



## COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT

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BUFFALO STATE • The State University of New York

# The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Student Research and Creativity Fall Forum

**November 14, 2025**

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

**Welcome** to the 2025 Communication Department Student Research and Creativity Fall Forum! Today, we recognize and celebrate your scholarly, creative, and professional achievements. You have worked hard to bring together your research and ideas to this forum, and we are delighted with the opportunity to have you here. This forum offers us a platform to discuss what shapes the field of communication, what inspires us, what elevates us, and what concerns us. Communication as a field is ever-changing, and you are at the forefront of this transformation by engaging in research, creative, and professional activities to not only showcase what you have learned in your class but also bring to light how communication is evolving in our society. Your participation in today's forum demonstrates your dedication to the field, your inspiration for new knowledge, and your commitment to learning. We congratulate you and your faculty mentor. Enjoy the forum!

Communication Department  
Buffalo State University

**2 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.**

## **BUCKHAM B141**

### **What Sports Say About Us**

**Kevin McDermott**

Media Production

Faculty Mentor: Meg Knowles

### **Restrepo & Direct Cinema**

**Derek Dandrea**

Media Production

Faculty Mentor: Meg Knowles

### **Surveillance and Resistance: Government Fear of Black Empowerment in MLK/FBI (2020) and Black Panthers: Vanguard of Revolution (2015)**

**Nailah Abdul-Furqan**

Media Production

Faculty Mentor: Meg Knowles

### **The Contexts of Motorcycling**

**Salvatore Kilonsky**

Media Production

Faculty Mentor: Meg Knowles

### **The Unnatural Disaster of Hurricane Katrina**

**Jenyelyn McClary**

Media Production

Faculty Mentor: Meg Knowles

## **BUCKHAM B142**

### **Putting on the Detective Hat**

**Matthew Barton**

Journalism

Faculty Mentor: Annemarie Franczyk

### **Fanning the Flames: Building a Community Around Red Dragon**

**Isabella Shenandoah-Kurtz**

Communication Studies

Faculty Mentor: Ann Liao

### **Fate, Faith, and Formula One: The Spiritual Narrative of Senna**

**Pius Kitengie**

Media Production

Faculty Mentor: Meg Knowles

**Herzog and Coppola's Shared Descent into Madness**

**Magnus Lundquist**

Media Production

Faculty Mentor: Meg Knowles

**"Icarus" and the Geopolitics of Documentary Film**

**Timothy O'Rourke**

Communication Studies

Faculty Mentor: Meg Knowles

**3:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

## **BUCKHAM B141**

**Center Stage or Stereotypes? Black Women's Roles in Contemporary TV and Film**

**Neshiah Alston**

Communication Studies

Faculty Mentor: Ann Liao

**Players to Punters**

**Cesar Taveras**

Media Production

Faculty Mentor: Meg Knowles

**Social Media and Mental Health in Film**

**Ayla Oakley**

Media Production

Faculty Mentor: Meg Knowles

**'Blackfish' Documentary Analysis - Exploiting Animals in Captivity & Why It's Wrong**

**Emma Hoang**

Media Production

Faculty Mentor: Meg Knowles

**Voices That Were Always There: Indigenous Women's Activism**

**Paige Smith**

Communication Studies & English

Faculty Mentor: Meg Knowles

**Technology and Its Consequences**

**Matthew Miles**

Media Production

Faculty Mentor: Meg Knowles

**My Winnipeg and the Avant-Garde**

**Ayden Lindsay**

Media Production

Faculty Mentor: Meg Knowles

# **Congratulations, Presenters!**

**Fall Forum Organizer:**  
**Ann Liao, Ph.D.**  
**Associate Professor**  
**Communication Studies**

**Fall Forum Moderators:**  
**Dorothea Braemer, MFA**  
**Associate Professor**  
**Media Production**

**Annemarie Franczyk, Ed.D.**  
**Associate Professor**  
**Journalism**