



news

OCTOBER | 2024

Message from the President

Dear Kathwari Honors Students,

We are celebrating many exciting milestones at WCSU, including higher enrollments, the launch of our new strategic plan, Western Rising, and achieving Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) status. We've also added new athletic programs and academic initiatives that ensure our students—with brilliant minds and kind hearts—can pursue their passions and aspirations with an education that shapes the future.

With the recent establishment of the School of Graduate, International, and Career Studies, we are creating new pathways for our honors students. These opportunities will prepare you for advanced degrees and professional skills that help you reach your highest potential.

A renewed emphasis on student support is already bringing positive change across campus. We are offering more events for student engagement, greater academic support through the Writing Center, Math Clinics, tutoring and mentoring programs, and counseling services. There is enthusiasm among our entire community to excel and grow together in all that we do.

Live the full college experience: Engage in both academic and extracurricular activities, attend a thrilling athletic game, participate in recreational sports, listen to an enriching lecture on campus, and engage in volunteer service to make our community even better. I encourage you to make new friends, and equally importantly, find what makes you happy and pursue it boldly.

Remember—we must live purposefully and always care for each other with kindness. I wish you the best in your upcoming exams, projects, and tournaments. May you succeed in every one of your pursuits!

Go Wolves!

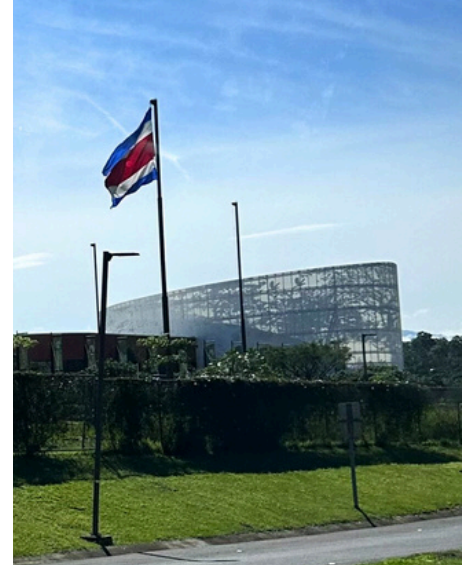
Dr. Manohar Singh

CONTENTS

- 1 Message from the President
- 2 Honors Success Stories
- 3 Honors Faculty Spotlight
- 4 Honors Course Spotlight
- 5 October Snapshot
- 6 October Snapshot
- 7 Upcoming Events
- 8 WestConn Fencing Interest Meeting

Honors Success Stories

KATHWARI HONORS STUDENT ANDREA MANDUJANO VOLUNTEERS IN COSTA RICA



Andrea Mandujano, a sophomore Nursing major and Psychology minor, spent summer 2024 volunteering in Costa Rica at a rehabilitation center for elderly alcoholics. As one of the few Spanish-speaking volunteers, she provided valuable care and companionship to patients. Immersing herself in Costa Rican culture, Andrea stayed with a host family and gained hands-on training from Nurse Rebecca. Andrea credits the Kathwari Honors Program's support for making her transformative trip possible, helping her develop her clinical skills, and improving her Spanish medical terminology. **Read the full Success Story here:**

<https://www.wcsu.edu/honors/2024/10/23/kathwari-honors-student-andrea-mandujano-studies-in-costa-rica/>

KATHWARI HONORS STUDENTS FEATURED IN YALE UNIVERSITY PRESS PUBLICATION

Fritz Horstman *Interacting with Color*
A Practical Guide to Josef Albers's
Color Experiments



In Spring of 2023, Professor Sabrina Marquez hosted a color workshop with Fritz Horstman. This workshop included Kathwari Honors Students, whose artworks were featured in Horstman's book, *Interacting with Color*, exploring Josef Albers's color pedagogy. The book is now available for purchase.

Read the full Success Story here:

<https://www.wcsu.edu/honors/2024/10/16/kathwari-honors-students-featured-in-yale-university-press-publication/>

Purchase the book here:

<https://yalebooks.yale.edu/book/9780300272437/interacting-with-color/>

Honors Faculty Spotlight

HONORS FACULTY ENCOURAGE ELECTION PARTICIPATION

Kathwari honors faculty spent the month of October encouraging honors students to be active in the political process this election season.

Covering a variety of topics within the democratic process, Dr. JC Barone (Professor of Communications and Media Arts), Dr. Howell Williams (Associate Professor of Political Science), Dr. Leslie Lindenauer (Professor of History), and Dr. Jessica Schofield (Assistant Professor of Political Science) took the stage for "Dialogues on Democracy" on Oct. 7, 14, 21 & 28 at noon in the Ruth Haas Library on Midtown campus. Here, students safely asked questions and expressed viewpoints to knowledgeable faculty members.

Great work, Dr. Barone, Dr. Williams, Dr. Lindenauer, and Dr. Schofield!

Dialogues on Democracy
Conversations with Our Community

First Floor Ruth A. Haas Library
Midtown Campus
181 White St, Danbury, CT 06810

Part of the 2024-25
Macricostas Experience

Co-sponsored by WCSU Libraries and The Center for Excellence in Learning & Teaching and part of the Macricostas Experience.



October 7
Responsible Reporting: Covering elections and controversial issues with integrity

JC Barone
Professor of Communications & Media Arts

Dialogues on Democracy
Conversations with Our Community

First Floor Ruth A. Haas Library
Midtown Campus
181 White St, Danbury, CT 06810

Part of the 2024-25
Macricostas Experience

Co-sponsored by WCSU Libraries and The Center for Excellence in Learning & Teaching and part of the Macricostas Experience.



October 14
Gender, Race, and 'Suburban Issues' in the 2024 Presidential Election

Howell Williams
Associate Professor of Political Science

Dialogues on Democracy
Conversations with Our Community

First Floor Ruth A. Haas Library
Midtown Campus
181 White St, Danbury, CT 06810

Part of the 2024-25
Macricostas Experience

Co-sponsored by WCSU Libraries and The Center for Excellence in Learning & Teaching and part of the Macricostas Experience.



October 21
Aggrieved, Oppressed, and Fraudulently Deprived: Women and the Fight for Suffrage

Leslie Lindenauer
Professor of History

Dialogues on Democracy
Conversations with Our Community

First Floor Ruth A. Haas Library
Midtown Campus
181 White St, Danbury, CT 06810

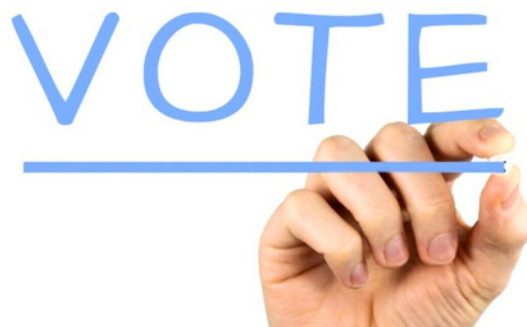
Part of the 2024-25
Macricostas Experience

Co-sponsored by WCSU Libraries and The Center for Excellence in Learning & Teaching and part of the Macricostas Experience.



October 28
American Politics Abroad

Jessica Schofield
Assistant Professor of Political Science



Honors Course Spotlight

HON 298 - THE 2024 ELECTION GUEST SPEAKER



Guest speaker Stacy Zimmerman, WCSU alum and council member of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) helped Kathwari Honors Students explore state and local-level issues in this year's election.



HON 398 - NO PLACE LIKE HOME GUEST SPEAKER

Guest speaker Maria de Los Angeles, Professor of Art at Yale University, spoke to Kathwari Honors Students about her work and its relationship to migration.

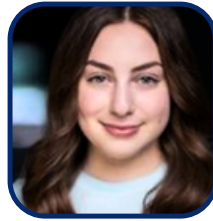


Maria De Los Angeles

October Snapshot

WCSU'S PRODUCTION OF LEGALLY BLONDE: THE MUSICAL

Congratulations to our Kathwari Honors Students on their magnificent performances in WCSU's production of Legally Blonde: The Musical, directed and choreographed by Russell Garrett. The shows took place from October 11-20th.



Sophie Belkin



Paul Carlantone



Nathan Corbett



Marisa Curti



Athan Fischer



Ben Goffredo



Azayda Lynt



Sebastian Martelle



Griffin O'Neill



Jessica Ragucci



Dylan Reynes



Mireya Trelles



Isabella Vanore

HOMECOMING FOOTBALL WIN!

Congratulations to the WestConn football team for their incredible Homecoming win! Go wolves! A special congratulations to our Kathwari Honors students on the team!



Richard Salonia
Brian Lombardo
Kenneth Okoroafor Jr.
Jacob St. Louis
Owen Stark
Brian Vaughan
Elijah Washington



October Snapshot

1ST HONORS PROGRAM HOMECOMING ALUMNI REUNION



Starting with a complimentary breakfast and ending with an afternoon of entertainment at the Alumni Pavilion, we hosted our first Kathwari Honors Program Alumni Reunion at Homecoming!

Pictures feature Honors Alumni chatting with WCSU President Dr. Singh, Kathwari Honors Program Director, Dr. Brian Clements, and Kathwari Honors Program Assistant Director, Caitlin Kennedy, along with a group shot of current Honors students in the Student Government Association in the tailgating lot.

Thank you to everyone who attended our first Kathwari Honors Program Reunion and for celebrating Homecoming with us!



HONORS CRAFTING EVENT

With midterms and homecoming activities in full swing, Kathwari honors students and President Manohar Singh took some time to de-stress with some fall-themed craft projects at the Honors House!

The group painted tote bags, made fall lantern jars, assembled friendship bracelets, and even learned how to crochet from Gabriela. What a wonderful way to be creative and connect with our Honors Community!



Upcoming Events

NOVEMBER
5th
 TUESDAY

HONORS REGISTRATION NIGHT

HONORS STUDENTS: Honors Priority Registration for spring 2025 classes opens at midnight on November 6th. Honors Assistants will be present if you need any help with the registration process or have any questions. Join us in the Honors House for a late-night gathering with games, food, and fun from 10:30 PM - 12:30 AM.

NOVEMBER
7th
 THURSDAY

GUEST SPEAKER: GLOBALIZATION AND MIGRATION

WCSU COMMUNITY: *How will the US Presidential Election Outcome Impact Central American Migration?* The “Northern Triangle” of El Salvador, Honduras & Guatemala currently has one of the highest rates of migration to the US. Join us for a discussion with Salvadoran community organizers & advocates. 12:30 PM - 1:45 PM. Attend in-person in Higgins 226 or virtually. *Registration info to come via email!*

NOVEMBER
13th
 WEDNESDAY

HONORS ADVOCACY AND ACTIVISM WORKSHOP

HONORS STUDENTS: Do you feel the desire to speak up about issues that you are passionate about? Don't know how to get started? This is the workshop for you! Join Dr. Mitch Wagener (Ecologist, Climate Change Educator, Honors Ecology Professor) as he leads a workshop that allows students to engage and learn about activism and advocacy. [REGISTER HERE](#)
 When: Wednesday, November 13th @3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
 Where: Kathwari Honors House Lyceum

NOVEMBER
20th
 WEDNESDAY

HONORS FRIENDSGIVING

HONORS STUDENTS: Join us for our Honors Friendsgiving! We will have a bread-making session led by Honors Professor, Pano Koukopoulos in the morning, and in the afternoon we invite Honors students to help us prepare a meal and eat together. We will have a table set-up to write letters of gratitude and a table for animal blanket making. The blankets made will be donated to a local animal shelter.
 Bread making @11:00 am
 Meal, Animal Blanket Making & Thank You Notes @ 3:00pm - 5:30pm
 Where: Kathwari Honors House

Honors Student, Kylin McMahon is starting a Fencing Club!



WESTCONN FENCING CLUB

INTEREST

MEETINGS!

WITH A FENCING DEMO!

NOVEMBER 6TH 06:00 – 07:00 PM
NOVEMBER 13TH 06:00 – 07:00 PM
LOCATION: HONORS HOUSE LYCEUM

CAN'T MAKE IT, BUT INTERESTED?
CONTACT THE CLUB PRESIDENT

CLUB PRESIDENT KYLIN MCMAHON
mcmahon068@wcsu.edu

