



# GET WITH THE PROGRAM

The Honors Program's Bi-Semesterly Newsletter  
at Rochester Institute of Technology



Spring 2018, Part One

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# CALENDAR

MARCH 11 - 16	SPRING BREAK
MARCH 23	DISNEY TRIVIA NIGHT
MARCH 25	PAJAMA PARTY
APRIL 28	IMAGINE RIT
APRIL 30	LAST DAY OF CLASSES
MAY 2-4, 7-8	FINALS WEEK
MAY 11-12	CONVOCATION AND COMMENCEMENT



## MESSAGE FROM THE NEWSLETTER CHAIR

Hi all! My name is Chelsea Cramer and I am very excited to chair the RIT Honors Program's brand new Newsletter Committee.

As a committee, several other dedicated Honors students and I are very excited to start a new way to showcase what accomplishments we have made as a program and what goals we have in store. As an Honors Program that is large and filled with students of many unique backgrounds and disciplines, this newsletter will be a way for students to discover what their fellow Honors students are working together on.

And, most importantly, find ways to promote further participation in the Program and in the outer community.

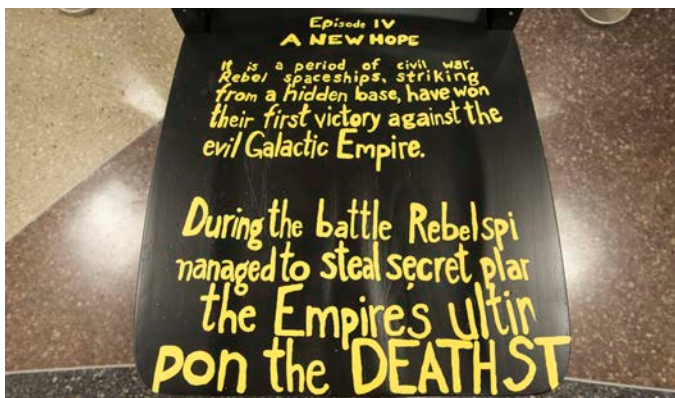
As we are still a brand new committee, we are always looking for more committee members and submissions!

And, special thanks to my fellow committee members Calise Jin, Anna Tilstra-Smith, and Catie Rafferty!

# EVENTS

## HONORS CHAIRITY

As a part of RIT's commitment to United Way, the RIT Honors Program joined in by creating a Star Wars themed chair for the annual CHAIRity Art Auction. The chair is available for bidding from March 5th-23rd, and proceeds will be going to help the Rochester Education Foundation.



## GCCIS HONORS HOCKEY NIGHT



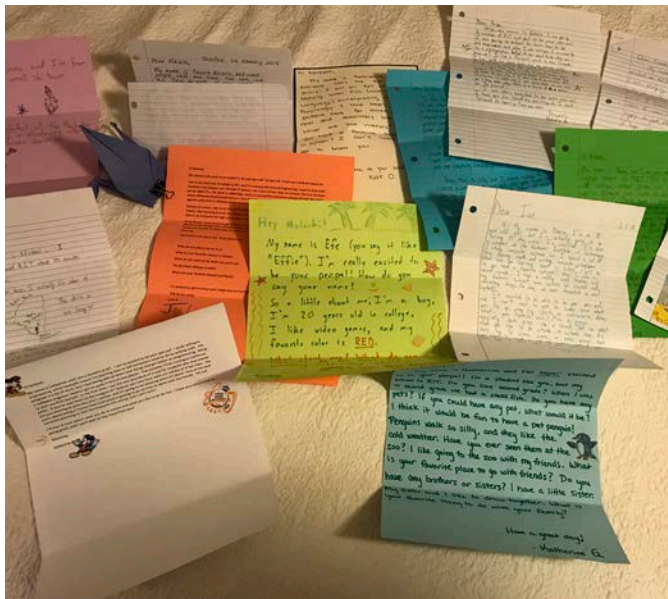
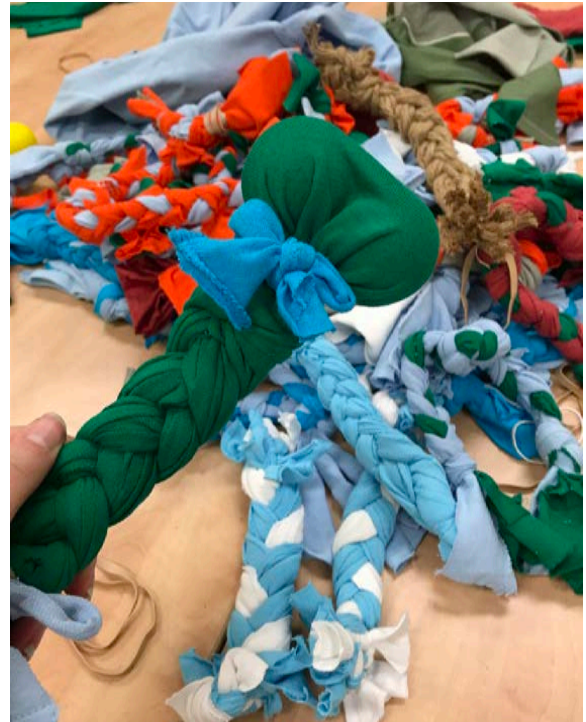
GCCIS Honors enjoyed a fun night watching the Rochester Americans vs. Wilkes Barre Penguins hockey game on February 16th at Blue Cross Arena on the Amerks party deck! Even though the group left a little before the end of the third period, they still had a lot of fun being up close and personal with the ice and hockey players. At the end, the Americans won 12-3 against the Penguins. Go, Amerks!



# EVENTS

## TOYS FOR FLUFFY FRIENDS

On November 17th, the Honors Program Service Committee organized time to make over 30 dog and cat toys for the animals at Lollypop Farm, an animal rescue apart of the Humane Society of Greater Rochester. As a rescue run completely by volunteers and funded through donations, the toys made by our RIT Honors students were greatly appreciated. The staff at Lollypop Farm were so grateful that they made the Service Committee a certificate which is now on display in the Honors Office!

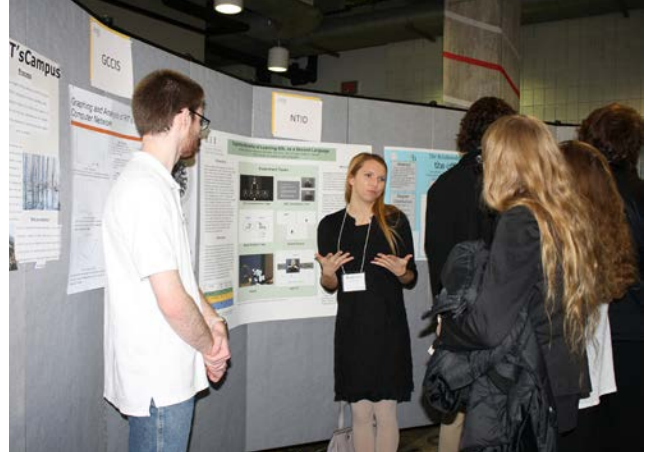


## PEN PAL LETTERS

This semester, the Honors Program began our brand new service theme: education. In order to increase the Program's involvement in local schools around Rochester, the Service Committee began a Pen Pal Program with a local elementary school. With this, RIT Honors students have started writing letters with their pen pals, second grade students at Chestnut Ridge Elementary School in the Churchville-Chili School District. While it may seem that the second grade students will be the ones learning from their pen pals, perhaps it will be the college students that gain perspective too.

# EVENTS

## HONORS RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM



The annual Honors Undergraduate Research Symposium was a huge success! We had a number of students give oral and poster presentations on their impressive research. We were blown away by how professional, well-spoken, and knowledgeable our students are! It was great to see a wide variety of research as well, ranging from topics exploring the sciences to discussions on controversial current events.

## GAME NIGHT IN GIBSON

On February 3rd, the RIT Honors Housing Committee hosted a game night that was open to Honors students and the rest of the residents of Gibson Hall. Many students came out to hang out, play video games, snack, and got to de-stress a bit before the start of mid-terms.

Make sure to look out for events similar to this from the Housing Committee!



# EVENTS

## CHST HONORS AT HOPE LODGE

Rochester, NY -November 28th, 2017

Members of Honors in the College of Health Science and Technology volunteered at the American Cancer Society Hope Lodge, a facility that provides free housing for the families of cancer patients while they are receiving treatment at local hospitals. The Honors members made dinner and dessert for the current residents, served the meal, and then sat and ate with the families. The students got to learn about each family and what their loved one was going through for their treatment.

“The families we talked to were very grateful that we brought food for them because not having to worry about where their next meal was going to come from alleviated some of the stress that they were going through and gave them one less thing to worry about. It was a very gratifying experience, and Honors CHST hopes to do another event like this in the future.” says Jessica Metelski, one of the volunteers.



*Left to right: Maria Simonetti, Michael Desimone, Macy Matyjas, Jessica Metelski, and the Honors CHST advisor, Rebecca Roberts, volunteering at the Hope Lodge*

## ALUMNI NIGHT

Rochester, NY -November 28th, 2017

On Saturday, February 24, Honors Program alumni came together to catch up and attend an RIT hockey game. Alumni came from Rochester, Seattle, the Albany area, and New Jersey and enjoyed a pre-game reception in the new Honors Program office.





# EVENTS

## RIT HONORS VOLUNTEERS ABROAD

Puerto Rico, January 6th - 13th 2018

RIT Honors students are active members to both their own local communities, as well as wherever their assistance may be needed abroad. Most recently, the RIT Honors students from CLA, CAST, and CIAS were in Puerto Rico to assist with the after effects of Hurricane Maria.

The students were primarily stationed at Reserva Natural de Las Cabezas de San Juan in Fajardo. There they assisted with cleaning the trails. One student, Lia Horyczun, reported “Often, the trail would be very rugged and steep. Patience and looking back to see a clean trail behind us made the hard work continue when we got tired of looking at the mess ahead.”

Beyond work at Fajardo, the students traveled to the outskirts of town and assisted locals directly by passing out supplies in person to the locals. The students report that though the locals were at first hesitant, after they explained that they were volunteers the locals thanked them.

The RIT Honors Program also volunteered at the local Boys and Girls Club. There, our students made lots of friends among the children and played games together.

We are very proud of the students who went on this trip and for all the aid they provided in Puerto Rico.



*Above: RIT Honors student Lia Horyczun providing aid to the community*

*Below (left to right): RIT Honors students John Smithgall, Assistant Dean of CLA Ashley Hum, Ethan Whitecotton, Ryan McMullan, Lia Horyczun, Mark Atwood, Taryn Brennan, and Justin Haverlick*

# EVENTS

## HONORS GALA

University Gallery - February 17th, 2017

The Annual Honors Gala, run by the Kate Gleason College of Engineering division of Honors, took place on Saturday, February 17th! The night was filled with a ton of great music, dancing, and friends. Everyone had a lot of fun, and even got to look at the art on display in RIT's University Gallery.





# STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

## SARAH OAKES

The RIT Honors Program Newsletter Committee is happy to announce this issue's spotlight student: Sarah Oakes!

As Chair of the Honors Housing Committee, Sarah works hard to organize events for the residents of Gibson and the rest of the Honors program. Together with the help of the rest of the committee, she has been able to bring the Honors community closer together with fun and exciting events that can easily appeal to all in the Program.



*Sarah Oakes - Housing Committee Chair*  
*Photo taken by Catie Rafferty*

## Q & A

Major and graduation date?

I am a second-year Chemical Engineering major with an Immersion in Mathematics. I plan on graduating from RIT in May 2021.

How long have you been in the Housing Committee?

I was elected as Housing Committee Chair at the end of the last school year.

What are the goals of the Housing Committee?

The main goal of the Housing Committee is to improve the lives of those who live in Honors housing, Carlton Gibson hall. We go about this goal by putting on fun events every month and doing small things to make life in Gibson better.

What are some of the major events the committee puts on?

Some of the events that we have done this year are a de-stress coloring event, a game night, and a Halloween door decorating contest. We also hold a Study Crash at the end of every semester and are in charge of the Honors Housing Tours offered during the R.I.T. Accepted Students Open Houses.

A few of the other things that we do are give residents lollipops on their birthdays and write the Royal Flush, which is a publication that is hung up in the bathrooms.

Any future events you're excited for?

Some of the events that we plan on holding in the future are a movie night and a bean planting event. I am the most excited for the Honors Housing tours this year because I really enjoyed showing prospective Honors students around campus last year and telling them about the Honors Program.

What else are you involved with in Honors and on and off campus?

In addition to Housing Committee, I attend Honors Council and was an Honors Photo Mentor over the summer. As an Honors Photo Mentor, I took pictures during the Honors Program's Pre-Orientation program

(cont)

and helped new students when they first came to R.I.T.

I have also been involved in the R.I.T. Orchestra. I used to play viola in the orchestra, but I had to stop this semester because orchestra conflicted with one of my classes. On top of that, I also work at the Wallace Library as a Resource Assistant.

Any plans after graduation?

I don't really have plans after graduation just yet because that is not until a few years away, but I do intend on working in industry somewhere.

# GET INVOLVED

## MARCH 23RD, 2018 - DISNEY & PIXAR TRIVIA

Do you have an intense love and knowledge of all things Disney and Pixar? Then come be our guest at the Honors Disney & Pixar Trivia night on March 23rd at 7pm in Slaughter 2220-2240!

Registration is \$10 per team (up to 6 members) if you register early, and \$15 at the door. All proceeds will benefit the Rochester Education Foundation. You do not need to be an Honors student to play! Register in the Honors office in Global Village 400-2030 with your money and team name.



## EVERY FRIDAY- PIZZA FRIDAY

As always, every Friday is Pizza Friday in the world of RIT Honors. Typically held in Orange Hall 1360 from 1:05-2:10, but always remember to check your email for any changes!

And, of course, remember to come as early as you can so you can guarantee yourself some sweet end of the week pizza and hang out with some of your fellow Honors students.

## MARCH 25TH, 2018 - PAJAMA PARTY

On March 25th, the Honors Housing Committee will be holding a De-stress Pajama Party in the Gibson 3B Lounge from 6-9pm. There will be free food and plenty of entertainment, hope to see you all there!

## ON-GOING - HONORS FACEBOOK GROUP

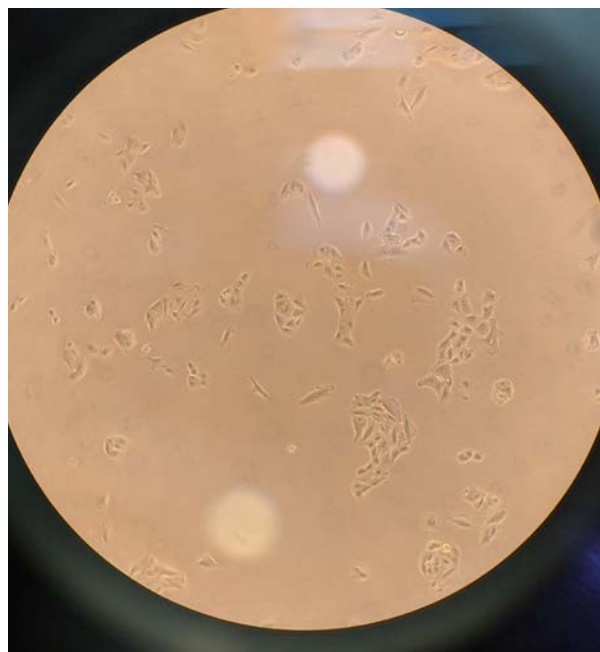
The Honors Program would like to invite you to a new Facebook group for students and alumni of the RIT Honors Program. This is a great opportunity to network with alumni in your major, college, or wherever your travels take you after graduation! You can find the group on Facebook, titled RIT Honors Program Students & Alumni.

# RESEARCH

## KILLING CANCER CELLS WITH DYE

Madison Ricco, a 4th year Biology major, and Jeremy Kane, a 3rd year Biotechnology and Molecular Biosciences major, are taking on an innovative project to kill cancer cells. They are working with Dr. Kenneth Reed and Dr. Gary Skuse to investigate the anti-cancer properties of a novel dye developed by Kodak.

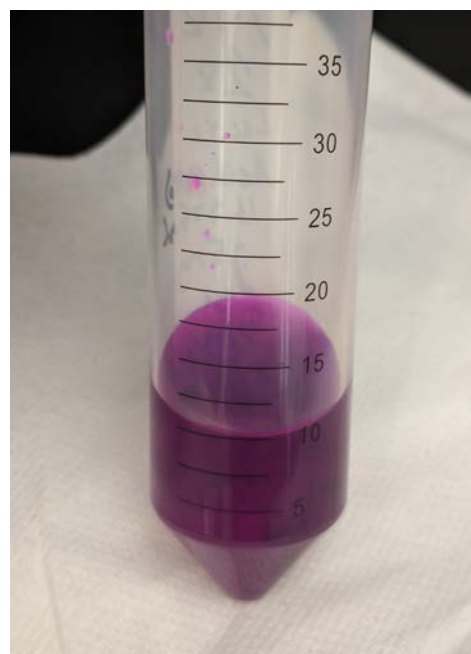
Combining the studies of nano-particles, tissue culture, and molecular biology, the group hopes to create an alternative method to fight back against the devastating disease. The group is also interested in recruiting a motivated, lab savvy student for next year!



*Jeremy Kane  
Biotechnology and Molecular  
Biosciences  
3rd Year*



*Madison Ricco  
Biology  
4th Year*





# GOT WITH IT

## HOROSCOPES FOR MARCH\*

*\*these horoscopes are even faker than the real ones*



### ARIES

*Do NOT trust Virgo.  
They are definitely out to  
get you.*



### TAURUS

*Please ask the bull nicely  
before you grab it by the  
horns. He's sensitive.*



### GEMINI

*Watch out for mysterious  
doubles, the number two,  
and doppelgängers.*



### CANCER

*[insert generic quote]  
[make sure it applies to all]*



### LEO

*Embrace the inevitable.  
Take the inevitable out to a  
fancy dinner.*



### VIRGO

*The Aries in your life needs  
some major love, keep your  
arms wide open!*



### LIBRA

*Plant your flowers and  
watch them bloom. Then  
take antihistamines, you're  
allergic.*



### SCORPIO

*Trust no one, even yourself.  
Especially since you trust  
no one.*



### SAGITTARIUS

*Honestly I forgot this sign  
existed... Make your own  
destiny?*



### CAPRICORN

*Assert your dominance over  
the stars! Be what ever sign  
you want!*



### AQUARIUS

*Mercury is in retrograde.  
You have no control.  
Best of luck, buddy.*



### PISCES

*Celebrate your birthday  
with cake, but watch out  
if it gets fishy. Especially if  
it's the cake...*

## TRIVIA AND RIDDLES

Do you know what the M's in M&M stands for?

You carry it wherever you go, yet it never gets heavy.  
What is it?

What is the history of the term "jaywalker"?

The more you feed me, the bigger I grow. Offer a  
drink and I'll die. What am I?

What state can be typed out on a keyboard using only  
one row of keys?

What has green hair, a round red head, and a long  
thin white beard?

What is Shaggy from Scooby-Doo's real name?

We hurt without moving. We poison without touch,  
and bear truth and lies. What are we?

*Email newsletter@honors.rit.edu your answers  
and see what happens!*