

# GMC

# The Voice Quarter 2

# 2023

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# JOIN US IN HONORING OUR ALUMNI AWARD RECIPIENTS!



**Mr. Mike Couch**  
HS '71, JC '73  
DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS



**Dr. Marcus Johnson** JC '93  
ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT



**Mr. Martin Moses** JC '68  
ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT



**Dr. Leanna Harbor** HS '12  
EMERGING YOUNG  
ALUMNI LEADER



**COL (Ret) Bernard  
Warrington** JC '90  
MILITARY SERVICE



**Mrs. Teri White**  
GMC SERVICE



**Mr. Charles "CT" Trumbo**  
JC '07  
COMMUNITY SERVICE



**Mr. Mark Strom**  
HONORARY ALUMNUS

We are thrilled to be honoring our 2023 Alumni Award Recipients this weekend during GMC Alumni Weekend! These eight extraordinary people are representative of the fine character and countless acts of excellence displayed by the alumni and friends of Georgia Military College. GMC is fortunate to have been a part of the lives of each of these outstanding individuals. The contributions of the 2023 Alumni Award recipients have without a doubt made the world a better place.

We will be honoring these individuals at the Legacy Leadership Dinner on Saturday at 6:00 p.m. in the Kidd Center. We hope to see you there! Please click the graphic above to learn more about our 2023 Alumni Award Recipients.



# Halloween at GMC



Mr. Garrison as  
Gruncle and Ms.  
Whitley passing  
out popcorn







- Out of 26 participants, Mary had the closest guess with 1155 and there were 1096 in it!

# Interview with Mrs. Lamare, Campus Director

**What is your favorite thing about GMC**

- The diversity of the students.

**In your experience what is the benefit of smaller colleges**

- The personal connections between students and their professors and coaches which allow for more individual attention and guidance.

**What is one thing that you wish GMC had**

- A small gym.

**What is something you wish everyone knew about GMC**

- Our focus is to help students succeed regardless of their background or their level of preparedness. We offer resources and personal guidance to help students overcome obstacles and achieve their goals.

**What is your role at GMC**

- As campus director, I oversee the daily operations of the campus, such as enrollment, advising, and security.

# Interview with Professor Smith

## **What is the function of the honor council?**

- The Student Honor Society is a group of students who are elected to meet and decide the consequences for the student. Some of the sanctions may be taking a plagiarism test or rewriting the essay. It does not mean you cannot come back, and it is not meant punishments it is meant for rehabilitation, and it is for when the honor code is violated.

## **What are the requirements to join the Honor Council?**

- We would like students to have first passed English 102 and they must have at least a 3.25 GPA and two letters of recommendation from professors, and it can be formal or just an email.

## **For students who don't know, what is PTK?**

- Phi Theta Kappa(PTK) is the Honor Society for and it is an invite only club and requires a 3.5 GPA and one-time \$65. enrollment fee. Once you are a member you get exclusive access to scholarships, and they are handled through PTK and you can get scholarships and you get to participate in the induction process. It looks excellent on a transcript. They meet once a month, and you can join many activities and a yearly conference. It's a social club to improve student life on campus.



## How can a student qualify for PTK?

- 12 quarter hours and a 3.5 GPA.

## How can being a PTK member help a student go forward with their education?

- You need to maintain a 3.5 GPA and you can excel in college. You get a chord for graduation, and it shows you are a well-rounded student. As part of PTK you may arrange for students to work volunteer hours.

## When a student is referred for plagiarism what are the consequences?

- Plagiarism is the most common and it is stealing other works or in some cases using AI, and it could also be forgetting a source. Consequences are taking a plagiarism test and meeting with a success coach. It is a serious mistake, and the honor council is just trying to help students succeed. AI is not cheating, it is plagiarism. AI is a new issue and is a new reason for students to be referred to the honor council.



# Interview with DR. McKeithen

## **What is your role here at GMC**

I am the Senior Department Chair which means I handle all of the daily academic affairs. Anything dealing with academics, schedules are met, faculty needs are met, reviewing petitions such as readmissions and admissions.

## **How long have you taught at GMC**

I have taught at GMC since 2019

## **What is your favorite thing about GMC**

The students because of the large array of the students that we teach from high schoolers to retirees.

## **What made you want to be a professor?**

I have always helped with tutoring, and I came from a teaching family so I knew I would wind up in this position

## **What do you think the most important traits are to be successful at GMC**

Time management, great communication skills, reading, and patience.



# Dean's List Quarter 1, 2023

- Kylee Adams
- Destiny Ansley
- Christan Bailey
- Regan Baker
- Allison Bobo
- Trinity Bullock
- Samuel Capps
- Danielle Carrion
- Madison Cartwright
- Jessica Casura
- Ethan Chang
- Jocelyn Childress
- Farrah Conner
- Renee Cruz
- Kadence Curry
- Mariah Curtis
- Taylor Davis
- Emily Dixon
- Zachary Duffie
- Joshua Edge
- Richard Edwards
- Andrew Gantt
- Herenne Gauta
- Diamonique Hatcher
- Hunter Hawkins
- Ethan Hershaw
- Christian Hern
- Bianca Hill
- Gina Hoke
- Sherika Horn
- Michael Hornsby
- Juliana Iverson
- Aaliyah Jackson
- Kerri Ann Jackson
- Jackson Jenkins
- Brittany Joiner
- Kaylee Karvonen
- Justice Kersetter
- Liberty Kersetter
- Brayden Kirk
- Donna Lambert
- Madison Landrum
- Eric Lewton

# President's List Quarter 1, 2023

- Sarah Bauer
- Abigal Beasley
- Rebekah Bender
- Dustin Benoit
- Dylan Biggers
- Savannah Black
- Blaike Burgess
- Dionisio Carter
- Ashley Day
- Tara Dunn
- Alexis Eade
- Logan Edenfield
- Marie Ezoua
- Takeyah Flanagan
- Alexis Fox
- Bailey Hammet
- Hannah Hasangwangmu
- Greyson Hatfield
- Marrah Haugh
- Lisa Hester
- Gabriel Hohneke
- Jessica Howard
- Jennifer Huntley
- Bryant Howard
- Erin Jones
- Yumeka Kataoka
- Amber Koch
- Avery Magill
- Julian Marte
- Aja McNair
- Sawyer Mobley
- Ashton Leigh Morgan
- William Norman
- Brooke Page
- Siara Powell
- Vonalston Ray
- Derek Richins
- Anne Robinson
- Esmeralda Rodriquez
- Hunter Smith
- Maria Elena Soberanis
- Elizabeth Sterling
- Isis Swartz
- Hannah Taylor
- Jamari Timmons
- Sophia Townley
- Douangsavanh Turner
- Kaylee Umstead
- Alycia Victoria
- Olivia Walker
- Nakia West
- Samantha Wethal
- Lauren Wheeler
- Amanda Wheeless
- Chloe Widener
- Kimberly Williams
- Aja Winberly
- Donna Wynter
- Samantha Young



# World Wars: The Most Destructive Conflicts

When we think about history, it is impossible not to think about the influence of the two great wars. The world wars had the most impact on the world than any other wars. They involved countries from all over the world, and both great wars changed how war is viewed in the modern era. As we look at society today, we still find remnants of the effects of the wars and how they changed how “war” is defined. The great wars both had military development, extremely long and large battles and involved countries from around the globe. One may say that the World Wars had some of the most significant impacts on human history and have been the most destructive wars in history.

World War I and World War II changed how war was fought, and many of their equipment and tactics are still used. World War I and World War II used bombers and other aircraft types. World War I was when we first saw the use of military aircraft and their capabilities, and in the Second World War, they built on planes extensively, creating state-of-the-art planes and developed the bomber to be one of the most destructive weapons in the war. Famously, in World War I, the first-ever tanks were developed and used in combat and were also significantly advanced in World War II, with some of the most famous tanks today that were used in World War II. Both wars had one of the scariest inventions of all time; the World War I had the first use of gas in combat with the invention of chlorine gas, and World War II had the atom bomb. Chlorine gas was seen as a fierce weapon, banned in warfare today. The nuclear bomb is the most infamous weapon in human history and is developing in a more destructive way. Both are still prevalent today and seen as a last-resort weapon. Both World Wars had some of the best inventions in history but also the worst, and are both known for developing very destructive weapons for their time.

# World Wars: The Most Destructive Conflicts

## Con't.

Up to the time of the World Wars, battles had never really been seen to be as long, as bloody, and as widespread as they were in the world wars. Some of the most significant battles in human history were the Battle of the Somme and the Battle of Stalingrad, both extraordinarily long and brutal. During the Battle of the Somme, around 300,000 men died in the battle of the Somme, with some historians even documenting that up to 30,000 men were killed in one day of fighting. The battle of Stalingrad was also extremely bloody, with over one million men dying, It lasted five months, with some accounts even indicating that the average life expectancy was only twenty-four hours for a soviet soldier. Both wars used extensive bombing, with around two hundred pounds of bombs dropped for every square foot in World War I, and approximately three million tons of bombs dropped in World War II. The extremely long battles of the world wars left psychological effects on the soldiers, with many of them coming home with PTSD and struggling to fit back into society. No one can deny the extensive battles in the world wars and their lasting effects on how much more frightening modern-day warfare could look like.

In history, we have seen alliances, whether the Romans' or the Greeks' or the Persians alliances, play a big part in war; however, we have never seen alliances like the ones in the World Wars with countries allying from all over the world, Two main alliances were destructively formed during the World War I and World War II. The World War I alliances were the Triple Alliance and the Triple Entente Alliance, supporting each other economically and financially. The famous Axis powers and the Allies formed in World War I, and we may never see another alliance like this again. Both alliances shared tremendous amounts of military equipment such as ammunition and vehicles, and battles were fought together as an alliance, not just by one country. Both great wars involved countries from all parts of the world, such as Australia, the United States, the United Kingdom, and many more countries. Overall, no one can reject the importance of the alliances in the First and Second World Wars, and neither of the wars would have been as deadly without the communication and support from each other.

The World Wars were the most widespread, destructive, and deadliest wars in human history. No other wars in history have had the development, large-scale military conflicts, and vital alliances that made these wars the pinocle of all-out war and still have a long-lasting effect on today's world. Great poets, writers and movie directors have effectively depicted the misery of these two wars. Responsible and ethical people in all countries clearly understand the scope of a possible tragic major war. That is why citizens in most countries depend on their leaders to keep the line of communication open even with the worst opponent. (For further details see “WW1 and WW2 Similarities and Differences.” *Edubirdie*.)



# The Influence of Shakespeare: How His Words Transformed the English Language

Shakespeare, the renowned playwright and poet of the Elizabethan era, has left an indelible mark on the English language. His words and phrases have become part of our everyday vocabulary, enriching our conversations and giving depth to our expressions. In this blog post, we will explore the influence of Shakespeare and how his words have transformed the English language.

## **Shakespeare's Language and Vocabulary**

Shakespeare's plays are known for their poetic language and rich vocabulary. He had a remarkable ability to create new words and phrases, many of which are still in use today. It is estimated that Shakespeare introduced over 1,700 new words to the English language. Some of these include "eyeball," "gossip," "swagger," and "bedroom," which were not previously recorded in written English. His creativity and linguistic prowess allowed him to shape the language in ways that were unprecedented.

## **Idiomatic Expressions and Proverbs**

Shakespeare's works are filled with idiomatic expressions and proverbs that have become ingrained in our everyday language. Phrases like "all's well that ends well," "to be or not to be," and "the world is your oyster" are just a few examples of his enduring contributions. These expressions have become part of our cultural lexicon, used to convey complex emotions, ideas, and moral lessons. Shakespeare's ability to encapsulate profound thoughts in memorable phrases has made his work timeless.

## **Influence on Grammar and Syntax**

Shakespeare's plays also had a profound impact on the grammatical structure and syntax of the English language. He often used inverted word order, placing verbs before subjects or using adjectives in unusual positions. This unconventional style allowed him to create poetic and dramatic effects, and it influenced the way English grammar evolved. Shakespeare's plays challenged the rigid norms of grammar, paving the way for more expressive and flexible language usage.



## **Words and Phrases Still in Use**

Many of the words and phrases coined by Shakespeare are still widely used today. His works have given us a treasure trove of expressions that have become part of our daily conversations. For instance, when we refer to someone as being "in a pickle," we are unknowingly quoting Shakespeare's "The Tempest." Likewise, when we say "wild-geese chase" or "break the ice," we are channeling his plays. These phrases not only add color and vibrancy to our language but also serve as a testament to Shakespeare's enduring influence.

## **Influence on Modern Literature and Drama**

Shakespeare's impact extends far beyond the realm of language. His innovative storytelling techniques, complex characters, and exploration of universal themes have influenced countless writers and playwrights throughout history. Many modern works of literature and drama draw inspiration from Shakespeare's works, replicating his intricate plots, memorable characters, and timeless themes. His influence can be seen in the works of renowned writers such as James Joyce, Virginia Woolf, and Harold Pinter, to name just a few.

## **Shakespearean Sonnets and Poetry**

Shakespeare's legacy also includes his sonnets and poetry, which have had a profound impact on the English poetic tradition. His sonnets, in particular, are revered for their lyrical beauty and emotional depth. They have set a standard for love poetry, exploring themes of love, beauty, time, and mortality. The structure and rhyme scheme of Shakespearean sonnets have been emulated by poets across the centuries, keeping his poetic tradition alive and thriving.

## **The Influence on Theater and Performing Arts**

Shakespeare's plays continue to be performed and celebrated worldwide, making him one of the most influential figures in the history of theater and performing arts. His plays have been translated into numerous languages and have been adapted into various mediums, including film, opera, and ballet. The universal appeal of his stories and characters transcends time and cultural boundaries, captivating audiences across generations. The enduring popularity of Shakespearean theater is a testament to his profound influence on the performing arts.

Shakespeare's words have transformed the English language, leaving an indelible mark on our vocabulary, grammar, and expressions. His linguistic creativity, idiomatic expressions, and poetic prowess have enriched our conversations and given depth to our language. Beyond language, his influence extends to literature, drama, poetry, and performing arts, shaping the artistic landscape for centuries to come. As we continue to find inspiration in his works, we pay tribute to Shakespeare's enduring legacy and his unparalleled contribution to the English language.

# Sohrab Sepehri: “The Fowler of Moments”

Sohrab Sepehri (Oct 7, 1928-April 21, 1980) was a modernist poet and painter once called by a leading critic as “the fowler of moments.” The depth of philosophical messages and the permanent presence of various components of nature in his poetry through a structured but simple language, in many ways reflects selected verses by Robert Frost and Federico Garcia Lorca. His soothing poetry, among other singular features, is filled with natural elements and philosophical implications.

Sepehri was a humble artist well aware of his combination of creative traits.

Although he was raised in a small country town like Kashan (where some of the best Persian rugs are weaved and exported), he regarded religion and the practice of it a very private manner. He especially disliked superstitious beliefs and practices.

Unlike the majority of his contemporary writers/playwrights/poets, Sepehri concentrated on essential societal and cultural issues and never sacrificed the innovative quality and purity of his poetry for a political cause.

Sepehri’s leukemia over the years intensified and he passed away. Today, the wealth of his creative works continue to remain considerably popular among the educated and unbiased individuals who can now clearly appreciate the vision and wisdom reflected in his poetry and beliefs.

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\*To convey certain cultural concepts, minor liberties deemed necessary in translation.



# TO THE GARDEN OF THE SOJURN'S COMPANION

Call me  
your voice is good.  
Your voice is the chlorophyll  
of that outlandish plant that flourishes  
at the end of the truthfulness of  
melancholy.

I'm lonelier than the taste of a song  
in the context of the comprehension of  
an alley.

Come, allow me to tell you  
how vast is the scope of my loneliness  
Which did not foresee the night raid of  
your dimension  
and that is the virtue of love.

No one is here  
let us steal life and divide it between us  
—between the duration of two  
gatherings.

Around the dimensions of this silent  
century  
I feel lonelier than the taste of a song  
in the context of an alley's\*  
comprehension.

come along, let me tell you  
how vast is [the scope of] my loneliness.  
Open my soul,  
like a door to the downfall of a pearl,  
in this age of steel's domination.  
Put me to sleep under a branch  
away from the collision of metals.  
And I would wake up at the dawn of a jasmine  
behind your fingers!  
And then  
narrate the tale of the bombs  
that fell while I was asleep;  
narrate the tale of the cheeks  
that were moistened while I was asleep.  
Tell me how many ducks flew over the sea?  
To what sense of comfort  
did the canary tie  
the yellow thread of its song?  
From the unknown taste of bread  
what kind of comprehension  
was leaked into the taste of prophecy?

And then  
like fate,  
warmed from the radiation of the equator,  
I will implant you at the prologue of a garden.

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—

\*In many older countries, an alley signifies the dignity, identity, and the pure sense of belonging of an individual to his/her domicile. An alley also represents the compassionate ties to one's ancestry.

## THE COMMENCING ANNOUNCEMENT

Where are my shoes?

Who was uttering, "Sohrab"?

It was as an acquainted voice  
as air to the body of a leaf.

My mother is asleep  
and so are [my siblings] Manuchehr and  
Parvaneh  
and perhaps the entire town's population.

The Khordad's\* night passes over the  
moments

like a soundless elegy;  
and a cool breeze sweeps my sleep  
from the edge of my green blanket.

There's an aroma of migration:

My pillow is filled with feathers of  
swallows.

Dawn will return

and the sky will emigrate to this bowl of  
water\*\*

*I must depart tonight . . . .*

I who spoke to the local people  
from the most candid window  
did not hear a word about the essence of  
time.

Not even one eye gazed amorously at earth.

No one was amused

looking at a flower-bed;

no one took a raven seriously at the  
plantation.

I have a heavy heart

when I see from my window that Hoori,

the neighbor's mature teenage girl,

is studying religious principles

under the rarest elm tree in the world.

There are other things, too

—moments full of apex:

(For instance,

I saw a poetess

so deeply obliterated

by the atmosphere

that the sky disseminated in her eyes.

And one random night a man asked me

how many hours till the dawn of grapes?)

*I must depart tonight . . . .*

Tonight, I must take the suitcase  
that has enough space  
—like the width of my shirt of  
loneliness—  
and aim at a destination  
where mythological trees are visible:  
That wordless amplitude  
which constantly summons me.

Someone called again,

“Sohrab, where are my shoes?

\*In Persian calendar, the first day  
of spring (usually March 21) marks  
the beginning of the new  
year. Khordad, the third month in that  
calendar, falls in May21-June21.  
\*\*Traditionally, in some countries  
some citizens sleep on the roof  
or balcony whenever the  
weather permits. For convenience, they  
keep a bowl, glass, or pitcher of water  
by their bedside in case they need to  
drink water during the night.



Amaya (student ambassador) and Gina (federal work-study) invite students, faculty, and staff to be thankful for what they have and help us give to those who are less fortunate by promoting the Toys for Tots program.

Let's spread some good cheer and help make the holidays a little brighter!



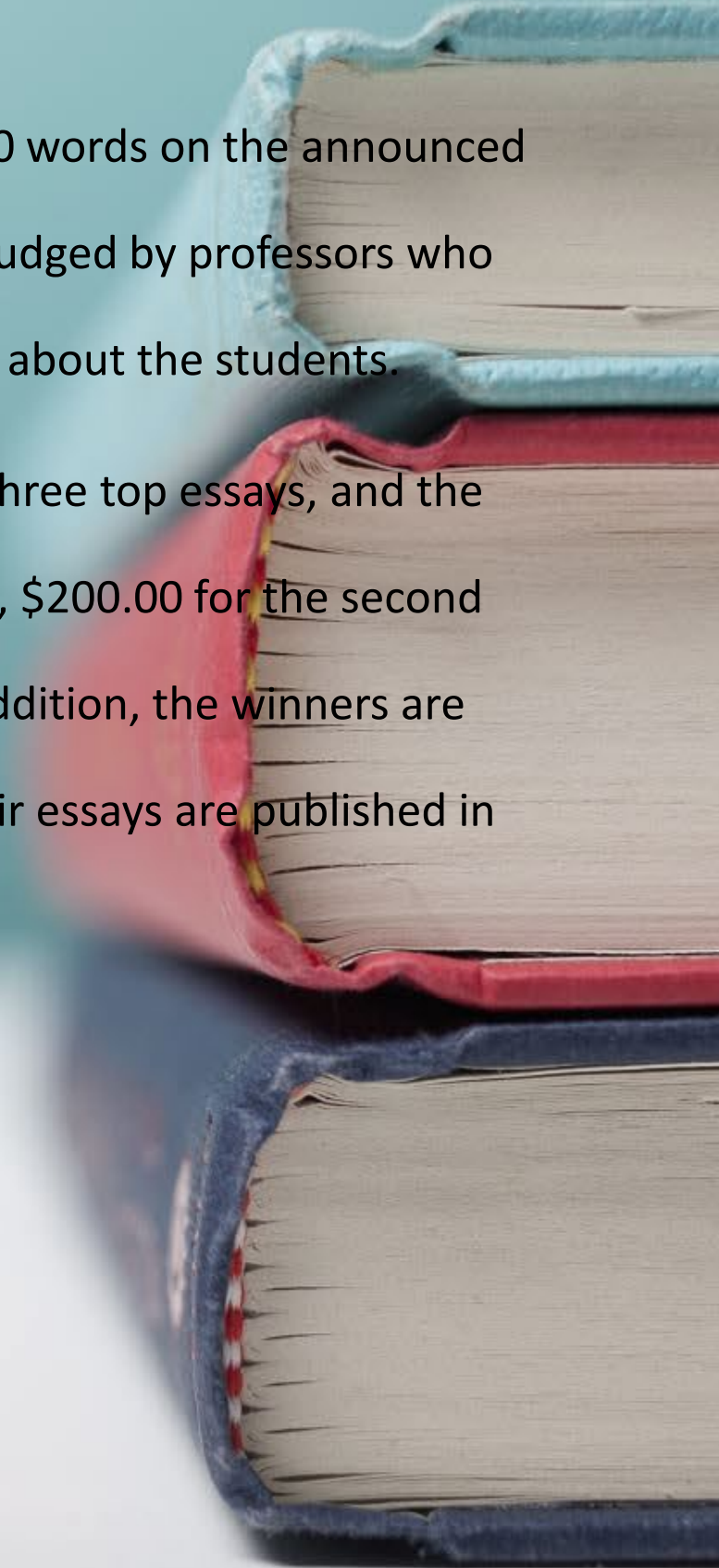
Galaxy S22 Ultra



- GMC-AUGUSTA ESSAY CONTEST
- Each academic year, the GMC-Augusta sponsors Sheila Kay Essay Contest during Q II and Q IV. The contest is open to students currently enrolled and attending GMC-Augusta.
- The participants write an essay of about 700 words on the announced prompt(s) for that quarter. The essays are judged by professors who only receive the essays with no information about the students.
- For each essay contest, the judge(s) select three top essays, and the winners are awarded \$300.00 for first place, \$200.00 for the second place, and \$100.00 for the third place. In addition, the winners are recognized at the institutional level and their essays are published in *The Voice*.

#### **The winners of Quarter II, 2023:**

- First Place, Hailey Chaffin
  - Second Place, Gina Hoke
  - Third Place, Phylicia Blount
- Their recognized essays follow:



# American Patriotism: An Ever-Changing Landscape

First Place, Hailey Chaffin

For over half a century, America has made a name for itself as a world superpower, its citizens loud and boisterous in their pride. This sense of patriotism has been a sweeping epidemic in The United States since World War Two, but lately, scholars feel as though a vaccine has made its way through the American population. While true that Americans have become a lot less vocal in our support for our country, it can be argued that the country's excessive fanaticism has finally given way to real patriotism.

Patriotism, by definition, is a “feeling of attachment and commitment to a country, nation, or political community” (Baumeister). Many interpret this to mean showing vocal support while creating an attachment to their distorted and flawed perception of their country, ignoring the less-than-desirable actions and behaviors of the real thing. Unfortunately, that perception is indicative of chauvinism or “the strong and unreasonable belief that your own country or race is the best or most important” (Cambridge Dictionary), not actual patriotism.

As stated before, to be patriotic you must have a “feeling of commitment,” and with commitment comes accountability. When a person decides to marry their partner, it is expected that each party keeps the other accountable for their actions – good or bad. The same can be said for citizens of any nation. To fully support a country, citizens must push it to be better, which includes calling out wrongdoings. That’s exactly what Americans are doing, specifically young Americans.



Contrary to popular belief, younger generations are the leaders of modern patriotism. While vocal in their criticism, younger people are also vocal in their push for better and brighter things. For example, newer generations, such as Gen Z, have strongly supported the movement for increased equality in all areas of life, including race, sexuality, and gender. Younger people are also more likely to hold politicians and major corporations accountable for their part in the poor living conditions many face. One Harvard poll found that “There is broad consensus among young Americans that they want better government action on access to health care and mental health services and reducing systemic racism” (Lee). The more vocal Gen Z becomes, the more progress they will achieve, improving life for all Americans.

Activism in youth has only increased through the years. One thing that encourages young Americans is gun violence. Since 2020, firearms have been the leading cause of death for children aged one to seventeen. Unfortunately, the issue of gun violence against children is uniquely American, having over 9 times the child firearm mortality rate as its neighbor Canada (Panchal). In turn, students in the United States have taken to activism out of protest. As David Hogg, a Parkland mass shooting survivor, put it, “I’m not powered by hope. I’m powered by the fact I have no other choice” (Carnegie; ‘I’m Powered by The Fact I Have No Other Choice’). This forced activism is the driving force behind American gun reform; young people across the nation committed to making the country better for the generations to come.

Another part of patriotism is attachment, something American citizens show every day. While generations may be at each other's throats on occasion, every age group is fighting for the same thing: a better future. Studies are even beginning to show a trickle-up of activism through generations. Researchers found, “Globally, 52% of people of all generations believe teenagers and college-aged people influence how we create change. It’s impacting older generations too: 35% of 56+-year-olds agree this cohort influences how they support the causes they care about, jumping to 50% among 42-to-55-year-olds” (Carnegie; Activism as Identity). The United States is home to millions of people, something that will not change anytime soon. As this country continues to grow and change, the more the generations come together to leave it better than how they found it.

Since the United States’ inception, its citizens have been some of the most patriotic in the world, something that remains true to this day. While chauvinism continues to be pushed to the side, Americans focus on making headway in bettering their nation. Younger generations continue to lead succeeding efforts to ensure equal opportunity for all. Slowly but surely, American citizens are creating a nation to be jealous of. Nothing could be more patriotic than that.



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# Productive and Non-Productive Aspects of Social Media

Second Place, Gina Hoke

Social media is so deeply embedded in our contemporary life. It is such a part of life that it is nearly impossible for most citizens to maintain their daily lives without engaging in some form of social media entity. This can both be a source of productivity and non-productivity due to several factors. Positive factors include access to vast stores of information, the ability to connect to people all over the world, and the ability to keep social connections. The issues that arise that factor as a loss of productivity is the large amount of misinformation, the problems that arise from following groups that feed into themselves, and productivity hindering anxiety that stems from social media usage.

The Pew Research Center, as quoted by the Center for Disease Control, documented the social media use of adults between the age of 18 and 35. The average for female/male adults using YouTube was 87%-97%, the average for Facebook was 78%-90%, and the average for Instagram was 65%-95%. These averages point to the usage of these social media platforms to be far more common than uncommon (Warring et. al.).

The positives that social media can provide include the fact that it allows people to have instant access to a vast store of knowledge. As long as those opinions come from experts in the field, utilizing this knowledge can lead to an immense increase in productivity. It gives the general populace the ability to cross reference far more people, get alternate opinions on topics that would not normally be accessible within the local population, and have access to data and information that can be used to increase knowledge on a vast variety of subjects. For example, YouTube videos can provide tutorials and classes on many subjects that one would have to attend in person or pay for themselves without this free resource. Social media also allows for people to connect to others from around the world, allowing for a different worldly perspective on topics. For example, someone in Dubai will have varying opinions compared to someone living in England. Social media allows for these interactions to happen which can open the mind of users that allow that to happen. It also allows for those who are unable to contact others an alternative to being stuck without outside communication. Communication is an essential part of mental health and as seen with the recent Covid-19 pandemic, lack of human interaction can cause depression, and this was common for people who were used to having daily face to face interactions. As long as it is used properly, social media can allow for those connections to happen virtually when there is a lack in the physical world.

The beauty of patriotism often fades when its true essence is overlooked. In the United States, the privilege of expressing dissenting opinions underscores the strength of democracy. The ability to voice disagreements, engage in peaceful protests, and cast votes at various levels of government is not a sign of weakness but a testament to the nation's commitment to civic engagement. Acknowledging that America continues to operate and evolve despite its imperfections is an integral part of understanding and embracing patriotism. It's crucial to recognize that, like any modernized family, America has its shortcomings. Yet, these imperfections do not diminish the essence of patriotism. Rather, they highlight the dynamic nature of a nation striving to improve. Drawing parallels between the nation and a family, one can appreciate the resilience required to navigate challenges.

True patriotism emerges not only during moments of celebration but also in the collective ability to set aside differences and unite for the common good. When faced with adversity, Americans have consistently demonstrated their capacity to transcend divisions and stand together. True patriotism is not confined to blind allegiance but emerges when citizens, despite diverse perspectives, unite in times of need. The strength lies not only in celebrating successes but also in overcoming challenges as a united front. In these moments, the United States reveals to the world the profound beauty of true patriotism, a force capable of transcending individual differences for the greater good.

Some of the more negative impacts of social media are the vast amounts of yes man groups, which allow for narrow minded thinking and hinders the ability for growth. Social media algorithms are based on what is actively being searched by each user, what that user rewatches, what they like, comment, and follow, and overall, what topic seems to interest them the most. This blocks out other ideas and opposing viewpoints, causing a cycle of similar information and groups, hindering the progress that some users could have taken to become more well-rounded individuals. Social media is also a problem because of misinformation. There are no proper sets of checks and balances on the different social media, which in turn allows misinformation to spread like wildfire. Anyone can say anything on the web and because many tend to read something and run with it, this causes that information to be shared and so on and so forth until it becomes incorrect common knowledge. Another productivity limiting factor is the relationship between social media usage and anxiety. Anxiety is a hindering force and social media has shown signs of causing social anxiety and anxiousness in general. According to the study conducted by Research Horizons, there is a direct link between the amount of media consumption and anxiety (Vasani et. al. 165). Some of these anxieties stem from unrealistic expectations such as seeing others seemingly perfect lives on Instagram, seeing doomsday preachers on Facebook, or feeling like there is no one to connect to to name a few.





Overall, social media is a grey area topic that needs further research and conversation. The key to whether it hinders people or not is how social media is utilized. If it is utilized properly, it can be a great source of information, connection, and social security. If used improperly, it can have the opposite effect, being a source of anxiety, a way to get trapped in a never-ending loop of similar opinions, and a place for misinformation to spread. The best course of action for one to take when deciding whether or not social media is good or bad is to remember that this area of conversation is nuanced and, in some cases, there is no right or wrong.



# Is Patriotism Dying: Exploring the Modern-Day Patriotism

Third Place, Phylcia Blount

In an era marked by riots, protests thrust into national headlines, and a pervasive atmosphere of political antagonism, the very essence of patriotism finds itself at a crossroads. As disagreements regarding mandates echo through the corridors of public discourse, one cannot help but ponder: What has become of the American people standing together in unity? Has the fervent act of patriotism, once a unifying force, now begun to fade, overshadowed by the discord that permeates our society? In exploring the landscape of contemporary challenges, it is imperative to delve into the heart of the matter and discern whether the flame of patriotism still burns brightly or if, amidst the tumultuous waves of dissent, it faces the risk of dwindling into obscurity.

Patriotism, as defined by Oxford, embodies a profound devotion to one's country (Oxford). Beyond a mere sentiment, it is a compelling act of unity, where individuals rally together, transcending their differences, to exhibit loyalty and respect for their shared homeland (Oxford). This concept has been ingrained in the fabric of societies, acting as a binding force that unites citizens under a common banner. In the context of American culture, the evolution of patriotism mirrors the dynamic shifts in social consciousness. It is not a static expression but a fluid manifestation adapting to the changing currents of society. As the nation has progressed, so has the expression of patriotism, from traditional displays to more nuanced forms that reflect the diversity and inclusivity of a modern, multifaceted society. In essence, patriotism remains a living principle, adapting to the evolving identity of a nation and serving as a testament to the enduring connection between citizens and their shared heritage.

In contemporary times, the true essence of patriotism should not be restricted or minimized to the mere robotics of standing to the flag during the pledge of allegiance, or seeing the annual unity of the nation during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration, shooting off fireworks in the distance. Patriotism today is shown in its most potent expression of observing Americans exercise the very liberties that birthed the United States. The cornerstone of this nation's existence lies in the profound commitment to freedom of expression and the unabridged practice of individual rights. True patriotism, therefore, unfolds not merely in grand displays of nationalism, but in the everyday acts of citizens boldly engaging in the democratic tapestry. The essence of patriotism today lies in the unwavering dedication to the principles enshrined in the Constitution; a commitment to fostering an environment where diverse voices resonate freely, and citizens are empowered to participate actively in shaping the collective narrative. In this light, the practice of one's rights becomes the bedrock of patriotism, a testament to the enduring spirit that propels the nation forward.

#### Works Cited

Oxford. "Patriotism." Oxford Learners Dictionaries, 1 Jan. 2023,

[www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/patriotism?q=patriotism](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/patriotism?q=patriotism). Accessed 14

Nov. 2023



# Things to do in Augusta, GA, During Break

- Evans on Ice- Evans Town Center Park
- The Miller Theater
  - November 28, 2023- The Augusta Players ArtReach
  - November 28, 2023- The Snow Queen
  - December 2, 2023- Remembering Luther Vandross: Every Year, Every Christmas
  - December 7, 2023- Augusta Symphony | Sounds of the Season
  - December 8, 2023- Ann Wilson of Heart & Tripsitter
  - December 9, 2023- The Music of Trans-Siberian Orchestra
  - December 15, 2023- Christmas with C.S.Lewis
  - December 17, 2023-MOVIES at the Miller: The Muppet Christmas Carol
  - December 18, Cirque Musica Holiday Wonderland



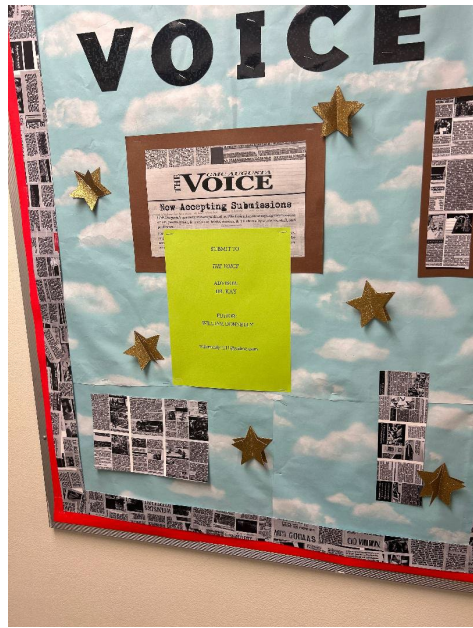
# GMC's Mission Statement

- Georgia Military College builds on our **military heritage** grounded in our core values of **Duty, Honor, and love of Country** to provide hope and opportunity through individual growth and education of our students to develop their intellect and character as **authentic servant leaders** in an environment focused on elevating **civility and respect for others**.
- "Start Here....Go Anywhere!"**

# Title IX

The academic and administration policy of the College subscribes to the nondiscrimination provision of Title IX of the education amendments of 1972, which states; "No Person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity."

The Dean of Students at each campus is a Deputy Title IX Coordinator.



Dr. Kay, Faculty Advisor



William Donnelly, Editor



Submit to *The Voice*  
wdonnelly1211@yahoo.com