



VIRGINIA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

FALL ACADEMIC SYMPOSIUM

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4TH 2025

CELEBRATING ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE



PREMIER SPEAKERS
SESSION 1
12:00 PM - 1:15 PM
IN THE ATHENAEUM

ACADEMIC PERSPECTIVES ON SOCIAL ISSUES

ELENA LICHTENWALNER

Mothering and Marriage are Madness: Women in Saturday Night and Sunday Morning
Mentor: Dr. Rebecca Hooker

CALEE LUKOWSKI

The Invisibility of Women and the Constraints of Societal Cycles: Analyzing the Symbolism of the Ring in The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue
Mentor: Dr. Rebecca Hooker

HUNTER DAVENPORT

Analyzing the Current State of the Voice Artist
Mentor: Dr. Kathy Merlock Jackson

ELENA LICHTENWALNER

Community Writing in England
Mentor: Mrs. Brooke Novkovic



PREMIER SPEAKERS
SESSION 2
2:30 PM - 3:45 PM
IN THE ATHENAEUM

ENVIRONMENTALISM ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

LILY RESLINK

Communication and Circulation: Transforming a University into an Item-Sharing Community
Mentor: Dr. Kathy Merlock Jackson

ELIZABETH KOBLE

Kids' Eco-Literature: Environmental Awareness in Education
Mentor: Dr. Kellie Holzer

STEPHANIE CLARK

Enduring Traditions: Indigenous Practices Through Modern Latin America
Mentor: Dr. Diana Risk

JACOB HOFSTETTER

Diet of the Harvestman Leiobunum Formosum
Mentor: Dr. Victor Townsend Jr

HALEY CUMMINS

Serving Portsmouth From the Roots up: Community and Ecosystem Benefits of Urban Tree Planting
Mentor: Dr. Elizabeth Malcolm



POSTER SESSION
4:00 PM - 5:30 PM
IN THE ATHENAEUM



70+ POSTERS FEATURING:

Emma M. Adams	Amalia E. Houff	Erin Beaudry	Salena Jones	Vasylyna Fedun
Emilie R. Dajc	Salena Grace D. Jones	Allie Wheatley	Hannah Luxner	Anabel Williams
Aidan D. Foley	Joshua J. Pepper	Lynsey Cox	Mikayla Westra	Angel Summers
Tonis Alec H. Gordon	Sydney K. Queen	Stephanie Clark	David Hartwell	Siah Hall
Jasmine M. Gorney	Joy A. Ramsey	Gabrielle Barnett	Hannah Rose	Lyrice Hoggard
Anna G. Greenleaf	Sarah S. Richards	Avery Lewis	Abigail Carlson	Mia Skaggs
Isabella D. Grosswiler	Haley M. Sadler	Madison Hayes	Bryce Folmar	Gavin Ashe
Lieselotte J. Hazelwood	Leif P. Simons	Jacob Hofstetter	Grace Harriman	Juliette Coffey
Dhamisaa J. Holsclaw	Andrew L. Steiner	Elena Lichtenwalner	Clarissa Thurston	Baylee Brown
Steven Medinets	Rhine Johnson	Calee Lukowski	Alen Curovic	Kendall Abercrombie
Kendall Abercrombie	Kaleigh Dean	Mason Pate	Ali Karaca	Adriana Paci
Margaret Haynes	Breanna Gable	Sarah Verbeck	Cole Spencer	Haley Cummins
Jelina Swan	Jacob Hofstetter	Haley Cummins	Ava Gerstermeier	



ADDITIONAL SESSIONS

GLOBAL HISTORIES
OF MASCULINITY

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3RD
1:00 - 2:15 PM

ATHENAEUM, HOFHEIMER LIBRARY

Featuring Victoria Willey, Debra "Debbie" Buckalew, Daren Abramaitys, and Ryan Koval
Led by Dr. Tyler Lehr

MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS
RESEARCH AND INTERNSHIP
PRESENTATIONS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3RD
2:30 - 3:15 PM

BIRDSONG HALL, ROOM 202

Featuring Austin Smith and Kami Whisenhunt
Led by Dr. Kathy Merlock Jackson

ROCK PAINTING

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4TH
ANYTIME BETWEEN 1:00 AND 4:30 PM
THE TRUIST LIGHTHOUSE, CLARKE HALL

Students, faculty, and staff are invited to join us for a time of reflection on values relating to peace and community. Stones will become sources of inspiration in the VWU Peace Garden.
Led by Dr. Kathy Stolley and Kelly Jackson