

# The Honora

VOLUME 27, ISSUE 2

WINTER EDITION 2011

## A Successfully Spooky Honors Halloween!

The Honors House was transformed into “Rolling Meadows Bed & Breakfast” for a Halloween extravaganza on October 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>. Twenty-five enterprising Honors students, led by the formidable Halloween master Michael Holman, successfully terrorized the VSU campus and community during HSA’s 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Haunted House. Planning meetings for this year’s Haunted House began immediately after the first days of school in August; new Honors freshmen were recruited during the Freshman Colloquium. Construction for the house started in September, and many other students volunteered with the PR campaign.

This year’s theme was a mixture of Seven Deadly Sins/crazed innkeeper/sacrilegious undertones

with the prerequisite blood and gore. Many of the guests ran screaming from the house, while others simply refused to go in! The students did a wonderful job of scaring

the guests and also contributed to the sterling reputation of the Honors Haunted House. The house was open October 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> from 8 pm to 12 am. Tickets were \$3, and a third of the proceeds benefited St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. All of the students spent a lot of time and effort to make this year’s Haunted House a



success, and it worked: The students raised over \$1,400 in profits! Thank you to all who were involved, and a special thank you to Dr. Haggard for all of his help and support!

*Photo courtesy of Jessica Bartek*

### VSU HONORS PROGRAM

Honors Program  
Director

Mrs. Jane Robinson  
Program Secretary

Amanda Semetko  
Graduate Assistant

Jennifer Stakich  
Student Assistant

Dorrian Baber  
Student Office Assistant

## Don't Forget about GCHC!

The Georgia Collegiate Honors Conference is approaching quickly, and Dr. Nikolova would like to remind all students that the deadline for submitting abstracts is JANUARY 20. Clayton State University is hosting this

year’s conference on February 25-26.

Our Honors Program consistently presents the best research of any of the participating universities, and we would like this tradition to continue!

Send those abstracts in an email attachment to Dr. Nikolova at [ornikolova@valdosta.edu](mailto:ornikolova@valdosta.edu) before January 20<sup>th</sup>!

## HSA Sets a Community Service Record

The Honors Student Association President Matt Schmidt declared that HSA would make community service a focus this semester, and every member has blown his expectations out of the water! For the fall semester of 2010, HSA members have accumulated 221 hours of community service compared to just 20 hours last fall!

Members have been volunteering with a variety of causes this semester, including Tiger Stripes Animal Sanctuary, Habitat for Humanity, Up ‘til Dawn fundraiser for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, the Boys and Girls Club, and tutoring with VECA. HSA Community Service



Freshman Jessica Bartek at Tiger Stripes Animal Sanctuary

everyone who has contributed to HSA’s best volunteer semester yet!



Freshman Adam Uelmen at Tiger Stripes Animal Sanctuary

Coordinator Amy Dandron has done a great job providing volunteer opportunities for all. Congratulations to

## Chocolate Day is Coming!

The most talked-about Honors event of the year is almost here—Chocolate Day! On February 10, the Honors House will be filled with some of the most delicious treats known to man. Every Honors student is invited to stop by and

*Don't miss the tasty treats at the Honors Chocolate Day!*

enjoy the delicacies from 8:30 to 5. Special thanks to Mrs. Robinson for her hard work in organizing this annual treat!



## The Freshman Voice

It’s been a busy fall semester for the Honors Program, and some of our freshmen recently reflected on their first five months in the program. Here’s how honors life at VSU stacked up to them:

“The Honors Program has allowed me to meet and become friends with people who have the same views and priorities that I have—definitely a plus when you’re a freshman!”

--Elizabeth Tuttle, undecided major

“It was really fun and the people were really nice. All the activities we did helped me easily adjust to living on campus.”

--Jessica Bartek, Biology major

## HSA Corner

Benefits of joining HSA include numerous opportunities to be involved in community service and social events. For more information look for VSU's Honor Student Association on Facebook and check out their website.

<http://www.facebook.com/#!/group.php?gid=2200950440>

### 2010-2011 HSA Officers

President: Matt Schmidt  
 Vice President: Chris Nish  
 Secretary: Chelsie Norton  
 Treasurer: Jennifer Stakich  
 Community Service Coordinator: Amy Dandron  
 Freshman Board Advisor: Stephanie Byington  
 Undergraduate Research Coordinator: Kate Fix  
 Public Relations Officer: Courtney Terrell



## Focus On...HSA Undergraduate Research Coordinator KATE FIX

The Honors Program prides itself on the level of research its students present at state and regional competitions; it should come as no surprise to learn that HSA has an officer dedicated to motivating and helping students research. Kate Fix, a senior chemistry major, is HSA's Undergraduate Research Coordinator, and she understands the importance of

putting together a stellar project. Kate has worked on a variety of faculty-directed projects, most recently collecting data over Fall Break with Dr. Manning of the Chemistry Department. If any student wishes to participate in the Georgia Collegiate Honors Conference, Kate will help them by reading over their projects and aiding them in the research process. Kate is

actively involved in SMACS (Student Members of the American Chemical Society) and the Honors Haunted House.



## Haunted House Participants

Thank you to all the students who participated in this year's Honors Haunted House:

Jessica Bartek  
 Shakeria Bonaparte  
 Cassandra Brantley  
 Helen Burkett  
 Stephanie Byington  
 Clairice Contevita  
 Ashley Dailey  
 Natalie Eustace  
 Kate Fix  
 Tristan Guice



Erica Garcia  
 Micael Holman  
 Ashley Land  
 Kiana Lively  
 Jacquelyn Mangels  
 Rebecka McAleer

Sarah McGrew  
 Chris Nish  
 Chelsie Norton  
 Christal Olive  
 Nicholas Rouse  
 Matt Schmidt  
 Kristen Shanahan  
 Marcel Smith  
 Jennifer Stakich  
 Phillip Williams  
 Jamie Yearwood

**Thank You!**