

Around the Oval from the College of Arts and Sciences

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COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Around the Oval

This Week in the Arts and Sciences • December 1, 2021

This week in appreciation



Mayo Peer-to-Peer Mentoring Program boosts representation in field of design

Psychology alumnus **Joseph Wisne** '86 and English alumna **Bridgette Mariea** '89 funded the Mayo Peer-to-Peer Mentoring Program, named after Ohio Eminent Scholar and advocate for Black students **Noel Mayo**. The [new program sets first-year students up](#) with third- and fourth-year student mentors of diverse backgrounds, and participants from both groups will receive scholarships. Join in supporting the [Mayo Peer-to-Peer Mentoring Program](#).

This week in the media



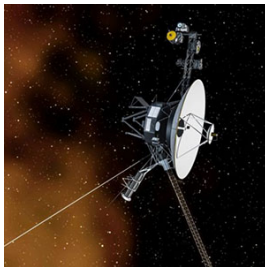
TikTok is getting high on McGruff the Crime Dog's 1986 Debut Album

While McGruff the Crime Dog's album *Smart Kids* aimed to keep kids away from the temptation of drugs in 1986, [an out-of-context lyric now trending in TikTok videos](#) lends a different perspective. **Michael Slater**, a professor in the School of Communication, explains how "Just Say No" anti-drug messaging can give young kids the wrong ideas about drug use.



Widely used pain killer linked to risk taking: 'They just don't feel as scared'

Baldwin Way, an associate professor of psychology, co-authored a study that indicates taking acetaminophen has the [unintended effect of making people less scared of taking risks](#). "With nearly 25 percent of the population in the U.S. taking acetaminophen each week, reduced risk perceptions and increased risk-taking could have important effects on society," Way said.



What is time dilation?

Time dilation, the theory that time passes differently for different observers, affects many aspects of our lives that we don't realize. College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Professor of Astronomy **Richard Pogge** says [GPS satellites must account for time dilation](#) or else it would be extremely difficult to pinpoint a specific address.

This week in research and creativity



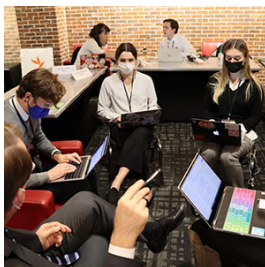
Giving social support to others may boost your health

A new study conducted by doctoral student **Tao Jiang** and **Department of Psychology collaborators** shows that [only participants who provide mutual support](#) to their partner, friends and family have less chronic inflammation compared to participants who just receive help from loved ones.



Arts and Humanities Inaugural Lecture Series returns with renewed vigor

The **Humanities Collaboratory** and the **College of Arts and Sciences** have re-launched the Arts and Humanities Inaugural Lecture Series with [changes geared toward reaching a wider audience](#), including joint lectures and live streaming.



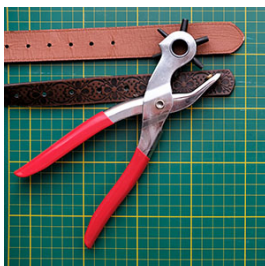
Five ways the national security simulation prepares students for careers in government and media

Ohio State's National Security Simulation, supported by the **Mershon Center for International Security Studies**, had the [largest event in the program's history](#). The two-day simulation placed 180 students from several Ohio and Indiana colleges in real-world government, media, and private sector roles to manage an endless series of distressing situations.



Q&A faculty spotlight: Linda Mizejewski

Get to know **Linda Mizejewski**, Arts and Sciences Distinguished Professor of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies, in an in-depth Q&A in which she shares more about [her involvement with feminist media studies](#) in addition to some fun facts from her personal life.



A better-fitting molecular 'belt' for making new drugs

David Nagib, an associate professor of chemistry, found a way to [replace the nitrogen atom](#) that links carbon-hydrogen bonds together in common pharmaceuticals, making it cheaper to develop early-stage drug candidates and test out more options faster.



Voices of Excellence: Jared Gardner on how comics have long focused on the environment (ICYMI)

Jared Gardner, the Joseph V. Denney Designated Professor of English and director of popular culture studies, has a wide set of interests, including finding "striking examples of 19th century comics and cartoons" describing how humans impact the environment. Listen to him and host David Staley in last week's Voices of Excellence on [Soundcloud](#) and [iTunes](#).



Topcon partnership keeps Ohio State students one step ahead

Several units within Ohio State, including the **School of Earth Sciences**, will get to [use state-of-the-art precision positioning equipment](#) provided in partnership with Topcon Positioning Systems. This ensures students will enter the workforce with knowledge about the tools they'll use on the job instead of having experience with outdated equipment.



Q&A faculty spotlight: Allison Bean

Allison Bean, an associate professor in the Department of Speech and Hearing Science, discusses [language development in children with autism](#), her travels and the best advice she has for undergraduate students.



Arts and Sciences alumni share stories of thankfulness

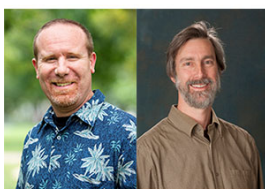
We recently asked **Arts and Sciences alumni** to share [what makes them grateful](#) to have studied at Ohio State and how that influenced them in the years after college.



Voices of Excellence: Russ Fazio on whether we mean what we say on surveys

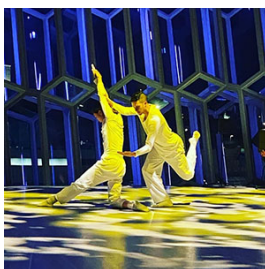
Russ Fazio, the Harold E. Burt Professor of Social Psychology, researches attitude formation, change and accessibility; attitude-behavior consistency; and social cognition. His work in social cognition seeks to understand the thought processes that underlie social psychological phenomena. Join him and host David Staley on this week's Voices of Excellence on [Soundcloud](#) and [iTunes](#).

This week in recognition



Two Arts and Sciences faculty named to Highly Cited Researchers 2021 List

Matthew Sullivan, a professor in the Department of Microbiology, and **David Weinberg**, Distinguished University Professor and Chair of the Department of Astronomy, were named in Clarivate's 2021 list of Highly Cited Researchers, meaning they each had [multiple publications that have been highly cited](#) during the last decade.



New Work By Daniel Roberts Performed In Reykjavik, Iceland

Are we Ok? by **Daniel Roberts**, an associate professor of dance, was performed at Harpa Concert Hall in Reykjavik, Iceland, on Nov. 4. The project was partly funded by the Global Arts + Humanities Discovery Theme Creative Project Grant and featured undergraduate dance student **Simone (Mo) Burnett**.

"The memorial service for the glacier [Okjökull] in Iceland made international headlines in 2019, as its depletion was a direct result of ocean acidification and global warming,"

says Roberts. "[Are we Ok?](#) is [a reaction to changes of the earth's delicate relationship with water](#), whether in solid, liquid or gaseous forms, that will impact our future."



Sultana Nahar Teaches Global Online Course on Atomic Astrophysics and Spectroscopy

Sultana Nahar, a research professor in the Department of Astronomy, recently taught a online research-based lecture course entitled "Atomic Astrophysics and Spectroscopy with computational workshops on the SUPERSTRUCTURE and the R-matrix codes" that had 102 participants from 11 countries, including Bangladesh, Egypt, Mexico and Saudi Arabia. Usually Nahar hosts the course at a university in another country, but she was pleasantly surprised to see enthusiasm from people to participate in the online version.



Elissa Washuta's 'White Magic' Featured on Two Best Books Lists

White Magic, a collection of essays about ancestry, addiction recovery and spirituality, was published in April and continues to receive critical acclaim. Most recently, the book written by **Elissa Washuta**, an assistant professor in the Department of English, has been featured on NPR's [Books We Love list](#) (along with alumna **Maggie Smith's** book *Goldenrod: Poems*) and the New York Public Library's [Best Books for Adults 2021 list](#).



MFA Dance Student Quianna Simpson Wins GCAC Artists Elevated Award

The Greater Columbus Arts Council (GCAC) announced **Quianna Simpson**, a dance graduate student, as one of the first recipients of the council's [2021 Artists Elevated awards](#). Simpson has been a dancer and choreographer for more than 30 years, studying traditional West African dance, music and culture, and will use the \$20,000 from GCAC to continue her research.

This week in events



2021-2022 CMRS Symposium - Animals and Humans in the Medieval and Renaissance Worlds

The 2021-2022 **Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies** (CMRS) Symposium will share the various roles of animals, including jewel beetles, dogs and parrots, in life and culture during the Medieval and Renaissance eras.

Dec. 3 - Dec. 4 | [Learn more](#)

Arts and Humanities Inaugural Lecture: Kay Halasek and Scott Jones

Dec. 2 | [Learn more](#)

Book Club: Wolf Hall by Hilary Mantel

Dec. 7 | [Learn more](#)

Global Arts + Humanities Discovery Theme | Social Justice Showcase

Dec. 2 | [Learn more](#)

The Jazz Studies Holiday Concert

Dec. 7 | [Learn more](#)

CMRS Symposium/Lecture: Kathleen Walker-Meikle (King's College, London) - "Rabies, Scabies, Beast and Man: Animals and Disease in the Medieval and Early Modern Period"

Dec. 3 | [Learn more](#)



College of Arts and Sciences

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