PMMA Newsletter

March 3, 2021

Reflection Time
If you can travel back to a year ago, what would you tell yourself? What advice would you give to yourself?

Today’s Inspiration
"Success is the sum of small efforts repeated day in and day out." - Robert Collier

Fordham University Updates:

Happy first week of March!! Here's to the beginning of spring weather and daylight savings!

PMMA Students - Action Required for Graduation Applications: Reminder to apply for graduation via My Fordham by Friday, March 5th in order to receive emails and be officially in the university graduation program.

Accelerated Students will be May Graduates
Regular Cohort Students will be August graduates, ending August 6th Questions?
Contact Beth Knobel or Michelle O’Dwyer via Email

PMMA Students: Information is coming soon regarding Capstone projects, which will
begin after Spring classes end in May. You will also need to designate a Fordham Faculty member to be your mentor.

**LAST CALL for Lambda Pi Eta Membership Application - March 5th**: Just a reminder that it is the last week to apply in NCA's competition. Those interested can apply via this Google form by March 5th 10 pm: Grad LPH Application

**Make sure to join the Fordham CMS LinkedIn group to stay up to date on job opportunities, networking, and more!**

COVID testing precautions for the Spring semester require students to have a negative COVID-19 test prior to being allowed on campus.

- if you are in New York or in a state contiguous to New York (Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pennsylvania or Vermont), you must have negative test results within seven days prior to your arrival at Fordham
- if you are in a state that is NOT contiguous to New York (including if outside of the United States), you must have a test 3 days prior to your departure AND a test on day 4 to opt out of the 10-day New York state travel quarantine; you must also complete the Fordham Quarantine Form

To make an appointment to get tested on campus [click here]!
Frank Bi began his career as a reporter working on digital teams in an expansive variety of newsrooms. Upon studying Computer Science in his undergraduate career, Bi found a community called the National Institute of Computer Assisted Reporting which facilitates training for journalists to build unique and novel storytelling experiences in addition to data journalism or reporting. “I learned a lot about the other opportunities out there in a newsroom in the editorial realm,” said Bi. “I embarked on that journey using my background in computer science and in journalism to find opportunities to tell stories online beyond the text on a page.”

Bi joined the PMMA faculty this semester with teaching Data & Communications geared towards students in both tracks. Bi originally began teaching after opportunities to speak at annual conferences such as Investigative Reporters and Editors, which he now attends regularly. Before the pandemic, Bi taught across the country at a variety of newsrooms, classrooms, and universities, including in Fordham’s undergraduate program.

Bi said his teaching is geared towards facilitating better research, creating data visualizations, and learning how to use, analyze, and collect data. “Part of what I want to do with this class is to have my students understand that whatever job they have in the future, they will be working with data,” said Bi. “Data is such a constant in our world and in our society.”

Currently, Bi’s students are beginning on a data collection project, and will later take part in collaborative work. “The biggest project I have my students working on right now is a data diary project,” said Bi. “The entire project is all about understanding the process of collecting data.” Bi said he is most excited to contribute to the PMMA program’s mission and enjoys building off skills from other professors.

One of Bi’s professional highlights includes the time he has volunteered with the Asian American Journalists Association. Bi has served different roles within the professional organization and is currently president of the New York chapter. Bi said AAJA preaches the importance of representation, which Bi finds especially imperative when facilitating a variety of backgrounds and viewpoints for professors teaching subjects within journalism. “Throughout my career, AAJA has been instrumental to me being where I am right now,” said Bi. “I became a journalist to have an impact and to help create change.”
Faculty spotlights will be a regular feature of this newsletter. We’d like to shine the spotlight on as many people as possible, so if you’re interested in sharing your story, please send us an email here!

COHORT SPOTLIGHT

HELENA RAMPERSAUD

Helena Rampersaud holds an undergraduate career from Manhattanville College, studying Creative Writing and Communication and Media for four years. At the end of Rampersaud’s senior year, she decided to make a switch to focus on journalism. “It’s when I took my first video production class that I realized, I can totally marry poetry with storytelling and really create good art, sharing people’s stories,” said Rampersaud. Rampersaud said she specifically wants to go into documentary journalism and provide a platform amplifying the voices of those in marginalized communities, as a goal to personalize media and increase representation in the news.

Since entering Fordham University’s PMMA Program, Rampersaud has taken role as WFUV’s Graduate Fellow. She works alongside George Bodarky, News Director of the station, located on the Rose Hill Campus, and current Audio Narrative PMMA faculty. Through this opportunity, Rampersaud has produced
videos for the segment “Election Connection” and created her own podcast entitled, “There’s Always a First.” After nearly two months of training under Bodarky and WFUV’s Assistant News and Public Affairs Director Robin Shannon, Rampersaud will begin newscasting as a radio news anchor at WFUV. “I have such great creative freedom and full support,” said Rampersaud. “I love the PMMA program at Fordham because it’s centered on the people in our communities that are making a difference.”

After a full semester as WFUV Fellow, Rampersaud said she is hoping to continue learning how to make people comfortable sharing their stories and personal details about their lives. “I hope I can continue to enhance staying true to the person’s voice and not overstep them, and provide a stage for their own words to shine,” said Rampersaud.

In her time between work and classes, Rampersaud said she enjoys baking and sharing desserts in addition to continuing her career in poetry. Rampersaud said she loves poetry and has been performing spoken word poetry across the city since she was 13 years old, beginning her open mic career at the Nuyorican Poets Café. “No matter what I do and no matter where my career takes me, I am a poet before anything else,” said Rampersaud. “It’s such a big part of who I am and how I’ve met such amazing people in my life.”

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**FORDHAM & NYC EVENTS**

**PMMA’s Paint & Sip Event**

*March 27th*  
*Register by March 4th*

Save the date! Take a night to relax, sip, and paint with our own PMMA student and talented artist Mackenzie Heslin-Scott! Time and Zoom details coming soon.

Don’t forget to register by March 4th through Google Forms [here](#).
Out of the Ivory Tower: Writing for the Wider Public and the Role of Academics as Public Intellectuals
March 3rd, 5-6:30 pm

PMMA's own Jackie Reich will be co-moderating a virtual discussion with a panel of public scholars from across the country. The co-moderator is Sarah Zimmerman, Professor of English at Fordham University. The event is free and open to the public.

To attend, email sogno@fordham.edu for the Zoom link

GSAS: Three Minute Thesis Competition, Virtual Information Session and Training Workshop
March 5, 1 pm

Open to all students enrolled in a GSAS
Master's program, the Three Minute Thesis is a research communication competition developed by the University of Queensland in Australia. Contestants have three minutes to deliver compelling presentations on their thesis or dissertation research.

RSVP for the Information Session & Training Workshop here

Fordham University NYFTSA: Screenplays Live! followed by the 2nd Annual One Minute Film Festival March 25th, 7 pm

Save the date for live staged readings of Fordham student screenplays followed by the 2nd Annual One Minute Film Festival, with the winning films announced and screened! (Deadline for video submissions is March 12)

Zoom link here

Journalism State of the Field March 6th, 8:30 am

Join the Newhouse School for a virtual daylong symposium exploring the issues and events that impact journalism today. Among the impressive professional panelists will be PMMA faculty's very own George Bodary, speaking during Session 4: Finding Your Voice for Radio, TV, and Podcasts.
Listen to "All Things Considered" Discussion

Brandy-Monk Payton, a scholar of media and Black cultural studies at Fordham University, was on "All Things Considered" on Saturday talking with NPR's Michel Martin regarding the most recent controversy around race to rock "The Bachelor" and its 5 million weekly viewers.

Link to watch here

International Women's Day: Celebrating Female Leadership
March 8th, 6 pm

Join a virtual conversation in celebration of women's achievements among female media leaders on how they have overcome obstacles to advance their careers.

This event will focus on why female leadership is so important, and how to inspire and empower the generation to come.

Register for the event here

Podcasting: What's Next?
March 16th, 6 pm

Join this online event to hear from a mix of industry professionals and start-up creators (including from Pineapple Street Studios, Audible, and Wondery) share how to produce compelling audio content, share it with listeners, where to
find opportunities in audio, and how to create your own.

Register here

Virtual International Arts Festival for Social Change: Mark DeGarmo Dance
March 16-18, all performances 7 pm
PMMA Student Miranda Stuck Performing: March 17th, 7 pm

Mark DeGarmo Dance's VIA features 19 performing artists from 5 countries over the course of the three evening event. Founded in October 2020, MDD’s seasonal Virtual International Arts (VIA) Festival creates a space for artists, scholars, and audiences to share, respond, and reflect beyond traditional, commercial performance spaces that often exclude people and limit access. PMMA Student Miranda Stuck will be performing in this event with a self-choreographed piece on Wednesday, March 17th.

More Information here
Event Registration via Eventbrite here

How to Get Your Foot In The Door!
March 27, 2 pm

What are the jobs in television that put you in proximity to writers? Join our own Dee LaDuke’s who will be moderating a Zoom Q & A on how to land jobs as writers in the TV/Film industry.

Email dladuke@fordham.edu to receive a Zoom invite
Ignatian Spirituality and Yoga
Mondays & Tuesdays at 7PM

Ignatian Spirituality and Yoga offers a quiet and reflective opportunity to pray with your body in a most holy and sacred space. It weaves the art and practice of movement, reflection and meditation, and spiritual exercise. Weather permitted, Ignatian Spirituality and Yoga will sometimes be held on the Church Lawn or the Lincoln Center Plaza. It will be available weekly, however, through Zoom.

Zoom link here (meeting ID: 649 961 650)

New York Music Month Events

New York Music Month Extended Play is a way for musicians, industry, and fans to tune into New York’s one-of-a-kind music scene safely from their homes. Learn to create your own music or record a podcast, hear from up-and-coming NYC artists, take a masterclass from industry experts, or join a workshop to hone your music business skills – all for free.

Click here to learn more!

JOB / GENERAL OPPORTUNITIES

Current PMMA Students: Apply for Membership to Lambda Pi Eta (LPH)

Deadline: March 5th, 2021 by 10 pm EST
Fordham University’s CMS invites PMMA students to apply to be a part of the National Communication Association (NCA) through Lambda Pi Eta.

For more information, click [here](#)  
To apply via Google Forms, click [here](#)

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**Social Media Corps (SMC) Fellowship Program**  
*Applications due Thursday March 11th, 2021 at 11:30 pm SMC  
Program runs: 3/22-5/10*

The SMC Program trains undergraduate and graduate students to produce digital artifacts for social media. This is an arts and humanities program focused on critical making, aligned with AADHum’s commitment to extending conceptual learning opportunities into material practices. Participation in the pilot program will result in $750 offered stipend.

Click [here](#) to learn more about the program  
Application available [here](#)  
Questions? Contact [aadhum@umd.edu](mailto:aadhum@umd.edu)

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**Apply for the Laura Bassi Scholarship**  
*Application Deadline: March 31st, 2021  
Results will be announced: April 25, 2021*

The Laura Bassi Scholarship, awarding a total of $8,000 thrice per annum, was established by Editing Press in 2018 with the aim of providing editorial assistance to postgraduates and junior academics.
whose research focuses on neglected topics of study, broadly construed. Currently enrolled master's and doctoral candidates are eligible to apply.

Application portal can be found here

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**Join the Ignation Media Lab**  
*Submissions Accepted March 1-June 15, 2021*

Are you a fan of Ignatian spirituality and a faith that does justice? Do you have a great digital media idea to help promote the Jesuit mission? Interested in access to all kinds of expert support to make your idea a reality? (plus, a mini-grant!) Apply to the Ignation Media Lab today!

Website for application and details here  
Questions? Contact [jcucommunications@jesuits.org](mailto:jcucommunications@jesuits.org)

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**Jesuit Conference of US & Canada Launches: Global Ignation Storytelling Initiative, In the Pilgrim’s Company**  
*Submissions Accepted March 1-June 15, 2021*

To celebrate the Ignatian Year, the Jesuit Conference of Canada and United States is inviting storytellers all over the world to contribute their ideas to the project. Read more about the project at the website for submissions below.

Submissions can be made here  
Questions? Contact [eclayton@jesuits.org](mailto:eclayton@jesuits.org)
Join the Waterfront Conference as a 2021 Con Edison Waterfront Scholar

**Deadline: April 16**

**Conference will be held: May 10,12,14**

Waterfront Alliance, a civic organization working to inspire and effect resilient, revitalized, and accessible coastlines in the New York & New Jersey metropolitan region, is inviting students to apply to attend the annual Waterfront Conference as a Waterfront Scholar.

Waterfront Scholars will be invited to attend the Waterfront Conference free of charge, and will be recognized during the day’s activities.

Fill out the short application [here](#).

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**Poynter Internship Database**

Poynter has launched its Internship Database, designed to be the go-to place for students seeking paid summer, fall and spring internships. The goal is to create the nation’s premier collection of journalism and communications internships.

Students can browse our listings and employers can add their own. The database is updated and refreshed weekly.

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Don’t forget to check out Handshake for job & internship opportunities throughout the semester!
If you’re looking for more personalized career guidance, please contact Megan McDonald with Fordham Career Services at mmcdonald21@fordham.edu.

SIGN UP HERE

That’s it for now. Thank you for reading and have a wonderful rest of your week!

Miranda Stuck
PMMA ’21

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