

COMING UP

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6
Redwine Honors Fundraiser
4-8 p.m. Chipotle

Women's Basketball
at St. Mary's (Texas)
5:30 p.m. San Antonio, Texas

Therapy Dogs at Moffett Library
6-7:30 p.m. Moffett Library

Men's Basketball at St. Mary's (Texas)
7:30 p.m. San Antonio, Texas

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7
TLRC Cookies, Cocoa,
and Conversation
3:30-5 p.m. Moffett Library
Reading Room

WFMA at MSU Texas:
On the Wall Workshop
5:30-7 p.m. WFMA

Voice Studio Recital
7:30 p.m. Akin Auditorium

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8
Last day of classes

Handel's *Messiah*
with campus participation
Noon-1 p.m. Akin Auditorium

Christmas with Ruth Morrow
& Friends
5:15-6:15 p.m. Akin Auditorium

Women's Basketball
at St. Edward's (Texas)
5:30 p.m. Austin, Texas

Men's Basketball
at St. Edward's (Texas)
7:30 p.m. Austin, Texas

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9
Finals begin

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10
Handel's *Messiah* with the MSU Texas
& First United Methodist choirs
3 p.m. First United
Methodist Church

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15
Senior Documentary Screenings
Noon Fain Fine Arts
Center Theatre

Spirit of the Mustangs Graduate Walk
3 p.m. Spirit of the Mustangs Plaza

Commencement: Graduate School
6 p.m. D.L. Ligon Coliseum

CALENDAR continued on Page 2



AROUND CAMPUS

Redwine Honors fundraiser

The Redwine Honors Program will partner with Chipotle for a fundraising event from 4-8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 6. Chipotle is located at 3910 Wayne Ave, Ste 100, Wichita Falls, TX 76308.

Once a minimum of \$150 in sales is reached, 33% will be donated to the Redwine Honors Program. Show flyer sent as postmaster at checkout in the restaurant. Online ordering for pickup at the Wayne Avenue location is also available. Use code 7A8GW98.

TLRC Cookies, Cocoa, and Conversation

The Teaching, Learning, and Resource Center will host a gathering for Cookies, Cocoa, and Conversation from 3:30-5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 7, in the Moffett Library Reading Room. Instead of planned programming, they would like to hear from you about interesting and relevant topics for the spring series, including

topics you might want to help facilitate. [RSVP online for the conversation.](#)

WFMA at MSU Texas: On the Wall Workshop

The WFMA at MSU Texas will hold a Christmas-themed workshop to design and craft your own wrapping paper from 5:30-7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 7, at the WFMA. You'll carve charming Christmas motifs into small linocut blocks. With these custom blocks, you can repeatedly imprint your unique patterns on wrapping paper. Add a personal touch to your gift wrapping this holiday season by making it yourself.

This workshop is free and space is limited. [RSVP online for the workshop.](#) Please note that sharp carving tools will be used during this event, so children will require adult supervision for the carving process. This workshop will be led by WFMA at MSU Texas Education Curator Sarah Griego. Contact [Griego](#) at ext. 8900 for more information.

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Reception for Senior Exhibition
6-8 p.m. Juanita Harvey Art Gallery

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16
Commencement: Dillard, West, and Fain colleges

10 a.m. D.L. Ligon Coliseum

Commencement: McCoy, Gunn, and Prothro-Yeager colleges
2 p.m. D.L. Ligon Coliseum

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

Hardin Holiday Party
2-3 p.m. Hardin Foyer

Women's Basketball vs Cameron
5:30 p.m. D.L. Ligon Coliseum

Men's Basketball vs Cameron
7:30 p.m. D.L. Ligon Coliseum

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4

Women's Basketball vs West Texas A&M
5:30 p.m. D.L. Ligon Coliseum

Men's Basketball vs West Texas A&M
7:30 p.m. D.L. Ligon Coliseum

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6

Women's Basketball vs Lubbock Christian
1 p.m. D.L. Ligon Coliseum

Men's Basketball vs Lubbock Christian
3 p.m. D.L. Ligon Coliseum

The next *Update* will be published Jan. 8, 2024. Please submit your information to public.information@msutexas.edu by **5 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 4**, to be included in the next issue.

MSU Texas Music: Voice Studio Recital

The Department of Music will host a voice studio recital at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 7, in Akin Auditorium. This recital is for non-majors taught by adjunct faculty, and is their final exam performance. Call ext. 4267 for more information.

MSU Texas Music: Handel's *Messiah*

The Department of Music will host a student performance of Handel's *Messiah* from noon-1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8, in Akin Auditorium. Anyone wishing to participate is welcome. Call ext. 4267 for more information.

MSU Texas Music: Christmas with Ruth Morrow and Friends

The Department of Music will host a special music event with Professor and Bolin Distinguished Chair of Piano Ruth Morrow and Friends from 5:15-6:15 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8, in Akin Auditorium. Call ext. 4267 for more information.

MSU Texas Music: Handel's *Messiah* at First United Methodist

The Department of Music will present the MSU Texas Oratorio Chorus, the Midwestern Singers, and the First United Methodist Church Choir under the direction of Assistant Professor of Music Thomas Winger in a performance of Handel's *Messiah* at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10, at the First United Methodist Church, 909 10th St. Call ext. 4267 for more information.

Senior Documentary Screenings

The Department of Mass Communication will present screenings of senior documentaries at noon Friday, Dec. 15, in the Fain Fine Arts Center Theatre. Call ext. 4670 for more information.

Commencement returns to MSU Texas campus

Commencement ceremonies will return home after 15 years of being held offsite. To

accommodate the return of Commencement to campus, MSU will hold three ceremonies as follows:

Friday, Dec. 15

3:30 p.m. Spirit of the Mustangs Graduate Walk for all graduates (formerly known as Senior Walk)

6 p.m. Dr. Billie Doris McAda Graduate School Commencement Ceremony

Saturday, Dec. 16

10 a.m. Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony comprised of students from the Dillard College of Business Administration, Gordon T. & Ellen West College of Education, and the Lamar D. Fain College of Fine Arts.

2 p.m. Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony comprised students from the Robert D. & Carol Gunn College of Health Sciences & Human Services, Prothro-Yeager College of Humanities & Social Sciences, and the McCoy College of Science, Mathematics & Engineering.

Read more about [Commencement's return home](#) in the MSU Texas news. For more information contact the Office of the Registrar at ext. 4321 or visit the [Commencement webpage](#).

Hardin Holiday Party

The Hardin Holiday Party will be held from 2-3 p.m. Monday, Dec. 18, in the Hardin Foyer. More details will be announced later.

CAMPUS NEWS

From the Counseling Center

As we approach the end of the semester, we want to provide you with resources for conversations you might have with students regarding their well-being needs. We have provided resources (website and handouts) that can help you guide and refer students to receive help as they go through any challenges.

The Counseling Center staff is available to assist with referrals or questions. Don't hesitate to contact the MSU Counseling

Center at 940-397-4618 from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

[MSU Counseling Center](#)

Phone Number: 940-397-4618

[Student In Crisis](#)

Walk-In Crisis Coverage

After-Hours Coverage

[BetterMynd](#)

Online Therapy

[Therapy Assistance Online \(TAO\)](#)

TAO can be used in the context of therapy or self-help.

Staff Employee Incentive & Dependent Educational Assistance Programs

Applications are now being accepted for Spring 2024 Staff Employee Incentive & Dependent Educational Assistance Programs. Both programs can be found on the [Human Resources forms page](#). Please return to Human Resources, Hardin 210, or email [Ivon Mendoza](#).

Deadline date to apply is by **5 p.m. Friday, Jan. 19, 2024**.

If this is your first time to enroll in the Dependent Program, please make sure to attach appropriate documentation for verification of your dependent and the [FAFSA](#) has been completed for the current academic term (2023/24). Acceptable documents for a dependent child include a birth certificate, a tax return, and/or other legal documents as appropriate.

[Dependent Educational Assistance Policy - OP 52.65](#)

[Staff Employee Educational Incentive Policy – OP 52.88](#)

A separate application must be submitted to Human Resources by the deadline date for each semester enrolled. Late applications will not be considered.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Spring 2024 Faculty Intramural Grants Request for Proposals

The Office of Sponsored Programs and Research is pleased to announce a request for proposals for Spring 2024 Faculty Intramural Grants. Intramural Grants are designed to encourage, facilitate and support the research efforts of MSU Texas faculty. These seed grants support faculty initiatives in all disciplines, including basic, applied and pedagogical research as well as creative projects. These awards are intended to support the research trajectory of individual faculty members as well as catalyze future external grant proposals. Priority will be given to applicants with plans to use the results of their

intramural grant to explore external funding opportunities. Please visit the [Intramural Grants web page](#) for additional information and to download the full request for proposals, guidelines, and application materials.

Application deadline: 5 p.m. Monday, Feb. 5, 2024.

Email sponsoredprograms@msutexas.edu with any questions.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

On Nov. 3, **Tau-Gamma**, Midwestern State University's chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, the National History Honor Society, received the Nels A. Cleven Award (Division II) from National Headquarters. Only chapters who have won five or more "Best Chapter" awards are eligible.

Associate Professor of Education **Dittika Gupta** presented at the national conference for School Science and Mathematics Association on "Diving Deeper into Culturally Relevant Tasks: Looking at a Framework to Critique Learning" in Colorado Springs. The conference provides a community for promoting and advancing mathematics, science and integration of all STEM fields. Gupta also serves as an SSMA board member and continues to provide service to the organization to moving the STEM field forward.

A book co-edited by Professor of Art **Ann Marie Leimer** was shortlisted for the R.L. Shep Memorial Book Award. *Consuelo Jimenez Underwood: Art, Weaving, Vision*, edited by Laura E. Perez and Leimer, was published in 2022 with part of the printing funded with support from the Office of Sponsored Programs & Research at MSU Texas. The award is given annually to a publication judged to be the best book in the field of global cultural heritage textile studies. The purpose of the award is to encourage the study and understanding of textile traditions by recognizing and rewarding exceptional scholarship that focuses on textiles through the lens of cultural practices and ancestral heritage. In 2020, the award committee began announcing a "shortlist" to bring well-deserved recognition to multiple leading contenders for the award in addition to the eventual winner.

The Office of Undergraduate Research would like to congratulate the winners of the 21st UGRCA Forum, held Nov. 16. We would also like to thank all of the faculty mentors and the numerous volunteers for their continued support of undergraduate research at MSU Texas. We look forward to seeing you all at the Spring 2024 Celebration of Scholarship/UGRCAF on April 17-18.

POSTER PRESENTATION WINNERS

Dillard College of Business Administration

First Place: **Anne Akpabio**, "The Impact of management

efficiency on mergers and acquisitions' completion," accounting. Mentor: **Lin Wang**

Gunn College of Health Science and Human Services

First Place: **Myia Davis, Jessica Walla**, "An analysis of Compton scatter intensities under different clinical conditions," radiologic technology. Mentor: **Rodney Fisher**

McCoy College of Science, Mathematics & Engineering

First Place: **Sharome Burton**, "Controls architecture for an autonomy-ready battery-electric passenger vehicle," computer science/engineering. Mentor: **Yu Guo**

Second Place: **Francine Pascal**, "Effect of tryptophan and its derivatives indole and serotonin on *Candida albicans* germination," biology. Mentor: **James Masuoka**

Third Place: **Zaniya Medlin**, "Genetic typing of *E. coli* from local waterfowl," biology. Mentor: **James Masuoka**

ORAL PRESENTATION WINNERS

Fain College of Fine Arts

First Place: **Bailey Graham, Casee Harl**, "Breaking the illusion: AI-generated images, photojournalism and media credibility," mass communication. Mentor: **Bradley Wilson**

McCoy College of Science, Mathematics & Engineering

First Place: **Elizabeth Horn, Danielle Egwim, Jada Rhodes**, "Vortex-based vertical axis wind turbine," engineering. Mentor: **Salim Azzouz**

Second Place: **Abigail Matthew**, "Using membrane protein chaperone to prevent and disrupt familial mutant of alpha-synuclein protein aggregation in Parkinson's Disease," chemistry. Mentor: **Fu-Cheng Liang**

Third Place: **Jesse Green, Theron Honore, Elias Tezaguic**, "Fabrication and testing of engine dynamometer for FSAE car," engineering. Mentor: **Pranaya Pokharel**

Prothro Yeager College of Humanities and Social Services

First Place: **Federica Manno, Jackson Redding**, "Neighborhood pollution and environmental activism: A cross-country analysis," political science. Mentor: **Juheon Lee**

Second Place: **Andres Revis**, "The Lao perspective in the bombing of Laos during the Cold War," history and French. Mentors: **Mike Rattanasengchanh, Eric Lynch**

FROM THE BOOKSTORE

As a token of appreciation, the MSU Texas Bookstore is offering a 30% off Holiday Shopping Pass for faculty and staff through Dec. 9. The one-time pass is valid for an entire apparel and gift purchase and is for in-store use only. Present your MSU Texas ID at the counter. For more information visit the [Bookstore online](#).