
DECEMBER 2022 EDITION

The Scholars Newsletter

St. Thomas Aquinas Scholars Honors Program



EDITOR:

Ellie Lange

Featured in this Edition:

- Scholars Community:
 - Tie Blankets (p. 2)
 - Holidayz (p. 2)
 - Finals Study Oasis (p. 2)
 - Tommie Award Nominees (p. 3)
- Scholars Journal:
 - "The Wilted Rose" (p. 4)
 - "A Digital Painting of the Mississippi" (p. 5)
 - "Día de Los Muertos 2022" (p. 6)
 - "Sonnet" (p. 7)
 - "Wings Airport Cafe" (p. 8)
 - "Study Abroad in Rome" (p. 9)
- Board Contact (p. 10)



Tie Blankets

Service Chairs

This month we had the pleasure of hosting a service event to make tie blankets. Together, we made nearly 10 blankets that were then donated to our local children's hospital. Thank you to everyone who volunteered your time; it was so fun to see everyone come together to support the children who are having to spend their holidays in the hospital this year!

Holidazzle

Social Chairs

Scholars had the opportunity to attend a festive off-campus event at Holidazzle in downtown Minneapolis on December 2nd. They enjoyed lots of food, shopping, art, and much more!



Finals Study Oasis

Academic Chairs

Last week the Aquinas Honors Program hosted a finals study oasis in ASC. This study oasis was accompanied by a hot chocolate bar! It was a great way for students to get some work done while bonding with other Scholars.

Congratulations to our Tommie Award Nominees!



Sunisha Arora



Maggie Erpelding



Laura Hankins



Bridget Zenk

The Wilted Rose

by Jeffrey Davlin

Why does the sun shine brightest as it sets?
How come trees are so pretty in the fall?
Why do the flowers bloom before they die?
And why does death sing so lovely a call?

Is it perhaps that we cherish them more?
That they're better loved as they fade away?
Is it finality itself that glows?
Who knows? And who could ever say?

I don't have the answer; maybe that's fine.
After all, don't they say love is blind?
I disagree; I see better through tears.
Death shows the heart to know more than the
mind.

A Digital Painting of The Mississippi

by Matthew Wackerfuss



This photo was created in Photoshop using a brush tool to sample and mix colors for me. There are four separate layers, with each layer containing different brush radii. The painting is sampling an edited photo of the Mississippi River. This was created for an honors seminar creative project where we were tasked to create something that reflects our thoughts about rivers. I created this in hopes of displaying the calm beauty of the river.

Día de Los Muertos 2022

by Emma Peerenboom

Day of the Dead is a holiday celebrated each year in Mexico, in which people get the opportunity to celebrate and cherish their loved ones who have passed away. It is said that on this day, the Heavens open to allow souls to return briefly. Families often create *ofrendas* which include photos of their loved ones who have departed along with the favorite foods and drinks of those loved ones.

People often carve *chilacallotas* and place a candle inside which then allows them to ask for candy from their neighbors, “¿un huesito para mi calavera?” meaning: “a little skeleton for my skull?”

Day of the Dead takes place on November 1st and 2nd, although it is often also celebrated on October 31st and November 6th.

I am so grateful I got to celebrate this holiday alongside loved ones.

YouTube Link: <https://youtube.com/shorts/g8Z-GaTJfQ?feature=share>

Sonnet

by Anna Tagarelli

I'm in the woods. I cannot see the light.
Of snares the ground is full, I hesitate.
To take a step ahead I am afraid.
Oh, how will I get in the narrow gate?
The evil nips and bites, I fear and run.
I'm out of breath, a tear drops down the eye.
I trip and fall, the worst has just begun.
What will I do? I feel as if I'll die.
A sound I hear, I think it's calling me.
A graceful swan I see that shows the way.
The narrow gate approaching soon I'll be.
The night was dark, but now it will be day.
In God I trust, I'll always follow Thee.
I passed my fears. At last, my soul is free.

Wings Airport Cafe

by Zachary Knapp

This is a journalistic video package about Wings Airport Cafe, which is in Brainerd, Minnesota. I made this video for my advanced videography class. I thought it was worthy of submission to the newsletter because the people I met and interviewed were really cool, and there's a lot of things that make the cafe unique!

Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1X3C0GP_fgM



Study Abroad in Rome

by Madison Sherrill

Studying abroad in Rome, Italy brought me joy and perspective. One of the best parts about studying in Rome was all the churches and basilicas scattered throughout the city. One of the classes I took in Rome was Theo223: Belief of Christ in Rome. Throughout this class, we were able to see, experience, and learn about the many different belief systems in Rome and its surrounding areas. This picture was taken outside of the basilica of Saint Mary's of the Angels in Assisi. This church was especially interesting because we were able to see the original building where St. Francis worshipped and began his impact on the world. At this basilica and the other amazing houses of worship we visited, we learned about the power of faith to shape individuals and societies. I will forever be grateful that I was able to study in such a historically and theologically rich city.



Board Contact



Rachael Binstock, *President*
bins7418@stthomas.edu



Macy Meilahn-Kinard, *Vice President*
meil4579@stthomas.edu



Ellie Lange, *Publications*
lang3347@stthomas.edu



Eric Fort, *Faculty Director*
fort5372@stthomas.edu



Ray Baldwin, *Administrative Assistant*
bald8138@stthomas.edu