

4-4-2012

## Alumni E-Connections, 2012-04-04

Alumni Relations

Follow this and additional works at: [http://opus.govst.edu/alumni\\_econnections](http://opus.govst.edu/alumni_econnections)

---

### Recommended Citation

Alumni Relations, "Alumni E-Connections, 2012-04-04" (2012). *Alumni E-Connections*. Paper 27.  
[http://opus.govst.edu/alumni\\_econnections/27](http://opus.govst.edu/alumni_econnections/27)

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the Alumni at OPUS Open Portal to University Scholarship. It has been accepted for inclusion in Alumni E-Connections by an authorized administrator of OPUS Open Portal to University Scholarship. For more information, please contact [opus@govst.edu](mailto:opus@govst.edu).

## ***Monthly Announcement - April 4, 2012***

Dear Alumni,

Spring is my favorite time of year. The dull brown of winter has been replaced with the blooms of spring. Don't miss our Earth Day events on April 19.

Watch the mail for the new Alumni Magazine which will be mailed shortly. In it we will let you know what some of our alumni are up to, we'll give you more information of the many changes here at GSU, and much more!

No matter how you decide to stay connected - joining clubs, attending lectures and events on campus, participating in an alumni activity - GSU has something for everyone. Tell us what you've been up to. We love to hear from you. Stay connected with your alma mater and get involved.

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  
Interim Director of Alumni Relations

### ***Crosstown Classic - Chicago White Sox vs Chicago Cubs - June 19***

Join the GSU Alumni Association at US Cellular Park for an evening of fun and camaraderie as you cheer on your favorite team.

Mingle with fellow alumni and GSU faculty while enjoying our pre-game patio reception with a two-hour all-you-can-eat buffet including BBQ ribs, Cajun chicken, fried chicken, hot dogs, hamburgers, side salads, wine, Miller and Pepsi products. Seating is in lower boxes, section 111. Buffet begins at 5:30 p.m.; Game time is 7:10 p.m.

Tickets are \$120 per person. For tickets call the Alumni Relations Office at 708.534.4128 or visit [www.govst.edu/alumni](http://www.govst.edu/alumni) for a mail-in reservation form.

## **In This Issue**

Crosstown  
Classic White  
Sox vs Cubs -  
June 19

### **Alumni Clubs**

Alumni Golf  
Club

Addiction  
Studies  
Alumni Club  
Workshop -  
May 12

Alumni  
Artforum Club  
Alumni Art  
Show - April  
26 - May 29

Alumni Book  
Club Reviews  
"The Good  
Earth" - April  
26

Alumni  
Occupational  
Therapy  
Reception -  
April 27

Going Green  
with Bixby's  
Rainforest  
Rescue at  
GSU Center  
for  
Performing  
Arts - April  
14

Common  
Core  
Strategies  
Workshop for  
Educators -  
April 14

## ***Alumni Clubs***

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***

---

Join the Alumni Golf Club now. Club members will be joining the GSU Golf League again this summer. The league golfs each week beginning in May. Days, times and rates will be announced soon.

## ***Addiction Studies Alumni Club Workshop - May 12***

---

Earn three CEU's at the Addictions Studies Alumni Club Workshop on Opioid Dependence, on May 12 at GSU. This training will address the basics of opiate addiction and how the brain responds to the use of opiates, both illicit and those used to treat dependence. Don Pinkston LCSW, CADC, QHEIC, ATE will be the presenter. Pre-registration is required and seating is limited. The cost is \$15 and includes a networking continental breakfast from 8 to 9 a.m. The workshop is from 9 a.m. to noon. Participants receive three CEUs. Call 708.534.7892 to register or mail the [registration form](#).

## ***Alumni Artforum Club Alumni Art Show - April 26 - May 29***

---

The Alumni Artforum Club is hosting a GSU Alumni Art Show from April 26 through May 29, with a reception taking place on Thursday, May 3. A call for submissions has been posted on the Alumni website at [www.govst.edu/alumni](http://www.govst.edu/alumni) (click "*Activities*" sidebar) or email [alumnirelations2@govst.edu](mailto:alumnirelations2@govst.edu). Entry deadline is April 16. Join in on the fun! This event is free.

## ***Alumni Book Club Reviews "The Good Earth" - April 26***

---

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:**

April 26      ***The Good Earth*** by Pearl S. Buck

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." Meeting reminders will be sent via e-mail. Visit the website at [www.govst.edu/alumni](http://www.govst.edu/alumni) for details and book

Earth Day  
Celebrated At  
GSU -  
April 19

GSU Library  
Book Sale

Creating a  
More  
Sustainable  
Future - April  
17

"Stop Kiss"  
Airs at GSU -  
April 13

Substitute  
Teacher  
Academy at  
GSU - April  
21 (April 6  
deadline)

Southland  
Theatre  
Ensemble to  
Perform  
"Legally  
Blonde" at  
GSU -  
Auditions!  
May 14 and  
15

Remembering  
Dr. Gary  
Lyon

Home  
Inspection  
Course  
Offered at  
GSU - April  
13 Deadline

Lecture  
Series  
Explores  
Navigating  
Our Colliding  
Worlds  
beginning  
April 11

Children's  
Summer  
Adventure  
Camp at  
GSU

descriptions.

### ***Alumni Occupational Therapy Reception - April 27***

---

All graduates of the GSU Occupational Therapy program are invited to attend a reception during the AOTA Conference at the JW Marriott in Indianapolis, Indiana on Friday, April 27. The reception is in room 206 and begins at 6:30 p.m. You do not have to attend the conference in order to attend the reception. Please call 708.534.7892 to RSVP.

### ***Going Green with Bixby's Rainforest Rescue at GSU Center for Performing Arts - April 14***

---

Bixby's Rainforest Rescue brings the rainforest to the Governors State University Center for the Performing Arts on Saturday, April 14, at 1 p.m.

Through the use of magic, puppetry, vibrant musical numbers, comedy, audience participation, and a menagerie of live exotic animals, children discover the importance of conservation, preservation, and going green.

Ticket prices range from \$15 to \$31. Call GSU Center's friendly Box Office staff at (708) 235-2222 or visit [www.centertickets.net](http://www.centertickets.net).

Adventure beckons as Bixby takes his new friends through the tropical rainforest. Along the way, they meet Treetop the Singing Toucan. Treetop longs to be a big bird so he can fly around and explore his favorite part of the rainforest, the canopy layer. Throughout their journey, Bixby and his friends try to help Treetop find his big bird wings so he can fly. With Bixby's help, something magical happens that changes Treetop's life forever.

Throughout this 80-minute adventure, Bixby and his rainforest friends meet and learn about many different live exotic animals, use teamwork and creativity to help protect our planet, and help Treetop become the big bird he has always wanted to be.

From noon to 12:45 p.m., families are invited to experience Bixby's Rainforest Encounters Animal Display in the GSU Center's lobby. The display features several species of live exotic animals, including ring-tailed lemurs from Madagascar, snakes from South America and Asia, colorful macaws from Central and South America, coatimundis and cavys from Central and South America, and kinkajous from South America. Throughout the display, families will enjoy learning interesting facts about each animal.

Families will also have the opportunity to meet Bixby and Treetop in person for autographs and photos following the performance. Bixby's meet and greet will be held in the GSU Center lobby and is open to children and families alike.

"It is our primary focus to bring to life the story of the ongoing

destruction and deforestation of the rainforest," says Barry DeVoll, executive producer and director of Blue Trunk Educational Series, creator of Bixby's Rainforest Rescue. "Many people aren't aware that we lose almost 46 million acres a year. Our goal is to merge education and entertainment."

### ***Common Core Strategies Workshop for Educators - April 14***

---

"How much is really new in Language Arts?" is the question answered at a free workshop for educators on Saturday, April 14, from 9 a.m. to noon, in room D34115 sponsored by GSU's College of Education.

This professional development workshop offers K-12 educators the opportunity to explore Common Core State Standards in English and Language Arts and their impact on instruction. Facilitated by Judy Johnstone, Literacy Consultant and Co-Director of the Illinois Writing Project.

Certified teachers will also earn three CPDUs for attending the workshop. Information about GSU's programs in graduate education will be available. Continental breakfast is provided. Seating is limited. To reserve your seat, email Dr. Dor Fitzgerald, [dfitzgerald@govst.edu](mailto:dfitzgerald@govst.edu).

### ***Earth Day Celebrated At GSU - April 19***

---

GSU is getting a jump on the traditional Earth Day celebrations by hosting Earth Day at GSU on April 19<sup>th</sup>, is three days earlier than the more recognized Earth Day date of April 22. Activities are scheduled from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Earth Day at GSU offers something for everyone. The event includes music, exhibits, demonstrations, wild animal exhibits, a children's theater production, and organic food served on eco-friendly products. The event is free and open to the public.

The exhibit and demonstrations will be held on the patio and along the pathway next to GSU's lake. They include a range of Earth friendly products and processes such as composting, bee keeping, products created from recyclable materials, sustainable gardening, herbs, and organic foods. Big Run Wolf Ranch will also provide a display of wild animals, including wolves and a bear.

The Kidsworks Touring Theater will present an interactive performance celebrating conservation, from 11 a.m. to 11:45, in the Center for Performing Arts. In the Hall of Governors, an exhibit will feature student artwork made from recycled materials.

In addition, natural history tours will take participants to the university's biology field station. Tours of the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park will also be offered.

Earth Day at GSU will also include recycling stations for batteries, pharmaceuticals, and cell phones.

The Biology Club's Thorn Creek clean-up is scheduled for Tuesday, April 17. A mound of debris collected from the creek will be on display at the GSU Earth Day celebration.

Earth Day is sponsored by the GSU Sustainability Committee.

### ***GSU Library Book Sale***

---

Friends of the GSU Library are sponsoring a book sale on Thursday, April 12 in the Hall of Governors from Noon to 6 p.m. A special pre-sale is from 11 a.m. to noon for Friends of the Library members.

### ***Creating a More Sustainable Future - April 17***

---

Learn more about establishing and maintaining a sustainable future from Jack Byrne, Director of the Sustainability Integration Office, Middlebury College, on Tuesday, April 17, from 1 to 2 p.m., in Engbretson Hall. This event is free and open to the public.

Byrne will discuss his work with a wide range of sustainability projects including green building designs, greenhouse gas reduction strategies, local foods, renewable energy, and transportation initiatives. He is the co-founder of the non-profit Foundation for Our Future at the Center for a Sustainable Future. He oversaw Education for a Sustainable Future, a six-year \$18 million U.S. Department of Education project.

This event is part of GSU's celebration of Earth Day. In addition to this presentation, GSU will also host a day of activities on April 19, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Activities include a theatrical production for children, an art exhibit, earth friendly product demonstrations, and animal exhibits.

Events are sponsored by the Office of the Provost, the GSU Sustainability Committee, and the General Education Task Force.

### ***"Stop Kiss" Airs at GSU - April 13***

---

"Stop Kiss", by Diana Son, will be presented as an all-student production at Governors State University in April. The one-act play will be presented at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, April 11 and Thursday, April 12 and at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 13. All performances will take place free of charge in Engbretson Hall on GSU's main campus in University Park.

GSU student Lauren White, the director of "Stop Kiss", said the multimedia play, set in modern-day New York City, tells the comedic, dramatic story about "how love and hate can change

lives in an instant.”

“This is the first fully-student produced live theater event at GSU in over a quarter of a century,” White said. “It is an honor to bring this production to our university.”

“Stop Kiss” received widespread acclaim when first presented in 1998 at the Public Theatre in New York City. The New York Times called “Stop Kiss” “a sweet, sad, and enchantingly sincere play,” adding that “the production captures the heady feelings of falling hard for a less than cuddly metropolis in ways that musicals and plays like “Wonderful Town” and “Barefoot in the Park” must have for other generations.”

“Stop Kiss” contains adult themes and explicit language.

White said “Stop Kiss” is made possible by an Intellectual Life Committee Grant and the support of Dr. Jason Zingsheim, faculty advisor.

### ***Substitute Teacher Academy at GSU - April 21 (April 6 deadline)***

---

GSU is sponsoring a daylong Substitute Teacher Academy with Resources on April 21, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., in the Hall of Honors. Many school districts are in need of qualified substitute teachers. This workshop will help experienced and new substitutes increase their knowledge and skills.

Participants must have a bachelor's degree. The \$50 registration fee includes lunch and all materials. Seating is limited to 40 registrants, and registration is required, by April 6. Call 708.534.4024 to register.

### ***Southland Theatre Ensemble to Perform "Legally Blonde" at GSU - Auditions: May 14 and 15***

---

The Southland Area Theatre Ensemble (SLATE) at GSU will present "Legally Blonde: The Musical" as its 2012 summer production. Performance dates are July 28 and 29, and August 4 and 5 at the Governors State University Center for Performing Arts.

Auditions will take place May 14 and 15 in Sherman Recital Hall at GSU. "Legally Blonde: The Musical" has roles for a cast of between 24 and 32 players. There are roles for 12 principal cast members and between 12 and 20 supporting players. Persons wishing to audition should be prepared to present a one minute song selection that demonstrates their vocal range. A dance call will follow the vocal audition.

Based on the hit movie, “Legally Blonde: The Musical” is a fresh and fast-paced evening of musical fun, stylishly wrapped in a pink bow. Elle Woods is the college sweetheart and homecoming queen who doesn’t take no for an answer. When her boyfriend dumps her for someone “serious,” Elle puts down

the credit cards, hits the books, and heads for Harvard Law School. "Legally Blonde: The Musical" offers theater-goers an evening of guilty pleasure fun that should not be missed.

"At SLATE, we pride ourselves on not only an amazing final production, but also a creative, fun, energetic process with a remarkable staff and ensemble of artists," said director J.R. Rose. "I am truly looking forward to a fantastic production."

SLATE was established in 2009 as an artistic collaboration between the Center for Performing Arts, local theater educators, and veterans of area community theater companies. SLATE has produced three critically-acclaimed summer productions: "Into the Woods" in 2009, "The Wedding Singer" in 2010, and "Ragtime" in 2011.

Visit [www.slatetheatre.org](http://www.slatetheatre.org) for more information on "Legally Blonde: The Musical," or for an audition packet.

### ***Remembering Dr. Gary Lyon***

---

A memorial service in honor of the late Dr. Gary Lyon was held on Tuesday, March 20. Dr. Lyon was an admired member of the GSU faculty. He joined the chemistry department in 2001. He is remembered for his genuine warmth, compassion, and dedication to GSU and to helping his students achieve in the classroom and their careers. He will be missed.

### ***Home Inspection Course Offered at GSU - April 13 Deadline***

---

GSU is offering a "Become a Certified Home Inspector" certification course this spring. The course, offered by GSU's Office of Continuing Education, takes place May 11, 12, and 13, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., at GSU's main campus in University Park.

The course provides the tools needed to successfully start a home inspection business and is open to those seeking both a part and full-time career opportunities. Studies show that full-time certified home inspectors earn approximately \$50,000 per year.

Governors State has partnered with the American Home Inspection Training Institute (AHIT), the industry leader, to offer a comprehensive home inspection course. Workshop participants will learn from AHIT's instructors, successful entrepreneurs with years of experience in the field. AHIT is recognized by ASHI, NAHI, NACHI, CREIA, TREC, and other professional organizations.

GSU's home inspection course combines online materials with classroom instruction. Students will accompany the instructor to five local homes to conduct actual hands-on inspections. The course includes training on structure, interiors, exteriors, plumbing, electrical, roofs, heating and cooling, and report writing. Students will also receive expert guidance in how to

develop and market a business.

Course materials include tools – an inspection mirror, GFCI tester, and electrical circuit tester. Students receive an exam study guide for state and national tests, and web-based exams with immediate feedback and automatic. Students get a home inspection report, home maintenance manual, industry updates, and lifetime, unlimited mentorship and telephone support.

The course fee also includes:

- Eight study modules on all the different components of a home
- Online course books (PDF format)
- Online supplemental tutorials and quizzes
- One-hour home inspection process video
- 30-minute home maintenance video
- Online photo book (200+ color photos)
- Business and Marketing Manual – marketing plan, office plan, and inspection plan

The course fee is \$1,795, which includes all materials. Registration must be completed by April 13 and is available by calling 877.838.0959. Further information is available at [www.ahit.com/affiliates/govst](http://www.ahit.com/affiliates/govst) or by calling 708.534.4099.

### ***Lecture Series Explores Navigating Our Colliding Worlds beginning April 11***

---

The GSU Honors Program is hosting "Navigating Our Colliding Worlds," a lecture series featuring presentations by Anna Carvalho, Alex Kotlowitz, and Dr. Charles Payne.

#### **Alex Kotlowitz:**

Kotlowitz is best known for his bestselling book, "There Are No Children Here: The Story of Two Boys Growing Up in the Other America," selected by the New York Public Library as one of the 150 most important books of the century. Most recently, he co-produced the film "The Interrupters," a documentary on urban violence. Kotlowitz also contributes to The New York Times Magazine, The New Yorker, and public radio's "This American Life."

#### **Dr. Charles Payne:**

Payne is the Frank P. Hixon Distinguished Service Professor in the School of Social Service Administration at the University of Chicago, where he is also an affiliate of the Urban Education Institute. He recently published "So Much Reform, So Little Change" concerning the persistence of failure in urban districts, and "Teach Freedom: The African American Tradition of Education For Liberation" on Freedom School-like education. Recently Dr. Payne served as the interim Chief Education Officer for the Chicago Public Schools.

#### **Anna Carvalho:**

Carvalho, FACHE, is vice president of strategic planning and business development at Holy Cross Hospital, a Catholic safety net hospital on Chicago's south side. She was also the founding

executive director of the Center for Multicultural Communities, which focuses on racism and regional development in Chicago's southern suburbs. Carvalho attended Radcliffe College and received her master's degree in health policy and management from the Harvard School of Public Health.

**April 11** "Making Sense of the Madness: Reflections from Twenty Years of Reporting on Urban Violence" Alex Kotlowitz 5 to 7 p.m Hall of Honors.

**April 18** "Urban School Reform: the State of the Debate" Dr. Charles Payne 5 to 7 p.m. Hall of Honors.

**April 25** "Riding the Cultural Revolution: Lessons From Chicago's Southland" Anna Carvalho 5 to 7 p.m. Hall of Honors.

The Honors Program lectures are free and open to the public. Governors State University is located at 1 University Parkway, University Park, Illinois.

### ***Children's Summer Adventure Camp at GSU***

---

Children no longer have to face the summer weeks with little to do and nothing to excite their interest. The Adventure Club will take them on a journey of excitement, discovery, and exploration.

The Adventure Club is summer camp with a difference. It was developed by GSU's Family Development Center to take the boredom out of summer. Children ages 6 to 12 will enjoy nine weeks of fun and learning. Recreation activities include swimming, basketball, table tennis, foosball, air hockey, and lots of outdoor play. Fine arts activities involve art enrichment, creativity, field trips, and drama. The academics include economic education through business games and computer instruction and activities.

Adventure Club takes place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., with before and after club childcare services available. The cost is only \$175 per week. Adventure Club is supported in part by a grant from the Illinois Department of Human Services. Eligible grant participants receive discounts based on income. Pell grant, TANF, SSI, and low income families receive camp free of charge. Childcare fees apply.

For more information, visit [www.govst.edu/children](http://www.govst.edu/children) or call 708.235.7300.