The World We Will Inherit

June 25-July 15, 2022

Fairmont State University
WELCOME to GHA
Where every minute is an opportunity

What an enviable position you are in. You have read about GHA, and you have heard your friends—and maybe even your parents—rave about it. This summer, however, all the hearsay falls into the background as you experience GHA yourself.

We are proud to present the West Virginia Governor’s Honors Academy at Fairmont State University. This unique program celebrates the achievement and potential of the state’s most promising scholars and citizens.

Governor’s Schools are truly a community effort. Funded by the legislature and requested in the governor’s budget, all Governor’s Schools of West Virginia are administered by the West Virginia Department of Education. The host institution, Fairmont State University, will ensure that GHA is like no other academic experience.

The information provided in this booklet should answer many of the questions parents/guardians have about GHA. Participation in this heralded program provides an opportunity for rising seniors to meet and interact with other students and adults in a rich academic environment that facilitates and encourages creativity, exploration, and collaboration. In some cases, students may receive scholarships from the college they choose to attend. The colleges - not the Honors Academy itself - award such scholarships.

We are happy to congratulate you not only for exploring the world of academia, but for having the wisdom to know that GHA is where you should spend a portion of your time this summer. The Governor’s Schools have long been shining stars in our state’s education opportunities. You are now part of that magnificent brilliance.
## Table of Contents

- Introduction to GHA and 2022 Theme ........................................ 4
- Schedule of Events and Activities ............................................ 5
- A Word from the Resident Director ........................................... 6
- Policies and Procedures .......................................................... 6
- COVID-19 Guidelines .............................................................. 7
- Living Accommodations .......................................................... 8
- Packing Recommendations ....................................................... 9
- Campus Recreation ................................................................. 9
- Harassment Policy ................................................................. 9
- Disciplinary Action ............................................................... 10
- Get to Know GHA 2022 Faculty and Staff ............................... 11
- Frequently Asked Questions ................................................... 19
- Contact Information ............................................................. 20
- Directions and Campus Map ................................................... 21
Introduction

Please read through the information contained in this handbook carefully. It contains information on just about everything you need to know about GHA. If you have any questions that aren’t answered here, contact Dr. Robin Payne or Dr. John DeVault, co-deans of GHA at Fairmont State University, or Dr. Ray Lowther, the coordinator of Governor’s Schools. This handbook includes an introduction to the staff and a description of the Academy’s theme.

The Governor’s Honors Academy is an excellent opportunity for you to meet and interact with other accomplished students and adults in an enriching and invigorating academic environment. At GHA, you will explore topics of particular interest to you. You will be living and learning on campus at Fairmont State University as a representative of your school and county.

GHA will challenge you academically and spark your curiosity as you explore your dynamic world. Moreover, you will meet other talented and driven young West Virginians and develop friendships that will last the rest of your life. Only students who complete the Academy are known as GHA Scholars.

By accepting a position with this year’s Academy, you agree to behave with integrity and treat others with respect. You will be required to abide by all rules and regulations included in this brochure. These guidelines are necessary for you to have the best possible learning experience.

We wish you a successful and enjoyable experience at the Governor’s Honors Academy at Fairmont State University. We'll see you on Saturday, June 25!

The World We Will Inherit

The embedded theme for the 2022 Governor’s Honors Academy at Fairmont State is “The World We Will Inherit.” This theme was selected with attention to exploring the challenges and realities facing Generation Z as they come of age. As the leaders of tomorrow, the students who will attend the 2022 GHA are facing myriad issues – the on-going COVID-19 pandemic, impending climate change, burgeoning social justice movements, intensifying partisan division, and renewed international strife and conflict, just to name a few. Any one of these issues on their own are “once in a lifetime” events – together, they constitute a sea change for our society. Generation Z thus stands at the nexus of a critical crossroads in our collective history and at the precipice of uncharted territory. By exploring the complexities of the world they will inherit in their academic and extracurricular activities throughout the three-week academy, students will engage in collaborative, innovative, and engaging intellectual exercises that will enable them to forge ahead into that world as they take their next steps.
Schedule of Events and Activities

Opening and Closing Dates
The West Virginia Governor’s Honors Academy will begin on Saturday, June 25. Students may check-in between 10:00 a.m. and noon. An Opening Session will be held beginning at noon, during which family’s will bid farewell to their student.

The West Virginia Governor’s Honors Academy will conclude on Friday, June 15. Parents/guardians may arrive beginning at 10:00 a.m. for the closing Academic Showcase. Students must be checked out by noon that day

Typical Daily Schedule
A typical week day during the WV GHA at Fairmont State will look like this:

- 6:00-8:00  Access to gym facilities
- 7:30-8:30  Breakfast
- 8:30-9:00  Morning Meeting
- 9:00-12:00 Intensive Courses
- 12:00-12:45 Lunch
- 12:45-2:15  Broad-based Courses (Group A)
- 2:15-2:30  Short Break
- 2:30-4:00  Broad-based Courses (Group B)
- 4:00-5:30  Afternoon Activities
- 5:30-6:30  Dinner
- 7:00-10:00 Evening Activities
- 11:00   LIGHTS OUT

Special Events and Off-Campus Outings
- Saturday, June 25  Opening Session (11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.)
- Saturday, June 25  Public Art Festival and Dinner at Palatine Park
- Saturday, July 2  Daytrip to Columbus Zoo and Aquarium / Zoombezi Bay
- Saturday, July 4  Black Bears Game and Fireworks in Morgantown
- Saturday, July 9  Outstanding Educator Luncheon (12:00-3:00 pm)
- Sunday, July 10  Daytrip to Pittsburgh
- Thursday, July 14  Kennywood
- Friday, July 15  Academic Showcase / Farewell (10:00-12:00)
A Note from your Resident Director

Greetings, GHA:

As your resident director, I want to welcome you to GHA! Congrats on being accepted to the GHA experience and kudos for accepting the invitation to join us for three weeks at Fairmont State University.

The next few pages will detail some of the policies and procedures we have in place to help ensure you will have the best experience possible this summer.

During GHA, you will be staying in Bryant Place. In this handbook, you will find more information about the accommodations in Bryant Place. We also included a list of items to bring and not to bring with you.

Please reach out to me with any questions. I look forward to seeing you on June 25!

Dr. Keisha-Moraé Kibler
gha@fairmontstate.edu

Policies and Procedures

Residency Policy
- Students are expected to remain on campus. Parents, family, and friends are NOT to visit. Emergency leave requests should be sent to the deans.
- Students may NEVER leave campus alone and without informing the appropriate GHA staff.

Visitation Policy
- Students may not entertain visitors, including family.
- If a student forgets something at home, parents may contact the deans to set up a time and place to drop off the forgotten items.
- Students are NOT permitted to visit other groups or residence halls while on Fairmont State’s campus.
- Students may visit with members of a different sex ONLY in the residence hall lounges or common areas, not in student rooms.

Motor Vehicles
- Students may neither ride in nor operate a motor vehicle unless driven by appropriate GHA staff.
- GHA students are not permitted to bring a vehicle to GHA.
Cell Phones, Computers, and Personal Electronics
- Use of cell phones and other electronic devices is limited to trips and free time ONLY, unless otherwise approved or instructed by GHA staff. Students may keep their cell phones on them but should not use them during class or activity time.
- Our goal is for GHA students to connect with other GHA students during the academy.
- If you have a cell phone, you must give your RA your phone number. This will help with communication during events and field trips.

Attendance and Participation
- Students are required to attend and actively participate in all regularly scheduled classes and events.
- Missing an event or class for any reason must be approved.

Field Trips and Leaving Campus
- Students are required to follow established travel schedules, residence hall curfews, and established town ordinances regarding curfews for minors.
- When off-campus, students MUST stay in an RA-or-faculty-chaperoned group at all times.
- Students may NOT leave Bryant Place without permission, and not at all after dark.
- Students MUST travel in groups of three (3) or more on campus if no RA or staff member is present.

Drug Policy
- Tobacco, alcohol, drugs, and other chemical substances (with the exception of prescription or OTC drugs that GHA staff have been made aware of) are PROHIBITED.

Other Policies
- GHA photo ID must be worn at all times.
- If the fire alarm sounds, everyone is to exit the building and assemble at designated safe areas for roll call.
- Dress clothes are to be worn at the Favorite Educator luncheon and the Farewell Luncheon.
- GHA t-shirts are to be worn as instructed on trips. Offensive writing or images on clothing is prohibited.
- Appropriate attire is required in classrooms, activities, field trips, and the dining hall.

COVID-19 Guidelines

Coronavirus Health and Safety Policies and Procedures, updated May 12, 2022
Fairmont State University is currently operating under standard COVID-19 protocols (as of May 12, 2022). The university continues to closely monitor the situation. If numbers begin to rise in Marion County, the university will notify the campus community of any changes to protocols on campus. More information can be found here: https://www.fairmontstate.edu/coronavirus/protocols

Students will be encouraged to engage in social distancing, when necessary, and masks will be available for students who wish to wear them. Students who test positive for COVID-19 while attending the Governor’s Honors Academy will be required to quarantine at home. Their potential return to campus will be determined in consultation with appropriate healthcare professionals.
Living Accommodations

Bryant Place is your home for three weeks. Please be respectful of each other, the building, GHA staff, and ESPECIALLY University Housekeeping. The RD, RAs, and Deans reserve the right to revoke privileges such as afternoon activity time should facilities not be kept up to standard.

- Students in Bryant Place have the luxury of living in a suite style room. The suite includes a private bathroom facility and a shared communal area between four students. Each suite contains four beds, two sinks, one common area, one shower room, and one restroom facility. Housekeeping does not clean student rooms or student restrooms. Therefore, during your time at GHA, you will be responsible for maintaining a clean space.
- You can view photos of the suite style rooms in Bryant Place here.
- Stairwells are to walk from one floor to the next, not a place to hang out. Please keep them clean and clear.
- You will be issued a key to your room. A fee of $150 will be charged to re-key your room if the key is lost or not returned.
- Students are to be in their rooms and in bed by **11:00 pm**, unless otherwise instructed by GHA faculty and staff. This means if an RA walks the halls, they should not be able to hear noise from your room or see light. The bathroom light is okay to leave on.

Mail

Care packages from home are acceptable, but please limit package delivery from websites such as Amazon. Please use the address below to mail packages or letters to a GHA student. **Do not use the address listed on the webpage for Bryant Place.** The resident director or RAs will help distribute mail to GHA students. Outgoing mail can also be dropped off during the day for pick up.

**Address letters in the manner that follows:**

Student Name
WV Governor’s Honors Academy
c/o Honors Program at Fairmont State
1201 Locust Ave.
Fairmont, WV 26554

Trash

All students are responsible for removing trash from their rooms. There is a dumpster next to Morrow Hall. Please exit Bryant Place on the sixth floor and take a right at the end of the bridge.

Laundry

Laundry facilities are located on the sixth floor of Bryant Place. All laundry machines are free of charge.

Cafeteria

Breakfast, lunch, and dinner are served in the Falcon Center cafeteria. Hours will be announced when you arrive. A salad bar is available for lunch and dinner. Vegetarian options are offered at all meals, and every effort will be made to accommodate special dietary needs.
Packing Recommendations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What to Bring</th>
<th>Suggested Items</th>
<th>What not to Bring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bedding (Twin XL sheets, pillow, blankets)</td>
<td>Laptop or tablet</td>
<td>Microwave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Towels, wash cloth</td>
<td>Umbrella</td>
<td>Any open flame items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beach towel</td>
<td>Sunscreen</td>
<td>Pets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimsuit</td>
<td>Musical instrument</td>
<td>Extension cords</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hand soap</td>
<td>Board Games</td>
<td>Small cooking appliances</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trashcan (trash bags provided)</td>
<td>Hats</td>
<td>(anything with a heating element)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cleaning supplies (Clorox wipes, bathroom cleaner)</td>
<td>Power strip</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shower caddy</td>
<td>Desk lamp</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toiletries</td>
<td>Mini-Fridge (4.6 cubic feet max)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clothes hangers</td>
<td>Headphones</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Laundry detergent</td>
<td>Light jacket</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laundry bag</td>
<td>Fan (the building is air conditioned)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two dress outfits</td>
<td>Snacks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comfortable shoes</td>
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</tbody>
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Campus Recreation

Fairmont State University’s Falcon Center will be opened for GHA students at specific times during the daily schedule to participate in wellness activities. The track and weightlifting room will be available for GHA students from 6:30am- 8:00am. GHA students who wish to work out in the morning must sign up with an RA.

The Falcon Center will also be available during afternoon activity time. Students can sign up to swim, play games, lift weights, basketball, volleyball, soccer, ping pong, etc. Students must always be accompanied by a GHA staff member while in the Falcon Center.

Harassment Policies

Harassment of all kinds will not be tolerated at GHA. Harassment includes any action or behavior that mocks, demeans, puts down, disparages, or ridicules another person or group. Bullying of all kinds is considered a form of harassment. Sexual harassment is any sort of discrimination, unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature.

*If you are a victim of harassment, please report to either the RD or one of the Deans. In these situations, you should report to whomever you are most comfortable speaking to. Together you can discuss the incident and create a plan to address the issue at hand.*
Disciplinary Action

Certain behavior is incompatible with the philosophy of GHA. As representatives of your schools, communities, counties, and the state of West Virginia, you are expected to be exemplary citizens. All staff members are responsible for disciplinary action in response to misbehavior. In other words, every staff member is the “boss.” There are three levels of discipline, determined by the nature, frequency, or severity of the infraction and they are not necessarily sequential:

1. Verbal reprimand by staff with written notice to the Deans;
2. Written warning by the Deans. Parent/guardian will be notified, and;
3. Dismissal from GHA.

The Deans, in consultation with the appropriate faculty, staff, and the State Director, will make final decisions regarding dismissal from GHA.

Should a student be dismissed, the Deans will immediately contact the student’s parents or guardians. A dismissed student must be picked up by a parent/guardian within 12 hours of dismissal. While waiting to be picked up, the student will pack personal belongings under staff supervision and be separated from other Academy members. A letter stating the reason for dismissal will be sent to the parent/guardian, high school principal and county superintendent of schools.

Be advised that Fairmont State University and the West Virginia Governor’s Honors Academy will cooperate with all university, local, and state authorities regarding investigations or illegal activities.

Causes for Disciplinary Action

Students who leave campus without authorization, leave the room after “room check” during off-campus travel, engage in activities threatening the safety of themselves or others including leaving assigned groups when off campus, or who violate the tobacco, alcohol and controlled substance abuse rule will be dismissed immediately. There will be no second chances.

Other reasons for dismissal include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Unexcused absence
- Disobeying visitation policies;
- Unauthorized use of a vehicle;
- Unauthorized riding in a vehicle with another person;
- Tampering with fire alarms or security systems;
- Harassment/ bullying;
- Failure to follow faculty, staff, or campus security’s directions;
- Behavior unbecoming of a member of GHA.

***If you have any questions or concerns about these policies, feel free to ask your RA or any other member of the GHA staff. These policies are in place to provide you with a safe, fun, and enriching experience.
Get to Know Our Faculty and Staff

**Robin Payne, Co-Dean**
Robin Payne is the Director of the Honors Program and an Associate Professor of History at Fairmont State University. She received her doctoral degree in United States history from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2010. She earned her baccalaureate and master's degrees at Washington State University. She has been the recipient of the Faculty Recognition Award (2015) and the Foundation Faculty Fellowship Award (2018) during her tenure at Fairmont State University. She has presented her scholarship at the national conferences of multiple nationally recognized historical organizations, such as the Berkshire Conference on the History of Women and the Organization of American Historians, and her work has appeared in the Journal of Women's History. Dr. Payne originally hails from the Pacific Northwest, has called West Virginia her home for the past ten years. In her downtime, Dr. Payne is usually hanging out with her husband, Kevin, and their three daughters – twin thirteen-year-olds and a precocious kindergartner. You’re likely to catch them binge-watching the latest Star Wars or Marvel spin-off on any given weekend. Dr. Payne also enjoys knitting and reading!

**John DeVault, Co-Dean**
John DeVault is the Assistant Vice President of Educational and Career Success at Fairmont State University. He is a graduate of Fairmont State University (Class of 1995) earning his Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education. He earned a master’s degree from the University of Virginia in Educational Supervision (2013) and a doctoral degree from the College of William and Mary in Educational Leadership (2020). He is a West Virginia native but lived in central Virginia for 23 years before moving back to West Virginia. He has served as a teacher, counselor, and coach in public and private school settings. He has two sons (20 and 18) that love to play and watch sports. Dr. DeVault enjoys fly fishing, spending time with family, and most sports.

**Keisha-Moraé Kibler, Resident Director**
Keisha-Moraé Hopkins Kibler, a national board certified teacher, grew up in the mountains of Bluefield, WV. She taught English language arts in Preston County for 15 years. In 2018, she joined the faculty as an assistant professor at Fairmont State University in the College of Education, Health and Human Performance where she teaches future teachers. Dr. Kibler facilitates professional learning opportunities for K-12 educators throughout WV. Specifically, she plans and implements a range of supports for teachers in their journey towards National Board certification. She has earned accolades for her dedication to teaching, professional learning, and the mentoring of beginning teachers such as the Di Tosto and Marockie Outstanding Supervising Teacher award at WVU and the Fairmont State University Teaching in Excellence Award. Her hobbies include reading, writing, and experiencing life with her husband, Jeremiah, and fur-baby, ZuZu (the shih tzu). She is very excited to begin her fifth year with GHA.
Alana Murphy, Intern
Alana is a recent Fairmont State University (FSU) graduate with a Regents of Bachelor of Arts degree with a minor in History. While she attended FSU, she worked in the Honors office for one and a half years and was part of the executive board. Alana loves listening to music (especially One Direction) and going to concerts. She also enjoys going on trips with friends and family, drawing, and spending time with her cat, Murphy. She is excited to help at GHA this summer!

Scotlynn Straight, Intern
Scotlynn is a recent Fairmont State University graduate with a bachelor’s degree in elementary education with a specialization in special education. She grew up in Tyler County, West Virginia, but moved to Fairmont for college. Her hobbies include spending time with her pets, listening to Taylor Swift, and planning her wedding with her fiancé, who she met at Governor’s Honors Academy in 2017. She is excited to help make GHA 2022 happen!

Andrea Watson, Intern
Andrea is a recent graduate from Fairmont State University with a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education with a specialization in Special Education (K-Adult). During her undergraduate career, she was a member of the Honors Program and served as a mentor for two years. She is returning for her first year as an intern after attending GHA at WVU in 2017. In her free time, Andrea loves to spend time with her dog Max, go on walks/hikes, travel, paint/draw, fish, watch The Office, and spend time with her “niece” and “nephew”, Holly and Talon, two Golden Retrievers. She is also a big Pittsburgh Penguins fan and tries to go to a game once a year. She is excited to see everyone at GHA and to see the plans in action!

Connor Isner, Videographer / Photographer
Connor Isner grew up in West Virginia and graduated from Fairmont State University with a BS in Graphic Design Technology. He has a creative mind and loves problem solving which led him to his career in visual storytelling. Connor recently worked at Fairmont State as a campus videographer, where he captured the student experience through various visual means such as recap videos, social media posts and interviews. In his free time, Connor watches plenty of movies and even works on his own. He was the Assistant Director of the historical documentary titled “Trials, Tragedies & Triumphs,” about the 100-year history of the Jackson County Courthouse in Ripley, West Virginia.

Toneta Akers-Toler, Faculty
Toneta Akers-Toler is a founding member and artistic director of West Virginia Dance Company (WVDC); the only professional touring dance company in West Virginia. Toneta’s awards include the 2005 WV Governor’s Arts Awards for “Excellence, the Arts” & 2011 for “Arts Education”, WV Women of the Year in the arts in 1999 and the National Association of Regional Ballet Award for Choreography in 1984. In 2021 Toneta was nominated for the prestigious NEA individual artist fellowship to be announced in 2022. Toneta has taught on WVDC tours extensively in WV as well as 14 other states and Brazil. She has served as dancer, actress, choreographer and master teacher for Theatre WV since 1973. This summer will be her 8th year of serving the WV Governor’s Honors Academy to now be held at Fairmont State University. A magical time of dance for her was serving students at the Pineville Dance Theatre for 45 years. Toneta holds a dance degree from the Conservatory of Dance Point Park College, has three certifications from American Dance Festival held at Duke University and certification from the Dance Kinetic Institute in New York City.

Adam Booth, Faculty
Adam Booth is the 2022 West Virginia Folk Artist of the Year, awarded at the Governor’s Arts Awards. His original stories blend traditional mountain folklore, music, and an awareness of contemporary Appalachia. As a nationally touring artist, his professional telling appearances include premiere storytelling events across the United States, including the Kennedy Center Millennium Stage, the International Storytelling Center, the National Storytelling Festival, and as a Spoken Word Resident at the Banff Centre (Alberta, Canada). He is a member of the Recording Academy (yes,
he votes on the GRAMMYs) and his recordings have received a Parents’ Choice Gold Award, two Parents’ Choice Silver Honors, and four Storytelling World Awards and Honors. He is a four-time champion of the West Virginia Liars’ Contest. Adam is the inaugural Storyteller-In-Residence at Shepherd University.

**Hugh Costello, Faculty**

Hugh Costello Graduated from West Virginia University with a BSME and then Graduated from MIT with a MSME. He continued further graduate studies at the University of Tennessee in Industrial Engineering. He held positions as a design engineer and senior engineer with several companies including Oak Ridge National Laboratories and GE Aircraft Engines where he was awarded a patent. After 25 years in the private sector, he joined Fairmont State University the for the last 14 years, earned a Professional Engineering License in WV, served as a department chair for 5 years, and is currently an Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering Technology. During the summers, he has been honored to be a faculty member of GHA the last seven years. He proudly won the Boram Award in 2022, which is the most prestigious teaching award recognized by Fairmont State University. Hugh is still a Good Ol’ WV boy who loves hunting, fishing, camping, and farm work with his family. In addition, He enjoys cooking for the family and church events and has been the drummer in classic rock bands for the last 20 years. He and his wife Sandra have been married for 30 years and have four adult children, Jacqueline, Ben, Elias (GHA 2017), and Daniel. Ben and his wife Hannah are expecting the first Grandchild this October.

**Robert (Greg) Cutlip, Faculty**

Robert G. Cutlip, Ph.D. is currently a Visiting Professor at Fairmont State University serving as the program director for the Cybersecurity Program. He also is a senior scientist at the Institute for Defense Analysis. Dr. Cutlip previously served as a Senior Research Scientist with the Defense Intelligence Agency, adjunct associate professor at the West Virginia University School of Medicine, and member of the graduate faculty. His research focus is on musculoskeletal disorders, pathomechanics, and aging. In addition, his research focus was in the area of credibility assessment using physiological signals, and the multi-modal acquisition of physiological signatures for credibility assessment and biometrics. From 2010 to 2021, Dr. Cutlip worked as a research scientist for the Defense Intelligence Agency developing advanced physiological sensing modalities for credibility assessment with applications to biometrics. He was also a member of the Corona Virus Task Force, providing intelligence to the President of the United States. He has been actively collaborating with faculty at West Virginia University on thermal modalities for use in credibility assessment and biometrics. He is a Member of the American Physiological Society, a reviewer for premier journals in physiology and biomechanics, and the author of more than 50 academic publications, book chapters, and peer-reviewed proceedings.

**Karen Gergely, Faculty**

Karen Gergely is a socially engaged artist and educator originally from Morgantown, WV. She holds a BFA from Shepherd University and an MFA in Fine Art from the University of Cincinnati, DAAP. She is currently working as an Associate Professor of Art at Graceland University in Lamoni, Iowa, where she teaches in the Honors Program and serves as head of the Art and Design department. Gergely teaches a myriad of studio, art history, and social engagement courses and recently received a grant from the Iowa Private Academic Libraries Open Educational Resources (OER) Project. She serves on the Services to Artists Committee (SAC) as part of the College Art Association that helps identify and address concerns facing artists and designers. Gergely’s artistic practice is rooted in cultivating a sense of community through artistic expression among groups of all kinds. Her work can be found at https://www.karengergely.com/. Gergely is an avid adventurer, long distance hiker and bike-packer #askmeaboutit.

**Rebecca Giorcelli, Faculty**

Dr. Rebecca Giorcelli serves as the Marketing and Management Studies Chair as well as the Director of Assessment for the College of Business and Aviation at Fairmont State University (FSU). As a tenured professor, Dr. Giorcelli teaches the undergraduate Project Management courses for the Information Systems Management program as well as several graduate courses for the MBA program. She earned her B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. in Industrial Engineering from West Virginia University. She received the 2010 Fairmont State University Outstanding Faculty Achievement Award, the 2011 Harold and Roselyn Straight Teaching Award, the 2012 Fairmont State Foundation Fellowship Award, and the
2013 Regional Service and Engagement/Economic Development Award.

Dr. Gio Giorcelli is an active researcher and has been awarded over $530,000 in research grant funding from the National Science Foundation (NSF), NASA West Virginia Space Grant Consortium, and the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission Title II program. Prior to her arrival at FSU, she gained over 10 years of experience in research and development in the field through positions held at the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and the Institute for Scientific Research, Inc. (ISR).

Rebecca teaches fitness classes for the Fairmont State Falcon Center in addition to local fitness facilities. She enjoys traveling, playing piano, and spending time with her two sons, Trey, and Tyler.

Dan Hollis, Faculty
Dan Hollis is an award-winning Marshall University professor and journalist. He is only the second faculty member to earn each of the three major awards for teaching the university bestows—the Charles E. Hedrick Outstanding Faculty Award, the Marshall and Shirley Reynolds Outstanding Teacher Award and the Pickens-Queen Teacher Award. He was also named the 2012 West Virginia Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education and is a two-time finalist for the Faculty Merit Foundation West Virginia Professor of the Year. He will find out if he gets to call himself a two-time West Virginia Professor of the Year in September. His creative work focuses on telling West Virginia stories, and he has earned three prestigious Edward R. Murrow regional awards for his journalism. His story topics range from square dancing to whittling to road bowling to pickleball.

This will be his 21st year on the GHA faculty. That’s right, he has been teaching at GHA longer than any of you have been alive.

Cody Hood, Faculty
Cody is a recently promoted Teaching Assistant Professor for the School of Mathematical and Data Sciences at West Virginia University. In 2021 he earned his Ph.D. in Mathematics with an emphasis in Research in Undergraduate Mathematics Education focusing on student understanding of the definite integral in an application context. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Math in 2013 along with his Master of Science degree in Math in 2015, both at WVU. Cody is an assistant coach for the West Virginia National Math Team, where every year 20 of the top performing high school students across the state travel to Penn State for a national math competition. Cody has taught at the Governor’s Honors Academy since 2014 and he looks forward to sharing his knowledge and gaining even more. In addition to relishing his time at GHA, Cody has a particular interest in running and statistical and data analysis, with an emphasis on fantasy football.

Britton (Cody) Lumpkin, Faculty
Cody Lumpkin was born in North Georgia, around hog-killing time. He grew up in the community of Sixes at the southern end of Appalachia. His mother and father used to take him to the local cineplex to see *Star Wars* (The Original Trilogy) and *Raiders of the Lost Ark* in the early 1980s a lot. When he was a teenager, Cody worked in his family’s mom and pop video store where films like *Babe*, *Annie*, and *Grease* often played. His love of film and literature led him to earn undergraduate degrees in both English and Philosophy at the University of West Georgia. He would later go on earn an MFA in creative writing at Purdue University and a PhD in English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He just completed his tenth year of teaching at Marshall University where he has taught courses in Appalachian literature, *Star Wars*, James Bond, the Marvel Cinematic Universe, Christmas films, and creative writing.

Nathan Myers, Faculty
Nathan Myers is an Associate Professor in the Department of Humanities at Fairmont State University. He teaches courses in literature, writing, film, and sustainability.
Ian Nolte, Faculty
Ian Nolte lives in Huntington, West Virginia and teaches for the English Department at Marshall University. He is passionate about writing, filmmaking, and digital media—and how those things intersect. His classes explore the nuts-and-bolts of how stories are put together. This is his fourth time teaching at the Governor’s Honors Academy, and he is excited for this year's experience.

John O’Connor, Faculty
I knew I was going to be a history teacher when I was a freshman in high school. I changed the focus to theatre when I auditioned for and was cast in my first production when I was a high school senior. Three degrees and many years later, I am blessed to be doing what I was created to do, and what I love to do. In addition to over 30 years teaching college theatre and communication, I have been on the GHA faculty twice, and served as the GHA Associate Dean thrice. I have directed 40 productions and have acted in 37 university, community, and professional productions.

Favorite quotes:
"Imagination is evidence of the Divine." --William Blake
"If you want to work on your art, work on your life.” --Anton Chekhov
"The object of education is not to know, but to live.” --James Rhoades

John Shirley, Faculty
After attending GHA as a student in 1995 and being named a United States Presidential Scholar in 1996, John Shirley earned a BA in English, with minors in theatre and communications, from Bridgewater College, as well as both an MLitt and an MFA in Shakespeare and Renaissance Literature in Performance from Mary Baldwin College (now Mary Baldwin University).

He has over two decades of experience teaching in both traditional and non-traditional settings, including public and private high school and college classrooms. Since 2016, John has served as resident dramaturg and director of education for the Rustic Mechanicals – West Virginia’s only touring Shakespeare company – and has been involved with productions of half the Shakespeare canon. He also recently served as guest dramaturg for Shakespeare productions at West Virginia Wesleyan College and Theater Alaska.

This is his twenty-third Governor’s Honors Academy.

Doug Squire, Faculty
Doug is from Charleston, WV, attended GHA in 1998 at WVU, and has taught at GHA since 2011. He graduated from Nitro High School and has a B.A. and an M.S. in mathematics from WVU. Doug was on the mathematics faculty at WVU from 2006-2021 and now teaches at George Washington High School. In 2010, he won the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Teaching Award, and in 2011, he won the WVU Foundation Award for Outstanding Teaching. He was debate team captain at WVU and has coached debate both at WVU and Pace Academy in Atlanta, GA. He is coauthor of the textbook Applications of Calculus. Doug is now a member of the Leadership West Virginia Class of 2019. He likes to play racquetball and ski and is a huge WVU fan. Let’s Go Mountaineers!

Angelica Starcovic, Faculty
Angelica Starcovic is a practicing artist currently based in Syracuse, New York. She graduated from Fairmont State University in 2021 with a BS in psychology and is currently an MFA candidate at Syracuse University. Most recently, she has spent the past five months living, working, and creating as an artist in residence at the Syracuse University Graduate Turner Residency Program in Los Angeles, California. She works with ceramics, photography, and found materials to explore portrayals of self in the world. Angelica attended the Governor’s Honors Academy in 2016 and the Governor’s School for the Arts in 2015. When she is not working away in the studio, she can be found cooking new recipes she discovered on Pinterest, in the middle of the woods somewhere, or thrift shopping with her friends.
Allen Cervenak, Head Resident Assistant
Allen is a recent graduate from Fairmont State University with a degree in English and a focus in literature. He served as an RA for three years in the Honors Hall, and as Assistant Resident Director his senior year. He also worked as an editor for the school’s undergraduate literary and art journal, Whetstone. For activities, Allen enjoys reading and writing, and long afternoon walks. You can frequently find him typing away on his phone or computer with music on full volume in the background. After GHA, Allen is excited to find work as an editor where he can get paid to read good books, and he is always up for talking about anime or videogames.

Meg Ambrose, Resident Assistant
Meg is a Political Science major and a junior at WVU from Harpers Ferry. She loves learning about the law as well as her Women and Gender studies minor. She is a second-year RA in Towers. Although it can be difficult between RA duties and all of the papers and policy briefs she writes Meg loves all things books, tv, and movies. She will try and get in as much time for her hobbies as she can and has been known to bring her knitting to the desk with her. Meg is involved with the Women in Politics and Government organization as well as the Horticulture club on campus. She hopes to get her law degree and work in either international law or with an organization like the ACLU.

Victoria Blickenstaff, Resident Assistant
Victoria is a marketing major in her junior year at Marshall University. She is a resident advisor in the first-year dorms, as well as a member of Delta Zeta and FIDM Fashion Club. Victoria enjoys spending time outdoors, traveling, and watching Major League Baseball (Go Yankees!). In her free time, she likes to binge-watch Dance Moms and Gossip Girl, make Tik Toks, and play board games. Victoria’s dream job would be working for a Marketing Agency in NYC. During high school, she attended Rhododendron Girls’ State, HOBY, RLYA, and Fall Student Council Convention. Victoria is looking forward to sharing her first Governor’s School experience with you in her hometown.

Emily Budik, Resident Assistant
Emily is a Psychology and Art Therapy double major with a minor in Human Services going into her junior year at West Virginia University. She attended GHA in 2019, made exceptional friends during the time, and is so excited to participate in the program again. During her time at WVU she has done various jobs including working as a Therapeutic Boxing coach, a Psychology research intern, and is continuing to be involved in Art Therapy research with her professor in the upcoming semesters. Emily joined the Russian and Eastern European Club and has enjoyed her time participating in all of the enriching events. She is going to be an Eberly Scholar for the 2022-2023 school year and is thrilled to continue her educational journey. For fun, Emily likes to indulge in self-care techniques, which for her may include going to a coffee shop with friends or enjoying the simplicity of slowing down life by laying in the grass and enjoying nature.

Taeshon Crudup, Resident Assistant
Taeshon is a criminal justice major from Morgantown, WV who just graduated from Fairmont State University and is planning to come back and get his master’s degree in criminal justice. He is a resident assistant in Prichard Hall at Fairmont State and back home is a pre-school teacher at Presbyterian Child Development Center. Among his friends and co-workers, he is known as laid back and very approachable and dependable. Taeshon is a huge sports fan in particular football, basketball, and baseball. He loves traveling, especially visiting North Carolina to visit family. His dream job would be working as a youth correctional counselor.

Olivia Dowler, Resident Assistant
Olivia is a rising junior at West Virginia University with majors in History, Spanish, and Philosophy. At WVU, she is involved all over campus. Olivia is the President of Students for Reproductive Justice, an officer in the Global Medical & Dental Brigades, a Presidential Student Ambassador, and outgoing President Pro Tempore of the Student Government Association. She is also a member of A Moment of Magic, Women in Politics & Government, the Honors LGBTQ+ Affinity Group, and Active Minds. She also works on campus as a Tour Guide and New Student Orientation Leader. You
can always find her at a local coffee shop or at Barnes & Noble. After college, Olivia plans to become a Human Rights Attorney. Olivia attended GHA in 2019 at Marshall University and met some of her closest friends there that are still in her life today. She considers GHA to be one of the greatest experiences of her life and where she first felt comfortable being her authentic self. A fun fact is that she has five tattoos— one being the outline of West Virginia.

**Zachary Fancher, Resident Assistant**

Zachary is a graduate student at Fairmont State University working toward a Master of Arts in Teaching with an emphasis in Secondary Social Studies Education. In 2021 Fancher graduated from Fairmont State University summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in History with a minor in Women’s and Gender Studies and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. His undergraduate research focused on the glass ceiling and its effects on women in/runners for elected office. While an undergraduate student at Fairmont State, he was active in Student Government, Falcons w/PRIDE, College Democrats, and a variety of social justice oriented activities/groups. Fancher currently works as a substitute teacher in Marion County, WV. He thoroughly enjoys working with young people, particularly the students at West Fairmont Middle School. He is incredibly passionate about education and having a positive and lasting impact in the individuals he encounters. Fancher enjoys going on adventures with his girlfriend and snuggling with his dog Gus.

**Caomi Fitz, Resident Assistant**

Caomi is a Fairmont native, and is enrolled in Fairmont State University. They are majoring in Art and Psychology, with a minor in Women and Gender Studies, and they keep extra busy with three jobs on campus, as a lead editor of the student publication journal Whetstone, as an Assistant Resident Director of Prichard Hall, and as a Monitor in Prichard Hall. Caomi has also been active within their Sorority, Delta Zeta since 2019, and has held numerous positions since their initiation. They love making earrings, learning about new ways to craft and make art, and adding to their many collections. They are looking forward to helping to make GHA a positive experience for everyone! A fun fact about Caomi is that when they attended GHA in 2018, they made a bracelet that over the past 4 years, they have only taken off when necessary.

**Lars Lehman, Resident Assistant**

Lars is a recent graduate of Fairmont State University with a bachelor’s degree in Accounting and two minors, one minor in Creative Writing and one in Women’s and Gender Studies. While attending Fairmont State University, he was an honors student and enjoyed the opportunities provided by the honors program. In the Fall of 2018, Lars helped start Falcons w/PRIDE, the LGBTQIA+ organization on campus. From Fall of 2018 to Spring of 2022, he held multiple leadership roles within the student organization, including Vice President and President. Lars worked in ResLife for four years, two years as a Resident Assistant and two years as an Assistant Resident Director. He is from the small Swiss town of Helvetia, WV. Friends often compare him to a golden retriever because he is so loyal, but a friend recently said he’s more of a lab than a golden retriever. During the summer, Lars enjoys going on dirt bike rides, camping, and spending time with his dog.

**Savanna Overstreet, Resident Assistant**

Sav is about to enter her senior year at Fairmont State University. Sav is a double major in criminal justice and psychology, hoping to continue on in criminal psychology after she graduates. She has been a Resident Assistant for two years now and has recently gotten promoted to Assistant Resident Director. Sav has been doing marching band since freshman year. She was accepted into Psi Chi (the national honorary for psychology students) and became part of the psychology and sociology behavioral association. She has kept a steady 3.84 GPA, right now resting on magna cum laude, hoping to bump it up at least one .1 to achieve summa cum laude before she graduates. After Sav graduates she hope to apply for a doctorate program in clinical psychology, that way she bypasses her masters. Her dream job is to do criminal psychology, working with criminals after they’ve been caught and delving into the psychology of their crimes. Sav attended GHA in 2018 at Marshall University, she wanted to come back in order to see the program from both sides. During her free time, Sav enjoys all sorts of creative things, especially working on her novels.
Ally Quigley, Resident Assistant
Ally is an incoming senior at Fairmont State University. She is an English Literature Major with a minor in Professional Writing. She has been a tour guide at the Fairmont State Recruitment Office in the past. Currently, she is president of two student organizations including the Honors Association and the Creative Sustainability Council. In her free time, she enjoys hanging out with her friends and family and playing the guitar.

Jasper White, Resident Assistant
Jasper attended GHA as a student in 2019 and is thrilled to be returning as an RA. They also attended GSMS in 2015 and GSA in 2018. Jasper is currently getting ready for their junior year of college at Fairmont State University with a degree in studio art. While at college they also work on campus as an RA in one of the traditional residence halls. When not busy working on art projects, Jasper spends a lot of time reading or playing video games. They can likely answer any question related to the videogame Hollow Knight as it is their favorite videogame to play and talk about.
Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Can I miss any part of GHA?**
   A. No. The commitment to GHA is for the full program, and you will be excused only for a verified emergency. Everyone is expected to attend the entire time with no exceptions for weddings or other planned events. Extenuating circumstances will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Deans of the GHA.

2. **Will there be time to check e-mail?**
   A. Yes. There are times during the day when students may go to a number of places to check e-mail or to do computer research. In addition, the campus has Wi-Fi, so you can use your personal devices to check for messages.

3. **Can my parents or friends visit during GHA?**
   A. No. GHA is designed so that you can be totally focused on the activities planned for you. Parents, other family members, and friends are not permitted to visit. Those from the Fairmont area need to pay special attention to this.

4. **Will I get the classes I request?**
   A. Possibly. The classes are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. We do attempt to see that students are enrolled in their first or second choice in either the broad-based or intensive class. Although you may not get your top choice, there are no bad choices.

5. **Can I choose my roommate?**
   A. No. GHA assigns roommates on a random basis, and deliberately attempts to separate students who attend the same school or county. This is designed to encourage you to meet new people and engage with others outside of your comfort zone.

6. **Will attending GHA enhance my scholarship opportunities?**
   A. Some colleges and universities award financial aid over and above other scholarships for students who complete GHA. You will need to check with the respective institution financial aid office to see if they offer such a scholarship. Scholarships are not financed by the Governor's Schools--neither are they guaranteed.

7. **Will I receive college credit for the GHA classes?**
   A. No. The classes at GHA are for your enjoyment and intellectual and academic enrichment. Although you will work hard in the classes, they are not designed to meet the requirements of a college-credit course.

8. **Will I really enjoy living with all these rules?**
   A. Of course you will. Students who attend GHA say that they are the best experiences of their high school career. You will not be “giving up” your summer; instead, you will be gaining tools and making memories for a lifetime.
Contact Information

Mailing Address:
WV GHA
c/o Honors Program
1201 Locust Ave
Fairmont, WV 26554

Robin Payne
Dean
304-367-4197, rpayne4@fairmontstate.edu
**For emergencies only: 919-259-1012**

John DeVault
Dean
304-367-4644; jdevault4@fairmontstate.edu
**For emergencies only: 434-989-1458**
Directions and Campus Map

When Driving I-79 South:

- I-79 South to Exit 132 (South Fairmont Exit). At light, turn right onto Route 250 North.
- Follow 250 North and at 2nd light turn left onto Country Club Road.
- At 1st light, turn right onto Locust Avenue.
- At 3rd light, turn left at the main entrance to campus and proceed up hill to parking.

When Driving I-79 North:

- I-79 North to Exit 132 (South Fairmont Exit). At the light, turn left onto Route 250 North.
- Follow 250 North and at the 4th light turn left onto Country Club Road.
- At 1st light, turn right onto Locust Avenue.
- At 3rd light turn left at the main entrance to campus and proceed uphill to parking.