

Inside this Edition...



Students submit original artwork, poetry, and short stories.



The Honors College moves to Honors Hall.



Honors hosts 11 alumni on annual Alumni Day.

Meet the New Honors Hall

LUKE MUNCHRATH
Communications

Located in the heart of campus, the new Honors Hall opened to new and returning Honors students in Fall 2016, building a stronger Honors community than ever before. The Honors Hall houses 444 Honors students. Each floor has two media centers featuring large flat screen televisions with connection ports for laptops, gaming systems and DVD/Blu-Ray players. On each floor, there are also two study spaces enclosed for sound reduction and two kitchens with full size refrigerators, ovens and stovetops. On the first floor, the Honors Hall lobby has two walls of floor-to-ceiling bookshelves filled with resources and fascinating books that can be accessed at any time. The Veranda doors can be



Photo courtesy of Kurt Mogonye

opened to the courtyard to bring fresh air into the lobby. Both the Honors College and Honors Residential Living and Learning staff are located in the Hall on either side of the breezeway closest to the science building, offering easy access for any students who might have questions for either office. Many of the Honors core courses have also been incorporated into the building. They are held in two new classrooms equipped

with technology and a beautiful view of campus from the large glass windows that take up an entire wall. The courtyard has grills for cooking and a patio for events, but also offers a location for solitude or outdoor studying.

The Honors Hall has three different room styles: a double occupancy room, a two bedroom suite, and an apartment. The double occupancy space

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The Gift

CIERA KADE
English

Italia: a prize to those with sight and appetite. Common knowledge tells us that Italy is indeed famous for its picturesque views and cuisine, but understanding lacks wholeness without the use of all the senses. A single reading inspires for a moment, but an experience imprints the mind for a lifetime. Therefore, I chose to work hard and save every penny so I could study abroad. As cheesy as it may sound, it was the best decision I ever made.

Before traveling overseas, I had no way of knowing exactly what to expect. But as someone who hunted for buried treasure deep in the woods of their own backyard from dawn till dusk at a very young age, I considered myself



adventurous. So adventurous, in fact, that once onboard the plane en route to a place I would call home for a month, I was far too excited to sleep. While my classmates in the travel group dozed,

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Alumni Day

LUKE MUNCHRATH
Communications

On October 21, 2016, the Honors College held Alumni Day to connect Honors College Alumni with current Honors College students. More than 75 students attended the two forums, during which alumni shared the value of their Honors education. The list of alumni included: Liana Bramlett, Music major, Class of 2003, Owner and Director of Coppel Conservatory; Tom Fleischer, History major, Class of 1989, Owner, Attorney and Mediator at the Law Office of Tom Fleischer; Cassie Honolka, Biology major, Class of 2008, Regional Interpretive Specialist for Texas Parks and Wildlife; Dr. Wayne Keith, Physics major, Class of 1995, Profes-

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2016-2017 Honors Graduates

Jeremy Adler
Aurora Aguiniga
Cindy Aleman
Coy Allen
Keri Applegate
Dakota Baker
Brianna Baker
Hillary Ballard
Randi Barnes
Katlin Bass
Hannah Bekken
Kali Bland
Katie Blanscet
Clayton Boatman
Alexandria Bowen
Stephen Braack
Jodi Brown
Harley Brown
Jennafer Brownlow
Keeley Buhrmester
Cody Burtscher
Brittany Campbell
Irene Casillas
Chelsea Castanuela
Kaysie Clem
Kacie Coker
Caitlin Cole
Katie Coleman
Morgan Cook
Jordan Cox
Taylor Craig
James Crepelle
Krystal Culbertson
Laura Dalton
Ann Davis
Jaquelyn Driscoll
Stephanie Dunlap
Jaci Dunn
Caitlyn Esmond
Claire Evans
Elena Fajardo
Alexandra Farrington
Taylor Fitzgerald
Welsey Fuller
Erin Fuller
Jose Garcia
Marisa Garza
Lindsey Garza

Katherine Geisler
Elizabeth Gilliland
Miranda Greer
Christy Hanson
Helen Harward
Paige Hayes
Jessica Heinsohn
Michael Helbert
Jay Helmer
Courtney Hendley
Billy Heng
Heather Henson
Timanisha Holbert
Abigail Ingram
Noor Jafri
Rebecca Jensen
Kaylee Johnson
Taylor Jones
Raymond Jones
Cheyenne Kelley
Matthew Killingsworth
Jaymie Kingchatchaval
Whitney Kirk
Kendra Latta
Sara Leifeste
Meredith Liddick
Kaitlyn Livingston
Christian Lyon
Jessica Mackey
Kylie Manning
Elyssa Matthews
Kelly Maxwell
Talia McCoy
Brittney McGrew
Zackery McMurry
Vanesa Medrano
John Moerman
Brianna Moratto
Gwen Moravec
Sara Morgan
Miranda Musick
Sarah Newman
Jaynelle Nowell
Delaney Olsen
Hailey Orton
Olivia Pacheco Gutierrez
Paula Parrish
Logan Perazzo

Kaitlin Perkins
Rachel Plunk
Allison Potts
William Radford
Lizet Ramirez
Cara Ranochak
Jordan Raymond
Montgomery Redgate
Jordan Reeder
Mariah Rendeiro
Bailey Ross
Kelley Rumsey
Anita Salazar
Susan Samson
Cameron Serrano
Kaitlin Shrum
Holly Sieperda
Dyllan Sledge
Brittany Sorrells
Evelyn Steffek
Taylor Stevens
Alicia Sutton
Naa-Ayeley Tagoe
Elizabeth Tamez
Tiffany Tanner
Samuel Torres
Austin Turner
McKenzie Turner
Caitlin Tyree
Mary Unnasch
Jessica Vick
Mary Watkins
Rachel Watson
Christina Watson
Briann Wethington
Annie Wilson
Laura Winingham
Paige Woodard
Jacob Woolridge
Caleb Wright
Briseida Yanez

New Presidential Honors Scholars

Eighteen new students were accepted into the Presidential Honors Program during the Fall 2016 and Spring 2017 semesters. Congratulations!



Kilanie
Arpin



Tayler
Berlin



Sarah
Boronkay



Jacob
Browning



Reece
Cary



Emily
Conner



Elizabeth
Fulford



Emily
Gage



Haley
Garner



Haley
Glover



William
Henegar



Trevor
Hollabaugh



Tiffany
Lee



Hannah
Mabry



Issac
Stilwell



Jessica
Vaughn



Victoria
Villasenor



Kayla
White

Honors at the Ballet

MARISSA BADILLO

Political Science, Legal Studies

On October 8th, 2016, the Texas Ballet Theater performed "Carmen" and the "Danse á Grande Vitesse" at Bass Performance Hall in Fort Worth. The Texas Ballet Theater is the resident company that typically performs at Bass Hall. Both performances were works of magic on the stage in their own way.

The sultry suite about lust and passion, known as "Carmen" was originally composed by Georges Bizet. The ballet performed at Bass Hall was adapted and arranged by Martin Yates, and was choreographed by Carlos Acosta. The Ballet is set in 19th century Spain, and follows the troubles of the female lead known as Carmen, who is a feisty and mischievous woman. She gets herself into a pickle when she is caught fighting at a tobacco bar. A young soldier Don José is ordered to escort Carmen away and lock her up. However, through her manipulative art and skill, Carmen is able to seduce Don José, who lets her go free and they develop feelings. Free-spirited Carmen cannot be tied down and falls for toreador Escamillo. When Don José sees this, he is enraged and full of anger and passion. He kills Carmen and Escamillo. This ballet was full of deceit, passion, and lust, and the performers matched the score with striking sharp movements.

Christopher Wheeldon choreographed a mystifying performance to the score of "Danse á Grande Vitesse" composed by Michael Nyman. This performance was dedicated to movement. As the score builds and constantly moves, it gives the perception of moving through space and time. Christopher Wheeldon choreographed a beautiful masterpiece of perfectly timed and uniform execution.

The overall experience was captivating as each performer graced the stage with finesse. The Texas Ballet Theater company did a wonderful job.

Honors Introduces Intern2Learn

HANNAH MABRY

Spanish/Communications

The Intern 2 Learn program at Tarleton is an opportunity for students to gain valuable work experience that builds their resumes and teaches them about their field. The supervisors are understanding of the demands of school and are willing to be flexible with student's schedules. The interns in the Honors College Office are Katlin Bass, Luke Munchrath, and Hannah Mabry. The Honors Internship has taught them about how to answer the front desk phone and help prospective students and others who call to inquire about the Honors College. This skill, phone etiquette, is one that will be useful in other aspects of life beyond this internship. This semester, the interns have spent a lot of time filling up the book shelves

in the Honors College Lobby. Katlin, a senior in the Presidential Honors Program, created a graph and measured the shelves so they could be filled with the correct number of books. Hannah, a freshman and the newest intern for the Honors College, has an internship focused on social media, so she has been able to learn about programs to create graphics for Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram. Luke, a sophomore who is very interested in photography, captures the majority of the photos from the various events hosted by the Honors College. Although there are certain jobs that all of the interns perform, their position is specific to their talents and interests. The Intern 2 Learn program has given these students the opportunity to learn about time management and work ethic while pursuing school and a social life. The benefits to the interns are evident now, but the skills they are learning will continue to help them after graduation.

ALUMNI

Continued from page 1
sor of Physics at McMurry University; Garrett Rosser, Biomedical Science major, Class of 2007, Ideal Impact Inc.; Julie Allen, Nursing major, Class of 2004, pursuing Nursing Education graduate studies at the University of Arkansas; Dr. Jason Mogonye, Animal Biology major, Class of 2002, Assistant Director for JPS Sports Medicine Fellowship, Team Physician for TCU and

Justin Rodeo Sports Medicine; and Dr. Heather Wright, Animal Science major, Class of 1997, President and Doctor at Wright Chiropractic Health Center. Each alumnus explained what Honors meant to them and how it has impacted their further studies in life. The day was concluded by a networking reception where students were able to meet and connect with alumni.



THE GIFT

Continued from page 1

I watched the sun gracefully rise and fall in the sky. I watched in anticipation as the wing of our plane grazed every cloud in passing, the ocean stirring miles below.

We arrived at the center of Urbino, Italy while the moon and stars shone above our heads. It seemed only moments later that a soft light peeked through my window, and my first day in a new country began. After passing a street corner and a roundabout, we were met with a clearing set with an astounding view. Sunlight shone through lingering morning mist over dense rolling hills and valleys directly in front of us. In the distance sat none other than a perfect palace as if directly from a storybook. Little did we know that we would later walk up the steps alongside that same palace on our route to classes each morning.

In truth, I had worried about being shunned as an American outsider. The Italians, though, were so welcoming. They wanted us to feel at home there. If you visit a local shop more than once, whether it be for food or shopping, they will instantly recognize you as a regular. I will always remember Mario and his cafe, waving and saying "Ciao ragazzi!" or "Buongiorno!" as we walked past on the way to school. If we happened to stop by for breakfast, Mario made it his



mission to teach us the Italian words for ordering food or the Italian name for a common noun. I would also visit a sandwich shop just down the street from the university on my lunch break.

This shop, run by a husband and wife, was perfect for a quick stop, and they soon memorized my meal order exactly. They even began to greet me by name, and I felt more like a family member at the end of the month rather than a customer.

Outside of Urbino, even as far away as Rome and Venice, I'd learned how to rely on myself and my instincts. Navigating unknown roads, railways, metro stations, and airports taught me how to work with my travel companions, and I formed strong friendships with most of them which continue to grow today. Our professors taught us the language, gave us insight into works of art and ancient architecture, contemplated beside the works of their famous poets and authors, and it all left us to feel like we were Italians ourselves. It was truly a gift to learn another culture in person through each day instead of skimming through pictures in a book and daydreaming. Leaving Italy was certainly more difficult than I imagined. On the other hand, since the memories I made there follow me everywhere I go, I guess I never completely left Italy after all.

Photos courtesy of Ciera Kade

New Aretē Editor

STAFF

Honors College

In August 2016, the Honors College hired on a new student Intern for Recruitment and External Relations, Luke Munchrath (pictured.) Luke is a Communications major with a Wildlife Science minor from Euless, Texas, an avid outdoorsman, and a photographer.



Unless otherwise noted, all photos printed in this Spring 2017 Aretē were provided by Luke, and taken throughout the Fall 2016 and Spring 2017 semesters.

Luke was named Editor of Aretē in the Fall. As editor, he works as a liaison between the student body and this newsletter, inviting students to submit original work and selecting students to write about their unique experiences provided by the Honors College.

This is the first issue of Aretē since Fall 2010. Aretē will continue to be printed annually by the Honors College.

Scholar Society

STORMY CZUPIL

Communications

Tarleton Scholar Society is a student-led organization dedicated to the promotion of academic excellence, enrichment of student lives, and an active voice of intellect on the Tarleton campus. Our focus this year is to get more involved on campus and in the community. We currently have 42 members and are always welcoming more. For more information, you can email stormy.czupil@go.tarleton.edu to contact the society's president, Stormy Czupil.

HONORS HALL

Continued from page 1

offers mid-range pricing compared to the rest of campus, with two people sharing a room, each getting their own side. The large room offers flexibility for expression, letting the students living there have the option to decide the layout of their room. The two bedroom suite offers private rooms with full-size beds, and a furnished living room. This larger room can offer seclusion for roommates for times of studying or downtime. The apartment is usually reserved for upperclassmen. It is a two-bedroom apartment with full-size beds. The apartments are the only bed spaces with their own full kitchens, full-size refrigerators, and washers and dryers. Regardless of what room style is chosen, students are in the center of campus, meaning they are closer to the campus community and academic resources.

The inclusion of upperclassmen in the Honors Residence Hall helps build community in the Honors College. With upperclassmen just down the hall from their freshman peers, they are able to offer their advice and help the less experienced students. The Honors Residential Living and Learning (RL&L) staff works hard to offer a variety of community building activities for the residents. Residential Leaders (RLs) plan many events, such as a Thursday study session in the Honors lobby where students can come together to collaborate and study. Many Honors Hall RLs have organized hall activities like painting coffee mugs or door blocks with their residents, cooking dinners, and hosting movie nights to help strengthen the community.

The new Honors Hall is a monumental step in the right direction for the Honors community. RL&L and the Honors College now work more easily together in a more accessible location. With further improvements coming, it is exciting to see the future possibilities for this facility. It will continue to serve as an excellent opportunity for many Honors students to come.



Spotlight on Tova Weisberg

LUKE MUNCHRATH
Communications

Tova Weisberg is a Presidential Honors Scholar from Northridge, California and is a double major in Wildlife Biology and Wildlife Science with aspirations of becoming an exotic animal trainer or a zoo keeper/conservationist. She is involved as a Residential Leader and is a member of RHA and the Wildlife Society. She decided to become an RL because she loves connecting people and being a part of a big family. She chose Tarleton because of the Wildlife programs that Tarleton offers, Presidential Honors Program, and to gain more independence from her family, though she does miss them dearly. When asked if she had a message to incoming freshman she said "Don't be afraid to ask for help, there are people everywhere at Tarleton that go out of their way to help others". After she finishes her time at Tarleton State University she hopes to complete certificate programs for more experience, help with basic training of animals, and start a family.

Spotlight on Caleb Wright

LUKE MUNCHRATH
Communications

Caleb Wright is senior from Llano, TX studying English with a double minor in History and Geology. He chose his minors to have a more well-rounded education. After graduating in May, he plans on going into the Navy for four years, then pursuing a Master's and a Doctorate in Rhetoric Studies. At some point when the time is right, he hopes to marry and have children. His advice to current students is: "Do not become obsessed with a subject. Become obsessed with learning. Once this is done, all subjects will become infinitely more valuable as seemingly unrelated things begin to contribute to each other, and to a collective understanding of the world."

The Journey of 6919 Miles

JEFFERY NWIDOBIE
Engineering Physics

It was a cold, dark night. Something must have offended the skies as they cried incessantly. The cloud rumbled and I went to cuddle up next to my mom. The candle light flickered in the distance as we sat listening to the raindrops tap on the aluminum roof. As I lay curled on the couch, I could feel the loving gaze of my beautiful mother. I looked at her dimly lit face and wondered, 'What is she thinking about?' She says to me, 'I would be the happiest mother when you go back to America.' I was 7 and puzzled. Go back? I don't even remember being there; what was this woman talking about? My mother gently lay my tiny head on the couch as she got up. I sat up, more inquisitive than ever; I needed answers. I yell, 'Mom!' She emerges from her room with a small book in her left hand.

'What is that?' I ask.

She opens the passport and points to the picture of me as a baby and says, 'That's you, you're American.' As the rain water dripped through the ceil-

ing and into a bucket, I thought aloud, 'America?' Surely they don't have leaking roofs over there.

Coming to America was neither going to be easy nor cheap. I had to get into an American university if I was to stand any chance of convincing my dad to send his 16 year old son to America unaided. I took the SAT which left many of my friends perplexed.

'Why are you paying for a test you won't use?' Caleb asked.

'I'm going to America.'

The room was silent for about a second before bursting into laughter.

'You don't have America money', Charles retorted.

That statement was painfully close to the truth. I did not have 'America money' but I did have will. As the famous proverb goes, 'Where there's a will, there's a way.' I was going to find a way.

The results came in and they were promising. I sent my SAT scores to several schools. And then I waited... and waited...and waited some more. six months passed before I finally got a reply. Now, only one obstacle stood between me and my American dream, money. I visited some of my parents' richer friends to source some funds for

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2016-17 Honors College Ambassadors

In Fall 2015, a group of students was established to represent the Honors College at various social functions. The Honors College Ambassadors help out with socials, graduation receptions, alumni events, and more. This Spring, two of our original ambassadors will graduate - Katlin Bass and Elizabeth Gilliland. We also welcome three new ambassadors - Luke Munchrath, Hannah Mabry, and Reece Cary.



Katlin Bass (L), Senior Math major from Midlothian and Elizabeth Gilliland (R), Senior Biomedical Science major from Canyon.



Reece Cary
Accounting
Cisco



Aaron Estes
Political Sci.
Alvarado



Hannah Mabry
Spanish/Coms
Stephenville



Luke Munchrath
Communications
Eules



Casey Sutton
Mathematics
Katy



Miranda Stotz
Animal Sci.
Skiatook, OK

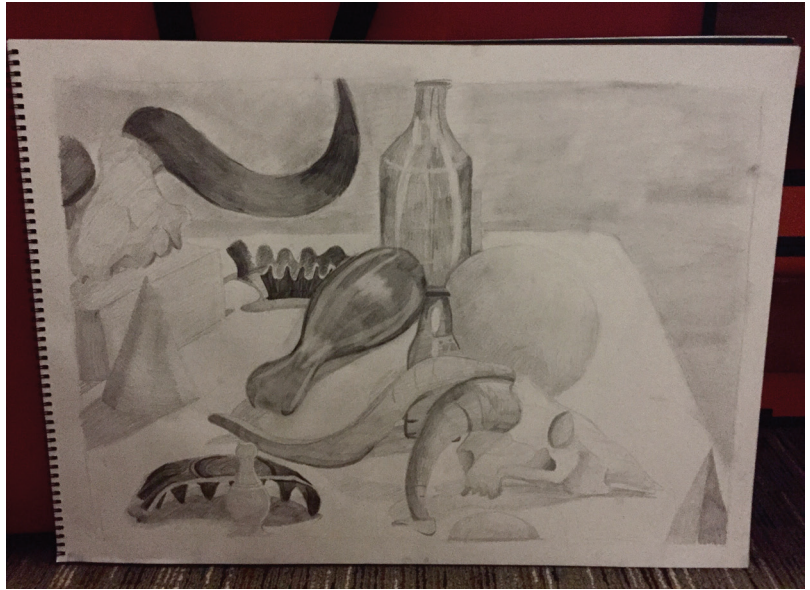
6919 MILES

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my journey. I raised a decent amount but was still some way short. Time was running out. Reluctantly, I met with my father. He never supported my American dream. What made me think he was going to oblige my request? I had all my documents and my heart in my hands as I approached him. When I was done with my presentation, my dad sat up. I feared for the worst. Was he about to squash my dream? My heart was racing around my chest, my head was throbbing, my knees felt as though they might buckle under the tension in the room. With his deep, powerful voice, he asks, 'You put this together?' My stiff neck nodded timidly. 'When do you plan on leaving?' For a moment, I was confused. Did he just ask what I think he did? 'In 2 weeks.' 'Well, start packing your bags, you don't want to miss your flight.' I hugged the man who brought me into this world ever so tightly. As I let go, I whispered in his right ear, 'I won't let you down.'

The flight from Port Harcourt, Nigeria to Houston was a particularly long one. For 12 hours, I couldn't sleep. I was still coming to terms with the reality that I would soon be back to where it all began. I was finally here. America was just the way it looked in the movies. As I looked up at the bright American sky, I said almost silently, 'I made it' before proceeding to get my American sleep. As I crept under the blanket, I thought to myself, 'This is the American dream.'

This original short story was submitted to the Aretē for publishing by the author.



Above: Raigan Swaim, Music

Right: Hannah Rivera, Kinesiology

Below: Catherine Arida, Wildlife Science

Bottom: Kaitlyn Ward, Ag Business



flower
delicate creation
enhancing, delighting
magnificent display of grace
daughter

- Michael Helbert,
Interdisciplinary Studies





TARLETON
STATE UNIVERSITY
Honors College

You Are Invited!

on April 10, 2017
the Honors College will host
a Grand Opening of the new
Honors Hall from
1:00-3:00PM

Please join us in celebrating!

RSVP with Erica Laborde at
laborde@tarleton.edu or
(254) 918-7624

Aretē

Aretē is the classical Greek word for “excellence” or “virtue.”

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Aretē

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