ST BONAVENTURE UNIVERSITY

Jandoli School of Communication



Dean's Update





Dear alumni and friends of the Jandoli School,

This is a year to celebrate for the Jandoli School of Communication. 2024 marks 75 years since Fr. Thomas Plassmann, then university president, and Russell J. Jandoli started St. Bonaventure University's Department of Journalism, which became the Jandoli School of Communication.

We invite you to join us on Oct. 19 for a celebration of the program's rich history— and its exciting future. I have been working with a group of graduates spanning more than 50 years to plan a day full of events to look back and forward. We will begin with a symposium at 1 p.m. and continue through the evening. We will share registration information in July. (You can book hotel reservations for the Fair-field across from campus at https://www.marriott.com/events/start.mi?id=1712691286202&key=GRP.)

As I hope you know, we have been working on plans to expand and renovate our home in the more than 40-year-old John J. Murphy Professional Building. As summer winds down, work on the project will begin and we will host a ceremonial groundbreaking as part of the 75th anniversary festivities on Oct. 19.

I hope you are inspired by what you read in this magazine and will consider designating a gift for the Jandoli School in the university's fundraising campaign, "A Bolder Bonaventure: Ignite. Inspire. Invest." We need your help to transform Murphy.

Our current students are thriving. Just this semester they have hosted shows from Radio Row at the Super Bowl, worked on fact checks for the Pulitzer Prize-winning PolitiFact, received recognition from the Broadcast Education association, and a team of advertising students won their district in the National Student Advertising Competition for the second year in a row!

On May 3, the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications (ACEJMC) voted unanimously to reaccredit the Jandoli School's undergraduate and graduate programs. Like I said, we have much to celebrate.

During this special year, I hope you take a moment to think about the effect this program has had on your life. Thank you for your support of the Jandoli School. I hope to see you in October.

Sincerely,

Aaron Chimbel, dean

Celebrating 75 Years of Excellence at 02 the Jandoli School of Communication

In commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the Jandoli School of Communication, we reflect on a rich legacy of innovation, education, and professional achievement.

Established by Russell J. Jandoli, our journalism department has evolved into the Jandoli School of Communication, embodying a tradition of excellence that continues to shape the future of media and communication.

As we mark this milestone, we are thrilled to announce a groundbreaking moment in our history: the transformation of the John J. Murphy Professional Building into a state-of-the-art facility. This multimillion dollar expansion and renovation project, slated to commence by late summer, represents a significant step forward for our school and its programs.

Generously supported by our alumni and friends, this endeavor will provide our students with enhanced learning environments, cutting-edge technology, and collaborative spaces. From strategic communication agency classrooms to podcast studios, a virtual studio and a broadcast production suite, and a newsroom of the future, the renovated Murphy Building will serve as a dynamic hub for media innovation and creativity.





This project is part of the university's fundraising campaign, "**A Bolder Bonaventure: Ignite. Inspire. Invest**."

The updates will advance Jandoli's presence as the heart of media on campus with student media outlets together in one building. These include SBU-TV, TAPinto Greater Olean, The Bona Venture, and The Buzz/88.3 FM.

"This is a transformational moment for the Jandoli School that is only possible because of our generous alumni and friends," said Aaron Chimbel, dean of the Jandoli School. "One of the best parts about the Jandoli legacy is how people pay it forward. This is a wonderful example of that, and I encourage those who have not yet made a pledge or gift to the project to do so. It is much needed and appreciated."

Support the campaign here: https://www.sbu.edu/bolder-bonaventure

Jandoli School to receive \$750,000 in federal funding for technology upgrades

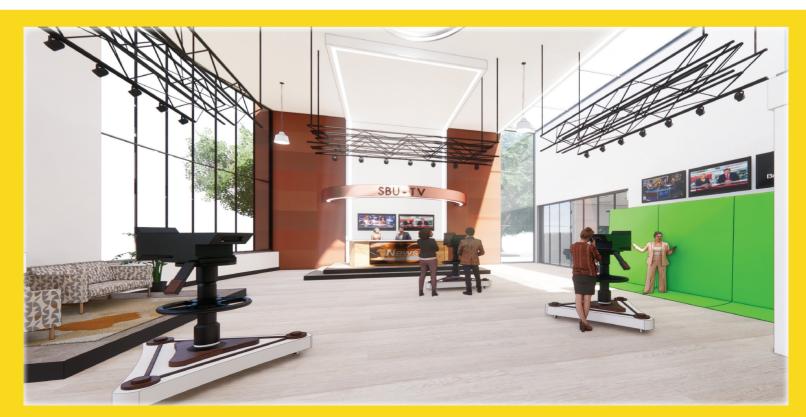
The Jandoli School of Communication will receive \$750,000 in federal funding for technology upgrades that are part of the expansion and renovation of the school's home in the Murphy Building.

The offices of U.S. Senators Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) and Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.) announced the funding allocation March 25.

"The Jandoli School of Communication is thankful for the support of Senators Schumer and Gillibrand in pushing for this funding that will help transform the educational experience for our students," said Aaron Chimbel, dean of the Jandoli School. "As media, journalism and how we communicate change rapidly, our students need the latest technology and equipment to thrive. This funding will help significantly."

The money will pay for technology upgrades that include a new TV studio and control room, WSBU radio, which will eventually move from Reilly Center to Murphy in the renovation; podcast studios; and computers, monitors and cable.

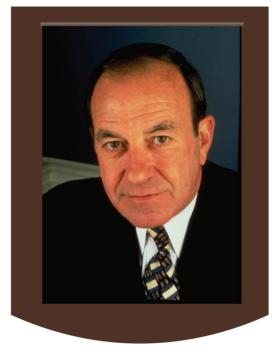
The expansion of the Murphy Building is scheduled to begin by late summer. The enhancements are a major pillar in the university's \$125 million Bolder Bonaventure fundraising campaign. The federal funding is part of the 2024 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education appropriations bill.



Honoring Tom Mosser: Building a Lasting Legacy

In remembrance of Thomas J. Mosser, '65, an exceptional mentor and communications expert, efforts are underway to establish the Thomas J. Mosser Strategic Communication Wing within Jandoli School. With a fundraising goal of \$600,000 to \$800,000, this initiative seeks to commemorate Tom's profound impact and dedication to his alma mater.

Mosser's career, rooted in his Bon's education, spanned decades of influential work with renowned firms such as Burson-Marsteller and Young & Rubicam. He was not only a respected professional but also a devoted mentor to countless students, guiding them through internships and career opportunities.



The envisioned Mosser Wing, to be housed in the renovated Murphy Building, will serve as a testament to Mosser's legacy and commitment to excellence in communication.

A leadership committee of friends and colleagues invites all of Mosser's friends, colleagues, and classmates to join in this endeavor. Contributions can be made through tax-deductible gifts or donations from donor-advised funds, with the option to pledge over multiple years.



For more information and to contribute, visit: www.sbu.edu/mosser

PolitiFact Workshop Returns to Jandoli Institute at SBU



The Jandoli School held its annual PolitiFact Workshop, where students had the opportunity to collaborate with PolitiFact Senior Correspondent Louis Jacobson in February. This workshop served as a practical platform for students to gain firsthand experience in fact-checking and writing for PolitiFact. Throughout the workshop, students engaged in crafting articles aimed at scrutinizing the accuracy of political claims. Jacobson underscored the significance of in-person collaboration, highlighting its role in providing mentorship and fostering skill development among students.

The articles are now available on PolitiFact and PolitiFact New York websites.

For more information and access to workshop articles, visit Jandoli Institute's PolitiFact Workshop page.

Exploring the Impact of Pop Culture on Media and Public Policy



This semester, the Jandoli School introduced a special topics course focusing on the intricate relationship between pop culture, media, and public policy. Led by Dr. Richard Lee, the course provided students with a deep dive into how pop culture influences societal norms and shapes political discourse.

Covering a spectrum of compelling topics, students delved into the historical significance of protest music during the Vietnam era and examined the contemporary sway of celebrities like Taylor Swift on public policy. By dissecting case studies such as the evolution of Volodymyr Zelensky from a sitcom actor to the president of Ukraine, and the integration of politicians into entertainment television programs, students gained valuable insight into the fusion of entertainment and politics.

WSBU-FM Back at Super Bowl 07 Radio Row

Six students from our campus radio station, WSBU FM 88.3 The Buzz, attended this year's Super Bowl LVIII Radio Row in Las Vegas. Throughout the week leading up to the game, they were immersed in the atmosphere of Radio Row, working alongside industry veterans and sports icons, conducting interviews, and crafting compelling features for nightly broadcasts on The Buzz.





"It's really cool just to see it and be part of it all," said Steven Stutz, a senior marketing major from Buffalo who has been with WSBU since he was a freshman and station manager for the past year and a half. The team had the opportunity to attend events like Monday's Opening Night, where players and teams took center stage.

Sports media majors who also made the trip include Thomas Baia, a senior from Wilson, New York; Isaac Howson, a junior from Buffalo; Stephen Scheppner, a junior from Erie, Pennsylvania; Nathan Solomon, a senior from Freeville, New York; and Jonathan Walker, a senior from Webster, New York.



Second Annual American Sports Fanship Survey Gains National Attention

The Jandoli School and Siena College Research Institute partnered again for the second annual American Sports Fanship Survey.

The survey was conducted January 2-7, 2024, among 3,071 responses drawn from a proprietary online panel of United States residents.

Findings were released in two parts. The first centered around the Super Bowl in advance of this year's big game. According to the survey, 75% of all Americans planned to watch Super Bowl LVIII and chicken wings narrowly beat out pizza as America's favorite game day food. Bona and SCRI asked Americans the primary reason they tune in to the Super Bowl, their favorite game, most memorable commercial, halftime show and more.

"Official or not, Super Bowl Sunday is a national holiday," Don Levy, SCRI's Director, said. The second release focused on the boom of online sports betting after legalization in many states over recent years.

Results revealed that nearly 1 in 5 Americans have an online sports betting account and 39% have gambled on sporting events. Of the online sports bettors, 91% indicated they have a betting app on their smartphone.

"While sports betting is popular among sports fans, particularly among young men, significant concerns remain as two-thirds worry that it creates fans with gambling problems," Aaron Chimbel, Jandoli School dean, said. "In addition, nearly half of all Americans— including more than 40% of avid fans—think online betting will corrupt organized sports, and Americans overwhelmingly support stronger regulations to protect consumers. That said, nearly half the country (49%) supports legalized online sports betting in all 50 states while only 29% call for it being illegal."

The survey's sports betting research was included in a February episode of "60 Minutes," among coverage in numerous media outlets.



Full survey results: www.sbu.edu/sports-betting.pdf www.sbu.edu/asfs24-crosstabs-_1.pdf

Exploring Lou: A VR Journey into Autism

In commemoration of World Autism Month, the Jandoli School of Communication invited members of the SBU community and the public to participate in an immersive virtual reality (VR) experience called Lou. Spearheaded by Jandoli School Professors Kimberly DeSimone, Heather Harris and Scott Sackett, the event aimed to provide insight into the sensory world of individuals with autism.

Participants filled the Athletic Hall of Fame Room in the Reilly Center where users navigated through various virtual situations as Lou, responding to stimuli, crises, and moments of fascination commonly experienced by children with autism. Participants reflected on their experiences as "eye opening" and "provoked increased empathy." Some participants were able to reflect on family members, friends, and their own experiences with autism.





Exploring Lou: A VR Journey into Autism

In addition to the VR experience, a panel discussion focused on the obstacles faced by those with autism and their parents.

Dr. Pauline Hoffmann, associate professor in the Jandoli School, moderated the panel. Dr. Hoffmann is known for her expertise in infodemiology and dedication to truth-telling through research and education.

Panelists included:

- Amie Peck, the quality improvement specialist at Futures Rehabilitation Center, which offers vocational and social programs for people with disabilities in McKean County, Pennsylvania. Over her 30-year career with the nonprofit, she has served in various roles and has a child with autism.
- Emyle Watkins, an award-winning multimedia journalist and head of the WBFO Disabilities Desk at Buffalo-Toronto Public Media's NPR station. Walkins self-identifies as disabled and neurodivergent.
- Dr. Kimberly DeSimone, a professor in the Jandoli School of Communication and mother of a child with autism. Dr. DeSimone highlighted her work with the Summit Center in Buffalo, where she has been involved in fundraising efforts to support individuals with autism and other developmental challenges.
- Dr. René Hauser, the dean of St. Bonaventure University's School of Education, and parent of a neurodivergent adult. Dr. Hauser's research focuses on differentiated instruction and inclusive education. She has over a decade of experience teaching students on the autism spectrum.

"This topic is so important and I don't think people recognize the importance," Hoffmann said.

Peck helped the audience understand that each child is different in their autism needs and processing and the importance of learning different ways to strategize.

"There is no cure for autism," Hauser said, "we need to cure our view of people with autism."

Dr. DeSimone emphasized giving grace to children with autism and their parents. "Taking the leap from philosophical understanding of autism to implementation of grace in practice," she said.

Watkins emphasized the social model for change, recounting her experiences and success.

"It's important to give disability an equitable playing field," she said, "and the world overcoming what they think of us."

Watkins later led "People with Disabilities in the Workplace and Inclusiveness in Reporting," a training session, focusing on disability reporting, inclusivity in media coverage, and the experiences of people with disabilities in both the workplace and the media for students.

Overall, the event engaged more than 75 participants from the university and community, providing opportunities to enhance their understanding of autism and promote inclusivity in reporting and everyday interactions.





CommDay 2024

Nearly 300 students and teachers from 16 area high schools attended the Jandoli School of Communication's 2024 Communications Day April 12.

"Nothing beats having hundreds of young people interested in communication and journalism come to campus," said Aaron Chimbel, dean of the Jandoli School. "I am thankful the teachers brought these energetic and engaged students to learn more about our fields and the many opportunities they can pursue in them. What a fun day!"





Since 1936 St. Bonaventure has hosted high school students to experience the world of communication, first as Press Day and since 1987 as CommDay. CommDay is an opportunity for high school students to explore the vast areas of study and meet professionals advancing the field of communication. Students arrived on campus for an eventful day, which included a keynote address and learning sessions.

This year the Jandoli School welcomed Kate Welshofer, '96, an award-winning broadcast journalist, as the keynote speaker. She motivated the students to follow their desires and accept what makes them unique.

"So much of what you need to succeed you already have right now," she said. "The core substances that make you who you are will carry you."

CommDay 2024





Other sessions focused on sports broadcasting, misinformation, media ethics, advertising, journalism and story scouting, social media, lessons from the newsroom, and writing.

An optional CommDay Competition allowed schools to compete for recognition and thousands of dollars in SBU scholarships by submitting works in three categories: video, photography, and writing. Recipients of the awards were Noah Morlock of Canisius High School for Best Photography, Leyna Harper, Jaxson Ross, and Wyatt Pierce of Salamanca High School for Best Video, and Lily Bryant of Salamanca High School for Best Writing. Best in Show was awarded to a team from Cattaraugus-Allegany BOCES Career and Technical Education Center at Olean that included Rudi Gonzalez, Ellie Lothridge, Ryan Osborne, Keaton Noller, Hannah Buck, Alex Smith, James Distrola, Dashon Martin, Nick Jones, Riley Music, Tyler Cross, and Jamie Jimerson.

Following the keynote address was a series of workshops provided by Jandoli School professors and alumni aimed at helping students learn about different aspects of the communication industry and ways to become better communicators. Students were able to engage in mini trainings and experience a day of collegiate lessons.

"The opportunities of close-knit universities are vast and unique because people here are passionate about where they work," said Lian Bunny, '17, who led a photojournalism session.

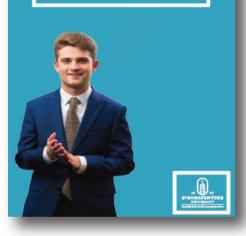


Senior Awards



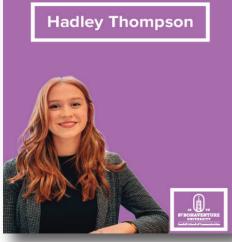
Mark Hellinger Award A senior who has demonstrated academic excellence and genuine promise in the Jandoli School of Communication.

Rich Williams



2024

Mary A. Hamilton Woman of Promise A Jandoli School of Communication female student who has excelled in and out of the classroom, set an example for peers & demonstrated great promise for success in future endeavors.

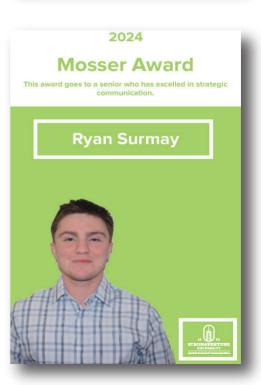


Jandoli Award This award goes to a senior who has excelled in journalism. Mark Hellinger Award Honorable Mention

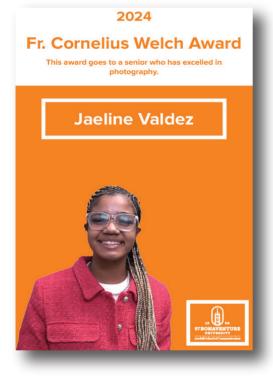
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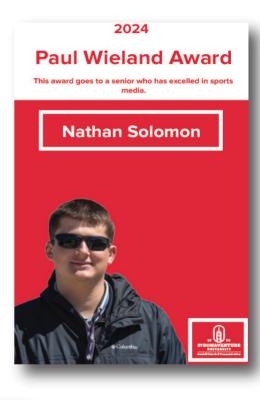
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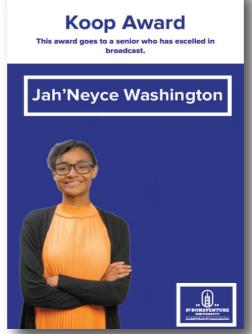


Senior Awards



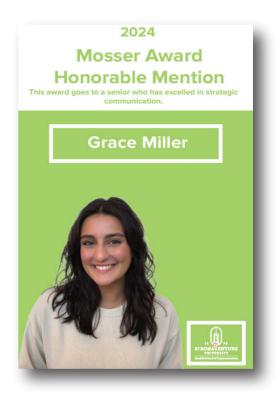


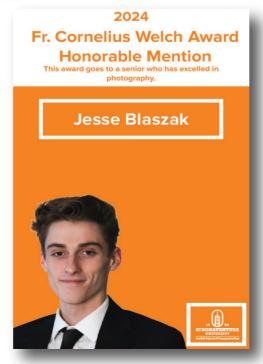
2024











Hadley Thompson Honored as 2024 Dr. Mary A. Hamilton Woman of Promise Award Recipient





Senior Hadley Thompson was celebrated as the recipient of the 2024 Dr. Mary A. Hamilton Woman of Promise Award by the Jandoli School of Communication in a ceremony on March 12.

Thompson, from Olcott, New York, will graduate in May with a double major in journalism and political science and has actively engaged in various campus media outlets throughout her academic journey. Since September 2022, she has contributed to TAPinto Greater Olean, the Jandoli School of Communication's hyperlocal news site, and served as the social media manager for Her Campus at St. Bonaventure since September 2021. Additionally, Thompson hosted radio shows for WSBU-FM and held the position of news editor for The Bona Venture newspaper.

Thompson's dedication to the Jandoli School extended beyond her journalistic pursuits; she worked as a student employee since the onset of her first semester at St. Bonaventure."She is truly full of promise, and I expect her to thrive in the years ahead," said Aaron Chimbel, dean of the Jandoli School. "Our faculty is proud to add her name to the list of remarkable Dr. Mary A. Hamilton Woman of Promise Award recipients."

Beyond campus, Thompson expanded her professional horizons as an editorial assistant at Innovation Leader in Boston and served as an individual contractor archivist for the Niagara Foundation. Internship at the New York State Assembly in Albany from January to May 2023 showcased her legislative acumen and leadership skills.

Thompson's involvement in leadership roles at St. Bonaventure, including serving as a student ambassador for the Office of Admissions and associate justice for the Student Government Association, reflected her commitment to campus community and service.

The Woman of Promise Award, named in honor of Dr. Mary A. Hamilton, '59, recognizes female seniors who excel both academically and outside the classroom, setting a commendable example for their peers.

The ceremony featured alumna Evelyn Kinnah, the 1998 Mark Hellinger Award recipient and director of the Albany County Immigration Assistance Center, as the keynote speaker.



BEA Award Honors SBU-TV



The Broadcast Education Association (BEA) granted SBU-TV an Award of Excellence in the category Newscast (under 3 times per week) for the SBU-TV Broadcast 10-27-23. The Student Festival of Media Arts recognized anchors Anthony DaSilva and Jah'Neyce Washington for the production of this broadcast. SBU-TV, is a student-produced campus community news source that broadcasts through social media.

In BEA's 2024 Recognition of Institutional Excellence in Media, the Jandoli School ranked 22nd nationally for our news programs and 27th for sports programs. These rankings reflect the BEA's evaluation of the quality and consistency of students' creative works, highlighting Jandoli School's commitment to excellence in media education and production.

The Tapestry Diversity Award



The Jandoli School Tapestry Diversity Award goes to a Jandoli School student or group of students for excellent original work and/or significant efforts that address social justice, belonging, multiculturalism, diversity, bias, equity, or inclusion. Examples include broadcasts, videos, podcasts, blogs, and other digital content, news stories, articles, photographs, visual media, advocacy, events, advertisements or marketing communications materials that speak to diversity, equity and inclusion. A significant single work, a series of projects or materials, or achievements over a student's or team's time at Bonaventure can be honored.

Team honored for 2024 is Annika Spitzer, Gabby Taylor, Katie Squires, Delainey Muscato.

Delaney Chase awarded Carnegie-Knight News21 fellowship

<image>

St. Bonaventure University junior Delaney Chase will join other talented college journalists this summer as they report on "Democracy in Crisis" through a Carnegie-Knight News21 fellowship.

Chase, a journalism major from Warren, Pennsylvania, will spend 10 weeks this summer participating in the Carnegie-Knight reporting initiative, which is headquartered at the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Arizona State University.

"Delaney follows a long line of star Jandoli School students in the News21 program," said Aaron Chimbel, dean. "I am confident she will thrive doing this important journalism and come back to St. Bonaventure with a wealth of experiences to share with her classmates."

Chase's interest in St. Bonaventure was piqued as a high school sophomore when she and classmates in her school's journalism program attended the Jandoli School's CommDay.

"I really loved the professors I met and the layout of the school. The journalism program was just what I was looking for," she said.

She has found myriad opportunities at the university to hone her craft. She is a reporter with the TAPinto Greater Olean news website, where she reports on local events and issues, and is a co-campus coordinator for the SBU chapter of the online magazine Her Campus.

"I really like reporting and talking with people. I'm getting a lot of experience talking to local people and telling their stories. Before (coming to Bona's) I thought a small town was a disadvantage, but it has ended up being an advantage," Chase said.

"I really love participating in Her Campus, I feel having that avenue with women who love to write is really good," she added.

As the News21 team explores the 2024 elections, Chase expects the student journalists will talk with election officials and volunteers and investigate the use of artificial intelligence in elections.

She is also looking forward to collaborating with and learning new skills from fellow journalism students.

This is the ninth year in a row a St. Bonaventure student has been chosen for the fellowship. The program brings top journalism students from across the country to report and produce in-depth, multimedia projects for major media outlets, including The Washington Post, NBC News and USA Today. Leading up to the summer program, students take part in a News21 issues seminar and begin preliminary reporting during the spring semester.

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Senior National Award-winning Motorsports Writing



Senior sports media major Nate Solomon, a writer for The Podium Finish, was honored by the National Motorsports Press Association with second and third place awards, competing against some of the top professional motorsports writers in the country.

Solomon received second place in the 2023 writing contest for race coverage for his reporting on the Dead On Tools 250 NASCAR Xfinity Series race. His story captured the intense final lap showdown between drivers Austin Hill and Sheldon Creed.

Read the recognized story here: https://thepodiumfinish.net/hill-creed-tangle-on-final-lap-as-custer-gets-final-champ-4-spot/

AAF Team Wins Districts

St. Bonaventure's American Advertising Federation competition team earned first place in its district for the 2024 AAF National Student Advertising Competition on April 19. This is the second year in a row St. Bonaventure's team has won the district.



This year's client was Tide. After students compiled research on the product and its competition, they were responsible for identifying potential problem areas, and formulating an integrated campaign for the client.

The St. Bonaventure team was one of just 18 semifinalists out 103 teams in the competition.



The team is a partnership between the Jandoli School of Communication and School of Business and led by Mike Jones-Kelley, a lecturer in the Jandoli School, and Lu Liu, an assistant professor of marketing in the business school. Jandoli School senior Grace Miller served as agency president.



Alum Updates



Donna Ditota Inducted Into USBWA Hall of Fame



Alumna Donna Ditota, '83, was inducted into the U.S. Basketball Writers Association's (USBWA) Hall of Fame in April.

She's a basketball writer for The Post-Standard and syracuse.com, covering Syracuse University men's basketball. She has covered basketball and a variety of other sports in Syracuse for nearly 40 years.

Ditota was a scholarship basketball player at Bona's and graduated magna cum laude in journalism and mass communication. She served as the sports editor of The Bona Venture during her time at SBU.

Now, she's a member of the Jandoli School of Communication's advisory board for its master's degree program in sports journalism and helped develop the curriculum.

She's a staple in the Syracuse community, known for her in-depth features and advanced basketball analysis. In 2022, Ditota became the first woman named as the New York Sportswriter of the Year by the National Sports Media Association. In 2017, she received the John Domino Award, given to a St. Bonaventure alum who has excelled in sports communication.

"She entered the business during a period when locker room access for female journalists was a controversial topic," wrote past USBWA president and Hall of Famer Mike DeCourcy. "And has endured long enough to now be a part of new-media ventures such as internet programs."

Ditota was honored by the USBWA at the 2024 NCAA men's Final Four as part of a four-person class that included Bob Baptist of The Columbus Dispatch, Chris Dortch of Blue Ribbon College Basketball Yearbook and Terry Hutchens of CNHI Sports Indiana and the Indianapolis Star.

"This year's Hall of Fame class is a celebration of careers truly dedicated to coverage of college basket-ball," USBWA president Brendan Quinn of The Athletic said in a release announcing the honorees. "In their own unique ways, Bob, Chris, Donna and Terry have all provided readers and fans with the two things they want most – information and perspective. Congratulations to our inductees and their families."

Alum Updates



Lizz Schumer Joins People Magazine as Senior Editor for Books

Jandoli School aluma Lizz Schumer, '08, recently joined People magazine as senior editor for books. With a strong background in culture, entertainment, and human interest reporting, Schumer brings extensive expertise to her new position, particularly in her focus on the publishing industry over the past five years.

Prior to her role at People, Schumer served as a senior editor at Good Housekeeping magazine, where she led coverage on books, podcasts, pets, and culture. Notably, she founded the GH Book Club in 2021 and GH+ Reads in 2023, demonstrating her ability to engage audiences through literature. Her writing has been featured in prominent publications such as The New York Times, SELF, and HuffPost.

Schumer's career began in her hometown of Buffalo, where she worked as a reporter before transitioning to editorial roles. She later moved to New York City, where she continued to make significant contributions to the media landscape. In addition to her editorial work, Schumer is also an accomplished author, having published two books: "Buffalo Steel" and "Biography of a Body."

Alongside her role at People, she teaches journalism courses at New York University and serves as a writing coach with the New York Writing Room.







Chris Carola Appointed as Associate State Director for Communications at AARP New York



Alumnus Chris Carola, '81, was recently announced as the associate state director for communications at AARP New York. He started in early January. AARP, the nation's largest nonprofit organization, aims to empower Americans aged 50 and older to shape their lives as they age.

Carola brings a wealth of experience to his new position, having previously served as a freelance writer for the Albany Times Union. Additionally, he played a pivotal role in managing publicity for the documentary "Benedict Arnold: Hero Betrayed," released in 2021 and narrated by Martin Sheen.

With a 37-year career in daily journalism, Carola spent 31 years as a reporter for The Associated Press in Albany.



Book Chapter by Dr. Tammy Rae Matthews



Dr. Tammy Rae Matthews, an assistant professor in the online sports journalism and digital journalism master's degree programs, published a chapter in the book "Media in Africa" titled "Queering the Game" that explores policy, power, and the mediation of intersex athletes in Sub-Saharan Africa. It looks back on the story of Christine Mboma and Beatrice Masilingi, two Namibian track and field runners who World Athletics disqualified from the recent Tokyo Olympics due to naturally high testosterone levels. It reflects on how Namibian sport media could frame intersex athletes in ways that create a more inclusive media environment.



Chris Mackowski Honored with Vandiver Award for Civil War Scholarship



Dr. Chris Mackowski, professor of journalism and mass communication, was awarded the Frank E. Vandiver Award by the Houston Civil War Roundtable. This award recognizes outstanding contributions to Civil War scholarship or preservation efforts, highlighting Mackowski's significant impact in the field.

The award is named in honor of Dr. Frank E. Vandiver (1925-2005), a respected academic, author, and administrator at institutions such as Rice University, University of North Texas, and Texas A&M University. Dr. Vandiver's legacy as a founding member of the Houston Civil War Roundtable continues to inspire and guide scholars in their pursuit of excellence.

New Book Explores the Devastation of the Civil War

Dr. Chris Mackowski, in collaboration with historian Garry Adelman, released his latest publication, "The Cost of War: A Visual Summary of Civil War Devastation."

This book presents a stark visual account of the Civil War's impact. Using 1860s-era photographs, it illustrates the toll on cities, landscapes, prisoners of war, and soldiers. The final chapters discuss burials and cemeteries, providing context to the significant human cost—exceeding 640,000 soldier deaths. Through meticulous detail, Mackowski and Adelman shed light on a crucial aspect of American history, ensuring that the war's sacrifices are remembered.

Sackett co-presents featured session at 'Repair 2024' event



Scott Sackett, a documentary filmmaker, public media producer and Jandoli School of Communication lecturer, co-presented at a featured session of the American Ethnological Society Spring Conference, Repair 2024, hosted by the University of Pittsburgh, April 4-6.

The session encompassed a screening and panel discussion of his national public television documentary "Lake of Betrayal" (2017) about Kinzua Dam on the Allegheny River and its impact on the Seneca people. His co-producers, Paul Lamont and Caleb Abrams (Seneca Nation, Wolf Clan) participated remotely.

Joining the panel was Eli Hall, Seneca Nation, Beaver Clan, a predoctoral fellow in the University of Pittsburgh's Department of Geology and Environmental Sciences whose research focuses on the algae communities in the Allegheny Reservoir.

Nicole Heller, associate curator of Anthropocene Studies for the Carnegie Museum of Natural History, served as moderator.

The conference invited scholars to grapple with the complexities and possibilities of repair in the contexts of the people and sites in which they work. In the framework of compounding ramifications — mass extinctions, settler-colonial dispossession, gentrification, and displacement — presentations centered on what it means to repair the historic legacies of damage and harm.

Kinzua Dam on the Allegheny River, more than 200 miles above Pittsburgh, was originally planned as part of an extensive flood control system, but at the time of construction, in 1965, there were undisclosed plans for a hydropower facility that would drive economic development.

Ten thousand acres of the Seneca Nation's treaty-protected lands were taken for the reservoir in the era of Indian Termination when Native American tribes were removed from protected status and their lands were sold to non-Indigenous people

Dr. Tara Walker Showcases Artistry at Tri-County Arts Council



In a celebration of creativity and expression, Dr. Tara Walker, assistant professor in the Jandoli School, unveiled her evocative painting titled "Museum" at the "Something Big" large works show hosted by the Tri-County Arts Council in Olean during March and April.

Dr. Brian Moritz Illuminates Key Shifts in Sports Journalism



At the 2024 Summit on Communication and Sport, Dr. Brian Moritz, '99, director of online master's degree programs in journalismand an associate professor at the Jandoli School, presented his latest insights into the evolution of sports journalism. With a focus on the transformative period spanning the 1940s-1960s, Moritz's presentation shed light on the influence of editorial pioneers like Stanley Woodward and Jack Mann.

Moritz discussed the critical contributions of Woodward and Mann, highlighting their role in reshaping the ethos of sports journalism. By advocating for critical analysis and innovative storytelling, these trailblazing editors revolutionized the field, establishing new bench-marks for journalistic excellence and integrity.



Heather Harris Promoted to Associate Professor



We are pleased to announce the promotion of Heather Harris to associate professor. With over a decade of experience in Fortune 500 companies, Harris brings a wealth of practical knowledge in marketing and communication to her role.

Harris blends her industry expertise with a commitment to innovative teaching methods. Her research focuses on the power of storytelling and visual engagement, particularly in messaging aimed at young audiences. This scholarly work informs her creative endeavors, including 11 illustrated children's books, recognized for their impact and creativity.

Harris, DeSimone, and Bulszewicz present at business research gathering

Faculty members Heather Harris, Kimberly DeSimone and Anna Bulszewicz, '07, all presented papers at the Academy of Business Research spring conference in New Orleans, Louisiana, in March.

Harris' paper, "Visuals, Power Stances, and Position: Power Messages in Disney Marketing Media," examined the use of shape language in movie poster advertising to young audiences to create appeal for Disney animated movies.

DeSimone's paper was titled "Ideal Leadership Traits: Big 5 Personality, Gender, and The Dark Triad."

Bulszewicz's paper was titled "The 3 C's Mindful Communication Model: Emerging communication challenges in higher education."

DeSimone and Harris received best paper awards.

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