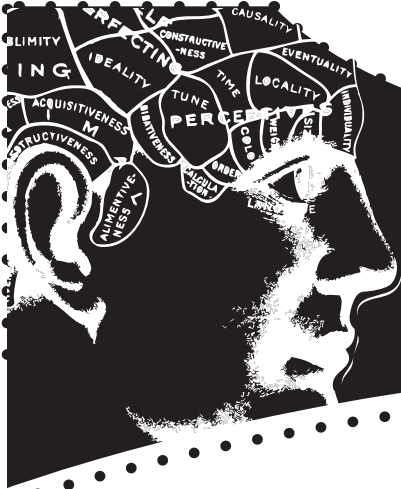


*{ Nam et ipsa scientia potestas est. }*

**THE HONORS PROGRAM PROVIDES ACADEMICALLY  
EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS AN OPPORTUNITY TO  
DEVELOP THEIR FULL POTENTIAL THROUGH  
THE ENHANCED LEARNING ENVIRONMENT  
OF A DESIGNATED COMMUNITY  
OF SCHOLARS**



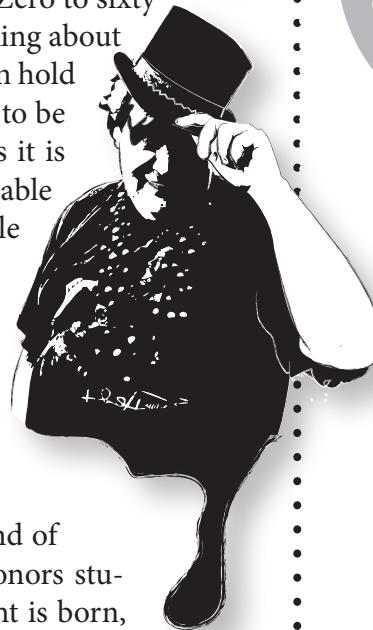
**{ VOL 1 }**

**NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT**

**JAY R. JOHNSTON**

*did you know?*

*Intelligence includes not only wisdom and quick thinking, but also creativity, personality, character, and of course our total knowledge.*



The space shuttle accelerates at five miles per second. Zero to sixty in three-point-five is exceptionally fast when we're talking about a performance sports car. However, neither of these can hold a candle to the speed of thought. Thought has proven to be so fast as to be immeasurable, and as honors students it is our goal to make those speeding thoughts into actionable reality. Thoughts are our *raison d'être*. Take for example this newsletter, *The Pinnacle: Destination Known*; it started as nothing more than an idea at a table meeting over the summer. That thought moved quickly, as thoughts so often do, and a dedicated group of our peers grabbed hold. Now, here we are, barely a month into the semester, hardly three months from the initial idea, and you hold in your hands the physical result of a single thought. That is the kind of rapid-fire, thought-into-action behavior that we as honors students should, can, and do show. As fast as the thought is born, we must put it into action and make it a reality. That is our edge. We are those lucky few with the right combination of brains

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

# VOL. 1 CONTENTS

## PAGE 2 :

- Word of the Month
- Notes from the President:  
Continued

## PAGE 3 :

- Meeting Highlights
- Notes from the VP of Fundraising
- Notes from the VP of Community  
Involvement

## PAGE 4 :

- Honors Excellence:  
Going Above & Beyond

## PAGE 5 :

- Notes from the VP of Activities
- Kim's Funny Law
- Word Search

## PAGE 6 :

- Art by Honors: A Collection of  
All Things Art - Created by Our  
Awesome Honors Students

## PAGE 7 :

- Special Article:  
Kat Allie: Department Chair  
Fine Arts

## PAGE 8 :

- Directors Corner
- Links & Places
- Notes from the VP of Public  
Relations & Editor in Chief

## WORD OF THE MONTH

### OBSTREPEROUS

ob·strep·er·ous  
adjective  
\əb-'stre-p(ə-)rəs\

1. stubbornly resistant to control
2. marked by unruly or aggressive noisiness

*Example: She gave up after several attempts to control the obstreperous students.*

*Origin: Latin obstreperus, from obstrepere to clamor against, from ob- against + strepere to make a noise*  
*First Known Use: circa 1600*

BY KATHY SHELDAHL

*Kathy is an Honors Representative  
for the VP of Public Relations*

*If you could leave only one existing book for the world to have 500 years from now, which book would you leave? (send us your answer)*

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and brawn to be members of the OTC Honors Program, and in this we have the perfect opportunity to harness those rapid-fire thoughts and ride them quickly to action. Who knows, maybe one of us can one day be the person to create that next zero to sixty vehicle, or the next time a space shuttle is launched (she will fly again!) one of us may be the one counting down, or even the breathless astronaut in the cockpit. Or maybe, just maybe, one of us can be lucky enough to be there when something as awesome as *The Pinnacle* is born, as I was. No matter what, if you take hold today and use what you obviously have that makes you an honors student, you can and will take these thoughts quickly to action, and thoughts + action = results. Now it's only my opinion, but I believe each of us is the type of person who can bring those results. Now is the time to develop the skills necessary to do so. Be the one who brings results, and life will bring them back to you. Bring results, and you will succeed.

I look forward to the taking the journey towards that destination with you. Hang on tight, because it's going to be a wild ride, but it will be worth it! Welcome to the OTC Honors Program, Fall 2012, and to the first edition of the Honors Program exclusive newsletter, *The Pinnacle: Destination Known*.

# MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

## SECRETARY AARON CREED

General Assembly Meeting Highlights:  
Friday, September 14, 2012

- HON 101 to go to a topics based class.  
Idea ballots to come
- Acknowledgment for OTC Bookstore for the \$25 gift card
- Balance for OTC Honors Student Council is \$1719.14
- Fantastic caverns free for members, there is a survey to see if there is any interest.  
We need at least 20 people to do this.
- The Avengers movie will be in Lincoln 211 on October 26 and will be an all day event
- Academic Integrity Week is the week of October 15th. This will be a 5-day event and we will run tables all of those days. Volunteers needed for Richwood Valley Campus and Springfield Campus tables.
- PR revamp is in the works! We need people to go through materials for recruitment and a general update to our PR material, email [zd0499601@otc.edu](mailto:zd0499601@otc.edu) for more info.
- \$150.00 for pies and supplies for "pie in the face" fundraiser was voted on and approved.



# ANGELA MILTON

## VP OF FUNDRAISING

Hello everyone! I am so excited about the fundraising activities we are planning for this semester! I hope you all will enjoy them too. To kick things off this year, we will be hosting a "Pie in the Face" booth during the Fall Picnic. What better way to show your support for the Honors Program than by throwing a pie at one of your instructors or fellow classmates? We will need volunteers to help us set up, run, and break down the booth, so please check out the fundraising tab on blackboard for details if you would like to help. I would also like to mention any participation in fundraising activities does count towards your campus involvement service hours. I would like to thank all of you in advance for your efforts in making this a successful semester and I am looking forward to meeting and working with you.



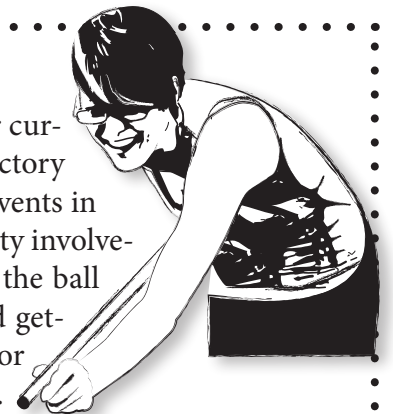
*don't forget!*

For any upcoming events, be sure to check out HSC's Blackboard site. We cannot wait to see you there!

# SASHA COOK

## VP OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Hi Everyone! Please check the community involvement section of blackboard for current listings of events in our area that need volunteers. In addition to having a directory of organizations that need help year round, there are also local area and school events in which you can participate. I also would like to note all events under the community involvement tab do count for service hours. In the upcoming month I plan on getting the ball rolling for our spring Relay for Life event so if you are interested in helping and getting started early please get in touch with me. If you have any recommendations or would like to get the word out about an event or organization please let me know.





# HONORS EXCELLENCE

## GOING ABOVE AND BEYOND



### THE REALLY BIG PROJECT

JENNIFER LOU

The journey of my Honors 101 research project spanned three semesters. It began during spring 2012, stretched through summer, and ended at the dawn of this fall semester. I knew my topic immediately. I feel very impassioned about climate change, what is happening to our Earth because of it, and the complacency of our policy makers and citizens.

I made the choice to work alone on the project because my subject matter didn't really jive with anyone else's and I didn't want to give up my topic choice. That meant the responsibilities were all on me.

Right away I began the process of securing a presentation by the Climate Reality Project as the action plan component of my assignment. After obtaining permission from OTC, I sent my request to the organization for a live presentation and settled in for the mammoth task of research, interviews, and actually writing my paper.

Stumbling blocks came over the summer semester, but by this point I was determined to follow through even though things hadn't materialized according to plan. The presentation took place in early September, and my research project is finally complete despite the hurdles, disappointments, frustrations, and delays.

The Honors 101 research project has been a learning adventure that I am thankful to have experienced. Choosing to work alone on such a demanding endeavor may have been a questionable judgment. Nonetheless, I would make the same decision again because I believe the subject of climate change is vital and urgent. It is worthy of my best efforts past, present, and future.

### ABOUT JENNIFER

*Jennifer is a 6th semester student here at OTC. She is currently in the Allied Health LPN program and in the Fall of 2013 has plans to bridge over to the RN program. When she graduates, Jennifer plans of continuing for her BSM and has plans for a career in nursing. At this point in her life, she feels very led towards hospice care.*

*Jennifer feels that we as citizens have been uninformed and passive, sometimes even deniers, of the most urgent and important issue of our time. "It is appalling to me that nothing is being done when scientists are in general consensus that global warming is in fact happening and our future looks very bleak without extreme measures", she notes. The presentation that Jennifer hosted was her attempt to bring awareness of this most dire issue to our college and community.*





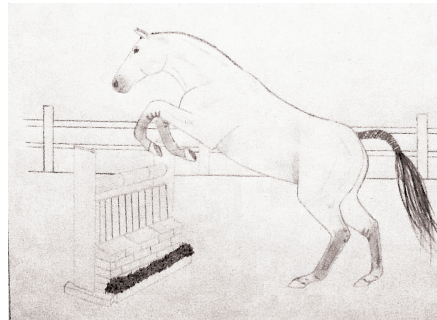
# ART BY HONORS



## THE PUPPETEERS GRIP

*Puppets in masquerades dance  
 Through a stiff life lie.  
 Eyes wide, big frown, in a trance  
 Hidden behind a smiley dead mask. Cry,  
 cry, follow your command: let an arm  
 work its own peaceful charm.  
 Block out that cinema script;  
 allow the strings and mask to be stripped  
 from the play maker  
 domination all the acts.  
 Be the bold tyrant shaker  
 from the deep malicious blacks.*

**BY  
 NOELIA HARO**



**KAHLUA  
 DANA HENDERSON**

*"...art gives me freedom  
 even when my body  
 doesn't..."*

*don't forget!*

*Send us  
 your submissions  
 for you artwork and it  
 might be selected to be  
 featured in the next  
 newsletter.*

## UNTITLED

*I get up in the morning  
 hit the shower and get dressed.  
 Did I get all my homework done  
 or was TV too hard to resist?  
 Just remembered there's an essay due  
 that I haven't yet begun.  
 Hope this day gets better  
 or I might just freakin' run!  
 Traffic is horrendous  
 and parking, even worse.  
 Some idiot just cut me off  
 And I forgot my purse.  
 Left my math assignment  
 back home on the table.  
 Don't know how these kids can do this  
 Wonder if I'm able?  
 Just another day  
 in the life of a college student.  
 Guess I'll dig my heels in  
 And just go ahead and DO IT!*

**BY  
 KATHY SHELDAHL**



You can see  
 this piece  
 along with  
 a few other  
 works done  
 by Leah and  
 her fellow  
 students at  
 the OTC  
 Fine Arts-  
 Department  
 Gallery at  
 the Gillioz.

**MASTERS STUDY - PAINTING I  
 LEAH CULBERTSON-FAEGRE**

## TAN ANNE

*There once was a girl named Miss Anne,  
 Who really needed a dark tan.  
 She sat in the sun,  
 Dried up like a plum,  
 So now she looks like an old man.*

**BY  
 NOELIA HARO**



# KAT ALLIE

## DEPARTMENT CHAIR FINE ARTS

Interview conducted by Shawna Miller - An Honors Representative for the VP of Public Relations



**How long has the OTC Fine Arts Department been located at the Gillioz?**

Since the Fall semester 2007. We have just begun our 5th year!

**How is the OTC Fine Arts Department involved with the community?**

We are an Art Walk council member, a Springfield Regional Arts Council member, and we are also a part of the Theater District Alliance.

**If I were to walk into any classroom here at the Gillioz, what is it that I should see?**

Energy, creativity, exploration, and achievement in action.

**Do you feel that practicing art as a student is important no matter the degree you are seeking?**

Definitely, without a doubt. Reflecting on one's personal emotional responses to the world around them and then translating those into expressions of creativity in any of discipline of art whether it be visual, musical, or theatrical, are fundamental to a human being's emotional and spiritual livelihood.

**What is your favorite thing about teaching here at OTC?**

Students. Students looking to explore their own personal creative expression and students willing to learn, do, and achieve. My favorite thing about teaching art is opening up a world of possibilities for someone to do something uniquely gratifying while at the same time sharing in the greater human experience of community and culture. Lessons learned in our classrooms are tools and techniques that a student can continue to practice and cultivate throughout their life while continuing to grow as an expressive and contributing member of humanity.

**What is your philosophy about art?**

Art is ESSENTIAL. It is like water to me. We live in an environment where our survival becomes acutely reliant on the colors, light, smells, textures, sounds, tastes, symbols, and shapes around us. To be more keenly aware of all the elements of life and to see the beauty that exists in the simple form of a chair, the way the light reflects off someone's hair, the continually changing color of the sky, and the different textures that we feel with our skin everyday makes the world and our daily responsibilities of life more aesthetically pleasing. Art is also a vehicle for shared human experiences and responses to our environment. Art can express and lead to social and political change. Art can cross cultural boundaries and truly fill the world with more understanding and beauty.

*The OTC Fine Arts Department is located on the 3rd floor of the Gillioz Theater located in downtown Springfield. Be sure to pop in and check out all that this awesome department has to offer!*

## DIRECTORS CORNER

### DIRECTOR MR TODD YERBY

I have to begin by saying that I can't believe the amazing things that we have done as an honors program in the short time that we've been in existence. It's hard to imagine that the OTC Honors Program is less than five years old and has such a dedicated group of students, staff and faculty working daily to enhance the strong foundation that has been built in such a short period. At this time we have approximately eighty student members and we look forward to having double digit honors program graduates for the first time in the 2012-2013 school year.

I have been privileged to watch this program grow and I look forward to seeing it continue to blossom well into the future. As we grow, we will continue to work with those around us to make good things happen. This fall that includes working diligently with the other campus groups on Constitution Day and Academic Integrity Week, coordinating efforts to help host an OTC night at a special traveling exhibit on Race, what is to my knowledge the first campus-wide movie showing as we help bring the smash hit 'The Avengers' to campus in October, followed by a campus-wide 'Trivia' night in November. These big events are just a drop in the bucket as the OTC Honors Program and its students continue to provide exceptional campus and community leadership and service.

*Never forget that we are honors; you are honors.  
This program is what you make of it.*



## LINKS AND PLACES

- *Be sure to check out our Facebook page and follow us on Twitter at #HonorsOTC*
- *Be sure to stop by the Writing Center in room IC 200 for help with anything writing related*
- *Also be sure to stop by the Tutoring Center in room ICE 212 for help with any class*
- *Having problems with that speech? What about that outline? Be sure to check out the Speech Center that is located in the Writing Center for help with your speeches!*
- *Don't forget to check out each Honors Student Council Officers Tab on Blackboard for important announcements and information.*

## WE NEED YOU

### VP OF PUBLIC RELATIONS & EDITOR IN CHIEF - ZACH DAMPIER

These newsletters are not made by few pieces of student content and then thrown together with a bunch of other random things, they come directly from you, the honors student! We need you to submit your content so that we can compose great newsletter's rich with honors student content. You can submit anything you would like to (within reason), we accept art work, poetry, random writings, prose, photos, and anything else you can think of that would be appropriate for a newsletter. The next deadline for the newsletter will be Thursday November 1st, 2012 at 5:00pm (correct this if it is not right I didnt have calendar with me). Please submit all your content to [zd0499601@otc.edu](mailto:zd0499601@otc.edu). While I cannot promise your piece will make it into the November newsletter, I will promise that it will be in one of the editions for the 2012-2013 school year. Thank you again!

