HONORS PROGRAM GRADUATION

On May 11, 21 Honors Program students were recognized at the Honors Program graduation ceremony. Congrats and best wishes to all!

Discover the World presenters for the Spring 2018 semester were Melvin Santosso from Indonesia, Lino Cruz-Terrones from Mexico, Angelica Cordero from Puerto Rico, Sanam Bezanson from Iran, Ha Tran from Vietnam, and Gemima Joseph from Haiti. Globes were given to the presenters as gifts and to one prize-drawing winner at each presentation.

As part of an honors project, Maria Martinez acted as coordinator for the series. Maria handled all the logistics of the presentations, including lining up and scheduling presenters. Data collected from participant surveys will be used in Maria’s project.

Graduates, pictured left to right: Kirsten Cucurella, Beth Gillespie, Katherine Copley, Elly Richardson, Shelli Kramer, Ramiro Flores Martinez, Anu Ittycheri, Jackson Connors, Lauren Stephenson, Graham Murphy, Heidy Burgos, Brandon Pitts, Ana Lim, Emily Neff, Grossi Lopez, Sandra Velazquez and Erin Knuse.

Pictured, left to right: Ha Tran, Josselyn Cruz-Lopez, Angelica Cordero, Katia Rivera Cobian, Melvin Santosso, Fernanda Morales, Andy Denekas, Luis Belmontes, Maria Martinez and Yodit Teklit

Pictured, left to right: Angelica Cordero, Melvin Santosso, Lino Cruz Terrones and Maria Martinez

Pictured, Ha Tran
Seventeen Honors Program students traveled to Stillwater, OK, March 22th-25th for the Great Plains Honors Conference.

Student presentations included:

**Oral Presentations:**
- Gressi Lopez: Disney’s Gender Messaging
- Erin Kruse: Understanding Food Waste at a Community College
- Jackson Conners: Gravitational Waves and Multimessenger Astronomy
- Kelyn Crandall: The Process and Challenges of Rendering the Mandelbrot Set
- Graham Murphy: A Journey to Flint, Michigan
- Takhmina Mussayeva: Give Old Denim a New Purpose

**Poster Presentations:**
- Warren Wang: Taylor Series vs CORDIC Algorithm
- Karen Rivera Cobian: The Effects of Plastic Consumption in Wax Worms and How They Can Help Our Environment
- Alejandro Mendoza: Jorge Ramos: Bringing Peace into the Latino Community

Students in the Spring Break forum "Kansas as Text" traveled to historic sites in southeast Kansas in order to learn more about the history and culture.

Students in “The American Dream” forum during the spring semester analyzed the expectations and different definitions of the American Dream and if it is still alive in today’s society.

Katia Rivera Cobian, along with team members Anna Sublette, Fernanda Morales and Mit Pyo put together the Up to Us campaign to raise awareness of the national debt, which has reached more than $20 trillion. The project was part of an honors contract with Professor Andrea Vieux. The competition includes over 100 community colleges and universities nationwide. When asked about the importance of this campaign, Katia stated, “I don’t think it’s just about the national debt, but also politics. It’s important for people to know what’s going on in their country. The solution starts with acknowledging the problem.”

The Honors Program hosted an informational table at the CAV Craze event, held on May 9th in the COM Courtyard.
CELEBRATE HONORS SYMPOSIUM

The Honors Symposium was held on April 26th in the CoLab. There were 5 oral presentations and 28 student posters displayed.

**Oral Presentations**
- **Physical Acting: Way Then, Then and Now** by Michael Poleleyev
- **The Process and Challenges of Rendering the Mandelbrot Set** by Kelyn Crandall
- **Hierarchy and the Effects on Poverty-Stricken People in Southeast Kansas: Mid-1800’s to Future** by Mary Anne Sause
- **Circuit Maker** by Lauren Stephenson
- **Violence in Southeast Kansas** by Anu Ittycheri

**Poster Presentations**
- **Towards the Isolation and Identification of Biosynthesized Antimicrobial Compounds Produced by Bacillus Cereus** by Griffin Bastian
- **Inspiration of Ethnic Backgrounds Leading to Southeast Kansas** by Heidy Burgoa
- **Gravitational Waves and Multimessenger Astronomy** by Jackson Conners
- **Teaching Microbiology and Ecological Succession to Middle School Students** by Wesley Cooper
- **Southeast Kansas: How Industry Helped Build and Destroy a Region** by Ramiro Flores Martinez
- **The Violence of Southeast Kansas** by Samantha Green
- **Behavioral Economics in Southeast Kansas** by Jin Joo Hwang
- **Southeast Kansas: The Influences of Nostalgia and How the Past is Remembered** by Anna Jacobson
- **Big Sonia Reflections** by Felly Kamhanda
- **American Dream: Are Wealth and Fame Required?** by Mollie King
- **Understanding Food Waste at a Community College** by Erin Kruse
- **How Community Colleges Revitalize the American Dream** by Ana Lim
- **Bringing Peace into the Latino Community** by Alejandro Mendoza
- **A Journey to Flint, Michigan** by Graham Murphy
- **Understanding Community Attitudes Towards Light Pollution** by Emily Neff
- **Struggle and the American Dream** by Brandon Pitts
- **Leadership-Movie Analysis** by Olga Poleleyeva
- **The Road to Citizenship** by Mit Pyo
- **Up to Us** by Katia Rivera Cobian
- **The Effects of Plastic Consumption in Wax Worms and How They Can Help Our Environment** by Karen Rivera Cobian
- **Exploring Organismal Biology Through Art: Bringing Unfamiliar Organisms to Life Through Sculpture** by Melvin Santoso
- **Human Trafficking** by Yodit Teklit
- **Parent’s Dreams and First Generation Americans** by Sandra Velazquez
- **Cedar Cove Website Redesign** by Sara Walker
- **Taylor Series vs. Cordic Algorithm** by Warren Wang
- **Sparking Student Curiosity with Microscopes** by Mark Whatley
- **Influences of Energy and Technology in Southeast Kansas** by Fen Yang
- **The Intention of Design** by Wenya Zhao
- **JCCC Student Information Survey** by Leadership 130 Class: Griffin Bastian, Brandon Pitts, Elizabeth Emami, Mollie King and Corey Devine
“CLUBBIES” AWARDS

The Club & Organization Awards, AKA Clubbies, were held on 5/2/18. The Honors Student Association and several Honors Program students were nominated and received several awards.

HSA won the Collaboration of the Year award for the Heart to Heart International service project, along with Student Life, Phi Theta Kappa and Community Based Learning.

Honors Program student Jin Joo Hwang won the award for Student Leader of the Year for her participation in the Student Senate.

Honors Program student Ana Lim presented at the Noon at the Nerman series on April 6th. She discussed Roger Shimomura’s work titled American Infamy. Ana had the opportunity to interview the artist as part of an Honors project she completed with Professor Vin Clark.

Four Honors students received The JCCC Outstanding Student Award. Recipients included Tiger Harris-Webster, Erin Kruse, Alejandro Mendoza and Lauren Stephenson. The students were honored at a luncheon on May 3rd.

Erin Kruse and Graham Murphy were selected as All-Kansas Academic Scholar Award winners from JCCC. The application process involved a series of essay questions pertaining to campus involvement, academic achievement, challenges faced, and a general background on the student. Graham explains that among the many benefits of the award, it opens up opportunities for universities in the state and national level to offer scholarships for transferring students.