

expressions

A Newsletter of the ARTS, HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES at the University of Denver

COMMENCEMENT

June 2015

Congratulations to the Class of 2015



This year, 491 undergraduate and 156 graduate students will receive their DU diplomas from the divisions of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. Psychology was the most popular major with 124 undergraduates receiving a degree from that department.

Join fellow AHSS alumni, faculty and students for a celebratory breakfast on Saturday, June 6, at 7:30 a.m. to honor our newest AHSS alumni. [RSVP](#) to this free breakfast. [Read more](#) about commencement.

“Commencement is a joyous time on campus when we recognize the accomplishments of students who have completed degrees. It brings my fellow faculty and me great pride to see these talented students graduate and enter the next phase of their lives,” said Dean Danny McIntosh, who is a professor in the department of psychology. “It is a privilege to have taught you during your intellectual journey at DU. I wish you the best in your future endeavors.”

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CAMPUS MAPS

We want to hear from you!
[Contact Us](#) with your good news

AWARDS

2015 Alumni Achievement Awards



In May, the divisions of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences recognized the 2015 recipients of the annual AHSS Alumni Achievement Awards. AHSS has 26,000 alumni globally and, in light of their many successes, the AHSS Advisory Board established an AHSS alumni achievement awards program in 2012. Nominations were collected and a committee comprised of the Advisory Board and Dean Daniel McIntosh

reviewed the competitive pool of applicants.

Lifetime Achievement Award: Karambu Ringera (PhD '07, human communications—*pictured with Dean McIntosh*)

Community Engagement Award: David Rosenberg (BA '78, psychology, mass communication)

Alumni Service to AHSS Award: Amelia Ribnick Kleiman (BA '79, political science, economics)

Recent Alumni Achievement Award: Christopher Luther (BM '06, music performance)

[Read more about each recipient.](#)

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

New Graduate Overcame Tone Deafness to Win Lamont Solo Honors Competition

Chris Kim began playing piano at a very young age, but quit after only a year or two. After trying several majors in college, his friend's mother—a famous pianist from Korea—encouraged him to study piano again with her. At 23 years of age, Kim was 20 years behind most concert pianists his age, but that did not deter him.

“I came late to the piano, so I started practicing 12 hours a day. It hurt my hands at the time, but I was fine in the long-run,” said Kim, who will graduate in June from the Lamont School of Music with an artist diploma in piano performance.

Prior to joining Lamont, Kim had earned a master's degree at the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University. This was no small achievement considering Kim has dysmelodia, or tone deafness, and is unable to distinguish between musical notes. He is able to read and perform music at the piano, but memorizing is almost impossible. Memorization of performance repertoire, however, is a critical step for concert pianists. [Read more...](#)



FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Professor Examines Evolving Media Landscape at Home and Abroad

Since 2007, Adrienne Russell has been an engaged and innovative associate professor of media, film and journalism studies and emergent digital practices. In the classroom, she encourages students to develop a critical perspective of global media. As an author and international researcher, she engages in studying the evolving field of journalism.

At DU, Russell's research and courses focus on critical approaches to digital media, networked, emerging forms of journalism and international activist communication. One of her more popular courses, *Activist Media*, follows world news events as they unfold.

“As people all over the world challenge corrupt governments and economic policies and call attention to dire issues like human rights and climate justice, they are also creating an amazing and ever-evolving flow of new forms of media—off the grid internet connections, live streams from the center of protest activity, apps to track police whereabouts and tools to keep data safe from prying eyes. This class is a great chance for us to explore how everyday people are exerting media power,” she said. [Read More...](#)



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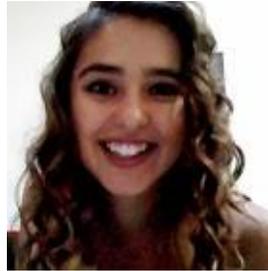
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STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Leadership and Community Involvement Formulate Student's Worldview

Kristen Powell knows firsthand the lasting impact that leadership and community involvement can have on one's worldview. It was through her various leadership activities and participation in the DU community that the junior sociology major discovered her passion for social justice.



"Leadership is important because it demands individuals to look beyond themselves," said Powell. "It inspires, engages and promotes collaboration. I believe this helps to make groups and societies greater than their individual contributors could be on their own."

At DU, Powell is involved with many organizations that allow her to promote social justice. She is the current president of the AHSS Student Advisory Council (SAC), a member of the Black Student Alliance and a former participant in the Social Justice Living and Learning Community.

"Participating in student alliances and student organizations that serve the DU community has helped me think of the bigger picture and ask questions that recognize the intersectionality of student identities and the diversity of concepts that must be kept in mind as we address social issues on and around our University," Powell said. [Read More...](#)

FEATURED EVENTS

CELEBRATION: June 6, 2015, 7:30-8:30 a.m. – AHSS Graduation Breakfast

Come celebrate with our AHSS graduates at the annual graduation breakfast on the Sturm Hall East Patio (or on the second floor of Sturm Hall in inclement weather). [RSVP](#) to this free breakfast.

CHOPP TALK: June 18, Chicago – The Listening and Learning Tour

The University of Denver's new Chancellor, Rebecca S. Chopp, has packed her bag and is hitting the road to speak directly with alumni, parents and friends across the country. The final stop of this tour is Chicago on Thursday, June 18. Join us for an opportunity to hear from the Chancellor and ask her questions about the future of DU. This event is free. [Click here for more information.](#)

EXHIBIT: through July 26, 2015 – Pictorial Maps of the 20th Century

The 1920s ushered in a new style of cartography that almost caricatures traditional maps. Known as "pictorial maps," they integrated narrative, geography and a sense of humor in a way that was both useful and visually striking. This exhibition is part of a joint program entitled "Mapping in the Early 20th Century" by the Rocky Mountain Map Society, the Denver Public Library and the University of Denver. Held in the [Anderson Academic Commons.](#)

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