

The Kutsche Chronicle

Kutsche Office of Local History is part of
Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies at
Grand Valley State University

gvsu.edu/kutsche
Spring 2020





***What the Eyes Don't See:
A Story of Crisis, Resistance,
and Hope in an American City***

**Conversation & Book Signing
Tuesday, March 24, 2020, 6:00 pm
Loosemore Auditorium, GVSU Pew Campus**

The Kutsche Office is a partner for Michigan Humanities' 2019-2020 Great Michigan Read. The annual initiative selects one book to "bridge communities around a common conversation" and promote thoughtful discussion.

This year's book is Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha's *What the Eyes Don't See: A Story of Crisis, Resistance, and Hope in an American City*. Hanna-Attisha was one of the first to present undeniable proof that Flint's water supply was poisoning the city's children with lead.

Hanna-Attisha will share her experiences and field audience questions at this conversation and book signing. Thanks to the Grand Rapids Public Library for co-sponsoring this event to bring Hanna-Attisha to Grand Valley State University.

Great Michigan Read Book Club

**Monday, February 3, 2020, 1-2:30 pm
Monday, February 24, 2020, 1-2:30 pm
Monday, March 16, 2020, 1-2:30 pm
Kirkhof room 2266, GVSU Allendale Campus**

In anticipation of the upcoming conversation with Dr. Hanna-Attisha, the Kutsche Office is sponsoring a book club around *What the Eyes Don't See*.

GVSU students, staff, faculty, and community members are invited to participate in a series of three lively discussions about the issues raised in Hanna-Attisha's book and how they tie into concerns about the environment, water quality, public health, and politics in Michigan.

Michigan Humanities has provided the Kutsche Office with free copies of the book for participants. Sign up at bit.ly/GMRCclub20 to receive yours.

The 2019-2020 Great Michigan Read is presented by Michigan Humanities and supported by national, statewide, and local partners, including the National Endowment for the Humanities and The Meijer Foundation.





Local History Roundtable



The Kutsche Office of Local History is recognizing the centennial of the Nineteenth Amendment at our 11th Annual Local History Roundtable. We hope you will join us for a day examining the histories of women's historical and contemporary efforts to transform their communities.

This year's keynote, "It Took a Family: Domestic Roles and the Civic Engagement of Alde Blake," is presented by Alde Blake descendants Moana Kutsche and Robert McArdle along with Jo Ellyn Clarey

of the Greater Grand Rapids Women's History Council. The presentation offers a history of how Alde Louise Tuck Blake (1857-1925) and other unenfranchised women of West Michigan participated in public and political discourse in an era before the Nineteenth Amendment.

The day also includes a roundtable discussion about Lesser-Known Women in West Michigan History, featuring David M. McCord (Ionia County Historical Society), Annoesjka Soler (Lakeshore Museum Center), and Kristen Wildes (Ada Historical Society). We also will learn more about the Greater Grand Rapids Women's History Council digital history project concerning women's suffrage from Julia Bouwkamp and current food justice activism in Grand Rapids from Eleanor Moreno.

Thursday, March 26, 2020

8:30am - 3:45pm

Kirkhof Center 2204

GVSU Allendale campus

To Register

visit bit.ly/LHR320

call 616-331-8099

email kutsche@gvsu.edu



Upcoming Events

February 3, 2020, 1-2:30 pm

Great Michigan Read Book Club #1 (ch 1-7)

Kirkhof Center, room 2266

February 24, 2020, 1-2:30 pm

Great Michigan Read Book Club #2 (ch 8-15)

Kirkhof Center, room 2266

March 16, 2020, 1-2:30 pm

Great Michigan Read Book Club #3 (ch 16-26)

Kirkhof Center, room 2266

March 24, 2020, 6-9:00 pm

Great Michigan Read Conversation & Book Signing

Loosemore Auditorium, DeVos Center, Grand Rapids

March 26, 2020, 8:30 am-3:45 pm

11th Annual Local History Roundtable

Kirkhof Center, room 2204

For more information or to register for these events,
visit gvsu.edu/Kutsche
email kutsche@gvsu.edu
or call 616-331-8099



Gordon Olson Award Nominations Open

Do you know someone who has made outstanding contributions to local history? Someone who has used history to give voice to diverse communities?

Please consider nominating them for the 2020 Gordon Olson Award. Nominations are accepted through February 17, 2020. Nominate at bit.ly/OlsonAward20

Established in 2014, the Gordon Olson Award is announced at the Annual Local History Roundtable. This year's Roundtable is March 26, 2020 on GVSU's Allendale campus. Recipients are given a commemorative plaque and are recognized through Kutsche Office publicity and local news media.

Spotlight On Kutsche Student Workers

Carly Vaitkevicius



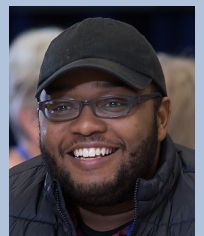
Vaitkevicius is a GVSU class of '20 English major, with a minor in Applied Linguistics. She plans to continue her Applied Linguistics work in graduate school.

Vaitkevicius provides the Kutsche Office with essential oral history work, helping us preserve the diverse voices of West Michigan history. She is currently transcribing oral histories from the Stories of Summer project.

"This project drew me because I have an interest in Michigan history and speech patterns," says Vaitkevicius. **"My work at Kutsche allows me to explore these thoughts in a different direction than I would in a classroom."**

Justin Allen

Allen is a class of '20 GVSU Graphic Design major. His passion for Graphic Design began in high school, and he has transformed it into his own photography company.



Allen's post-graduation plans involve turning his photography company into a creative study that focuses on brand identity.

Allen assists the Kutsche Office with making sleek exhibit and print materials. He has primarily worked on our Connections Along the Grand River project, **creating materials to support local history organizations in West Michigan.**

When he is not studying or working, Allen enjoys hiking through the natural beauty of the West Michigan outdoors.