

# ***THE BUZZ:*** Academic Success Weekly Newsletter



## Fall Semester: Week 8 Issue

*Highlights from this issue:*

- **Events:** JFS Meeting (10/17), Let's Talk about the Israel-Hamas War (10/18), Tegeder-Berg Society Roundtable (10/19), HHMI ARC Speaker (10/19), LAI Public Reading and Conversation (10/24) and Thursday Forum (10/26)
- **Updates:** Experience & Professional Development and Honors Scholars

## Experience HUB

### *Experience & Professional Development (XPD)*

Student Exploration through Alum Mentorship (SEAM) is an opportunity for students to be matched with alum mentors for three informational interviews, two networking conversations with their friend or co-worker, and one (in-person or virtual) site visit during second semester. The program provides students with the opportunity to both network and explore the value of their liberal arts degree! **Applications for students are open now until November 15<sup>th</sup>.**

Recommend a student for SEAM by clicking [here](#). Reach out to Ethan or Trisa, XPD External Engagement team, at [xpdexternalengagement@csbsju.edu](mailto:xpdexternalengagement@csbsju.edu) for more information.

## Honors Scholars

### **LAST CALL: New Course Proposals**

Honors Scholars for Community and Collaborative Leadership are accepting new course proposals until **Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup>**. The proposal form is available [here](#).

## Upcoming Events

### **TODAY: Joint Faculty Senate Meeting**

**4:30 – 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, SJU Quad 264 and Zoom**

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://csbsju.zoom.us/j/8852413992>

### **Let's Talk... about the Israel-Hamas War**

**4:30 – 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, SJU Quad 264**

*Sponsored by: Political Science department in collaboration with the Jay Phillips Center for Interfaith Learning.* Please join a panel discussion on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Speakers

include CSB and SJU professors Christi Siver, Kelly Kraemer, Matt Lindstrom and Pedro dos Santos. If you'd like to submit a question or comment ahead of the event, please click [HERE](#). See attached flyer for more information.

**Fall 2023 Tegeder-Berg Society Roundtable: *The Bahamas and the Benedictines***

**7:30 p.m. (Presentation), Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, SJU Stephen B. Humphrey Theater**

Dr. Brittany Merritt-Nash, History Department, along with Bahamian alums Prince Wallace, Philip Galanis, and Trevare Sherman will share research and stories on The Bahamas and its unique connections to CSB and SJU. **Social before the event beginning at 6:30 p.m.** RSVP for this event at <https://www.csbsju.edu/forms/PFYVMJ5923>.

**ARC Speaker Series, HHMI event: *Humanizing STEM Education with Dr. Mays Imad***

**9:30 – 11:00 a.m., Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, Zoom and CSB Main 101**

Dr. Mays Imad is an associate professor of Biology at Connecticut College as well as a Gardner Institute Fellow and an AAC&U Senior Fellow within the Office of Undergraduate STEM Education. At this event, Dr. Imad will address humanizing the face of science and technology as an important strategy for not only improving well-being, but also enriching science and technology fields. *Individuals from non-STEM fields are also encouraged to attend. Registraton is encouraged if you plan to attend virtually; click [here](#) to register. Light refeshements and a discussion after Dr. Imad's presentation will be available for those who attend in person.* For more information about the event, please refer to the attached flyer or reach out to [Amanda Jantzer](#).

**LAI's Public Reading & Conversation with Antonia Angress**

**7:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, CSB Upper Gorecki**

*Sponsored by Literary Arts Institute.* Antonia Angress was a 2022 Minnesota Book Award Finalist and her novel, "Sirens & Muses," was named one of Glamour Magazine's Best Books of 2022. See the attached flyer for more information.

**Thursday Forum: *Protein Engineering: Taking Advantage of Unique Properties of the 20 Naturally Occurring Amino Acids***

**3:00 – 4:00 p.m., Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, CSB Gorecki President's Dining Room (PDR)**

*Presented by Lisa Gentile, Chemistry. Sponsored by Research & Grants Office.*

An important concept in drug design relies on detection of protein binding to other proteins or small molecules as a way to understand how proteins are turned on, turned off, or otherwise regulated. A common way to do this is with the conformational change proteins undergo upon binding. This conformational change is often detected using fluorescent properties of the naturally occurring amino acid tryptophan. Malate dehydrogenase (MDH) is a protein enzyme that is involved in a number of biological processes, including the Citric Acid Cycle. To be able to understand how MDH is regulated and how it hands off its product (oxaloacetate) to the next enzyme in the Citric Acid Cycle (citrate synthase), it would be ideal to use fluorescence spectroscopy. Interestingly, the human mitochondrial version of MDH does not have any tryptophan amino acids in its monomer sequence of 321 amino acids. I will present research on the work my CSBSJU undergraduate (and high school) students and I have done to engineer a version of MDH with a tryptophan in its sequence. This research involved creating a set of design criteria about which amino acids could be replaced with a tryptophan, doing the mutagenesis reactions to make the mutants, growing and purifying the

resultant mutant proteins, and measuring their activity and fluorescence and their change in fluorescence upon ligand binding. We are excited about the possibilities that exist with one of the mutants we have designed.

### **Thursday Forum + Talking Teaching Series:**

#### **Using Debate to Complicate Concepts in Social Science.**

**3:00 – 4:00 p.m., Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, SJU Learning Commons 378**

*Facilitated by Christi Siver, Political Science.*

*Co-sponsored by Center for Teaching & Learning and the Research and Grants Office.*

*More details of the talk will be in next week's issue. Refreshments provided.*

## **Buzz on Campus**

Check out the latest episode of **Johnnie Bennie Campus News** [here](#).

### **Psychology Club hosts Joshua Rivedal's**

#### **"How to live mentally well and crush it during difficult times."**

*6:30 – 8:00 p.m., Wednesday, October 23rd, CSB Gorecki 204A*

*Co-sponsored by IWL, JDI, the Well-Being Center and Health Advocates.* An event combining stand-up comedy and mental health. This educational and comedic performance additionally discusses suicide prevention and includes a Q&A and debrief of the event experience.

### **CSB and SJU Jazz Ensemble performance**

*7:30 p.m., Tuesday, October 17th, SJU Br. Willie's Pub (Sexton Commons)*

Join the CSB and SJU Jazz Ensemble for their spookiest concert yet. Just in time for the Halloween season. This performance is free AR-event and costumes ARE welcome!

### **CSB and SJU Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band performance**

*7:30 p.m., Wednesday, October 18th, CSB Escher Auditorium (BAC)*

BI's **"Building" Community**: 9:00–10:45 a.m., **Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup>**, SJU New Science, Room 150.

### **Happy Hour and Workshop with Jeff Korgen on Catholic Social Teaching**

*3:45 - 4:45 p.m., Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, SJU Dunstan Tucker Room (Quad 135)*

*Sponsored by the Koch Chair in Catholic Thought and Culture.* Jeff Korgen, author of "Solidarity Will Transform the World: Stories of Hope from Catholic Relief Services," will engage in a discussion about the concept of "integral human development" and how Catholic organizations have effectively promoted this for marginalized social groups globally. Space is limited; please [RSVP Here](#).

### **Dorothy Day Lunch & Learn by Jeff Korgen**

*11:30 a.m. – 12:30p.m., Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, SJU Quad 264*

*Sponsored by the Benedictine Institute.* Join a presentation by Jeff Korgen. This presentation focuses on Dorothy Day's ministry to the poor and vulnerable, as well as her Benedictine roots in the Catholic Worker movement. Click [here](#) to see more information and RSVP.

### **The Sound of Music: Youth Edition**

*October 26<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>, CSB Coleman Blackbox Theater (BAC)*

*Presented by Music Department's Vocal Performance Workshop. AR-event. See attached flyer for more details; purchase tickets [here](#).*

**In case you missed it: *Universe of Wonder: Galaxies, Stars, Planets, and Life presentation***  
*Co-sponsored by the Reuter Professorship of Science and Religion and the School of Theology and Seminar. Dr. Jennifer Wiseman's presentation from 9/27 now available in the [DigitalCommons](#).*

## More Information

**Do you have information for The Buzz?** If you have information you would like included in The Buzz please submit to this link: [The BUZZ information](#)

The Buzz can be found on the Academic Affairs website under related links.  
<https://www.csbsju.edu/academic-affairs>



# Let's Talk ... about the Israel-Hamas War

with CSB/SJU professors



**Christi Siver**



**Kelly Kraemer**

**Matt Lindstrom**



**Pedro dos Santos**



**Wednesday, October 18**

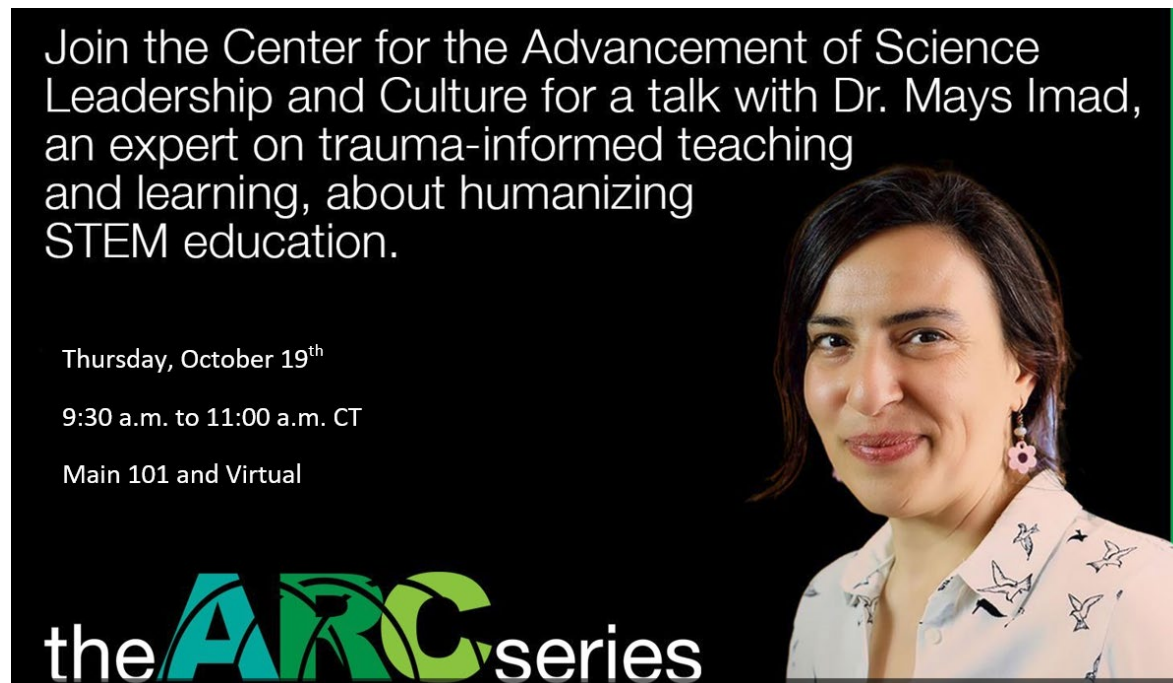
**4:30-5:30 PM**

**Quad 264, SJU**

Hosted by the Political Science Department  
in collaboration with  
the Jay Phillips Center for Interfaith Learning

Submit questions / comments [HERE](#)

You are invited to register to join us for the next ARC Speaker Series talk with Dr. Mays Imad on October 19, 2023. Please see details below.

A promotional graphic for the ARC Speaker Series. The background is black with a green vertical bar on the right. On the right side, there is a portrait of Dr. Mays Imad, a woman with dark hair, wearing a light-colored patterned shirt and pink earrings. On the left side, white text reads: "Join the Center for the Advancement of Science Leadership and Culture for a talk with Dr. Mays Imad, an expert on trauma-informed teaching and learning, about humanizing STEM education." Below this, in smaller white text, it says: "Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup>", "9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. CT", and "Main 101 and Virtual". At the bottom left, the logo for "the ARC series" is displayed, with "ARC" in large, stylized green and blue letters and "series" in white lowercase letters.

**“Humanizing STEM Education” on Thursday, October 19 at 9:30am CST**

Dr. Mays Imad is an associate professor of Biology at Connecticut College as well as a Gardner Institute Fellow and an AAC&U Senior Fellow within the Office of Undergraduate STEM Education. As a nationally recognized expert on trauma-informed teaching and learning, Dr. Imad advocates for institutions to make mental health a top priority and to systematically support the education of the whole student.

Inspired by the work of the South African Scholar Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela, Dr. Imad studies the notion of "reparative humanism," and what it means to become a flourishing human being and to contribute to intergenerational wellbeing.

During her visit to HHMI, Dr. Imad will speak on the topic of “humanizing STEM education,” which is not a mere adjustment but a radical transformation. Humanizing STEM education is recognizing the human face of science and technology and embedding empathy, ethics, equity, healing, and justice into the very heart of these fields. In addition, Dr. Imad will discuss how this shift represents not only a moral necessity but also a vital strategy for enriching our collective wisdom and wellbeing.

Please register in advance at the Zoom link below and indicate on the registration form whether you will be attending in-person or virtually.

Virtual Information: <https://hhmi.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYscO-sqjMiE9EbyWhEM7FLWVaTkwlUcNea#/registration>



HOSTED BY PSYCHOLOGY CLUB

INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED  
MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER

# JOSHUA RIVEDAL

PRESENTS...

## How to Live Mentally Well and Crush it During Difficult Times - An Event Combining Standup Comedy and Mental Health

This educational and comedic performance additionally discusses suicide prevention and includes a Q&A and debrief of the event experience.

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

CSB UPPER GORECKI 204A

OCTOBER

23

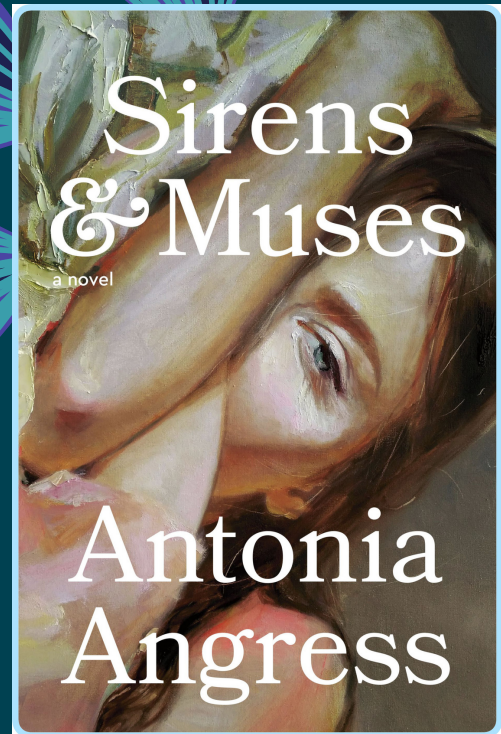
6:30 - 8 PM



Co-sponsored by IWL, JDI, the Well-Being Center,  
and Health Advocates

Fiction Writer  
**Antonia Angress**

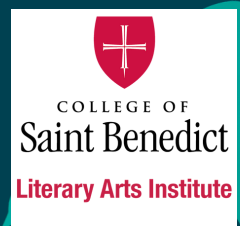
2022 Minnesota Book Award Finalist



**A Public Reading & Conversation**  
**Tuesday, October 24**

7:00 p.m.

Upper Gorecki, CSB





THE CSB+SJU MUSIC  
DEPARTMENT PRESENTS:

Find Your  
**MUSIC**  
Within

# JAZZ ENSEMBLE

DIRECTED BY DR. RYAN PICONE

FEATURING STUDENTS:

Matthew Utsch  
Meghan Weiss  
Emma Neely  
Keegan Kuhns  
Joe Harkess  
Gavin Swift  
Bernie Noria-Castillo  
Gilbert Torvinen  
Taylor Duncan

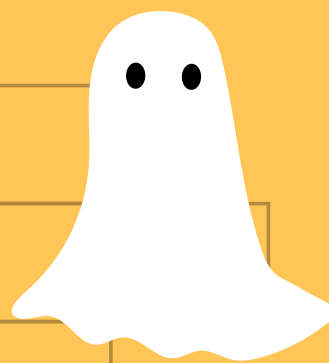
**COSTUMES  
WELCOME!**

**10 / 17 / 2023**

**7:30 PM**

**BR. WILLIE'S PUB, SJU**

**FREE PERFORMANCE  
ARTE**



THE CSB+SJU MUSIC DEPARTMENT PRESENTS:

**WIND  
ENSEMBLE  
&  
SYMPHONIC  
BAND**

**FALL CONCERT**

**WEDNESDAY,  
OCTOBER 18, 7:30 P.M.**

**ESCHER AUDITORIUM  
FREE ARTE**

The CSB+SJU Music Department presents our  
Vocal Performance Workshop production of

# The SOUND of MUSIC



*The SOUND of MUSIC*

Music by **RICHARD RODGERS**

Lyrics by **OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II**

Book by **HOWARD LINDSAY and RUSSEL CROUSE**

Suggested by "The Trapp Family Singers" by Maria Augusta Trapp

**Oct 26, 27 & 28, 2023**  
at 7:30 pm

**Oct 29, 2023**  
at 2:00 pm

**All Tickets \$5**  
(plus \$2 box office fee)

**ARTE/FAE event**

Scan here for tickets!



Find Your  
**MUSIC**  
Within