

A group of four students are gathered around a dark wooden table outdoors on a sunny day. Two students are seated at the table, looking at a book or paper. One student is wearing a red jacket and is standing, leaning over the table. Another student is sitting on the opposite side of the table, looking towards the others. The background shows a paved walkway, green trees, and other people in the distance, suggesting a campus setting.

September-
December 2022

SMT

College
of Arts
and
Sciences

Saint Martin's
University

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES



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INTRODUCING OUR CAS SAINTS!



R NEW





DR. YUNCHEN TIAN

Yunchen Tian (or just Tian for short) is starting their first year as an Assistant Professor of Political Science, as well as Faculty-in-Residence, at Saint Martin's University. They completed their PhD in Political Science at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, MD earlier this year. Their research focuses on the governance and discursive construction of labor migration policies in Japan, and their work has been published in the *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* and *Citizenship Studies*, with an upcoming article under preparation at *Social Science Japan Journal*. Tian is passionate about designing exciting and accessible curriculum, as well as working closely with students to help them achieve their own personal goals. Outside of academic work, they enjoy photography, nature, travel, and cycling. As Faculty-in-Residence, you may see Tian around campus quite often. Tian doesn't bite, so please don't be afraid to stop and say hi!





DR. SAILAJA ARUNGUNDRAM

Sailaja Arungundram is joining the Saint Martin's community as a new chemistry and biochemistry professor.

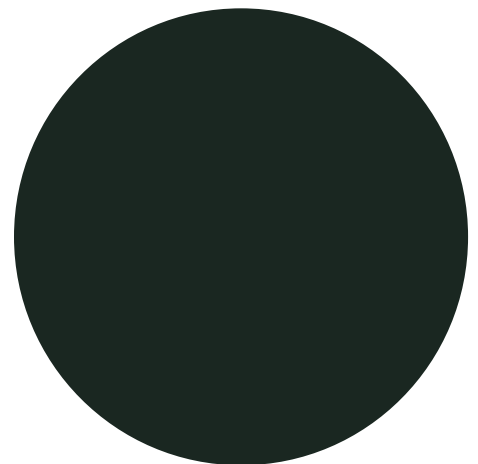
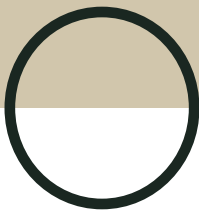
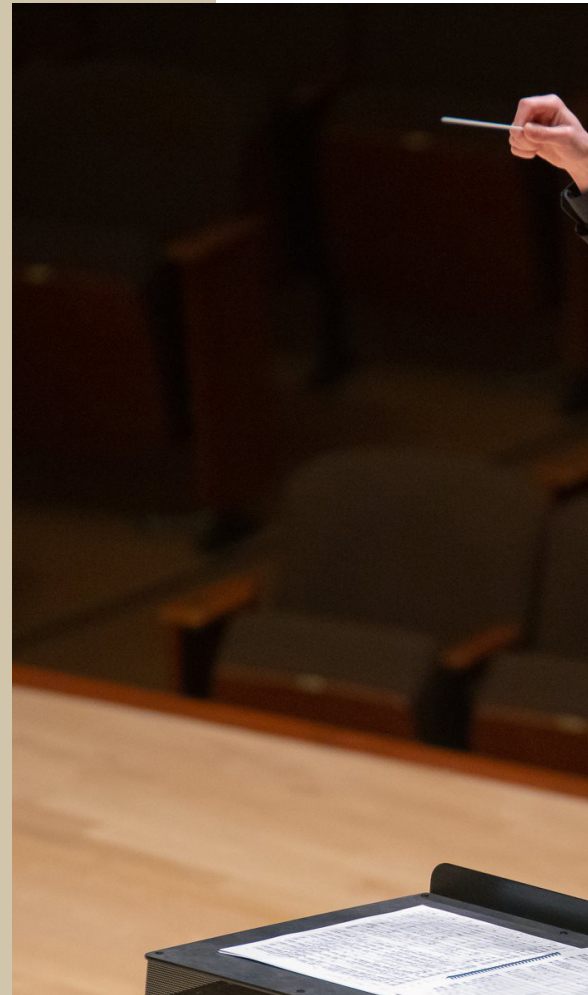
Sailaja has had a Postdoctoral Research position at the Department of Medicinal Chemistry, University of Utah, Salt Lake City. Most recently she was a Visiting Assistant Professor in chemistry at Pacific Lutheran University. She brings the department a much-needed biochemist with expertise in biosynthesis.

DR. JOEY SCOTT

Joseph Scott is thrilled to join the faculty of the College of Arts & Sciences where he conducts the SMU Wind Ensemble and teaches courses in music education and music theory. Prior to this appointment, Joseph served as conductor of the Wind Ensemble and Orchestra at College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, MA. Dr. Scott's research on 20th Century composers Arthur Meulemans and Paul Hindemith has recently received international recognition, with conference presentations this past summer at the World Association of Symphonic Bands and Ensembles in Prague, Czech Republic and the International Conference on Wind Music in Bolzano, Italy. Joseph's article "Exploring the Harmonic Wedge" was published in the peer-reviewed journal *Estudios bandísticos* in 2020.

In 2019, the American Prize selected Joseph as the Ernst Bacon Award Honorable Mention for his performance of Adolphus Hailstork's "American Guernica". This award "recognizes and rewards the best performances of American music by ensemble and individual artists worldwide...". Joseph was selected as a semi-finalist for the 2019 American Prize in wind conducting and was also selected as a semi-finalist in 2018. Joseph was a tier one conductor for the 2017 Frederick Fennell Memorial Conducting Masterclass at the Eastman School of Music where he worked with Mark Scatterday, Donald Hunsberger, and Craig Kirchhoff.

Joseph earned his Bachelor of Music in Music Education from the University of Oregon and the Masters of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees from the University of Maryland.





TESA FREVERT

Tesa Frevert is the Administrative Assistant to the Department of Nursing. Originally from Colorado, Tesa, her husband Eric, 2 children, and 2 dogs moved to Olympia 4 years ago seeking adventure and moisture. In Colorado, Tesa worked as a Physical Therapist Assistant and managed the family farm where they raised goats, sheep, a multitude of domestic fowl, and boarded horses. Tesa is an avid angler, hiker, camper and generally enjoys anything outdoors and away from civilization. She also enjoys cooking and baking, crocheting, sewing, reading, and tending her chickens when she isn't chasing her children around to sporting events. Tesa is excited to be a part of the Saint Martin's University community.

FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

Dr. Nathalie Kuroiwa-Lewis

Dr. Nathalie Kuroiwa-Lewis's poem "Hesperopetes" is forthcoming in issue 7 of *Book of Matches*. Here is the link to the journal: <https://www.bookofmatcheslitmag.com/>. Dr. Kuroiwa-Lewis continues to serve on the board of the Olympia Poetry Network and is proud to support poetry in the Pacific Northwest. In addition, on October 21, she hosted the Hanford Challenge at a Friday Faculty Lunch in order to

facilitate opportunities across disciplines to teach Hanford in the classroom and bring more awareness of the role that nuclear waste clean-up plays in environmental issues.

Dr. Aaron Goings

Dr. Aaron Goings's newest book, *The Port of Missing Men*, won the Owens Book Award from the Western History Association (WHA). This award was presented at the WHA annual conference in October 2021. The WHA announces the Owens Book Award given annually for the best book on

the history of the Pacific West, including Alaska, Hawaii, Western Canada, and the U.S. Pacific Territories.



Dr. Irina Gendelman

Dr. Irina Gendelman was awarded the University of New South Wales Arts, Design & Architecture Teaching Fellowship in the Department of Humanities & Languages. Dr. Gendelman will travel to Sydney, Australia in Feb. 2023 to collaborate with faculty and students on innovative ecocultural, place-based pedagogy. She also plans to go scuba diving in the Great Barrier Reef.



Dr. Yunchen Tian

Dr. Yunchen Tian published an article in the *East Asian Forum*. The piece discussed the buildup to the end of Japan's restrictive COVID-19 entry policies and the economic challenges for Japan that lay ahead.

Dr. Robert Bode

Dr. Bode is currently in the fourth year of a five-year study on Scotch broom reproduction and biocontrol. Each fall, he recruits between five and ten first-year students to count seeds and measure biocontrol attack rates in Scotch broom. This invasive plant produces thousands of seeds each year, and local agencies have introduced two beetle species that feed on the seeds. The success of these beetle species can be easily measured, as can the size of the seeds and the number of seeds produced. Students receive a 15 minute training in how to conduct these measures and work for an average of three hours on their own time during the fall.

The data from this tedious counting has yielded one publication, one manuscript in preparation and a third that will be written at the conclusion of the experiment. Student researchers (summer researchers) have discovered that the expected tradeoffs between seed count and seed size do not exist for this species. Measures of natural selection have indicated that Scotch broom is under selection for smaller seeds, but is also evolving larger ones. The relationship between weather trends and biocontrol success is the focus of a current manuscript. More importantly, this project has succeeded in introducing dozens of students to research. These students have something on their resume and have an increased chance of getting a summer job. The project has succeeded in each year to get students into better summer job opportunities through experiential learning.

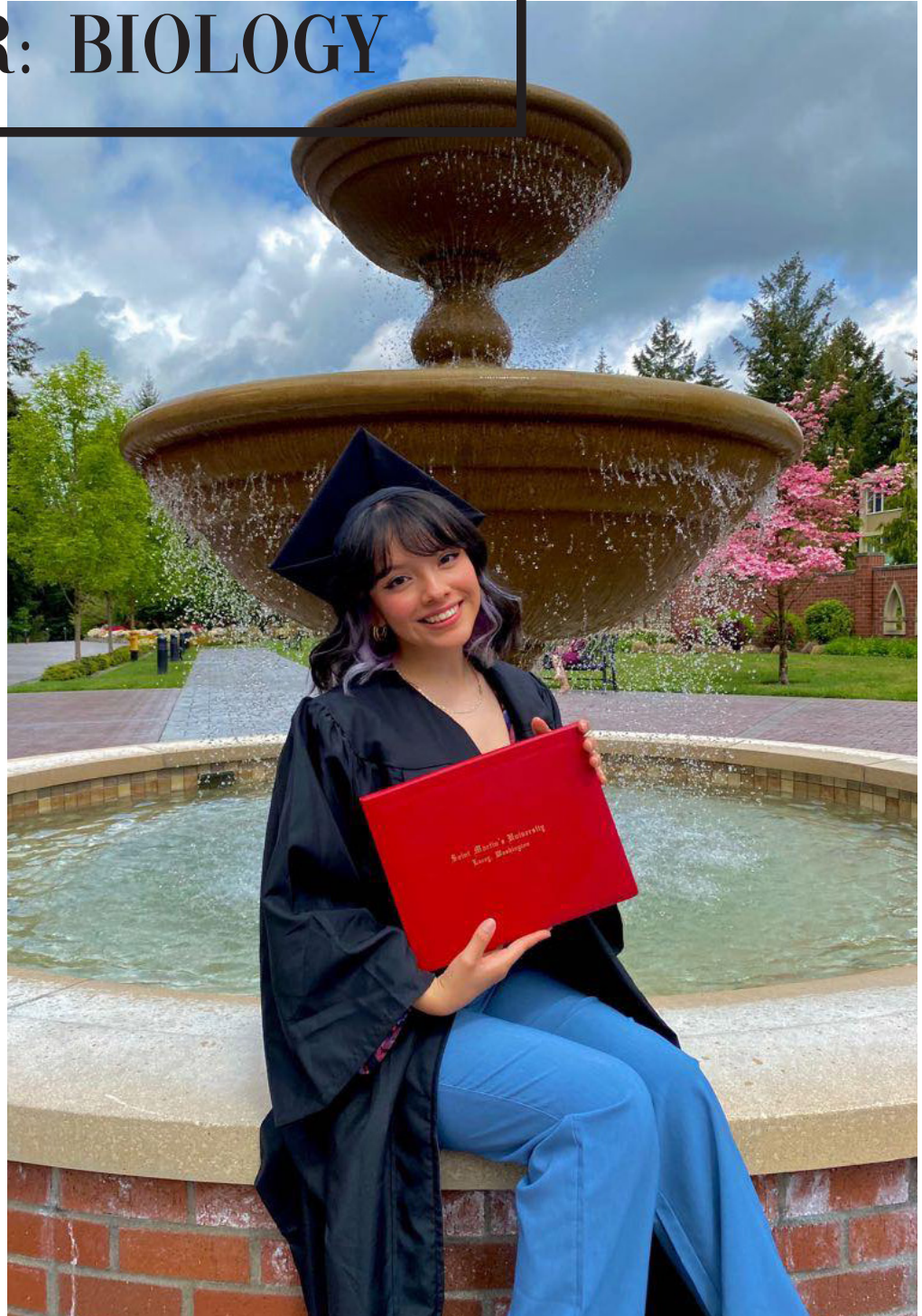


Dr. Julia Chavez

On November 9th, Julia Chavez (English) was invited to speak at the National Honor Society induction at Pope John Paul II High School in Lacey, Washington. Chavez found it inspiring to share space with this talented and hardworking group of young leaders, who were chosen for membership based on character, service, leadership, and scholarship.



**CELEBRATE FIRST
GEN: MIRTA
MARAVILLA
ROSAS 2020
MAJOR: BIOLOGY**



What does being a first-generation college graduate mean to you?

Being a first-generation student means breaking the intergenerational cycle of education level. Having been raised in a low-income household, achieving a higher education meant having the possibilities for higher income salaries, better working conditions, and a better quality of life in general. Obtaining a college degree was the highest educational accomplishment in my family lineage as the first person to go to college.

How did this shape your college experience?

As a first-generation student, I found myself seeking out professors that would serve me as mentors throughout my undergrad. Having these connections not only helped me gain assistance in lectures but also helped shape my interest in post-graduation work.

What were some of the challenges you faced? What are some of your proudest achievements as a first-generation college graduate?

My biggest challenge was not having any sort of guidance from my family to help me throughout my journey. Most of my peers had their parents to help them with their essays for college applications, as well as their financial forms, and bills but, I was on my own. I hunted for scholarships, filled out my FAFSA, taught myself how to study efficiently, and used the resources provided by SMU to guide me through college. After my junior year in college, I was selected as an intern for the Summer Infectious Diseases Internship at Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center. This internship introduced me to the field of public health and provided me with the opportunity to work on a retrospective research study. Furthermore, I was able to present an oral abstract that was accepted at the Annual Transplant & Cellular Therapy Meeting in Orlando, Florida. I am proud to say that through this study, I became a published author in the journal, *Nursing Research*.

Why did you go to college?

As a child, I was always very curious about nature and various science topics. I enjoyed reading about diseases such as the Black Plague and knew I wanted to further my studies in science. While in elementary, I had an English Language Learning (ELL) teacher that noticed my potential in academics and encouraged me to seek a college education. Although I didn't have an exact idea of what career I wanted to have, I knew that I wanted to major in biology and work in the healthcare field.

What resources were most helpful for you?

Being able to have the support and help from my professors was the biggest resource that I had during college. They taught me better ways to study and provided me with guidance regarding different career possibilities. I also found the Campus Life workshops and events to be the perfect place to connect with other students and develop my own interpersonal skills.

How did this experience shape and inform the work you do now?

Being a first-generation student forced me to get out of my comfort zone and use the resources around me in order to achieve success. Through this experience, I was able to create connections and relationships that have helped me throughout my career. As I reflect on my experience, I am very proud of the academic success I achieved through my accomplishments regardless of the challenges I faced. However, had I not lived through those challenges, I wouldn't have developed the tenacity and strength that serves me to this day.

Being a first-generation student means breaking the inter-generational cycle of education level.

CELEBRATE FIRST GEN: HASLEY VILADELGADO MAJOR: BIOLOGY

What does being a first-generation college graduate mean to you?

Being a first-generation college graduate is one of my exceptional achievements. My diploma meant so much because it brought joy and pride to my family. This accomplishment validates the fact that our place in society does not define how far we can go in life.

How did this shape your college experience?

My life before college has not always been the easiest, but the attitude, work ethic, adaptability, and perseverance I have learned throughout my life significantly contributed to my journey in college. College was not easy, but it was fun. I worked as a student library staff at O'Grady Library, Photographer at Belltower, a Resident Assistant at Housing and Residence Life, and a Medical Scribe at St. Peter's Emergency Room. On paper, it may appear that I had no life, but in fact this was the period of my life where I formed the strongest friendships. These lifelong friends were my support system through some of the hardest moments in and out of the classroom.

What were some of the challenges you faced?

The initial challenge I faced was the adjustment. Living alone, away from my family was difficult, but I managed. I matured and grew a lot as a person. The second was losing my sense of purpose. There were times when I was getting exhausted and burnt out. I was losing my focus, but I just had to keep finding the reason why I was there in the first place. I would slow down at times, but I never stopped. Lastly, motivation and inspiration. There were days I felt unmotivated. I was unsure about myself and my abilities, but I kept moving forward. Seemingly, in the blink of an eye, graduation was right around the corner.

What are some of your proudest achievements as a first-gen graduate?

One of my proudest achievements was being able to send myself to college. When I moved to the United States, I knew I wanted to pursue higher education. I was unfamiliar with the education system in the United States, but I was determined and persisted through the invisible barriers. I found my way to Saint Martin's University, and I eventually graduated within three years with a major and a minor degree debt free.

Why did you go to college?

I went to college because it was my dream, and education is valuable to me. I believe that having an opportunity to go to college is a privilege that not everyone is fortunate to have. It was a chance that no one should take for granted.

What resources were most helpful for you?

Two of the resources that were helpful for me were Admissions and Housing and Residence Life. Admissions guided me through the process and worked with me until I could manage. Housing and Residence Life have given me tremendous opportunities to showcase my abilities, both as a student and a leader.

How did this experience shape and inform the work you do now?

I'm currently working at a Medical Research Institute in Honolulu, Hawaii. More than the skills and abilities are the positive attitude I bring to work every day. I treat each day at work as another possibility for me to learn and grow in the field of research and medicine, so I can eventually make a bigger difference in my community.

2020



I was unfamiliar with the education system in the United States, but I was determined and persisted through the invisible barriers.

INDIGENOUS



PEOPLES'



DAY



STUDENT RELECTIONS

The Saints Community gathered for a teach-in to celebrate Indigenous Peoples' Day. Students, faculty, and staff made art, watched a documentary about the Lummi Nation and Cherry Point, read Native American literature, and discussed the meaning of place to Indigenous cultures. Saint Martin's University acknowledges the land on which it stands and honors its original inhabitants of the land on which you were born.

The Indigenous Peoples' Day event was a great opportunity to learn and expand our knowledge about Indigenous people and the land that surrounds us. I personally learned an immense amount of information about how Indigenous plants and herbs can help with the human body. For instance, lavender is a scent and herb to drink with tea to relax a person.

-Brendan Ranslow

I was able to learn about the History of the Nisqually Tribe and understand the importance of our land and where it comes from. This teach - in was really interesting and important for me since I come from the islands of Hawaii and our land was overly colonized and in trouble today. From nature, the environment, and economy, this teach - in inspired me to do/want to do more.

-Shayler Anoina

I think that it is valuable to have teach - in on campus so that everyone could participate and learn about new things or expand their knowledge. It is also better to have hands - on activities rather than just presenting it so students can experience it themselves.

-Cheryl Jayme R. Santiago

Indigenous Peoples Day is important to me because I grew up in the Nisqually area and their culture and history is something that we all need to recognize and celebrate. I enjoyed watching the various videos about Native cultures and practices. I am grateful to have learned and will continue learning about ways to celebrate Indigenous People.

-Anonymous Student

Understanding how people can be hurt by this world, and how we can be blind to it if we're not in their circle, it's a universal lesson. We are all part of a community, and most of us do suffer, but we often forget we are not the only ones too. When someone says "life isn't fair," they are content with its injustices and will make no effort to change it. Life can be fair, and it should be.

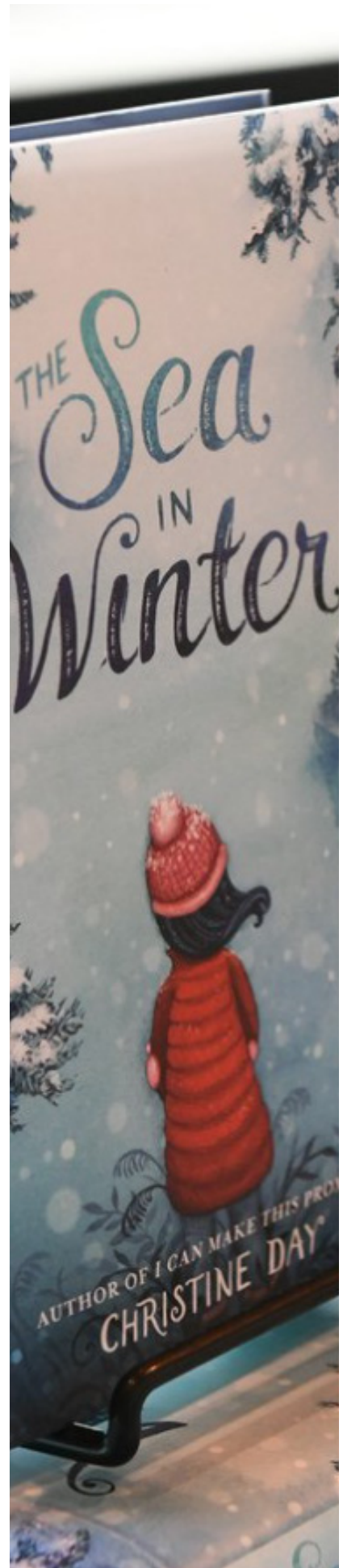
-Faust Stika

I learned the true importance of land to Native people. I think this day is very important to everyone because it shows the truth about our history. I think it was morally wrong for the U.S. to push them into tiny reservations and take away their land.

-Nate Newsom

**LES BAILEY
WRITERS SERIES:
CHRISTINE DAY
"THE STORY
TELLER'S JOB"**





Presented by the Saint Martin's University English Program, the Les Bailey Writers Series brings writers and authors of note to campus to read and discuss their books. It was named in honor of Leslie G. Bailey, Ph.D., a gifted and inspiring English professor at Saint Martin's who was beloved for sharing his great passion for the written word with students. Bailey taught at Saint Martin's from 1975 until his death in 2010.

Christine Day is a citizen of the Upper Skagit Indian Tribe. Her first novel, *I Can Make This Promise*, was a best book of the year from NPR, as well as a Charlotte Huck Award Honor Book, and an American Indian Youth Literature Award Honor Book. Her second novel, *The Sea in Winter*, was a Top 10

Indie Kids' Next selection, a finalist for the Pacific Northwest Book Award, and an American Indian Youth Literature Award Honor Book. She also wrote *She Persisted: Maria Tallchief*, a biography in Chelsea Clinton's book series about inspirational women. Her next book, *We Still Belong*, is coming to shelves in Summer 2023. Christine lives with her family in the rainy and resplendent Pacific Northwest.

LADY AUDLEY'S SECRET



On December 5th and 7th, the SMU Theatre Program presented the Victorian melodrama, *Lady Audley's Secret*. This play was adapted from a bestselling sensation novel by nineteenth-century writer Mary Elizabeth Braddon. It is the story of a femme fatale who infiltrates the quiet English countryside and disrupts an aristocratic family.



CAST

Sir Michael Audley
Robert Audley
George Talboys
Mr. Harcourt Talboys
Luke Marks
Slip
First Countryman
Second Countryman
Lady Audley
Alice
Phoebe
Clara Talboys

Omar Zepeda (Mechanical Engineering)
Jesus German (Theatre Arts)
Ian McKain-Pitts (Music)
Sam Morris (Mathematics)
Mark Wood (Biology)
Miles Jimenez (Mechanical Engineering)
Kainalu Pagente (Civil Engineering)
Brayden Flores (Criminal Justice)
Catherine Ricalde (Music)
Awor Arop (Literary Studies)
Krizia Ragotero (Information Technology)
Laurin Patterson (Computer Science)



The performance was a capstone experience for students enrolled in an interdisciplinary CORE course taught by Professors Darrell Born (Music/Theatre) and Julia Chavez (English). Cast members came from many different majors, and some were first-time actors. Students in the course also worked backstage and assisted with lights, sets, props, costumes, and makeup. All did an amazing job to bring the nineteenth-century story to life for the audience!

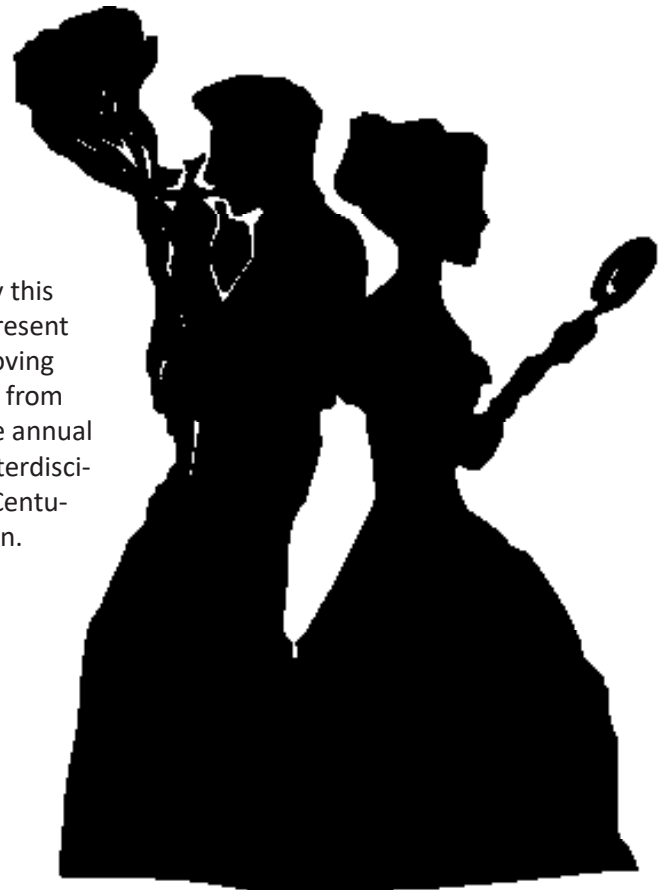
The campus response to the production was tremendous, and both shows were filled to capacity with standing room only.

This performance was a true collaboration of the arts. The beautiful set was built by theater professor Steven Wells and students from his Design/Tech Practicum. Historically accurate costumes were created by theater professor Lauren Wells and her Costume Design class.

The portrait of Lady Audley,

a focal point of the play, was painted by art professor Emily Adams and her Two-Dimensional Art Survey class. In addition to all of this, the Music Department graciously vacated the room in Kreielsheimer for more than a month to accommodate rehearsals and performances. And last, but not least, pianist Claudia Simpson-Jones provided a musical flourish to the performance.

Born and Chavez will be sharing this phenomenal teaching experience with the larger scholarly community this Spring, when they present a paper entitled "Moving Lady Audley's Secret from Page to Stage" at the annual conference of the Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies Association.




OCHFH

With the help of volunteers from SMU, Pope John Paul II High School, and the local community, the food justice project known as Our Common Home Farms had a successful year! Since January, OCHF donated 4,560 pounds of produce from our 0.27 parcel located at Pigman's Produce Patch in the Nisqually Valley.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped to further the mission of Our Common Home Farms this year! In total, we had more than 175 individual volunteers from the community contribute more than 1000 hours of time.

If you are curious about this project and want to know more, please contact anyone on the leadership team: Sam Fox (Biology), Tim Madeley (Accounting), Will Stadler (Criminology and Criminal Justice), and Julia Chavez (English). If you are eager to volunteer in the Spring, we'd love to start planning now!



21 deliveries to Catholic Community Services for a total of 2,362 lbs. This produce was prepared and served by staff and volunteers at the Community Kitchen in downtown Olympia.

5 deliveries of five bags each week for food insecure families at Saint Michael's Parish in downtown Olympia for a total of 317 lbs.

Donations to the food pantry at Sacred Heart Parish in Lacey, WA.

21 deliveries to the TUB for a total of 1,881 lbs.

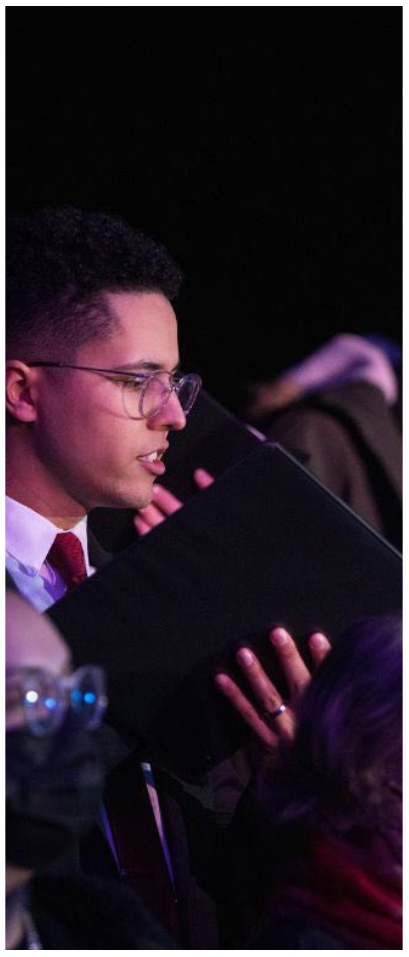
Our Common Home Farms





CHRISTMAS UNDER THE

The Saint Martin's community gathered to celebrate the annual Christmas Under the Canopy.
Special thank you to the SMU Music Department for the faculty and students who helped
make this event possible!



CHRISTMAS CANOPY



REASON

FAITH

125 YEARS

Columbia