

# Honors Thesis Symposium

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May 6th, 2022  
8:30 A.M–4:45 P.M  
CAVEA JSSB 420



METROPOLITAN  
STATE UNIVERSITY™  
OF DENVER  
Honors Program



## **PANEL I | 8:30 A.M.-9:20 A.M.**

### **How RNA Viruses Impact Us: COVID, Plants, and Humans**

**Julie Lee** – “Significance of the Translation Initiation Machinery Recruiting Structures in the Blackcurrant Reversion Virus RNA 1”

**Advisor:** Dr. Megan Filbin

**Liesl Jensen** – “Investigating the Ability of Human Lymphocyte Antigen B27 to Bind SARS-CoV-2 Spike Glycoprotein”

**Advisor:** Dr. Megan Filbin

**Second Reader:** Dr. Emily Ragan

## **PANEL II | 9:30 A.M.-10:40 A.M.**

### **Mental Health and Well-Being: Mother-infant Bond, LGBTQ Community, and Fiction for Healing**

**Ashley Miller** – “How the Mother-Infant Bond is Impacted by Substance Use Disorder”

**Advisor:** Patrick Griswold, M.S.N.

**Second Reader:** Angela Furney and Dr. Shawn Worthy

**Jackson Vincent** – “Therapeutic Modalities Evaluated for Effectiveness with the LGBTQ+ Population”

**Advisor:** Dr. K Scherrer

**Tessa Hansen** – “The Impact Caregivers Have on People with Mental Illnesses: Short Stories”

**Advisor:** Dr. Craig Svonkin

**Second Reader:** Dr. Cynthia Kuhn

## **PANEL III | 10:50 A.M.-12:00 P.M.**

### **Increasing Access to Health: in the Amazon, the Hispanic Population in CO, and Faster Diagnosis for NTM**

**Marina Bialik** – “Argument for Contacting Uncontacted Peoples of Amazon to Provide Healthcare Access”

**Advisor:** Dr. Jeffrey Simpson

**Bionca Bauer** – “The Impact of Food Insecurity among Hispanics in Colorado”

**Advisor:** Dr. Erin Seedorf

**Dylan Poch** – “Detecting Nontuberculous Mycobacterial Glycopeptidolipids Using Electrochemical DNA Biosensors”

**Advisor:** Dr. Andrew Bonham

## **Lunch and Celebration | 12:30 P.M.-1:30 P.M.**

in Tivoli 440/540

### **PANEL IV | 1:45 P.M.-2:35 P.M.**

#### **Changing the Narrative: Social Media and Nutrition Information, and TV News and Racist Reporting**

Tyler Terry – “Interpretation and Validity of Nutrition information on Social Media”

Advisor: Dr. Ann Diker

Valeria Quiroz – “How Can We Use Counter-storytelling in News Television to Break the Portrayal of Latinx and Black Men Based on the White Supremacy Narrative?”

Advisor: Dr. Chereka Dickerson

### **PANEL V | 2:45 A.M.-3:35 P.M.**

#### **Vulnerable Populations in the U.S. Justice System: Women Victims, and Institutionalized Youth**

Cassie Gibbs – “Witness Preparation for the Female Sexual Assault Victim”

Advisor: Dr. Denise Mowder

Second Reader: Dr. Philip Bernhardt

Jennifer Hernandez Venzor – “Rehabilitation Success in Juvenile Detention Centers”

Advisor: Dr. Meg Bertoni

### **PANEL VI | 3:45 P.M.-4:45 P.M.**

#### **Breaking Barriers: Women CEOs, and International Marketing**

Cynthia Montes – “Misrepresentation of Woman in CEO Positions”

Advisor: Dr. Rey Hernández-Julián

Mitzi Espinoza – “Dutch Bros. to Enter Mexico Market: An Application of Marketing Concepts”

Advisor: Dr. Debbie Gilliard

## The Honors directors and staff would like to express our thanks to the following people:

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### **Sincerely,**

**Dr. Megan Hughes**, Honors Program Director

**Jennifer O'Dell**, Honors Program Coordinator

**Meredith Nation**, Honors Program Specialist

**Dr. Jennifer Bolton**, Honors Program Associate Director & Professor  
in Nutrition

**Dr. Philip Bernhardt**, Honors Program Associate Director & Professor in  
Secondary Education

**Dr. Rebecca Forgash**, Honors Program Associate Director & Professor  
in Anthropology

### **Contact Us**

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