Application information is available through the Criminal Justice Education Center at (616) 331-7153.

For more information, contact Williamson Wallace at (616) 331-8515 or News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

June 27, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

#### GVSU July Events

Ongoing through September 22, Grand Valley State University Art Gallery exhibition "Sources and Resources: Works in Textiles and Metals" features art by Ann Baddeley Keister, Patricia Nelson, Anne McKenzie Nickolson, Jo Morasco and the late Diane Itter. Object makers all, each artist uses sources from art history, the decorative and/or ethnographic arts to inform the imagery in their work. Lecture and reception with artists on Thursday, September 7. Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. Call (616) 331-2564. [Beautiful photos available.]

#### GVSU Jazz concert features legendary trumpeter Vincent DiMartino

One of America's leading trumpet performers and teachers, Vincent DiMartino, will perform a recital at 7 p.m. on Monday, July 24, at Grand Valley State University. DiMartino will be the special guest artist in the Second Annual Trumpet Seminar held at Grand Valley. Admission is free for the concert, held in the Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. For more information call (616) 331-3484, or visit [www.gvsu.edu/music](http://www.gvsu.edu/music).

The Grand Valley State University Summer Carillon Series brings many opportunities to hear some of the world's finest carillonneurs on both campuses. All performances are free and held rain or shine, except during severe weather alerts. For more information call (616) 331-3484. [Photos available.]

Cook Carillon Series, Allendale Campus

Sundays at 8 p.m. (rain or shine).

Through August 20

July 2 - Ray McLellan, Michigan State University

July 9 - Julia Ann Walton, Okemos, Mich.

July 16 - Christine Power, Naperville, Ill

July 23 - Helen Hawley, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Grand Rapids

July 30 - GVSU Carillon Collaborative: Karen Meyers, Anna Colby and Loretta Lanning

August 6 - Todd Fair, University of Denver

August 13 - Lee Cobb, Assistant Carillonneur, Historic Bok Sanctuary, Lake Wales, FL

August 20 - Karel Keldermans, Carillonneur, Rees Memorial Carillon, Springfield, Ill

Beckering Family Carillon Center, Lacks International Plaza, DeVos Center, Pew Grand Rapids Campus, Wednesdays in July at noon (rain or shine).

July 5 - Dennis Curry, Organist, Kirk in the Hills, Bloomfield Hills, Mich.

July 12 - Julianne Vanden Wyngaard, GVSU Carillonneur

July 19 - Steven Ball, Carillonneur, University of Michigan

July 26 - Linda Dzuris, Carillonneur, Clemson University, South Carolina

**For Immediate Release**

**ALLENDALE, Mich. - The Grand Valley State University Board of Trustees plans to put outgoing President Mark A. Murray's name on one of its newer living centers on the Allendale Campus.**

**Board Chair Jessie Dalman presented a citation as a surprise to Murray at the university's annual Enrichment Dinner Wednesday night in Grand Rapids.**

**The living center is currently known as South A and it was opened in the fall of 2004 during Murray's five-year tenure.**

**Murray will leave Grand Valley August 1 to become president of Meijer Inc.**

**The board will formally vote on the resolution to name the living center for Murray at its July 10 board meeting.**

**For more information, call News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.**



For immediate release

June 29, 2006

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

#### **New GVSU coordinator will help Saudi students adjust**

About 45 Saudi students are expected to enroll at Grand Valley State University throughout the 2006-07 academic year. They are some of the 5,000 Saudi students who will attend American colleges and universities under a scholarship program created by the Saudi government and supported by U.S. officials.

To help the students get acquainted with Grand Valley and the community, the Padnos International Center created a new part-time position. Suzane Itani, Saudi Arabian student services coordinator, said she will also hold training sessions for faculty and staff over the summer to help them understand the cultural differences Saudi students could present.

"For example, if the students don't participate in class, I don't want faculty to take it the wrong way. They may be very quiet in class, but it's their way of learning," Itani said. "Women here have lots of power and are equal to men; men in Saudi Arabia are quite segregated from women for cultural respect."

Itani is a recent GVSU graduate and has been president of the Arab Culture Club. Her parents are from Lebanon but she lives in Grand Rapids.

Jim Crawley, Grand Valley associate director for International Recruitment, was part of a small contingent who traveled to Washington, D.C., to give a presentation about Grand Valley to Saudi officials. After the presentation Crawley said the university was placed on a list of "approved schools" Saudi students could attend.

"Creating this position is really a forward-thinking move for Grand Valley," he said. "It's important with any population to understand cultures and it's crucial to train the campus community. We're not asking our people to change or the Saudi students to change, but adding Suzane's position will benefit everyone."

Grand Valley annually hosts about 150 international students. Kate Stoetzner, director of International Student and Scholar Services, said Grand Valley signed a letter of intent with other Michigan universities to investigate the possibilities of recruiting more Saudi students to the state.

With so many choices, why would Saudi students choose Grand Valley? Itani said reasons include the university's proximity to Dearborn (home to the largest Arab population in the U.S.) and that Grand Valley has a partnership with ELS Language Centers. The center is in the Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences; about 45 foreign students and professionals take language classes there.

Contacts: Suzane Itani and Kate Stoetzner (616) 331-3898; Jim Crawley (616) 331-2025

For Immediate Release

June 30, 2006

Contact: GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221.

### Grand Valley to hold mock chemical spill

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Room 372 in the Padnos Hall of Science will be the scene of a mock chemical spill on the Allendale Campus of Grand Valley State University. Grand Valley students and staff and area agencies will respond to handle victims and identify, contain and clean up the spill.

The mock chemical spill will take place Thursday, July 13, beginning at 6 p.m. The departments involved include Grand Valley's Department of Public Safety, Facilities Services, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences and News and Information Services. The Ottawa County Hazmat Team, Ottawa County Sheriff's Department (Emergency Management Unit), Allendale Fire Department, LIFE EMS and Environmental Health Resources, Inc. are also taking part.

**MEDIA NOTE:** Media will have access to designated areas at the chemical lab and the decontamination area. Interviews can be conducted after the drill and possibly during the drill. Media should look for the Ottawa County Sheriff's Department communications trailer parked in front of Padnos Hall.

"This is a team effort," said David Cox, safety manager at Grand Valley. "This will be a chance for us to actively validate our current emergency plan with the county Hazmat team and improve procedures with the various public and private agencies responding to a university emergency."

Cox said the chemistry department is taking this initiative so students can be confident they will receive, in circumstances as safe as possible, the state of the art education that will be valuable for them now, as they enter the workforce and throughout their lives. Students from the Occupational Safety and Health Management program will be assisting.

For more information, contact David Cox at (616) 890-2307, or News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

For Immediate Release

July 3, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, News and Information Services

Alexander Hamilton: The Man Who Made Modern America

Exhibition and lecture series begins July 10

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — George Will wrote, "We honor Jefferson, but we live in Hamilton's country, a mighty industrial nation with a strong central government."

Grand Valley State University's Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies and the Spring Lake District Library partnered to organize a series of lectures around the exhibit, "Alexander Hamilton: The Man Who Made America."

The exhibit will be at the Spring Lake District Library, 123 E. Exchange St., from July 10-August 18.

"We live in Alexander Hamilton's America. He continues to fascinate us because he tells us about who we are as Americans," said Gleaves Whitney, director of the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies. "We are proud to partner with New York Historical Society and the Spring Lake District Library to bring this Hamilton exhibit to West Michigan and to explore the life of this fascinating founding father in greater detail."

The lecture series begins at 7 p.m. on Monday, July 10, when Jason Duncan, assistant professor of history at Aquinas College, will discuss "Alexander Hamilton: The Life of a Revolutionary American." Duncan worked in the U.S. House of Representatives for three years after earning a doctorate in history from the University of Iowa.

Other lectures will begin at 7 p.m. as follows:

\_ July 18: "The Roots of the Hamilton-Jefferson Feud," by John Pinheiro, assistant professor of history at Aquinas College.

\_ July 25: "God, Politics and Alexander Hamilton," by James D. Bratt, professor of history at Calvin College.

\_ August 1: "The Indispensable Aide: Alexander Hamilton," by Gleaves Whitney, director of the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies.

For more information about the Hamilton exhibit or featured speakers, contact Gleaves Whitney, director of the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies at (616) 331-2770, or visit [www.allpresidents.org](http://www.allpresidents.org).

For immediate release  
July 10, 2006

Contact: Michele Coffill, News and Information Services

### **GVSU board appoints university's new president**

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- The Grand Valley State University Board of Trustees appointed Thomas J. Haas the university's fourth president at today's board meeting.

Haas has been president of the State University of New York campus at Cobleskill since 2003. He is succeeding Mark A. Murray, who is leaving the university August 1 to become president of Meijer Inc.

"We assured the university community in January that we would work diligently to find the right person who would embrace our vision and bring the skill set needed to continue to build upon the successes of this outstanding university," said Donna Brooks, chair of the Presidential Search Advisory Committee and the Board of Trustees. "His qualities meet the highest standards and leadership criteria set forth by the board and we are confident he and his wife are the perfect fit for Grand Valley and West Michigan."

Haas has professional and personal ties to Michigan. He is a 1973 honors graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy and served two years on the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Acacia in Port Huron. He then earned a Master of Science in chemistry and another in environmental health sciences at the University of Michigan. Haas also holds a Master of Science in human resource management from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and a Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of Connecticut.

During the past 20 years, Haas has been a tenured faculty member, department chair, dean, vice president and president.

Haas is an internationally recognized expert in hazardous material transportation and has published more than 70 articles in a variety of journals. In addition to his appointment as president of Grand Valley, Haas has also been appointed professor of chemistry.

"Dr. Haas is the visionary, collaborative, experienced leader that Grand Valley needs in its next president as the university continues to grow and develop," said Gayle R. Davis, interim president and provost at Grand Valley. "I'm anticipating a great future for all of us."

Haas' official appointment date is July 10, 2006, although he will assume the duties of the office August 22, 2006. His annual salary will be \$185,000 and a deferred compensation plan of \$25,000 per year will be established that requires Haas to complete three years as president of Grand Valley State University.

Haas' nomination for president was considered by the 18-member presidential search advisory committee, made up of faculty, staff, a student, an alumni representative and a community member. He was subsequently interviewed by the committee and the Board of Trustees. He is the board's unanimous choice to be Grand Valley's next president.

"I am thrilled to be called to service at Grand Valley," said Haas. "The legacy of Mark Murray

and others is a solid foundation upon which to build Grand Valley's mission of shaping students to shape their societies. I look forward to working with colleagues inside and outside the university to advance Grand Valley as a learning community with a global vision."

Haas is married to Marcia (Knapp) Haas, who is a native of Union City and a graduate of Albion College. They have three children and one grandchild and have other family living in Grand Rapids.

There is more biographical information, a streamed video interview and a downloadable photo of Haas available at [www.gvsu.edu/newpresident](http://www.gvsu.edu/newpresident).

Grand Valley State University attracts more than 22,000 students with high quality programs and state-of-the-art facilities. Grand Valley is the comprehensive regional university for the state's second largest metropolitan area and offers 70 undergraduate and 26 graduate degree programs. It has campuses in Allendale, Grand Rapids, and Holland and centers in Muskegon and Traverse City. The university is dedicated to individual student achievement, going beyond the traditional classroom experience, with research opportunities and business partnerships.

For more information, contact Mary Eilleen Lyon, News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221.

For Immediate Release  
July 10, 2006

Contact: Grand Valley State University News and Information Services, 616-331-2221

GVSU news release: Board sets tuition

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- Grand Valley State University's Board of Trustees approved the university's operating budget and set tuition for the current fiscal year at its meeting today.

The state's appropriation of \$64.8 million to Grand Valley is equal to \$3,174 per student -- the lowest among the state's 15 public universities. It's an increase of \$38 per student over last year's award.

In adopting the university budget, the Board of Trustees voted to raise tuition for the next academic year by 5.9 percent. That means tuition for a full-time Michigan resident freshman will go up just \$184 for a total of \$3,294 per semester.

"Students at Grand Valley can be assured that they are getting an outstanding educational value for their tuition dollar," said Board Chair Jessie F. Dalman. "While no one likes to raise tuition, we have an obligation to ensure quality instruction and availability of classes. When our students are able to enroll in the classes they need in order to graduate on time, that ultimately saves them money. Today's budget helps us achieve that important objective."

In other action, the board elected current board members Donna Brooks, of Holland, as chair, and Lucille Taylor, of Laingsburg, as vice chair.

For Immediate Release  
July 10, 2006

Contact: Grand Valley State University News and Information Services, 616-331-2221

GVSU news release: Board sets tuition

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For Immediate Release  
July 13, 2006

Contact: GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221.

**Media Advisory: Grand Valley to hold mock chemical spill today**

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**MEDIA NOTE:** Media will have access to designated areas at the chemical lab and the decontamination area. Interviews can be conducted after the drill and possibly during the drill. Media should look for the Ottawa County Sheriff's Department communications trailer parked in front of Padnos Hall.

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For more information, contact David Cox, GVSU safety manager, at (616) 890-2307, or News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.



For Immediate Release

July 19, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

Day in the park focuses on reducing domestic violence

Grand Valley's Kirkhof College of Nursing partners with Southwest Area Neighborhood Organization

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — An afternoon in the park, filled with games, music, snacks, prizes and education booths, will focus on preventing community violence during "A Family Affair: Raising Awareness on Violence in our Community."

The event will be Thursday, July 20, from 4-6 p.m. at Servant's Church Pocket Park, on the corner of Straight and Fulton streets in Grand Rapids.

Nursing students from Grand Valley State University will present information on the prevention of domestic violence, bullying, child abuse, and abuse of the disabled and elderly vulnerable populations. The 36 nursing students and four clinical faculty are clinical based at The Other Way Ministries, Grand Rapids Correction Center, Mount Mercy Senior Apartments, Kent County Disability Advocates and Kent County Health Department.

Music will be provided by A Thousand Plateaus, and a balloon launch is scheduled for 5 p.m.

The event will begin the Southwest Neighborhood Organization's initiative to contribute to the national goal to reduce domestic violence. Supporting sponsors include: Children's Assessment Center, Life Guidance Services, Old Country Buffet, Safe Haven Ministries, Stockbridge Business Association, Grand Rapids Weed & Seed, "The Other Way" Ministries, Servant's Community Church, and West Fulton Business Association.

For more information, contact Marilyn C. Vander Werf, assistant professor in the Kirkhof College of Nursing, at (616) 331-7177 or Grand Valley's News and Information Services office at (616) 313-2221.

For Immediate Release  
July 26, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

Grand Valley announces new chair of music and dance

ALLENDALE, Mich. — As he joins Grand Valley State University on July 31, the new chair of the Department of Music and Dance program, Danny Phipps, said he feels like he's come full circle by returning to academia.

"I left academia so that I could perform full time, which I did for 20 years with a career in the U.S. Air Force," said Phipps, a bassoonist. "I've even performed in Grand Rapids a few times."

Phipps is a 1976 graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, where he was a student of the great bassoonist and pedagogue Sol Schoenbach and chamber music student of John DeLancie and Mason Jones. He earned a Master of Arts degree in music history and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in bassoon performance from The Catholic University of America in Washington D.C. Prior to his Air Force career, Phipps was performing and joined the faculty of Baylor University in Waco, Texas.

While based in Washington, D.C. with the Air Force, Phipps also taught for many years as an adjunct professor at Shenandoah University in Virginia. When he retired from his military career in 2002, he began teaching there full time, and became associate dean of the Conservatory.

"The music and dance faculty at Grand Valley are pleased that Danny Phipps is joining us as chairperson," said Lee Copenhaver, who has served as interim chair. "He is a very fine musician and an analytical and very ambitious developer of programs."

His final position with the Air Force Band included work as their personnel manager, dealing with all aspects of the 200 band and staff members, from health issues to legal and financial problems of individuals.

"Professor Phipps comes to us with a very distinctive and extraordinary range of experience," said Fred Antczak, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Grand Valley. "His performance career brings a global perspective to learning music. Additionally, having served as director of personnel, manager and chief personnel officer in the USAF concert band, he brings extraordinary organizational and managerial experience to chairing the department."

Phipps will have his debut recital at Grand Valley on Monday, November 6, at 8 p.m. in Cook-DeWitt Center. Phipps, on bassoon, will be accompanied by Robert Byrens on piano. A reception will follow.

For more information call (616) 331- 3484, or Grand Valley News and Information at (616) 331-2221.

For Immediate Release  
July 27, 2006

Contact: Brian J. Bowe at (616) 331-2221 or [boweb@gvsu.edu](mailto:boweb@gvsu.edu)

GVSU offers public cruises on the D.J. Angus

Grand Valley State University's Annis Water Resources Institute will celebrate 20 years in Grand Haven by offering hands-on water quality sampling cruises on its research and education vessel, the D.J. Angus.

The cruises will be August 22 and 24 from 4:30-6 p.m. and 6:30 to 8 p.m. There is no charge for the trips, but registration is required. Call (616) 331-3749 to register. The capacity on the Angus is limited to 25 people, so each trip is limited to the first 25 to register. Participants must be able to easily get on and off a vessel, and they must be at least 8 years old. Trip details and the location of the Grand Haven dock site will be provided upon registration.

The cruises last around 90 minutes, departing from downtown Grand Haven and traveling out a mile or two into Lake Michigan. Passengers will be actively involved in sampling and testing the water. If water conditions are too rough on Lake Michigan, sampling will take place in Spring Lake. Key water-resource related issues facing West Michigan and the Great Lakes will be emphasized by the onboard science instructors.

More than 63,000 people have experienced water quality sampling on the Angus since 1986. Area school groups have been using the Angus for many years, but this is an opportunity for adults to experience hands-on science as they explore local waters. Highlights of the trip include using water quality testing equipment, looking at the microscopic organisms in the water, and finding out what is on the bottom of the lake.

The Grand Haven Area Community Foundation, through its Youth Advisory Council and the Robert B. and Muriel R. Mersereau Fund, are providing funding for the trips.

Visit GVNow, Grand Valley's online news source: <http://www.gvsu.edu/gvnow>

July 31, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact Grand Valley State University News and Information Services

(616) 331-2221 for photos.

Dialogue promotes understanding of Jewish, Christian and Muslim faiths

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. – The current state of the Middle East reinforces the confusion of many people who are trying to understand the underlying reasons behind the conflict. Since 1991, the West Shore Committee for Jewish/Christian Dialogue has set a goal of instilling mutual respect and a free exchange of theological insights and ideas that foster greater understanding and mutual acceptance.

On Tuesday, October 24, a program "Religion and Power: The Power to Create, the Power to Destroy," will feature distinguished scholars James Carroll, Vincent Cornell, and Donniel Hartman. Held at Grand Valley State University's Eberhard Center, Pew Grand Rapids Campus, the program includes a full day of sessions where each of the three experts will speak on their religion, followed by responses from the other two speakers. An evening session will engage all three presenters and Martin E. Marty, who will be the moderator of the entire program.

Sylvia Kaufman, one of the founders of the Muskegon based group, stresses that this isn't a political event, but a theological dialogue. The committee has provided a major dialogue program of regional and national significance every three years. This year, the program has been expanded to include a Muslim speaker and has moved to Grand Rapids in collaboration with Grand Valley.

This event is sponsored by the Lily Endowment Inc., the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids, The Grand Rapids Community Foundation, the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation, Community Foundation for Muskegon County, United Jewish Charities of Greater Muskegon, Community Foundation of the Holland Zeeland Area, Grand Rapids Center for Ecumenism, Muskegon County Cooperating Churches and numerous West Michigan Individuals, organizations and corporations.

Such generous support makes it possible to offer the full day program for a mere \$10 registration fee. Those registrants have the option of purchasing the \$10 lunch and/or a dinner/discussion for \$20. The evening session after the dinner is open to the public without charge.

For more information contact:

Sylvia Kaufman at (231) 727-3407 or sylkaufman@aol.com or

Douglas Kindschi at kindschd@gvsu.edu

or visit [www.jewishchristiandialogue.org](http://www.jewishchristiandialogue.org)

#### **SPEAKER INFORMATION:**

James Carroll is an ordained Catholic priest who left the priesthood to become a writer. The author of 10 novels and several award-winning nonfiction books lectures widely on Jewish-Christian reconciliation, on Catholic reform and on war and peace. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and has been a fellow at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and at Harvard Divinity School.

Vincent Cornell is a practicing Muslim and was recently named the Asa Griggs Candler Professor of Middle East and Islamic Studies at Emory University. He previously served as Professor of History and Director of the King Fahd Center for Middle East and Islamic Studies at the University of Arkansas as well as Chair of Studies in the Religious Studies Program. He is a nationally known scholar in Islamic Studies and his expertise extends across the entire field, from Islamic history to theology and law.

Donniel Hartman, an Orthodox Rabbi, is Co-Director of the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem, a leading innovator in the field of pluralistic Jewish thought and Judaic research. It is a major center for Rabbinic, teacher, and lay leadership education as well as interfaith learning. He holds degrees in Jewish and General Philosophy from Hebrew University, N.Y.U. and Temple University where he majored in Christianity and Islam. He earned a Ph.D. in Jewish Philosophy from Hebrew University.

Martin E. Marty is the Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus at the University of Chicago, where he taught in the Divinity School for 35 years. He is the author of more than 50 books, a speaker, columnist and Lutheran pastor. He earned a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago and is the recipient of more than 70 honorary degrees, the National Humanities Award, the National Book Award, and the Medal of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

For Immediate Release

Contact: Brian J. Bowe, (616) 331-2221 or boweb@gvsu.edu

**Green House on Watson ready for occupants**

**Engineering service project provides a warm, eco-friendly home for a family and a learning experience for students**

By this weekend, a Westside family will move into their new environmentally friendly home -- and Grand Valley State University engineering students will begin studying data gathered from the house.

For the past 5 months, Grand Valley State University's School of Engineering and Heartland Builders have partnered with Westtown Jubilee Housing -- a non-profit housing agency on the west side of Grand Rapids -- to build an exceptionally energy efficient home for a low income family. More than 70 engineering students have worked on this home and more than 20 local businesses have joined the effort. The result is a six-bedroom home, dubbed the "Green House on Watson," that is already proving to be exceptionally energy efficient.

The homeowners are Daniel and Melita Powell. The couple has eight children. Melita is the director of the food pantry and as a staff member of The Other Way Ministries, a sister organization to Westtown Jubilee Housing and also a non-profit community development organization. Her husband, Dan (affectionately known as Boone), works at a Grand Rapids YMCA and officiates at college basketball games. Her mother also lives with them.

**MEDIA OPPORTUNITY:** The house is located at 845 Watson S.W. (one block south of Fulton near intersection of Watson and Straight). Before the family moves in on Saturday, there will be several media opportunities at the house:

- Tuesday August 29: The photovoltaic solar panels will be installed on the roof
- Thursday, August 31: The house will be open all day for GVSU employees to tour
- Friday, September 1: The house will be open for the general public from 1-3 in the afternoon

"This is exactly how a university with an urban campus should interact with the neighborhood around the campus -- using our expertise to enhance the quality of life of the people who already live there and investing time and energy to build relationships and also value into our neighborhood," said Shirley Fleischmann, a professor in the Padnos College of Engineering and Computing at Grand Valley who helped spearhead the project.

She added: "Energy efficient housing and wise use of resources -- good stewardship -- is important for everyone but especially for those lower-income families for whom energy related bills are a major part of total expenses. This house brings together many strategies for energy efficiency and provides us with an opportunity to study and evaluate which strategies are most effective."

This will be the fifth house in Grand Rapids to be certified under the U.S. Green Building Council's Pilot Program of LEED-H (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design for residences). The utility costs will be very low, even with a large family living in it. The home will have nine-inch thick insulated concrete form walls and windows that beat Energy Star requirements by a third. Nu-Wool is donating insulation to make an attic with an insulation factor of R-50. The house will have Energy Star appliances, a high efficiency furnace, low-flow faucets and toilets to further reduce demand. The Green House will also capture energy from the sun. Solar panels on the roof will provide hot water, and photovoltaic cells will generate 2 kilowatts of electricity.

GVSU's engineering students will be able to learn a lot from the house once it is occupied. The solar panels will be remotely monitored, sensors embedded in the walls will provide temperature data, and the family has agreed to provide copies of their gas, electric, and water bills. This data will be shared with other engineering schools, with schools in the K-12 system, and with professionals in the building industry.



For Immediate Release

August 2, 2006

Contact: Brian J. Bowe, (616) 331-2221 or [boweb@gvsu.edu](mailto:boweb@gvsu.edu)

GVSU prof: Apes, not Monkeys, Ace IQ Tests

The great apes are the smartest of all nonhuman primates, with orangutans and chimpanzees consistently besting monkeys and lemurs on a variety of intelligence tests, researchers have found. The research was conducted at Duke University Medical Center, and study's leader is now an assistant professor of psychology at Grand Valley State University.

"It's clear that some species can and do develop enhanced abilities for solving particular problems," said Robert O. Deaner, Ph.D., who led the study as part of his doctoral dissertation. "But our results imply that natural selection may favor a general type of intelligence in some circumstances. We suspect that this was crucial in human evolution."

The study was published online July 31, 2006, in the journal *Evolutionary Psychology*. Funding was provided by the medical center's Department of Biological Anthropology and Anatomy.

Experts in psychology broadly define intelligence as general problem-solving skills -- "domain-general cognition" in the parlance of the field. This intelligence allows an animal to tackle new and unpredictable situations. Domain-general cognitive ability is separate from domain-specific abilities for solving certain environmental challenges, such as a bird remembering where it cached food.

Intelligence testing of animals has repeatedly revealed that some species perform better than others. This suggests that some animals have better domain-general skills, Deaner said. However, scientists have been hard-pressed to convincingly prove these differences could be attributed to intelligence, he added.

"The trouble is that one species may outperform another in a problem-solving test not because it's smarter, but because one species is poorly suited to that particular testing situation," he said. For example, one species may be more comfortable grabbing a joystick.

Deaner and his colleagues reasoned that they could refute this premise -- that performance differences resulted from particular testing situations -- by demonstrating that some primate species surpassed others across a wide range of problem-solving tests. Primates are an excellent comparison group because their similar perceptual and motor skills means that the same tests are generally appropriate for all of them, Deaner said. But developing a suitable data set to test this idea was not easy.

"At first we thought gathering the data would require a lifetime," said Deaner, now an assistant professor of psychology at Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Mich. "Ideally, one would test several individuals from each of 20 or 30 species with dozens of cognitive tests, but this certainly didn't seem practical. Then we realized the data had already been gathered by an army of comparative psychologists."

The team first pored through hundreds of published studies, then assigned each testing situation or experiment to one of nine overall paradigms. For example, one paradigm was patterned strings. During the test, a primate is shown an array of crossing strings, only one of which is tethered to a treat. The subject is allowed to pull only one of the strings and must decide before pulling which string is actually attached to the food. The paradigm taps the ability to form spatial representations, considered crucial for intelligent behavior.

The results were clear: there were a few cases where one species performed better than another one in one task and reversed places in a different task, but, overall, some species truly outperformed others. "Our research strengthens the long-standing notion that some animal species truly are more intelligent than others," Deaner said. The smartest species were clearly the great apes -- orangutans, chimpanzees, and gorillas -- which performed much better than monkeys and prosimians.

"The fact that great apes performed better than other primates in these laboratory tasks is reassuring," said Carel van Schaik, Ph.D., a study co-author and director of the Anthropological Institute and Museum at the University of Zurich. "After all, in absolute terms, their brains are the largest and they show the most sophisticated behavior under natural conditions -- deception and culturally-transmitted behavior, including tool-use."

Though some species clearly outperformed others, there was no evidence that any species performed especially well within a particular paradigm. This result contradicts the theory that species differences in intelligence only exist for narrow, specialized skills, Deaner said. Instead, the results argue that some species possess a broad, domain-general type of intelligence that allows them to succeed in a variety of situations.

Team statistician Valen Johnson, Ph.D., a professor of biostatistics at the University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, created a new statistical technique to examine the data for consistency across the various tests. "It was tougher than it looks, because most species were only tested in a few situations," Johnson said. "Conventional methods wouldn't do the job."

Visit GVNow, Grand Valley's online news source: <http://www.gvsu.edu/gvnow>

August 10, 2006

For Immediate Release

For Photos Contact Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221  
or pirkolam@gvsu

Grand Valley State University

Fall 2006 Events

## ART

Grand Valley State University Art Gallery

Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus

Hours: M-F, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Th, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.

(616) 331-2564

All art exhibits, lectures and receptions are free and open to the public.

August/September

[Photo available]

Through September 22

Sources and Resources: Works in Textiles and Metals exhibition, Grand Valley State University Art Gallery, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. Working in the media of textiles and metals, these five artists also used sources from art history, decorative European and American art, as well as ethnographic objects to inform the imagery of their work. Diane Itter, Ann Baddeley Keister, Patricia Nelson, Anne McKenzie Nickolson and Jo Morasco. Call (616) 331-2564 for more information.

Thursday, September 7

GVSU Sources and Resources Exhibition Artists' Lecture. Slide lecture by Patricia Nelson, metalsmith, and Anne McKenzie Nickolson, fiber artist, 4:30-5:30 p.m., Grand River Room, 250 Kirkhof Center. Reception with Artists

5-7 p.m. GVSU Art Gallery, Performing Arts Center. Call (616) 331-2564 for more information.

Thursday, September 21

The Seventh Annual GVSU DeVos Art Lecture: Rudy Pozzatti, Distinguished Professor of Fine Arts, Emeritus, Indiana University and Ann and David Keister, GVSU faculty of the department of Art and Design and donors of the GVSU Master Printer's Proof Collection, present "The Art of

Collaboration in Printmaking: History and Practice." Loosemore Auditorium, DeVos Center, Pew Grand Rapids Campus. Gathering at 5 p.m., lecture at 5:30, followed by a wine and cheese reception. Free parking available in the Front Street lot. Call (616) 331-2564 for more information.

[Photo available]

October 4 – November 3

A GVSU Fall Arts Celebration event: Ancient Sites Revisited: Watercolors of Egypt by Rana Chalabi. Modern Cairo, ancient ruins along the river Nile and daily life in this contemporary Muslim and Coptic society are the subjects of Rana Chalabi's paintings. The Syrian-born artist, who now lives in Cairo, has created a body of new work depicting views of Egypt following the tradition of 19th century Scottish artist David Roberts. See information below about the concurrent exhibition of his work. Reception with Chalabi, 5-7 p.m. on Thursday, October 5 at the GVSU Art Gallery, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. Sponsored by a gift from URS Corporation and a grant from Michigan Humanities Council. Call (616) 331-2564 for more information.

[Photo available]

19th Century Views of Egypt by David Roberts, on loan from Erwin Raibel, New York. This GVSU exhibition, which runs October 4-November 3, concurrently with the GVSU Chalabi exhibit, presents a selection of 34 hand-colored prints by Scottish artist David Roberts (1796-1864) depicting scenes encountered on his travels through Egypt. Allendale Campus, Lake Ontario Hall, Red Wall Gallery. Monday, October 9, 4:30 – 5:45 p.m., Grand River Room, Kirkhof Center, Exhibition Lecture: Dr. Caroline Williams, visiting scholar from the College of William and Mary, will speak on the artist's work and his famous views of Egyptian monuments. Reception 5-7 p.m. on Thursday, October 5, Red Wall Gallery, Lake Ontario Hall. Call (616) 331-2564 for more information.

Bachelor of Fine Arts and School of Communications Senior Thesis Exhibitions. Grand Valley State University continues to showcase the works of graduating seniors in a series of one-week exhibits throughout November and December. Call the GVSU Art Gallery at (616) 331-2564 for specific dates, exhibit locations and participating students.

[Photo available]

January 8-26, 2007

Reconstruction: Recent Work by Dennis Nahabetian and Tara Stephenson.

This exhibition of work by two nationally renowned metalsmiths will be curated by Beverly Seley, from Grand Valley State University's Art and Design faculty. Reception 5-7 p.m., Thursday,

January 18, in the GVSU Art Gallery, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. Call (616) 331-2564 for more information.

## **MUSIC AND DANCE**

Events are free and open to the public unless noted. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

### **September**

[Photo available]

**9/12 Tuesday**

GVSU Arts at Noon Series: Cleveland Classical Trio opens the series. Fortepianist David Breitman, violinist Elizabeth Wallfisch and cellist Jaap Ter Linden, three of the leading exponents of the performance practice movement in the world today. A rare opportunity to hear classical masters Haydn and Beethoven performed on original instruments. Noon. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

[Reichert photo available]

**9/12 Tuesday**

GVSU Artist-Faculty Series: Aviram Reichert, piano, bronze medalist of the 1997 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, Reichert performs worldwide to great critical acclaim. 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

**9/22 Friday**

GVSU Artist-Faculty Series: Robert Byrens, viola, with Joan Conway, piano. A frequent performer with the Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra, Byrens serves on the artist-faculty at Grand Valley. 8 p.m. Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

[Jenson photo available]

**9/26 Tuesday**

A GVSU Fall Arts Celebration event: Faculty Showcase Concert. This year's concert combines solo and collaborative performances in a varied program featuring the exceptional artistry of the artist-faculty, including: Marlen Vavříková, oboe; Kathryn Stieler, soprano; Gregory Crowell, harpsichord; Dylana Jenson, violin; Lisa Catrett-Belrose, dancer; Helen Marlais, piano; Dale

Schriemer, baritone; Arthur Campbell, clarinet; Aviram Reichert, piano; and the Perugino String Quartet. A spectacular opening and a surprise finish will bring some of GVSU's award-winning students to the stage as well. 8 p.m. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale. Carillon prelude concert featuring Julianne Vanden Wyngaard, university carillonneur, 7:20-7:50 p.m. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

[Photo available]

9/28 Thursday

GVSU Arts at Noon Series: Ernesto Bitetti, guitar. Presented as part of the university's celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, the Argentinean native performs a program of music from the Spanish and Latin American tradition, including works by Villa-lobos, Moreno, Albéniz, Cardoso and Piazzolla. Noon. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

9/28 Thursday

GVSU Master Class: Ernesto Bitetti, guitar. Open to the public. 3-5 p.m. Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

October

[Photo available]

10/3 Tuesday

GVSU Arts at Noon Series: Heinavanker Ensemble. This Estonian vocal ensemble specializes in various types of early music, including pre-Christian runic song, Gregorian chant, and Baltic folk music. The generous acoustics of the Allendale Campus Cook-DeWitt Center offers a splendid setting for the sumptuous sound of this a cappella ensemble. Noon. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

[Photo available]

10/12 Thursday

GVSU Arts at Noon Series: Trío Montecino. Trio members are clarinetist David Shea, pianist Paulina Zamora and GVSU cello professor Pablo Mahave-Veglia. The concert includes Brahms' Trio Op. 114, one of his last works, a piece that alternates between stirring melancholy and driving defiance. Also in the program are new works specially written for the ensemble that will be included in their next CD project. Noon. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale. For more information

call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

10/13 Friday

GVSU Music Department Concert: Symphony Orchestra. Brian Asher Alhadeff, conductor. 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

10/15 Sunday

GVSU Music Department Concert: Barry D. Martin conducts the Symphonic Wind Ensemble. 3 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

10/15 Sunday

GVSU Music Department Concert: Kevin Tutt conducts the Concert Band. 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

[Kobrin photo available]

10/16 Monday

A GVSU Fall Arts Celebration event: Van Cliburn Medalist Concert Series featuring Alexander Kobrin, gold medalist in the 12th Van Cliburn International Piano Competition. 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. Reception to follow. Tickets are \$10 general admission, plus handling fee, through Star Tickets Plus at (616) 222-4000 or (800) 585-3737, online at [www.starticketsplus.com](http://www.starticketsplus.com) or at any Star Tickets Plus outlets. Tickets also available at the Louis Armstrong Theatre Box Office (in-person sales only/no phone orders) weekdays from noon – 5 p.m. Carillon prelude concert, 7:20 – 7:50 p.m. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

Sponsored by a gift from Robert and Judith Hooker.

[Stomberg photo available]

10/18 Wednesday

GVSU Arts at Noon: Cellist Lawrence Stomberg enjoys a wide ranging musical career as chamber musician, soloist, orchestral player and pedagogue. Currently a professor at the University of Delaware, Stomberg will present a solo recital of American music, much of it taken from his latest CD release, "The American Cello." 8 p.m. Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

**10/19 Thursday**

**GVSU Music Department Concert: Jazz Orchestra, Tim Froncek, director. 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.**

**10/20 Friday**

**GVSU Music Department Concert: Varsity Men conducted by Charles Norris, Select Women's Ensemble and University Singers conducted by Ellen Pool. 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.**

**10/21 Saturday**

**Grand Valley State University's Dance Program will host the Michigan Dance Council Dance Day. This all-day event will include a variety of dance classes and a performance at 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. Open to the public. For more information call Jefferson Baum, director of the Grand Valley Dance Program, at (616) 331-2548.**

**[Alhadeff photo available]**

**10/21 Saturday**

**GVSU Music Department Concert. Brian Asher Alhadeff conducts the Chamber Orchestra. 2 p.m. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.**

**10/22 Sunday**

**GVSU Music Department Concert: Ellen Pool conducts the University Arts Chorale. Also performing on the concert will be the Festival Women's Ensemble. 3 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.**

**10/22 Sunday**

**GVSU Artist-Faculty Series: The Faculty Woodwind Trio performed to acclaim in their debut concert last semester. Members include: Marlen Vavříková, oboe; Arthur Campbell, clarinet; and John Clapp, bassoon. 8 p.m. Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.**

**[Photo available]**



10/25 Wednesday

GVSU Arts at Noon Series: Yuri Gandelsman, viola. Previously a member of several of the leading orchestras in the former USSR, Mr. Gandelsman also served as principal violist with the Israel Philharmonic for over ten years. Now fully dedicated to a solo career, Gandelsman performs as a member of the Fine Arts Quartet, is a professor at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and is in demand as a performer the world over. For this recital he collaborates with GVSU piano professor Aviram Reichert. Noon. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

October 27 and 28

Dance Stars of the New Millennium V, a GVSU Fall Arts Celebration event. This festive dance program will present guest performers from the American Ballet Theater, including Daniel Ulbricht and Sterling Hylpin, soloists from New York City Ballet, and Patrick Corbin from Paul Taylor Dance Company of New York City. In addition, there will be a performance by the GVSU Dance Ensemble, under the direction of Jefferson Baum, and a performance of "Woman with a Pearl Earring" by Lisa Cattret-Belrose, assistant professor of dance at Grand Valley. Friday, October 27, 8 p.m. and Saturday, October 28, 2 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. Reception following evening performance. Tickets: General public: \$20; Faculty/staff/students with a Grand Valley ID: \$10; Children age 12 and under: \$5. Available with a service fee through Star Tickets Plus at (616) 222-4000 or (800) 585-3737, online at [www.starticketsplus.com](http://www.starticketsplus.com) or any Star Ticket Plus outlet. Tickets are also available weekdays 12-5 p.m. at the Louis Armstrong Theatre Box Office, Performing Arts Center, Allendale (in-person sales only/no phone orders.) For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

10/28 Saturday

Double Reed Day includes workshops, master classes, and a recital for double reed students of all ages and. Presented by the GVSU double reed faculty, Marlen Vav\_íková, oboe; Arthur Campbell, clarinet; and John Clapp, bassoon, with special guests Daniel Stolper, professor of oboe at the Interlochen Arts Academy, and bassoonist Wendy Rose, chair of the Western Michigan University School of Music's Woodwind area. Recital at 7 p.m., Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale. For more information, please contact Professor Vav\_íková at (616) 331-3484.

November

11/1 Wednesday

[Adams photo available]

**GVSU Arts at Noon Series:** Tim Adams Jr., a virtuoso performer of the entire range of percussion instruments, has played with the rock band "Exotic Birds," movie soundtracks, classical timpani and even appeared in the children's program "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood." Adams is principal timpanist with the Pittsburgh Symphony and a professor at Carnegie Mellon University. Noon. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

**11/5 Sunday**

**GVSU Music Department Concert:** The Early Music Ensemble directed by Pablo Mahave-Veglia. 3 p.m. Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

[Phipps photo available]

**11/6 Monday**

**GVSU Artist-Faculty Series:** Danny Phipps, bassoon, the new chair of the Department of Music and Dance Program in his debut recital at Grand Valley, with Robert Byrens, piano. Phipps was a student of the great bassoonist and pedagogue Sol Schoenbach and received his undergraduate degree from the prestigious Curtis Institute of Music followed by M. Mus and D.M.A. degrees from Catholic University. He was principal bassoonist with the United States Air Force Band in Washington, D.C., for 20 years and held the rank of chief master sergeant. He has performed worldwide as a soloist, chamber musician, and as principal bassoonist with orchestras. 8 p.m. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale. Reception to follow. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

[Photo available]

**11/8 Wednesday**

**GVSU Arts at Noon Series:** Ilays, Somali multicultural artists. "Ilays" is a Somali word for "light." The ensemble includes seven musicians and dancers, while most Somali artists typically perform solo or with one additional person at most. Noon. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

**11/12 Sunday**

**GVSU University Arts Chorale and the Select Women's Ensemble,** under the direction of Ellen Pool, perform with organist Gregory Crowell. The program will include Britten's "Rejoice in the Lamb." 4 p.m. Trinity United Methodist Church, 1100 Lake Drive SE, Grand Rapids. For more information call the GVSU Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

[Perugino photo available]

11/19 Sunday

GVSU Artist-Faculty Series/Downtown Showcase. The Perugino String Quartet performs music by Shostakovich in honor of the 100th anniversary of his birth and Beethoven's Quartet, Opus 74 "The Harp." Members are violinists Eric Tanner and Diane McElfish, violist Barbara Corbato, and cellist Stacey Bosman Tanner. 3 p.m. Loosemore Auditorium, DeVos Center, Pew Grand Rapids Campus. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

11/19 Sunday

BANDORAMA. The GVSU Laker Marching Band presents highlights from the fall 2006 season, directed by Barry D. Martin and Ted Bazany. 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

11/20 Monday

GVSU Music Department Concert: Tim Froncek directs the Jazz Orchestra. 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

11/27 Monday

GVSU Artist-Faculty Series: The Faculty Brass Ensemble 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

[Perugino photo available]

11/30 Thursday

GVSU Arts at Noon Series: Perugino String Quartet. The Quartet-in-residence at GVSU members are Eric Tanner and Diane McElfish, violins; Barbara Corbato, viola; and Stacey Bosman Tanner, cello. They close the fall semester of the Arts at Noon Series with a quartet by Shostakovich, in addition to Beethoven's String Quartet Op. 74, a masterpiece of his middle period. Noon. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

11/30 Thursday

GVSU Music Department Concert: New Music Ensemble directed by Bill Ryan. 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

December

12/3 Sunday

GVSU Music Department Concert: Varsity Men, Chuck Norris, conductor; University Arts Chorale, Ellen Pool, conductor; and the Festival Women's Ensemble. 3 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

12/3 Sunday

GVSU Music Department Concert: Barry D. Martin conducts the Symphonic Wind Ensemble. 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

12/4 Monday

GVSU Music Department Concert: Ellen Pool conducts the University Singers and the Select Women's Ensemble. 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

12/5 Tuesday

GVSU Music Department Concert: Concert Band conducted by Kevin Tutt. 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

12/5 Tuesday

GVSU Music Department Concert. Brian Asher Alhadeff conducts the Chamber Orchestra. 8 p.m. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

[Photo available]

December 9-10

A special GVSU production of the Nutcracker ballet will feature dancers from the Grand Valley Dance Ensemble, Great Lakes Youth Ballet Company and an 80-piece orchestra from GVSU under the baton of Brian Asher Alhadeff. The production, directed by Jefferson Baum, will be performed at Allendale High School Performing Arts Theater. Saturday, December 9 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Sunday, December 10 at 3 p.m. For tickets or more information, call (616) 331-2548.

## THEATRE

Presented through Theatre at Grand Valley, School of Communications. For more information call (616) 331-3668.

### 13th Annual GVSU Shakespeare Festival

More information about Bard-inspired activities can be found at [www.gvsu.edu/shakes](http://www.gvsu.edu/shakes).

September 29 – October 8

GVSU Shakespeare Festival Mainstage Production: *Love's Labour's Lost*, directed Karen Libman. In this romantic comedy, set in New Orleans during the early Jazz Age, a King and his lords swear off contact with women. Features professional, student and community artists.

Tickets: \$14 general public; \$12 faculty/staff/alumni; \$6 students. September 29, 30 and October 5-7 at 7:30 p.m. Matinees October 1, 7 and 8, at 2 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. For more information call (616) 331-3668.

10/2 Monday

"Bi-fold Authority: Is Shakespeare Our Contemporary?" by GVSU Shakespeare Festival Guest Scholar Dr. Michael Best, coordinating editor and creator of the Internet Shakespeare Editions and emeritus professor of English at the University of Victoria in Vancouver, British Columbia. Public presentation 3-5 p.m. GVSU Alumni House, Allendale. Reception will follow. For more information call (616) 331-3668.

10/4 Wednesday

GVSU Shakespeare Festival Touring Show, Bard to Go and Awards Ceremony for the Festival Student Competition. Special free performance following the Awards Ceremony and showcase at 1 p.m. Loosemore Auditorium, DeVos Center, Pew Grand Rapids Campus. Reception will follow. For more information call (616) 331-3668.

10/7 Saturday and 10/8 Sunday

The entire family will enjoy the GVSU Renaissance Festival, featuring plenty of free entertainment. Minstrels, bagpipers, jugglers, "live steel" demonstrations, children's games and more – all in period costumes. Merchants on hand to sell period wares from armor to clothing. Food available for purchase. All ages welcome. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. on the "greensward" surrounding the Cook Carillon Tower, Allendale. For more information call (616) 331-3668.

November 10-18

GVSU Mainstage Series Theatre Production: *The World Premiere of Autumn in the Valley*, written by James Bell, GVSU playwright, and John Bell. November 10, 11, 16, 17, 18 at 7:30

p.m., November 12 matinee at 2 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. For ticket information call (616) 331-3668.

December 8-10

GVSU Performance Studio Series: "The Fourth Wall" and "Wildwood Park." December 8-9, at 7:30 p.m. and a December 10, 2 p.m. matinee. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. All seats \$6. For more information call (616) 331-3668.

## GENERAL EVENTS

September

9/13 Wednesday

The GVSU Mandela-Parks Lecture Series, sponsored by the African and African American Studies Program of the College of Interdisciplinary Studies. "Institutionalizing Commitment to AIDS in Africa: The Politics of the Pandemic" by Dr. Amy Patterson, associate professor of history at Calvin College. 3-4:30 p.m. Rooms 215-216, Kirkhof Center, Allendale. For more information call (616) 331-8110.

9/13 Wednesday

GVSU Professionals of Color Lecture Series: Judy Shepard, mother of Matthew Shepard, who was murdered in an anti-gay hate crime in Laramie, Wyoming. She is executive director of the Matthew Sheppard Foundation, created in 1998 to promote replacing hate with understanding, compassion and acceptance. For more information call (616) 331-2177.

9/14 Thursday

A GVSU Fall Arts Celebration event - Distinguished Academic Lecture: Henry Louis Gates, Jr., an influential cultural critic who will speak on "W.E.B. Du Bois and the Digital Divide." Gates is the W.E.B. Du Bois Professor of the Humanities, chair of African and African American Studies, and director of the W.E.B. Du Bois Institute for Afro-American Research at Harvard University. 7 p.m. Loosemore Auditorium, DeVos Center, Pew Grand Rapids Campus. Carillon prelude concert featuring Professor Julianne Vanden Wyngaard, university Carillonneur, 6:20-6:50 p.m. For more information call (616) 331-2100 or visit [www.gvsu.edu/fallarts](http://www.gvsu.edu/fallarts). Made possible, in part, by a grant from Michigan Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

9/14 Thursday

GVSU guest lecture: Professor Anna Baldinetti, from the University of Perugia, will speak on "Islam and Politics in the North African Maghreb." Sponsored by the Department of Political Science and the International Relations Program. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Pere Marquette Room, Kirkhof Center, Allendale. For more information call (616) 331-2869.

[Photo available]

9/18 Monday

South African poet, Ingrid de Kok. Her four books of poetry and various essays have engaged some of the most pressing issues in South Africa as well as personal concerns. Co-sponsored by GVSU Departments of English, African and African American Studies, Writing, History, Women and Gender Studies and the Women's Center. Ingrid will read at 4:30 p.m. in rooms 215-216 Kirkhof Center, Allendale Campus. For more information call (616) 331-3581.

9/19 Tuesday

The GVSU Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies will celebrate Constitution Day with a full day of events under the theme "Who is an American? The Immigration Debate after 9/11." Includes a debate between Linda Chavez, chair of the Center for Equal Opportunity, a nonprofit public policy research organization in Sterling, Virginia, Peter Brimelow, chairman and CEO of VDARE Foundation and Dr. Bill Hing, from the National Advisory Council of Asian American Justice Center. Lunch speaker, Russ Magnaghi, editor of the Immigrants in Michigan book series and author of several books. For more information call (616) 331-2770 or visit [www.allpresidents.org](http://www.allpresidents.org).

9/21 Thursday

GVSU Annis Water Resources Institute Environmental Seminar by Professor Shuguang Li, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Michigan State University. 3-4 p.m. Lake Michigan Center, 740 W. Shoreline Drive, Muskegon. Call (616) 331-3749 for more information.

9/25 Monday

GVSU Regional Math and Science Center will be hosting a Sam Rhine Genetics Update Conference, providing the most up to date information about human genetics and recombinant DNA technology. Free admission to GVSU faculty and students, \$15 general public. Register at [www.samrhine.com](http://www.samrhine.com). 8:30 a.m. Grand River Room, Kirkhof Center, Allendale. For more information call (616) 331-2272 or (231) 728-3601.

9/27 Wednesday

GVSU African/African American Perspectives. "The Salvation of Democracy: Alain Locke's Philosophy of Social Evolution" by Alain Locke Scholar Dr. Christopher Buck, from Michigan State University. 3-4:30 p.m. Rooms 215/216, Kirkhof Center, Allendale. For more information call (616) 331-8110.

9/28 Thursday

GVSU Visiting Writers Series: Short story writer David Means, a native of Michigan, and author of two books, including Assorted Fire Events, winner of the Los Angeles Times book prize and a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award. 7:30 p.m. For more information call (616) 331-3601.

October

[Photo]

10/3 Tuesday

GVSU Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies presents Christopher Hitchens, who has, as a foreign correspondent and travel writer, written from more than 60 countries on all five continents, including Iran, Iraq and North Korea. Columns by the controversial writer and critic have appeared in Vanity Fair, The Nation and Slate. 7 p.m. Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum. For more information call (616) 331-2770 or visit [www.allpresidents.org](http://www.allpresidents.org).

10/5 Thursday

Flannery O'Connor Conference includes the following free events open to the public: Incoming President of the Flannery O'Connor Society, Bob Donahoo, of Sam Houston State speaks on the current state of O'Connor studies; Anthony Di Renzo of Ithaca University speaks on religious violence and terror in the Middle Ages; music by the GVSU Gospel Choir and a performance of scenes from O'Connor stories by Judy Yordon. The evening will begin with cheese and fruit hors d'oeuvres at 5 p.m. with the program starting at 6 p.m. Loosemore Auditorium, DeVos Center, Pew Grand Rapids Campus. For more information call (616) 331-3244 or visit [www.gvsu.edu/oconnor](http://www.gvsu.edu/oconnor).

10/11 Wednesday

GVSU African/African American Perspectives: "Corruption, Sovereignty and Management in Zimbabwe's Public Sector" by Dr. Paul Mavima, assistant professor, GVSU School of Non-Profit and Public Administration. 3-4:30 p.m. Room 308, Padnos, Allendale. For more information call (616) 331-8110.



#### 10/11 Wednesday

Poetry Night a GVSU Fall Arts Celebration event. An evening of reading and conversation with poets Sharon Olds and Sonia Sanchez. 7 p.m. Loosemore Auditorium, DeVos Center, Pew Grand Rapids Campus. For more information call (616) 331-2100 or visit [www.gvsu.edu/fallarts](http://www.gvsu.edu/fallarts). Sponsored by gifts from Liesel and Hank Meijer, Charles and Stella Royce, and a grant from Michigan Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

#### 10/12 Thursday

Media theorist, author, filmmaker and NYU Professor of Communications Douglas Rushkoff will present a lecture, "The Persuaders: Marketing & the Creation of the Citizen-Consumer." Sponsored by the visiting artist committee within the GVSU Department of Art and Design, at 7 p.m., Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. The event is free and open to the public. Call (616) 331-2952 for more information.

#### 10/14 Saturday

GVSU Ninth Conference on the Americas. Under the theme of "Prospects and Awakenings across the Americas," the conference offers sessions, workshops, panels, exhibits, and a film festival to help interpret, guide, and change the lived experiences of those who share the Americas, especially Latin Americans and Latino/as. Sponsored by the Latin American Studies Program and the College of Interdisciplinary Studies. Students admitted free. All others: \$5-40 sliding scale. 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Eberhard Center, Pew Grand Rapids Campus. For more information call (616) 331-3018.

#### 10/19 Thursday

GVSU Annis Water Resources Institute Environmental Seminar. "Is it Safe to Drink the Water? Using Molecular Methods to Detect Toxic Strains of Microcystis in the Great Lakes," by Juli Dyble, Ph.D., research biologist, Center for Excellence for Great Lakes and Human Health, NOAA Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory. 3-4 p.m., Lake Michigan Center, 740 W. Shoreline Drive, Muskegon. For more information call (616) 331-3749 or (231) 728-3601.

#### GVSU Homecoming 2006

October 20 and 21

Join classmates and friends on the Allendale Campus to see the best of today's Grand Valley and share reflections of earlier times. Information about a variety of special events is available at [www.gvsu.edu/homecoming](http://www.gvsu.edu/homecoming) or call (616) 331-3590.

October 20 and 21

Great Lakes History Conference: New Perspectives on War and Society. Panel discussions, presentations and two keynote speakers: Professor Omer Bartov from Brown University will address racial war and extermination and Dr. Jonathan Shay, a distinguished psychiatrist, will address medical and social responses to combat trauma. For more information call (616) 331-2931 or visit [www.gvsu.edu/history](http://www.gvsu.edu/history).

10/24 Tuesday

Jewish/Christian/Muslim Dialogue 2006 Triennial Event. "Religion and Power: The Power to Create, the Power to Destroy," featuring distinguished scholars James Carroll, Vincent Cornell, Donniel Hartman and Martin E. Marty. For more information visit [www.jewishchristiandialogue.org](http://www.jewishchristiandialogue.org).

[Photo available]

10/24 Tuesday

The GVSU Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies presents Henry Kissinger, former Secretary of State and winner of the 1973 Nobel Peace Prize. 7 p.m., Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum. Call (616) 331-7297 for more information, or visit [www.allpresidents.org](http://www.allpresidents.org).

10/25 Wednesday

The GVSU Mandela-Parks Lecture Series, sponsored by the African and African American Studies Program of the College of Interdisciplinary Studies. "African Americans and Genetics" by Dr. Gloria Stephen, professor, Department of Counseling, Educational Psychology and Special Education Director, African and African American Studies, at Michigan State University. 3- 4:30 p.m. Rooms 215/216 Kirkhof Center, Allendale. For more information call (616) 331-8110.

November

11/12-15

The GVSU Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies presents scholar in residence Richard Norton Smith for a series of his "greatest hits" lectures. For more information call (616) 331-2770 or visit [www.allpresidents.org](http://www.allpresidents.org).

11/16 Thursday

GVSU Annis Water Resources Institute Environmental Seminar by Jay Means, Ph.D., professor of aquatic toxicology, Western Michigan University. 3-4 p.m., Lake Michigan Center, 740 W. Shoreline Drive, Muskegon. Call (616) 331-3749 or (231) 728-3601 for more information.

**11/29 Wednesday**

**GVSU African/African American Perspectives. "Re-drawing the Map in Zimbabwe: The Land Use Issue" by Dr. Mambo Mupepi, University of Michigan Health System, adjunct professor, African/African American Studies. 3-4:30 p.m. Room 308, Padnos, Allendale. For more information call (616) 331-8110.**

**December**

**12/6 Wednesday**

**GVSU African/African American Perspectives. "Factors Contributing to Success: Perceptions from African American Male School Administrators" by GVSU Dean of Multicultural Affairs Dr. Oliver Wilson. 3-4:30 p.m. Rooms 215/216 Kirkhof Center, Allendale. For more information call (616) 331-8110.**

August 21, 2006

For Immediate Release

For Photos Contact Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221  
or [pirkolam@gvsu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu)

Grand Valley State University

September 2006 Events

## ART

Grand Valley State University Art Gallery

Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus

Hours: M-F, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Th, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.

(616) 331-2564

All art exhibits, lectures and receptions are free and open to the public.

August/September

[Photo available]

Through September 22

Sources and Resources: Works in Textiles and Metals exhibition, Grand Valley State University Art Gallery, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. Working in the media of textiles and metals, these five artists also used sources from art history, decorative European and American art, as well as ethnographic objects to inform the imagery of their work. Diane Itter, Ann Baddeley Keister, Patricia Nelson, Anne McKenzie Nickolson and Jo Morasco. Call (616) 331-2564 for more information.

Thursday, September 7

GVSU Sources and Resources Exhibition Artists' Lecture. Slide lecture by Patricia Nelson, metalsmith, and Anne McKenzie Nickolson, fiber artist, 4:30-5:30 p.m., Grand River Room, 250 Kirkhof Center. Reception with Artists

5-7 p.m. GVSU Art Gallery, Performing Arts Center. Call (616) 331-2564 for more information.

Thursday, September 21

The Seventh Annual GVSU DeVos Art Lecture: Rudy Pozzatti, Distinguished Professor of Fine Arts, Emeritus, Indiana University and Ann and David Keister, GVSU faculty of the department of Art and Design and donors of the GVSU Master Printer's Proof Collection, present "The Art of

Collaboration in Printmaking: History and Practice." Loosemore Auditorium, DeVos Center, Pew Grand Rapids Campus. Gathering at 5 p.m., lecture at 5:30, followed by a wine and cheese reception. Free parking available in the Front Street lot. Call (616) 331-2564 for more information.

## MUSIC AND DANCE

Events are free and open to the public unless noted. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

### September

[Photo available]

9/12 Tuesday

GVSU Arts at Noon Series: Cleveland Classical Trio opens the series. Fortepianist David Breitman, violinist Elizabeth Wallfisch and cellist Jaap Ter Linden, three of the leading exponents of the performance practice movement in the world today. A rare opportunity to hear classical masters Haydn and Beethoven performed on original instruments. Noon. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

[Reichert photo available]

9/12 Tuesday

GVSU Artist-Faculty Series: Aviram Reichert, piano, bronze medalist of the 1997 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, Reichert performs worldwide to great critical acclaim. 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

9/22 Friday

GVSU Artist-Faculty Series: Robert Byrens, viola, with Joan Conway, piano. A frequent performer with the Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra, Byrens serves on the artist-faculty at Grand Valley. 8 p.m. Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

[Jenson photo available]

9/26 Tuesday

A GVSU Fall Arts Celebration event: Faculty Showcase Concert. This year's concert combines solo and collaborative performances in a varied program featuring the exceptional artistry of the artist-faculty, including: Marlen Vavříková, oboe; Kathryn Stieler, soprano; Gregory Crowell,

harpsichord; Dylana Jenson, violin; Lisa Catrett-Belrose, dancer; Helen Marlais, piano; Dale Schriemer, baritone; Arthur Campbell, clarinet; Aviram Reichert, piano; and the Perugino String Quartet. A spectacular opening and a surprise finish will bring some of GVSU's award-winning students to the stage as well. 8 p.m. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale. Carillon prelude concert featuring Julianne Vanden Wyngaard, university carillonneur, 7:20-7:50 p.m. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

[Photo available]

9/28 Thursday

GVSU Arts at Noon Series: Ernesto Bitetti, guitar. Presented as part of the university's celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, the Argentinean native performs a program of music from the Spanish and Latin American tradition, including works by Villa-lobos, Moreno, Albéniz, Cardoso and Piazzolla. Noon. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

9/28 Thursday

GVSU Master Class: Ernesto Bitetti, guitar. Open to the public. 3-5 p.m. Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

## THEATRE

Presented through Theatre at Grand Valley, School of Communications. For more information call (616) 331-3668.

## 13th Annual GVSU Shakespeare Festival

More information about Bard-inspired activities can be found at [www.gvsu.edu/shakes](http://www.gvsu.edu/shakes).

September 29 – October 8

GVSU Shakespeare Festival Mainstage Production: Love's Labour's Lost, directed Karen Libman. In this romantic comedy, set in New Orleans during the early Jazz Age, a King and his lords swear off contact with women. Features professional, student and community artists. Tickets: \$14 general public; \$12 faculty/staff/alumni; \$6 students. September 29, 30 and October 5-7 at 7:30 p.m. Matinees October 1, 7 and 8, at 2 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. For more information call (616) 331-3668.

## GENERAL EVENTS

September

9/13 Wednesday

The GVSU Mandela-Parks Lecture Series, sponsored by the African and African American Studies Program of the College of Interdisciplinary Studies. "Institutionalizing Commitment to AIDS in Africa: The Politics of the Pandemic" by Dr. Amy Patterson, associate professor of history at Calvin College. 3-4:30 p.m. Rooms 215-216, Kirkhof Center, Allendale. For more information call (616) 331-8110.

9/13 Wednesday

GVSU Professionals of Color Lecture Series: Judy Shepard, mother of Matthew Shepard, who was murdered in an anti-gay hate crime in Laramie, Wyoming. She is executive director of the Matthew Sheppard Foundation, created in 1998 to promote replacing hate with understanding, compassion and acceptance. For more information call (616) 331-2177.

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9/14 Thursday

GVSU guest lecture: Professor Anna Baldinetti, from the University of Perugia, will speak on "Islam and Politics in the North African Maghreb." Sponsored by the Department of Political Science and the International Relations Program. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Pere Marquette Room, Kirkhof Center, Allendale. For more information call (616) 331-2869.

[Photo available]

**9/18 Monday**

South African poet, Ingrid de Kok. Her four books of poetry and various essays have engaged some of the most pressing issues in South Africa as well as personal concerns. Co-sponsored by GVSU Departments of English, African and African American Studies, Writing, History, Women and Gender Studies and the Women's Center. Ingrid will read at 4:30 p.m. in rooms 215-216 Kirkhof Center, Allendale Campus. For more information call (616) 331-3581.

**9/19 Tuesday**

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**9/21 Thursday**

GVSU Annis Water Resources Institute Environmental Seminar by Professor Shuguang Li, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Michigan State University. 3-4 p.m. Lake Michigan Center, 740 W. Shoreline Drive, Muskegon. Call (616) 331-3749 for more information.

**9/25 Monday**

GVSU Regional Math and Science Center will be hosting a Sam Rhine Genetics Update Conference, providing the most up to date information about human genetics and recombinant DNA technology. Free admission to GVSU faculty and students, \$15 general public. Register at [www.samrhine.com](http://www.samrhine.com). 8:30 a.m. Grand River Room, Kirkhof Center, Allendale. For more information call (616) 331-2272 or (231) 728-3601.

**9/27 Wednesday**

GVSU African/African American Perspectives. "The Salvation of Democracy: Alain Locke's Philosophy of Social Evolution" by Alain Locke Scholar Dr. Christopher Buck, from Michigan State University. 3-4:30 p.m. Rooms 215/216, Kirkhof Center, Allendale. For more information call (616) 331-8110.

**9/28 Thursday**

GVSU Visiting Writers Series: Short story writer David Means, a native of Michigan, and author



of two books, including Assorted Fire Events, winner of the Los Angeles Times book prize and a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award. 7:30 p.m. For more information call (616) 331-3601.

August 21, 2006

For immediate release

Contact: Michele Coffill, News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

**New GVSU president, football team, others will help freshmen move to campus**

— Convocation on Friday ushers in new academic year

Grand Valley's new president, board members and even the Laker football team will lend "Helping Hands" as freshmen and other students move into living centers this week.

It's a Grand Valley tradition that many faculty and staff members help carry suitcases and other belongings, and greet students during "Helping Hands," a campus community event organized by the Office of Housing and Residence Life.

Move-in week begins Tuesday and continues through Thursday in the living centers at the north end of campus (parking available in Lot D). The schedule of special volunteers is as follows:

- President Thomas J. Haas will volunteer on Wednesday, August 23, from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
- The Laker football team and coaching staff will volunteer throughout the day on Thursday, August 24.
- Board members will be on hand Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Call News and Information Services for specific times.

Most volunteers will check in at Kleiner Commons to receive assignments. Media members can ask Housing staff (who will be designated by nametags) where volunteers have been sent.

**— Convocation Friday**

Haas will then formally usher in the new academic year when he speaks at convocation ceremonies on Friday, August 25. He will be joined on stage by President Emeritus Arend D. Lubbers, Provost Gayle R. Davis and University Academic Senate Chair Rob Franciosi.

Convocation will begin at 11 a.m. in the Fieldhouse at the Allendale Campus

For Immediate Release

August 23, 2006

Contact: Dottle Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

Grand Valley State University named as a Best Midwestern College for 2007

ALLENDALE, Mich. — For the fourth year in a row, Grand Valley State University has been named as a Best Midwestern College by The Princeton Review.

A team of admissions experts at The Princeton Review selected Grand Valley after reviewing academic standards, academic programs, opportunities for students and student satisfaction.

Last week, Grand Valley was cited by U.S. News & World Report for the second year in a row as one of the top universities in the Midwest for master's degree-granting universities.

For more information, contact Grand Valley News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221, or visit [www.princetonreview.com/college/research/regional](http://www.princetonreview.com/college/research/regional).

**MEDIA ADVISORY:**

Correction to GVSU Art Lecturers

Please replace the release sent August 23 with this corrected release.

**August 24, 2006 For Immediate Release**

Photos available, contact Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2228 or [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu).

**Lecture and artist reception on tap for GVSU textiles and metals exhibition**

A lecture by metalsmith Patricia Nelson, a professor of art at Ball State University, and Anne McKenzie Nickolson, a fiber artist who teaches at Indiana University, will enhance the current exhibition which showcases the work of five distinguished artists.

Sources and Resources: Works in Textiles and Metals, at the Grand Valley State University Art Gallery, includes art by Nelson, Nickolson, Ann Baddeley Keister, a fiber artist and assistant professor in the Art and Design Department at Grand Valley State University, Margaret Jo Morasco, a mixed-media fiber artist from the Bahamas and the late Diane Itter, a fiber artist icon who died in 1989 at the age of 43.

The lecture, on Thursday, September 7, from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., in the Grand River Room, in Kirkhof Center, will precede a reception in the Art Gallery with the artists, from 5-7 p.m. The exhibition continues through September 22.

The GVSU Art Gallery, located in the Performing Arts Center on the Allendale Campus, is open summer hours from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, through August. In September, the gallery returns to fall hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mondays through Fridays and evening hours on Thursdays, from 5-7 p.m. The exhibition, lecture and reception with artists are free and open to the public. For more information call (616) 331-2564.

August 31, 2006

For Immediate Release

Photo available, contact Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221 or [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu)

World renowned African American scholar to speak at Grand Valley

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. - Distinguished scholar Henry Louis Gates, Jr., who produced the first encyclopedia of African American history and culture, will speak at Grand Valley State University, kicking off the annual Fall Arts Celebration. The event is at 7 p.m. on Thursday, September 14, at the L.V. Eberhard Center, 301 W. Fulton, Grand Rapids.

Gates is director of the W.E.B. Du Bois Institute for African and African American Research at Harvard University. His lecture, "W.E.B. Du Bois and the Digital Divide," will speak to the importance of his 1999 Encarta Africana project, especially as it relates to his current undertaking, the "Martin Luther King, Jr. After-School Program: Content to Bridge the Digital Divide."

W.E.B. Du Bois (1868-1963) was a scholar and civil rights activist who tried a vast variety of means to solve the problem of racism in the twentieth century. In 1896, he became the first black person to receive a doctorate from Harvard University and was the most prominent intellectual leader and political activist on behalf of African Americans in the first half of the twentieth century.

"Professor Gates is the modern day W.E.B. Du Bois," said Veta Tucker, Grand Valley professor of American and African American Literature. "He has taken African American literary scholarship beyond the classroom and into the public imagination."

Gates has produced several PBS documentary series, including "The Wonders of the African World." He will feature segments from his Encyclopedia Africana and will explore the consequences of having the American population divided into haves and have-nots based on access to information and computer technology.

His Grand Valley lecture was made possible, in part, by a grant from Michigan Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. A prelude carillon concert featuring Julianne Vanden Wyngaard, university carillonneur, is from 6:20-6:50 p.m. at the Beckering Family Carillon. A reception will follow the lecture. All events are free and open to the public. For more information visit [www.gvsu.edu/fallarts](http://www.gvsu.edu/fallarts) or call (616) 331-2100.

For Immediate Release

September 1, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

Terrorism expert available to comment on five year anniversary of Sept. 11

Jonathan White available September 5

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Jonathan White, executive director of the Homeland Defense Initiative at Grand Valley State University will be in New York Sept. 11.

White will be available for media interviews Tuesday, September 5, from 2:30-4:30 p.m. in 253 C DeVos, on Grand Valley's Pew Grand Rapids Campus.

White can comment on issues surrounding the five year anniversary of the attacks on the World Trade Center towers and terrorism around the world. After Sept. 11, 2001, White was tapped by the federal government to brief law enforcement officials about terrorism. In the past five years, White has traveled across the country and internationally educating officials and helping to set up terrorism task forces.

For more information, contact Jonathan White at (616) 331-7243, or Dottie Barnes at (616) 331-2221.

September 6, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221 or  
pirkolam@gvsu.edu.

#### Grand Valley U.S. history course recognized nationally

ALLENDALE, Mich. - In a study of 133 U.S. history courses taught on college campuses across the nation, a course at Grand Valley State University was identified as one of the top examples of best practices.

American History since 1877, designed and taught by Associate Professor Carolyn Shapiro-Shapin at Grand Valley, was identified as best practices overall and designated an exemplary practices course, the highest standard of distinction and excellence met by very few courses in the study.

The study was conducted by the Center for Educational Policy Research on behalf of the College Board to identify best practices that could influence the redesign of high school advanced placement courses in U.S. History. A panel of national experts analyzed top courses from a wide range of institutions and identified the critical components present in each course.

What makes Shapiro-Shapin's course special is her goal to teach both the historic content and the historic process. "To this end, I incorporate a wide range of historical topics, historical approaches and historical documents into the course," said Shapiro-Shapin.

The goal of the CEPR redesign process is to ensure that AP courses reflect the best of college teaching. Following the study, the College Board convened a commission in U.S. History to develop new AP course descriptions, new AP exam specifications and professional development guidelines for AP teachers.

"I'm honored that my course helps bring recognition to the university's commitment to quality teaching," said Shapiro-Shapin.

Sent to Arts, Calendar and Local Priority lists.

>>> "Mary Pirkola" <prsupport@vocus.com> 09/07/06 11:08 AM >>>

September 7, 2006

For Immediate Release

Photos available. Contact Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221 or pirkolam@gvsu.edu.

### Grand Valley Launches Music Series

Grand Valley State University welcomes the community to more than a dozen free concerts this fall during the Arts at Noon and Artist-Faculty series.

A rare opportunity to hear classical masters Haydn and Beethoven performed on original instruments is featured as the opening concert of the Arts at Noon Series. Cleveland Classical Trio kicks off the series on Tuesday, September 12, with fortepianist David Breitman, violinist Elizabeth Wallfisch and cellist Jaap Ter Linden, three of the leading exponents of the performance practice movement in the world today. This series of noon concerts are performed in the Cook-DeWitt Center, on the Allendale Campus.

Also this month, Arts at Noon brings guitarist Ernesto Bitetti on September 28. Presented as part of the university's celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, the Argentinean native will perform a program of music from the Spanish and Latin American tradition, including works by Villa-lobos, Moreno, Albéniz, Cardoso and Piazzolla. Bitetti will also conduct a master class open to the public from 3-5 p.m. in the Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall.

The Artist-Faculty Series begins on September 12, with a concert by pianist Aviram Reichert, bronze medalist winner of the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition. His performance will be at 8 p.m. in the Louis Armstrong Theatre at the Performing Arts Center on the Allendale Campus.

Another Artist-Faculty Series concert this month brings together Robert Byrens, viola, with Joan Conway, piano. Byrens, a frequent performer with the Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra, will perform at 8 p.m. on Friday, September 22, in the Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall in the Performing Arts Center.

For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484, or visit [www.gvsu.edu/music](http://www.gvsu.edu/music).



September 7, 2006

For Immediate Release

Photo available contact Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2228 or pirkolam@gvsu.edu

### South African poet comes to Grand Valley

South African poet, Ingrid de Kok comes to Grand Valley State University on Monday, September 18. Her four books of poetry and various essays have engaged some of the most pressing issues in South Africa as well as personal concerns.

Born in Johannesburg in 1951, de Kok studied English and political science in South Africa then emigrated to Canada in 1977 and studied at Queen's University in Kingston. She returned to South Africa in 1984 and began setting up college courses for black students who at the time were excluded from white universities.

Much of de Kok's poetry offers hope for the future by taking stock of past wrongs, be it apartheid, the AIDS epidemic, or problematic personal relationships. She has acted as a consultant for various adult educational programs and study abroad programs for Northwestern University and University of Chicago.

The event is co-sponsored by GVSU Departments of English, African and African American Studies, Writing, History, Women and Gender Studies and the Women's Center. Ingrid will read at 4:30 p.m. in rooms 215-216 Kirkhof Center, Allendale Campus. A reception will follow. For more information call (616) 331-3581.

For Immediate Release

September 8, 2006

Photos available, contact Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

#### **Annis Water Resources Institute work celebrated**

Twenty years of accomplishment by the Annis Water Resources Institute was celebrated at the Lake Michigan Center in Muskegon on Thursday. Community friends, supporters and officials from Grand Valley State University gathered to acknowledge work to protect Michigan's water resources and the people that depend on them.

Grand Valley President Thomas J. Haas, who spent two decades in the Coast Guard, spoke on the value of the AWRI and its efforts.

"Water is our defining natural resource in both West Michigan and the state as a whole," said Haas. "The Annis Water Resources Institute has been involved in integrating research, education, and outreach of aquatic resources for the past 20 years."

Not one, but four, anniversaries were the focus of the celebration at the GVSU Lake Michigan Center, attended by nearly 200 people.

Five years ago, in June of 2001, Grand Valley opened the Lake Michigan Center, the home of the Annis Water Resources Institute. At that time, the \$5.5 million raised to build this structure was the largest capital campaign conducted in Muskegon. This groundbreaking campaign was led by Charles E. and Patricia B. Johnson III, who marshaled support from individuals, corporations and foundations in and outside of Muskegon.

Ten years ago, the university added a second research vessel to its fleet: the W.G. Jackson, which is berthed permanently in Muskegon. In the decade since her launching, over 35,000 passengers have sailed the waters of Muskegon Lake and Lake Michigan on the W.G. Jackson. Muskegon residents Roger Andersen and Dr. William Schroeder led the "Making Waves in Muskegon" campaign, which funded this vessel.

The third anniversary celebrated the launching of the D.J. Angus 20 years ago. More than 65,000 passengers have sailed on the D.J. Angus, and gained a hands-on experience sampling the waters of Spring Lake and Lake Michigan.

The fourth anniversary celebrated was the founding of the Annis Water Resources Institute, also 20 years ago. The Institute started on Grand Valley's campus in Allendale as a one-person operation located in a basement office. Over the past 20 years, it has grown to a 70-person research and education program, now located in a 24,000 square foot building in Muskegon.

For more information contact Dr. Alan Steinman, Annis Water Resources Institute, GVSU, 231-728-3601, [steinmaa@gvsu.edu](mailto:steinmaa@gvsu.edu).

For immediate release

Contact Michele Coffill, News and Information Services, Grand Valley State University, (616) 331-2221

September 8, 2006

**Tip Sheet: GVSU Events for Sept. 11-18**

**Wednesday, Sept. 13 -- Mandela-Parks Lecture Series: "Institutionalizing Commitment to Aids in Africa: The Politics of the Pandemic"**

Amy Patterson will discuss highlights from her new book, "The Politics of AIDS in Africa." The book details research Patterson has conducted to prove that inequalities and poor decision-making is present within the African government. This event takes place at 3 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, 215/216, Allendale campus. For more information about this event contact 616-331-8110.

**Wednesday, Sept. 13 -- Mother who lost son to anti-gay violence speaks against hate crimes**

The GVSU Office of Multicultural Affairs presents "The Legacy of Matthew Shepard: An End to Hate," a presentation by Judy Shepard. Her son, Matthew, was killed after an attack during an anti-gay demonstration at his university. She will be speaking against hate crimes and anti-gay violence. The event will take place from 4-6 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, Allendale campus. For more information contact 616-331-2177.

**Thursday, Sept. 14 -- Seidman College of Business Alumni Association Breakfast Series: Ann Cavoukian**

Ann Cavoukian, the Commissioner of Privacy for Canada/ Ontario will lead the discussion, "Go beyond Compliance: Treat Privacy as a Business issue and Gain a Competitive Advantage." The breakfast presentation will be hosted by the Seidman College of Business Alumni Association at the Loosemore Auditorium of the Devos Center on the Pew campus. Breakfast will be served at 7:30 a.m. and the discussion begins at 8 a.m. To RSVP contact 616-331-7100.

**Thursday, Sept. 14 -- World-renowned African American scholar to speak**

Henry Louis Gates Jr., director of the W.E.B. Du Bois Institute for African and African American Research at Harvard University, will present, "W.E.B. Du Bois and the Digital Divide." W.E.B. Du Bois was the first African American to graduate from Harvard with a doctoral degree. Gates composed the first encyclopedia of African American history and culture. The event takes place at 7 p.m. in the Eberhard Center of the Pew Grand Rapids campus. For more information contact 616-331-2100.

**Monday, Sept. 18 -- Poetry Reading by South African poet Ingrid de Kok**

De Kok comes to Grand Valley to share her thoughts about African issues such as AIDS and apartheid through her poetry. She helped set up college courses for black students in Africa that were at the time not allowed in white universities. This event takes place at 4:30 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, 215/216, Allendale campus. For more information contact 616-331-3581.

For immediate release

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

September 8, 2006

### **GVSU All-Access offers live Grand Valley games, events online**

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- Grand Valley State University Athletics and CSTV Networks, Inc. have teamed to create a new broadband channel, GVSU (Grand Valley Sports Network) All-Access, which will offer Laker games and other events.

The first available game will be Saturday, September 9, when the Lakers play Ashland University beginning at 7 p.m.

Monthly subscriptions are available for \$6.95 and an annual pass is \$49.95. This will include live Webcasting of sports events, including all home football games and many away games.

"We are extremely excited to join the CSTV Networks as we launch our own Grand Valley Sports Network," said Tim Selgo, director of athletics. "This is an incredible way for our fans to get all of the information they desire in respect to Laker athletics. Our fans will be able to watch numerous sporting events live or from our achieved list of events or programming."

GVSU All-Access is a "virtual stadium" where viewers can follow all of Grand Valley's teams, live games, news conferences, features, and updated scores. Fans will be able to subscribe at [www.gvsu.edu](http://www.gvsu.edu) or [www.gvsulakers.com](http://www.gvsulakers.com).

CSTV Networks, Inc., part of the CBS Corporation, is the leading digital and cable programming company dedicated to college sports.

For Immediate Release

September 11, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

Grand Valley sees record enrollment and welcomes outstanding freshmen

ALLENDALE, Mich. — The numbers are in and enrollment for fall 2006 at Grand Valley State University is at its highest. Total enrollment stands at 23,295 — up 3.2 percent from last year.

Once again, Grand Valley welcomed an outstanding freshman class whose average GPA is 3.53. Grand Valley offers a broad array of high quality academic and student life programs that attract students from across Michigan and the Midwest. There are 200 areas of study at Grand Valley and more than 200 student organizations.

“Grand Valley is large enough to offer the programs you would expect from a university, and yet small enough to provide students a personalized experience,” said Lynn Blue, vice provost and dean of Academic Services and Information Technology. “The academic quality of the students enrolled at Grand Valley this fall is very impressive, in terms of their grade point averages, their test scores and their extra-curricular activities.”

Applications are reviewed using a combination of high school courses completed, cumulative grade point average, standardized test scores, grade point trend, rank in class and other factors provided by the applicant. Jodi Chycinski, director of Admissions, said students who want to attend Grand Valley in fall 2007 should get their application in by December 2006. More information is available at [www.gvsu.edu/admissions](http://www.gvsu.edu/admissions).

Grand Valley State University attracts more than 23,000 students with high quality programs and state-of-the-art facilities. Grand Valley is the comprehensive regional university for the state's second largest metropolitan area and offers 70 undergraduate and 26 graduate degree programs. It has campuses in Allendale, Grand Rapids, and Holland and centers in Muskegon and Traverse City. The university is dedicated to individual student achievement, going beyond the traditional classroom experience, with research opportunities and business partnerships.

For more information, contact News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

For Immediate Release

September 11, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

New reading assessment courses offered at Grand Valley State University  
Courses meet criteria of new state law

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The State of Michigan added a new reading requirement for beginning teachers who have yet to earn their Professional Certification. Grand Valley's Reading/Language Arts Program has created two new courses for teachers that will satisfy the requirements of the new law that was passed last spring.

"There is a lot of confusion about this new requirement," said Patterson. "Teachers are just now being notified through their school districts that they may need to take a course."

The two new Grand Valley courses, one for elementary teachers, the other for secondary teachers, will be taught on weekends and will meet the criteria established by the state.

"The new law requires that all teachers who will not have their Professional Certification by July 2007 will need to take a reading assessment course appropriate for their certification," said Nancy Patterson, chair of the Reading/Language Arts Program at Grand Valley.

For more information, contact Nancy Patterson at (616) 331-6226 or Dottie Barnes at (616) 331-2221.

September 12, 2006

For Immediate Release

Photo of Homage to Sharaku print by Rudy Pozzatti available.

Contact Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221 or [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu).

Icon of contemporary American printmaking to speak at Grand Valley

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — "The Art of Collaboration in Printmaking: History and Practice," will be featured at Grand Valley State University's seventh annual DeVos Art Lecture.

Rudy Pozzatti, Distinguished Professor of Fine Arts, Emeritus, Indiana University and Ann and David Keister, Grand Valley faculty in the department of Art and Design will participate in the program on Thursday, September 21. The event at Loosemore Auditorium, DeVos Center, 401 W. Fulton, Grand Rapids, includes a gathering at 5 p.m. and the lecture at 5:30, followed by a wine and cheese reception. Grand Valley music students will perform before and after the lecture. Free parking is available in the Front Street lot. Grand Valley President Thomas J. Haas and his wife Marsha will also make an appearance.

"Marsha has graciously agreed to continue, starting in 2007, the tradition of serving as honorary chair for the series," said Henry Matthews director of GVSU galleries and collections.

Rudy Pozzatti, now 80 years old, is an esteemed artist, printmaker, and teacher who developed Indiana University's printmaking program, which is considered to be one of the finest in the country. His work has been the focus of numerous one-man exhibitions in various museums and galleries throughout the United States, Italy and Germany, and is included in many world class collections including those of the Museum of Modern Art in New York and the National Gallery in Washington D.C.

David Keister was the professional printer and shop manager of Landfall Press in Chicago. He later developed the idea of Echo Press with Rudy Pozzatti and became Echo's master printer and technical director. By tradition, as master printer he received a printer's proof of each edition, and accrued a remarkable body of contemporary prints while at both Landfall Press and Echo Press.

In 2003, Ann and David Keister chose Grand Valley as the recipient of their vast collection of over 300 prints, an important addition to the university's growing Print and Drawing Cabinet.

For more information call the GVSU Art Gallery at (616) 331-2564, or visit [www.gvsu.edu/artgallery](http://www.gvsu.edu/artgallery).



For Immediate Release

September 12, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221

Grand Rapids Public Schools superintendent addresses GVSU students

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Bernard Taylor, superintendent of Grand Rapids Public Schools, will speak to Grand Valley State University education students this week. Taylor will address students, most of whom are teachers, in a master's level course that focuses on race, class and language.

Taylor is scheduled to speak Thursday, September 14, from 6-7 p.m. in room 415 of the Eberhard Center on the Pew Grand Rapids Campus.

Taylor will talk about his vision for Grand Rapids Public Schools and get input from teachers about the success of K-12 education.

For more information, contact Ismail Hakim, assistant professor of education, at (616) 331-6736 or News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

For immediate release

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

September 13, 2006

### **GVSU celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month**

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- From business forums to lively, colorful cultural celebrations, many events are planned in September and October to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month at Grand Valley State University.

The national month-long celebration begins September 15, which marks the anniversary of independence for Latin American countries, and continues through October 12, when Columbus Day is observed in the United States and El Dia de la Raza is observed in Latin America.

Events at Grand Valley, which are free and open to the public, including the following:

-- Festival of Food and Music; September 18, noon-2 p.m.; Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room, Allendale Campus

Selene Lacayo, executive director of the West Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, will explain the origin of serenades and why they are popular in Hispanic culture. Various dishes from local Hispanic restaurants will be available and a musical trio will perform.

-- Hispanics in West Michigan: Challenges and Opportunities; September 19, 6-7:30 p.m.; Cook DeWitt Center, Allendale Campus; and September 20, 5:30-7 p.m., Loosemore Auditorium, DeVos Center, Pew Grand Rapids Campus

José Reyna, assistant to the city manager, City of Grand Rapids, will talk about the Hispanic demographic in West Michigan. This fast-growing population heavily impacts local business, economy and culture.

-- Guitarist Ernesto Bitetti; September 28, noon-1p.m.; Cook DeWitt Center

Ernesto Bitetti, a native of Argentina, is the most recorded guitarist in the world. Bitetti will perform works by Villalobos, Moreno, Albéniz, Cardoso, Piazzolla, and others.

-- Film: "Buscando a Leti" (In search of Leti) The Life of Immigrants; September 28, 4-6:30 p.m.; Lake Superior Hall, room 175, Allendale Campus

Dalia Tapia, born in Mexico and raised in the United States, will present her movie. The film portrays the conflict that immigrants confront when they leave their home countries for the promise of a better life.

-- Hispanic Business Forum; October 4, noon-2 p.m.; Loosemore Auditorium, DeVos Center  
Frank Coronado, president of the West Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and Dante Villareal, business consultant from the Small Business and Technology Development Center, will lead a discussion regarding Hispanic businesses in West Michigan. Other panelists include Martha Cerda, 2005 Latina of the Year; Jorge Gonzalez, GVSU alumnus and 2005 Latino of the Year; and Sandra Ramos, from Chemical Bank.

-- Hispanic Poetry; October 2, 4-5:30 p.m.; Kirkhof Center, Pere Marquette Room

Three Hispanic published poets -- Zulema Moret, from GVSU's Modern Languages and Literatures Department; Joana Goergen, DePaul University; and Alvaro Leiva, Albion College -- will recite their works in Spanish and English.

-- Spanglish: The New Linguistic Hybrid; October 5, 1-2 p.m.; Kirkhof Center, rooms 215/216  
Yvette Fuentes and Keith Watts, from the Modern Languages and Literatures Department, will present how this new "language" has emerged in the United States due to the blending of the English and Spanish languages.

-- Hispanic Women: Hopes, Dreams and Cultural Realities; October 11, 3-4:30 p.m.; Cook DeWitt Center

Khedija Gadhoun, assistant professor of Modern Languages and Literatures, with expertise in women's writing in Africa and Latin America, will moderate a diverse panel of speakers to discuss the issues Hispanic women face in American society along with their thoughts, dreams and challenges.

Sponsors of Hispanic Heritage Month are the Office of Multicultural Affairs, College of Interdisciplinary Studies, Housing, Latin American Studies, Modern Languages and Literatures, Pew Faculty Teaching and Learning Center, Seidman College of Business, School of Communications, School of Social Work, Women and Gender Studies, Latino Student Union and Women's Center. Questions can be directed to Sandra Fernandez-Tardani, Multicultural Affairs, at (616) 331-2177.

For Immediate Release

September 13, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

Immigration debate participants available for media interviews

#### MEDIA NOTE

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Participants in a debate about immigration, part of Grand Valley State University's Constitution Day Celebration, will be available for media interviews following the debate.

Who is an American? The Immigration Debate after 9/11, is sponsored in part by Grand Valley's Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies.

Three experts will take part in the debate Tuesday, September 19, from 1-2:15 p.m. in the Cook-DeWitt Center on Grand Valley's Allendale Campus. The panel will be available for interviews from 2:30-3:30 p.m. in the Cook-DeWitt conference room.

Debate participants are:

- Linda Chavez, chair of the Center for Equal Opportunity, a public policy research organization in Virginia. She writes a weekly syndicated column and is a political analyst for FOX News Channel. In 2001, Chavez was President Bush's nominee to lead the U.S. Labor Department until she withdrew her name from consideration.
- Peter Brimelow, a British-American financial journalist and author who is best known for his writings on immigration policy. Brimelow served as editor of Forbes, Financial Post and National Review. He is currently president of the Center for American Unity, a nonprofit educational organization dedicated to preserving the historical unity of America.
- Bill Ong Hing, professor of law and Asian-American studies at the University of California-Davis. He has written several academic and practice-oriented books and articles on immigration policy and race relations.

For more information, visit [www.allpresidents.org](http://www.allpresidents.org) or contact the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies at (616) 331-2770 or GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

September 13, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221 or  
pirkolam@gvsu.edu

Visuals used to demystify mathematical thinking

Mathematics can be exciting, intuitive and visually interesting. To prove it, Grand Valley State University math faculty members David Austin and Matt Boelkins have designed a series of fun lectures that they hope are pleasurable and inspiring to general audiences.

The first talk, "Playing Penrose's Tile Game," will be presented by Austin on Thursday, September 21, at 7 p.m. in Loutit Lecture Hall, 102 Henry Hall on the Allendale Campus.

As students are continually being encouraged to take more mathematics classes, they and their parents are naturally asking why mathematics is so important. The point of this lecture series is to present mathematics from an intuitive perspective and to show the kind of thinking that goes into discovering new mathematics.

"In particular, we want the audience to understand that mathematical ideas come from somewhere, that they are continually being discovered, and that the discoveries are useful in a wide range of areas in our society," said Austin. We also want people to understand that there is an aesthetic quality to mathematical thinking that is pleasurable and even inspiring."

To do this, they plan to present mathematics in a visual way through the use of images. It's possible that there will not be a single equation over the course of the four talks presented this fall and next spring. Future talks include:

- October 19, "Chaos Games and Fractal Images" by Bob Devaney, Boston University  
Department of Mathematics

- February 8, "Fibonacci's Garden" by Matt Boelkins, GVSU Department of Mathematics

- April 12, "Mathematics in Stone and Bronze" by mathematical sculptors Claire and Helaman Ferguson.

"We hope to make the subject accessible to a diverse audience composed of people whose mathematical background may be limited," said Austin. "We also encourage high school teachers and students to attend."

For more information contact David Austin at (616) 331-3431.

September 14, 2006

For Immediate Release

Photos available, contact Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221 or [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu).

### Theatre kicks off Grand Valley Shakespeare Festival

Forget what you know about Shakespeare. Director Karen Libman has set her production of "Love's Labour's Lost" in New Orleans during the early Jazz Age.

Presented through Theatre at Grand Valley's School of Communications this romantic comedy will lead off the university's 13th annual Shakespeare Festival, the largest in Michigan.

Performances for "Love's Labour's Lost" are September 29, 30, October 5, 6, and 7 at 7:30 p.m. and October 1, 7, and 8 at 2 p.m. There are also special mid-week matinees for school groups on October 3, 4, and 5, with sign language interpreters at the October 5 performance.

Libman, whose recent credits include this summer's acclaimed play "Metamorphoses" for Heritage Theatre in Grand Rapids, brings a lighter touch to this production featuring bright colors and music, as well as some of Shakespeare's richest and most lavish verse.

The production features guest professional actor Nathan Sorseth, a Seattle-based Equity actor, as well as student and regional artists, including guest lighting designer Keith Oberfeld, guest stage manager Rhonda Lehan, and a Grand Rapids favorite, actor Christopher Weaver.

In this battle of the sexes the King of Navarre and his three lords decide that academic study is more important than frivolities like love. But how long can college guys really swear off love? When the Princess of France arrives, accompanied by three ladies of her own, everything changes. This production is recommended for ages 8 and up. No children under school age admitted.

Tickets are \$6-\$14 and may be purchased in person at the Louis Armstrong Theatre Box Office in the Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. Call the box office for reservations at 331-2300. A new FLEXPASS system allows patrons to purchase show tickets at a discount. Tickets may also be purchased, with a service fee, through Star Tickets Plus outlets, online at [www.starticketsplus.com](http://www.starticketsplus.com), or by calling (616) 222-4000 or (800) 585-3737.

Other Shakespeare Festival events include presentations from visiting scholar Michael Best and the annual Renaissance Festival. The Festival also sponsors Grand Valley's popular traveling production, "Bard to Go."

For more information call (616) 331-3668 or visit [www.gvsu.edu/theatre](http://www.gvsu.edu/theatre).

For Immediate Release

September 14, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

**MEDIA NOTE**

All GVSU Constitution Day speakers available for interviews

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. - Immigration experts participating in Grand Valley's Constitution Day Celebration will be available for media interviews.

"Who is an American? The Immigration Debate after 9/11" will be held Tuesday, September 19, at the Cook-DeWitt Center on Grand Valley's Allendale Campus. Debate participants will be available for interviews from 2:30-3:30 p.m. in the Cook-DeWitt conference room. Information on the all-day event and the speakers can be found at [www.allpresidents.org](http://www.allpresidents.org).

LOCATION CHANGE: All speakers will be available from 4:30-5 p.m. in the Gordon Gallery, located in the DeVos Center on the Pew Grand Rapids Campus, 401 W. Fulton St.

The event is sponsored by Grand Valley's Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies, the Gerald R. Ford Library, Museum & Foundation, and the World Affairs Council of Western Michigan.

For more information, visit [www.allpresidents.org](http://www.allpresidents.org) or call the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies at (616) 331-2770.

For Immediate Release  
September 15, 2006  
Contact: News and Information Services, 616-331-2221

**Tip Sheet: GVSU Events for Sept. 18-25**

**Monday, Sept. 18 -- Hispanic Heritage Month Event: Festival of Food and Music**  
The executive director of the West Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Selene Lecayo, will give a presentation on the origins of serenades and discuss their historical influence on Hispanic culture. Noon-2 p.m., Kirkhof Center, Allendale Campus.

**Tuesday, Sept. 19 -- Constitution Day Events**  
To celebrate Constitution Day, Grand Valley's Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies will host a series of events throughout the day to discuss the U.S. immigration policy. The events feature experts from around the country as well as the Grand Rapids community. For more information about these events contact 616-331-2770.

**8:30- 9:45 a.m.**

Professors from Grand Valley, Hope College, and the president of the Center for Renewal in Houston will discuss the politics of immigration policies. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale Campus.

**10-11:15 a.m.**

A panel of immigrants from the local community will discuss immigration and naturalization. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale Campus.

**11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m.**

An afternoon keynote address will be given by Russell Magnaghi, author and interim department head of history at Northern Michigan University. Kirkhof Center, room 204, Allendale Campus.

**1-2:15 p.m.**

Peter Brimelow, Bill Ong Hing, and Linda Chavez, a political analyst for FOX News channel, will lead a debate, "Who is an American?" Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale Campus.

**7:30 p.m.**

An evening keynote address will be given by Marcelo M. Suárez-Orozco, co-director of Immigration Studies at New York University. Gerald R. Ford Museum, Grand Rapids.

**Wednesday, Sept. 20 -- Professionals of Color Lecture Series: Jehmu Greene**  
Greene will present "Make Your Mark...Vote: A Call to Activism," a lecture inspiring youth to become politically involved. Greene is the national director for non-profit organization Project Vote and was the past president of the Rock the Vote campaign. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale Campus. For more information contact 616-331-2177



September 18, 2006

For Immediate Release

Photo available of "Giza Pyramids" by Rana Chalabi and "Pyramids of Geezeh" by David Roberts.

Contact Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221, or [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu).

### Grand Valley features Egyptian art and artist

A body of work by Egyptian artist Rana Chalabi, created specifically for an exhibition at the GVSU Art Gallery, will be on display beginning Wednesday, October 4, as part of the university's Fall Arts Celebration, sponsored by Macatawa Bank.

The Syrian-born Chalabi, who now lives in Cairo, will speak with students in the Gallery prior to the exhibition opening on Tuesday, from 11:30-1 p.m. The artist will also attend the public opening reception on Thursday, October 5, from 5-7 p.m. at the GVSU Art Gallery, located in the Performing Arts Center on the Allendale Campus. She will speak to the public about her work at 6 p.m. Her talks will focus on what it is like to be a Muslim woman artist in Cairo today.

The public event is sponsored by a gift from URS Corporation and made possible, in part, by a grant from Michigan Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Chalabi's watercolor works in this exhibition depict life in Cairo today, as she experiences it. There are views of downtown Cairo, in the tight cramped quarters of the old town, interiors of shops and coffee houses, views of important and well known mosques and palaces, ancient Christian churches, boats anchored along the Nile, as well as village life in other parts of the country.

"I also asked her to include views of ancient Egyptian ruins of temples," said Henry Matthews, director of galleries and collections. "She painted several views both of the exterior and the interior spaces of the ancient St. Catherine Monastery located in the shadow of Mt. Sinai."

The tradition of painting these kinds of views, specifically in Egypt, is perhaps best known through the work of Scottish artist David Roberts (1796-1864). The artist painted and sketched in Egypt in the early 19th century. To complement the Chalabi exhibition, a Roberts print exhibit will be shown concurrently in the Lake Ontario Hall, Red Wall Gallery. "19th Century Views of Egypt by David Roberts, on loan from Erwin Raible, New York" includes a selection of 34 hand-

colored prints by Roberts depicting scenes encountered on his travels through Egypt. A reception for this exhibit is planned for Thursday, October 5, from 5-7 p.m., in the Red Wall Gallery, Lake Ontario Hall.

Caroline Williams, visiting scholar from the College of William and Mary, will speak on Roberts' work and his famous views of Egyptian monuments. Her talk on Monday, October 9, is from 4:30 – 5:45 p.m., in the Grand River Room, Kirkhof Center, Allendale Campus.

All exhibits, lectures and receptions are free and open to the public. Both exhibitions continue through November 3. Gallery hours are Monday-Friday, from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Thursdays until 7 p.m. For more information call (616) 331-2564.

September 18, 2006

For Immediate Release

For photos of speakers contact Mary Isca Pirkola, Grand Valley State University News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221 or [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu).

Dialogue promotes understanding of Jewish, Christian and Muslim faiths

On Tuesday, October 24, a program "Religion and Power: The Power to Create, the Power to Destroy," will feature distinguished scholars James Carroll, Vincent J. Cornell, and Donniel Hartman. This program is presented by the West Shore Committee for Jewish/Christian Dialogue and Grand Valley State University.

Held at Grand Valley's Eberhard Center, Pew Grand Rapids Campus, the program includes a full day of sessions where each of the three experts will speak on their religion, followed by responses from the other two speakers and discussion with the audience. An evening session will engage all three presenters and Martin E. Marty, who will serve as moderator for the entire program.

"The urgency of religious understanding becomes clearer every day," said James Carroll. "Jews, Christians, and Muslims must together find a way to peace."

The current state of the Middle East reinforces the need for programs such as this. Since 1991, the West Shore Committee has set a goal of instilling mutual respect and a free exchange of theological insights and ideas that foster greater understanding and mutual acceptance.

"The belief in one God often generates a belief in one exclusive truth, and a belief in one's right to harm and destroy others in the pursuit of that truth," said Donniel Hartman. "It is our responsibility to confront our own respective traditions, reinterpret them when and where necessary, and place renewed educational emphasis and priority on those ideas and values that enable monotheism to co-exist within a world blessed by diversity."

Sylvia Kaufman, one of the founders of the Muskegon-based group, stresses that this isn't a political event, but a theological dialogue. The committee has provided a major dialogue program of regional and national significance every three years. This year, the program has been expanded to include a Muslim speaker and has moved to Grand Rapids in collaboration with Grand Valley.

Vincent J. Cornell believes that new ways of affirming dignity of the religious other needs to be found across religious perspectives. "The challenge for the religious person at the dawn of this dangerous new century is not to find reasons to condemn religion, but rather to find ways to making the power of religion constructive and peace affirming rather than destructive and conflict producing," he said.

"In the texts, traditions, and practices of all religions, there have been assertions of power to destroy and power to create," said Martin E. Marty. "The task of our time is to see and help them create."

This event is sponsored by the Lilly Endowment Inc., the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids, The Grand Rapids Community Foundation, the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation, Community Foundation for Muskegon County, United Jewish Charities of Greater Muskegon, Community Foundation of the Holland/Zeeland Area, Grand Rapids Center for Ecumenism, Muskegon County Cooperating Churches and numerous West Michigan individuals, organizations and corporations.

Generous support makes it possible to offer the full day program for a \$10 registration fee. Those registrants have the option of purchasing the \$10 lunch and/or a dinner/discussion for \$20. The evening session after the dinner is open to the public without charge. To see the complete schedule of the day's events visit [www.jewishchristiandialogue.org](http://www.jewishchristiandialogue.org). To receive a printed brochure call Sylvia Kaufman at (231) 727-3407 or Chris Anderson at (231) 722-7308.

For more information media may contact:

Sylvia Kaufman at (231) 727-3407, or [sylkaufman@aol.com](mailto:sylkaufman@aol.com)

Douglas Kindschi at [kindschd@gvsu.edu](mailto:kindschd@gvsu.edu)  
or visit [www.jewishchristiandialogue.org](http://www.jewishchristiandialogue.org)

For immediate release

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221  
September 19, 2006

**GVSU lecture series continues with Project Vote director**

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- The national director of Project Vote, a non-partisan, non-profit organization that supports voter mobilization in low-income communities, will address the Grand Valley State University community as the next speaker in the Professionals of Color Lecture Series.

Jehmu Greene is scheduled to speak on Wednesday, September 20, from 4-6 p.m. in the Cook-DeWitt Center.

She has worked on numerous campaigns including Clinton/Gore in 1996 and several Congressional races. The past president of Rock the Vote, Greene is a member of many national boards including Young Voter PAC and the Partnership for Public Service, and the Vote-Run-Lead Project, which promotes women who run for office.

Her presentation is free and open to the public. The lecture series is sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs; for more information, call (616) 331-2177.

September 20, 2006

For Immediate Release

Photo available, contact Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, at (616) 331-2221 or [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu)

#### Author returns to Michigan for GVSU Writers Series

Short story writer David Means will return to Michigan as the featured guest of Grand Valley State University's Visiting Writers Series on Thursday, September 28, at 7:30 p.m. in the Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall of the Performing Arts Center on the Allendale Campus.

Means, who was born and raised in Kalamazoo and also lived in Petoskey, says he spent a lot of time as a teenager wandering around the Upper Peninsula, fishing and trying to stay out of trouble. Perhaps even then he was storing away sensory details that inject a bit of Michigan into many of his stories.

His struggling characters, who are often involved in intense relationships and searching for understanding of their situation in life, are mostly redeemed by Means' writing and transformed into hopeful souls. His two books of short stories include "The Secret Goldfish," which includes his 2006 O. Henry Prize-winning story "Sault Ste. Marie," and "Assorted Fire Events," winner of the Los Angeles Times book prize and a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award.

On the faculty of Vassar College, Means now calls himself a New Yorker, but said he still needs to return to Michigan at least once a year to get his fix.

For more information about this program call (616) 331-3601.

For immediate release

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

September 20, 2006

**Intercollegiate council brings award-winning author to Grand Rapids**

-- bell hooks to speak at Fountain Street as guest of West Michigan Women's Studies Council

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich.-- A noted author and feminist who addresses how racism and sexism permeate society through mass media will speak in Grand Rapids as part of a series of speakers brought to the area by the West Michigan Women's Studies Council.

bell hooks will speak on Monday, October 2, beginning at 7 p.m. at Fountain Street Church, 24 Fountain St. NE. The event is free and open to the public; doors will open at 6:30 p.m.

hooks was born Gloria Jean Watkins but uses her great-grandmother's name for her writing and prefers the lower-case spelling because, "It's the substance in my books, not who is writing them that is important," she said.

At age 19, hooks began writing "Ain't I a Woman: Black Women and Feminism." She has since continued to be critical of the way black women have been ignored by the mainstream feminist movement and the black liberation struggle. She has published more than 30 books, ranging in topics from black men and masculinity to self-help, engaged pedagogy to personal memoir, and sexuality to the politics of visual culture.

She has taught at Yale University, Oberlin College, City College of New York, Southwestern University and currently is the distinguished professor in residence at Berea College in Kentucky.

Funding for the lecture is provided by the Nokomis Foundation. The West Michigan Women's Studies Council is an intercollegiate and community organization that includes representatives from Aquinas, Calvin, Grand Rapids Community and Hope colleges, and Grand Valley and Davenport universities.

The Community Media Center and the Grand Rapids Public Library will show one of hooks' films, "Cultural Criticism and Transformation," Monday, September 25, at 7 p.m. at the Wealthy Street Theatre and on Wednesday, September 27, at 7 p.m. at the Grand Rapids Public Library on Library Street.

For more information, call (616) 331-2748 or visit [www.wmwsc.org](http://www.wmwsc.org).

For immediate release

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

September 21, 2006

**Media opportunity: Football 101 planned for GVSU international faculty, staff**

Fall means football, but for some Grand Valley State University international faculty and staff, football means soccer.

To help international faculty and staff members understand the basics of football, two presentations will be held to discuss the language and culture of the sport.

"Understanding American Football," will be held Friday, September 22, from noon-1:30 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, room 201; and Monday, September 25, from noon-1:30 p.m. in the DeVos Center, room 117E.

Alan Headbloom, founder of English Training Consultants, will show game highlights and discuss scoring, positions and the phenomena surrounding the game (tailgate parties, marching bands, cheerleaders).

The presentations are sponsored by GVSU's Work Life Connections. For more information, call (616) 331-8011.



For immediate release

Contact: GVSU News and Information Services (616) 331-2221

September 22, 2006

**Tip Sheet: GVSU Events for Sept. 25-30**

**Tuesday, Sept. 26 --- Fall Arts Celebration Event: Faculty Showcase Concert**

The music faculty of Grand Valley will take the stage for an all-encompassing performance, 8 p.m., Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale Campus.

**Wednesday, Sept. 27 --- Mother and son lead free forum on teenage drinking**

Wedgewood Christian Services and GVSU's ALERT Labs sponsor a free forum open to the public, "The Drink's On Us: The Family Fallout of Teenage Drinking." A mother and son will talk about their family's battle with teen alcoholism; local experts will serve on a panel. 7 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church, 47 Jefferson Ave. SE, Grand Rapids.

**Friday, Sept. 29 --- Shakespeare Festival begins with 'Love's Labour's Lost'**

The 13th annual Shakespeare Festival launches "Love's Labour's Lost." Set in Louisiana during the early Jazz Age this play chronicles a tale of two men who plan to give up women for three years while they devote time to their studies. Performances will run through Oct. 8. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Allendale Campus.

For Immediate Release

September 22, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

Fun freshman facts for 2006

Grand Valley State University celebrates outstanding freshman class

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Grand Valley's 2006 freshman class is outstanding in several ways. With an average GPA of 3.53, they still found time for a wide variety of interests. Here are a few fun facts about Grand Valley's newest Lakers.

- 17 percent were elected to student office in high school
- 21 percent were rated "superior" in a statewide music contest
- 63 percent earned a varsity letter in one or more sports
- 5 percent created artwork that was exhibited in a statewide or regional show
- 5 percent had written works published in a public newspaper or magazine or in a state/national high school anthology
- 6 percent won a literary award or prize for creative writing
- 50 percent were active in community or neighborhood service programs
- 53 percent plan to earn graduate degrees
- 95 percent expect to earn a B average or better in their first year of college (46 percent expect a 3.5 GPA or better)
- 88 percent intend to work at a job during their first year of college
- 85 percent attended public high schools
- 18 percent come from communities with fewer than 2,000 inhabitants; 55 percent come from cities/towns with 2,000-50,000 people.

For more information, contact GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

For Immediate Release  
September 22, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

Grand Valley named 'Best College Buy' for 11th year in a row

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Grand Valley State University has again been named one of America's 100 Best College Buys by Institutional Research and Evaluation, Inc. in Georgia. This is Grand Valley's 11th consecutive year on the list.

Each year, Institutional Research identifies the 100 American colleges and universities providing students the very highest quality education at the lowest cost.

To be considered for the designation, an institution must be an accredited, four-year institution, offer full residential facilities, have had an entering freshman class in the fall of 2005 with a high school grade point average and/or SAT/ACT score equal to or above the national average for entering college freshmen. It also must have an out-of-state cost of attendance in 2006-2007 for two semesters below the national average or not exceeding the national average cost by more than 10 percent.

The grade point average for incoming freshmen at Grand Valley in the fall of 2005 was 3.53, compared to the national average of 3.27, according to Institutional Research Evaluation, Inc. The average ACT score for incoming freshmen at Grand Valley in the fall of 2005 was 24, compared to the national average of 23.

Grand Valley State University is a four-year public university. It attracts more than 23,000 students with high quality programs and state-of-the-art facilities. Grand Valley is the comprehensive regional university for the state's second largest metropolitan area and offers 70 undergraduate and 26 graduate degree programs. It has campuses in Allendale, Grand Rapids, and Holland and centers in Muskegon and Traverse City. The university is dedicated to individual student achievement, going beyond the traditional classroom experience, with research opportunities and business partnerships. Grand Valley employs more than 1,700 people and is committed to providing a fair and equitable environment for the continued success of all.

For more information, contact Grand Valley News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

For Immediate Release

September 22, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

Grand Valley's Johnson Center hosts AIM Alliance

Leading philanthropy centers partner for unique alliance

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership at Grand Valley State University will host the AIM Alliance meeting October 3-5, in the DeVos Center of the Pew Grand Rapids Campus.

AIM Alliance is a partnership among the Johnson Center, Indiana University's Center on Philanthropy, and Arizona State University's Center for Nonprofit Leadership and Management. The alliance is the first of its kind in the sector with a goal to improve services for all nonprofit academic centers.

"The AIM Alliance is an unprecedented partnership among the nation's three leading academic centers for the study of philanthropy," said Kathy Agard, executive director of the Johnson Center. "By working together, we can establish national standards, promote great diversity, and make the entire field of study even more useful to foundations and nonprofit organizations."

The three universities were awarded a \$7.5 million grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation Battle Creek to collaborate and utilize each center's strengths to increase capacity and diversity of the nonprofit sector.

Attending the event will be Robert F. Ashcraft, executive director of the Center for Nonprofit Leadership and Management at Arizona State, and Eugene R. Tempel, executive director of the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University.

Established in 1992 with support from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership promotes effective philanthropy, community improvement, and excellence in nonprofit leadership through teaching, research, and service. The Johnson Center is recognized for its applied research that benefits practitioners and nonprofits through its Community Research Institute, Nonprofit Good Practice Guide and The Grantmaking School.

For interviews or a schedule of events, contact Cristin Heinbeck at the Johnson Center at (616) 331-7589 or GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

For immediate release

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221  
September 25, 2006

**GVSU grant will advance careers of women scientists**

-- \$500,000 grant comes from National Science Foundation; GVSU partners with UM

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- Advancing the careers of women faculty members in the science and engineering fields received a boost when Grand Valley State University, in partnership with The University of Michigan, received a \$500,000, two-year grant from the National Science Foundation ADVANCE Program.

The goal of the ADVANCE program is to increase the representation and advancement of women in academic science and engineering careers, contributing to the development of a more diverse science and engineering workforce.

Grand Valley's grant was co-authored by Shaily Menon, associate professor of biology, and Kathleen Underwood, associate professor of history and coordinator of Women and Gender Studies. The goals of the grant are to address aspects of recruitment, retention, professional development, and climate in the sciences and engineering.

While the grant is targeted at professors, students will also see benefits. Menon chairs the biology department and teaches some technical courses using geographic information systems and computer modeling. "I know it makes a difference for women students to see a woman teaching a class that deals with technology," she said. "It shows them a role model and opens up career possibilities in fields that they might not have considered before."

Fred Antczak, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, said because the grant promotes diversity in the workplace, education at Grand Valley will be enhanced. "Diversity makes us all deal with the variety of perspectives that make up the world we live in, and the world ahead," he said.

The NSF grant will also allow UM graduate and post-doctoral students to teach at Grand Valley. "It's a collaborative pipeline," Menon said. "They will gain valuable experience at a university committed to undergraduate teaching and a liberal arts and science education."

Underwood said that portion of the grant could be key to some women, as the sciences remain a male-dominated field. According to NSF, women constitute less than 21 percent of the science and engineering faculty at four-year universities. "For women PhDs at risk of giving up on an academic career, it offers an alternative model of a primarily undergraduate university, which might be more attractive," Underwood said.

Wendy Wenner, dean of the College of Interdisciplinary Studies, said receiving the competitive grant acknowledges the strength of Grand Valley's science, engineering and Women and Gender Studies programs and the excellence of its faculty.

"We are pleased that UM and NSF recognize our ability to provide mentoring and support for new female faculty," she said. "They are enthusiastic about partnering to change academic culture to more strongly support and develop women in their careers."

Media note: For interviews with the professors, call News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221.

September 25, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, Grand Valley State University News and Information Services at  
(616) 331-2221, or [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu).

## GVSU OCTOBER EVENTS

### ART

Grand Valley State University Art Gallery  
Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus

Hours: M-F, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Th, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.

(616) 331-2564

All exhibits, lectures and receptions are free and open to the public.

[Available photo of "Giza Pyramids" by Rana Chalabi.]

October 4 – November 3

A Fall Arts Celebration event. Ancient Sites Revisited: Watercolors of Egypt by Rana Chalabi. Modern Cairo, ancient ruins along the river Nile and daily life in this contemporary Muslim and Coptic society are the subjects of Rana Chalabi's paintings. The Syrian-born artist, who now lives in Cairo, has created a body of new work depicting views of Egypt following the tradition of 19th century Scottish artist David Roberts. See information below about the concurrent exhibition of his work. Reception with Chalabi, 5-7 p.m. on Thursday, October 5 at the GVSU Art Gallery.

Sponsored by a gift from URS Corporation and made possible, in part, by a grant from Michigan Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

[Available photo of "Pyramids of Geezeh" by David Roberts.]

19th Century Views of Egypt by David Roberts, on loan from Erwin Raible, New York. This concurrent exhibition presents a selection of 34 hand-colored prints by Scottish artist David Roberts (1796-1864) depicting scenes encountered on his travels through Egypt. LOH, Red Wall Gallery.

Thursday, October 5, Reception 5-7 p.m., Red Wall Gallery, Lake Ontario Hall.

Monday, October 9, Exhibition Lecture: Dr. Caroline Williams, visiting scholar from the College

of William and Mary, will speak on the artist's work and his famous views of Egyptian monuments, 4:30 – 5:45 p.m., Grand River Room, Kirkhof Center, Allendale Campus.

## MUSIC AND DANCE

Events are free and open to the public unless noted. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

October

[Photo available]

10/3 Tuesday

Arts at Noon Series. Heinavanker Ensemble. This Estonian vocal ensemble specializes in various types of early music, including pre-Christian runic song, Gregorian chant, and Baltic folk music. The generous acoustics of the Cook-DeWitt Center offer a splendid setting for the sumptuous sound of this a cappella ensemble. Noon, Allendale Campus.

10/11 Wednesday

Cellist Lee Copenhaver, a 22-year member of the music/dance faculty at Grand Valley State University, will present a recital of music from three cultures entitled "Meditations for Peace" at 12 p.m. in the Cook-DeWitt Center on the Allendale Campus. The program will include music by Bach, Messiaen, Bloch and Bruch, as well as a 1995 Arabian work by Edward Hines. He will be accompanied by Helen Hawley, Minister of Music at Westminster Presbyterian Church, on piano. The 50-minute program is free and open to the public.

[Photo available]

10/12 Thursday

Arts at Noon Series. Trío Montecino. Trio members are clarinetist David Shea, pianist Paulina Zamora and GVSU cello professor Pablo Mahave-Veglia. The concert includes Brahms' Trio Op. 114, one of his last works, a piece that alternates between stirring melancholy and driving defiance. Also in the program are new works specially written for the ensemble that will be included in their next CD project. Noon. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale Campus.

10/13 Friday

Music Department Concert. Symphony Orchestra. Brian Asher Alhadeff, conductor. 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus.

10/15 Sunday

Music Department Concert. Barry D. Martin conducts the Symphonic Wind Ensemble. 3 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus.

10/15 Sunday

Music Department Concert. Kevin Tutt conducts the Concert Band. 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus.

[Kobrin photo available]

10/16 Monday

A Fall Arts Celebration event. Van Cliburn Medalist Concert Series featuring Alexander Kobrin, gold medalist in the 12th Van Cliburn International Piano Competition. 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. Reception to follow. Tickets are \$10 general admission, plus handling fee, through Star Tickets Plus at (616) 222-4000 or (800) 585-3737, online at [www.starticketsplus.com](http://www.starticketsplus.com) or at any Star Tickets Plus outlets. Tickets also available at the Louis Armstrong Theatre Box Office (in-person sales only/no phone orders) weekdays from noon – 5 p.m. Free tickets available to GVSU students with a GVSU student ID at the LAT Box Office only. Carillon prelude concert, 7:20 – 7:50 p.m.

Sponsored by a gift of Robert and Judith Hooker.

[Stomberg photo available]

10/18 Wednesday

Arts at Noon. Cellist Lawrence Stomberg enjoys a wide ranging musical career as chamber musician, soloist, orchestral player and pedagogue. Currently a professor at the University of Delaware, Stomberg will present a solo recital of American music, much of it taken from his latest CD release, "The American Cello." 8 p.m. Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus.

10/19 Thursday

Music Department Concert. Jazz Orchestra. Tim Froncek, director. 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus.

10/20 Friday

Music Department Concert. Varsity Men conducted by Charles Norris, Select Women's Ensemble and University Singers conducted by Ellen Pool. 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus.



10/21 Saturday

Vocal Coach in Residency Arlene Shrut will conduct a master class at Grand Valley State University from 10 a.m. to noon and 1-4 p.m. in the Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, in the Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. A recital at the same location is planned on Sunday at 5 p.m., featuring Steve Oosting singing "Die Winterreise" accompanied by Shrut on piano. All events are free and open to the public. For more information contact Professor Kathryn Stieler at (616) 331-3391 or [stielerk@gvsu.edu](mailto:stielerk@gvsu.edu).

10/21 Saturday

Music Department Concert. Brian Asher Alhadeff conducts the Chamber Orchestra. 2 p.m. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale Campus.

10/21 Saturday

Grand Valley's Dance Program will host the Michigan Dance Council Dance Day. This all-day event will include a variety of dance classes and a performance at 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus.

Open to the public. For more information call Jefferson Baum, director of the Grand Valley Dance Program, at (616) 331-2548.

10/22 Sunday

Music Department Concert. Ellen Pool conducts the University Arts Chorale. Also performing on the concert will be the Festival Women's Ensemble. 3 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus.

10/22 Sunday

Artist-Faculty Series. The Faculty Woodwind Trio performed to acclaim in their debut concert last semester. Members include: Marlen Vavříková, oboe; Arthur Campbell, clarinet; and John Clapp, bassoon. 8 p.m. Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus.

[Photo available]

10/25 Wednesday

Arts at Noon Series. Yuri Gandelsman, viola. Previously a member of several of the leading orchestras in the former USSR, Mr. Gandelsman also served as principal violist with the Israel Philharmonic for over ten years. Now fully dedicated to a solo career, Gandelsman performs as a member of the Fine Arts Quartet, is a professor at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and is demand as a performer the world over. For this recital he collaborates with GVSU piano professor Aviram Reichert. Noon. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale Campus.

## Dance Stars of the New Millennium V

October 27 and 28

A Fall Arts Celebration event. This festive dance program will present guest performers from the American Ballet Theater, including Daniel Ulbricht and Sterling Hylpin, soloists from New York City Ballet, and Patrick Corbin from Paul Taylor Dance Company of New York City. In addition, there will be a performance by the GVSU Dance Ensemble, under the direction of Jefferson Baum, and a performance of "Woman with a Pearl Earring" by Lisa Cattret-Belrose, assistant professor of dance at Grand Valley. Friday, October 27, 8 p.m. and Saturday, October 28, 2 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. Reception following evening performance.

Tickets: General public: \$20; Faculty/staff/students with a Grand Valley ID: \$10; Children age 12 and under: \$5. Tickets may be purchased through Star Tickets Plus, with a service fee, by calling (616) 222-4000 or (800) 585-3737, online at [www.starticketsplus.com](http://www.starticketsplus.com) or at any Star Ticket Plus outlet. Tickets are also available weekdays 12-5 p.m. at the Louis Armstrong Theatre Box Office (in-person sales only/no phone orders.)

[Star Tickets Plus logo]

### 10/28 Saturday

Double Reed Day includes workshops, master classes, and a recital for double reed students of all ages and. Presented by the GVSU double reed faculty, Marlen Vavříková, oboe; Arthur Campbell, clarinet; and John Clapp, bassoon, with special guests Daniel Stolper, professor of oboe at the Interlochen Arts Academy, and bassoonist Wendy Rose, chair of the Western Michigan University School of Music's Woodwind area. Recital at 7 p.m., Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale Campus. For more information, please contact professor Vavříková at (616) 331-3484.

### 10/30 Monday

Artist-Faculty Series: The Faculty Brass Ensemble, which includes members Richard Stoelzel and Dorival Puccini trumpets, Allen French on French horn, James Cumiskey trombone and Dan Clouse tuba, will perform a free concert at 8 p.m. in the Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale Campus. For more information call (616) 331-3484.

## THEATRE

Presented through Theatre at Grand Valley, School of Communications. For more information call (616) 331-3668 or visit [www.gvsu.edu/theatre](http://www.gvsu.edu/theatre).

## 13th Annual Shakespeare Festival

More information about Bard-inspired activities on campus can be found at [www.gvsu.edu/shakes](http://www.gvsu.edu/shakes).

September 29 – October 8

Grand Valley Shakespeare Festival Mainstage Production: *Love's Labour's Lost*. Directed by Karen Libman, this romantic comedy is set in New Orleans during the early Jazz Age. A King and his lords swear off contact with women while they plan to devote three years to academic study. Tickets: \$14 general public; \$12 faculty/staff/alumni; \$6 students. September 29, 30 and October 5-7 at 7:30 p.m. Matinees October 1, 7 and 8, at 2 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus.

10/7 Saturday and 10/8 Sunday

The entire family will enjoy Renaissance Festival, featuring plenty of free entertainment. Minstrels, bagpipers, jugglers, "live steel" demonstrations, children's games and more – all in period costumes. Merchants on hand to sell period wares from armor to clothing. Food available for purchase. All ages welcome. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. on the "greensward" surrounding the Cook Carillon Tower, Allendale Campus.

11/4 Wednesday

The Grand Valley Shakespeare Festival touring show, *Bard to Go*, has been updated to feature scenes from several Shakespeare plays focused on violence. A special free performance of the outreach touring production will follow the Festival Student Competition Showcase and Awards Ceremony at 1 p.m. Reception will follow. Loosemore Auditorium, Pew Grand Rapids Campus.

## GENERAL EVENTS

October

[Photo available]

10/3 Tuesday

GVSU Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies presents Christopher Hitchens, who has, as a foreign correspondent and travel writer, written from more than 60 countries on all five continents, including Iran, Iraq and North Korea. Columns by the controversial writer and critic have appeared in *Vanity Fair*, *The Nation* and *Slate*. 7 p.m. Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum. For more information call (616) 331-2770 or visit [www.allpresidents.org](http://www.allpresidents.org).

10/5 Thursday

Flannery O'Connor Conference includes the following free events open to the public: Incoming President of the Flannery O'Connor Society, Bob Donahoo, of Sam Houston State speaks on the current state of O'Connor studies; Anthony Di Renzo of Ithaca University speaks on religious violence and terror in the Middle Ages; music by the GVSU Gospel Choir and a performance of scenes from O'Connor stories by Judy Yordon. The evening will begin with cheese and fruit hors d'oeuvres at 5 p.m. with the program starting at 6 p.m. Loosemore Auditorium, Pew Grand Rapids Campus. For more information call (616) 331-3244 or visit [www.gvsu.edu/oconnor](http://www.gvsu.edu/oconnor).

#### 10/10 Tuesday

Frank Christopher an award-winning producer, director, writer and editor who has been making documentaries in the U.S., Latin America, Africa and Asia will speak at Grand Valley State University. An advance screening of one program in his four-part series "Remaking American Medicine," which airs during October on PBS, will be shown at 7 p.m., in Room 123 Manitou Hall on the Allendale Campus, followed by an audience discussion. This event is free and open to the public. For more information call (616) 331- 3668.

#### 10/11 Wednesday

African/African American Perspectives. "Corruption, Sovereignty and Management in Zimbabwe's Public Sector" by Dr. Paul Mavima, assistant professor, GVSU School of Non-Profit and Public Administration. 3-4:30 p.m. Room 308, Padnos Hall, Allendale Campus. For more information call (616) 331-8110.

[Two photos available]

#### 10/11 Wednesday

Poetry Night. A Fall Arts Celebration event. An evening of readings and conversation with poets Sharon Olds and Sonia Sanchez. 7 p.m. Loosemore Auditorium, Pew Grand Rapids Campus. For more information call (616) 331-2100 or visit [www.gvsu.edu/fallarts](http://www.gvsu.edu/fallarts). Sponsored by gifts from Liesel and Hank Meijer, Charles and Stella Royce, and a grant from Michigan Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

#### 10/12 Thursday

Media theorist, author, filmmaker and NYU Professor of Communications Douglas Rushkoff will present a lecture, "The Persuaders: Marketing & the Creation of the Citizen-Consumer." Sponsored by the visiting artist committee within the GVSU Department of Art and Design, at 7 p.m., Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. The event is free and open to the public. Call (616) 331-2952 for more information.

10/14 Saturday

Ninth Conference on the Americas. Under the theme of "Prospects and Awakenings across the Americas," the conference offers sessions, workshops, panels, exhibits, and a film festival to help interpret, guide, and change the lived experiences of those who share the Americas, especially Latin Americans and Latino/as. Sponsored by the Latin American Studies Program and the College of Interdisciplinary Studies. Students admitted free. All others: \$5-40 sliding scale. 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Eberhard Center, Pew Grand Rapids Campus

10/19 Thursday

Annis Water Resources Institute Environmental Seminar. "Is it safe to drink the water? Using molecular methods to detect toxic strains of Microcystis in the Great Lakes," by Juli Dyble, Ph.D., research biologist, Center for Excellence for Great Lakes and Human Health, NOAA Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory. 3-4 p.m. Lake Michigan Center, 740 W. Shoreline Drive, Muskegon. For more information call (616) 331-3749.

10/19 Thursday

The Art of Mathematics. Bob Devaney, Boston University Department of Mathematics presents Chaos Games and Fractal Images. 7 p.m. Loutit Lecture Hall, 102 Henry Hall. For more information visit <http://www.gvsu.edu/artofmathematics>.

GVSU Homecoming 2006

October 20 and 21

Join classmates and friends on the Allendale Campus to see the best of today's Grand Valley and share reflections of earlier times. Information about a variety of special events is available at [www.gvsu.edu/homecoming](http://www.gvsu.edu/homecoming) or by calling (616) 331-3590.

October 20 and 21

Great Lakes History Conference: New Perspectives on War and Society. Panel discussions, presentations and two keynote speakers. Professor Omer Bartov from Brown University will address racial war and extermination and Dr. Jonathan Shay, a distinguished psychiatrist, will address medical and social responses to combat trauma. For more information visit [www.gvsu.edu/history](http://www.gvsu.edu/history) or call (616) 331-2931.

[Photo available]

10/24 Tuesday

The Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies presents Henry Kissinger, former Secretary of State and winner of the 1973 Nobel Peace Prize. 7 p.m., Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum. Call (616) 331-7297 for more information.

10/24 Tuesday

Jewish/Christian/Muslim Dialogue 2006 Triennial Event. "Religion and Power: The Power to Create, the Power to Destroy," featuring distinguished scholars James Carroll, Vincent Cornell, Donniel Hartman and Martin E. Marty. For more information visit [www.jewishchristiandialogue.org](http://www.jewishchristiandialogue.org).

10/25 Wednesday

The Mandela-Parks Lecture Series, sponsored by the African and African American Studies Program of the College of Interdisciplinary Studies. "African Americans and Genetics" by Dr. Gloria Stephen, professor, Department of Counseling, Educational Psychology and Special Education Director, African and African American Studies, Michigan State University. 3- 4:30 p.m. Rooms 215/216 Kirkhof Center, Allendale Campus. For more information call (616) 331-8110.

September 26, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Brian J. Bowe at (616) 331-2221 or [boweb@gvsu.edu](mailto:boweb@gvsu.edu)

**GVSU: Forums discuss latest developments in cancer care**

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. -- Cancer is a national health concern, and West Michigan is home to local experts who are finding new ways to treat the disease. The fight against cancer is the focus of Grand Valley State University's fifth annual Autumn Health Forums lecture series.

The aim of the series is to engage the community in health care discussions. The lectures are sponsored by Grand Valley State University Continuing Education and the Grand Rapids Medical Education and Research Center for Health Professions, with lectures presented in collaboration with Michigan State University, Saint Mary's Health Care, and Spectrum Health.

The lectures are at noon, with a Q&A session that follows each lecture. A reception is scheduled after each lecture with an opportunity for further discussion and networking. All lectures will be held in the Loosemore Auditorium of Grand Valley State University's Richard M. DeVos Center on 401 Fulton Street West. The dates of each forum are listed below. **MEDIA COVERAGE OF THE FORUMS IS ENCOURAGED.**

-- October 11, 2006

**Latest Research, New Treatments, Promising Drugs**

*Barbara Conley, M.D., Hematology/Oncology Chief, Michigan State University, College of Human Medicine*

-- November 8, 2006

**From Catastrophe to Cure: New Developments in Childhood Cancer Care**

*James Fahner, M.D., Division Chief of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology, DeVos Children's Hospital*

-- November 15, 2006

**Treating the Whole Person: Combining Alternatives for Effective Cancer Treatments**

*Thomas Gribbin, M.D., Medical Director, The Lacks Cancer Center at Saint Mary's*

The lectures are free and open to the public. For more information, visit [www.gvsu.edu/ahf](http://www.gvsu.edu/ahf) or contact GVSU Continuing Education at [learn@gvsu.edu](mailto:learn@gvsu.edu), or by phone at (616) 331-7180.

Brian J. Bowe

Communications Specialist

News & Information Services

Grand Valley State University

(616) 331-2221

Visit GVNow, Grand Valley's online news source: <http://www.gvsu.edu/gvnow>

September 26, 2006

For Immediate Release

Photos available, contact Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221 or [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu).

**GVSU Poetry Night features activist poets**

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. - By getting arrested, Sonia Sanchez hopes to call attention to her protest against the war in Iraq. Sharon Olds' defiance includes a public letter to Laura Bush. Both poets take the war very personally with their words and their actions.

Sanchez was arrested in June as one of a group of women known as Philadelphia Grandmothers for Peace. They staged a sit-in at their local U.S. Marine station and replaced recruiting brochures with photos of flag-draped coffins.

In an open letter to Laura Bush published in *The Nation* in September 2005, Olds declined her invitation to give a presentation at the National Book Festival as a personal protest against the Bush administration's invasion of Iraq.

The two activist poets will be featured at the fifth annual Poetry Night at Grand Valley State University. The traditional readings and conversation on stage will be followed by a reception and book signing. The event, on Wednesday, October 11, at 7 p.m. at Grand Valley's Loosemore Auditorium in DeVos Center, 401 W. Fulton, Grand Rapids, is free and open to the public.

Sanchez, who first came in 1971 to what was then Grand Valley State College, remains a fiery role model as a social activist, poet, and performer who unites people with her rhetoric and love of language. She is the author of more than a dozen books of poetry, including "Shake Loose My Skin: New and Selected Poems" and "Does Your House Have Lions?" which was nominated for both the NACCP Image and National Book Critics' Circle Award.

"Her poems lift up, in the tradition of Walt Whitman's praise and compassion, while they carry as well the gravity of Langston Hughes, telling the political stories of American cities," said Patricia Clark who orchestrates Grand Valley's Poetry Night. Clark is a professor in the Department of Writing and the current Grand Rapids poet laureate.

Sanchez began teaching in the San Francisco area in 1965 and was a pioneer in developing black studies courses at what is now San Francisco State University, where she was an



instructor during the late 1960s. She retired in 1999 from Temple University in Philadelphia, where she had taught since 1977.

Olds, who was born in San Francisco in 1942, has written eight volumes of poetry including "The Dead and the Living," which received the National Critics Award. Her poems often witness pain, love, desire, and grief with relentless courage. Her work is anthologized in over 100 collections, ranging from literary/poetry textbooks to special collections, and her poetry has been translated into seven languages for international publications.

For more than 20 years, Olds has been involved in outreach writing workshops taught in a variety of settings: a women's prison, several New York City public high schools, and an oncology ward for children. Olds teaches poetry workshops in the Graduate Creative Writing Program at New York University and helps run the N.Y.U. workshop program at Goldwater Hospital in New York. She was the New York State Poet Laureate for 1998-2000.

Poetry Night is sponsored by gifts from Liesel and Hank Meijer, Charles and Stella Royce, and a grant from Michigan Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Poetry Night is part of Grand Valley's Fall Arts Celebration, sponsored by Macatawa Bank.

For more information about Poetry Night call Patricia Clark at (616) 331-2575.

September 27, 2006

For Immediate Release

O'Connor photo available. Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221 or [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu)

### Violence and grace are focus of Flannery O'Connor conference

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The works of author Flannery O'Connor are the springboard for a conference that proposes to examine the intersection of violence and grace in a world wracked by terrorist attacks, school shootings, war and acts of nature.

"Flannery O'Connor in the Age of Terrorism" is a three-day conference at Grand Valley State University's DeVos Center on the Pew Grand Rapids Campus, October 5-7. Cost of the full program, which includes five meals and breakout sessions with 80 national and international speakers, is \$100.

The following free events beginning at 5 p.m., on Thursday, October 5, are open to the public:

- an hors d'oeuvres reception
- GVSU vocalist Jason Coffey performing "Tantum Ergo"
- the GVSU Gospel Choir performing music found in O'Connor stories
- performance art by Judy Yordon, a distinguished professor of performance studies at Ball State University
- talk by Robert Donahoo, the incoming president of the Flannery O'Connor Society
- Anthony Di Renzo of Ithaca University speaking on religious violence and terror in the Middle Ages and today.

"The conference grew out of a Major Authors course I taught last summer as part of our new Master of Arts in English program," said conference organizer Avis Hewitt, associate professor of English at Grand Valley. "The conference is timely because O'Connor's work speaks to the efficacy of transcendent grace in our confrontations with the ongoing palpable fear that marks contemporary life."

For more information and a complete schedule visit [www.gvsu.edu/oconnor](http://www.gvsu.edu/oconnor).

Media may contact Avis Hewitt at (616) 331-3244 or [hewitta@gvsu.edu](mailto:hewitta@gvsu.edu)

For Immediate Release

September 28, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

Grand Valley State University experts can comment on gubernatorial debates

ALLENDALE, Mich. — The economy, jobs, China, education and health care are just a few of the topics expected to be debated between Gov. Jennifer Granholm and Republican gubernatorial candidate Dick DeVos. Three debates have been scheduled: Oct. 2 in Lansing, Oct. 10 in Grand Rapids, and Oct. 16 in Detroit.

The following Grand Valley State University experts are available to comment before and after each debate.

•ECONOMY

Hari Singh, (616) 331-7420, chair of the economics department in the Seidman College of Business

Singh is known for his annual economic forecast for West Michigan — a forecast that has become a much-anticipated benchmark of the local market. Singh's book "Framed" was recently reviewed in the New York Times.

•ECONOMY AND CHINA

Paul Lane, (616) 331-7470 or (H): (616) 399-9593, professor of marketing in the Seidman College of Business

Lane is an expert on marketing, retailing, e-commerce and China.

•EDUCATION

Elaine Collins, (616) 331-6821, dean of the College of Education

•HEALTH CARE

Phyllis Gendler, (616) 331-3558, dean of the Kirkhof College of Nursing

•DEBATE ISSUES AND PERFORMANCE

Erika King, (616) 331-2320 or (H): (616) 245-1470, professor of political science

King is an expert on campaigns and elections, public opinion, American politics and media and politics.

Roger Moiles, (616) 331-3283 or (H): (616) 994-9985, instructor of political science  
Moiles is an expert on elections, public policy and Congress.

Kevin den Dulk, (616) 331-2991 or (H): (616) 459-5274, assistant professor of political science  
Professor den Dulk is an expert on American politics. He has researched and written books on religion and politics. He can also discuss political parties and theories.

For more information, contact GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

For Immediate Release  
September 28, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

Jefferson, Bush and the war in the Middle East  
Foreign correspondent Christopher Hitchens coming to Grand Rapids

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — He's described as one of the most controversial and compelling voices in journalism. Author and journalist Christopher Hitchens is coming to West Michigan, hosted by Grand Valley State University's Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies.

"Christopher Hitchens is one of the finest polemicists in the United States today," said Gleaves Whitney, director of the Hauenstein Center. "He is tough minded and, given his leftist background, has developed a surprising view of the Iraq War and President Bush."

Hitchens will speak October 3, at 7:30 p.m., at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum Auditorium in downtown Grand Rapids.

**MEDIA AVAILABILITY:** Hitchens will be available for interviews from 4:30-5 p.m. at the Gordon Galley in the DeVos Center on Grand Valley's Pew Grand Rapids Campus, 401 W. Fulton St.

Hitchens is a contributing editor to Vanity Fair and he writes a monthly column for The Atlantic. His work regularly appears in The New York Times Book Review, The Nation, Harper's, Slate and the New York Review of Books.

Hitchens began his career as a staff writer for the New Statesman and then worked for the Evening Standard, the Daily Express, and for 20 years wrote a weekly column for The Nation. He has held visiting academic appointments at the New School for Social Research, the University of Pittsburgh and the University of California, Berkeley.

For more information, visit [www.allpresidents.org](http://www.allpresidents.org) or call the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies at (616) 331-2770.

**MEDIA ADVISORY:**

Venue change for GVSU Poetry Night

Media opportunity for pre-event interviews

September 29, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221 or  
pirkolam@gvsu.edu

**GVSU Poetry Night features diverse poets**

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. - Two diverse poets, Sonia Sanchez and Sharon Olds, will be featured at the fifth annual Poetry Night at Grand Valley State University. The traditional readings and conversation on stage will be followed by a reception and book signing. The event, on Wednesday, October 11, at 7 p.m. at Grand Valley's L.V. Eberhard Center, second floor, 301 W. Fulton, Grand Rapids, is free and open to the public.

**MEDIA OPPORTUNITY:** Both poets will be informally meeting with students from two intermediate writing classes. Media are also welcome to attend this event on Wednesday, October 11, from 3-4 p.m. in the Gordon Gallery, in Grand Valley's DeVos Center, 401 W. Fulton, Grand Rapids.

For more than 20 years, Olds has been involved in outreach writing workshops taught in a variety of settings: a women's prison, several New York City public high schools, and an oncology ward for children. Olds teaches poetry workshops in the Graduate Creative Writing Program at New York University and helps run the N.Y.U. workshop program at Goldwater Hospital in New York. She was the New York State Poet Laureate for 1998-2000.

Sanchez, who first came in 1971 to what was then Grand Valley State College, remains a fiery role model as a social activist, poet, and performer who unites people with her rhetoric and love of language. She is the author of more than a dozen books of poetry, including "Shake Loose My Skin: New and Selected Poems" and "Does Your House Have Lions?" which was nominated for both the NACCP Image and National Book Critics' Circle Award.

"Her poems lift up, in the tradition of Walt Whitman's praise and compassion, while they carry as well the gravity of Langston Hughes, telling the political stories of American cities," said Patricia Clark who orchestrates Grand Valley's Poetry Night. Clark is a professor in the Department of

Writing and the current Grand Rapids poet laureate.

Sanchez began teaching in the San Francisco area in 1965 and was a pioneer in developing black studies courses at what is now San Francisco State University, where she was an instructor during the late 1960s. She retired in 1999 from Temple University in Philadelphia, where she had taught since 1977.

Olds, who was born in San Francisco in 1942, has written eight volumes of poetry including "The Dead and the Living," which received the National Critics Award. Her poems often witness pain, love, desire, and grief with relentless courage. Her work is anthologized in over 100 collections, ranging from literary/poetry textbooks to special collections, and her poetry has been translated into seven languages for international publications.

Poetry Night is sponsored by gifts from Liesel and Hank Meijer, Charles and Stella Royce, and a grant from Michigan Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Poetry Night is part of Grand Valley's Fall Arts Celebration, sponsored by Macatawa Bank.

For more information about Poetry Night call Patricia Clark at (616) 331-2575.

For Immediate Release

September 29, 2006

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola at GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Rushkoff to speak at Grand Valley

ALLENDALE, Mich. - An internationally respected media theorist will present a local lecture that explores how communications affect our values and our lives.

Douglas Rushkoff, an author, filmmaker and NYU professor of communications, will present "The Persuaders: Marketing & the Creation of the Citizen-Consumer," at 7 p.m. on Thursday, October 12, at the Louis Armstrong Theatre, in the Performing Arts Center on Grand Valley State University's Allendale Campus.

His presentation will explore ways to raise children in our media-driven culture and how we find and make meaning through art, business, education, politics, and religion.

Rushkoff received critical acclaim for his 1999 PBS Frontline documentary, "The Merchants of Cool," which examined corporate America's massive, sometimes subversive, efforts to capture the elusive teen market. His 2004 Frontline follow-up, "The Persuaders," explored how advertising, marketing and political campaigning are impacting American society. Rushkoff has written 10 best-selling books on new media and popular culture.

The event, sponsored by Grand Valley's Art and Design Department, in partnership with the College of Interdisciplinary Studies, the School of Communications and the Grand Rapids Institute for Information Democracy, is free and open to the public. For more information visit: <http://faculty.gvsu.edu/wittenbp/rushkoff/>



September 29, 2006

For immediate release

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services (616) 331-2221

### **GVSU lecture series continues with presentation on MCRI**

ALLENDALE, Mich. — The Grand Valley State University Professionals of Color Lecture Series continues with a presentation on the Michigan Civil Rights Initiative and its impact, if it passes in November, on women and minorities.

Jean Doss, senior associate lobbyist for Capitol Services, Inc., will speak from 4-6 p.m. on Wednesday, October 4, in the Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room, on the Allendale Campus. The lecture is free and open to the public. A sign language interpreter will be at the event.

Since joining Capitol Services in 1991, Doss has been actively involved in direct lobbying on behalf of various nonprofit organizations and professional associations, including the Michigan Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, Food Bank Council of Michigan, Michigan Counseling Association, Michigan Society for Clinical Laboratory Science, and Families Against Mandatory Minimums (prison sentencing laws).

She is a member of the advisory committee for the Nokomis Foundation and the Institute for Women's Policy Research. She has also served as an advisory committee member for the Michigan Women's Foundation, and on state Rep. Doug Hart's Blue Ribbon Panel on Gender Equity in High School Athletics.

A discussion about affirmative action and MCRI will take place on the Allendale Campus on October 18, beginning at 4 p.m. Speakers include Linda Chavez, chair of the Center for Equal Opportunity and FOX News analyst, and Mark Fancher, ACLU of Michigan attorney.

The lecture series is sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs; for more information, call (616) 331-2177.

For Immediate Release

October 2, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

U.S. Sen. Ken Salazar visits Grand Valley State University

ALLENDALE, Mich. — U.S. Sen. Ken Salazar, D-Colorado, made headlines in May 2005 when he helped spearhead the Gang of 14 agreement between seven Republican and seven Democratic senators. The Gang of 14 ended the senate impasse on judicial appointments and moved President Bush's nominees forward.

Salazar will speak at Grand Valley State University on Thursday, October 12, from 4:15-5:15 p.m. at the Alumni House on the Allendale Campus.

"Although Salazar is only in his first term, he has already made his mark as a moderate who builds coalitions between moderate Democrats and Republicans," said Mark Richards, chair of the political science department at Grand Valley. "He has worked to build coalitions on issues like energy policy and immigration."

Salazar's appearance is part of the William Baum Fund Lecture Series and is being hosted by Grand Valley's political science department.

For more information, contact Mark Richards at (616) 331-3457 or Grand Valley News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

October 2, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221 or  
pirkolam@gvsu.edu

Medical mistakes and solutions featured in documentary  
Producer speaks after advance screening at GVSU

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — An examination of critical issues facing our country's health care system are brought to light in a new four-part PBS documentary "Remaking American Medicine: Health Care for the 21st Century." Rather than assign blame for the system's failings the producers offer solutions by showcasing the stories of individuals and institutions who are working to ensure better care for everyone.

Frank Christopher, executive producer of the series, will speak on Tuesday, October 10 at Grand Valley State University. An advance screening of "Hand in Hand" the final episode in the series which airs during October on PBS, will be shown at 7 p.m., in room 123 Manitou Hall on the Allendale Campus, followed by an audience discussion. The event, sponsored by the School of Communications, is free and open to the public.

Christopher is an award-winning producer, director, writer and editor who has been making documentaries since 1970 in the U.S., Latin America, Africa and Asia. He worked on this series for five years.

"We wanted to present detailed and emotionally engaging profiles of people who are struggling to fix our broken health care system," said Christopher. "The stories told are by doctors, nurses, administrators and patients, showing their struggles, their setbacks and their victories."

Included among the many awards garnered by Christopher's films and television programs are: an Academy Award Nomination for Best Feature Length Documentary, six Emmys, two CINE Golden Eagle Awards, the Blue Ribbon Award from the American Film Festival, the Gold and Silver Awards from the Houston International Festival, the Grand Coral First Prize from the New Latin American Cinema (Havana, Cuba), the Outstanding Documentary Award from the National Latino Film and Video Festival, and the Director's Choice Award from the Thomas Edison-Black Maria Film and Video Festival.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information call (616) 331- 3668 or visit [www.ramcampaign.org](http://www.ramcampaign.org).

October 2, 2006

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT:**

Brian J. Bowe/Grand Valley State University: (616) 331-2221 or [boweb@gvsu.edu](mailto:boweb@gvsu.edu)

Amy LeFebre/Wondergem Consulting, Inc.: (616) 235-7467 or [lefebrea@wondergem.com](mailto:lefebrea@wondergem.com)

**GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY AND VAN ANDEL INSTITUTE CO-HOST MICHBIO STUDENT CAREER DAY**

*Limited space still available for top area high school students to meet with life science industry leaders to discuss science careers*

Grand Rapids, Mich. (October 2, 2006) – Grand Valley State University and the Van Andel Institute will host a Student Life Science Career Day on Tuesday, Oct. 10 for area junior and senior high school students. The Career Day kicks off the three-day MichBio Expo 2006 – the largest life science conference in Michigan -- scheduled for Oct. 10-12 in Grand Rapids. Limited space is still available.

"Career Day is aimed at introducing West Michigan's top high school students to the excellent life science university programs and career opportunities available in our state," said Matt Dugener, executive director of the West Michigan Science and Technology Initiative at Grand Valley State University. "Through collaborative programs like this, we hope to encourage some of our state's best and brightest to attend universities and pursue life science careers right here in Michigan."

Grand Valley Provost Gayle Davis will open the morning session at the Van Andel Institute with a discussion on opportunities in higher education, followed by Van Andel Education Institute Graduate School Dean Steve Triezenberg, Ph.D. and members of the Van Andel Research Institute scientific staff who will talk about their careers and share personal advice. The morning program will also feature motivational speaker Jim Jordan who will guide students through a series of exercises and demonstrations to help them seek out the career path best suited for them. The afternoon will include speakers from Grand Valley's Kirkhof College of Nursing and Spectrum Health, as well as a tour of Grand Valley's Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences.

"The life science industry is one of the fastest growing sectors in West Michigan," said David Van Andel, chairman and CEO of the Van Andel Institute. Van Andel is also scheduled to deliver the opening keynote address at the MichBio conference on Thursday, Oct. 12. "It is vital that we prepare today's students for tomorrow's careers. We need to direct greater resources and attention to math and science education, beginning at the elementary level and continuing through graduate level programs."

This is MichBio's second student life science career day. Last year, the event was held at Wayne State University and hosted 300 students and teachers.

"We are dedicated to driving growth in the life sciences industry," explained MichBio Executive Director Stephen Rapundalo, Ph.D. "We had an overwhelming response to last year's event from Southeast Michigan schools and are excited about bringing this opportunity to students in West Michigan."

This program is for high school students in West Michigan who are interested in pursuing a science career. Letters of invitation were distributed to area public, parochial and charter schools last month. The event is free to students and their chaperones. Interested schools should contact Michelle Sharp at [careerday@michbio.org](mailto:careerday@michbio.org).

MichBio Expo 2006 is expected to attract industry leaders from across the state. More information is available at [www.michbio.org](http://www.michbio.org).

MichBio Expo 2006 sponsors include Pfizer Research and Development, Michigan Economic Development Corporation, Van Andel Institute, Grand Valley State University, University of Michigan, Esperion Therapeutics, Asterand Inc., Michigan State University, West Michigan Science & Technology Initiative, Warner Norcross & Judd, Clark Hill, Charter One and Michigan Business Review.

Visit GVNow, Grand Valley's online news source: <http://www.gvsu.edu/gvnow>

For immediate release

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

October 3, 2006

**GVSU earns national grant to help science, engineering students**

– NSF grant is second for university within few weeks

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- To help students succeed and complete engineering or science-based programs, Grand Valley State University received a National Science Foundation grant that will award scholarships to qualified upper-level students who come from low-income backgrounds and who are traditionally underrepresented in those fields.

The \$500,000, four-year grant will allow administrators to recruit and award scholarships to 32 students in each year of the grant. The NSF Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (S-STEM) Scholarship program also allows administrators the funding to academically support those students. The grant was awarded to Jann Joseph, associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Paul Plotkowski, dean of the Padnos College of Engineering and Computing.

Joseph said the grant begins immediately with recruiting students who could qualify for the need-based scholarships. "This will help juniors and seniors push their way to graduation and allow them to focus on their remaining courses," she said. "By increasing the graduation rates for these students, we're also helping to meet the needs of women and minorities."

Work on the grant begins immediately, Joseph said, as student recruitment and selection of an advisory committee are underway. She said interviews should be conducted in January and scholarship awards made in April.

Plotkowski said the timing of the grant will help Grand Valley meet the needs of industry. "Nationally, engineering enrollments have not been keeping up with the needs of industry for a number of years," he said. "Far too often, students who begin engineering programs 'step out' of college for financial reasons. This program is intended to help students avoid or minimize the need to earn money to pay for college during the most demanding years of an engineering program."

Scholarship recipients will be placed in a cohort that allows for peer tutoring and faculty support, Plotkowski said.

The grant is the second Grand Valley received from NSF within weeks. In mid-September, the university received funding to help women faculty in the sciences and engineering advance their careers.

While giving \$450,000 in scholarships to students is exciting, Joseph said she's equally thrilled about the university's commitment to science education.

In August, Joseph and Ellen Schiller, assistant professor of education, received a \$185,000 Michigan Department of Education grant for elementary and middle school science teacher professional development. That grant serves Grand Rapids, Muskegon and Muskegon Heights schools.

"Grand Valley, through its outreach and grant efforts, is able to demonstrate a strong commitment to K-16 education," she said.

Media note: Interviews with Joseph or Plotkowski can be arranged through News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221.

October 4, 2006

For Immediate Release

Photo available, contact Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221 or [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu)

Van Cliburn Gold Medalist to perform at Grand Valley

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Alexander Kobrin, the Gold Medalist winner at the Twelfth Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, will perform at Grand Valley State University on Monday, October 16.

The Van Cliburn Medalist Concert Series is a part of Grand Valley's Fall Arts Celebration, sponsored by Macatawa Bank. This concert is sponsored by a gift from Robert and Judith Hooker.

There will be a Carillon Prelude Concert from 7:30-7:50 p.m. Kobrin's performance will begin at 8 p.m. in the Louis Armstrong Theatre, in the Performing Arts Center on the Allendale Campus. His program will include works by Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven and Schumann. A reception will follow the concert.

Born in Moscow in 1980, Kobrin completed his studies at the Gnessin Academy of Music under Tatiana Zelikman and at the Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory under Lev Naumov, where he received his master's degree.

As a result of his triumph at the 2005 Van Cliburn Competition, Kobrin made his Kennedy Center recital debut. He launched his 2006-2007 season with his New York Philharmonic debut at Lincoln Center in July. He has also performed this summer at the La Roque d'Anthéron International Piano Festival in France and the Tuscan Sun Festival in Italy. When not performing, Kobrin teaches at the Moscow State Gnessin Academy of Music.

Available for purchase during intermission and following the concert will be Kobrin's CD for \$20 or DVD for \$30. The Cliburn Competition CD includes Kobrin's performance of works by Brahms and Rachmaninoff. He is also prominently featured in the DVD, "In the Heart of Music," the film documentary about the Twelfth Cliburn Competition, which premiered on PBS stations across the U.S. in fall of 2005.

For more information contact Danny Phipps, chair of the Department of Music, at (616) 331-3484, or visit [www.cliburn.org](http://www.cliburn.org).



October 4, 2006

For Immediate Release

Photos available, contact Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221 or [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu)

### Prominent scholars highlight Great Lakes History Conference

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — New Perspectives on War and Society is the focus of the 31st annual Great Lakes History Conference, October 20-21, sponsored by Grand Valley State University.

Two keynote speakers and faculty from teaching institutions across the country will present their scholarship on war and its impact on social, political, economic and cultural life. The conference will be headquartered at Grand Valley's L.V. Eberhard Center, 301 W. Fulton, in Grand Rapids.

Dr. Jonathan Shay will provide a keynote address on medical and social responses to combat trauma at 8 p.m., on Friday, October 20, in Loosemore Auditorium in the DeVos Center, 401 W. Fulton. Shay is a distinguished psychiatrist who has worked with the Veterans Administration, U.S. Naval War College, and the Office of Army Deputy Chief of Staff. His research on psychological trauma in Vietnam veterans has been documented in his acclaimed books, "Achilles in Vietnam: Combat Trauma and the Undoing of Character" and "Odysseus in America: Combat Trauma and the Trials of Homecoming," which includes a forward by Sens. John McCain and Max Cleland.

Professor Omer Bartov will provide an address on racial war and extermination on Saturday, October 21, at 12:30 p.m., in the Eberhard Center. Bartov is a distinguished professor at Brown University who has published extensively on the history of the Holocaust and genocide studies, including "The Crimes of War: Guilt and Denial in the Twentieth Century," "Hitler's Army," and most recently "The 'Jew' in Cinema: From the Golem to Don't Touch My Holocaust."

In the last two decades, scholarship has broken new theoretical ground and re-shaped the ways historians conceptualize the larger significance of mass violence, trauma and society. The conference, which strives to bridge the divide between universities and the public, and to cultivate interdisciplinary work, will be of interest to faculty, graduate students, public historians, and independent scholars from across the country.

For a complete conference schedule and registration form, see [www.gvsu.edu/history](http://www.gvsu.edu/history). Conference registration is required. Admission is free for Grand Valley faculty, staff and

students. Cost to the general public is \$20 for the two-day event, which includes breakfast and lunch on Saturday.

For more information contact event Co-chairs from GVSU's Department of History: Jason Crouthamel at (616) 331-2931, or Craig Benjamin at (616) 331-3469.

For Immediate Release  
Contact: GVSU News and Information Services  
(616)331-2221  
October 6, 2006

### **GVSU Tip Sheet Oct. 9-13**

**Tuesday, Oct. 10 -- Award-winning producer premieres documentary**  
Frank Christopher, executive producer of a PBS documentary, "Remaking American Medicine: Health Care for the 21st Century," will give an advance screening of the final episode. The documentary addresses healthcare solutions for America. 7 p.m., 123 Manitou Hall, Allendale Campus. For more information contact (616) 331-3668.

**Wednesday, Oct. 11 -- Autumn Health Forum: "Targeting Comes of Age: Current Advances"**  
Barbara Conley, Michigan State University chief of hematology/oncology, will lead the forum discussing the latest advancements for cancer research and treatments. Noon, Loosemore Auditorium, DeVos Center. For more information contact (616) 331-7180.

**Wednesday, Oct. 11 -- Fall Arts Celebration: Poetry Night**  
Award-winning poets Sharon Olds and Sonia Sanchez read from their works. The two are widely published and have taught creative writing at prominent universities in New York, Pennsylvania and California. 7 p.m., Eberhard Center, Pew Grand Rapids Campus. For more information contact (616) 331- 2100.

**Thursday Oct. 12 -- William Baum Lecture Series: U.S. Sen. Ken Salazar**  
Salazar, D-Colorado, who helped start the Gang of 14 agreement between seven Democrats and seven Republican senators, will speak. The Gang of 14 helped end the Senate's impasse on 2005 judicial appointments and moved President Bush's nominees forward. 4:15 p.m., Alumni House, Allendale Campus. For more information contact (616) 331-2320.

**Thursday Oct, 12 -- Best-selling author to speak**  
Douglas Rushkoff, media theorist, author, filmmaker, and professor of communications at NYU, will give a presentation, "The Persuaders: Marketing & the Creation of the Citizen-Consumer." The presentation will discuss how communication impacts American values and lifestyles. 7 p.m., Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. For more information contact (616) 331-2953.

For immediate release

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

October 6, 2006

### **Federal grant aids GVSU TRiO program**

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. -- A U.S. Department of Education grant will help a Grand Valley State University department continue its mission of serving the area's middle, high school and adult students who would be the first in their families to attend college and who are from low-income backgrounds.

Grand Valley's TRiO Educational Talent Search received the four-year, \$317,960 grant at a time when nearly one in four national TRiO Talent Search offices was not funded, said Director Sarah Keranen-Lopez. The grant begins in the 2007-08 academic year.

One of Grand Valley's five TRiO programs, the Educational Talent Search program identifies and assists people from disadvantaged backgrounds who have the potential to succeed in higher education. The program provides academic, career and financial aid counseling. Staff members also serve high school dropouts by helping prepare and encourage them to complete their education.

"Younger students in the program are assisted by attending college preparatory workshops, informational sessions for parents, pre-college camps and campus visits, and tutoring and mentoring," Keranen-Lopez said. "College-ready participants receive financial aid application and college application assistance, career testing and counseling, ACT prep and workshops on the topics to assist them in gaining admittance to post-secondary institutions."

The program anticipates continuing its outreach to alternative schools, however, due to tougher federal guidelines, it has identified the following schools as target schools: Riverside Middle, Westwood Middle, Burton Middle, Alger Middle, Creston High School, Lee High School, Godwin Heights High School, Ottawa Hills High School, Central High School, Union High School and Allendale's New Options High School.

For more information about the program and its services, call Keranen-Lopez at (616) 331-7110.

October 9, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services, (616) 331-2221 or  
pirkolam@gvsu.edu

**Grand Valley dance performance to feature national stars and exclusive ballet**

ALLENDALE, Mich. — A dramatic interpretation of "Giselle" and an exclusive production of "La Source" are two elements of Dance Stars of the New Millennium V, October 27 and 28 at Grand Valley State University. The festive dance program will also include guest performers Jimmy Orrante from BalletMet Columbus, Daniel Ulbricht and Sterling Hylpin, soloists from the New York City Ballet, and Broadway dancer Ramon Flowers.

Grand Valley has the distinction of being the only university in the U.S. currently granted permission from the Balanchine Trust to perform "La Source." The very upbeat ballet was choreographed by the late George Balanchine (1904-1983) who revolutionized the look of classical ballet and co-founded the New York City

Ballet in 1948. The performance by the GVSU Dance Ensemble, under the direction of Jefferson Baum, will be staged by Deborah Wingert from the New York City Ballet.

"Both Ulbricht and Wingert have also graciously agreed, while here, to teach technique classes to our students," said Baum. "I really enjoy seeing the students' thrill as they work with dancers who are at the top of their profession."

The entire program runs approximately two hours and is suitable for audiences of all ages. This is the final event of Grand Valley's Fall Arts Celebration, sponsored by Macatawa Bank.

Performance times are Friday, October 27, 8 p.m., and Saturday, October 28, 2 p.m. in the Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. A reception will follow the evening performance.

Tickets: General public: \$20; Faculty/staff/students with a Grand Valley ID: \$10; Children age 12 and under: \$5. Tickets may be purchased through Star Tickets Plus, with a service fee, by calling (616) 222-4000 or (800) 585-3737, online at [www.starticketsplus.com](http://www.starticketsplus.com) or at any Star Tickets Plus outlet. Tickets are also available weekdays 12-5 p.m. at the Louis Armstrong Theatre Box Office (in-person sales only/no phone orders.)

For more information contact Jefferson Baum at (616) 331-2548.

October 9, 2006

For Immediate Release

For Photos Contact Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221  
or [pirkolam@gvsu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu)

Grand Valley State University

November 2006 Events

## ART

Grand Valley State University Art Gallery

Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus

Hours: M-F, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Th, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.

(616) 331-2564

All art exhibits, lectures and receptions are free and open to the public.

[Photo available]

Ongoing through November 3

A GVSU Fall Arts Celebration event: Ancient Sites Revisited: Watercolors of Egypt by Rana Chalabi. Modern Cairo, ancient ruins along the river Nile and daily life in this contemporary Muslim and Coptic society are the subjects of Rana Chalabi's paintings. The Syrian-born artist, who now lives in Cairo, has created a body of new work depicting views of Egypt following the tradition of 19th century Scottish artist David Roberts. See information below about the concurrent exhibition of his work. GVSU Art Gallery, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. Sponsored by a gift from URS Corporation and a grant from Michigan Humanities Council. Call (616) 331-2564 for more information.

[Photo available]

19th Century Views of Egypt by David Roberts, on loan from Erwin Raible, New York. This GVSU exhibition, which runs through November 3, concurrently with the GVSU Chalabi exhibit, presents a selection of 34 hand-colored prints by Scottish artist David Roberts (1796-1864) depicting scenes encountered on his travels through Egypt. Allendale Campus, Lake Ontario Hall, Red Wall Gallery. Call (616) 331-2564 for more information.

Bachelor of Fine Arts and School of Communications Senior Thesis Exhibitions. Grand Valley State University continues to showcase the works of graduating seniors in a series of one-week exhibits throughout November and December. Call the GVSU Art Gallery at (616) 331-2564 for

specific dates, exhibit locations and participating students.

## **MUSIC AND DANCE**

Events are free and open to the public unless noted. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

**11/1 Wednesday**

[Adams photo available]

**GVSU Arts at Noon Series:** Tim Adams Jr., a virtuoso performer of the entire range of percussion instruments, has played with the rock band "Exotic Birds," movie soundtracks, classical timpani and even appeared in the children's program "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood." Adams is principal timpanist with the Pittsburgh Symphony and a professor at Carnegie Mellon University. Noon. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

**11/5 Sunday**

**GVSU Music Department Concert:** The Early Music Ensemble directed by Pablo Mahave-Veglia. 3 p.m. Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

[Phipps photo available]

**11/6 Monday**

**GVSU Artist-Faculty Series:** Danny Phipps, bassoon, the new chair of the Department of Music and Dance Program in his debut recital at Grand Valley, with Robert Byrens, piano. Phipps was a student of the great bassoonist and pedagogue Sol Schoenbach and received his undergraduate degree from the prestigious Curtis Institute of Music followed by M. Mus and D.M.A. degrees from Catholic University. He was principal bassoonist with the United States Air Force Band in Washington, D.C., for 20 years and held the rank of chief master sergeant. He has performed worldwide as a soloist, chamber musician, and as principal bassoonist with orchestras. 8 p.m. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale Campus. Reception to follow. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

[Photo available]

**11/8 Wednesday**

**GVSU Arts at Noon Series:** Ilays, Somali multicultural artists. "Ilays" is a Somali word for "light." The ensemble includes seven musicians and dancers, while most Somali artists typically

perform solo or with one additional person at most. Noon. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale Campus. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

11/12 Sunday

GVSU University Arts Chorale and the Select Women's Ensemble, under the direction of Ellen Pool, perform with organist Gregory Crowell. The program will include Britten's "Rejoice in the Lamb." 4 p.m. Trinity United Methodist Church, 1100 Lake Drive SE, Grand Rapids. For more information call the GVSU Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

[Perugino photo available]

11/19 Sunday

GVSU Artist-Faculty Series/Downtown Showcase. The Perugino String Quartet performs music by Shostakovich in honor of the 100th anniversary of his birth and Beethoven's Quartet, Opus 74 "The Harp." Members are violinists Eric Tanner and Diane McElfish, violist Barbara Corbato, and cellist Stacey Bosman Tanner. 3 p.m. Loosemore Auditorium, DeVos Center, Pew Grand Rapids Campus. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

11/19 Sunday

BANDORAMA. The GVSU Laker Marching Band presents highlights from the fall 2006 season, directed by Barry D. Martin and Ted Bazany. 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

11/20 Monday

GVSU Music Department Concert: Tim Froncek directs the Jazz Orchestra. 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

[Perugino photo available]

11/30 Thursday

GVSU Arts at Noon Series: Perugino String Quartet. The Quartet-in-residence at GVSU members are Eric Tanner and Diane McElfish, violins; Barbara Corbato, viola; and Stacey Bosman Tanner, cello. They close the fall semester of the Arts at Noon Series with a quartet by Shostakovich, in addition to Beethoven's String Quartet Op. 74, a masterpiece of his middle period. Noon. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale Campus. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

11/30 Thursday



GVSU Music Department Concert: New Music Ensemble directed by Bill Ryan. 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

## THEATRE

Presented through Theatre at Grand Valley, School of Communications. For more information call (616) 331-3668.

11/4 Wednesday

The Grand Valley State University Shakespeare Festival touring show, Bard to Go, has been updated to feature scenes from several Shakespeare plays focused on violence. A special free performance of the outreach touring production will follow the Festival Student Competition Showcase and Awards Ceremony at 1 p.m. Reception will follow. Loosemore Auditorium, Pew Grand Rapids Campus. For more information call (616) 331-3668 or visit [www.gvsu.edu/theatre](http://www.gvsu.edu/theatre).

November 10-18

GVSU Mainstage Series Theatre Production: The World Premiere of Autumn in the Valley, written by James Bell, GVSU playwright, and John Bell. A special pre-show discussion with the playwrights will be held on November 11. Performances held November 10, 11, 16, 17, 18 at 7:30 p.m., November 12 matinee at 2 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. For ticket information call (616) 331-3668.

## GENERAL EVENTS

11/12-15

The GVSU Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies presents scholar in residence Richard Norton Smith for a series of his "greatest hits" lectures. For more information call (616) 331-2770 or visit [www.allpresidents.org](http://www.allpresidents.org).

11/15 Wednesday

GVSU's 2006 Summer Film Project, "Story Time," will be featured in its world premiere at 8 p.m. at the Wealthy Theatre, 1130 Wealthy SE, in Grand Rapids. Open to the public, the \$5 admission includes the film, a behind-the-scenes "making of" documentary and a reception at 9 p.m. For more information call (616) 331-3668.

11/16 Thursday

GVSU's Summer Films from the past four years will be screened from 6-8 p.m., at the Grand Haven Area Arts Council's newly renovated building, 1045 Columbus, Grand Haven. Each of the films runs under 30 minutes. For more information call (616) 331-3668.

**11/16 Thursday**

GVSU Annis Water Resources Institute Environmental Seminar by Jay Means, Ph.D., professor of aquatic toxicology, Western Michigan University. 3-4 p.m., Lake Michigan Center, 740 W. Shoreline Drive, Muskegon. Call (616) 331-3749 or (231) 728-3601 for more information.

**11/29 Wednesday**

GVSU African/African American Perspectives. "Re-drawing the Map in Zimbabwe: The Land Use Issue" by Dr. Mambo Mupepi, University of Michigan Health System, adjunct professor, African/African American Studies. 3-4:30 p.m. Room 308, Padnos Hall, Allendale Campus. For more information call (616) 331-8110.

October 10, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services, (616) 331-2221 or  
pirkolam@gvsu.edu.

The GVSU Faculty Woodwind Trio concert originally scheduled for October 22 has been postponed. Please note the following updated concert information.

11/5 Sunday

GVSU Artist-Faculty Series: The Faculty Woodwind Trio performed to acclaim in their debut concert last semester. Members include: Marlen Vavříková, oboe; Arthur Campbell, clarinet; and John Clapp, bassoon. 8 p.m., Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

**For Immediate Release**

**October 11, 2006**

**Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services**

**WGVU hosts Stabenow/Bouchard debate**

**Candidates available for comment**

**GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Members of the media are invited to the taping of Decision 2006: The Michigan Senatorial Debate.**

**The debate will be taped Sunday, October 15, at 11 a.m. in the studios of WGVU-TV in the Meijer Public Broadcast Center in downtown Grand Rapids. Entrance to the studios is through the Eberhard Center, 301 W. Fulton.**

**MEDIA NOTE: An audio and video feed of the senatorial debate between Sen. Debbie Stabenow and Republican candidate Mike Bouchard will be available. The candidates will also be available for comment after the debate.**

**Moderated by WGVU News Director Fred Martino, the program will feature a panel of statewide journalists who will ask questions of both candidates.**

**The debate will air on public television stations around the state at 8 p.m. on Sunday, October 15. Commercial stations can choose to air the debate after the original PBS broadcast in their market. Those interested may record the broadcast from their local public television station or from the satellite feed.**

**For uplink information or information on the debate, contact Ken Kolbe, assistant general manager of operations at WGVU, at (616) 331-6666.**

For immediate release

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221  
October 11, 2006

**Affirmative action panel at GVSU to feature Connerly, Shelton**

-- Connerly led push for MCRI; Shelton is NAACP executive

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- The man who spearheaded the campaign to place the Michigan Civil Rights Initiative on the November ballot will be one of four participants in an affirmative action panel discussion at Grand Valley State University.

Appearing with Ward Connerly will be Hilary Shelton, director of the NAACP's Washington Bureau; Linda Chavez, chair of the Center for Equal Opportunity and analyst for FOX News; and Mark Fancher, attorney for ACLU of Michigan.

The event on Wednesday, October 18, from 4-6 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room, is open to media coverage. Part of the Professionals of Color Lecture Series, it is sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs; it's free and open to the public. A sign language interpreter will be available.

It will mark one of Connerly's first appearances in West Michigan. The California businessman is founder and chairman of the American Civil Rights Institute, a national nonprofit organization designed to educate the public about racial and gender preferences. Connerly has a long history of advocating against racial preferences; in the early 1990s as a University of California regent, he led a push to end the university's system of using race as a factor in admissions. He also led successful state campaigns to end affirmative action policies in California and Washington.

Through his work for the NAACP, Shelton is responsible for advocating for the organization at the federal level. He has lobbied for social issues such as affirmative action, equal employment protection, stopping gun violence, ending racial profiling, access to comprehensive healthcare and federal sentencing reform. He serves on numerous national boards including Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, Center for Democratic Renewal, Coalition to Stop Gun Violence, and Congressional Black Caucus Institute.

Chavez's organization, the Center for Equal Opportunity, supports research on issues related to race, ethnicity and assimilation. She writes a syndicated weekly newspaper column and has been appointed to a number of positions, most recently as chair of the National Commission on Migrant Education.

As an attorney for the Racial Justice Project of the ACLU of Michigan, Fancher addresses attacks on affirmative action, racial discrimination and juvenile sentencing issues. He held a teaching position at the University of Michigan Law School and a staff position for the State Bar of Michigan.

For more information, call the Office of Multicultural Affairs at (616) 331-2177.

Media note: Photos of the participants are available by calling the News and Information Services Office at (616) 331-2221.

October 11, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221 or  
pirkolm@gvsu.edu.

Ring of Fire

Group pour links sculptors

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- A group project involving 2,000 pounds of crushed engine blocks melted in a 2,600-degree furnace is the culmination of a two-year collaboration between Grand Valley State University and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

#### MEDIA OPPORTUNITY:

On Friday, October 20, at 6 p.m., a dozen sculpture students from Grand Valley's Art and Design Department, under the direction of Norwood Viviano, will be joined on campus by students and faculty from SAIC for a group pour of their iron sculptures. The visual spectacle will take place inside and outside the Calder Fine Arts Center on the Allendale Campus.

Flames from the special outdoor cupola furnace will shoot three- to six-feet high, as 125 pounds of scrap iron is melted down every 15 minutes into glowing molten metal. It will be collected in specially insulated ladles that hold about ninety pounds of iron.

Dressed head-to-toe in protective gear, the students then perform a highly choreographed procedure where teams of two maneuver the long-handled ladles. They will pour the molten metal into ceramic molds that sit glowing in a sand pit until they are cool. Each ceramic mold is preheated in a 1,000-degree kiln to remove any traces of moisture.

The procedure will be repeated a dozen times, until each of the individuals' and group casting are done. Once cooled, the molds are broken to reveal the iron sculptures.

A record keeper meticulously notes every detail of the process to create a "recipe" for the sculptures produced. The smallest variance in the amount of coke used to stoke the furnace, or the cooking time of the molten metal, for example, can produce different results.

Though Grand Valley students have numerous opportunities to cast aluminum and bronze, this will be the first time they have been able to cast iron using the special cupola furnace built this past summer at Ox-Bow School of Art, located near Saugatuck. Louis Padnos Iron & Metal Company in Holland, Mich. generously donated the cast iron for this joint project.

"The collaboration between the Sculpture Emphasis at Grand Valley and the Sculpture Department at the School of the Art Institute encourages interdisciplinary exchanges amongst faculty and students," said Viviano. "Since the iron casting process is labor intensive and performance based it helps to build community through the shared experience of planning, orchestrating, and observing the event."

Viviano, who has taught foundry classes at Ox-Bow during the past two summers, has built a relationship with other faculty members, Daniel Matheson and Carolyn Ottmers, from SAIC. Some of the sculptures produced during this collaborative project will be included in a Grand Valley Intermediate Sculpture Exhibition that will run November 17-24 in the Padnos Art Gallery, located in the Calder Art Center. Next spring, Viviano will take some of the Grand Valley students to another large-scale cast iron pour at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

Media may contact Norwood Viviano at (616) 331-3383 or [vivianon@gvsu.edu](mailto:vivianon@gvsu.edu).

For immediate release

Contact: GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

October 13, 2006

**Tip sheet: GVSU events for Oct. 16-22**

**Wednesday, October 18**

7:30 a.m.: Seidman Breakfast Series lecture features L. William Seidman, former FDIC chairman. His presentation, "What in the World is Going On?" begins at 8 a.m. in Loosemore Auditorium, DeVos Center, Pew Grand Rapids Campus. For more information, call (616) 331-7100.

4 p.m.: MCRI/Affirmative Action panel discussion with Ward Connerly, founder and chairman of the American Civil Rights Institute; Hilary Shelton, director of the NAACP Washington Bureau; Linda Chavez, chair of the Center for Equal Opportunity; and Mark Fancher, ACLU of Michigan attorney. Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room. Camera platform and mult box available for media. For more information, call (616) 331-2177.

**Thursday, October 19**

2-6 p.m.: West Michigan Careerfest Job Fair, with more than 130 employers expected. DeVos Place Convention Center, 303 Monroe St., Grand Rapids. For more information, call (616) 331-3311.

**Friday-Saturday, October 20-21**

All Day: Great Lakes History Conference: New Perspectives on War and Society. Keynote speeches are 8 p.m. Friday and 12:30 p.m. Saturday. See Web site, [www.gvsu.edu/history](http://www.gvsu.edu/history) for program details. For more information, call (616) 331-3298.



For Immediate Release

October 13, 2006

Contact: Ken Kolbe, (616) 331-6725, WGVU-TV

**FEED ADVISORY for Decision 2006: The Michigan U.S. Senate Debate**

The debate between U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow and Republican candidate Mike Bouchard will be taped Sunday, October 15, at 11 a.m. in the studios of WGVU-TV. The studios are located in the Meijer Public Broadcast Center at 301 West Fulton, Grand Rapids, Michigan. Entrance to the studios is through the Eberhard Center.

Media parking is available in the Conferences Services lot on the south side of Fulton directly across from the Keller Engineering Building. Follow the sidewalk along the Grand River to enter the Eberhard Center.

News personnel must present their news credentials to be admitted.

A video video/audio feed will be provided in the studio adjacent to the debate. Reporters will need a recording deck that accepts analog video/audio.

The candidates have agreed to meet with the media after the debate. News crews will not be allowed in the debate studio until after the taping has concluded. Any questions can be referred to Ken Kolbe at (616) 331-6725

PBS stations will air the debate Sunday, October 15, at 8 p.m. Michigan television stations can air the debate beginning at 9 p.m., Sunday, October 15, or later. Excerpts from the special news feed may be used in Sunday newscasts. Stories should promote the 8 p.m. airing of the full debate on the local PBS station.

**FEED INFORMATION:**

Program Feed - Digital Captioned (for Broadcast)

10/15/06, 20:00-21:00

AMC 3

K7

87'W

11836.25 H down freq.  
(DCII format)  
PBS downlink channel 512.

News Feed - Analog Uncaptioned (News Use Only)

10/15/06, 16:00-17:00

SBS 6

Transponder K7

74'W

D/L 11872.000 MHz Horizontal

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October 16, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

War in Iraq focus of teach-in

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- A Grand Valley State University teach-in on the war in Iraq will feature politicians, veterans and public discussions, including U.S. Rep. Peter Hoekstra, R-Holland, chair of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and Democratic congressional candidate Kimon Kotos.

The three-day event, October 17-19, was organized by Grand Valley history students to provide a forum for better understanding of the war and its implications. A series of discussions, which are free and open to the public, will contemplate the past causes, present costs and future legacies of the war.

Hoekstra will speak on Tuesday, October 17, from 2-3 p.m., in the Grand River Room of Kirkhof Center during the "History and Context" segment that begins at 1 p.m.

Kotos and a panel discussion by Iraq war veterans will focus on "The Iraq War and Domestic Institutions" on Wednesday, October 18, from 6-10 p.m., in Loutit Auditorium, Henry Hall.

Thursday, October 19, will feature faculty presentations under the theme of "Legacies."

For Immediate Release

October 17, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

New Walker park and ride lot opens  
Lot will help ease congestion on M-45

**WALKER** — A new park and ride lot for Grand Valley State University students, faculty and staff opened October 16 at the intersection of Lake Michigan Drive and Kinney, behind the new Walker Fire Station.

The park and ride lot was a joint effort between Grand Valley, the City of Walker and The Rapid. The project was awarded federal funding based on its effectiveness in terms of relieving congesting and reducing automobile tailpipe emissions.

The project received a \$180,000 allocation in Federal CMAQ (Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality) funds as well as a \$45,000 state matching grant.

"The beauty is that Grand Valley acquired 90 additional parking spaces at no additional cost to our students," said Lisa Haynes, assistant vice president of Pew Campus Operations & Regional Centers.

The Walker park and ride is the third in the Standale area. The other lots are located at Meijer and the old Ralph's Food Market lot.

In 1999, there were 700 riders a week on the campus connector. There are now 14,000 riders a day on the university transit system.

For more information, contact Lisa Haynes at (616) 331-6700.

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**For Immediate Release**

**October 17, 2006**

**Contact: Ken Kolbe, (616) 331-6725, WGVU-TV**

**WGVU-TV to reair Stabenow/Bouchard debate**

**GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — All Public Television stations across the state, including WGVU-TV, will reair Decision 2006: The Michigan Senatorial Debate on Sunday, October 22, at 7 p.m.**

**The debate features Democratic Sen. Debbie Stabenow and Republican candidate Mike Bouchard discussing the issues facing the state in the upcoming election.**

**The debate was moderated by WGVU News Director Fred Martino. The program featured a panel of statewide journalists assembled in the WGVU television studios in Grand Rapids.**

**For more information, contact WGVU-TV at (616) 331-6666.**

October 17, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services, (616) 331-2221

### Capturing Calder

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. -- Artists of all ages and abilities are invited to create their own rendition of Alexander Calder's stabile, La Grande Vitesse, in downtown Grand Rapids, during a free event on Saturday, October 21.

Images created on the spot can be contributed to a Grand Valley State University student project, dubbed "Big Red Thing," which aims to document community responses to the sculpture. The event is organized by Civic Studio, an art course at Grand Valley. They are also mounting a community photo drive to collect images of the Calder sculpture.

To participate, artists should arrive at Calder Plaza with the artistic media of their choice on Saturday, October 21, between noon and 2 p.m. For more information call (616) 634-6837.

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services, (616) 331-2221

### GVSU premieres Autumn in the Valley

An original play that mingles fact and fiction will make its world premiere at Grand Valley State University on Friday, November 10.

Written by Grand Valley theatre professor James Bell and his brother John Bell, the play was developed in conjunction with the Utah Arts Council and was first presented as a staged reading at the Utah Shakespeare Festival. The drama concentrates on a young woman who, while confronting her deaf sister and memories of her mother, discovers family secrets that involve the famed trial and execution of IWW organizer and songwriter Joe Hill.

Hill's story is the backdrop for the play about the dynamics of a family of five females. Yet, just as the accounts of Joe Hill's life are hard to pin down as truth or folk lore legacy of a labor union martyr, the play is structured to keep audiences wondering how much is fact or fiction.

The production unfolds in a highly visual and stylized manner including multi-media projections of historical photos and newspaper headlines about Hill's trial and death by firing squad in 1915. A special post-performance discussion with playwrights is planned for Friday, November 10.

Performances are November 10-11, and 16-18, at 7: 30 p.m., and November 12, at 2 p.m. in the Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. Tickets, available at the LAT Box Office, are \$12 general admission, \$10 faculty/staff/seniors, and \$6 all students. Tickets may also be purchased through Star Tickets Plus, with a service fee, by calling (616) 222-4000 or (800) 585-3737, online at [www.starticketsplus.com](http://www.starticketsplus.com) or at any Star Ticket Plus outlet.

Media may contact James Bell at (616) 331-3066

For Immediate Release  
Contact News and Information Services  
(616) 331-2221

October 20, 2006

### **GVSU Tip Sheet 10/23-30**

#### **Monday, Oct. 23-26 -- Sustainability Week**

A week of lectures and events dedicated to being environmentally, socially and fiscally responsible. Check the Web site, [www.gvsu.edu/sustainability](http://www.gvsu.edu/sustainability), for more information.

#### **Tuesday, Oct. 24 -- Forum raises religious awareness**

"Religion and Power: The Power to Create, the Power to Destroy," will discuss the Middle East conflict from a theological point of view. James Carroll, Vincent Cornell and Donniel Hartman will present Jewish, Christian or Muslim perspectives. Sponsored by the West Shore Committee for Jewish/Christian Dialogue and Grand Valley. Keynote event at 7 p.m., Eberhard Center, Pew Campus. For more information, contact Sylvia Kaufman at (231) 727-3407.

#### **Tuesday, Oct. 24 -- Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger to speak**

Kissinger is known for his involvement as national security adviser and secretary of state during the Nixon administration. The event is sponsored by GVSU'S Hauenstein Center and Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum. 8 p.m., Pantlind Ballroom, Amway Grand Plaza. For more information, call (616) 331-2770.

#### **Tuesday, Oct. 24 -- Domestic violence speaker**

Tony Porter will speak about the male role in ending domestic abuse; October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Porter is the co-founder of "A Call to Men," an organization that travels around the country building coalitions against domestic violence. 7 p.m., Loosemore Auditorium, Pew Campus. For more information regarding this event call (616) 331-2748.

#### **Friday, Oct. 27 -- President Haas formally takes office**

The investiture ceremony for President Thomas J. Haas takes place at 11 a.m., Fieldhouse Arena, Allendale Campus. For more information contact at (616) 331-2221.



For Immediate Release

Contact: Brian J. Bowe, (616) 331-2221 or [boweb@gvsu.edu](mailto:boweb@gvsu.edu)

October 20, 2006

## Waste-to-energy program unveiled in West Michigan

MUSKEGON, Mich. -- A Ravenna dairy farm will be home to a new biodigester to turn animal waste into electricity. The construction of the dairy farm biomass conversion plant was announced on Friday, October 20 by the Michigan Public Service Commission, Grand Valley State University, and farmer Tim den Dulk.

This will be a commercial demonstration of an advanced biodigester technology that converts renewable dairy biomass waste into valuable methane gas and subsequently to electricity. This biomass plant also produces pathogen-free fertilizer byproducts and an additional critical benefit to the state's environmental protection by the removal of sulfur and odor compounds and methane emissions from such naturally decaying biomass materials.

The development of renewable energy biomass digesters will also demonstrate that these technologies will create a new job market in the farming communities of this state as they have so successfully done in Europe. This biomass plant will be built on the den Dulk dairy farm in Ravenna, Michigan in Muskegon County.

The project is being conducted with Grand Valley State University's Michigan Alternative and Renewable Energy Center in Muskegon. It is being funded with a \$1 million grant from the Michigan Public Service Commission. The den Dulk farm will contribute \$1.2 million for the site preparation required to host the biodigester.

The biodigester itself will be 48 feet in diameter and 47 feet tall. The manure from the cows will be kept in the digester tank for an average of 21 days. While in the tank, it will be kept at around 98.6 degrees. The waste mixed by a giant mixer in the tank and will be broken down by microbes. The main product of the process is biogas, which is comprised of 60 percent methane. That gas will have the hydrogen sulfide removed to eliminate its sour smell before transferred to a holding tank. Then it will be available to be used in microturbines or boilers to create electricity and heat.

Not only will the project create energy using a plentiful and locally produced fuel, but it will cut down on pollution. The other product of the process is a material called "digestate," which is nutrient-rich and can be used as a fertilizer. That product has a 95 percent reduction of odor and a 99 percent reduction of pathogens compared to unprocessed manure.

**MEDIA NOTE:** High resolution photos of the farm are available by e-mailing [boweb@gvsu.edu](mailto:boweb@gvsu.edu).

MAREC was established as a SmartZone created by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation in 2001 as part of an effort to promote and attract high technology business development in the state. It functions as a business incubator for companies working on developing commercial applications for alternative and renewable energies.

Visit GVNow, Grand Valley's online news source: <http://www.gvsu.edu/gvnow>

For Immediate Release

October 20, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

Grand Valley students and staff meet with Gov. Granholm  
Michigan Leadership Day set for Oct. 24

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Two weeks before the 2006 election, Grand Valley State University's Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies will travel to Lansing as part of Michigan Leadership Day. Staff from the center, along with a group of students, will tour the state capital and meet with Michigan leaders, including Gov. Jennifer Granholm.

"This is a great opportunity for students to be able to listen to leaders at the highest level of state government talk about their challenges and contributions to public service," said Gleaves Whitney, director of the Hauenstein Center.

Michigan Leadership Day will take place Tuesday, October 24.

Meetings are scheduled with Gov. Jennifer Granholm, Sen. Bob Emerson of Genesee County, Superintendent of Public Instruction Mike Flanagan, and Communications Director for the Office of the Attorney General Rusty Hills.

For more information, contact the Hauenstein Center at (616) 331-2770 or visit [www.allpresidents.org](http://www.allpresidents.org) or call GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

For Immediate Release  
October 23, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

Gerald R. Ford Foundation, Ford Presidential Museum, and Hauenstein Center to host  
Kissinger

MEDIA NOTE: News conference location and time changed

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger will speak on Tuesday, October 24, at 8 p.m., in the Pantlind Ballroom of the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in downtown Grand Rapids.

MEDIA OPPORTUNITY: Kissinger will hold a news conference from 7:15-7:35 p.m. in Loosemore Auditorium in the DeVos Center on Grand Valley's Pew Grand Rapids Campus, 401 W. Fulton St. Media credentials/identification are necessary for admittance.

The Gerald R. Ford Foundation is bringing Kissinger to Grand Rapids. The Ford Presidential Museum is hosting his talk, and Grand Valley State University's Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies is hosting his visit to campus.

Kissinger served as the 56th U.S. secretary of state from 1973-1977. He also served as assistant to President Ford for national security affairs. He is currently a member of the Defense Policy Board and chairman of Kissinger Associates, Inc., an international consulting firm.

Kissinger has been the recipient of several awards including the Nobel Peace Prize in 1973, the Presidential Medal of Freedom (the nation's highest civilian award) in 1977, and the Medal of Liberty in 1986.

"We are extremely pleased to bring Dr. Kissinger to West Michigan as a tribute to President Ford during our 25th Anniversary year," said Elaine Didier, director of the Ford Museum and Library.

"Henry Kissinger was one of the most important people in the world during the 1970s," said Gleaves Whitney, director of the Hauenstein Center. "He remains important because he knows so many foreign leaders and understands the challenges we face as a nation."

For more information, contact GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

For immediate release

Contact: Michele Coffill, News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

October 23, 2006

**Author, healthy dating expert to speak at GVSU**

-- Can I Kiss You? set for November 1

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. -- Before you kiss someone, do you ask? Author and healthy dating expert Mike Domitrz says asking before kissing means giving your partner respect.

Known for his humorous, interactive approach to dating, consent and sexual assault awareness, Domitrz will appear at Grand Valley State University on Wednesday, November 1, at 7 p.m. in the Cook-DeWitt Center on the Allendale Campus. His presentation, "Can I Kiss You?" is sponsored by GVSU's Women's Center.

The author of two books, "May I Kiss You?" and "Voices of Courage: Inspiration from Survivors of Sexual Assault," Domitrz began his public speaking career after his sister was raped in 1989. Domitrz said he began researching sexual assault and was overwhelmed by the number of people who said, "My child would never do that." He created a humorous one-man show with a message and began speaking in secondary schools and colleges across the country.

More about Domitrz, including downloadable high-resolution photos, can be found online at [www.canwekiss.com](http://www.canwekiss.com). For advance interviews with Domitrz, call the News and Information Services office at (616) 331-2221.

For Immediate Release

October 26, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

Katrina: One Year Later

Grand Valley social work students chronicle experiences

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Grand Valley State University social work students gutted a house for rebuilding and stayed in a FEMA camp located atop a toxic waste dump this summer, as part of a trip to New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina.

Ten graduate students and three faculty members chronicled their experiences in a presentation called, "Katrina: One Year Later." A photo exhibit and multi-media presentation is scheduled for Monday, November 6, from 5:30-8:30 p.m., in Loosemore Auditorium of the DeVos Center, on the Pew Grand Rapids Campus, 401 W. Fulton.

The group combined service learning and research to assist those in New Orleans who were impacted by the disaster. The group spent mornings working alongside volunteers with the National Relief Network of Grandville to gut a home that had been underwater for weeks. The students removed everything to the bare walls, encountering poisonous spiders, black mold, asbestos and fiberglass. The home belonged to a retired, disabled firefighter whose wife was recovering from breast cancer.

"It was such an emotional experience for all of us," said Steve Smith, assistant professor of social work. "It's hard to attach words to the experience of seeing utter and complete devastation for miles in any direction nearly one year after the hurricane. We needed to spend time debriefing each day."

Students spent their afternoons conducting research, interviewing front-line supervisors in 19 human service agencies throughout the New Orleans area. The focus for the research was to determine the impact the disaster had on the organization, the direct care staff, the supervisors and those served by the agency.

A second trip to New Orleans is scheduled for December 8-17, and another is being planned for May, 2007. Support for the project was provided by the Johnson Center for Philanthropy, Office of the President, School of Social Work and the College of Community and Public Service.

For more information, contact Steve Smith at (616) 331-6557 or GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

For immediate release

Contact: News and Information Services (616) 331-2221

October 26, 2006

### **GVSU president formally takes office at investiture**

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- Thirty delegates from universities and colleges in Michigan and other states, two past Grand Valley presidents and an audience of more than 1,000 will watch President Thomas J. Haas formally take office at his investiture ceremony on Friday, October 27.

Rich with pageantry, the ceremony will begin at 11 a.m. in the Fieldhouse Arena at the Allendale Campus. The program includes musical selections from Grand Valley Brass, Symphonic Wind Ensemble and University Arts Chorale. Patricia Clark, professor of writing and Grand Valley's poet-in-residence, will read a poem, "Looking for a Trail," she wrote for the occasion.

Donna Brooks, chair of the Board of Trustees, will preside over the event. Others offering formal greetings are Rob Franciosi, professor of English and chair of the University Academic Senate; Frank Foster, Student Senate president; Frederick Davison, president of the Alumni Association; John Canepa, of Crowe Chizek and community representative to the Presidential Search Advisory Committee; and immediate past President Mark A. Murray.

President Emeritus Arend D. Lubbers will join the platform party of Grand Valley faculty and staff members. Thirty delegates from colleges, universities and national associations will be represented.

Media note: A mult box and media platform will be available.

For immediate release

Contact: News and Information Services (616) 331-2221

October 27, 2006

**Media opportunity: GVSU president takes office at investiture**

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- Thirty delegates from universities and colleges in Michigan and other states, two past Grand Valley presidents and an audience of more than 1,000 will watch President Thomas J. Haas formally take office at his investiture ceremony on Friday, October 27.

The ceremony will begin at 11 a.m. in the Fieldhouse Arena at the Allendale Campus.

Donna Brooks, chair of the Board of Trustees, will preside over the event. Thirty delegates from colleges, universities and national associations will be represented.

The event will be Webcasted live and can be accessed at [www.gvsu.edu](http://www.gvsu.edu).

Media notes: A mult box and media platform will be available at the Fieldhouse. Downloadable photos from today's ceremony will be available in the afternoon. Call News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221, for the link to the photo Web site.

For immediate release

Contact: News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

October 27, 2006

**Grand Valley's fourth president promises to continue its liberal education tradition**

**-- Haas installed during official ceremony**

ALLENDALE, Mich.-- After he was officially installed as the university's fourth president, Thomas J. Haas drew from the strengths of Grand Valley State University's past presidents and founders in his investiture address.

Haas formally took office on October 27, before a crowd of about 1,000 in the Fieldhouse on the Allendale Campus. The audience included 30 dignitaries from Michigan government, U.S. colleges and universities, Grand Valley President Emeritus Arend D. Lubbers, former GVSU President Mark A. Murray and many of Haas' family members.

Media note: Downloadable photos from today's ceremony will be available in the afternoon. Call News and Information Services for the link to the photo Web site.

His 30-minute address traced Grand Valley's history back to the 1950s when West Michigan leaders began petitioning state legislators to establish a "college out of a West Michigan cornfield."

"From that beginning, teaching in the liberal education tradition throughout the curriculum has been at the center of Grand Valley," Haas said.

Haas talked about the leadership of Lubbers, who served as president from 1969-2001, and his vision for a liberal education university. During Lubbers' tenure, enrollment grew from 2,700 students to almost 20,000. "Under President Lubbers' visionary leadership, we grew in size and stature, but never moved away from our liberal education foundation," Haas said.

Haas said Murray, who served as president for five years, left Grand Valley keeping to promises he made during his 2001 inaugural address: raising the rate of graduation and embracing more rigorous academic programs.

Haas then reminded the audience why a liberal education is so important. "What makes our liberal education commitment so relevant is that it equips students with the ability to adapt and knowing how to think," he said. "If our students have critical thinking skills, are able to communicate, work in teams, work with technology, and understand and appreciate diversity, they are ready to face the complex realities of the world in which they will lead."

He said today's Grand Valley is a university that is seeking more global opportunities, striving for increased diversity and continuing to make environmentally and fiscally responsible decisions.

"We will take our liberal education foundation, our values, our commitment to excellence, and our aspirations, and be on the national landscape as an institution of choice in Michigan and well beyond," he said. "We are a comprehensive university of extraordinary quality."



For Immediate Release

October 31, 2006

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221, or  
pirkolm@gvsu.edu

Photo available

### Midwest World Fest brings Ilays to Grand Valley

On Wednesday, November 8, the GVSU Arts at Noon Series presents Ilays, Somali multicultural artists, of the Midwest World Fest. "Ilays" is a Somali word for "light." The ensemble includes seven musicians and dancers, while most Somali artists typically perform solo or with one additional person at most.

Midwest World Fest is a global arts and education and outreach performing arts program designed to provide inspiring arts enrichment while it instills appreciation for diversity and encourages acceptance of others and their culture.

Ilays shares its Somali culture in an energetic program of music, poetry, dance and stories drawing from traditional as well as more contemporary Somali culture. Their free performance is at noon in the Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale Campus. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

For Immediate Release

November 1, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

New survey measures quality of life in greater Grand Rapids

One in four worries about money for food/clothing

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The Community Research Institute (CRI) in the Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership at Grand Valley State University helped compile information for the sixth annual Greater Grand Rapids Community Survey report.

The report is made possible by a partnership among CRI, Grand Rapids Community Foundation, Heart of West Michigan United Way, and the Doug and Maria DeVos Foundation. The survey assessed citizen opinions, perceptions and behaviors as they relate to quality of life in the Greater Grand Rapids Area (Kent County).

The community survey provides population, economic, community and public opinion data to present a picture of the Kent County community. Responses from 1,351 Kent County adults were analyzed to find trends, relationships and statistics specific to the region.

The study indicates that:

- 1 in 20 people has skipped or reduced the size of a meal in the past 12 months
- 1 in 4 worries about not having enough money for food and clothing
- 8 percent of respondents stated at some point in the past year they did not have enough money to pay their rent or mortgage
- 13 percent indicated they missed a utility payment in the past year due to a lack of funds.

For more information, visit the Community Research Institute Web site at [www.cridata.org](http://www.cridata.org) or contact GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

November 1, 2006

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu) or (616) 331-2221.

[photo available]

#### GVSU documentary honors local Red Arrow vets

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. -- West Michigan Red Arrow veterans who fought in World War II are the guests of honor at the premiere screening of "Nightmare in New Guinea," a documentary film that captures their recollections. It was produced as a collaborative project between the Grand Valley State University Department of History and the School of Communications.

The 7 p.m. screening on Friday, November 10, one day before Veterans' Day, will be in Loosemore Auditorium, DeVos Center, Pew Grand Rapids Campus. A reception for the veterans and guests, hosted by Meijer, Inc., will follow the screening. Both events are free and open to the public.

The Red Arrow Division, which began as militia companies in Grand Rapids and dates back to the Civil War, served in the gruesome New Guinea Campaign. As part of the U.S. 32nd Infantry Division, the Red Arrow saw 654 days of continuous battle. This is more than any other division during World War II, yet their stories have never been told.

With the youngest of the vets now in their 80s, an overwhelming sense of urgency to capture their stories led to establishing Grand Valley's Department of History as a partner archive with the Library of Congress. A special topics class, History 380, was created to combine learning about World War II, recording oral histories from Red Arrow vets and organizing the material for production of a documentary film.

The class was team taught by former Grand Rapids City Historian Gordon Olson and Frank Boring, a documentary filmmaker and adjunct professor in the School of Communications. Both had worked with a group of the vets at Grand Valley during the Great Lakes History Conference of 2003.

Once the history class ended, senior communications students Chris Michael and Ahmed Al-Tawil spent countless hours editing historical footage and the oral histories to create the finished documentary. All of the material gathered by the class will remain at Grand Valley and be made available to future researchers through the partnership with the Library of Congress.

For the complete story visit [www.gvsu.edu/qvmagazine](http://www.gvsu.edu/qvmagazine) and select "Preserving History." For more information about the screening call (616) 331-3668.

For Immediate Release  
November 1, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, Grand Valley News and Information Services

Sen. Kerry's remarks spark instant reaction  
Grand Valley State University experts available for comment

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Political experts at Grand Valley State University are available to comment on the recent remarks made by Sen. John Kerry. Kerry canceled plans to campaign for Democrats after his comments to college students about getting "stuck in Iraq."

- Fred Antczak, (616) 331-2495, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
Antczak is an expert in political rhetoric and has been a regular consultant for Reuters, Washington Post, Boston Herald, Hartford Courant, Atlanta Constitution and Cox Newspapers. He has also appeared on CNN, FOX and NPR's "All Things Considered."  
NOTE: Antczak is available today, Nov. 1, from 2:15-3 p.m. EST and again tomorrow.

- Gleaves Whitney, (616) 331-2770, director of the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies  
Whitney is a presidential historian and author who served under former Gov. John Engler for 11 years as chief historian and speech writer. His son served in the Iraq War in the winter and spring of 2003.  
Whitney served as a commentator for major television networks when his son served in Iraq and during Ronald Reagan's death and funeral.

"It is unfortunate that Sen. Kerry botched his joke," said Whitney, "but it is especially unfortunate that he won't apologize to the brave men and women who have served in uniform and to their families who have sacrificed so much."

- Erika King, (616) 331-2320 or (H): (616) 245-1470, professor of political science  
King has been interviewed by television and major newspapers across the state and country including The New York Times. She is an expert on campaigns and elections, public opinion, American politics and media and politics.

For more information, contact Grand Valley News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

For Immediate Release

November 2, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

Grand Valley experts available for Election Day coverage

ALLENDALE, Mich.— The following Grand Valley State University experts are available for comment before and after Election Day, Nov. 7, 2006.

- Erika King, (616) 331-2320 or (H): (616) 245-1470, professor of political science  
King has been interviewed by television and major newspapers across the state and country including The New York Times. She is an expert on campaigns and elections, public opinion, American politics and media and politics.
- Roger Moiles, (616) 331-3283 or (H): (616) 994-9985, instructor of political science  
Moiles is an expert on elections, public policy and Congress.
- Kevin den Dulk, (616) 331-2991 or (H): (616) 459-5274, assistant professor of political science  
Professor den Dulk is an expert on American politics. He has researched and written books on religion and politics. He can also discuss political parties and theories.
- Gleaves Whitney, (616) 331-2770, director of the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies  
Whitney is a presidential historian and author who served under former Gov. John Engler for 11 years as chief historian and speech writer. Whitney served as a commentator for major television networks when his son served in Iraq and during Ronald Reagan's death and funeral.

For more information, contact GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

For immediate release

November 3, 2006

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services (616) 331-2221

### Story Time makes world premiere

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. -- The world premiere of Grand Valley Pictures' "Story Time" will be shown at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, November 15 at Wealthy Theatre, 1130 Wealthy SE, Grand Rapids. The film was locally produced by students enrolled in the Summer Film Project at Grand Valley State University, directed this year by visiting professor Robert Hurst. Open to the public, the \$5 admission also includes a screening of the behind-the-scenes "making of" documentary and a reception at 9 p.m. with cast and crew.

Now in its 12th year, the unique project offers Grand Valley students in the School of Communications an opportunity to work side-by-side with film industry professionals. They also are able to use a half-million dollar Panaflex Super 16 film camera, on loan through a generous program with Panavision. They produce a short film, from start to finish, during two six-week summer sessions.

The "Story Time" screenplay was written by Elizabeth C. Grant of Sherman Oaks, California. Grant's writing credits include a produced one-act play and an article in Playboy. She currently teaches sociology at Chabot College and continues with her screenwriting. Her script was selected out of 68 competition entries from 13 states and three countries. It is a serious, character-driven story that unfolds as the film progresses, about a woman in her 30s who is a recovering alcoholic.

"Story Time" was produced and directed by Robert Hurst, an independent filmmaker and visiting professor in the GVSU film and video production major. Hollywood cameraman Jack Anderson returned for his 5th Summer Film Project as director of photography. Hurst and Anderson led an all-student film crew made up of GVSU film/video majors.

Last year's summer film project was a comedy, "The Gospel According to Roy," produced and directed by John Harper Philbin, from Grand Valley. It has since been screened at many film festivals including the Big Island Film Festival in Hawaii, the Durango Independent Film Festival and Crested Butte Reel Fest in Colorado, and Michigan film festivals in Saugatuck, Muskegon, Detroit, and East Lansing. It also received top honors in the Film and Video Competition at the Grand Rapids Festival of the Arts 2006.

A Summer Film Project retrospective, screening the films produced over the past four years, is

planned for 6–8 p.m. on Thursday, November 16, at the newly renovated Grand Haven Area Arts Council's building, 1045 Columbus, Grand Haven.

For more information contact the GVSU School of Communications at (616) 331-3668.

For immediate release

Contact: News and Information Services (616) 331-2221

November 3, 2006

#### GVSU Tip Sheet Nov. 6-12

Wednesday, Nov. 8 -- Dow Automotive president to speak

The Peter F. Secchia lecture series presents, "Chemistry and Cars." Dow Automotive President George Hamilton will discuss the success of his company in the global marketplace. 8 a.m., Loosemore Auditorium, DeVos Center. For more information, contact (616) 331-7100.

Wednesday, Nov. 8 -- "From Catastrophe to Cure: New Developments in Childhood Cancer Care"

The season's second Autumn Health Forum, "From Catastrophe to Cure: New Developments in Childhood Cancer Care," will be presented by James Fahner, division chief of pediatric Hematology/ Oncology at DeVos Children's Hospital. Noon, Loosemore Auditorium, DeVos Center. For more information contact (616) 331-7180.

Thursday, Nov. 9 -- Two leading advocates declare equal rights for women

Connie Evans and Anne Ladky will present, "Women and Inequity," a lecture discussing the employment inequities for women. The event is sponsored by a host of Grand Valley organizations in addition to Economics Club and Hunger and Homelessness student groups the Aquinas Women's Center. 7:30 p.m., Loosemore Auditorium, DeVos Center. For more information contact (616) 331-2748.

Friday, Nov. 10 -- Opening night for theater production: "Autumn in the Valley"

A young woman discovers family secrets tied to the death and execution of labor union organizer Joe Hill. The play runs Nov. 10-18, 7:30 p.m., Louis Armstrong Theatre, Allendale Campus.

Sunday, Nov. 12 -- Award-winning presidential historian returns to Grand Rapids

Richard Norton Smith will present Hauenstein Center lecture series, "The U.S. Presidency: Does Character Count?" Smith has been the director of five presidential libraries including the Gerald R. Ford Library and Museum of downtown Grand Rapids. 4 p.m., Gerald R. Ford Museum, Grand Rapids. For more information contact (616) 331-2770.



For immediate release

Contact: Michele Coffill, News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221  
November 3, 2006

### Grand Valley program addresses women and economics

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. -- Women who work are earning 77 cents for every dollar earned by men. More than 60 percent of women who work are earning half or more of their family's income. Nearly 15 million American women work full time but earn less than \$25,000 a year.

Connie Evans and Anne Ladky, two leading advocates for women's employment issues, will give a presentation at Grand Valley State University on Thursday, November 9, and argue that legislators and business leaders must improve low-wage jobs to support the financial security of women.

"Women and Inequality" will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Loosemore Auditorium of the DeVos Center, Pew Grand Rapids Campus. The program is sponsored by Grand Valley's Women's Center, College of Education, School of Social Work, Seidman College of Business, and Women and Gender Studies, in addition to Economics Club and Hunger and Homelessness student groups, and the Aquinas College Women's Center.

Evans is founding president of Women's Self-Employment Project in Chicago, which works to create new businesses that empower low-income women. She has served on a number of local and international boards including the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, Global Fund for Women, Center for Policy Alternatives, and Micro Credit Summit Campaign Executive Committee.

Ladky is the executive director of Women Employed, a leading national advocate for improving women's economic status. It works with Chicago businesses and colleges to enable low-income women to enter and succeed in education and training that lead to jobs.

Their presentation is funded by the Twink Frey Visiting Social Activists Fund. Frey's gift to the University of Michigan funds social change fellowships and brings programming to Ann Arbor, Grand Rapids and other Michigan communities.

During their Grand Valley presentation, Evans and Ladky will illustrate their belief that the concentration of women in low-wage jobs is the central barrier to women's economic progress. The program is free and open to the public. For more information, call Grand Valley's Women's Center at (616) 331-2748.

To coincide with the presentation, a photo exhibit of low-income people who are changing their lives through education will be displayed in the Kirkhof Center Lobby, on the Allendale Campus, from November 6-9.

For immediate release

November 6, 2006

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221.

## GVSU December 2006 Events

### ART

Bachelor of Fine Arts and School of Communications Senior Thesis Exhibitions. Grand Valley State University continues to showcase the works of graduating seniors in a series of one-week exhibits throughout December. Call the GVSU Art Gallery at (616) 331-2564 for specific dates, exhibit locations and participating students.

### MUSIC & DANCE

#### 12/3 Sunday

GVSU Music Department Concert: Varsity Men, Chuck Norris, conductor; University Arts Chorale, Ellen Pool, conductor; and the Festival Women's Ensemble. 3 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

#### 12/3 Sunday

GVSU Music Department Concert: Barry D. Martin conducts the Symphonic Wind Ensemble. 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

#### 12/4 Monday

GVSU Music Department Concert: Ellen Pool conducts the University Singers and the Select Women's Ensemble. 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

#### 12/5 Tuesday

GVSU Music Department Concert: Concert Band conducted by Kevin Tutt. 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

#### 12/5 Tuesday

GVSU Music Department Concert. Brian Asher Alhadeff conducts the Chamber Orchestra. 8

p.m. Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484.

12/7 Thursday

GVSU Free Play 5 concert featuring Lina Bahn, violin, is free and open to the public. 8 p.m. Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, Allendale Campus. For more information call (616) 331-3087.

[Photo available]

December 9-10

A special GVSU production of the Nutcracker ballet will feature dancers from the Grand Valley Dance Ensemble, Great Lakes Youth Ballet Company and an 80-piece orchestra from GVSU under the baton of Brian Asher Alhadeff. The production, directed by Jefferson Baum, will be performed at Allendale High School Performing Arts Theater. Saturday, December 9 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Sunday, December 10 at 3 p.m. For tickets or more information, call (616) 331-2548.

12/19 Thursday

Julianne Vanden Wyngaard, GVSU carillonneur will give a free noon performance at the Cook Tower, Allendale Campus. For more information call (616) 331-3484.

12/24 Sunday

A free Christmas Eve carillon concert by GVSU Carillonneur Julianne Vanden Wyngaard will ring out over downtown Grand Rapids from the Beckering Family Carillion on Grand Valley's Pew Campus, West Fulton Street at Mount Vernon Avenue. Performance begins at 9:30 p.m. For more information call (616) 331-3484.

## THEATRE

December 8-10

GVSU Performance Studio Series: "The Fourth Wall" and "Wildwood Park." December 8-9, at 7:30 p.m. and a December 10, 2 p.m. matinee. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale. All seats \$6. For more information call (616) 331-3668.

## GENERAL EVENTS

12/6 Wednesday

GVSU African/African American Perspectives. "Factors Contributing to Success: Perceptions from African American Male School Administrators" by GVSU Dean of Multicultural Affairs Dr. Oliver Wilson. 3-4:30 p.m. Rooms 215/216 Kirkhof Center, Allendale. For more information call (616) 331-8110.

For immediate release

November 6, 2006

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

#### Dawn chemistry project shows commitment

You have to be very committed to chemistry to conduct a research project at 5:30 a.m., yet, that is just what a Michigan high school teacher and a group of students are doing on Thursday, November 9.

Kevin Conkel, a chemistry teacher at Hudsonville High School, spent eight weeks at Grand Valley State University this past summer, conducting chemistry research and learning how to be a better chemistry teacher. He participated in an innovative professional development program, known as Target Inquiry. TI is part of a five-year study that will have local and national impact on how chemistry is taught, while also addressing the new Michigan high school content expectations.

Conkel worked during the summer alongside Grand Valley faculty member Robert Smart on an organic chemistry research project to make new heat resistant polymers. Polymers are common materials such as plastics and foams that have a variety of applications. Conkel and his advanced placement chemistry students will continue that research on Thursday, while making heat-resistant polymers that would be of interest to NASA for use on the space shuttle.

Target Inquiry was developed by two Grand Valley faculty members, Deborah Herrington and Ellen Yezierski, who secured grants from the Dreyfus Foundation and the National Science Foundation totaling over \$1.4 million.

For more information visit [www.gvsu.edu/targetinquiry](http://www.gvsu.edu/targetinquiry) or contact Drs. Herrington and Yezierski at (616) 331-3317.

For immediate release

November 7, 2006

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221 or  
pirkolam@gvsu.edu

[Perugino photo available]

#### Perugino String Quartet celebrates Shostakovich

The Perugino String Quartet will perform two concerts of music by Shostakovich in honor of the 100th anniversary of his birth. In addition they will perform Beethoven's string quartet, Opus 74 "The Harp," a masterpiece of his middle period. The quartet-in-residence at Grand Valley State University includes members Eric Tanner and Diane McElfish, violins; Barbara Corbato, viola; and Stacey Bosman Tanner, cello.

The Artist-Faculty Series/Downtown Showcase is at 3 p.m. Sunday, November 19, at Loosemore Auditorium, DeVos Center, Pew Grand Rapids Campus. They close the fall semester of the Arts at Noon Series on Thursday, November 30, at noon in the Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale Campus. Both performances are free and open to the public. For more information call (616) 331-3484.

For Immediate Release

November 7, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

Richard Norton Smith returns to Grand Rapids

Visit sponsored by Grand Valley's Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Richard Norton Smith, award-winning presidential historian and former director of five presidential libraries, will visit Grand Rapids as a Hauenstein Center Scholar in Residence. He will deliver seven talks on American presidents from November 12-15.

Norton Smith was director of the Gerald R. Ford Library and Museum for more than five years from 1996-2001. His lively accounts of presidential and other history have made him a familiar face to viewers of C-SPAN, as well as The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer. As founding director of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, Illinois, and before that as director of the Hoover, Eisenhower, Reagan and Ford libraries, Smith has introduced millions of visitors to a history rarely glimpsed in textbooks.

"The Hauenstein Center is proud to host the West Michigan homecoming of Richard Norton Smith," said Gleaves Whitney, director of the Hauenstein Center. "He has a great following here and around the nation because his books and talks make history come alive."

The Norton Smith lecture series is as follows:

Sunday, November 12, 4 p.m.

"Does Character Count"

Gerald R. Ford Museum

November 13, 11 a.m.

"The Surprising George Washington"

250 Kirkhof, GVSU Allendale Campus

November 13, 2 p.m.

"The Fiery Trial of Abraham Lincoln"

250 Kirkhof, GVSU Allendale Campus

November 14, 1 p.m.

"The Gold in the Gilded Age"

215 Kirkhof, GVSU Allendale Campus

November 14, 4 p.m.

"TR in the Bully Pulpit"

215 Kirkhof, GVSU Allendale Campus

November 15, 11 a.m.

"Woodrow Wilson and the Law of Unintended Consequences"

Cook-DeWitt, GVSU Allendale Campus

November 15, 7:30 p.m.

"Roosevelt and Reagan: Eternal Optimists"

Loosemore Auditorium

GVSU Pew Grand Rapids Campus

For more information, contact the Hauenstein Center at (616) 331-2770 or visit

[www.allpresidents.org](http://www.allpresidents.org)



**For Immediate Release**

**November 7, 2006**

**Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services**

**National Philanthropy Day is November 9  
Johnson Center gives tips on changing the world**

**GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Every change, no matter how small, makes a difference and together can make a huge impact.**

**The Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership at Grand Valley State University has compiled a short list of simple ways to celebrate National Philanthropy Day, November 9.**

**"We pause for one day a year to reflect and to celebrate the power of giving and serving," said Kathy Agard, executive director of the Johnson Center. "We celebrate acts of kindness, unselfishness, and justice. How fortunate we are to live in a nation that values and demonstrates the power of giving and service above self."**

**Joel Orosz, distinguished professor of Philanthropic Studies said: "At Grand Valley, we should take a moment to reflect that without the generosity of foundations, corporations, alums and friends, this great university would have to close its doors tomorrow. Philanthropy has made Grand Valley the wonderful institution that it is — and philanthropy will make it even better for all the years to come."**

**Suggestions from the Johnson Center:**

- Drop off food at a food bank. According to a recent survey done by Community Research Institute, one in 20 people in the Grand Rapids area skipped or reduced meals last year because of money.**
- Donate food or clothing to a local charity. According to Community Research Institute studies, there are over 19,000 Kent County households that are in need this winter.**
- Leave a parking spot open for someone else**
- Buy local for a day**
- Give to your preferred nonprofit in honor of someone else**

- Help your neighbor rake their leaves
- Organize a campus clean up lunch hour
- Buy coffee for the person behind you
- Buy a red i-Pod to help people in Africa/ participate in Code Red Campaign
- Buy a subscription to Good Magazine — 100 percent of funds go to a charity that you choose when you subscribe online

For more ideas, visit [www.gvsu.edu/jcp](http://www.gvsu.edu/jcp)

For more information, contact the Johnson Center at (616) 331-7585, or GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

For Immediate Release  
November 10, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

A Veterans Day Surprise  
Presidential historian explains "political earthquake"

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Our nation has crossed two historic thresholds this week, said Gleaves Whitney, director of the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies at Grand Valley State University.

For the first time in U.S. history, a second-term president watched both the House and Senate go to the opposition party during the midterm elections.

Also for the first time, a woman is set to become Speaker of the House; Nancy Pelosi, the political foil of George W. Bush, is second in line to the Oval Office should something happen to the 43rd president.

How to explain this political earthquake? Perhaps by looking at a third historic threshold the nation crossed this week: As of today — the eve of Veterans Day — George W. Bush becomes the longest-serving wartime president in U.S. history, passing the previous record set by Lyndon Johnson during the Vietnam War.

MEDIA NOTE: Interviews with Gleaves Whitney can be arranged by calling the Hauenstein Center at (616) 331-2770, or by calling (616) 460-7955.

Whitney is a presidential historian and author who served under former Michigan Gov. John Engler for 11 years as chief historian and speech writer. Whitney served as a commentator for major television networks when his son served in Iraq and during Ronald Reagan's death and funeral.

BACKGROUND:

The Hauenstein Center was created to "provide a foundation for influencing present and future leaders through the study of the Presidency." During World War II, Ralph Hauenstein had witnessed first hand the difference American leadership could make on a global-scale, and he was "profoundly influenced by the need to avoid future armed conflict and the role of American leadership in affecting world peace." This was Hauenstein's founding vision — a center to inspire current and future leaders to make a positive impact on the world.

Grand Valley State University attracts more than 23,000 students with high quality programs and state-of-the-art facilities. Grand Valley is the comprehensive regional university for Michigan's second largest metropolitan area and offers 70 undergraduate and 26 graduate degree programs. It has campuses in Allendale, Grand Rapids and Holland and centers in Muskegon and Traverse City. The university is dedicated to individual student achievement, going beyond the traditional classroom experience, with research opportunities and business partnerships.

November 14, 2006

For immediate release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

#### Exhibition highlights collaboration

Sculptures produced during a two-year collaboration between Grand Valley State University and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago will be included in the Grand Valley Intermediate Sculpture Exhibition November 17-24 in the Padnos Art Gallery, located in the Calder Art Center, Allendale Campus.

Though Grand Valley students have numerous opportunities to cast aluminum and bronze, this was the first time they have been able to cast iron using the special cupola furnace built this past summer at Ox-Bow School of Art, located near Saugatuck. Louis Padnos Iron & Metal Company in Holland, Mich. generously donated the cast iron for this joint project.

"The collaboration between the Sculpture Emphasis at Grand Valley and the Sculpture Department at the School of the Art Institute encourages interdisciplinary exchanges amongst faculty and students," said Viviano. "Since the iron casting process is labor intensive and performance based it helps to build community through the shared experience of planning, orchestrating, and observing the event."

Viviano, who has taught foundry classes at Ox-Bow during the past two summers, has built a relationship with other faculty members, Daniel Matheson and Carolyn Ottmers, from SAIC. Next spring, Viviano will take some of the Grand Valley students to another large-scale cast iron pour at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

The recent casting of the iron sculptures involved 2,000 pounds of crushed engine blocks melted in a 2,600-degree furnace. A dozen sculpture students from Grand Valley's Art and Design Department, under the direction of Norwood Viviano, were joined on campus by students and faculty from SAIC for a group pour of their sculptures. The visual spectacle took place inside and outside the Calder Fine Arts Center.

Flames from the special outdoor cupola furnace shot three- to six-feet high, as 125 pounds of scrap iron was melted down every 15 minutes into glowing molten metal. It was then collected in specially insulated ladles that hold about 90 pounds of iron. Dressed head-to-toe in protective gear, the students performed a highly choreographed procedure where teams of two maneuver the long-handled ladles. They poured the molten metal into ceramic molds that sit glowing in a

sand pit until they are cool. Each ceramic mold is preheated in a 1,000-degree kiln to remove any traces of moisture.

The procedure was repeated a dozen times, until each of the individuals' and group castings were done. Once cooled, the molds were broken to reveal the iron sculptures. A record keeper meticulously noted every detail of the process to create a recipe for the sculptures produced. The smallest variance in the amount of coke used to stoke the furnace, or the cooking time of the molten metal, for example, can produce different results.

November 14, 2006

For immediate release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services (616) 331-2221

#### Japanese animator visits Grand Valley

Japanese filmmaker Sayoko Kinoshita will visit Grand Valley State University on Tuesday, November 28. In a free evening program open to the public, she will present nine animation films from around the world.

Kinoshita is an internationally renowned filmmaker and the current president of the Association International du Film d'Animation, a non-commercial international association with the goal of promoting the art of animation and encouraging international understanding among animators. She is also director of the biennial Hiroshima Festival, which she co-founded with her late husband Renzo.

Kinoshita will visit with Grand Valley animation students, and then speak at the special evening program, Animations for Peace. It will feature several of her animations and other award winning films from past Hiroshima International Animation festivals. Animations for Peace, sponsored by the School of Communications and the Liberal Studies Department, is scheduled for 6-8 p.m. at 174 Lake Superior Hall, Allendale Campus.

For more information call Grand Valley's School of Communications at (616) 331-3668.

For immediate release

Contact: Michele Coffill, News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

November 15, 2006

### **GVSU student photo exhibit focuses on families**

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- They are traditional families, same-sex families, multiracial families and groups of friends. They are the "Families of GVSU."

A photo exhibit of 39 families with ties to Grand Valley State University will open Monday, December 4, in the Kirkhof Center lobby and continue through February.

Beth Burnside, a senior communications major, took all the photographs. She said the idea behind the project started when a traveling photo exhibit of GLBT families was displayed on campus in the spring. Burnside teamed with Student Senate leaders Melissa Flores and Anne Marie Carson to organize the project.

Grand Valley's College of Education funded the project. Susan Carson, associate professor of education, said the exhibit represents "diversity in action."

"It's a collaborative project to emphasize the importance of community and respectful climate," she said.

The casual family portraits were taken in the summer at varied locations throughout the area. Burnside said it was important to her to keep the families comfortable. Some photos were taken in homes, on beaches or in parks.

"I wanted it to be as much about the families as it could be," she said. "I wanted them to choose locations that were important to them." Short biographies of the families will be displayed next to the 8-inch by 10-inch photos.

An opening reception for the exhibit is scheduled for 7 p.m. on December 4 in the Kirkhof Center. For more information, contact Melissa Flores at (616) 813-9364 or [gvmelish20@yahoo.com](mailto:gvmelish20@yahoo.com).

November 15, 2006

For immediate release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services (616) 331-2221

### Pollution cleanup recognized

MUSKEGON, Mich. -- Grand Valley State University's Annis Water Resources Institute will receive an international award for its role in the successful cleanup of Muskegon's Ruddiman Creek, a contaminated site on the federal Great Lakes Legacy Act targeted list.

On Monday, November 27, the award will be presented by representatives of the international State of the Lakes Ecosystem Conference. The event will be held at 6 p.m. at the Michigan Alternative Renewable Energy Center, 200 Viridian Drive, Muskegon.

Other award recipients involved in the project include Muskegon Lake Public Advisory Council, Ruddiman Creek Task Force, City of Muskegon, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers. The Muskegon Lake Public Advisory Committee will host an afternoon walking tour of the Ruddiman Creek cleanup sites, with representatives from EPA and MDEQ from 2:30 - 4 p.m.

Rick Rediske, an environmental chemistry researcher at AWRI, located in Muskegon, first began investigating sediment contamination in Ruddiman Creek in 1996. He said the pollution resulted from industrial dumping of chemicals begun in the 1930s.

"We always knew the sediment contamination was a problem," said Rediske, "but we were surprised at how extensive it was at both the headwaters and the pond."

A group of local residents, spearheaded by Teresa Bernhardt, began lobbying government officials. In 1998, Rediske spoke about Ruddiman Creek at a regional conference with the EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers. It caught their interest because it runs through a residential area. After the cleanup project made it to the state's priority list in 2002, funding became available.

Over nine months, Ruddiman Creek cleanup crews removed 90,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediment that contained 126,000 pounds of lead, 2,800 pounds of cadmium, 204,000 pounds of chromium and 320 pounds of PCBs. The project was completed on May 15, 2006. Under the Great Lakes Legacy Act of 2002, 65 percent of the \$6.9 million cleanup costs were paid for with federal funds. The other \$3.7 million, or 35 percent, was paid from the state's Clean Michigan initiative.

For more information contact the Annis Water Resources Institute at (231) 728-3601 or (616) 331-3479.



November 16, 2006

For immediate release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221.

Performance to celebrate Steve Reich's 70th birthday

ALLENDALE, Mich. - - In celebration of American composer Steve Reich's 70th birthday the Grand Valley State University New Music Ensemble, directed by Assistant Professor Bill Ryan, will perform two of his classic works, "Clapping Music" and "Music for 18 Musicians."

The concert, on Thursday, November 30, in the Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus, is free and open to the public.

Widely regarded as one of the most influential composers of the 20th-century, Reich's music draws from not only Western classical music, but from the structures, harmonies, and rhythms of non-Western and American vernacular music.

In late October the New Music Ensemble traveled to New York City to attend a Steve Reich Festival which included the Reich's own ensemble performing "Music for 18 Musicians." In addition to other concerts, lectures, and workshops, they met with several members of Reich's ensemble to discuss strategies for performing the work, and were able to meet Reich himself backstage.

"Just to watch how the ensemble interacted on stage and floated between the instrumental parts was fascinating," said Ryan. "We were furiously making notes in our scores on the physical movements we saw and hope to capture for our own use."

Composed from 1974-76, "Music for 18 Musicians" is quite possibly Reich's greatest achievement. Lasting at just over an hour, the work is a shimmering journey through lush, pulsing harmonies and slowly evolving melodic patterns. His ensemble's latest recording of the work won a Grammy Award in 1999.

For more details see [http:// www.newmusicensemble.org](http://www.newmusicensemble.org) or contact Bill Ryan at (616) 331-3087.

November 20, 2006

For immediate release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221.

### **'Remembering the Crossings' with a year of activities**

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. -- The year 2007 marks the 200th anniversary of the abolition of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade with a wealth of commemorative events world-wide, including the West African nation of Ghana, European countries and the United States.

At the forefront of such events in West Michigan is Grand Valley State University who, along with the cooperation of many other area institutions and organizations, is planning a full year of programs under the theme, "Remember the Crossings: The Struggle to Abolish the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade and Slavery."

Steeve Buckridge, a member of the Department of History and associate faculty in African/African-American Studies at Grand Valley, and Randal Jelks, Calvin College director of Academic & Multicultural Affairs, are co-chairs of the local committee which includes representatives from Aquinas College, Calvin College, Cooley Law School, Cornerstone University Libraries, Davenport University, Grand Rapids Community College, Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids Public Schools, Gerald R. Ford Museum, Grand Valley State University, Hope College, Public Museum of Grand Rapids and the World Affairs Council of Western Michigan.

Buckridge said the purpose of the commemoration is to educate the public about the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade and the residual effects that still linger today. It is estimated that between ten and 21 million Africans were sold into slavery between the 1500s and 1800s. Many Africans were imprisoned in castle dungeons along the West African coast before being crowded onto slave ships that sailed to the Americas and Europe. In 1807 the British Parliament outlawed the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade, followed by the U.S. in 1808.

"What started as an area of my own interest and commitment grew into a feeling of duty and responsibility as an educator," said Buckridge, who was born and raised in Jamaica and has lived and taught in South Africa. "After several trips to study the slave castles in Ghana, I knew I had to try to convey the atrocities to others."

The series of programs planned throughout the year include:

- An exhibit at the Gerald R. Ford Museum, "Slavery on Trial: The Long Road to Freedom," opening Friday, December 8, 2006 and running through April 29, 2007.
- The launch of the year's activities begins January 25, 2007, when Rev. Dr. E. Obeng, Vice Chancellor of the University of Cape Coast, Ghana, will be the keynote speaker at 7 p.m., on Grand Valley's Pew Grand Rapids Campus, Loosemore Auditorium, DeVos Center, 401 W. Fulton, Grand Rapids.
- GVSU series of guest lectures on the history of the slave trade, slavery and modern human trafficking featuring speakers Orlando Patterson, Kevin Bales, Darlene Clark Hine and David Brion Davis.
- Organized tour of the Underground Railroad with Veta Tucker, GVSU associate professor of English.
- GVSU Art Gallery exhibition, "Them: Images of Separation," featuring guest lecturer David Pilgrim and items from the Ferris State University Jim Crow Museum of Racist Memorabilia, during February and March.
- A GVSU film festival about Senegal's most admired filmmaker, Ousman Sembene, and screenings of his films "Black Girl" and "Moolaade," March 14-16.

All events are open to the public. For more details about the Atlantic Slave Trade and a complete list of Remembering the Crossings events at area institutions visit [www.gvsu.edu/abolition](http://www.gvsu.edu/abolition) or contact Steeve Buckridge at the GVSU Department of History, (616) 331-3298.

For immediate release

Contact: Michele Coffill, News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

November 21, 2006

**Media opportunity: GVSU students to host international business conference**

GRAND RAPIDS -- Two student organizations have teamed to sponsor an evening seminar that will feature discussions about the cultural challenges that occur when conducting business overseas.

"Discover Business Abroad" will be held on Thursday, November 30, from 6-8 p.m. in the Loosemore Auditorium of the DeVos Center, 401 W. Fulton St. in Grand Rapids. The sponsors are Grand Valley's International Club and Beta Alpha Psi, the national honor society for accounting professionals. Media coverage of the event is welcomed.

Zafar Bazarov, vice president of the International Club, said more than 200 students are expected. "Students will obtain first-hand knowledge about foreign cultures from international students and about business practices from the speakers," he said.

Speakers are Ben Rudolph, Grand Valley professor of marketing, who will discuss overseas business challenges at 6 p.m.; Jeff Grim, from Deloitte, will talk about Japan at 6:35 p.m.; and Paul Marineau, from Crowe Chizek, will discuss business in China at 7:15 p.m.

Food booths with international cuisine and informational booths, including one sponsored by the U.S. Department of Commerce, will also be available. Grand Valley's international students will help facilitate the seminar and offer information about their home countries.

Tickets for the event are free and available at the 20/20 Desk in the Kirkhof Center, Allendale Campus, and Student Services desk in the DeVos Center. For more information, contact Bazarov at (616) 516-2727.

November 21, 2006

For immediate release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services (616) 331-2221

Photo available

### Jenson offers Master Class

The eminent American violinist Dylana Jenson will conduct a Master Class at Grand Valley State University on December 2, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus.

She made her debut at the age of 8 performing the Mendelssohn Concerto. By 13, Jenson had performed with most major orchestras in the United States and traveled to Europe and Latin America for concerts, recitals and recordings. She was awarded the prestigious title of Distinguished Professor of Music at Grand Valley in 2000.

The class is free and open to the public. To register as an active participant call (616) 322-6949 or e-mail [dylana@dylanajenson.com](mailto:dylana@dylanajenson.com).

November 21, 2006

For immediate release

Photo available. Contact Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

### Dancers to perform a holiday classic

A special production of Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker" ballet will feature dancers from the Great Lakes Youth Ballet Company, the Grand Valley State University Dance Ensemble and an 80-piece orchestra from Grand Valley, under the baton of Brian Alhadeff.

The production, directed by Jefferson Baum, will be performed at the Allendale High School Performing Arts Center, 10760 68th Ave., on Saturday, December 9 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Sunday, December 10 at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$5/children and students, \$15/adults. For more information, call (616) 892-5594.

Baum, professor of dance at Grand Valley, created the Great Lakes Youth Ballet last year with colleague Calin Radulescu. They both plan to make an appearance in the show to interact with students on stage.

"Young dancers spend so many hours learning technique and practicing," said Baum. "We wanted to provide more opportunities for them to perform."

November 21, 2006

For immediate release

Photo available. Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

### Local trumpeter to play Carnegie Hall

Jeffrey Lewandowski was 10 years old when he first picked up a trumpet. Now, as a 22-year-old student at Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Michigan, he is preparing for his first performance at New York's Carnegie Hall.

Lewandowski, the son of Janine and John Lewandowski of Livonia, is a graduate of Detroit Catholic Central. He is one of two trumpeters selected by national audition to participate in the 38th New York String Orchestra Seminar conducted by Jaime Laredo. He will perform with the New York String Orchestra in concerts on December 24 and 28.

Success is mounting for Lewandowski, who also received sixth prize in the 2006 National Trumpet Competition College Solo Competition and is a member of the GVSU Trumpet Ensemble, which won first prize in the 2006 National Trumpet Competition Trumpet Ensemble Division. Though now he typically spends six hours a day practicing, he credits his parents with giving him the needed push to keep at it during his middle school and high school years.

A former member of the Livonia Youth Symphony and the Michigan Youth Orchestra, Lewandowski also performed with the All-State Orchestra in 2002 at Interlochen Center for the Arts.

"I'm pretty excited about this opportunity," said Lewandowski. "I've played at Hill Auditorium in Ann Arbor and in the Summer Music Festivals in Texas and Chautauqua, New York, but I've never been to New York City before."

The New York String Orchestra Seminar is one of the country's most acclaimed professional training programs. The project's mission is to introduce the country's most exceptional young musicians to new musical ideas at a formative point in their development. It also provides them the challenge of performing on the stage of Carnegie Hall on a high professional level. The New York String Orchestra Seminar is sponsored by The New School Concerts Department, The New School, the Carnegie Hall Corporation and the Schneider Fund for Young Musicians.

For Immediate Release  
November 27, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

More than \$19,000 raised for Burton Middle School library  
Money raised through Grand Valley "Battle of the Valleys"

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Grand Valley State University's Student Senate has raised more than \$19,300 to help stock a new library soon to be constructed at Burton Middle School in Grand Rapids.

The money was raised through "Battle of the Valleys," a competition between Grand Valley and rival Saginaw Valley State University, to see which university could raise more money for a local charity within one week, said Student Senate's Anne Marie Carson.

Nancy Patterson, chair of the Reading Language Arts Program at Grand Valley, helped select this year's charity. She said there are less than 100 paperback books in the Burton Middle School library. Though the library collection has roughly 7,500 books, most are outdated. She said the size of the library is less than half of what it should be.

"Students use Burton's library all the time," said Patterson. "They are hungry for books, but there simply aren't enough books to feed that hunger. We cannot expect students' literacy rates to improve if we cannot supply them with books to read."

The middle school years are the exact time when students lose interest in reading, said Patterson. The biggest factor in literacy is a well-stocked library.

For more information, contact Nancy Patterson at (616) 331-6226, or Anne Marie Carson at (616) 331-0934, or News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.



December 8, 2006

For Immediate Release

Photo available. Contact Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, [pirkolam@gvsu.edu](mailto:pirkolam@gvsu.edu) or (616) 331-2221.

### Ring in the holidays

Grand Valley State University has planned two holiday carillon performances to celebrate the season and provide fun opportunities.

Julianne Vanden Wyngaard, GVSU carillonneur, will give a free noon holiday performance at the Allendale Campus Cook Carillon on Tuesday, December 19. The tower will be open for tours, refreshments will be served and a drawing will be held for door prizes.

On Sunday, December 24, a free Christmas Eve carillon concert by Vanden Wyngaard will ring out over downtown Grand Rapids from the Beckering Family Carillon on Grand Valley's Pew Campus, West Fulton Street at Mount Vernon Avenue. Performance begins at 9:30 p.m. For more information call (616) 331-2221.

**For Immediate Release  
December 8, 2006**

**Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services**

**NOTE: Title correction for Grand Valley Commencement speaker**

**GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Grand Valley State University Commencement ceremonies will be held at 10 a.m., Saturday, December 9, at the Van Andel Arena in Grand Rapids.**

**Mary L. Kramer, vice president and publisher of Crain Communications, Inc., is the keynote commencement speaker.**

**A career journalist, Kramer worked for daily newspapers for 16 years before joining Crain's Detroit Business in 1989. Kramer earned a bachelor's degree in arts and media from Grand Valley in 1979. She also attended Northwestern University's Newspaper Management program and is a master's candidate in the integrated marketing communication program at Eastern Michigan University.**

**MEDIA SUIT: Skybox 101B at the Van Andel Arena has been reserved for media. The box offers a mult box and an elevated, unobstructed view of the podium and platform.**

**For more information, contact Grand Valley's News and Information Services department at (616) 331-2221.**

December 12, 2006

For immediate release

Contact: GVSU News and Information Services (616) 331-2221

### **GVSU football championship viewing parties scheduled around the country**

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- Grand Valley State University alumni, family, and friends in many parts of the country will gather at viewing parties Saturday to watch the Lakers in the NCAA Division II championship football game.

In Michigan, parties are scheduled at restaurants in Allendale, Grand Rapids, Canton, Lansing, Muskegon and Stevensville. Laker fans will also gather in Austin, Texas; Charleston, S.C.; Chicago; New York City; Phoenix; Minneapolis; Santa Monica, California; Seattle; Tampa, Fla.; and Washington, D.C.

The Lakers meet the Northwest Missouri State University Bearcats at noon in Florence, Ala. The game will be televised by ESPN2 at noon eastern time. An updated listing of locations and contact information for the TV viewing parties can be found online at [www.gvsu.edu/lakerfootball](http://www.gvsu.edu/lakerfootball). The game will be broadcast on radio on the Grand Valley Sports Network (GVSN) throughout Michigan.

"Even if they can't make it to Florence, we want Lakers everywhere to have a chance to see the game and support their team," said Chris Barbee, GVSU director of Alumni Relations. "Grand Valley alumni around Michigan and where our GVSU Alumni Clubs are organized will host viewing parties at local sports bars and restaurants."

Laker spirit items will be distributed to partygoers. Attendees will be responsible for the cost of their own food and beverages. For more information, call the Alumni Relations office at (800) 558-0541.

For Immediate Release  
December 14, 2006

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

#### First GVSU animal control training class receives certificates

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Twenty-two students are the first to complete the Animal Control Officer Training Program at Grand Valley State University. Grand Valley's Criminal Justice Education Center will award the students Certificates of Completion.

The ceremony will be held Friday, December 15, at 6 p.m. in the University Club, located on the first floor of the Richard M. DeVos Center, Pew Grand Rapids Campus, 401 Fulton Street West.

Grand Valley is the first in Michigan, possibly the nation, to provide comprehensive animal control officer training. The program, which was launched in September, includes 135 hours of training in topics ranging from animal identification and behavior to legal procedures and investigative techniques.

To be eligible for employment as an animal control officer in Michigan an individual must successfully complete 100 hours of training accepted by the Michigan Department of Agriculture. Williamson N. Wallace, director of Criminal Justice Training at Grand Valley, said currently there are no standardized training requirements.

"This program has the full support of the MDA," said Wallace. "Graduates have satisfied all training and educational requirements necessary to seek employment as an animal control officer in Michigan."

The program has the endorsement of the Michigan Department of Agriculture, Michigan Association of Animal Control Officers and the Michigan Humane Society.

For more information, contact Williamson N. Wallace, director of Criminal Justice Training, at (616) 331-8515 or GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

For immediate release

December 18, 2006

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221.

## January 2007 Events at Grand Valley State University

### ART EXHIBITION

[Art images available: "Stamp of Approval (Choker)," 2001 by Tara Stephenson and "Vessel #62" by Dennis Nahabetian".]

January 8 – 26

Reconstruction: Recent Work by Dennis Nahabetian and Tara Stephenson

Nationally renowned metalsmiths, Dennis Nahabetian and Tara Stephenson construct objects of uncommon beauty from commonplace materials. Deriving forms from nature, geometry, architecture and archetypes of craft, the artists re-examine our relationships to structures, materials and perceived values of what is precious. Opening reception on Thursday, January 18, 5-7 p.m. Grand Valley State University Art Gallery in the Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. Exhibit and reception are free and open to the public. For more information call the GVSU Art Gallery at (616) 331-2564 or visit [www.gvsu.edu/artgallery](http://www.gvsu.edu/artgallery).

### MUSIC AND DANCE

All events are free and open to the public, unless noted.

[Lael photo available]

1/9 Tuesday

Artist-Faculty Series: Darren Lael, a former accompanist at the North Carolina School of the Arts, is currently the director of music/accompanist for the Dance Program at Grand Valley State University. His program includes Bach's Partita No. 4 in D Major, Mozart's Sonata No. 3, K. 281, Chopin's Barcarolle in F# Major, Op. 60, and Dutilleux's piano sonata. 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484 or visit [www.gvsu.edu/music](http://www.gvsu.edu/music).

[Lockington photo available]

1/16 Tuesday

Arts at Noon Series: The Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra scales its forces to match the warm and intimate acoustics of the Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale Campus. They will present a chamber program of baroque masters led by Music Director David Lockington. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484 or visit [www.gvsu.edu/music](http://www.gvsu.edu/music).

[Verdehr Trio photo available]

1/23 Tuesday

Arts at Noon Series: An acknowledged leader in the field of new music for more than 30 years, the Verdehr Trio has concentrated on molding and defining the personality of the violin-clarinet-piano trio. Ensemble in residence at the School of Music of Michigan State University, the trio is comprised of violinist Walter Verdehr, clarinetist Elsa Ludwig-Verdehr and pianist Silvia Roederer. Noon, Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale Campus. For more information call the Department of Music at (616) 331-3484 or visit [www.gvsu.edu/music](http://www.gvsu.edu/music).

### THEATRE

January 18-21

GVSU Performance Studio Series student-directed production: "Oh Dad, Poor Dad, Momma's Hung You in the Closet and I'm Feeling So Sad." Directed by Kyle Westmaas. Arthur Kopit's classic blurs the perceptions of reality and truth in a play aptly subtitled "A Pseudo-classical Tragic Farce in a Bastard French Tradition." Performances January 18-20, at 7:30 p.m., January 21 matinee at 2 p.m., Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center. \$6 general admission tickets. Presented through Theatre at Grand Valley, School of Communications. For more information call (616) 331-3668 or visit [www.gvsu.edu/theatre](http://www.gvsu.edu/theatre).

## GENERAL EVENTS

1/18 Thursday

Annis Water Resources Institute Environmental Seminars bring a variety of experts to speak to faculty, staff, and the community each month at Grand Valley State University's Lake Michigan Center, 740 W. Shoreline Drive, Muskegon. Call (616) 331-3749 or (231) 728-3601 for a complete schedule, or visit [www.gvsu.edu/awri](http://www.gvsu.edu/awri).

[Photo available]

1/25 Thursday

GVSU Visiting Writers Series: Award-winning writer Michael Martone will read from his fiction and nonfiction at 7:30 p.m. in the Sherman Van Solkema recital hall in the Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. For more information call (616) 331-3601 or visit [www.gvsu.edu/writing](http://www.gvsu.edu/writing).

1/25 Thursday

Launch of Remembering the Crossings: a series of events throughout the year to promote awareness of the year 2007 as the bicentennial of the abolition of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade. This is a collaborative effort between Grand Valley State University, Calvin College, other area colleges and universities, the Gerald R. Ford Museum, Grand Rapids Public Libraries, Grand Rapids Public Schools, and others.

Grand Valley launches the program on January 25, when the Vice Chancellor of Ghana's University of Cape Coast Rev. Dr. E. Obeng will speak at 7 p.m. on "Sankofa: Contemporary Ghana and the Historiography of the Slave Experience," at Grand Valley's Loosemore Auditorium and Regency Room, DeVos Center, 401 W. Fulton, Grand Rapids. For more information call Steeve Buckridge in the GVSU Department of History at (616) 331-8550, or visit [www.gvsu.edu/abolition](http://www.gvsu.edu/abolition).

For immediate release

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services (616) 331-2221

December 20, 2006

### **GVSU conference to focus on positive aspects of aging**

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. -- People over 40 can learn new things and they can perform some intellectual tasks better than younger people.

Dr. Gene Cohen, author and nationally recognized gerontology expert, will discuss how the brain and mental capacity continues to grow throughout life at a conference on aging sponsored by Grand Valley State University in partnership with River Bank Books. After his keynote address, Cohen will sign copies of his book "The Mature Mind: The Positive Power and Creative Potential of the Aging Brain."

The second Art and Science of Aging conference at GVSU, with the theme "Creativity, Growth, and Social Transformation 20/20," is scheduled for February 16, from 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. in the DeVos Center, 401 W. Fulton St., at Grand Valley's Pew Grand Rapids Campus.

Sessions following Cohen's address will focus on the positive aspects of aging, said conference organizer Priscilla Kimboko, dean of Graduate Studies and Grants Administration at GVSU.

"It's exciting to think about the positive messages of aging," Kimboko said. "It's not only how older people consider facts, but how they bring in other experiences to the decision-making process."

The afternoon keynote address will be given by Paul McConaughy, co-chair of the Michigan Vital Aging Think Tank, a partnership of the MSU Extension, Michigan state government agencies, AARP and other organizations. McConaughy will discuss "elder friendly communities" and how the Think Tank has developed a program to assist Michigan communities in achieving that status. An elder friendly community emphasizes wellness aspects like walkability, transportation, and access to health care.

Sessions throughout the day include talks on aging and creativity, adult daughter and mother relationships, leisure and sport activities for older adults, and a statistical look at Kent County's seniors. GVSU students will also present poster sessions on their aging-related research.

The conference is open to the public. Cost to attend is \$15 (\$10 for students and senior citizens). For more details and to register for the conference online, visit [www.gvsu.edu/gsga](http://www.gvsu.edu/gsga), click on "Gerontology Conference."

#### **More on Cohen:**

Cohen is the first director of the Center on Aging, Health and Humanities at George Washington University. He is also founding director of a Washington, D.C. think tank on aging and a past president of the Gerontology Society of America. From 1991-93, he served as acting director of the National Institute on Aging at the National Institutes of Health. Cohen also served as the first chief of the Center on Aging of the National Institute of Mental Health, the first federal center on mental health and aging established in any country. He was awarded the Public Health Service's highest honor (Distinguished Service Medal) for his life work on senior issues.

For Immediate Release

Contact: (616) 560-2548 or (616) 446-3981, GVSU News and Information Services

**Remembering President Gerald R. Ford  
Grand Valley State University experts available for comment**

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Gerald Rudolph Ford, who grew up in Grand Rapids, Michigan, was the longest living U.S. president at 93. A former Michigan congressman and vice president, Ford became the 38th U.S. president on August 9, 1974, after Richard Nixon resigned over the Watergate scandal.

The following experts from Grand Valley State University in Michigan are available to comment on the life and legacy of President Gerald R. Ford.

**MEDIA NOTE:** The university is currently closed. The following numbers given are private phone numbers.

Gleaves Whitney, (616) 460-7955, director of the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies Whitney is a presidential historian and author who served under former Michigan Gov. John Engler for 11 years as chief historian and speech writer. He conducted extensive interviews with President Ford and has written about Ford's experiences in Washington. Whitney served as a commentator for major television networks at the time of Ronald Reagan's death and funeral.

Erika King, (616) 245-1470, professor of political science King has been interviewed by television reporters and major newspaper reporters across the state and country including The New York Times. She is an expert on campaigns and elections, public opinion, American politics and media and politics.

Don Zinman, C: (512) 415-4348, assistant professor of political science Zinman is an expert on American presidents, political parties and American political history. He can also speak to elections and campaigns.

Roger Moiles, (616) 994-9985, instructor of political science Moiles is an expert on elections, public policy and Congress. He is regularly interviewed by television and radio stations in the West Michigan.

Grand Valley State University attracts more than 23,000 students with high quality programs and state-of-the-art facilities. Grand Valley is the comprehensive regional university for the Michigan's second largest metropolitan area and offers 70 undergraduate and 26 graduate degree programs. It has campuses in Allendale, Grand Rapids, and Holland and centers in Muskegon and Traverse City. The university is dedicated to individual student achievement, going beyond the traditional classroom experience, with research opportunities and business partnerships.