

# FORUM

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**A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY  
STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY**  
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## Speakers highlight King commemoration week

The campus community commemorated the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King with a host of activities including a Teach-In, keynote presentations and social justice events.

Media commentator Touré spoke before a capacity crowd in the Fieldhouse January 18, following a silent march through campus. He is a former contributor to NBC and MSNBC and author.

He said he took inspiration from the large crowd participating in the march, but said remembering and discussing King comes with a “heavy heart.”

“His guidance would have been critical at this moment in our country when black people are dying,” Touré said.

Touré said the #BlackLivesMatter movement is a crucial step to healing race relations as it brings awareness to incidents of injustice. He said wide gaps in education and income between whites and people of color, and the large proportion of blacks who are incarcerated have led to systemic racism.

“How do we begin to combat this?” he asked.



Photo by Jess Weal

Patrisse Cullors, a founder of #BlackLivesMatter, speaks January 20 in the Kirkhof Center.

“We turn to the book of King. He was there with love for his oppressors. What you get from loving your enemies is building a movement that people will want to join.”

The second keynote speaker was one of the founders of #BlackLivesMatter. Patrisse Cullors said the movement was not created from a

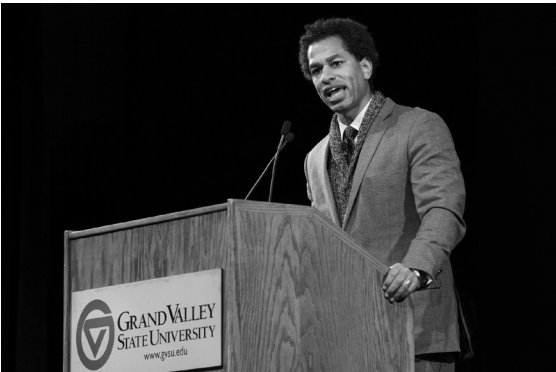


Photo by Jess Weal

Touré gives a presentation in the Fieldhouse to kick off King Commemoration Week January 18.

place of rage, but rather a place of love.

Cullors gave a presentation in the Kirkhof Center January 20 before an audience crowded into the Grand River Room, and one watching via simulcast from the DeVos Center.

*continues on page 2*

## Across Campus

### Students bring medical device ideas to life

Engineering students are solving real-world medical problems by designing and building devices for medical professionals.

The devices are being developed in the



Students present their work to Spectrum Health Innovations staff members at an event in December.

School of Engineering through a collaboration with Spectrum Health Innovations, a subsidiary of Spectrum Health that helps health staff develop and launch original ideas, including health care products and technologies. Physicians and medical staff members come to SHI with ideas. Through the SHI/GVSU collaboration agreement, they work with students who are charged with developing the ideas and building prototypes.

Brent Mulder, senior director of SHI, said working with Grand Valley students has been an invaluable experience. “The clinicians are excited to see their ideas come to life and students get real-life experiences by building something new and working with medical professionals,” he said.

Talks for creating a partnership began in 2011, when the School of Engineering began offering a medical device design class as part of the biomedical engineering master’s program. Grand Valley offers the only graduate-level biomedical

engineering degree program in Michigan that focuses on medical device design and development.

John Farris, professor of engineering who teaches the medical device design class, said the collaboration is beneficial for both groups.

“My students have been a part of projects they have never imagined,” Farris said. “The product designs and prototypes developed through this collaboration have led to patents being filed, students winning business plan competitions and students licensing intellectual property from Spectrum Health Innovations to start their own companies.”

One company was created by engineering alumnus Eric Van Middendorp, who developed an Endotracheal Tube Holder as a graduate assistant at SHI, where he now works as a mechanical design engineer. The device provides structural support of breathing tubes connected to patients. He has won several business plan competitions, including GreenLight Michigan Business Model Competition, at which he took first place and received \$25,000 to further develop his device.

*continues on page 2*

# Across Campus

continued from page 1

The first project of the collaboration began in April 2014. Recently, students presented their designs and devices during an event in December. The projects include an in-bed exercise machine, an intravenous drug pump for home use and a female external urinary device.

Alex Roh, a product design and manufacturing engineering major, worked on the in-bed exercise machine that aims to improve the physical therapy process for patients who had knee or hip replacement surgery.

The goal was to produce a lightweight, portable device that could provide active therapy for a patient while they remain in their hospital bed.

“Our attempts to meet all the specifications resulted in many late nights of brainstorming, designing and discussion, but it was worth it. Being able to take an idea through the design process and ending with a finished product was a great experience that exemplified what it really takes to develop a new product,” said Roh.

The collaboration agreement also includes involvement from faculty and staff members from Computing and Information Systems and the Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation.

## Drone policy for campus will follow FAA

The President’s Cabinet approved a policy in early December regarding flying drones, or an unmanned aircraft system, over property owned and/or controlled by Grand Valley.

The policy, posted online at [www.gvsu.edu/gvmanual](http://www.gvsu.edu/gvmanual) (search Unmanned Aircraft System), is based on Federal Aviation Administration guidelines.

It prohibits the operation of an unmanned aircraft system without written approval from an executive officer. Refer to the policy for details about the approval process and criteria.

## Program helps veterans make transition to college

Student veterans attending Grand Valley can receive assistance with their transition from military life through a program by the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency and Michigan College Access Network.

Michigan Veteran Education Initiative, launched in 2015, supports veterans by locating local, state and federal resources to help them

become successful as they transition into civilian life. The program places a veteran resource representative on college campuses in Michigan.

Marq Hicks serves as the VRR at Grand Valley. He is trained to provide support and answer questions regarding resources offered by Grand Valley and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. He also advises the Student Veterans of America Grand Valley chapter and the Peer Advisors for Veteran Education program.

Hicks, a veteran of the United States Marine Corps, said the most helpful thing he can do is normalize veterans’ experiences.

“I have first-hand knowledge of how challenging this transition can be, so my goal is to help student veterans in any way I can,” Hicks said. “Grand Rapids is one of the best places to be a veteran, however, it can be difficult to know where to start.”

Hicks received a bachelor’s degree from Central Michigan University and is currently pursuing his master’s degree in public administration from Grand Valley.

He is available on Wednesdays at the Pew Grand Rapids Campus, and Thursdays at the Allendale Campus. Appointments can be made by contacting him at [marq\\_hicks@gvsu.edu](mailto:marq_hicks@gvsu.edu) or x13311. Hicks also serves as the VRR for Grand Rapids Community College.

Grand Valley is committed to providing support and resources for service members and veterans, including in-state tuition for veterans and active military members who are stationed in Michigan. The university is a member of the Consortium of Michigan Veteran Educators and is part of the “8 Keys to Veterans’ Success” initiative through the U.S. Departments of Education and Veterans Affairs.

## Online graduate education programs ranked among the best

For the second year in a row, Grand Valley’s online graduate degrees in education have been ranked among the best by *U.S. News & World Report*.

The online programs have been named as part of the “2016 Best Online Graduate Education Programs.”

The online programs — master’s degrees of education in literacy and educational technology — are offered through the College of Education and are fully online programs with no campus activities required.

For more about Grand Valley’s ranking, visit [www.usnews.com/education/online-education](http://www.usnews.com/education/online-education).

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*Grand Valley Magazine*, which is published quarterly for the university community. Visit its website at [www.gvsu.edu/gvmagazine](http://www.gvsu.edu/gvmagazine).

Visit Grand Valley’s online publication, GVN<sup>ow</sup>, at [www.gvsu.edu/gvnow](http://www.gvsu.edu/gvnow), for daily news updates and video features.

Grand Valley State University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity institution.

## King week activities include Teach-In, service

continued from page 1

“#BlackLivesMatter is not about police violence, it’s a radical vision toward what’s possible for black lives,” Cullors said.

She and other founders took their inspiration from the acquittal of George Zimmerman in the 2013 trial following the shooting death of Trayvon Martin.

“I started to see the ‘not guilty’ verdict coming and both rage and sadness flowed through me,” she said. “Then something hit me. I knew we could imagine something different for black lives.”

Cullors addressed a possible boycott by Hollywood actors of color during the Oscars when taking questions from audience members.

Cullors, a Los Angeles resident, said Hollywood “is the last place where you can uphold racism and it’s OK.” She suggested that production companies should be more intentional when hiring.

“Make sure the staff around you is diverse, and that doesn’t mean hiring one black person,” she said.

For the first time, the Teach-In was held during MLK Commemoration Week. More than



Photo by Amanda Pitts

A student portrays a character from ‘Twilight Los Angeles: 1992,’ one of the social justice activities offered January 18. It was the fourth year classes were canceled on the national holiday.

40 sessions were planned January 21 around the theme, “Power, Privilege and Difficult Dialogues.” The Teach-In was sponsored by Student Senate and University Academic Senate.

The week ended with the MLK Day of Service and Solidarity, sponsored by the Community Service Learning Center. Students and volunteers were taken to community partner sites for service work.





# What's Ahead



Grand Valley Winds will kick off the winter semester Arts at Noon concerts on January 27.

## Arts at Noon will continue with Grand Valley Winds

The 38th season of the Arts at Noon concert series will kick off its winter and spring lineup by spotlighting a quintet of faculty woodwind specialists on Wednesday, January 27.

Grand Valley Winds was established in 2006 and includes music faculty members Christopher Kantner, flute; Marlen Vavrikova, oboe; Joel Schekman, clarinet; Vincent Karamanov, bassoon; and Richard Britsch, horn.

During their Arts at Noon performance, Grand Valley Winds will perform three works: Irving Fine's "Partita for Wind Quintet"; Joseph Jongen's "Preambule et Dances"; and György Ligeti's "Six Bagatelles."

Below is the full schedule of upcoming series performances. All Arts at Noon concerts are free, open to the public, begin at noon and take place in the Cook-DeWitt Center.

February 3: Grand Rapids Symphony; February 17: Pianist Jani Parsons and Percussionist Chris Sies; February 24: Marlen Vavrikova, oboe; March 23: Maestro Ustad Shaft Khan; March 30: Gene Knific Trio; and April 13: Tesla String Quartet.

For more information about the Arts at Noon concert series, visit [www.gvsu.edu/artsatnoon](http://www.gvsu.edu/artsatnoon).

## Events celebrate Asian American, Pacific Islander heritage

The Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Celebration on campus will include speakers, an Asian New Year festival, and performances.

All events are free and open to the public, and many are approved for LIB 100 and 201. Highlights are below. For more information, visit [www.gvsu.edu/oma](http://www.gvsu.edu/oma).

• **Thursday, January 28, 4-6 p.m., Cook-DeWitt Center. Fred T. Korematsu Recognition:** speakers will honor Korematsu, who defied an order to report to a World War II Japanese assembly center. Speakers are Karen Korematsu, executive director of the Korematsu Institute; Ron Aramaki and Roland Hwang, University of Michigan Department of American Culture; Frances Kai-Hwa Wang, NBC News contributor; and Mary Kamidoi, former camp internee.

• **February 1, 6-8:30 p.m., Kirkhof Center. American Revolutionary: The Evolution of Grace Lee Boggs:** screening of a film to celebrate the Chinese American philosopher, writer and activist who lived in Detroit. An interactive conversation will follow, and refreshments will be served.

• **February 4, 4-6 p.m., Kirkhof Center. Storytelling:** historians will record oral histories and take photos of participants for an Asian American archive. Participants will receive digital copies of photos and oral histories.

• **February 4, 6-9 p.m., Kirkhof Center. Asian New Year Festival:** the festival will celebrate the rich culture of Asia with traditional cuisine and performances.

• **February 17, 6-8 p.m., Cook-DeWitt Center. Chinese Cultural Performance:** musical, dance and martial arts performances from the West Michigan Chinese American community are scheduled.

• **March 12, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., DeVos Center. R.I.C.E. Conference:** Registration is required for this event, contact Andy Phan at [phana@mail.gvsu.edu](mailto:phana@mail.gvsu.edu) or Austin Ngo, at [ngo@mail.gvsu.edu](mailto:ngo@mail.gvsu.edu) to reserve a seat.

## Writers Series presents two faculty members

Two faculty members will read from their works at the first Grand Valley Writers Series event of the winter semester.

Glenn Shaheen and Oindrila Mukherjee share excerpts from their award-winning works on Thursday, January 28, from 7:30-8:45 p.m. in the Cook-DeWitt Center.

Shaheen, assistant professor of writing, is the author of the poetry collection *Predatory*, which won the 2010 Agnes Lynch Starrett Prize. He is also the author of the flash fiction chapbook *Unchecked Savagery*. His second collection of poetry, *Energy Corridor*, will be released this year.

Mukherjee, assistant professor of writing, is from India where she worked as a reporter for the country's oldest English language newspaper, the *Statesman*. Her work has been published in *Salon*, *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *Oxford Anthology of Bengali Literature*, *Greensboro Review*, *Arts & Letters*, *Silk Road Review*, *Writer's Chronicle*, *Jaggery* and elsewhere.

For more information about the Grand Valley Writers Series, contact Mukherjee, series coordinator, at [mukherjo@gvsu.edu](mailto:mukherjo@gvsu.edu) or x18034.

## Candy Land-themed weekend set for siblings, kids

One of Grand Valley's oldest traditions, Sibs N Kids Weekend, January 29-30, invites students and their younger family members to enjoy a weekend full of activities.

The Candy Land-themed weekend, "Laker Land," will feature events like laser tag, a sled dog show, swing dancing and a basketball game. Most events will take place in the Kirkhof Center or Fieldhouse; for a full list of events visit [www.gvsu.edu/sibsnkids](http://www.gvsu.edu/sibsnkids).

Registration is required for guests and is available online until January 28 or on-site during the weekend.

The event is part of the Laker Traditions program at Grand Valley and is sponsored by the Office of Student Life.

## Reception will honor trio for their contributions to sports

Two alumnae and a longtime faculty member and coach will be honored at the Celebrating Women in Sport and Physical Activity reception, set for Saturday, January 30, from 1-3:30 p.m. in the Fieldhouse.

The 2016 honorees are Kim Hansen, '80, a teacher in Cleveland, Ohio, who holds the

record for the most career rebounds as a Laker (1,362); Courtney Jones, '14, owner of Podium Promotions and former member of the GVSU Triathlon Club; and Doug Woods, clinical site supervisor and faculty member in athletic training and former softball coach.

They will be honored during the women's basketball game against Hillsdale College, and a reception will continue in the arena's upper lobby. Cost to attend is \$25 and includes food, beverages, game ticket and a donation to the endowed scholarship established to honor Joan Boand and Patti Rowe.

More information and a link to RSVP are online at [www.gvsu.edu/womeninsports](http://www.gvsu.edu/womeninsports). The event is sponsored by Alumni Relations, Athletics, Women's Center and Movement Science.

## World Affairs Council lectures free to campus community

The campus community is invited to attend the World Affairs Council of Western Michigan's "Great Decisions" lecture series on Mondays beginning February 1 through March 28.

Experts on critical global issues will give presentations beginning at 6 p.m. at the Aquinas College Performing Arts Center. Grand Valley has partnered with the World Affairs Council to make each presentation free for members of the campus community.

Presenters and their topics are listed below; for more information, visit [www.worldmichigan.org](http://www.worldmichigan.org).

• February 1: "Art as Political Protest in the Arab World" by Isra El-beshir, Arab American National Museum

• February 8: "Migration to Michigan: Challenges and Opportunities" by Bing Goei, Michigan Office of New Americans

• February 15: "Climate Change: Local Solutions to Global Problems" by George Heartwell, former Grand Rapids mayor

• February 22: "Never Again: The UN's Role in Genocide Prevention" by Brett O'Bannon, Conflict Studies Program, DePauw University

• February 29: "Our Allies in the Middle East: An Update on the Kurds" by Jessie Clark, geographer, University of Nevada-Reno

• March 14: "Is Korean Re-unification Possible?" by James Person, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Washington D.C.

• March 21: "ISIS: What Don't We Know?" by Patrick Skinner, the Soufan Group

• March 28: "Cuba and the U.S.: What Does the Future Hold?" by Ambassador Charles Shapiro.

## Students to bring the life of Jesus to stage in 'Godspell'

The GVSU Opera Theatre will bring to life a musically updated version of "Godspell," the first major musical theater offering from three-time Grammy and Academy Award-winning composer Stephen Schwartz.

In "Godspell 2012," a small group of people help Jesus Christ tell different parables by using a wide variety of games, storytelling techniques and hefty doses of comedic timing. An eclectic blend of songs ranging from pop and rock to

*continues on page 4*

# FACULTY AND STAFF SKETCHES

## In the News

**Sandra Spoelstra**, KCON associate dean for research and scholarship, was interviewed by *Oncology Nursing Society Connect* for a story about adherence to oral agents for cancer.

## Sketches

**Jason Franklin**, Kellogg Community Philanthropy chair at the Johnson Center for Philanthropy, was selected as one of the *Chronicle of Philanthropy's* "40 under 40."

**John Kilbourne**, professor of movement science, honors, wrote an article, "The Good Jobs Strategy," published in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*.

The **Eberhard Conference Center** received the WeddingWire Couples' Choice Award for its reception facility and staff. The award represents the top five percent of wedding professionals within the WeddingWire Network.

**Kay Losey**, professor of writing, gave a presentation, "Code-Switching in Academic Writing Programs? A Call for Clarity and Rigour," at the Symposium on Second Language Writing in Auckland, New Zealand.

**Tim Penning**, associate professor of communications, was appointed to the editorial board for the *Journal of Public Relations Research* for 2016.

**Erica Hamilton**, assistant professor of education, wrote an article, "Picture This: Multimodal Representations of Prospective Teachers' Metaphors about Teachers and Teaching," published in *Teaching and Teacher Education*.

**David Linn**, associate professor of biomedical science, gave a presentation, "Drugs for the Eye: Existing and Emerging Therapies," at the Western Michigan University Bronson School of Nursing.

**Russell Rhoads**, associate professor of anthropology, was a co-author for an article, "Local Government Councils Score-Card Assessment Report, 2014/15: A Combination of Gains, Reversals and Reforms," published by *ACODE Policy Research Series*.

**Kevin Strychar**, associate professor water resources, was co-author of a book chapter, "Ecological and Evolutionary Considerations Regarding Corals in a Rapidly Changing Environment," in *The Cnidaria, Past, Present and Future: The World of Medusa and Her Sisters*.

**Donald Zinman**, associate professor of political science, wrote a book, *The Heir Apparent Presidency*, published by the University Press of Kansas.

**Mary O'Kelly**, associate librarian and head of instructional services, wrote a chapter, "Library Research Consultants: Measuring a New Service," for a book, *Putting Assessment into Action: Selected Projects from the First Cohort of the Assessment in Action Grant*, published by the Association of College and Research Libraries.

Kirkhof College of Nursing faculty members **Cynthia Coviak** and **Thomas Sanchez**, and KCON retirees **Phyllis Gendler**, **Katherine Kim** and **Jean Martin** were authors of an article, "Revision of the Osteoporosis Knowledge Test: Reliability and Validity," published in the *Western Journal of Nursing Research*.

**Melodee Vanden Bosch**, assistant professor of nursing, was a co-author of an article, "Correlates of Physical Activity in Middle-Aged Women With and Without Diabetes," published in the *Western Journal of Nursing Research*.

## What's Ahead

continued from page 3

vaudeville are used to tell the story of Jesus' life on stage.

Performances for "Godspell 2012" at Grand Valley will take place February 5, 6, 12 and 13, at 7:30 p.m., and February 7 and 14, at 2 p.m., in the Performing Arts Center, Louis Armstrong Theatre. Tickets are adults \$14; alumni, seniors, faculty and staff \$12; and students and groups \$6.

Dale Schriemer, artistic director, said Schwartz is best known for composing music for "Wicked," "Pippin" and "Children of Eden," and has reworked the music for "Godspell 2012" to "reflect a more sophisticated and potent musical score."

"Set in modern social context, the parables are playfully told and the depth of the ancient Biblical text comes to life in fresh new ways," Schriemer said.

Sophomore music education major Casey Huls, who plays the role of Jesus, said the experience of performing "Godspell 2012" has been an emotional roller coaster for students.

"The second act of the show is a lot heavier than the first in terms of content and emotion because we're following the events leading up to the crucifixion," Huls said. "For a lot of us, the emotional response comes from the reality of portraying something that means so much to us in terms of our personal beliefs. Regardless of whether or not someone is religious, it's still a really powerful show and it's hard not to get emotional."

For the past two seasons, Schriemer has cast alumni in each



GVSU Opera Theatre will perform 'Godspell 2012' beginning February 5 in the Louis Armstrong Theatre.

production to collaborate with students. For "Godspell 2012," alumnus Christopher Carter returns in a behind-the-scenes role as stage director and choreographer. Since graduating from Grand Valley in 2009 with a bachelor's degree in dance, Carter has experience on the opera and musical theater stages, as well as touring shows and acting as a stage director and choreographer.

For more information about "Godspell 2012" and for ticket information, call the Louis Armstrong Box Office at x12300 or visit [www.gvsu.edu/theatre](http://www.gvsu.edu/theatre).

## Symposium will focus on women, environment

The fifth annual Women and the Environment Symposium will provide opportunities for community members to discuss the leadership roles of women in the environment movement.

The Women's Center and Office of Sustainability Practices have partnered with West Michigan Environmental Action Council to develop and host the event February 24, from 2-8 p.m. in the DeVos Center.

"Students who attend the symposium have an opportunity to participate in panels with local and regional experts, hear a nationally known keynote speaker and network with professionals, community activists and academics from around the region," said Yumi Jakobcic, campus sustainability coordinator for the Office of Sustainability Practices.

The keynote speaker this year is Jacqui Patterson, NAACP's environmental and climate justice director. The event will also feature networking and two panel discussions focusing on women's leadership for climate justice and leadership in communities of faith.

Rachel Hood, executive director of WMEAC, said, "The symposium is an inspiring event that helps us understand how to protect our health and quality of life in the Great Lakes for our families and communities."

For more information and to register, visit [www.wmeac.org/event/women-environment-symposium](http://www.wmeac.org/event/women-environment-symposium). Ticket prices are \$40-\$45, depending on WMEAC membership; student tickets are available for \$25.