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Alumni E-Connections, 2009-05

Alumni Relations

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Governors State University Alumni Association



Dear Alumni,

Summer has finally arrived and that brings us outdoors. Now is the time to visit the GSU Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park.

Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park

Walking Tours - Spend a Sunday afternoon walking among and learning about the many sculptures located in our own Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park. Tours will be conducted on the first and third Sunday of the month beginning on June 7 and last 1 ½ to 2 hours. The Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park is **free and open daily** from dawn to dusk. It is located on the campus of Governors State University.

Bike Tour - If walking is not for you, try a bike tour on Saturday, May 30 from 2 to 4:30 p.m. All riders must wear a helmet. **Free and no reservations required.**

Camping in the Park – June 20 – 21, 5:30 p.m. to 8 a.m. Pitch your tent and enjoy an overnight camping experience. There'll be pizza, ghost stories, campfires, tours of the park, swimming in the GSU pool, and breakfast overlooking our lake as the sun rises. Bring your own tent, flashlight, and sleeping bag – we'll supply the rest. All children must be accompanied by a parent or adult guardian. \$45 per person. Registration required. Call 708.534.4486 or email sculpture@govst.edu, for more information.

For more information about the sculpture park to view their latest newsletter, visit www.govst.edu/sculpture.

Vacation Education

What do a GSU alum and a high school senior have in common with a down-sized job seeker and a community college student seeking direction? They are all eligible to enroll in Governors State University's new six-week Vacation Education mini-term this summer.

Vacation Education courses run from June 1 through July 15 and require no prerequisites. The program is open to everyone, age 17 and over, including non-Illinois residents, those who wish to continue their education, and those who have never taken a college course.

Application, submission of the \$25 application fee, and registration for specific courses may be completed simultaneously. Transcripts are not required.

For more information, visit www.govst.edu/vacationeducation.

GSU 40th Anniversary

We're celebrating GSU's 40th anniversary through a yearlong series of events. Each month our e-blast will keep you up to date on events and programs being held on campus. Here's what's coming up:

What's Your GSU Story?



The deadline to contribute your own GSU story to the 40th Anniversary celebration has been **extended to June 1**. We are collecting stories of the positive impact and enduring memories of community members, alumni, students, retirees, or employees of the university.

Share the positive impact GSU has had on your life in 750 words or less. Many of the stories will be featured on the 40th Anniversary website. The top submissions will be announced at the GSU Gala Celebration on November 7 and will be printed in IMPACT, a publication commemorating the best submissions.

All literary genres are accepted via electronic submission to writingcompetition@govst.edu. No graphics please. Entries should be submitted as Microsoft Word documents only. The submission deadline is June 1, 2009.

For more information, visit the [Writing Competition FAQ](#) or contact [Sheree Sanderson](#) at 708.235.3956.

40th Anniversary Celebration – November 7

Join us as we celebrate GSU's 40th Anniversary at this special evening event on Saturday, November 7. The evening begins with a celebratory reception with light hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar, followed by a special "*Tribute to the Motown Greats*" concert at the Center for Performing Arts. The evening is rounded out with an exciting after party featuring a cast "meet and greet," dancing, and camaraderie. Tickets are \$50 per person. Tickets are limited. To order tickets, call the Office of Alumni Relations at 708.534.4128.

Alumni Association News

Club Dates

Alumni Addictions Studies Club will host its next meeting on Tuesday, June 9, beginning at 6:30 p.m., in the Cafeteria Annex.

Alumni Artforum Club will host its next meeting is Monday, June 15, at 7:30 p.m., in the GSU E-Lounge. Future events will be planned at that meeting.

TRiO Alumni Club meets the 2nd Thursday of every month, from 4 to 5 p.m., in the Student Commons lounge.

Alumni Dancers Club and Alumni Book Club – both clubs are in the works and will become active soon. Make sure you're on the mailing list to receive invitations to these events. E-mail alumnirelations2@govst.edu to be placed on the mailing list.

Call the Alumni Office at 708.534.4128 to RSVP or for more information on any club activities. Alumni Association members may join any alumni at no cost.

Are you a member of the Alumni Association?

If you are, good for you! If not, why not join today? There are many benefits associated with being a member of the Alumni Association. Visit www.govst.edu/alumni or call the Alumni Relations office, for more information.

Upcoming Campus Events

Southland Area Theatre Ensemble (SLATE) Auditions for *Into the Woods*

The Southland Area Theatre Ensemble (SLATE) announced that it will hold auditions for its production of *Into the Woods* -- Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine's amazing musical about magical enchantment blends the stories of the Brothers Grimm fairy tales, Jack and the Beanstalk, Rapunzel, Cinderella - and more - into an exciting, intertwining show for all ages!

Open auditions will be held at Governors State University:

Adults	June 1 and 2	5:30 to 10 p.m.	Engbretson Hall
Children (ages 8 through 12)	May 31	2 to 4 p.m.	Sherman Recital Hall

Individuals wishing to audition should visit the SLATE website at www.slatetheatre.org to download the audition form and view character descriptions and casting requirements. Those auditioning are asked to prepare a one-minute vocal selection from any Steven Sondheim song and provide sheet music for their selection if not singing from *Into the Woods*. They should also be prepared to read from the script. Auditions are scheduled by appointment only, which can be made by leaving a message on the audition hotline at 708.235.2244.

Performances will be held at Governors State University's Center for Performing Arts on Friday, August 14, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, August 15, 2009 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Tickets go

on sale June 15, 2009 (\$21/\$18 Adults and \$19/\$16 Students). For ticket information, call the box office at 708.235.2222, Monday through Saturday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Spiritual Exploration and Mental Health

Professor Emeritus, Dr. David Matteson will lead a discussion of his latest book at GSU on May 27, from 6 to 7:30 p.m., in the Cafeteria Annex. Dr. Matteson was a professor of Psychology and counseling at GSU for 30 years.

In his latest book, “Exploring the Spiritual: Paths for Counselors and Psychotherapists,” Dr. Matteson presents the importance of personal exploration of spiritual development by counselors and therapists, which can significantly and positively impact a client’s move toward health.

This discussion is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served. The GSU Library Intellectual Life Committee is sponsoring this event. For more information, call 708.534.4116.

Presidential Historian Michael Beschloss

On the heels of one of the most exciting Presidential Elections in U.S. history, GSU will feature presidential historian and best-selling author Michael Beschloss as part of its Distinguished Lecture Series. Beschloss will present a lecture on Friday, June 5, from 3 to 4:30 p.m., in Sherman Hall on the GSU campus. **The lecture is free and open to the public.**



Beschloss is the nation’s premiere presidential historian and author of eight books including *Presidential Courage: Brave Leaders and How They Changed America* and *The Conquerors: Roosevelt, Truman, and the Destruction of Hitler’s Germany, 1941-1945*. NBC recently appointed him NBC News’ Presidential Historian, the first such position at any major network.

Beschloss believes that great U.S. presidents exhibit “presidential courage” or the willingness to take potentially career-ending risks, which aren’t immediately admired. Through a discussion of past presidents and a comparison to today’s political climate, he often provides an astute look into the future. He is also known for sharing never-before-told stories of presidents from an insightful and humorous perspective. **Seating is limited. Call 708.534.4497 to RSVP.**

Visual Arts Gallery

The GSU Visual Arts Gallery is free and open Monday through Thursday, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Exhibits change regularly and features the artwork of students, faculty members, visiting and community artists. For more information about current and upcoming events, call 708.534.4017.

Illinois Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run

The GSU Department of Public Safety is once again hosting the annual Torch Run here at GSU on Wednesday, June 10, 2009 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. This event is open to public. If you are interested in participating (jogging, walking, or cycling), call Officer Crystal Richards at 708.534.4900 for more information.

Recent Happenings

Environmentally Friendly Day



The sun was shining and the breeze was light for GSU's recent Earth Week celebration and dedication of the new parking lots, resurfaced with Permeable Paving. Members of the community joined children from the Family Development Center and faculty and staff in Parking Lot B to learn ways to preserve and protect the environment.

Illinois Representative Lisa Dugan (D - 79th District) was also on hand to help dedicate the new environmentally friendly parking lots B and C.

Displays from a variety of vendors provided information about composting, wild animal rescue, and environmentally friendly products including hybrid vehicles and permeable paving. The Civil Service Senate served lunch.

GSU Foundation Updates

You Can't Take It With You!

Did you know there are several ways you can support your favorite charity while still providing financial security for your loved ones? "Planned Giving" is a great way to accomplish both goals! There are many options to support your alma mater with future gifts such as insurance, wills, and annuities. More information contact:

Joan Vaughan
CEO, GSU Foundation
708-534-4977
j-vaughan@govst.edu

Donations to the GSU Foundation are tax deductible to the extent provided by law. Go to <http://www.govst.edu/foundation/DonateIntro.asp>, if you are interested in making a donation.

Many more events are being planned. I'll send you updates from time to time to keep you up to date. But feel free to visit our website at www.govst.edu/alumni for up to the minute details.

Sincerely,

Rosemary D. Hulett
Associate Vice President for Advancement and Alumni Relations