



Pictured above: Assistant Professor Claire Hruby and students check water quality at Gray's Lake in May. Don't miss our feature on Dr. Hruby in our "Celebrating A&S Highlights" below.



Connect with your Dean's Office:
Tuesday, September 3, 2:30-4pm

Stop by during our office hours if you would like to run an idea by one of us or want to chat. No appointment needed. Here is where we'll be:

- Gesine**—Olin Hall Atrium
- Jill**—Meredith Hall, Room 205 Zip Space
- Adina**—Howard Hall 212 Faculty Lounge

Upcoming Deadlines and Important Dates

Date	Event/Activity
August 25	Fall Semester Begins

August 29	A&S New Faculty Orientation 10:00am-12:00pm
August 31	Deadline to add a full-term course (through Self Service) by 11:59pm
September 1	Labor Day (University closed)
September 1	Last day to submit proposal to A&S curriculum committee for new course, course change, course removal for inclusion in spring 2026 course schedule and catalog
September 1	<u>Nominations</u> for the Stalnaker Lecturer and Distinguished Engagement Awards are due
September 1	Travel Grant <u>Applications</u> are due (1st deadline)
September 2	J-term 2026 course <u>proposals</u> (to be taught in-load or overload) due, with decisions announced on September 9.
September 5	Humanities Research Scholar Award (2025-2028) <u>applications</u> due

[Access the Full College of A&S and University Calendar 2025-26 Here](#)

[Academic Calendar](#) [University Events Calendar](#)

College of Arts & Sciences

Harmon Fine Arts Center
1310 25th Street
Des Moines, IA 50311

Phone: [515-271-3939](tel:515-271-3939)

Email: ask.as@drake.edu



Curriculum and Faculty Development Corner

Arts and Sciences Grant Opportunities

The following opportunities are provided by the Sponsored Programs Administration & Research Compliance (SPARC) office. Please reach out to **Lori Byrd** for grant support and opportunities.

Grow, Invest, Gather (GIG) Fund – Arts Midwest <https://artsmidwest.org/get-support/gig-fund/> The GIG grant opportunity offers non-profits grants from \$2,000 - \$15,000 for public-facing arts programs with a wellness focus. Funds may be used for performances, workshops, programs in clinical settings, creative aging programs, efforts that engage veterans in the arts, etc. GIG Fund: Arts and Wellness projects should: • Seek to improve health outcomes for participating audiences • Help audiences associate arts participation as a means to improving health • Strengthen cross-sector partnerships between the arts and wellness sector. Submission Deadline is **September 29, 2025**.

Teagle Foundation Grant Opportunities <https://www.teaglefoundation.org/Call-for-Proposals/Current-Initiatives> *The Knowledge for Freedom* initiative supports programs that invite underserved high school students to college to study humanity's deepest questions about leading lives of purpose and civic responsibility. Cornerstone: Learning For Living Initiative *The Cornerstone: Learning for Living* initiative aims to revitalize the role of the humanities in general education. Submission Deadlines: **December 1, 2025**.

John Templeton Foundation <https://www.templeton.org/funding-areas> This foundation supports projects in the areas of: Individual Freedom & Free Markets, Life Sciences, Character Virtue Development, Public Engagement, Mathematical & Physical Sciences, and Religion, Science and Society. Online Funding Inquiry Deadline: **August 15, 2025**.

Hewlett Foundation <https://hewlett.org/our-programs/> The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation supports projects in the areas of: Education, Effective Philanthropy, Environment, Gender Equity and Governance, U.S. Democracy, Economy and Society, and Racial Justice.



Admissions and Enrollment Corner

The summer months brought with them a transition between admissions and orientation with prospective students becoming current Drake students. **In A&S, we welcomed 427 students and families to Drake (366 EFR students, 61 transfer students) with a primary or secondary major in A&S** – and began the important work of helping students settle into their academic disciplines and meet faculty mentors, along with opening up opportunities for campus involvement and holistic care/support. It was remarkable to see our campus community come together for this all-important handoff that spans more than just a shift from Slate to Banner. Instead, it is symbolic as we fold new members of our campus into the student body and into the College of Arts and Sciences. It was with trust, anticipation, and excitement that these first-year and transfer students made their debut on campus; we now welcome them into classes, our offices, studios, and labs throughout this first week to build on those impressions. The ongoing work of recruitment shifts to retention – and **thank you in advance for being the friendly face that helps our students find their way this semester**. We look toward the 10th day census, which will be a culminating moment for the 2024-25 admissions cycle (please remember those course validations!).

Thank you for the tireless efforts of our A&S Student Support Team during these meetings:

- Incoming Associate Dean for Student Affairs, **Adina Kilpatrick**; outgoing Associate Dean for Student Affairs **Lisa West**.
- Assistant Dean of Enrollment & Student Services: **Alina Grimm** & Assistant Dean of Student Success & Advising: **Mary Beth Holtey**.
- Advising Specialists in A&S: **Katie Evenson** and **Amari Love**.
- Assistant Director of Career Services & Liaison to A&S: **Rebecca Muntz**.

And, without missing a beat, the next recruitment cycle has already begun!

This summer, **we partnered closely with Admissions to showcase the best of A&S at four admissions events** (2 June Sneak Peeks, 80+ prospective student visitors; 2 August Bulldog Days of Summer, 130+ prospective student visitors). Admissions reports that our summer group visits were up compared to last year – and we are incredibly grateful for the positive impression that you left at the academic overviews, academic fairs,

and by sharing student stories! **Thank you to the numerous faculty, staff, and current students who made these experiences possible** (and/or who held special group visits or hosted individual appointments) to share the Drake experience.

Looking ahead, here are the key Admissions Dates for fall semester:

Event	Date	Sessions
Fall Saturday Visit Day	Saturday, October 4	Academic fair
Fall Campus Preview Day	Friday, October 10	Academic overviews; academic fair
Campus Preview Half-Day	Thursday, October 16	Academic overview
Campus Preview Half-Day	Friday, October 17	Academic overview
Fall Campus Preview Day	Friday, November 7	Academic overviews; academic fair
Fall Saturday Visit Day	Saturday, November 15	Academic fair

We thank you for your energy and partnership with Admissions! **Please share your input and feedback about Admissions** with Associate Dean for Strategic Initiatives, [Jill Allen](#). If you'd like to get involved with these events, please reach out to [Alina Grimm](#) for opportunities and further information.



Advising and Student Support Corner

Do You Validate...Your Courses?

Enrollment validation is tied to a number of processes, including financial aid. If your best intentions didn't result in submission, please confirm the accuracy of all A&S rosters with [Alina Grimm](#). The accurate validation of courses (now) makes the rest of the semester run more smoothly for the student and University offices.

But...They Validated and Are Now Ghosting...

Send that student's name to studentsupport.as@drake.edu or [Alina Grimm](#) and let us reach out to the student to finalize their enrollment now.

It Ain't Over Till It's Over...The Drop Period That Is...

Students have through Sunday, Sept 7, 11:59 p.m. to drop a course in MyDrake. Note that University academic offices are not open on weekends, but a variety of registration resources can be found at [Knowledge Base - Registration \(teamdynamix.com\)](#). Students should not drop below 12 credit hours if they wish to retain full-time standing.

Fall Tutoring

Fall tutoring will become available on Monday, Sept 10. Tutoring times and a variety of other resources can be accessed at [Tutoring | Drake University](#).

New Faculty Mentor Overview

Blended advising model overview for new and continuing Faculty Mentors will be offered on Friday, Sept 26 from

11:30-1pm in CS 135. We welcome faculty mentors of all stages to share perspectives and learn about new and upcoming academic policy changes. If you can only make a portion of the overview – that’s ok! Lunch will be served. To confirm your space and reserve a lunch, please contact [Adina Kilpatrick](#) before Friday, Sept 19.



Celebrating A&S Highlights



Congratulations to this year's DUSCI Summer Research fellows and faculty mentors! *Pictured above: Sui Par, Sophie Meronek, Autumn Poston, Kate Hagemeyer, Mitch Hardy, Addisen Ford, Rhea Bajwa, Divyanshi Srivastava, and Grace Stegan.* Check out the research that was presented below!

Kate Hagemeyer (Psychology; Zoo & Conservation Science); Mentor- Dr. Olga Lazareva	<i>Developing Methodology to Test Lateralization in the Madagascar Hissing Cockroach</i>
Grace Stegen (Health Sciences); Mentor- Dr. Cassity Gutierrez	<i>Bridging Gaps in Maternal Care: Exploring Strategies and Challenges in High-Quality Maternal Healthcare Delivery</i>
Mitch Hardy (Chemistry); Mentor- Dr. Andrea Van Wyk	<i>From Ponds to Pools: Creating a Real-World Water Analysis Project for General Chemistry</i>
Sui Par (Psychology) Mentor- Dr. Deborah Cronin	<i>ADHD Symptoms and Contextual Cueing</i>
Addisen Ford (Secondary Ed., Math Ed.); Mentors- Dr. Maryann Huey & Dr. Alfred Limbere	<i>Leveraging students' quantitative reasoning to overcome stubborn calculus misconceptions</i>
Rhea Bajwa (Health Sciences); Mentor- Dr. Eric Emmons	<i>Exploring the effects of repetitive mild traumatic brain injury on behavior and cognition in mice</i>

Divyanshi Srivastava (Biology, Neuroscience); Mentor- Dr. Debora Christensen	<i>Bioinformatic and Experimental Characterization of Estrogen Receptors in Xenopus Laevis</i>
Autumn Poston (Psychology, LPS); Mentor- Dr. Meaghan Rowe-Johnson	<i>AI and Graduate Admissions: Evaluating the Use and Impact of AI-Assistance on Applicant Success, Admissions Committee Perceptions, and Faculty Support</i>
Sophie Meronek (Mathematics; Data Analytics; Computer Sci.); Mentor- Dr. Joshua Carlson	<i>Realizing Graphs as Proper Power Graphs</i>

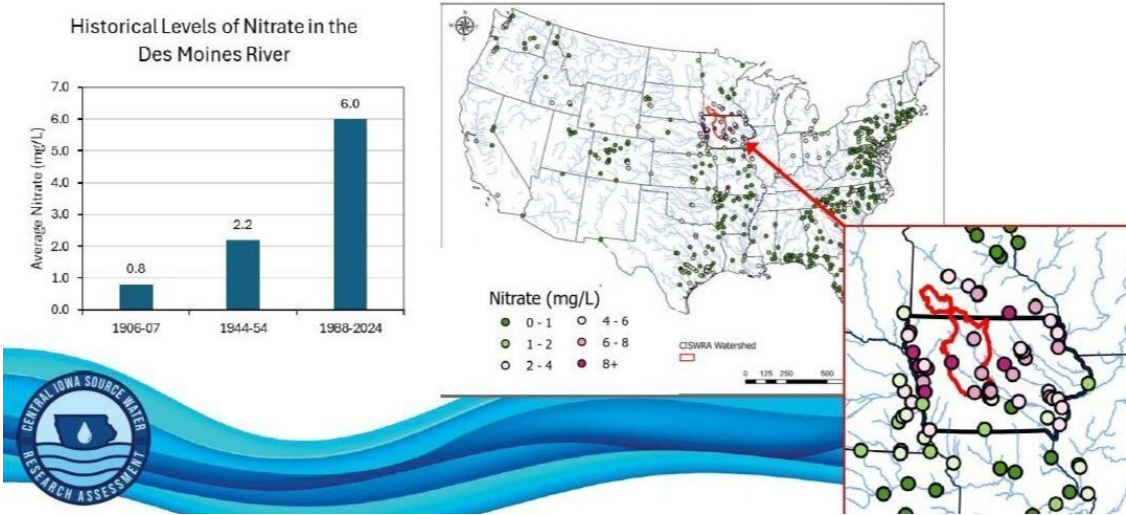


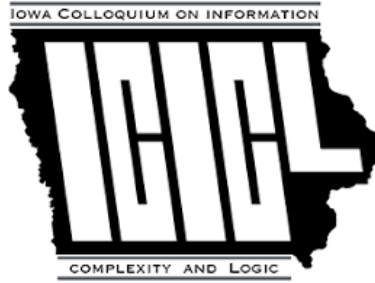
On August 4, **Dr. Claire Hruby** (Assistant Professor of Environmental Science & Sustainability) was featured as an expert panelist at The Harkin Institute for Public Policy & Citizen Engagement’s “Our Water, Our Future” presentation for hundreds of attendees.

The panel featured scientists whose work directly examines the impact of water quality on health outcomes in Iowa and outlines findings from Central Iowa Source Water Research Assessment (CISWRA) report.

A recording of the Harkin Institute’s program is available [here](#). Congratulations, Dr. Hruby!

Nitrate Concentrations in these Rivers Far Exceed their Natural Levels and are Among the Highest in the Nation





This Summer, Drake hosted the Iowa Colloquium on Information, Complexity and Logic (ICICL), which is run jointly by researchers from Drake University and Iowa State University. The organizing committee included **Associate Professor Chris Porter**, **Associate Professor Adam Case**, **Assistant Professor Andrei Migunov**, and **Professor Jack Lutz** (Iowa State University). The conference brought in speakers from Southern Illinois, University of Iowa and UC Irving, and featured talks from local ICICL participants. You can see the conference schedule and list of abstracts [here](#).



DRAKE UNIVERSITY TRUMPET ENSEMBLE
THE HEAVENS RESPLENDENT AT TWILIGHT - MELODY DAWNING

The Drake Trumpet Ensemble, led by **Professor of Trumpet Andrew Classen**, performed at the 2025 International Trumpet Guild Conference this summer in Salt Lake City. They had the opportunity to experience music from internationally renowned trumpet players while representing Drake University. You can check out their performance of "The Heavens Resplendent at Twilight" on the video linked [here](#).



Dr. Keith Summerville, Levitt Distinguished Professor of Environmental Science and Paul and Claudia Schickler Executive Director of the Jay N. Darling Institute, was spotlighted in August's edition of the Society for Ecological Restoration (SER) "Members in Action" series. In the spotlight, Keith discusses what excites him most about ecological restoration, projects he's been involved in, and some of the key lessons and insights he's gained from his work, as well as some of the ecological restoration challenges in the Midwest. [Click here](#) to check out the spotlight.



Dr. Jeanette Tran, Associate Professor of English and Director of Women's and Gender Studies, recently appeared on the podcast, "Magical Overthinkers." In the episode, "[Overthinking on going 'no contact'](#)" Jeanette and host Amanda Morton discuss the "No Contact" movement through the lens of Shakespeare. Tran, who studies Shakespeare and modern literature, has explored this idea in her article in the Conversation, "[As more Americans go 'no contact' with their parents, they live out a dilemma at the heart of Shakespeare's 'King Lear'](#)". To date, the article has received more than 230,000 views.



Upcoming Events



Anderson Gallery: Unfurling Garden exhibit Opening September 4

Save the date for the opening of *Unfurling Garden*, an exhibition by artist and Drake University alum **Nikki Renee Anderson**. Anderson creates sculptures and installations that use her personal history to explore the feminine and the different roles of the self.

Anderson will give an **artist talk on Thursday, September 4 at 4:30 pm in Harmon Fine Arts Room 204**. The talk will be followed by an **opening reception from 5–7 pm in the Anderson Gallery**. The event is free and open to all and light refreshments will be served. The exhibition will be on display through October 17, 2025.





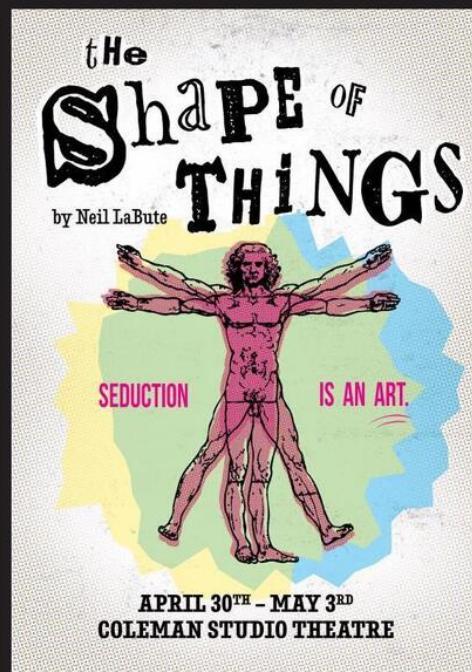
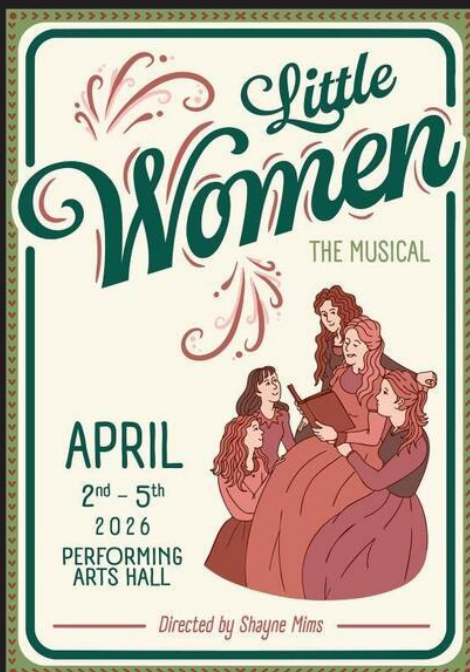
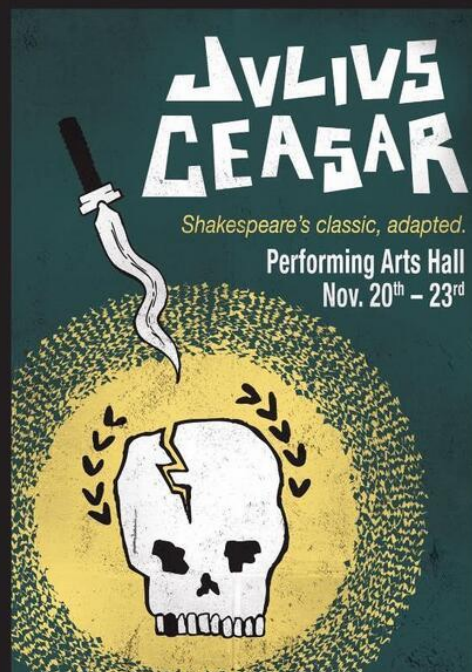
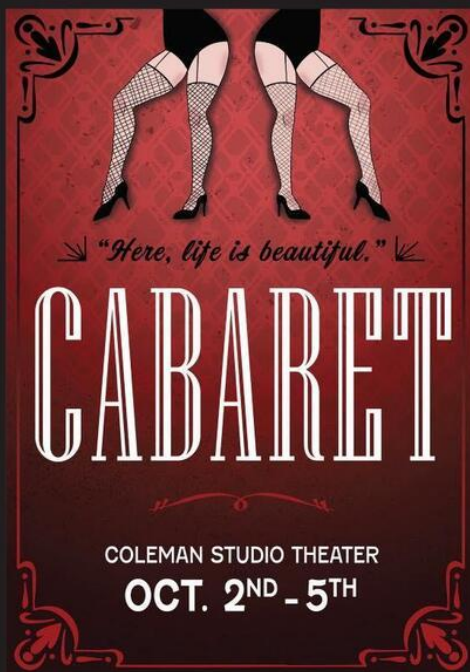
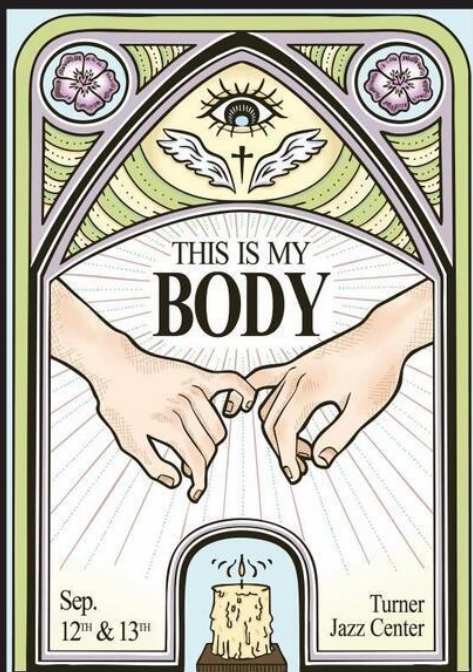
LEFT TO RIGHT: Nadia 15 months • Jerry 37 • Helene 27 • Isabella 5 • Fabiana 18

Interviews by Inbal Mazar, Associate Professor of Spanish, University of Iowa

Des Moines Art Center: Light Within Ourselves

Organized in partnership with the Waterloo Center for the Arts (WCA), “Light Within Ourselves: Haitian Art in Iowa” showcases a selection of the rich holdings of Haitian Art in the WCA’s collection—the largest public collection of Haitian Art in both Iowa and the United States.

The exhibit features interviews of Haitian families who have made the midwest their home by **Associate Professor of Spanish Inbal Mazar**, some of which can be seen in the video featured here. The exhibit runs through September 7, 2025.



HARMON FINE ARTS CENTER

PURCHASE TICKETS WITH QR CODE OR VISIT www.drake.edu/fineartsboxoffice



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