

11-15-2012

## Alumni E-Connections, 2012-11-15

Alumni Relations

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## Monthly Announcement - November 15, 2012

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Dear Alumni,

Coming into the holiday season, our calendars seem to fill up quickly. Check out the events below and save the dates now. Make plans to attend the Holiday Concert by GSU's Performance Choir class. Take the kids to see *A Christmas Carol* or the *Salt Creek Ballet Nutcracker*. Lots of events are taking place on campus. To receive first notice of events and to see pictures of past events, "like" the Governors State University Alumni Association Facebook Page.

GSU recently partnered with CN Rail. Watch the video on Youtube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P3qb8FSicVY>. The full story is below.

I wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!

For more information, call the Alumni Relations Office at 708.534.4128. Feel free to visit the [alumni website](#) to view past editions of the *e-connections* newsletter and our annual print newsletter, *Alumni Connections* and to get up-to-the-minute details.

Sincerely,

Cheri Garey  
Director of Alumni Relations

### ***Alumni Association Now on Facebook***

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"Like" the Governors State University Alumni Association on Facebook to receive the most up-to-date news, see pictures from current and past events, ask questions, and more.

### ***Alumni Volunteer Program***

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What a beautiful day on November 11 to restore the prairie! Alumni, students, and community members joined the fun in collecting native prairie seeds and transporting them to a new site in the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park on GSU's campus.

### ***Alumni Clubs***

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## In This Issue

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Alumni Association Now on Facebook

Alumni Volunteer Program

Alumni Clubs

Alumni Golf Club

Alumni Book Club Reviews "Zeitoun" - January 24, 2013

Speaking in Tongues Performance - November 17

Veterans Club Skating Party and Fundraiser - November 17

Health and Human Services Career Fair - November 28

Free Holiday Concert - December 1

Master of Occupational Therapy Information Session - December 13

As a GSU alum, you may join as many of our Alumni Clubs as you like, free of charge. Sign up for Alumni Clubs by visiting [www.govst.edu/alumni](http://www.govst.edu/alumni) (click on *Clubs* side bar) or call the Alumni Relations Office at 708.534.4128 for more information.

### ***Alumni Golf Club***

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Save the Date for our 2013 annual golf outing on Sunday, September 15. To join the Alumni Golf Club, call 708.534.4128 or email [alumnirelations2@govst.edu](mailto:alumnirelations2@govst.edu).

### ***Alumni Book Club Reviews "Zeitoun" - January 24, 2013***

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Join other book enthusiasts in a lively discussion on the current book. The Alumni Book Club meets the fourth Thursday of every month.

#### **Book Club Schedule:**

- December - No Meeting
- January 24 - ***Zeitoun*** by Dave Eggers

Books to be reviewed are chosen by the Alumni Book Club members. Call the Alumni Relations Office at 708.534.4128 to join or e-mail [alumnirelations2@govst.edu](mailto:alumnirelations2@govst.edu) and say "sign me up for the Book Club." Visit the website at [www.govst.edu/alumni](http://www.govst.edu/alumni) for details and book descriptions.

### ***Speaking in Tongues Performance - November 17***

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"Speaking in Tongues: The Chronicles of Babel," comes to the GSU Center for Performing Arts on Saturday, November 17.

"Speaking in Tongues," a presentation of Chicago's MPAACT Productions, is part of GSU Center's "One More Night" series, which brings the best in Chicago-area theater to local audiences. "One More Night" is funded by a generous grant from The Chicago Community Trust.

General admission tickets for "Speaking in Tongues: The Chronicles of Babel" are \$30. To purchase tickets, or for further information, contact the GSU Center box office at [www.centertickets.net](http://www.centertickets.net) or 708.235.2222.

### ***Veterans Club Skating Party and Fundraiser - November 17***

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Before you enjoy all that turkey, stuffing, and pumpkin pie, have fun roller skating with the GSU Veterans Club. The social event and fund raiser will be held on November 17, from 5 to 8 p.m., at the Tinley Park Roller Rink, 17658 Oak Park Avenue, Tinley Park. Admission is only \$10 and proceeds will be used to support programs assisting members of the armed forces. For more

Nikki  
Giovanni  
Enchants

Film Festival  
to Screen  
GSU Grad's  
Documentary

Chicago Live!  
at GSU was  
"an  
Entertaining  
Mix of Talk,  
Comedy and  
Music"

GSU, CN Rail  
Announce  
Partnership

GSU Takes  
National  
Spotlight in  
AAC&U  
News

information, contact Eric Williams at 708.439.1999.

### ***Health and Human Services Career Fair - November 28***

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The Office of Career is sponsoring the 2012 Health and Human Services Career and Internship Fair on Wednesday, November 28, from 2 to 5 p.m., in the Center for Performing Arts lobby.

Prospective employers in the fields of physical and occupational therapy, nursing, social work, and non-profit social services will meet with job and internship candidates.

The career fair is open to current students, GSU alumni, and members of the community seeking employment in these fields. There is no charge for job seekers. Participants are advised to dress professionally and bring plenty of resumes.

Representatives from both public and private institutions, organizations, and businesses interested in meeting job candidates are also welcome.

For more information or to register visit [www.govst.edu/careerservices](http://www.govst.edu/careerservices) or call the Office of Career Services at 708.235.3974.

### ***Free Holiday Concert - December 1***

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Just in time to share the spirit of the season, the Governors State University Choral Performance Class is presenting a free Holiday Concert on December 1, at 3 p.m., in Sherman Recital Hall.

This concert has old favorites, new standards, and sing-alongs; including songs of Hanukkah, music from South America, and jazz versions of traditional carols with accompanist Joyce Beer.

"We are singing a variety of music that is sure to get everyone into the spirit," says choir conductor Stacy Eckert. "Our program has favorites like 'The Little Drummer Boy,' and 'Peace on Earth,' as well as fun songs like 'A Charlie Brown Christmas' and 'The Grinch.' And we love it when the audience joins in and sings with us. This is a free, fun, family event."

### ***Master of Occupational Therapy Information Session - December 13***

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The Department of Occupational Therapy will host an Information Session for individuals interested in learning more about the Master of Occupational Therapy degree program on Thursday, December 13, from 5 to 6 p.m. in G127 in the Faculty Office Center (FOC). Attendees are encouraged to bring unofficial copies of transcripts.

For more information, contact Patricia Kalvelage at [pkalvelage@govst.edu](mailto:pkalvelage@govst.edu), or 708.534.7294. Additional information may be found at [www.govst.edu/chhs/dot/mot/](http://www.govst.edu/chhs/dot/mot/).

### ***Nikki Giovanni Enchants***

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From the intimate poetry reading in Engbretson Hall to the full house at the Center for Performing Arts, poet, activist, and author Nikki Giovanni entertained, enlightened, and enchanted her audience.

Giovanni's visit to GSU on Wednesday began with her attendance at the One Book One University discussion of her work *Quilting the Black Eyed Pea*. Students took turns interpreting her poetry and explaining the significance of her words.

Participating faculty members included Dr. Christopher White, Dr. Elizabeth Johnson, and Dr. Rashidah Muhammad.

After a warm welcome from President Elaine Maimon and glowing introduction by Dr. Muhammad, Giovanni offered her wisdom, insight, and wit – always with a light touch – on issues facing us today; often reflecting on their roots in history. She read several of her poems and encouraged the audience to seek greater openness and understanding. She frequently drew on her own life story to illustrate the need to avoid complacency.

Preceding her on stage was the gospel choir Von Matthews and Proclaim. The evening was emceed by Dr. Cyrus M. Ellis and sponsored by the Metropolitan Institute for Leadership in Education, Division of Psychology and Counseling, College of Education, College of Arts and Sciences, Intellectual Life, Illinois Counseling Association, and Chi Sigma Iota.

### ***Film Festival to Screen GSU Grad's Documentary***

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Mercedes Kane, a GSU MFA graduate, will present her documentary, "Today We Saw the Face of God," at the Illinois International Film Festival (IIFF) in December. Kane, a 2009 MFA graduate, has been invited to seven film festivals.

The documentary is about a medical mission team in Haiti that experienced the devastating earthquake in 2010. "Today We Saw the Face of God," had its world premiere at Commfest Community Film Festival in Toronto on September 22, where Kane received the MADA Humanitarian Award.

The local premiere will be at IIFF, at the Viaduct Theater in Chicago, on Saturday, December 1, at 6 p.m. There will be another screening on Sunday, December 2, with the time to be determined. The theater is located at 3111 N. Western Avenue.

Follow this link for more information on the documentary and screenings - [todaywesawthefaceofgod.com/](http://todaywesawthefaceofgod.com/).

### ***Chicago Live! at GSU was "an Entertaining Mix of Talk, Comedy and Music"***

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In hosting Chicago Live!, Governors State University affirmed its position as an vital public square where important issues are freely

discussed, strengthening the community's social fabric.

Chicago Live!, presented at GSU's Center for Performing Arts on Thursday, November 1, was a cornucopia of comedy, music, and interviews on topics ranging from beer and the blues to election endorsements and the plight of the black middle class. An audience of about 400 gave an enthusiastic thumbs-up to the live stage show, a production of the Chicago Tribune in partnership with The Second City comedy troupe and WGN-AM Radio.

GSU was picked as a Chicago Live! site largely through the efforts of university President Elaine P. Maimon and Tribune Associate Editor Joyce Winnecke, said James Janega, manager of Trib Nation, the newspaper unit overseeing the show.

Janega said Dr. Maimon and Winnecke share a common vision about the role in the community of important institutions like newspapers and universities. "They share the sense that both the Tribune and GSU each act as a town square," he said. "That's a common thread for both of us." Winnecke is a member of the President's Advisory Board at GSU.

It was the first time Chicago Live! was presented outside the city limits. Host Rick Kogan, a veteran Tribune reporter and columnist, said GSU Center is, to date, the biggest theater to host the show. More than 40 Chicago Live! performances have taken place in the last two years, all in smaller venues. Kogan called GSU's theater one of the Midwest's top performance spaces. Over years, Kogan said he's come to GSU to see stars like comedian Tom Dreesen and singer Dennis DeYoung, and recently brought his young daughter to a performance of Eric Carle classics like "Hungry, Hungry Caterpillar."

Thursday's show was an unqualified success, with Second City improv artists providing very funny vignettes between interviews. Undergraduate student Audrey Cher, winner of the "GSU's Got Talent" competition, gave a soaring rendition of her original song "Love You," with stellar music also coming from hip-hop singer Psalm One and harmonica virtuoso Sugar Blue and his band.

In his Chicago Live! Almanac, Kogan focused on events in 1969, which included both the first manned moon landing, Woodstock, and GSU's founding. Entertainers like Dreesen and DeYoung, he said, are products of a Chicago Southland fueled by steel mills and heavy industry. GSU was established so future generations would be able to learn necessary skills for an ever-changing world. Kogan said steel is still an important part of GSU's landscape, most notably at Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park, which he called "one of the most amazing outdoor gardens on earth."

Interviews were a major feature of Chicago Live! at GSU. President Maimon described some of the exciting developments at GSU, including the university's first freshman class and student housing in 2014. Kogan and Editorial Page Editor Bruce Dold discussed the Tribune's endorsement of President Barack Obama – which garnered a loud round of applause from the audience. Music critic Howard Reich interviewed Sugar Blue and Tribune travel and beer writer Josh Noel talked about craft brews with Barnaby Struve, vice president of Three Floyds Brewing Co. in Munster, IN. Kogan discussed the election and issues in the African-American

community with Tribune columnist Dawn Turner Trice and Cliff Kelley, former Chicago alderman and current WVON-AM talk show host.

At a reception prior to the show, Tribune Editor Gerould Kern said newspapers are changing and events like Chicago Live! demonstrate a new commitment to readers. "We need to come out into the community to show what we do," he said. "We are not just purveyors of news. We believe that we are part of the community and it is our place to be here."

Kern said it was his first trip to GSU. "I am very impressed by GSU's mission and all the initiatives that are taking place," he said.

### ***GSU, CN Rail Announce Partnership***

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Governors State University announced a named classroom following the receipt of a substantial gift from CN Railroad. GSU officials received the first installment of the \$100,000 gift at a ceremony at Governors State's main campus in University Park.

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CN's gift will be used to equip a classroom for the university's Supply Chain Management MBA program offered by the College of Business and Public Administration. Eight \$2,500 fellowships for Supply Chain Management students will also be funded through the gift. CN's support of the university will be noted on a plaque in the classroom.

GSU President Elaine P. Maimon thanked CN Railroad and said she expects other corporations to forge similar partnerships by naming classrooms and supporting educational programs preparing students for today's global economy.

"Corporations and universities are natural partners," Maimon said. "We provide education for a 21<sup>st</sup> century workforce and also perform research that is extremely useful to modern industries. GSU is the only public university in a large area between Bloomington and the south side of Chicago, and this region is known as a national center for transportation and logistics. GSU helps CN and other companies by training employees who are ready for the challenges of the modern work environment."

Jim Kvedaras, CN's Director of U.S. Government Affairs, said it was an "absolute pleasure" to assist GSU and its Supply Chain Management program. "We need strong people to work for us," he said. "It makes a great deal of sense to work with the university so that we'll be able to hire qualified workers. We look upon this as an investment in our own future, and one that helps us develop future leaders in our industry."

Kvedaras pointed out that he received his undergraduate degree from GSU and looks forward to helping students receive a quality education from the university.

CN is expanding rail operations throughout the Chicago area, and in a service region stretching from the Gulf of Mexico into Canada, Kvedaras said, adding that qualified Supply Chain Management workers are in constant demand. The railroad's U.S. headquarters is located in south suburban Homewood.

Dr. Ellen Foster Curtis, Dean of the College of Business and Public Administration, said she is excited about CN's gift. "This is a very generous gift," she said "It allows us to offer a state-of-the-art program that trains professionals in transportation and logistics."

GSU's Supply Chain Management MBA program is 100 percent online. CN's gift will assist GSU in delivering essential knowledge to students about forecasting and supply chain optimization, materials management, sourcing and procurement, distribution and logistics, inventory and transportation management, and cutting-edge theories and practices. With a well-rounded curriculum and accessible full-time faculty, the program is designed so students can earn their MBA in 17 months.

Further information about GSU's Supply Chain Management MBA program is available at [www.govst.edu/mbasupply](http://www.govst.edu/mbasupply) or by contacting [bpainfo@govst.edu](mailto:bpainfo@govst.edu) or (708)534-4391.

Companies or individuals interested in partnering with Governors State University can contact Will Davis, Interim Chief Development Officer, at [wdavis3@govst.edu](mailto:wdavis3@govst.edu) or (708) 235-7494.

### ***GSU Takes National Spotlight in AAC&U News***

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The November edition of AAC&U News features an in-depth look at GSU in "Governors State Strives for Civic Engagement Across the Curriculum, Across Generations," the lead article in the monthly publication. (The publication is distributed to 34,000 readers across the country.) Read full article at: [www.aacu.org/aacu\\_news/AACUNews12/november12/feature.cfm](http://www.aacu.org/aacu_news/AACUNews12/november12/feature.cfm)