



**COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT**

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BUFFALO STATE • The State University of New York

**The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Student Research and Creativity  
Fall Forum**

**November 15, 2024**

**2 p.m. to 5 p.m.**

**Welcome** to the 2024 Communication Department's annual Fall Research and Creativity Forum. This year we are celebrating the work of more than 25 students enrolled in Communication classes here at Buffalo State University. As with other academic conferences, the featured students will both present their work and field discussion questions about their work. Our forum is both a way for members of our academic community to learn about student research and creative activity, and for the presenters to get feedback regarding their work, much of which is ongoing. Thank you for participating in this event both as student presenters and as audience members.

Communication Department  
Buffalo State University

## 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.

### BUCKHAM B141

**Kaleida Health**

**Thomas Bailey & Anna Smith**

Journalism/Media Production

Faculty mentor: Ann Liao

**13th: Revealing Injustice in the United States Justice System**

**Joseph Cioppa**

Media Production

Faculty mentor: Meg Knowles

**Enforcers of Hockey**

**Sarah Theriault**

Communication Studies

Faculty mentor: Meg Knowles

**Leveling Up: Teaching Soft Skills Through Video Games**

**Nathaniel Gunawardene**

Communication Studies

Faculty mentor: Ann Liao

### BUCKHAM B142

**Diving into the Unknown**

**Jack Hyde**

Communication Studies

Faculty mentor: Meg Knowles

**The Human Obsession Over Narrative/Special Effects Used in Film**

**Armani Diaz**

Media Production

Faculty mentor: Ann Liao

**The Dance of Shadow and Light**

**Shavonne Pucula**

Communication Studies

Faculty mentor: Michael Niman

**A Model of a Brutal Documentary**

**Mario Campo**

Media Production

Faculty mentor: Meg Knowles

# 3 p.m. – 4 p.m.

## BUCKHAM B141

### **Horror Movies: The Pleasure of Fear**

**Drake Heckmann**

Media Production

Faculty mentor: Ann Liao

### **Shadows of Perception: The Media's Lens on the Amanda Knox Case**

**Shavonne Pucula**

Communication Studies

Faculty mentor: Meg Knowles

### **Broke and the Financial Trends of Retired Professional Athletes**

**Emma Knospe**

Public Relations & Advertising

Faculty mentor: Meg Knowles

### **The Clarity of Scientology**

**Kathryn Drueschler**

Journalism

Faculty mentor: Meg Knowles

## BUCKHAM B142

### **The Erasure of Identity**

**Ehete Mehret**

Media Production

Faculty mentor: Meg Knowles

### **The Cove**

**Onyx Wolverton**

Art and Design

Faculty mentor: Meg Knowles

### **The Relationship of Body Image and Gender Dysphoria in the Media**

**Tofsekul Ahmed**

Journalism

Faculty mentor: Meg Knowles

### **Activism Throughout Buffalo**

**Collin O'Brien**

Media Production

Faculty mentor: Michael Niman

# 4 p.m. – 5 p.m.

## BUCKHAM B141

### **How Autism Has Been Presented in Films and TV Shows Throughout the Years**

**Shavonne Pucula**

Communication Studies

Faculty mentor: Ann Liao

### **Fictional Characters in Reality**

**Antonio Adrian**

Media Production

Faculty mentor: Ann Liao

### **African American Cultural Center**

**Hannah Ross, Christopher Davis, Matthew Miles & Elijah Umeh**

Public Relations & Advertising/Criminal Justice/Media Production/Media Production

Faculty mentor: Ann Liao

### **Psychology Behind Athlete Success Concerning Stephen Curry: Underrated**

**Chyann Kelly**

Media Production

Faculty mentor: Meg Knowles

## BUCKHAM B142

### **Friends of the Night People**

**Fletcher Gonzalez & Brayden Hayes**

Media Production/Communication Studies

Faculty mentor: Ann Liao

### **The Pulse of the City**

**Nathan Palmer**

Communication Studies

Faculty mentor: Michael Niman

### **The Art of Food: A Photographic Essay**

**Lisa Michael**

Higher Education and Student Affairs

Faculty mentor: Michael Niman

### **Racial Injustice and Media Influence in the Central Park Five**

**Benus Araujo**

Communication Studies

Faculty mentor: Meg Knowles