

FORUM

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

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Grand Valley mourns supporter Helen DeVos

The Grand Valley community is mourning the death of Helen DeVos, one of the university's most steadfast supporters. The wife of Amway co-founder Rich DeVos died on October 18 at age 90.

Helen DeVos was a dedicated philanthropist whose lifetime of giving has made a significant impact on West Michigan and beyond.

Throughout her lifetime, Helen provided exceptional leadership and service to GVSU and the Grand Valley University Foundation where she most recently served as a member of the Advisory Cabinet.

"Helen had a deep passion for the transformative power of education," said President Thomas J. Haas. "As a lifelong

learner, she was a tremendous role model for our students and everyone she knew. Our hearts go out to Rich and the entire DeVos family."

Grand Valley honored Helen with the naming of the Helen DeVos Presidential Scholarship, an award granted to students who show promise in music and the arts. The university also granted



Helen DeVos

her an honorary Doctor of Arts degree in 2010. She was recognized as a Grand Steward of the university in 2011, and was inducted into the university's Hall of Fame with an Enrichment Award in 2014.

As a special tribute to Helen and her support for the university, the carillon towers will have a blue "Laker Light" that will last through the funeral and a few days afterwards. The Laker Light will shine in honor of Helen and will allow community members to remember her in their own personal ways.

The GVSU flag will be at half-staff for the next two weeks to honor her.

ACROSS CAMPUS

Open enrollment begins

The 2018 Benefits Open Enrollment registration begins at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, October 24, and ends at 5 p.m. on November 8.

The open enrollment period is an opportunity to examine benefit options. Visit gvsu.edu/healthwellness and click on "2018 Open Enrollment" to review options.

New this year, faculty and staff members can sign up for the Healthy Choices wellness program during enrollment. Benefits staff members are available for one-on-one appointments, visit the website for dates and locations.

New office aids pre-college initiatives

A new campus office, Pathways to College, has opened with goals to provide pre-college programming to underrepresented middle and high school students and inspire them to enroll in college.

Jose Contreras, a sophomore majoring in business, summarized the office's goals differently. "It's providing the support to help you to go from being led to being a leader," he said.

Contreras, from Holland, is one example how the new office works. He began participating in the Wade H. McCree Jr. Incentive Program through Grand Valley's Office of Multicultural Affairs as an eighth-grade student. The

statewide program hosts workshops on college preparedness for students in eighth-12th grade.

Contreras and his family moved to Holland from Mexico when he was 6; one of his middle school teachers suggested he apply to the McCree program.

"Once we got into high school, we had to maintain a certain GPA to remain in the program," he said. "There were overnight stays at Grand Valley, which made me feel comfortable on campus."

When he arrived at Grand Valley in 2016 as a first-year student, Contreras participated in Laker Familia, an orientation to welcome Latino students and their families to campus. In August, he was a Laker Familia mentor, helping others with their transition to campus life.

Pathways to College houses the McCree program and Michigan GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs). Pathways Director Bobby Springer said the new office will expand on pre-college preparedness work and engage with schools within and outside of West Michigan.

"These programs definitely help school counselors and teachers who can't get to everyone," Springer said. "Without these programs, there would be holes and gaps and students wouldn't get the information they need."



Nyasia Montgomery, second from right, was among six students selected to attend a GEAR UP conference in California. Pathways to College, a new campus office, provides pre-college programming to students like Montgomery.

Nyasia Montgomery, a first-year student from Grand Rapids, started in the GEAR UP program as a seventh-grader at Harrison Park Middle School and continued while she attended Union High School.

"I didn't want to go to college but belonging to GEAR UP changed my viewpoint," Montgomery said. "I was able to get the feel of college, to know how to schedule classes and to understand financial aid. It made me actually want to go, it opened up my mind."

Montgomery and other GEAR UP participants took summer trips throughout high school that involved a mix of sightseeing and touring

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ACROSS CAMPUS

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colleges. In July, she was one of six students from Grand Rapids Public Schools selected to travel to California for the national GEAR UP conference.

Enrolling at Grand Valley, she said, was a relatively easy decision. "I felt connected with the campus, felt at home here. I knew during my junior year that I wanted to come to Grand Valley," Montgomery said.

Housed in the Division of Inclusion and Equity, the Pathways to College website is gvsu.edu/pathways.

Pipeline programs help demand of health care jobs

Partnerships and pipeline programs are keys to ensuring the rising demand of health care jobs will be filled, according to panelists speaking at a Health Forum of West Michigan event.

"Health Care Talent Pipeline" was held October 6 at the DeVos Center. Jean Nagelkerk, vice provost for Health, moderated the event and said the industry is expected to grow by more than 4.1 million jobs by 2022.

Spectrum Health hired more than 7,000 people last year, according to Pam Ries, senior vice president and chief human resources officer. She said the area's largest health care system continues to build its internal pipeline of candidates by reaching into the K-12 school system.

Ries said Spectrum Health employees participate in a mentor program at Innovation Central High School in Grand Rapids, host internship and apprenticeship programs and have a longstanding scholarship fund at Grand Rapids Community College.



From left are Wanda Stokes, Maria Cimitile, Pam Ries, Laurie Chesley, Norman Beauchamp and Jean Nagelkerk.

GRCC Provost Laurie Chesley said the college is poised to train and educate students for the health care industry by being responsive to employer needs and offering programs in collaboration with other institutions.

Chesley cited the magnetic resonance imaging program, a collaborative effort among GRCC, Grand Valley and four other community colleges, as an example.

"Partnerships are so important in advancing the pipeline, and it helps us as a college be relevant and be responsive," she said.

Maria Cimitile, provost and executive vice president for Academic and Student Affairs at Grand Valley, said advisory boards and needs assessments help the university stay current with its health professions offering.

Dr. Norman Beauchamp, dean of the Michigan State University College of Human Medicine, and Wanda Stokes, director of the Talent Investment Agency, also spoke.

Health Forum of West Michigan events are held monthly, hosted by the Office of the Vice Provost for Health; view the schedule online at gvsu.edu/vphealth.

Hundreds of items collected during Food 4 Fines program

Grand Valley's student food pantry, Replenish, is well stocked thanks to donations collected during Food 4 Fines, a program that allowed people to donate items to the pantry toward payment for parking citations.

More than 540 food items were collected during the program. From September 25-October 6, nearly 100 people donated high-demand items to the pantry, which serves students who face financial struggles that affect their access to food.

Lisa Garringer, Parking Systems Managing Operations assistant, said some people donated more items than was necessary to cover the cost of their citation.

"It was an amazing two weeks of seeing Lakers looking out for Lakers," Garringer said. "My focus has been on creating more positive interactions between Parking Services and the campus community."

"This program was a great opportunity to do just that, and it directly impacted our students who are financially challenged."

Garringer learned of similar programs while attending a conference in 2014, and Olivia Caton, security staff for Parking Services, wrote a proposal for a program before she graduated in 2016 with a degree in criminal justice.

They planned the program with Sharalle

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CLAS to welcome alumni back to campus

Alumni from 13 departments within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will visit Grand Valley to share their post-graduation Laker Effects with the campus community.

Below is a list of CLAS Distinguished Alumni-in-Residence who will participate in presentations and lectures October 26-27.

- Timothy Zeeb, '02, managing partner of Alpha Azalea LLC (international relations)
- Aaron Park, '03, aquatic biologist (Annis Water Resources Institute)
- Justin Sjogren, '06, '08, manager of biostatistics (statistics)
- Nathan Schout, '11, physical education and health teacher at Bostrom Alternative High School (movement science)
- Michael Brower, '07, co-founder and director of sales and marketing for Pigeon Hill Brewing Company (philosophy)

- Angela Mrozinski, '04, outreach and events director for Connecticut River Conservancy (biology)

- Holly Chadwick, '01, associate director for refugee processing for Church World Service (anthropology)

- Robert Bodziak, '97, geophysicist at Geophysical Technology (geology)

- Joshua Duram, '12, U.S. history and biology teacher at Coopersville High School (history)

- David Jagusch, '09, instructional specialist and teacher for Detroit Public Schools (English)

- Brittlund DeKorver, '07, assistant professor of chemistry at Grand Valley (chemistry)

- Adam Cuthbert, '10, composer and sound designer (music, theater and dance)

- April Conant, '09, professional archivist (Classics)

Theater space dedicated for vocalist

The Linn Maxwell Keller Black Box Theatre is providing students and faculty in the performing arts with opportunities to tackle new types of productions.

The campus community celebrated the formal dedication of the Keller Theatre, located in the Thomas J. and Marcia J. Haas Center for Performing Arts, on October 17.

To honor Linn's memory, the Keller family established the Linn Maxwell Keller Professional Vocalist Experience Endowment at Grand Valley in 2017.

The Keller Theatre was named in appreciation for their generosity.



Photo by Amanda Pitts

President Thomas J. Haas welcomes Fred Keller to the podium at the dedication.

WHAT'S AHEAD

Campus community to celebrate founders

On October 25, the Grand Valley community will celebrate the 282 individuals who came together nearly 60 years ago to start the vision for Grand Valley.

Founders Day began in 2012 with the unveiling of an outdoor statue near the Mary Idema Pew Library of Bill Seidman, recognized as the founder of Grand Valley. An annual celebration has been held each year on October 25, commemorating the date Seidman organized a group effort to raise the \$1 million required to receive legislative support to build a four-year college in the Grand Rapids area.

Cupcakes will be handed out from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Cook Carillon Tower, and students will create a large, "GV" flag display in two locations: Zumberge Pond on the Allendale Campus and at the DeVos Center courtyard on the Pew Grand Rapids Campus.

The annual celebration is organized by the Laker Traditions Team in Student Life. For more information, visit gvsu.edu/foundersday.

Fall Arts Celebration will spotlight award-winning poets

One of the wonders of poetry is the potential for the intricacies of ordinary life to be described in extraordinary ways.

Patricia Clark, professor and chair of writing, said this is exactly what audiences can expect to hear during the Fall Arts Celebration poetry night with authors Jane Hirshfield and Dan Gerber.

"An Evening of Poetry and Conversation with Jane Hirshfield and Dan Gerber" will take place Thursday, October 26, at 7:30 p.m., at the Eberhard Center. The reading will be followed by a reception and book signing.

Hirshfield has penned many collections of poetry and prose, including *The Beauty, Come Thief*, *The Lives of the Heart*, *The October Palace* and *Given Sugar, Given Salt*. Her book, *After*, was shortlisted for England's T.S. Eliot Prize and named a "Best Book of 2006" by the three publications.

Gerber, a native of Fremont, is the author of a dozen books of poetry, fiction and essays. His most recent books include *Particles: New & Selected Poems* and *Sailing through Cassiopeia*. His work has received *ForeWord Magazine's* Gold Medal Award, a Mark Twain Award for distinguished contribution to Midwest literature, a Michigan Author Award and a Michigan Notable Book Award.

"Dan studies what's at hand: an old dog, a fox he glimpses on a walk, a starry night, or a cabin in the woods," Clark said. "Often, he, like Jane, begins a poem with something near at hand and then uses that to find a deeper significance, perhaps about the past, family or life."

For more information about Fall Arts Celebration, visit gvsu.edu/fallarts.



Jane Hirshfield



Dan Gerber

Reception planned for Open Access Week

Grand Valley is a part of a global movement to highlight the importance of making scholarly information available to everyone around the world, such as through Open Educational Resources (OER).

The creation of such open-access learning materials is celebrated during International Open Access Week, which will take place October 23-29.

University Libraries will host a reception to recognize and celebrate the faculty who publish open access research, and create and use OER. The event will take place Friday, October 27, from 9-10:30 a.m. in the Seidman House.

For more information about Open Access Week, contact Matt Ruen, University Libraries scholarly communications outreach coordinator, at ruenm@gvsu.edu.

Homecoming offers variety of events

Homecoming weekend offers a full slate of activities for Laker fans.

With the theme, "Halloween Tricks, Laker Treats," the weekend begins Friday, October 27, with the annual Charles H. Irwin Athletic Hall of Fame Dinner and Ceremony beginning at 5:45 p.m. with a reception in the Kirkhof Center. Register online at gvsu.edu/homecoming.

Events on Saturday, October 28, begin with a 5K Run/Walk at 10 a.m. at the Kelly Family Sports Center. Registration details are online at gvsu.edu/homecoming; the price includes breakfast after the event. Proceeds from the event will benefit Grand Valley's cross country and track and field programs.

The Laker football team will host the Northern Michigan Wildcats at 4 p.m., an alumni tailgate and beer garden near the outdoor basketball courts precedes the game, beginning at 1 p.m.

Other events are highlighted below:

- Gayle R. Davis Center for Women and Gender Equity Homecoming Celebration: October 27, The B.O.B., 20 Monroe Ave. NW in Grand Rapids; tickets are \$15 or \$20 at the door, proceeds support the center. Register online at gvsu.edu/homecoming.
- Tricks and Treats at University Libraries: October 28, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., events include a best pumpkin contest, tours of the Technology Showcase and a trivia game.

New Music Ensemble to perform 'homegrown' compositions

Grand Valley's award-winning New Music Ensemble has released a new CD, comprised of pieces composed by three alumni of the program.

The release of the ensemble's fourth commercial CD, "Return," will be celebrated on Friday, October 27, with a concert from 7:30-9 p.m. in the Thomas J. and Marcia J. Haas Center for Performing Arts, Louis Armstrong Theatre.

The album's three composers, Adam Cuthbert, '10, Matthew Finch, '15, and Daniel Rhodé, '12, will be in attendance, and Cuthbert will open the show with a special performance. An opportunity to meet the composers and the

members of the New Music Ensemble will take place following the concert. The event is free and open to the public.

Bill Ryan, New Music Ensemble director, said this project fulfills his longtime goal of producing a "100 percent homegrown project."

"This recording represents everything I envisioned when I started the New Music Ensemble — an entire album composed by three outstanding creative thinkers that came through our program, enthusiastically performed and recorded by current students," said Ryan.

"Return" is available for purchase on Amazon and iTunes. The CD will be released on the Innova label, and the album was mastered by Grammy Award winner Randy Merrill at Sterling Sound, whose other clients include Lady Gaga, Adele and Katy Perry.

For more information about the New Music Ensemble, visit newmusicensemble.org.

Week of October 30 events:

Symposium will highlight area impact of immigrants

The fourth annual Padnos/Sarosik Civil Discourse Symposium will focus on immigrants and refugees, featuring panelists who are deeply engaged with those populations.

"Immigrants and Refugees: Celebrating Our Diversity" is set for November 2 at the Eberhard Center from 5-8 p.m., a light dinner will be served. It is free and open to the public; RSVP online at gvsu.edu/civildiscourse/.

Jack Mangala, the current Padnos/Sarosik endowed professor of civil discourse, said the symposium will be an extension of his two-year term as endowed professor, studying the benefits and challenges of immigration and the impact on local communities.

Panelists are Mladjo Ivanovic, visiting professor of philosophy at Grand Valley; Steffanie Rosalez, program director for Grandville Avenue of Arts and Humanities; and Kristine Van Noord, program manager for Bethany Christian Services' refugee adult and family programs.

The next endowed professor of civil discourse will be announced at the event.

Seminar focus is inclusive communities

A South Asian American activist will lead a one-day seminar November 3 that focuses on creating inclusive classrooms, communities and campus environments.

Deepa Iyer, senior fellow at the Center for Social Inclusion in New York City, will lead conversations that explore the effects of bias, structural racism and Islamophobia, as well as best practices that can create inclusive and safe communities. The seminar, hosted by the University Counseling Center, will take place from 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room.

The cost to attend is \$50 for faculty, staff members and students; \$99 for community members. Lunch is provided. Register by October 27 at gvsu.edu/counsel/mcseminar.

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FACULTY AND STAFF SKETCHES

IN THE NEWS

Joel Stillerman, professor of sociology, was interviewed by *CKGSB Knowledge* for a story about consumer behavior.

Grand Rapids Business Journal named the following people in its "40 Under 40" list: **Jesse Bernal**, vice president for Inclusion and Equity; **Heather Duffy**, major gifts coordinator for WGVU; and **Adam Russo**, adjunct professor of communications.

Human trafficking presentation

Joy Washburn, associate professor of nursing, at right, leads a presentation in September, "Recognizing and Responding to Victims of Human Trafficking in the Health Care Environment: What You Need to Know," for 200 registered nurses in the L. William Seidman Center. Nurses were offered continuing education credit, and the Kirkhof College of Nursing Alumni Association reception followed the presentation.



SKETCHES

Gamal Gasim, associate professor of area and global studies, wrote articles, "Yemen: Is Saleh's alliance with the Houthis Breakable?" published in *AlJazeera*, and "The 40-Year-Old Assassination Mystery of Yemen's President Al-Hamdi," published in *Huffington Post*.

Melissa Peraino, educational outreach director for the Center for Adult and Continuing Studies, was a co-author of a guest blog, "Extending the Reach of Michigan's Public Universities through Continuing Education," for the Michigan Association of State Universities.

Sylvia Simons, adjunct professor of nursing, and a graduate student wrote an article, "Potential Dangers of E-Cigs for Teens and Young Adults," published in the *Grand Rapids Press*.

Stephen Rowe, professor of philosophy, gave a presentation, "Relatedness as Locus of Awakening," at the First International Symposium on Interality at Grand Valley. He also wrote two articles: "Liberal Education as Cornerstone of Democracy," published in *American Journal of Economics and Sociology*, and "Liberal Education as Vital Interdependence," published in *Social Justice, Inner Work & Contemplative Practice*.

William Neal, emeritus professor of geology, was a co-author of articles, "Why Coastal Regulations Fail," published in *Ocean & Coastal Management*, and "Managed Retreat," published in *Encyclopedia of Coastal Science*, and "Colombia's Tayrona National Natural Park – A Caribbean Coast Gem," published by Coastalcare.org.

Beth Martin, head of professional programs for University Libraries, gave a presentation, "Removing Your Mask: Impostor Phenomenon Among Library Leaders," at the Identity, Agency, and Culture in Academic Libraries Conference held at the University of Southern California.

Chemistry faculty members **Shannon Biros**, **John Bender**, **David Leonard**, **Felix Ngassa** and **Randy Winchester**, with colleagues from GRCC and Aquinas College, received a \$289,990 grant from the National Science Foundation's Major Research Instrumentation program to purchase a new NMR spectrometer that will be used for research and training at the three institutions.

Genevieve Elrod, assistant professor of nursing, gave a presentation, "A Slam Dunk in the Hybrid Classroom: Collaboration, Competition, and Appeal," at the Lilly Conference in Traverse City.

Bopi Biddanda, professor of water resources Institute, was a co-author of an article, "Great Lakes: Science Can Keep Them Great," published in the *Journal of Great Lakes Research*.

Evelyn Clingerman, executive director of the Bonnie Wesorick Center for Health Care Transformation, was invited as a co-chair of the Nursing Academy of the National Academies of Practice, to represent NAP at the National EBP Expert Forum in Columbus, Ohio.

WHAT'S AHEAD

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Jewish studies scholar to give presentation

A Jewish studies scholar and University of Michigan visiting faculty member will give a presentation at Grand Valley about the concepts of gender during the Jewish creation story.

Rabbi Sarra Lev, associate professor and chair of Rabbinic literature at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in Philadelphia, will present "How Many Genders Were Present at the Creation Story in Genesis 1 and 2?" on November 6, at noon at the Kirkhof Center, room 2263. The event is hosted by the Religious Studies department.

Lev is serving the current academic year as the visiting Padnos professor at the U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies, a professorship sponsored by the Louis and Helen Padnos family.

For more information, contact Sheldon Kopperl, professor of liberal studies and biomedical sciences at kopperls@gvsu.edu.

Dancers to perform in the 'vertical realm'

Fall Arts Celebration will transcend the traditional dance floor and fly into the sky when Aerial Dance Chicago (ADC) presents a new world of athleticism coupled with an elegant showcase of dancing in the air.

"Celebrating Originality: Defying Gravity with Aerial Dance Chicago" will take place November 6, at 7:30 p.m., in the Thomas J. and Marcia J. Center for Performing Arts, Louis Armstrong Theatre.

A pioneer and international leader in aerial dance, ADC is dedicated to presenting original choreography and performance in the field. The ensemble launches itself into the creative possibilities found in a vertical realm.

During the company's Fall Arts Celebration performance, ADC will incorporate a variety of apparatus, including suspended fabrics, bungee cords, hoops, swings and ropes. Founded in 1999, ADC is currently the only dance company in the Chicago region dedicated to choreography and performance in the field of aerial dance.

For more information about Fall Arts Celebration, visit gvsu.edu/fallarts.



Aerial Dance Chicago will perform November 6 in the Louis Armstrong Theatre.

ACROSS CAMPUS

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Arnold, associate director of the Gayle R. Davis Center for Women and Gender Equity, who oversees Replenish, as well as campus partners including the School of Criminal Justice.

For more information about Replenish, visit www.gvsu.edu/replenish.

Emergency system test set

A test of the GVSUAlert! system will take place Friday, November 3, at noon.

The test will include the outdoor tornado siren system followed by a voice message.

All students, faculty and staff members will receive a test notification via email; a text and

phone test message will be sent to those who signed up for those notification methods. To sign up for text or phone alerts visit www.gvsu.edu/emergency.

The test will also appear as a banner on Grand Valley's website and will be sent to Desktop Notification computers.