

# THE HONORA

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WINTER 2012

## Fun for All at the Honors Carnivale!

Few Honors traditions can match the reputation and scope of the annual Honors Haunted House.

This year, Honors celebrated the fifth Halloween fundraising event by hosting a "Carnivale" filled with puppets, fortune tellers, and even a gorilla!

The Haunted House team, under the direction of Chelsie Norton and special assistance from Michael Holman, began meeting and working on this year's haunt as soon as the semester started. Freshmen were able to sign up for the Haunted House at our August Colloquium.

The students transformed the Honors House, assembling a full maze in the backyard and creating a human puppet show inside.

In just three nights, the haunt raised approximately \$1,200! Over 50% of that total will be donated to The Haven of Valdosta, an organization that provides shelter and services for victims of sexual assault or domestic violence.

This year's Haunted House opened its doors on October 26, 27, and 31 from 8 pm to midnight.

Thanks to a special promotion with CORE's Haunted Trail, guests could purchase

a combo ticket for both events for \$5; otherwise, regular tickets were \$3.

Hot chocolate, apple cider, and a variety of sweets were available for purchase as guests waited in line or to calm their nerves after they exited the haunt.

Those who went through the haunt said it was one of the best haunted houses they've been through.

Even the administration noted the event's success and the volunteers' hard work.

"Thanks to the HSA for such a wonderful and successful event," Dean Savoie said. "It's great to work with so many dedicated individuals. Thanks again!"

Thanks to all our students who put in all the time and effort to make this year's haunt one of the best!



Auscencia Gutierrez



Gabrianna Miller poses as a statue angel

Participants:  
Amber Blocker  
Auscencia Gutierrez  
Benjamin Watson  
Bethany Norton  
Cassandra Stowe  
Chase Kelly  
Christal Oliver  
Daniel Hummel  
David Demeritt  
Desiray Ward  
Elaine Krivsky  
Emily Reed  
Erica Garcia  
Gabrianna Miller  
James Whelan  
Jasmin Allen  
Jennifer Dandron  
Jennifer Stakich  
Jessica Bartek  
Jordan Everett  
Joshua Arrington  
Kaitlyn Parham  
Katie Tatro  
Kiana Lively  
Maclain Anderson  
Marcel Smith  
Matthew Dickinson  
Molley Dimaya  
Savannah Hensley  
Shakeria Bonaparte  
Stephanie Byington  
Taylor Pound  
Terrance Jenkins

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#### VSU HONORS COLLEGE

Michael Savoie  
Honors College Interim Dean

Mrs. Jane Robinson  
Honors College Secretary

Jason Brown & Michael Holman  
Graduate Assistants

Jennifer Stakich  
Student Assistant

Dorrian Baber  
Student Office Assistant

## The Honors College Remembers Dr. Bailey

The Honors College mourns the loss of Dr. Hugh C. Bailey, former president of the university and namesake of the Honors Hugh C. Bailey Family Scholarship. Dr. Bailey passed away on October 5 at the age of 83.



Dr. Hugh C. Bailey

Dr. Bailey's influence on the Honors community is a strong one. The Honors House used to be the President's House during Dr. Bailey's tenure. The Honors College moved into the house in the spring of 2007, and the students have enjoyed it every day since then!

Dr. Bailey also established an Honors scholarship for dedicated sophomores and juniors. The Hugh C. Bailey Family Scholarship is awarded to four students each year who display strong academic records as well as service to the Honors community. Since the scholarship was first awarded in 2006, thirty Honors students have been awarded this honor. Many of those students were active in the Honors Student Associa-

tion leadership, and a majority continued to pursue their fields at graduate school.

The Honors College presented the Bailey family with a sympathy card at the funeral. On the inside of the card, Honors staff included the names of all the Bailey Scholarship recipients since 2006. Mrs. Bailey was moved when she received

the card and expressed her gratitude to all Honors students for their kind words.



Dr. Bailey spoke at the Honors Recognition Ceremony in 2009.

The Honors College owes much of its current success to Dr. Bailey's support and generous spirit.



2009 Hugh C. Bailey Scholarship recipients Brandi Foster, Chris Nish, Craig Black, and Matthew Schmidt posed with Dr. Bailey and Dr. Nikolova.

## Fall 2012 Honors College Graduates

Congratulations to our Fall 2012 graduates! We're sad to be losing such valuable members of the Honors College community, but we know that our graduates will be an Honors student for life! Commencements will take place at 10 am and 1 pm on Saturday, December 8 in the PE Complex. Everybody is welcome to attend and watch the Honors students walk. Good luck to them in all their future endeavors.

Quintella Bohannon  
Marie Browne  
Lamone Graham  
Kathryn Grant  
Sydney Haire  
Brayton Meyer  
Arin Patterson  
Katelyn Reed  
Jennifer Stakich



## Freshman Voice

Our Honors freshmen have just finished their first semester, and they're excited:

"I really enjoyed the environment of the Honors House before and after classes. I also love random cookie days!"

—Mara Charles

"Honors is the best part of college!"

—Matt Dickinson

## Tour Germany with the Honors College

Honors students are getting their very own study abroad this summer!

Students will be going to Germany on June 3 to June 13 to fulfill Honors 1990, Honors 3999 and Honors 3330. Respectively, those classes are the introductory Honors class, the research methods class and the Honors option.

The history classes being offered are HIST 1013H "World Civilization" course which fits into Area E of the Core and also as an Honors course. The HIST 3040H "Germanic Castles and Cultures" is an upper-level Honors course that counts towards the Honors program and the History major/minor as a European history course.

Dr. Charles Johnson, Michael Savoie and Marie Elliott are heading up the trip with enthusiasm.

Honors students are required to study abroad or take three years of a foreign language as part of the Honors College curriculum.

The Honors study abroad to Germany will fulfill the requirement as well as helping Honors students complete required Honors courses.

The total price for the trip is \$3310 for students. The price includes round trip flights, land transportation, hotels, sightseeing tours, Entrance to: Dachau; Neuschwanstein Castle; Heidelberg Castle wine barrel and the enrollment fee.



Marie Elliott, Dr. Charles Johnson, and Dean Michael Savoie prepare for the information session.

Dr. Johnson, Savoie and Elliott held an information session on November 1 for interested students. Approximately 20 students were at the meeting.

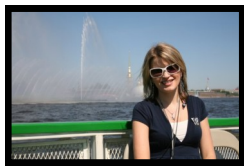
The professors showed documentaries of the sites they will be touring.

The currency conversion, language barrier and applications were all addressed at the meeting.

Applications for the trip must be accompanied with \$100 to ensure a student's commitment to the program. The application price will increase by \$50 after Nov 15.

## PIZZA WITH A PROFESSOR

Irina McClellan, Assistant Director of International Programs, sat down with Honors students on October 10 to talk about study abroad opportunities during Pizza with a Professor.



Irina McClellan

Pizza with a Professor is a tradition within the Honors community that lets students interact with a professor on a

more personal level. In the lobby of Reade Hall, students enjoyed pizza and soft drinks provided by Reade Hall.

McClellan brought three students with her to share their experiences studying abroad. The enthusiasm for their global experiences radiated through the room, as more and more Honors students asked questions on how to study abroad.

VSU offers many different avenues on how to study abroad, having partnerships with schools around the world.

While at the social, Mike Savoie and Dr. Charles Johnson spoke some about the Honors Study Abroad this summer to Germany, Switzerland and Liechtenstein.

The event lasted about an hour. Thanks to everyone who participated in the event!

## VSU Study Abroad – Life Changing Experiences for Success in a Changing World!

Study abroad is one of the most unforgettable, life changing experiences that a student can get involved in. The Center for International Programs on Georgia Avenue offers a variety of study abroad and exchange programs. Summer programs are offered directly by the university, with VSU faculty as group leaders and in cooperation with other institutions and organizations in providing group study abroad experiences. Studying abroad over the summer is a great way to travel and earn academic credit at the same time. Deadlines to sign up for most VSU Summer Study

Abroad programs are in February and March of 2013.

Students may also participate in exchange programs which allow them to attend overseas universities as regular students for a semester or an academic year. These bilateral exchange opportunities are currently available in UK, South Korea, China, Czech Republic, France, Hungary, Japan, Mexico, Russia, Spain and other countries. VSU is also a member of the International Student Exchange Program, ISEP, through which students may choose from over 100 universities world-wide for study

abroad experiences. When participating in an exchange, students typically pay VSU tuition, dormitory, and dining hall fees. Students wishing to participate in an exchange program through ISEP in Fall 2013 must apply at the Center for International Programs by the middle of January 2013.

For more information about any study abroad experience, contact the Center for International Programs or Irina McClellan at [ibmcclel@valdosta.edu](mailto:ibmcclel@valdosta.edu)

## Don't Miss Spring Research Conferences

Interested in presenting at an Honors research conference? The deadline for submitting abstracts is coming up soon!

The Georgia Collegiate Honors Council will host the annual conference at Georgia Southern University this year. The conference will take place on February 17 and 18th.

The Southern Regional Honors Council will host their annual conference in Louisville, Kentucky this year. This conference will happen on March 30 to April 1.

Last year, a record number of Honors students participated at conferences. Abstracts are due to Michael Savoie by January 15th, 2013. If you are looking for a peer-review of your project, con-

tact HSA Undergraduate Research Coordinator Erica Garcia at [elgarcia@valdosta.edu](mailto:elgarcia@valdosta.edu).

The Honors College highly encourages all students to engage in undergraduate research and to present that research at conference. Participation in conferences will help each student hone their research and analytic abilities as well as make them stand out from the crowd when applying to graduate schools!

[Georgia Collegiate Honors Conference, Statesboro](#)

[Southern Regional Honors Conference, Louisville KY](#)

## MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY

Thirteen students lent a helping hand to Valdosta's Second Harvest food bank on October 20th. Second Harvest's annual Make A Difference Day drew over 600 volunteers this year.

HSA students processed donated items and assembled boxes during the four-hour service project. Each volunteer received a complimentary t-shirt and lunch for participating.



Our students pose for a group picture outside the food bank.



Eugene Rowell and Adam Hummel joke around while processing items.

## Follow the Honors College!

The Honors College has joined the world of social media!

This semester, the Honors College put together a social media team to update students about activities, special events, and even surprise cookie days at the Honors House.

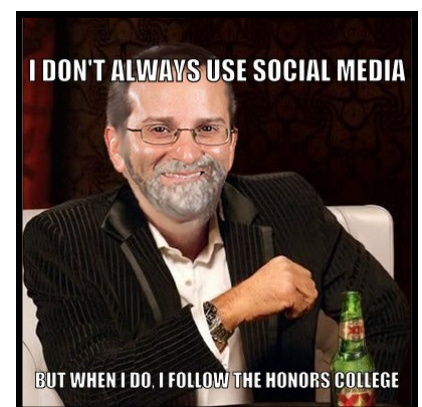
You can now follow the Honors College on Instagram, a picture sharing medium. The Instagram handle is [vsuhonors](#).

Also, the Honors College writes a weekly blog, which is published on Wordpress. The blog offers an inside look at Honors life, profiling current

students and other events. The word-press is [vsuhonorsblog.wordpress.com](http://vsuhonorsblog.wordpress.com).

Instagram and Wordpress are both linked to the already existing Honors College Facebook and Twitter pages.

Make sure to follow the Honors College for unique updates and student profiles!





## 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>

### 2012-2013 HSA Officers:

- President: Jennifer Stakich
- Vice President: Chelsie Norton
- Secretary: Shakeria Bonaparte
- Treasurer: Chase Kelly
- Community Service Coordinator: Terrence Jenkins
- Freshman Board Advisor: Amber Blocker
- Undergraduate Research Coordinator: Erica Garcia
- Public Relations Officer: Jessica Bartek

Most photos provided by Jessica Bartek



## HSA Hosts Winter Semi-Formal

The Honors Student Association transformed the Honors House into an Honors dance floor on Nov. 30.

About 50 students attended the first semi-formal hosted by HSA. The event celebrated the end of the semester as well as graduating Honors students. Dean Savoie recognized all Honors graduates and presented Honors cords to the graduates who were present.

Students enjoyed a variety of refreshments, ranging from dipping marshmallows into a chocolate fountain to homemade hummus. Mrs. Robinson specially made a cake for the event!

The house was decorated in a "winter wonderland" theme with strands of white and blue lights hanging from the ceilings. The students danced in the back class-



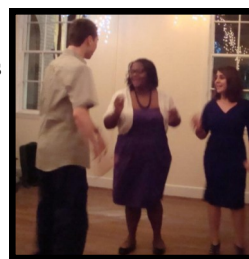
Amber Blocker, Laura Hanna, and Khatiga Nasir

room, and the parking lot was used as additional dance space by using the HSA tent—decked out with lights, of course. Chase Kelly, treasurer of HSA, was the DJ for the evening.

Students competed for the title of "Best Dressed." Winners received a \$15 gift card to Olive Garden. To complement their fabulous outfits,

winners were presented with deer antlers to wear for the rest of the evening. Professor Marie Elliott and Dean Savoie judged the competition, awarding the best dressed woman and man, respectively.

The semi-formal was great way for students to bond and to relieve stress. Thanks to everyone who supported the fun night.



James Whelan, Amber Blocker, and Laura Hanna



Gabrianna Miller, Jasmin Allen, Beth Norton, and Cassy Stowe