

**OTC
Honors
Program**



The Pinnacle: Destination Known



**Fall
2018**

Nam et ipsa scientia potestas est.

Volume 17



The OTC Honors Program provides academically motivated high achieving students who conduct themselves in a responsible manner the opportunity to develop their full potential through collaboration with a designated community of scholars and enhanced/additional learning environments and opportunities.



**Compiled and Edited
by Ian Williamson**

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HONORS OFFICE:

ICE # 352

*Come hang
out!*

OFFICERS WANTED!

Want to be an Honors Officer next year? Contact us now!

Work Study Openings

These positions are available to honors students and non-honors students. We need more people to help out with the office and program in general. If you qualify for work-study and want to get involved contact us or come by. Our phone number is **417-447-7500 ext. 8905**. Our email is **honors@otc.edu**.

Contact us:

If you are an Honors Program student interested in having your work published in the newsletter, or if you are interested in applying to the Honors Program, you may email **honors@otc.edu** for more information or search 'honors program' on the OTC website. **Office Phone: 417-447-7500 ext. 8905.**

Visual Art

Drawing by: Lauren Mansker



Created by: Michelle McGrath



{The Pinnacle: Destination Known} {3}

Literary Corner

The Vase

By: Siena Kragel

Eternally in bloom
Are these flowers of summer.
In hearts shall they stay
Winter's forsaken touch held at bay

The likeness of such a creation
runs through every essence.
The blossoming flaxen suns
holds man's eye
With a certain surmise.

This holy promise
Is the cosmic compromise

The musing of softened petal hues;
the fingers and small feet of newborns,
the simple touch of a one loved,
the deftness of solitude.

Man remain entranced
So when mortal winter is afoot,
he will not hide from its chilling effects
For each colored petal is perfect

This is the holy promise,
The cosmic compromise

May it always be the summer of our lives.

What Will Be

By: Siena Kragel

Through riches and war
Through mortal life carved in granite
Through the minds of Socrates and Orpheus alike
There will always be
Waves that crash into shorelines
Fields that sway in spring
Animals that live in treelines
For what can all harm's do for
anything

It is the shades of red that run through leaves
This divine artist's brush cannot be swayed by dying hands
The pomegranate seeds will produce cold nights
And the sun will eternally bloom
With or without aid
The foamy shores will produce ancient life
And the creatures of sea and land alike will thrive through and
through

Perhaps our hands will have no meaning to it all
Will bloodshed prevent the ever blooming seeds?
Will black tar covering the sea be remembered in tales yet re-
counted?
Will war and willpower give way to grace as mankind has so ad-
mired?
Perhaps our hands will have some purpose to it all

Yet as the seeds will grow, the waves evermore, and the eternal
circle rounds

I will sit and contemplate in connected minds alike
What can all harm's do for anything
Except watch and watch
As the world will always turn.

Books: Student Recommendations

For Pleasure:



Prince of Thorns

When he was nine, he watched as his mother and brother were killed before him. By the time he was thirteen, he was the leader of a band of bloodthirsty thugs. By fifteen, he intends to be king...

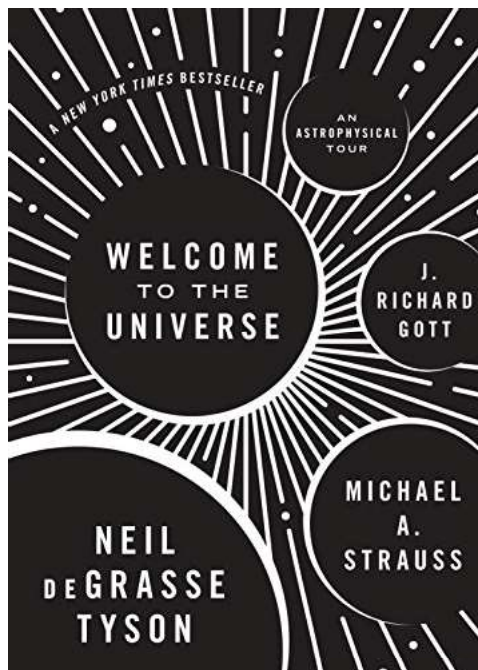
It's time for Prince Honourous Jorg Ancrath to return to the castle he turned his back on, to take what's rightfully his. Since the day he hung pinned on the thorns of a briar patch and watched Count Renar's men slaughter his mother and young brother, Jorg has been driven to vent his rage. Life and death are no more than a game to him—and he has nothing left to lose.

But treachery awaits him in his father's castle. Treachery and dark magic. No matter how fierce his will, can one young man conquer enemies with power beyond his imagining?

Recommended by: Ian Williamson

Summary and Image Provided by: Amazon

For Learning:



Welcome To The Universe

Welcome to the Universe is a personal guided tour of the cosmos by three of today's leading astrophysicists. Inspired by the enormously popular introductory astronomy course that Neil deGrasse Tyson, Michael A. Strauss, and J. Richard Gott taught together at Princeton, this book covers it all - from planets, stars, and galaxies to black holes, wormholes, and time travel.

Describing the latest discoveries in astrophysics, the informative and entertaining narrative propels you from our home solar system to the outermost frontiers of space. How do stars live and die? Why did Pluto lose its planetary status? What are the prospects of intelligent life elsewhere in the universe? How did the universe begin? Why is it expanding, and why is its expansion accelerating? Is our universe alone or part of an infinite multiverse? Answering these and many other questions, the authors open your eyes to the wonders of the cosmos, sharing their knowledge of how the universe works.

Breathtaking in scope, Welcome to the Universe is for those who hunger for insights into our evolving universe that only world-class astrophysicists can provide.

Recommended by: Ian Williamson

Summary and Image Provided by: Amazon

Food Recipe: Student Recommendations



Massaman Curry

Ingredients:

2 tablespoons vegetable oil
3 tablespoons curry paste
1 (3/4 inch thick) slice ginger, minced
1 1/4 pounds skinless, boneless chicken
breast meat - cubed
3 tablespoons brown sugar
3 tablespoons fish sauce
3 tablespoons tamarind paste
3 tablespoons cup peanut butter
3 cubed peeled potatoes
1 (13.5 ounce) can coconut milk
3 tablespoons fresh lime juice

Directions:

Heat vegetable oil in a large saucepan over medium heat. Stir in curry paste and minced ginger; cook and stir for 2 minutes. Stir in the cubed chicken, and cook until the pieces turn white on the outside, about 3 minutes.

Stir in brown sugar, fish sauce, tamarind paste, peanut butter, potatoes, and coconut milk. Bring to a boil, then reduce heat to medium-low, cover, and simmer until the potatoes are tender and the chicken pieces are no longer pink in the center, about 20 minutes. Add the lime juice and cook for an additional 5 minutes before serving.

Serve with steamed or fried rice

Local Businesses: Student Recommendations

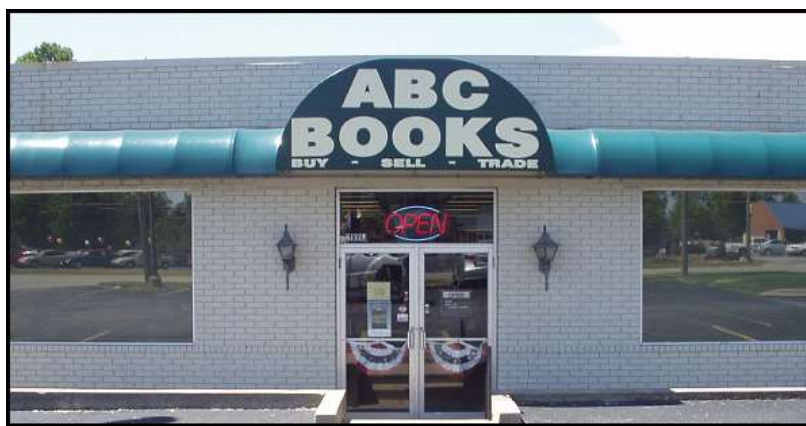
Karai Ramen + Handroll



Japanese-style restaurant that provides both traditional and non-traditional ramen dishes as well as various forms of sushi. Pricing for Ramen is generally around 10 dollars a bowl but portions are very large. Sushi runs about 5 dollars and up for a roll. My personal recommendation is their Tonkatsu. It is a fried pork cutlet served with mustard bbq sauce, rice, cabbage, and miso soup. It is my favorite thing on the menu.

Recommended by: Ian Williamson

ABC Books



We are an indie bookstore established in 1989 and located in Springfield Missouri on historical Route 66. Our inventory is primarily pre-read with some new books mixed in. Genres range from theology to sci-fi to cookbooks.

Any of our staff members can assist you in finding your next book!

Recommended by: Ian Williamson
Information Provided by their website

Get to Know the Officers

Lauren Mansker

President

In my free time I enjoy sleeping about once a month and spending time with my significant other. I look forward to helping you guys make your Honors Program experience as prosperous as you ever dreamed it could be!

Katharine Vine

Vp of On-Campus Service

HEY! I'm planning on getting a degree in astrophysics! I LOVE to travel (Space one day?!) I've been on more planes than I can count, with many more to come. My ultimate goal is to visit all the Disney lands in the World. I have a 6 year old daughter called Aurora (slight Disney obsession) and she is also developing my love to travel. As many of you know I'm from the UK; Wales to be exact and I've also lived in Australia for a year. I love meeting new people so come say hi whenever you're around!

Michelle McGrath

Treasurer

I am a stay at home mom going to school full time. I love to crochet, paint, draw, sculpt, embroider by hand, basically anything to do with my hands. I also love putting furniture together and home improvement projects. I plan on getting a Ph.D. in psychology and with that I hope to make a difference in this world, whether if its with one child or a thousand.

Ashly Jones

VP of Publicity

I will be graduating from OTC in December and transferring to Missouri State. I have two brothers, one older and one younger. My fur baby is my dog Atlas, who's a Rottweiler-Blue Heeler mix. I'm looking forward to the rest of the fall semester!

Ian Williamson

Editor in Chief of the Pinnacle

Hey guys. I was born and raised here in Springfield, Missouri but I hope to get out and explore the world. I am pursuing a degree in Linguistics and Japanese in order to move to Japan. If you are reading this newsletter then thank you because I made it with help from the other officers. Come by the office and hang out with us officers and other honors students if you are one. See you around.

Nina Mack

VP of Educational and Social Activities

This is my second year here at OTC and I joined the honors program about a year ago. I'm currently working on my associate of Science degree. My hobbies include cooking; spending time with my friends, three sisters, mom, and boyfriend; and doing yoga to relax. My friends would describe me as sweet, loyal, caring, loud, bold, exaggerated, honest, but also tactful.

Cindy Muse

VP of Fundraising

I am working towards my BCS degree. I am married, have 2 grandchildren with one on the way. I have 1 horse, 3 dogs, 2 cats, 3 finches and 40 some chickens(have lost count). I love to cook, quilt, garden, and spend time with my family and my pets.

Kori Little

VP of Off-Campus Service

My husband Greg and I have five grown children and eight amazing grandchildren that we love to spoil. I have been a certified Histotechnician for nearly twenty years and Specialist in Laboratory Safety for twelve years. In my free time, I enjoy making diaper cakes and sewing baby blankets.

Rebecca Shelton

Secretary

I have two wild boys that are six and three. We'll say that, because of them and my husband, I stay young. I am pursuing an elementary teaching position but hope to continue school for my masters and eventually my PHD so I can teach in a college. Some useless, yet interesting, facts about me are: I was born on Easter, I've never broken a bone (and don't intend to), I've been skydiving and even flown a plane (although not at the same time), and I have a blue birthmark. I also work at Missouri Wind and Solar in Seymour, where I live and am slowly learning more about living off grid.

Officer Pictures



Lauren Mansker - President



Ashly Jones - Publicity



Cindy Muse - Fundraising



Katharine Vine - On-Campus Service



Ian Williamson - Pinnacle Editor



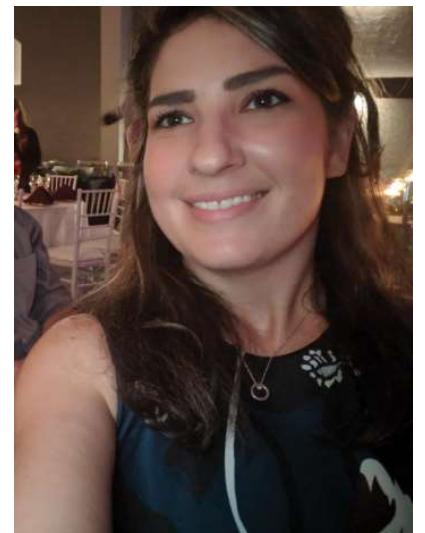
Kori Little - Off-Campus Service



Michelle McGrath - Treasurer



Nina Mack - Educational and Social Activities



Rebecca Shelton - Secretary

Honors Events



Orientation

Lauren Mansker

As all of you know we had an orientation this semester in August right after we started school. I was very pleased with the outcome of this event! I had tons of fun and I hope you guys did too and are looking forward to the next one! One reason I love orientation is because I get to meet a bunch of new folks and see the beautiful faces of the seasoned veterans.



Snow Cones

Kori Little

The colors are bright and fun. There are many flavors that can be combined to be interesting. Snow cones are a treat that brings you back to your childhood. On a hot day there is nothing better than a cold, bright, and flavorful snow cone. The Honors Program started the 2018 fall semester with a fundraiser selling snow cones on August 28th in the Jared Family Atrium of the Springfield OTC campus. Making snow cones is a messy job, your hands get stained from the flavored syrup and it gets all over the tables and floors. The ice melts and drips on the floor. And even with the mess it is a super fun event for the Honors Program students to have. Once snow cone fundraisers are announced, we all get excited about the colorful treat. The students, staff, and faculty on the campus of OTC all enjoyed the cold refreshing treat. It was even better because the day was nearly 100 degrees. We had a mobile snow cone team that went to all areas of the campus to allow more people to enjoy the cold sweet treat. The fundraiser was a success for the program and brings us closer to our goal of starting a scholarship fund. We are anxiously waiting for the warm weather of spring 2019 semester, so we can bring out the snow cone machine and wonderful flavors, like the popular tiger's blood, and even the unpopular banana flavor that some of the Honors Program officers love.

Honors Events

CBCO Blood Drive

Katharine Vine

On September 13th the honors program coordinated with PTK and hosted the first blood drive of the academic year.

We invited the community blood center of the Ozarks (CBCO) to the campus for the blood collection. CBCO supply blood to the local community (43 hospitals located in Southwest Missouri, Northwest Arkansas and Southeast Kansas) as well as the military. They were established in 1995 with one simple mission: "To provide a quality blood supply, in a timely manner, at the lowest reasonable fee, while remaining accountable to the local community, blood donors and health care providers."

They alone need nearly 60,000 units of blood a year. But did you know that in the United States nearly 36,000 units of red blood cells are needed a day?! With someone needing blood on average every 2 seconds! This means any donations can and will save a life!

With this blood drive, our goal was 35 pints. We collected 50! We could have taken more as we had over 80 people registered however time and bed restraints meant we ended up having to turn people away.

We are very thankful to everyone who donated and also those that volunteered to help, from sign ups to ensuring the donors were feeling ok! Everything helped.

Coming up in November, Red Cross will be visiting; so don't forget to get in early and register!



Fall Bake Sale

Rebecca Shelton

The OTC Honors Program fall bake sale was held Tuesday, September 18th and Wednesday, September 19th. Despite that it wasn't technically Fall yet and temperatures were on the rise, the bake sale can be classified a success. Between both days the bake sale raised over four-hundred dollars. There were many gluten free options and even some sugar and dairy free as well. Other items included cookies, cupcakes, caramel apples, whoopie pies and even regular pie (although I would hardly call strawberry-rhubarb pie regular). Due in part to the wide array of baked treats available and to the dedication of the Honors Program members, the success opens doors to many activities, field trips, and possibly more. When asked where the raised funds might go, Cynthia Muse the Vice President of Fundraising responded, "The money may help make a scholarship fund available." Whether or not that is true is yet to be verified but we can hope. Next time, at the Halloween bake sale, expect to see us in the atrium and walking down the halls or peeking our heads in your office with our basket of goodies. Until then, we would like to thank all the Honors Program members who baked and donated time with signs or at the sale and of course to everyone who purchased the baked goods.



Honors Events and Upcoming

Fall Picnic

Ashly Jones



With Fall officially kicking off this week, OTC's Fall Picnic was the perfect celebration for the change in seasons, the nice weather, and the end of the 6th week of classes. Having a picnic on the plaza is a tradition of OTC's that happens twice a year. Organizations, businesses, and school groups, clubs, and programs lined the plaza as students and staff gathered for free food, free information, music, dancing, giant bubbles, games, and lots of fun. A new addition to the picnic this year was OTC's new mascot, Ozzy the Eagle. The temperature was a perfect 75 degrees as the day began at 10 am. In the Information Commons, OTC served up hot dogs and sodas. Little Caesar's provided pizza for all. Parked right in front of Norman K. Meyers, the Honors Program booth was fully loaded with all of the information someone might want or need to know about joining. Honors students worked the table and provided informational pamphlets and copies of the Pinnacle to anyone interested in the Honors Program. Having a booth at the picnic was the perfect opportunity to recruit new members for the spring semester, especially new students who just started in the Fall.

Upcoming Events

Halloween Bake Sale

Oct. 30 - 31

10am - 2pm

Habitat for Humanity

Nov. 3

9am - 3:30pm

General Bake Sale

Nov. 13 - 14

10am - 2pm

ARC Blood Drive

Nov. 15

9am - 3pm

Christmas Cookie Bake Sale

Dec. 6

Finals Feast

**During Finals Week In The
Honors Office**

Instructor Interview

Interview conducted by Ian Williamson



Richard Turner
English Department Chair

In which other instructor's class would you like to enroll, even for a day, and why?

"Mr. Durden's physics class . . . because I never took physics in high school or college but I love reading about physics and I want to know more. I see him outside . . . showing physics to his students. I have learned a lot about physics standing on the outside of his classes being an interloper. Whenever I see him with a group of students surrounding him teaching physics . . . I make sure to go up and become one of his students for a little bit."

What current trends are baffling to you and why?

"Nothing baffles me anymore because everything is different. It's exciting and I love watching the new trends come . . . and it's exciting for me to get to learn from the students."

What Hogwarts house would you be sorted in and why?

"I would like to think . . . that the sorting hat would say, 'You could be great you know? It's all there.' I would like to think I would say, anything but Slytherin, and it would put me in Gryffindor. I'd like to think I have the moral courage to do the right thing no matter what."

Mr. Turner is an Honors Program Instructor and will be teaching Composition 2 as an honors course in the Spring of 2019. This interview will hopefully help you get to know him a bit more.

What would the students be surprised to find out about you?

"I spend as much time outside of school, outside. Not doing academic things. That's hunting, or fishing, or working with my bees."

"I did try to grade papers in the deer stand one time and that didn't go well at all"

What is one of your hidden talents?

"For the last year I have been taking cello lessons."

Do you have a morning routine to get "psyched" up and ready for class?

"First that would be coffee, and then that would be coffee, and finally coffee."

"There was a guy that I taught with in graduate school . . . and he said that . . . he felt like teaching was a performance art. Everyday before he walked into the classroom he would say to himself, it's showtime! There are times I will hear that in my head right before I walk into class. You walk into class and it's showtime. You have to give it everything you've got even if you don't feel good."

If you could take the students on a field trip to anywhere in the world where would you take them?

"The lake district outside of London because it is where Wordsworth and Coleridge used to walk. It's one thing to teach Tintern Abbey but to be able to show them the landscape that he was looking at that would be amazing."

"Tibet and we will just leave it at that. Anybody that wants to drill in and figure out why I want to go to Tibet can figure it out pretty easily."

Is there a quote of saying you live your life by?

"It's from the single greatest movie of all time without question, which is Cool Hand Luke. 'Calling it your job don't make it right Boss.'"

Astronomy



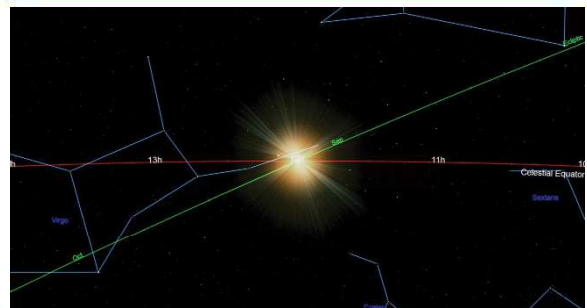
September 1st: This is a view of the West-Southwestern Sky. Venus is located at the lowermost tip of the Virgo constellation a finger width away from its alpha star Spica.



September 7th: On this night we were able to see Neptune fixed directly opposite of the sun, AND it was visible all night via telescope or binoculars.



September 13th: Jupiter takes the stage tonight. Looking into the sky through binoculars about 4 finger widths to the left of the new crescent moon you can see Jupiter within the constellation Libra



September 23rd: At 9:54pm EDT the Earth will cross the celestial equator moving southward signifying the transition into the autumnal equinox. On this day the day and night will be of equal length



Local Events: Student Recommendations

Pets & Pumpkins Family Festival

This annual festival will take place on Springfield's Park Central Square this year and includes trick or treating (for both human and fur kids), a hay maze, inflatables, games, food, music and more.

October 20

12pm - 5pm



Antique Festival of the Ozarks

What better place to be this fall than in the beautiful Ozark regions of Southwest Missouri? We are excited to host Springfield's favorite treasure hunt, held only once a year, featuring authentic antiques and vintage brought by dealers from across the country.

October 27

9am - 5pm

October 28

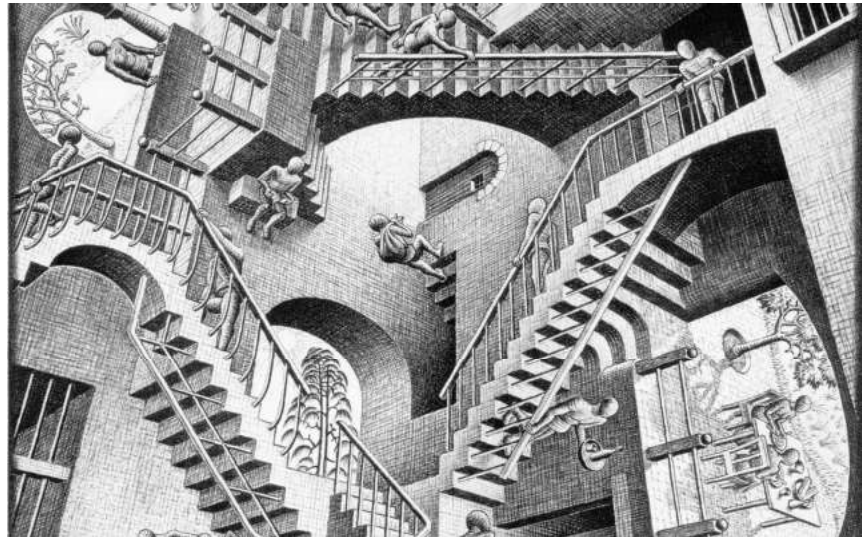
10am - 4pm

Information From springfieldmo.org



MENTAL BREAK

Optical Illusion



Honors Name Search

L O B U P F J A N K A Y O K H R J A Y I
M F Q G Z V V C R I I V H L F K M M W G
D U N W A I Z C F I R J E C E I D J U U
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ASHLY
CINDY
IAN
JOHN
KATHARINE
KORI
LAUREN
MICHELLE
NINA
PRISCILLA
REBECCA
RHIANNON
YERBY