



Fram Focus volume 10:9 – April 2025
Congratulations to the 2025 Winners of the Fram Award at Imagine RIT!
In this issue:

Congratulations to the Fram Award at Imagine winners for demonstrating the exemplary application of critical thinking in the preparation of their exhibits!

- Large Group: The RIT Iceberg: Exploring RIT Student Culture: Igor Polotai, Professor Jim Rankin, Elyana Medcalf, Michael Norton, Ava Curby, Daisy Roberson, Dannahe Kuntz, Dayne Stein, Evi Schwartz, William Walker, Alexa Amoriello, Andrew Steven Hernandez, Jay Miller, Connor Vallandigham, Emily Ott, Maya Smith, August Michaels, Samantha Beale, Hudson Ward, Christine Espeleta, Emmett Beggs.

The RIT Iceberg Exhibit seeks to exhibit, educate, explore, and engage visitors with the RIT's vast student culture. It's built off the prior work of Igor Polotai, who cataloged over one hundred entries of RIT folklore, obscure history, and fun facts. This exhibit is an expansion of the original Iceberg, showcasing a curated selection of the origins of jokes, sayings, legends, pranks, stories, folklore, and material culture that shape the RIT student experience. The exhibit consists of a museum display of student-created objects, an interactive activity to add yourself to the folklore tapestry and showcasing the new Iceberg website.

- Small Group Winner: Leveraging 3D Ceramic Printing for Personalized Bone Implants: Leanna Frasch, Jillian Silva, Jade Myers, and Denis Cormier.

This exhibit showcases the potential of novel ceramic 3D printing technologies in designing personalized implants. The process workflow begins with computer-aided design (CAD) and simulation, demonstrating how patient-specific data from scans can be translated into personalized designs using tools like 3D Slicer. Advanced software, including Fusion360 and nTop, further enables the creation of biomimetic structures. The exhibit will feature ceramic 3D printed materials at various stages—demonstrating the entire process, from pre-processing to post-processing, and highlighting the machines used and final products designed for patient-specific bone-cartilage scaffolding and implant research.

In addition to the winners, we'd like to acknowledge the exceptional efforts of the following with honorable mentions:

- **Dual Charged Forced Induction Kit for Passenger Automobiles (P24654):** Ryan Marino, Aly Troidl, Alex Schneider, Steven Miller, Zach Claus, and Jack Snyder.
- **My Two Bodies:** Zahra Babaei.
- **All the Best - An Interactive Space For Words Left Unspoken:** Shivika Chopra and Mentor - Prof. Jurica Dolic.
- **AI-Driven Remote Heart Rate Estimation via Radar and Camera:** Zheng Wu.
- **Lunar Astronomical Motion Platform:** Keila Kawash-Flewell, Ryland Charron, Michael Glynn, Kent Leighton, and David Becker.
- **Kinetic Artwork and Interactive Computing:** Anshul Kiyawat, Ashley Liew, Bertan Berker, Brian Williams, Caiden Williams, Dan Rigoglioso, Dory VanKlootwyk-Ford, Ethan Borys, Evelyn Zou, Hannah Hlotyak, Jacob Sakelarios, Jared Nobles, JD Rears, Joe Meyer, Kamron Cole, Kat Delaney, Lucas Cleary, Lucie Lim, Nate Appleby, Prajwal Manish Jaiswal, Pranav Sehgal, Robert Hochgraf, Ryan Baker, Sayantan Saha, Serena Akpoyibo, Sherman Zhou, Shivam Parashar, Vivek Senthil, and Zack Bamford. As well as the following faculty - Thomas Kinsman, Dennis Murphy, Garret Arcoraci, Ted Kinsman, and Tony Audi.

Fram Spring Speaker Series

- **Critical Thinking Conversations: Pairing Professors and Professionals – Building Thinking Machines:** Thursday, April 10, 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm, webinar. Open to the RIT community and the public.

Co-Sponsored

- **Fifth Annual RIT Undergraduate Global Humanities Virtual Conference:** May 8 - 10, 2025.

Fram Find

- **Improvamonium:** April 4-5, 2025.
- **Story Slam:** April 15 - 17, 2025.
- **Unlabeled Music Festival:** April 19, 2025.

From Gene Fram

- *"Eventually, AI will surpass us in everything"—so what skills will still matter?*
- *Parents Who Raise Deeply Critical Thinkers Do These 5 Things Early On*
- *Will the use of generative AI shift higher education from a knowledge-first system to a skills-first system?*
- *I Used to Teach Students. Now I Catch ChatGPT Cheats*
- *From canvas to clinic: Med students study art to sharpen critical thinking*

FRAM SPRING SPEAKER SERIES

- **Critical Thinking Conversations: Pairing Professors and Professionals – Building Thinking Machines:** Thursday, April 10, 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm, webinar. Open to the RIT community and the public. In an era where AI is reshaping industries, Adam Weissman and Alex Ororbis come together for a thought-provoking fireside chat on the future of AI and how to build better decision-making machines. With Adam's expertise in AI applications for complex, regulated systems and Alex's research in bio-inspired AI and computational neuroscience, this conversation will explore how critical thinking shapes AI development. How can we avoid over-reliance on black-box models? What can neuroscience teach us about building more adaptable and interpretable AI? Expect a discussion on the balance between automation and human oversight, the risks of unchecked AI adoption, and the importance of reasoning and skepticism in the next wave of AI innovation. For more information and to register, click [HERE](#).

CO-SPONSORED

- **Fifth Annual RIT Undergraduate Global Humanities Virtual Conference:** May 8 – 10, 2025. Theme: Conflict, Resilience, and Resolution: Transformative Humanity. For more information, click [HERE](#).

FRAM FINDS

- **Improvamonium:** April 4-5, 2025, 7:00 – 10:00 pm both nights. Location: Webb Auditorium. Improvamonium is a two-night improv festival hosted at RIT, where a mix of college and professional troupes from all over upstate New York and beyond perform! For more information, click [HERE](#).
- **Story Slam:** April 15 - 17 2025. Students are invited to participate in a live storytelling competition where they tell a personal, true story inspired by the theme of CHEMISTRY. Hear a story about chemistry in all its forms, from the sparks of human connection to the bubbling beakers of science. We're looking for true tales about those magical moments when elements collide and transform: the crackling electricity of love at first sight, the careful titration of a growing friendship, or the explosive reaction of personalities in conflict. Maybe it's about that fateful day in the lab when everything went gloriously right (or spectacularly wrong), the secret ingredient that turned a recipe into a family legacy,

or the catalyst that turned strangers into collaborators. Whether your story involves actual molecules or the metaphorical chemistry that binds us all, come share your experience of transformation, reaction, and connection. **The registration deadline is Friday, April 11, at 5 p.m.** For more information and to register, click [HERE](#).

- **Unlabeled Music Festival:** April 19, 2025, 2:00 – 10:00 pm. The RIT Popular Music Collective in the School of Performing Arts presents the Unlabeled Music Festival. This year's festival features 35+ RIT acts with 200+ student performers on four stages throughout the SHED. For more information, click [HERE](#).

FROM GENE FRAM

- [*"Eventually, AI will surpass us in everything"—so what skills will still matter?*](#) by Maayan Manela, CTech, March 9, 2025.
- [*"Parents Who Raise Deeply Critical Thinkers Do These 5 Things Early On"*](#) by Jillian Mock, Your Tango, March 7, 2025.
- [*"Will the use of generative AI shift higher education from a knowledge-first system to a skills-first system?"*](#) by Rose Stephenson, The Higher Education Policy Institute, March 10, 2025.
- [*"I Used to Teach Students. Now I Catch ChatGPT Cheats"*](#) by Troy Jollimore, The Walrus, March 5, 2025.
- [*"From canvas to clinic: Med students study art to sharpen critical thinking"*](#) by Mike Cummings, Yale News, February 25, 2025.

