

# THE BRIDGE

Vol. 24 Issue 5

Grand Valley State University  
Educational Support Program

March 2012

## SAVE THE DATE: UPCOMING EVENTS By: Melissa Selby-Theut

Winter semester is officially in full-force, and that can mean only one thing. . . the ESP Annual Banquet! Every year ESP celebrates the successes of its students – that means YOU! – at its Annual Banquet, and this year is going to be extra fun. The theme this year is all things carnival – that means elephant ears, and corndogs, and games, and prizes, and elephant ears. Did I mention the elephant ears?! Yum!

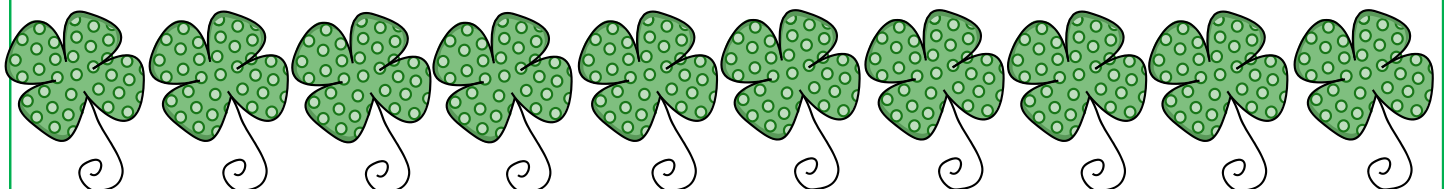
Invitations will hit the mail soon, but be sure to save the date in the meantime. Grab your phone or planner . . . . it's Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> from 12pm until 2pm in the Grand River Room. Be there!

And ESP is hosting a second cultural event this semester (hopefully more successfully than the blizzard nightmare that crushed our Chinese New Year dreams!). We're going to see *Jersey Boys* March 25<sup>th</sup>. If you don't know about *Jersey Boys*, you should. . . it's the hottest Broadway play around! Winner of "Best Musical" and multiple other awards at the Tonys, *Jersey Boys* is set in the 1950s. So where better to eat than an authentic 1950s diner?! This one is sure to be fun (and blizzard free!). Sign up today at the ESP office !

See you there, ESP!

## CONGRATULATIONS MARIO AND RAQUEL MI-CAPP SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS! By: Marnie Parris-Bingle

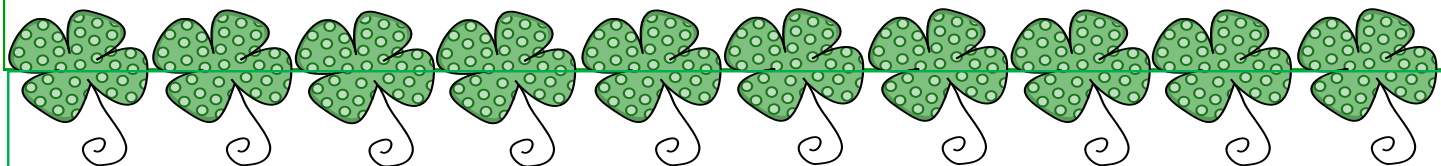
On February 18, 2012, the Michigan College Access Programs & Personnel (MI-CAPP), a Chapter of the Mid-America Association of the Educational Opportunity Program Personnel held a dinner in Kalamazoo to recognize all the scholarship recipients across the state. Marnie Parris-Bingle, Program Advisor escorted two GVSU Educational Support Program participants who were awarded scholarships through MI-CAPP. Raquel Perozo, a junior and Allied Health Science major/Biology minor, won a \$500 MI-CAPP scholarship for Academic Progress. The other winner, Mario Amaya-Velazquez, International Relations major, won a \$1000 Study Abroad scholarship to study in Italy. Congratulations Mario and Raquel



**Registration Schedule for**  
SENIOR ( 85+ credits )  
 Last Name A-L: March 20  
 Last Name M-Z: March 21  
JUNIOR ( 55-84 credits )  
 Last Name A-G: March 22  
 Last Name H-O: March 23  
 Last Name P-Z: March 26  
SOPHOMORE ( 25-54 credits )  
 Last Name F-K: March 27  
 Last Name L-R: March 28  
 Last Name S-Z: March 29  
 Last Name A-E: March 30  
FRESHMAN ( 0-24 credits)  
 Last Name O-S: April 2  
 Last Name T-Z: April 3  
 Last Name A-D: April 4  
 Last Name E-J: April 5  
 Last Name K-N: April 6

**Spring/Summer 2012, Fall 2012, and Winter 2013**

RETURNING GRADUATE ( All graduate levels )  
 March 19  
FIRST TIME GRADUATE STUDENTS (Degree or Non-degree)  
 Begins March 20  
OPEN REGISTRATION  
 Begins April 7  
FIRST-TIME NON-DEGREE UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS  
 Begins April 7  
FIRST-TIME UNDERGRAD DEGREE SEEKING STUDENTS  
 At Orientation



Fun St. Patrick's Day Dessert Recipe

By: Natosha Beaman

Mini Grasshopper Cheesecakes



**Total Time: 1 hour** Prep time: 40mins Cook time: 20mins

**Ingredients:**

- 18 -24 chocolate and mint cookies (such as Keebler Grasshoppers or Girl Scout Thin Mints)
- 2 (8 ounce) packages cream cheese, softened
- 1 ¼ cups granulated sugar
- 1/3 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 3 large eggs, beaten lightly
- ½ teaspoon chocolate mint extract (or 1/4 tsp mint and 1/4 tsp chocolate extract or chocolate liqueur)
- 1 cup sour cream

**Topping:**

- 3 drops green food coloring
- 1 cup sour cream
- 2 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

**Directions:**

Line regular muffin tins with cupcake liners and set 1 cookie into each tin. Preheat oven to 325°F. Beat cream cheese, sugar, cocoa powder, and flour together well. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each. Stir in sour cream and extract. Fill tins and bake 20-25 minutes. Filling will still appear soft but won't jiggle when cooked. Cool in tins 5-10 minutes. Combine topping and spoon onto each cake, then allow to cool completely still in the tins. (about 30 minutes). Chill well before serving.

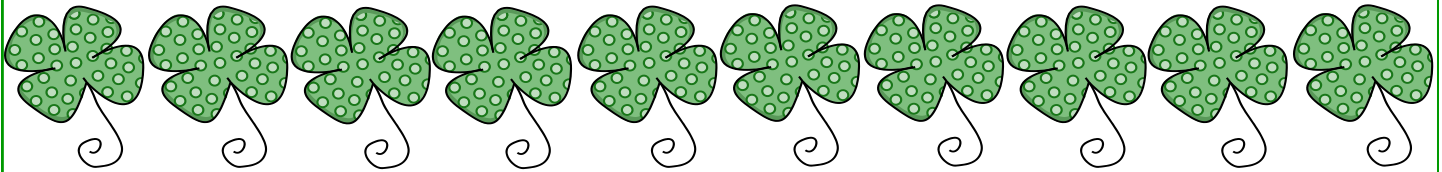
**TIP:** Use extra cookies to garnish the tops of each (I crumble some of the extra cookies and pop a mint leaf into the top).

## Financial Aid for Spring/Summer Vicky Powers

Even though Mother Nature is confused about the weather, summer classes will be here before we know it! For any Grand Valley student interested in receiving financial aid for the summer you must have the following in place:

- 1.) Have the 2011/2012 FAFSA on file with Grand Valley.
- 2.) Complete the Spring/Summer Financial Aid Application with the Financial Aid Office. This form will be available on March 19<sup>th</sup> at [www.gvsu.edu/financialaid/summer](http://www.gvsu.edu/financialaid/summer).
- 3.) Enroll for a minimum of part-time status. If you are working on a bachelor's degree this means at least 6 credits.

Financial Aid is limited to **student loans only** in the summer for the majority of students. If you have the Tuition Incentive Program (TIP) from the State of Michigan please let your ESP advisor know! Your advisor can work with you on maximizing those funds.



St. Patrick's Day-Around the World!  
By: Mackenzie Kindel

It all started back in the 4<sup>th</sup> century; at the age of sixteen St Patrick was kidnapped by Irish raiders and taken captive to Ireland as a slave. Soon after his capture he escaped to Britain. Upon his return he joined the church in Auxerre in Gaul and studied to become a priest. In 432, he returned to Ireland as a bishop to teach, and it is there that the shamrock was used to explain the Trinity, causing the association of shamrocks to St Patrick.

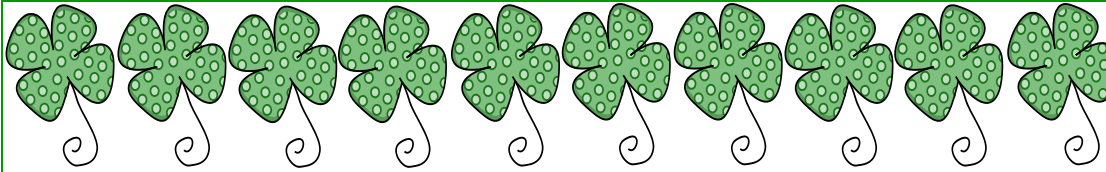
Originally the color associated with St Patrick's Day was blue, until 1798 when the Irish soldiers went on a rebellion to make a political statement by wearing full green uniforms on March 17<sup>th</sup>, hoping to get the attention of people in New York City. From there on green ribbons, clothing and shamrocks are worn for the celebration and festivities.

The first celebration of St Patrick's Day took place in the U.S with the march of the soldiers. In 1848 New York Aids once again started the parade in NYC. Today this parade is the oldest civilian parade and the largest in the U.S with over 150,000 participants. Nowadays Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia and Savannah celebrate with parades with 10,000-20,000 participants, and even festivities like dyeing a river green.

It wasn't until 1903 when St Patrick's Day became an official holiday in Ireland. Many do not know that at that time pubs and bars were banned from being open on March 17<sup>th</sup>, until the law was repealed in the 1970's. Now in Ireland this holiday has turned into a 5 day long festival, with over 1 million visitors taking part in concerts, performances, fireworks, and dancing.

Not many people know that St Patrick's Day is celebrated around the world, including Argentina, Canada, the U.K., Japan, New Zealand and Australia and South Korea. Most celebrate by attending parades and gathering at local Irish pubs but some do even more. Calgary Tower in Canada changes their top exterior lights to green, which almost resemble a Leprechaun's hat. Britain does a few activities, one being the hold the largest St Patrick's Day parade that covers over two miles, and Trafalgar Square fountains are dyed green. Japan celebrates the holiday for almost the entire month of March. Last but not least, the Sydney Opera House has been known to change their lights to green.

This year help out the Guinness World Record by making St Patrick's Day officially 'The Friendliest Day of the Year'. You can do this by going to [www.facebook.com/guinnessnz](http://www.facebook.com/guinnessnz) and signing the pledge online stating you will celebrate true Irish friendliness this St Patrick's Day.



## EVENTS

**March 1: FAFSA DUE**

**March 2&3: Griffin's Hockey @ Van Andel 7pm**

**March 4-11: SPRING BREAK !!**

**March 12: Classes Restart**

**March 9: Drop Deadline with a W**

**Match 16&17: Griffin's Hockey @ Van Andel 7pm**

**March 17: St. Patrick's Day**

**March 21: Blood drive 12-7pm @ Kleiner**

**March 23: Annual Banquet 12-2 Grand River Room**

**March 24: Allendale Craft Expo– Allendale Middle School 9am-7pm**

**March 25: Jersey Boys Cultural Event**

**March 27: Mars at the Museum @ GR public museum, 8:30-10pm FREE**

**March 30&31: Griffin's Hockey @ Van Andel 7pm**

**March 31: Rock Against Rape Free concert in Fieldhouse, 6-10pm**

**All of March: Butterflies are blooming at the Fredrick Meijer Gardens**

Check Us Out on the Web!

[www.gvsu.edu/esp](http://www.gvsu.edu/esp)

Facebook

ESP Peer Mentors

### ESP Staff Directory

Melissa Selby-Thuet  
Director  
Marnie Parris–Bingle  
Advisor  
Victoria Powers  
Advisor  
Lolita Salindong  
Office Coordinator

### SSO Staff

Mackenzie Kindel  
Natosha Beaman  
Ashleigh Zerbst

### The Bridge

Written and edited  
by the ESP & SSO staff.  
Published by **Ashleigh  
Zerbst** This Publication and  
all activities are federally  
funded through a grant  
from the U.S. Department  
of Education.



**TRiO**  
STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

**EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PROGRAM  
GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY  
239 STUDENT SERVICES BUILDING  
ALLENDALE, MI 49401**