

# SCHOLARLY PURSUITS

VOLUME 21 | ISSUE 32 | SPRING 2021



## Through the Lighted Screens

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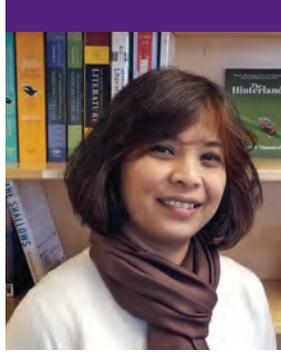
## GIVING

We encourage the Scholars community and friends to give to the program. A gift, no matter its size, is really helpful at a time when educational funding is scarce. You can make your gift at our secure, online giving site: [www.montgomerycollege.edu/onlinegiving](http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/onlinegiving). Click on "Select an area of support" and then click on "Other" and type Montgomery Scholars in the box.

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Rockville, MD 20850

**Thank you so much!**



## FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

### Dear Scholars, Parents, and Friends of Scholars:

It is with a heavy heart that I inform you of the passing of Dianne Ganz Scheper, one of the key founders of the Montgomery Scholars Program. You can read about her contributions to the Montgomery Scholars Program, Honors Program, and Montgomery College in Dr. Furgol's note of remembrance. As noted in her obituary published in the *Baltimore Sun*, Dr. Scheper also taught in the Master of Liberal Arts Program at Johns Hopkins University and was its program coordinator from 2010–2015. Please join me in conveying our deepest condolences to George Scheper, Dr. Dianne Ganz Scheper's husband, and all her family.

The news of grief does not end here. On March 19, 2021, *The New York Times* reported that the coronavirus-related death toll had passed 500,000 and published an image of cascading dots on the front page, each dot representing a life. The report stated, "More Americans have perished from Covid-19 than on the battlefields of World War I, World War II, and the Vietnam War combined." In an effort to visually represent the loss of lives, an article in *National Geographic* stated, "If measured in the skies, 500,000 is a hundred times more than all the stars visible to the naked eye." It is devastating to see complex lives reduced to mere dots or visualized as distant stars.

"If measured in the skies,  
500,000 is a hundred times  
more than all the stars visible  
to the naked eye."

*National Geographic*

And yet, alongside the grief, bereavement, and void left by those who have passed, life and its endeavors go on. In the next few pages, you will see how our students persist and accomplish in the face of tremendous adversity. They continue to build their futures, participate in milestone events and ceremonies, and provide unconditional support and service to their friends, families, and communities. Their resolve to make and keep connections throughout the pandemic is why we have entitled this edition of the newsletter "Through the Lighted Screens."

**Shweta Sen**  
Director, Montgomery Scholars  
[shweta.sen@montgomerycollege.edu](mailto:shweta.sen@montgomerycollege.edu)

Cover: Winter Solstice Zoom session

# IN MEMORIAM



Dr. Dianne Ganz Scheper with her husband George

## Passing of a Dear Friend and Colleague

by Mary Furgol

Former Director, Montgomery Scholars Program

It is with profound sadness that I announce the death of Dr. Dianne Ganz Scheper on February 19, 2021. Dianne was one of the principal founders of the Montgomery Scholars Program, which began in 1999—this year marks the 20th anniversary of the graduation of the first class of Montgomery Scholars.

Dianne's accomplishments were extensive. She had a PhD from Catholic University in religious studies and wrote her dissertation on the sacred in nature, focusing on the writings of Annie Dillard. Dianne was director of the Honors Program at Montgomery College for many years as well as the first director of the Montgomery Scholars Program. She also taught World Literature to the first three classes of Montgomery Scholars and team-taught a course on The American Wilderness, incorporating hiking, history, and literature, with our own Professor Michael Petty, who maintained the Harper's Ferry retreat tradition with the Montgomery Scholars even after Dianne retired from Montgomery College in 2002. Dianne continued to teach at Johns Hopkins University after leaving Montgomery College and inspired many students there too. She will be missed by students, faculty, and indeed by all with whom she came into contact.

To know Dianne was to know laughter, love, and joie de vivre. She had an exceptional intellect and communicated her passion for literature effortlessly and contagiously. I still remember the day she announced to the class that they had to read both *Heart of Darkness* and *Things Fall Apart* in a week. She announced it with such joy—as if she were giving them a special treat (though she did advise them that they might want to brew several pots of very strong coffee before they started). I particularly loved her introduction to the romantic poets as well as her discussions of the writings of Tagore.

It is fitting to end this remembrance with a Wordsworth quote that is rooted in the natural world from which Dianne drew such spiritual inspiration and about which she communicated with such love:

*And when the stream that overflows has passed  
A consciousness remains upon the silent shore of meaning;  
Images and precious thoughts that shall not be  
And cannot be destroyed*

—from *The Excursion*

Indeed our memories of Dianne will not dim, and our deepest condolences are extended to her husband, George, and all her family.

# In a Year Like No Other... SCHOLARS LOOKING

## Hang Onto Purposeful Existence

by Nathaniel Pila (Class of 2012)

You don't need me to tell you how hard this pandemic is. It has affected all of us in many different ways, no matter what we look like, where our family of origin is from, whom we love, and how diverse and "different" we are from each other. There's nothing more threatening to humanity than the prospect of death—and I don't just mean in the direct sense of loss of life, but also in the death of a career path, the death of a dream, even sadly, the death of hope. Sometimes I can't help but think that this pandemic is my generation's combination of the Great Depression and World War II. Not only are people struggling financially, but people are dying.

Of course, this is where essential workers like me come into play. Health care workers are working tirelessly to save lives, no matter what kind of institution they work in. Those who remain in the food and hospitality industries are helping feed and provide lodging to those who cannot afford food and a home during these times. Those in the entertainment field are providing a service, so that ordinary people like me can pass this long period of stillness without clawing through the desperation of boredom and without getting too caught up in our own thoughts. My work, however, is not like any of these occupations at all. It is both a unique and yet simple task: I work for a public library.

Many public library systems during the pandemic have been closed, but the leadership in my particular system understands the importance of the services that the public library provides to its members. At one point, we were back to allowing a certain number of patrons to use the computers, so that they could apply for jobs or print out important documents. The librarians work every day to provide activity kits for families with young children and process and shelve books, so that people can read materials and inform themselves of whatever they wish to know.

Frontline workers will tell you, though, that working with people isn't always great, pandemic or no pandemic. In the understandable state of panic and mistrust of each other, my fight-or-flight response has gone off way too often during these times. You might wonder how serious a situation in a public library can actually get. Yes, situations can get tense, even in a supposedly tranquil space like a public library when an angry woman causes a two-liter bottle of hand sanitizer to fly across the vestibule because she is told computers are not open for use, or when patrons refuse to wear masks in the building in order to assert their personal freedom. It is a stressful time at work, let alone the personal demons I am forced to face in my own isolation.

But I'm here to tell you that there is still hope. I have seen many people step up and perform different acts of altruism. I have also seen people work on improving themselves during this pandemic—whatever that means for them. I have even seen love prosper and bloom during this time: I have seen many of my friends get engaged or married during the pandemic. What a beautiful thing!

Hope means there is something to look forward to. I may not know how much longer this pandemic will go on, but I know that, as long as I have hope, I can keep moving forward. As long as I have hope, I can keep putting one foot after another. As long as I have hope, I will make it through this.



Carly Stoliker (second row on far left),  
Development Manager, LAWS

## Working in the Field of Nonprofit

by Carly Stoliker (Class of 2016)

Growing up, and especially during my undergraduate career, I flirted with the idea of working in the nonprofit realm, specifically doing hands-on, international disaster relief work. However, a brief internship during high school revealed to me that direct client services was not something for which I had the emotional bandwidth. I quickly learned about "burnout" and "compassion fatigue" and decided (to my utter dismay) that I was not one of those special people who could provide direct client services. (A note: I know so many incredible people who are able to work directly with clients because they have amazing self-care practices and set really strong personal and professional boundaries. Don't let my inability to do this type of work steer you from exploring it!).

After writing my undergraduate thesis about nonprofit development and the traditional nonprofit business model, I fell in love with the behind-the-scenes activities that enable the public-facing nonprofit employees to carry

# INWARD, OUTWARD, AND BEYOND



out their incredibly important work. With an associate's degree in communication studies under my belt and just a few short months shy of earning my bachelor's degree in sociology, I searched for development positions at local nonprofits and landed a job as the community outreach and fundraising coordinator at a veteran service organization called Boulder Crest in Bluemont, Virginia.

Two and a half years later, I was presented with an opportunity to grow my nonprofit experience as the development manager at the Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter (LAWS) in Leesburg, Virginia. Here, I cultivate relationships with amazing donors, coordinate fundraising events, and work closely with community partners to raise the necessary funding for our team to deliver top-quality services to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse in Loudoun County. The LAWS team offers free counseling, accompaniment to court, sexual assault nurse exams (SANEs), legal services, a Child Advocacy Center, safety planning, emergency shelter, and advocacy for our clients. I am honored to help make that work possible. My position at LAWS has truly been the culmination of my efforts to explore my passions, recognize my personal limits and boundaries, and find a way to still make a difference.

## Upcycling Scholars' Memories

by Cindy Tran (Class of 2021)

On November 24, 2020, the Environmental Club at Montgomery College's Germantown Campus announced that it would be hosting a virtual upcycling competition. "Upcycling" means giving a new purpose to something that is old or otherwise unusable in order to reduce waste. As a member of the Environmental Club and a lover of arts and crafts, I was ecstatic about the competition. For the next few days, I struggled to determine what I wanted to make for the competition. The submissions would be judged on creativity, usefulness, and aesthetics. What could I repurpose in my home to fit all three categories?

It wasn't until one fateful night while I was making delicious chicken alfredo pasta that I came up with the idea of decopodging an old pasta jar. I scoured my house for magazines and colorful paper until I found a copy of the Fall 2020 Montgomery Scholars newsletter, *Scholarly Pursuits*. The cover featured beautiful artwork created by my fellow scholar and dear friend, Alexander Baetsen. Then I flipped the cover open to a photo of my class of Montgomery Scholars sitting at a picnic table in Harper's Ferry, the first day that many of us met. The newsletter was perfect for the project.

I excitedly gathered the materials to my desk and...left everything there for a week. School started to pick up as we got closer to the Thanksgiving break, and immediately after the break, the first 10 pages of our capstone research paper were due. Before I knew it, it was the day before the upcycling submission deadline, and to my dismay, I realized that I had not touched my upcycling project.

My head was throbbing; I was tired; I had schoolwork to do; and yet something drew me to the newsletter. I began clipping out photos and phrases that reminded me the most of my journey as a Montgomery Scholar—phrases such as: "Strong Foundations," "Winter Solstice," "Digital Storytelling," "COVID-19," and "If You Allow It To, It Will Change Your Life." Soon I was decopodging and reflecting. Three hours later, I somehow finished. The clippings were pressed onto the jar, and the Mod Podge was slathered way too thickly on top. The jar looked like a pile of goop, but my head had finally stopped spinning for the first time that day.



I was wary about the way the jar would turn out, but I cleared the table and set the jar up to dry as best I could. By the next day, the Mod Podge had dried and become clear! Despite how intimidating it initially looked, the goop had transformed into a sturdy, glossy coat that both protected and enhanced the words and images encased underneath. The jar was vibrant and colorful, so I knew that whatever I put in it had to reflect those qualities. I found some color pencils and placed them inside the decorated jar. Thus, my pencil-holding, memory keepsake was born. It wasn't an easy task making the jar, and the effort certainly wasn't without stress or worry. But similar to my journey as a Montgomery Scholar, the jar surprised me with its vibrancy and with the amount of joy it had brought into my life.

Thank you, Montgomery Scholars program. As goopy as it may have been at times, my journey as a Montgomery Scholar has been rewarding, and I will cherish my memories of my past two years in the program (with the help of my new pencil holder).

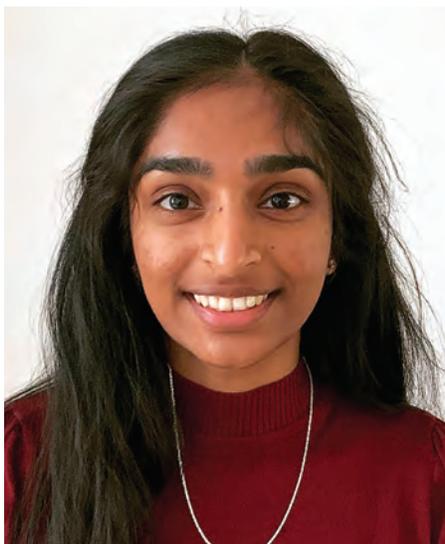
## An Arduous but Rewarding Journey

by Rima Sakhawala (Class of 2015)

Although I had always identified myself as a STEM student, my passion for research developed while I was a Montgomery Scholar. After reading and discussing a wide variety of texts, I realized that I enjoyed critically analyzing the texts we read in class and articulating my thoughts, both in writing and through in-class discussions. And as challenging as writing the capstone paper was, I genuinely enjoyed exploring the effects that globalization had on the practice of tattooing. However, it was not until I transferred to the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) as a MARC U\* STAR Scholar that I fully realized I could pursue a career that combines my proclivity for science and my passion for research.

Through the MARC U\* STAR program, I secured a scientific research experience at UMBC and was excited to begin collecting real data in an evolutionary biology lab. I was fortunate to have been able to start my transition at UMBC during the summer before classes started, which gave me the opportunity to become acquainted with some of the students and faculty at a new school where I did not know anyone. However, when classes began in the fall, I struggled to balance working in a lab and studying for what seemed to be constantly, only to earn mediocre grades.

Although UMBC is not as large as other four-year institutions, I felt that it was harder to maintain my footing in comparison to my time at Montgomery College (MC), both socially and academically. While I was a student at MC, I felt that the professors were supportive and eager to help. The Core professors in the Scholars program required us to meet with them one-on-one at the beginning of the school year to let us know they were a resource whom we could always access. This initial conversation helped break that barrier of hesitancy and anxiety when it came to asking for their help or guidance. Furthermore, I felt encouraged to go to my other MC professors' office hours as well. Establishing these relationships with my professors was key to my success in their classes.



This supportiveness also extended to my relationships with my peers at MC—for example, proofreading each other's assignments before they were due and encouraging one another in our times of distress. All this is not to say that the students and faculty are not approachable or supportive at bigger institutions like UMBC, or that it is harder to make friends there, but I seemed to have had an easier time adjusting to life at MC. I think the transition to being away from home and the added self-pressure of wanting to excel in the lab and in my academics, in combination with my self-isolation, made the transition more challenging than I expected. But like any difficult transition, in time I eventually adapted and learned what worked best for me in this new environment. I slowly learned to let go of inordinately high expectations for myself and to take things day by day. Eventually, I was able to surround myself with a good group of people at UMBC and also establish a close relationship with my lab mentor and advisor.

Once I got my footing at UMBC, I was able to accomplish a lot. I excelled in my classes, had great opportunities to present my research, and mentored other students in and outside of the lab. Because I knew that I wanted to earn my PhD and continue my career in research, I decided to apply to graduate schools during my senior year. I was eager to become a "qualified" scientist. However, I ultimately was rejected by every single program I applied to, which was devastating, especially considering that my professors and advisors thought I was well-qualified.

Still, I didn't let this setback discourage me from pursuing the career I wanted. I decided to continue cultivating my skills in STEM research with an Intramural Research Training Award (IRTA) from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), where I worked as a postbaccalaureate fellow in an RNA biology lab. During my time as a "postbac," I learned that I am passionate about all things related to ribonucleic acid, or RNA—transcription, stability, and translation. After settling into my lab, I realized I had previously applied to all the wrong programs, which were primarily in neuroscience. I realized my true passion was in studying the biochemistry and molecular biology of gene regulation.

Looking back, I now realize that what I initially considered a failure was truly the best thing to happen to me. If I had gotten into graduate school the first time I applied, I would have pursued an area of research that would not suit or satisfy me. Therefore, I am glad that I inadvertently took the time to figure out what I was truly passionate about. Furthermore, taking a detour in my career path helped me to become a better scientist. Working at NIH and taking advantage of its extensive resources—for example, participating in journal clubs, lectures, lab meetings, and professional development workshops—helped me realize that I needed to work in an interdisciplinary area of research. Such research allows me to incorporate ideas from other areas of scientific study, which is essential to becoming an effective contributor to the scientific community and to society. Ultimately, interdisciplinary research is the reason I decided to pursue a PhD in the NIH-Johns Hopkins University Graduate Partnership Program. And although I did not fully appreciate it at the time, I owe the Scholars program many thanks for my enthusiasm for interdisciplinary studies.

As I reflect on my academic career as a PhD candidate, I realize that I am grateful for all the hurdles I had to overcome to get here. In hindsight, they are exactly what I needed to propel me to where I am today. So, for any students who are struggling right now, I want to say this: It is okay to fail and fall short of your own expectations. Oftentimes, these challenges prove to be exactly the obstacle you needed to face in order to discover what you truly want to do. In fact, the outcomes and opportunities that result from these detours may be better than what you could have imagined for yourself.

# IN THE NEWS



**Audrey Hall '21** (Walter Johnson HS) has been chosen as a semifinalist for the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Scholarship. Audrey was also nominated for the Portz Award sponsored by the Maryland Collegiate Honors Council (MCHC).



**Nyrene Monforte '21** (Montgomery Blair HS), along with the project lead, Patty Arteaga of the National Museum of American History, discussed the work that Nyrene did as part of her Paul Peck Humanities Internship with the Smithsonian on "Documenting Undocumented Political Organizing Movements." This initiative is a "three-year project tracing the emergence of undocumented youth activism over the past twenty years by recording, analyzing, and interpreting political strategies via the collection of oral histories and objects."



**Alaa Sharaf '21** (Magruder HS) has been selected to be the Montgomery College Rockville Presidential Scholar. Alaa is also the first-ever student member of the Montgomery College Foundation and serves on its board.



**Faith Tabora '21** (Northwest HS) has participated as a student panelist on the session titled "Let's Talk," organized by the Office of Equity and Inclusion at Montgomery College and shared her perspective as an Asian American student.



**Eva Tsitohay '21** (Walter Johnson HS) has been chosen as a semifinalist for the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Scholarship. According to the Cooke Foundation's outreach and selection team, "This year's semifinalists were chosen from a pool of over 1,500 applicants attending 398 community colleges in 44 states and the District of Columbia."

# FIRST-EVER VIRTUAL CAPSTONE COLLOQUIUM



## Stepping Into a New Age: Montgomery Scholars Dazzle Online Attendees

by Viola Clune (Class of 2022)

On the brisk and windy evening of March 1, 2021, faculty members, students, proud parents, and other guests gathered for the annual Capstone Colloquium in which 18 second-year Montgomery Scholars displayed the culmination of their hard work and intellectual achievement by way of their capstone presentations. Of course, the briskness and windiness of the first day of March had no bearing on the colloquium this

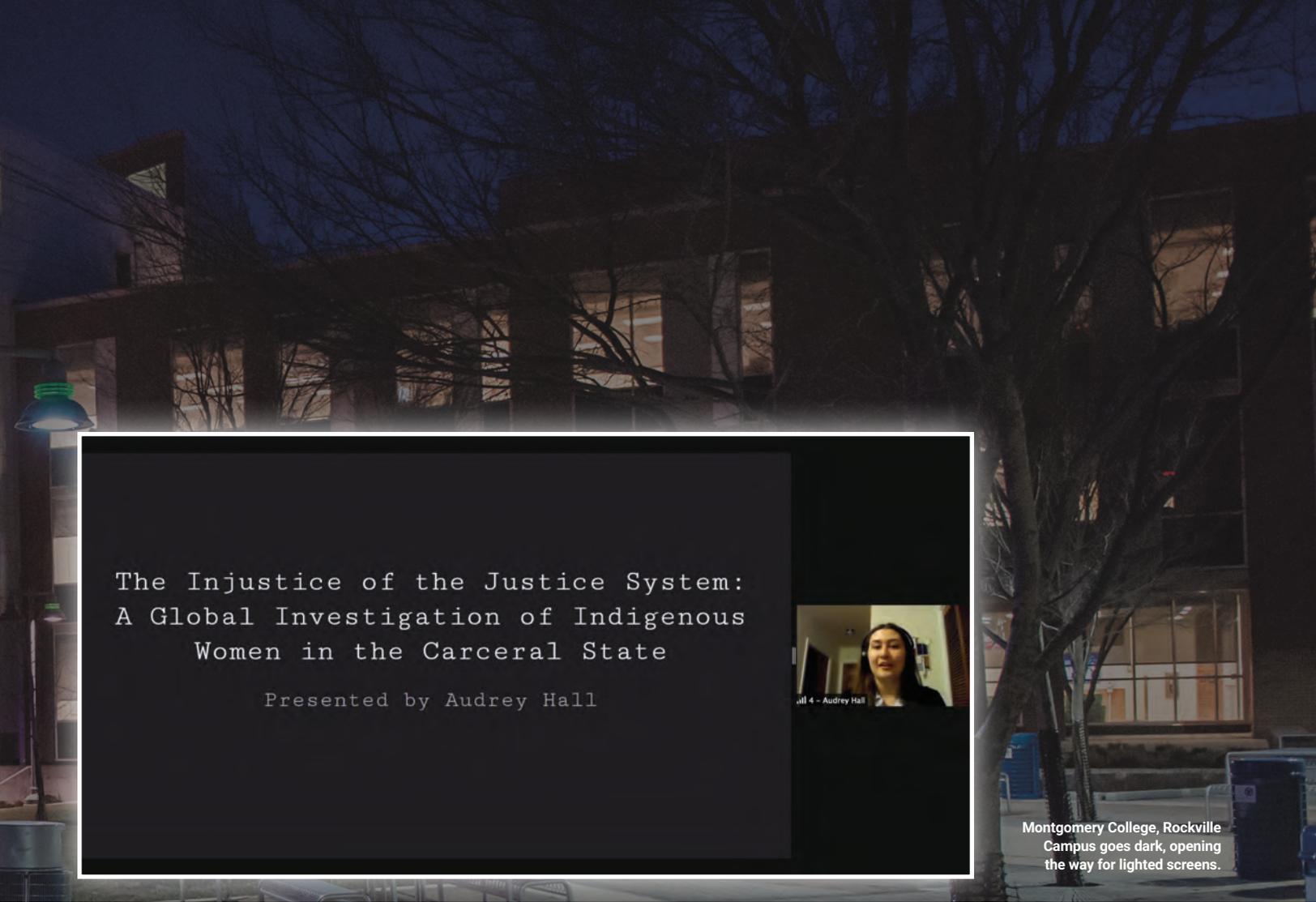
year. In accordance with Covid-19 restrictions on gathering, the annual Capstone Colloquium was, for the first time, held virtually.

The director of the Montgomery Scholars program, Professor Shweta Sen, probably described the virtual atmosphere best. Gazing through her computer screen upon the seemingly still and floating faces of 111 attendees, Professor Sen declared that the sight was akin to a Salvador Dali still life. Certainly, the newness of virtual events leaves us all grasping for ways to understand what we are seeing, as Professor Sen did, but it did not take long for the activities that would typically characterize the in-person colloquium to unfold.

The evening began with remarks from Professor Sen and the College's Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Sanjay Ray. Dr. Ray congratulated the students on completing "one of the most rigorous programs in the nation," and Professor Sen took time to acknowledge all of the professors who have "held the hands" of the scholars in their

second year of the program. Demonstrating the program's commitment to community-building, multiple scholars were given the opportunity to honor high school educators; their statements of gratitude were relayed by Dr. Carolyn Terry, Associate Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs. With the pomp and circumstance out of the way, the "floor" opened for the capstone presentations to begin.

Although the capstone projects encourage Montgomery Scholars to delve into their own, unique academic interests—whether that be the natural sciences, sports, food, or beauty—each project must incorporate the through-line of globalization. The keynote speaker for the evening, Alexander Baetsen, focused their presentation on the school-to-prison pipeline. Alex's presentation centered around the ways in which students of color are disproportionately funneled from the education system into the juvenile criminal justice system. Recognizing that many might view this phenomenon as an American problem, Alex demonstrated the global nature of the school-to-prison pipeline by



The Injustice of the Justice System:  
A Global Investigation of Indigenous  
Women in the Carceral State

Presented by Audrey Hall



Montgomery College, Rockville  
Campus goes dark, opening  
the way for lighted screens.

including case studies of other countries such as Canada, the United Kingdom, and Australia, which follow racial and law enforcement trends similar to those of the United States. In an attempt to create an environment that felt more akin to the typical in-person setting, participants were encouraged to unmute themselves and clap after Alex's presentation (and each presentation thereafter) so that the spirit of jubilation and ovation could fill the "room."

Exemplifying the presence of globalization in a diversity of topics, one presenter, Kira Ng, entertained and informed listeners with her argument on the proliferation of K-dramas and the promotion of toxic behavior that sometimes accompanies them. Another student, Nyrene Monforte, captured the attention of the audience with her discourse on the global film trend of neorealism, focusing specifically on the use of neorealism in the Philippines during the political upheaval of the late Marcos era. Eva Tsiotay poignantly interpreted the idea of adaptation and then

demonstrated, through global examples, how *The Epic of Gilgamesh* has been reinterpreted differently across cultures and time.

All of the presentations made clear that the students had thrown themselves completely into their research, exploring fascinating topics and educating all who had the privilege of listening.

"The emotion that permeated the event demonstrated that education and love, or academia and affection, do not have to be antonymous ideas."

As everyone returned from the breakout "rooms," the mood was bittersweet. Many students and

faculty members took the opportunity to unmute themselves and share a little bit about how they were feeling. Tears were shed, declarations of love were made for one another, and numerous students shared the viewpoint that the Scholars program had changed their lives for the better. Alongside the stimulating intellectual presentations was the sentimentality that often accompanies the end of an era. The emotion that permeated the event demonstrated that education and love, or academia and affection, do not have to be antonymous ideas. The 2021 colloquium allowed for the type of emotional bonding and connection that is so often missing in our currently virtual world. Though we may be under orders to socially distance in order to keep one another safe, this year's Capstone Colloquium was a much-needed reminder that physical distance does not have to be a hindrance to building close-knit bonds of friendship and connection, such as those that the two-year Montgomery Scholars program fostered for this group of students.

# MILESTONES

## Weddings

We extend our congratulations and best wishes to **Crystel Britto '09** on her marriage to Christopher Hsu on September 5, 2020; and to **Rebecca (Harris) Sanna '14** on her marriage to Alex Sanna during the summer of 2020 at a small family-only wedding at a winery in Frederick County, Maryland.



Crystel Britto and Christopher Hsu



Rebecca (Harris) Sanna and Alex Sanna

## WHERE ARE YOU NOW?

Below are a few of the scholars from the first 21 classes and their whereabouts. If anyone from the classes of 2001–2021 has an update for the newsletter, just drop us a line and we will include the information in the next newsletter.



### Class of 2009

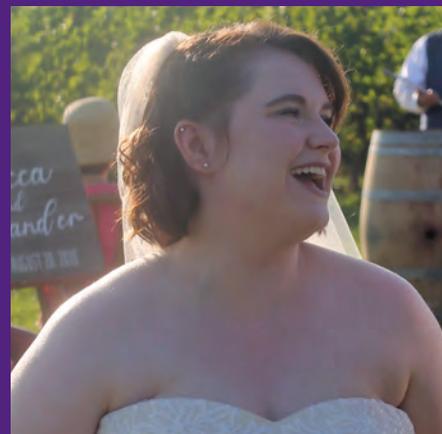
**Sheena (Austria) Badger '09**, RN, BSN, BA (Georgetown University), AA, AAT, graduated from Georgetown with a bachelor's degree in English literature, and then two years later, she returned to Georgetown to attend nursing school.

Sheena is married to Alfred Badger, and they have two beautiful girls, Eden Claire and Eliana Vera, and a baby boy, Alfred Joseph Badger V (Quinn).

Before having Quinn, Sheena was working as a nurse on some weekends at Jill's House, a respite center for children with special needs. The children stay overnight at a wonderful cabin-like location, where they receive the attention and medical care they need. While they are with the caregivers, their parents and siblings get much-needed rest time. Since having Quinn, Sheena has decided to stay home full-time for now. Although they are not currently traveling, Sheena and her family's favorite adventure thus far has been their trip to Yoho National Park and Banff National Park in Canada.



Alfred Joseph Badger V (Quinn).



### Class of 2014

**Rebecca (Harris) Sanna '14**, BA (Towson University), AA, is currently teaching at New Town High School in Owings Mills, Maryland. Rebecca teaches grades 9–12 science with a specialty in special education.

Rebecca was highlighted as a teacher by the teaching company LINC. She is also mentoring new teachers in her school building and leading an interdisciplinary unit connecting biology, English, and current news. Rebecca has also been involved in various leadership positions within the school.

# THANKS!

## Roundtable Presenters & Guest Lecturers

The scholars wish to thank the following individuals for their generous contributions of time and talents during this unusual and challenging academic year.

*My Culinary Identity*

**Mariano Ramos '01**

Advanced Culinary Arts Instructor  
Carlos Rosario International  
Public Charter School



Mariano Ramos



Claire Kalala

(1) *Cross-Cultural Communication*

(2) *Art and Self-Care*

**Claire Kalala '10** and  
**Ana Palomino '10**

*Japanese Tea Ceremony*

**Mr. Steve DiGirolamo**



Ana Palomino



Steve Di Girolamo

*Dolley Madison, wife of  
James Madison, and her  
enslaved lady's maid, Sukey*

**Leigh Jameson** and  
**Marjie Southerland**

Historical Character Interpreters



Leigh Jameson and  
Marjie Southerland



Professor Tendai Johnson

*Art in the Global Context*

**Professor Tendai Johnson**

Art Department Chair  
Rockville and Takoma Park  
Campuses  
Montgomery College

(1) *Modernity and Scientific  
Reasoning*

(2) *Postmodernism*

**Aram Hessami, PhD**

Professor of Political Science  
and Philosophy  
Montgomery College



Aram Hessami, PhD



Nathan Zook, PhD

*Tolerating Intolerance—*

*A Simulation of Dutch*

*Immigration Policy*

**Nathan Zook, PhD**

International Studies Coordinator  
Montgomery College

## New Friends of the Scholars

Congratulations to our new Friends of the Scholars! The following high school teachers and a staff member were nominated because of their guidance and mentorship of their students:

**Kimberly Sterin**

*Teacher*

Seneca Valley High School

Nominated by

**Alexzander Baetsen '21**

**Susan Eckrich**

*Teacher*

Seneca Valley High School

Nominated by

**Alexzander Baetsen '21**

**Kelly Butler**

*Teacher*

Walter Johnson High School

Nominated by

**Jose Flores '21**

**Alison Russell**

*Teacher*

Montgomery Blair High School

Nominated by

**Nyrene Monforte '21**

**Ashleigh Preadable**

*Teacher*

Magruder High School

Nominated by

**Kira Ng '21**

**Scott Zanni**

*Teacher and Volleyball Coach*

Magruder High School

Nominated by

**Kira Ng '21**

**Martha Mossberg**

*Media Assistant*

Clarksburg High School

Nominated by

**Giselle Sotto '21**

Montgomery Scholars Program Newsletter

# SCHOLARLY PURSUITS

For further information about Montgomery College, please go to [montgomerycollege.edu](http://montgomerycollege.edu)

For further information about the Montgomery Scholars program, please go to [montgomerycollege.edu/montgomeryscholars](http://montgomerycollege.edu/montgomeryscholars)

Comments, feedback, or input, please email: [shweta.sen@montgomerycollege.edu](mailto:shweta.sen@montgomerycollege.edu)

