

# CAPIROTADA

## News from The LAHC MOP Team

Welcome to our inaugural edition of Capirotada-Liberal Arts: Humanities and Communication's newsletter which will come out twice a semester. We want to highlight the great programs, initiatives, and events that so many of our departments are doing!



### Something You Might Not Know About Matthew: An Interview with the Dean of Humanities

He's been a professional musician for the last 50 years! What?! Yes, it is true. September 4, 2022 was Matthew's fiftieth anniversary as a Professional Organist and the last 36 years at Christ Lutheran Church in Georgetown, Texas. He started off his day with coffee and reviewing (as always) what he was going to be playing once again for the prelude, liturgy, hymns, offertory, and postlude. After all the years of service to the church, he was delighted to celebrate his golden anniversary around his own quirks and preferences. For example, Matthew was going to play the Ukrainian National Anthem and, for the prelude, he chose his own organ arrangements of three pieces from "The Elder Scrolls: Skyrim" video game by Jeremy Soule. My own musician son, Noah, also a big fan of Skyrim and Soule, thought it was a fantastic choice to start the celebration.

On a pleasant September morning, Matthew was a bit nostalgic for the days when he rode a motorcycle to church, but other than that thought, there was nothing out of the ordinary. Once again, he was performing this Sunday morning ritual that he had been performing for the last 50 years.

Matthew turned into the church parking lot to find six police cars and a crime scene....

Certainly not what he expected from a story that started when he was 13 years old in Killen, Texas. Or even further than that when Matthew's great grandfather, Heinrich Friedrich Daude, who in the late 1800's was a baker in the town of Bielefeld in Northeast Germany. This was a time when many Germans were migrating to the United States and even more were traveling to the American West. Heinrich was fascinated with all the stories he was hearing. He was also very interested in the history of the American West, especially how Mexico has abolished slavery in Texas in the 1830's which was factor in the Texas War of Independence. Being German, he was also interested in the reign of Emperor Maximilian and Empress Carlota from 1864-1867 in Mexico, and greatly moved by the American Civil War's great effort to get rid of slavery. Sparks of curiosity about the Americas and their issues lead to a flame of desire to change his life. As a result, he went to Lutheran seminary and became a pastor, a missionary. Heinrich deeply believed that he was called by God to spread the gospel and pursue social justice in Central Texas. Eventually, Heinrich landed in Galveston and first settled in Pflugerville (today Matthew lives in Pflugerville on Epiphany street!). Then, in 1887, he purchased land south of Killeen and donated it to the Lutheran community. In 1889, as pastor, he co-founded a faith community which built a small framed church--Immanuel Lutheran.

By the time of Matthew's generation, all the Daudes - his mother, father, grandfather, grandmother, aunts, uncles, cousins and their friends and neighbors - were very involved in the various aspects of the church. Growing up, Matthew told me, "My family was the church. Activity in the church was at the core of my extended family. My granny ran the show from the front row!"

Two stories the Daude family told and retold about Matthew are very telling: as a toddler, after services and at the Fellowship Hall with coffee, donuts, family and friends, little Matthew would go up to the piano and pick out the actual tunes he heard from the organ!

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## In This Issue...

Interviews with LAHC,  
featuring:

Dean Matthew Daude

Prof. Arun John

Dr. Lindsey Lawley

Dr. Anne-Marie Thomas

Prof. Alex Watkins

Prof. Sharon Simpson

Polly Monear

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"A Few Things" about the  
MOP Team  
&  
Meet the Editors

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From Our Kitchen:  
Recipes to Share



And the other story is perhaps the most telling of the Matthew we know today—when one day after services, he refused to leave the church because he wanted to see the Holy Ghost. After being politely encouraged to leave by his parents, Matthew then started screaming, “Bring out the Holy Ghost!” Even at 4 years old, he knew that he was not going to accept anything before he had a reason. Not surprisingly, the Daude clan early on labeled him a “rotten little misbehavior,” although they routinely acknowledged and celebrated his musical talents. So much so that when the church organist suddenly quit the church, Immanuel Lutheran Church council met and, on the first Sunday in September, formally hired Matthew at the tender age of 13 as the church organist. The Daude relatives - very German, very reserved, non-emotional - were nevertheless very proud (although Matthew’s mother still held out that he would become a Lutheran pastor). It was fate the uncles and aunts agreed, especially Granny who was especially joyful hearing her treasured grandson play.

For the last 50 years, every Sunday morning Matthew can be found at a Lutheran Church playing the organ. And in the beginning, this was not easy at all for barely teenage Matthew who although loved the music, hated playing for people, and used to, at times, get physically sick. He even played on Christmas Eve with a severe flu and, after playing, fell asleep on the floor! Yet Sunday after Sunday, Matthew persevered even throughout crazy high school and college Saturday nights! Several Lutheran pastors often commented that Matthew’s musical gift was “truly from God.” But what really gave Matthew the strength to continue on this path was what he learned from his Grannie’s delight every Sunday: to honor the gift he had been given which allowed him to share this sacred, special music with other people. When Matthew was 18 and had started college at Southwestern University, he was recruited and hired as a church organist at the historical First United Methodist Church in Georgetown, Texas, which was considered a musical center of Central Texas. The Daudes were happy for his success, but not happy he was leaving the family church. Over the years, besides playing at church every Sunday, he has also played at other places of worship including synagogues. “Each place I have played has mattered to me in different ways,” Matthew told me as I interviewed him recently at the Brewtorium. “This was even true after I graduated from Southwestern with degrees in Music History, Music Theory, and History and was getting my Masters of Divinity at the University of Chicago, where I played at a variety of diverse places.” And why, you might wonder, did Matthew end up at the University of Chicago? I did and he answered: “I got into Princeton for Philosophy, Harvard for History, and University of Chicago for Religion, and Chicago gave me the most money.”

Even though Matthew is not a “believer” in a strict sense, he is a true believer in his great-grandfather’s mission of social justice and how “music is meant to be experienced, and all the talent and skill in the world is diminished if it happens alone, without people to hear and join in . . . music-making is like Kingdom-making: It was never meant to be a light under a bushel. The value of my music-making lies not in what I can get out of it, but in what I can give to others—joy, or comfort, or peace, or the impulse to sing or dance. Or the will to make a difference in the world. Jesus said that the Kingdom is within you. And he taught us to let it out.”

Reflecting on his musical anniversary, he expressed in his blog, Matthew’s Music Minute, “that we should make our own music in the world. Be alive to the beauty you can share with others, be awake to the suffering around you so that you can soothe, be open to the outrageous, impractical compassion that the Kingdom calls you to live and give. Music happens in unexpected places: Live like you are the only instrument of that music, exactly where you are. Because you are the only instrument of your music in the world. Make it loud, and make it real.”

Back to the morning of September 4th , 2022. After “sizing up the scene just the way I scan the church for stragglers during the Eucharist—so I can make the music match the action.” Matthew saw the church secretary and a staff member were sitting on a concrete bench not too far from the yellow tape across the front doors and the pastor had not yet arrived. He then saw police stationed at all the doors and one officer patrolling the perimeter with a drawn semi-automatic rifle. The church secretary then told him that someone had broken into the church and the police were doing a sweep to secure the building, and a crime scene detective was on the way to collect evidence.

Needless to say, it didn’t take long for Matthew to realize what this meant for him—the culmination of 50 years, 2,600 Sundays—he would not be playing the organ that morning. When the pastor arrived, she went straight for Matthew and grabbed his arm with pastoral concern and apologized again and again.

“No apology needed,” Matthew said, “You didn’t need to break into the church.”

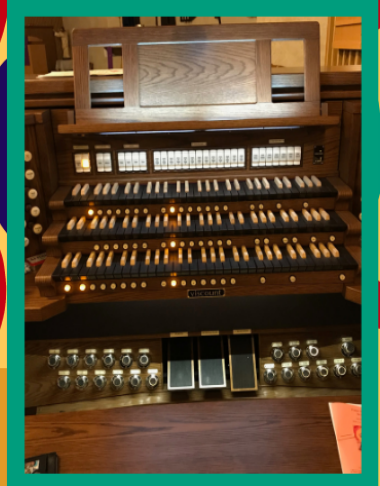
The pastor laughed slightly, then nodded quite solemnly “Are you alright?”

“And what did you say?” I asked our Dean, my boss, and my friend.

Matthew smiled as he sipped his German beer, “I told her I was fine with familiar ‘church musician’ composure. As a breed, we learn early how to roll with the punches. But this is going to make one hell of a good story.”

“Absolutely it is!” I agreed.

--Ysella Fulton Slavin





## LIBERAL ARTS GATEWAY

### An Interview by Pia Mas

For the Liberal Arts Gateway, I interviewed Arun John. He played a big role in the creation of LAG, and continuously does work to keep the program going.

The Liberal Arts Gateway, "Aspires to equip students through deep engagement with the Liberal Arts with the knowledge and skills they need to thrive in a pluralistic society."

LAG has been around for the past 4 years.

A few new initiatives in LAG begin with *Curiositas*, a journal, which is a place for students to showcase their academic writing.

LAG has also wanted to pair different disciplines, for example: a nursing focused Composition II class to expand their audience and to give more opportunities to other disciplines. Currently, LAG is trying to expand out to other departments for this reason.

Arun's favorite thing about LAG is the collaboration that happens between faculty within a discipline, creating better courses and better outcomes for students. LAG has strengthened the faculty community while also contributing to the students' success. Some of the statistics show improvement in grades throughout the students who took a LAG course. The students also said that LAG courses helped them understand the course better and made them more interested in the class.

It is good to note that the LAG courses carry the same weight as regular classes, you can still use the credit outside of ACC.

It's also important to know that LAG is a faculty empowerment initiative, and when you empower the faculty it automatically translates to success for students; "the energy from us is transferred to the students"-Arun John.

LAG still has much work to do and continuously provides new and interesting opportunities for their students.



## THE GRAMMAR SUMMIT

### An Interview by Pia Mas

Dr. Lindsey Lawley states that, "The Grammar Summit can be defined in two words- equity and effectiveness."

The purpose of the Grammar Summit is to hear other faculty ideas about how to proceed teaching grammar in today's world. People write all the time, whether it be for a job, class, or social media, making grammar an essential skill.

However, grammar has been weaponized and some don't feel comfortable in their skills. People see grammar as a set of rules that no one ever gets right. Grammar has been kept so exclusionary and the organizers of the summit want people to be able to use it as a tool. The Grammar Summit motto is "tools not rules."

The Grammar summit shares research through each field and makes one another ask, "What do my students need?" which leads to, "What can we do for our students now?"

The Summit is held every fall in two year intervals. Faculty from anywhere in ACC can submit a proposal to make a presentation. A committee will then select the presentations and each person has time to talk about it and discuss with others afterwards.

The Grammar Summit spawned from the Dean, Matthew Daude, and his office in 2020.

One of Lindsey's favorite things about the Summit is how regularly it meets. She also likes bringing the teaching practice of grammar to the forefront, especially for classes that don't involve grammar in their syllabus, but still grade improper grammar that is shown.

They aren't trying to perfect the students grammar, but trying to find ways to make it more useful. Not many students know about the Grammar Summit, however, they are wanting to open it up to student perspectives.

The Grammar Summit is bound to show its effects on students in the years to come, and has the potential to create a new conversation on the way we use grammar in the future.

# LITERARY JOURNALS & COMPETITIONS

By Claudia Hinojos

**CURIOSITAS** is a student-run journal that started as a project promoted by Dean Matthew Daude, and it was developed under the leadership of Dr. Diane Whitley-Grote inside the Liberal Arts Gateway program. The mission of this journal is to publish academic work produced by students. These might include critical essays, podcasts, or even videos.

Editor **Alex Watkins** talked to us about how exciting it is that this academic journal provides students with an opportunity to showcase the excellent work they're doing in their liberal arts classes. "Often, as a professor, I'm amazed by the caliber of work that my students produce, and I wonder if that work ever gets a second look beyond the bounds of our classroom." Her previous experience with student journals at the University of South Florida and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University made her get involved with starting one at ACC.

Curiositas is published annually, and it will be accepting submissions through January 15, 2023.

The premiere issue is slated for publication in April 2023.

<https://curiositas.acclahc.org/>

**CACCIATORE** The art of saying more with fewer words:

Cacciatore has been cooking up since 2018 by the Vision + Voice team. This literary contest was created for ACC Dual Credit students who can write in an artistic but concise way using 200 words or less.

Why 200? The name "Cacciatore" references an Italian stew made by throwing things into a pot and letting them simmer.

The letters CC stand for the Roman numeral 200, as in 200 words.

From poetry to fiction, this project celebrates all kinds of creative voices. Judges **Alex Watkins, Karon Rilling, and Sarah Stayton** selected the previous published winners including Jenna Angle, Kayla Dinh, Sophia Pham, and Lana Ling.

If you would like to have your words published, don't hesitate to submit your piece!

Submissions are open until December 31st. Winners will be celebrated at our first Literary Festival in April.

<https://cacciatore.visionandvoice.org/>

**TRANSPPOSITIONS** Calling all ESOL students:

Transpositions, a Vision+Voice project, is now taking submissions. If you are an ESOL student with stories to tell, this might be the perfect project for you.

**Sharon Simpson**, ESOL Professor, shared her vision in a recent interview. As a current ESOL faculty member, Sharon has worked closely with students who have had the courage to share their experiences and wisdom. She got involved in this project after reading one of her student's essays, who have had a hard life, after being a refugee for 17 years. Reading her paper made her think about all the other valuable and worth hearing stories that could be out there.

She believes it is a part of her job to make students feel comfortable, since they may get overwhelmed from being so far from home and experiencing a different kind of community and interactions. Transpositions does so by inspiring students to write meaningful pieces, and by helping them realize that their written words have a lot of weight and should be preserved.

<https://transpositions.visionandvoice.org/>

**VISION+VOICE** Dean Matthew Laurents and Polly Monear came up with Vision+Voice after talking about a project that would reach the community and get people interested in ACC. At that time, they both had kids in local schools, so they had first-hand experience with how excited people can get about having their kid recognized for creative work.

Polly has a background in art, poetry, and publishing, so they combined all those skills into a contest for local school kids. She has served as the manager/coordinator of V+V since it began and oversees all the aspects of the project. For her, the most exciting thing is seeing the pride and excitement that the students and their parents feel when they are recognized for their poem. "We go all-out with trying to make the poets feel special."

Vision+Voice wants to provide an experience for young people to help them see that their creative side is valuable and can be an important part of who they are. After a few years, the project has expanded to offer the contest to any K-12 kids in the ACC service area.

[k12.visionandvoice.org](http://k12.visionandvoice.org)

# THE HONORS PROGRAM

## An Interview by Pia Mas



I interviewed Dr. Anne- Marie Thomas, She keeps the honors program running and is very passionate about the work being done within the program. “The ACC Honors Program offers core curriculum courses with an emphasis on in-depth research and discussion in small groups.”

Recently the Honors Program was able to obtain a \$25,000 scholarship fund, given to them by the Moody Program, creating Honors Program scholarship opportunities for eligible Honor Students for the next few years.

The Honors Program was also reached out to by KOOP Radio to bring new voices into the mix. The students who have interests in radio and audio production, social media, web content, web maintenance, etc. have the opportunity to gain skills from the radio station.

The Honors Program has even paired up with the University of Texas to create UT's Youth and Community Fellows. YCS Fellows is about opening learning opportunities for Honors students as a series of workshops taught by UT faculty. Students who attend and complete workshops are invited to apply for a special internship with UT.

The Honors Program deserves recognition for how much they do for their students. There are endless opportunities for learning and growing within the Honors Program, and the students love the sense of community created for it. The Honors Program is still growing and gaining more opportunities for their students. Anne-Marie has done quite an amazing job keeping the program afloat and filled with activities and opportunities for the students. We cannot wait to see the long term effect of the Honors Program.

<https://www.austincc.edu/students/honors-program>

<https://www.austincc.edu/students/honors-program/scholars>

## Upcoming LAHC Dates & Events

**Grammar summit:** November 18, 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM  
at the Rio Grande Campus, Multipurpose Room  
1103.00 (1st Floor)

**Great Questions:** November 17th from 7:30 to 9:30 PM  
at Highland Campus

**All Literary Journals & Competitions are currently  
Open for Submissions**



# A FEW THINGS YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT US

## This Issue: The LAHC Marketing, Outreach, and Promotions Team

**J. Wade Allen:** I'm currently in a punk band called Capture Phase (we sound kind of like 90's DC hardcore/punk), my old band Honey and Salt toured throughout the US multiple times and we were on a small label out of Seattle, and, regrettably, I was in a ska/pop-punk band 20 years ago and played trombone and guitar – yikes!

**Britini Wright:** I am a dancer. I have always loved partner dancing because of the connection with the music and between partners. I auditioned for a dance team, made it but couldn't afford to drive to practices. I have done small performances and have been in one competition. I also used to teach line dances in Spokane.

**Katie Lessley:** My go-to karaoke songs are "Giving You the Best that I Got" (Anita Baker), "Sweet Thing" (Chaka Khan), "Damn Your Eyes" (Etta James), and "I Can't Make You Love Me" (Bonnie Raitt). I sing with Conspirare Symphonic Choir (on hiatus for Covid right now), and I sing background vocals for my good friend, Emily Shirley. I went to UT for music school and decided to stay in Austin and build a life.

**Claudia Hinojos:** I'd say a thing you don't know about me is that I have a black belt in Taekwondo and I also participated in the volleyball state championship in Chihuahua, back in Mexico. I don't really play volleyball anymore, but I started playing when I was 10 years old because my dad used to be a professional player and he took me to all of his games, so I fell in love with it!

**Pia Mass:** I used to be a Party Princess for children's birthday parties.

**Juniper Maldonado:** I had a brief stint doing beauty pageants in middle school. I got started because my friend's step-dad insisted I should try, and that somehow snowballed into me winning, like, 5 local pageants and qualifying for regionals in Dallas, where I got second runner-up and promptly retired. Oh, and the company that ran them no longer exists.

**Hailee Toulouse:** One thing you may not know about me is I lived in Cape Town, SA, and attended a religious all-girls boarding school (as an atheist).

**Jessica Allen:** I studied with the Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford-upon-Avon, England for a month in college. I'm also a professional actor and have booked 4 commercials this year, including this Just Bare commercial that has 1.3 million views on YouTube!

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HUHEPo\\_q0AQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HUHEPo_q0AQ)

**Ysella Fulton-Slavin:** Both my parents, Jaime Fulton and Ysela Provencio Fulton were well known artists and when the El Paso Museum of Art held a retrospective of the best Southwest Artists of the last 100 years-- both of them were represented. I'm working on a book about their lives called Harlequins and Angels: A Story of Art, Love, and Death. (My father died tragically young at 33 years old).

**Polly Monear:** Here's the thing you don't know about me: I recently caught a woodchuck that was eating my garden. I used a live trap and relocated her.

Photo of the Culprit:



## The Editors of CAPIROTADA

I'm **Ysella Fulton-Slavin**, Outreach Coordinator for LAHC, a member of the MOP team, and Adjunct Professor of Composition and Literary Studies. I was an English Professor for over 20 years at El Paso Community College, where I was the faculty advisor for the award winning literary journal Chrysalis, co-founded EPCC's Literary Fiesta, and founded PaPaGaYo-College/Community Literary Center. I am also a writer and poet. I have a novel out in the world called "Pomegranate" and I'm working on its sequel, "Rosemary and Cilantro".

Hello everyone! I am **Pia Mas**. I am a work study student for LAHC. I am an ACC student majoring in Communication Studies, and I hope to transfer to UT in the next year or so. I am thrilled to be a part of the MOP team this year and have much to learn from everyone on the team. I hope you enjoy reading what I put out and hope my time here is impactful. Thank You!

My name is **Claudia Hinojos**, and I'm a student at ACC majoring in marketing. I've recently joined the LAHC team, which has been a great experience and opportunity for me to grow personally and professionally. I've always enjoyed learning new skills and being able to get out of my "comfort zone".

**Juniper Maldonado** is a Creative Writing major at St. Edward's University who got their start at ACC, and has experience editing the Rio Review. A Chicana Austin native, their favorite "traditional" recipe is Albondigas en Chipotle.

# From our Kitchen:

## Capirotada

Growing up in Southern New Mexico, my Mexican grandmother would make Capirotada -a type of bread pudding—especially during Lent. When Matthew and I decided to start a newsletter—Capirotada seemed like a perfect name especially given its fascinating history. It started out as a 15th century Spanish dish influenced by Moorish cuisine and then was brought to the New World. Various Hispanic countries and communities have different versions of the dish, but the common ingredients include bolillos (bread), piloncillo (whole cane sugar), cinnamon sticks, cloves, raisins and even cheese mixed together to create a desert that is both delicious and full of religious symbolism.

To me this seemed similar to all our departments from Foreign Languages to Philosophy which work wonderfully together to form LAHC! If you have any events or ideas you would like us to cover—please email me at [ysella.fultonslavin@austincc.edu](mailto:ysella.fultonslavin@austincc.edu)



### What you will need...

#### Bakeware:

- Baking Sheet
- Large Pot
- Baking/Casserole Dish (8 1/2 x 10 in.)

#### Ingredients:

- 4 bolillo rolls, or French rolls
- 4½ cups water
- 12 ounces of piloncillo, or packed dark brown sugar (1½ cups)
- 4 cinnamon sticks
- 6 whole cloves
- 3 cups of shredded cheese: Longhorn Cheddar, Colby, or cheese of your choice
- 1 cup raisins
- 4 tablespoons butter or butter (flavored) spray

### Instructions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees, Fahrenheit.

Cut rolls in ½ inch slices and butter both sides, then layer on baking sheet. Bake for 3 minutes on each side, until lightly toasted and dry. Remove and cool.

Combine water, piloncillo, cinnamon sticks, and cloves in a large saucepan. Bring to boil, then remove from heat and let steep, covered, for 2 hours. Pour through a strainer and discard cinnamon sticks and cloves. Set syrup aside.

Spray baking dish with non-stick spray, and layer ingredients on the following order: one third of the toasted bread, a third of the raisins, a third of the cheese, followed by 1 ½ cups syrup distributed evenly over the cheese.

Wait 15 minutes and repeat with another layer using half of the remaining bread, raisins, cheese, and another 1 ½ cups syrup poured evenly over cheese.

Let soak for another 15 minutes, and again top with the remaining bread, raisins, cheese, and syrup.

Before baking, let set for another 15 minutes.

Cover the dish with aluminum foil that has been sprayed with nonstick spray and bake 40 minutes. Uncover and bake until cheese is golden brown: about 10 to 15 minutes more.

Serve warm.

Notes: Don't over bake or the bread will be dry. Let the Capirotada cool slightly before serving.

Recipe for Capirotada taken from [muybuenocookbook.com](http://muybuenocookbook.com)  
<https://muybuenocookbook.com/capirotada-mexican-bread-pudding/>