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The Dance of Art and Science

Can this be science? JMU takes cross-disciplinary collaboration to a new level.

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FEATURED

30 The Dance of Art and Science

BY BRAD JENKINS ('99)

A yearlong academic emphasis on the "Dance of Art and Science" began with more than 4,000 freshmen dancing in the shape of a double helix on the Quad during Orientation and culminated with a presentation by Liz Lerman, of the Liz Lerman Dance Exchange, and Francis Collins, chief of the National Institutes of Health and mapper of the human genome. The science of exploration and the art of research came together for students from varying disciplines. They learned how to tackle life's most complex health issues and they learned, as Collins said, "It will take people from a host of disciplines to decide what to do with scientific advancements."

28 Health and Hope on the Go

BY JEAN YOUNG KILBY

Nearly half of the homeless people in the Harrisonburg and Rockingham County area are children. The students and faculty members in the JMU Department of Nursing are addressing basic health care issues for this under-represented population with a Health Care for the Homeless initiative. To reduce barriers to health care, nursing students and their professors visit Mercy House and provide basic health screenings and education. They also connect clients to much-needed community resources.

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BY JACQUELYN WALSH ('09)

Political science major Alexandra Robbins ('09) and geographic sciences major Daniel Haney ('07) take the Be the Change spirit to Cambodia's Aziza's Place to provide education, health needs and independence.

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BY MICHELLE HITE ('88)

The JMU Alumni Association celebrates 100 years of alumni successes this fall during Homecoming, Sept. 30–Oct. 1. This is the year to be back in the 'Burg to celebrate JMU alumni and the Be the Change spirit.

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Suitcase nursing student (regional community cover) and freshman Orientation DNA Dance (arts cover) by Diane Elliott ('00). See both at www.jmu.edu/MadisonOnline.

M@adison

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Bright Lights
IraqAndBack.com founder and American hero Maj. Justin Constantine ('92) helps fellow wounded soldiers. **PAGE 20**



Be the Change
Daniel Haney ('07), left, and Alexandra Robbins ('07) take the Be the Change spirit to Cambodia's Aziza's Place. **PAGE 27**



Peer Pressure
Members of the Psychology Peer Advisers celebrate 20 years. **PAGE 47**



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Suitcase Nursing helps local kids
Student nurses and professors bring health and hope to area homeless children and families. **PAGE 28**

GET CONNECTED: www.jmu.edu

GET INSPIRED TO BE THE CHANGE

The Be the Change website has stories and videos about students, professors and alumni changing the world. Sign up, connect, chime in: www.jmu.edu/bethechange
Share your Be the Change story at madisonmag@jmu.edu

VISIT JMU:

Prospective students, alumni, community members, JMU friends: Find it all here. The JMU events calendar, campus map, area lodging and dining. Log on before you roll in to the 'Burg: www.jmu.edu/jmuweb/visitor/

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Your letters, stories and photos



GREAT JOB!

I received the Winter 2011 *Madison* and read it from cover to cover. I found it to be very interesting and informative. I especially enjoyed the article on the two graduates who serve as directors of the two political parties in Virginia [Red, Blue and JMU by Sande Snead ('82)]. That article was very enlightening and informative. Hats off to these two graduates, David Mills ('02) and Dave Rexrode ('01). Thank you to the *Madison* staff for a very well-written and put together magazine. Keep up the great job and cheers for JMU. I'm very proud of my granddaughter, Haley Hanson ('13), who is a sophomore and a JMU cheerleader.

BARBARA HANSON
DUKE CLUB MEMBER
Ashburn, Va.

TUBA OBSERVATIONS

I wanted to drop a quick e-mail to let you know how much I enjoyed the photo in the Winter 2011 *Madison* of the reflection from a Marching Royal Duke's tuba [Full Frame, Page 1 by Kathy Lam, JMU Photography Services]. What an interesting perspective; it was quite artistic. Bravo.

JULIE CONTOS ('93)
Arlington, Va.

PROFESSORS YOU LOVE

I just wanted to comment on what a great article Kevin Elliker ('08) wrote about JMU history professor David Dillard in the Professors You Love column in the Winter 2011 *Madison*. Many history and education students, including myself, have had similar experiences with Dr. Dillard. He was my Senior Honors thesis adviser and was extremely

helpful and encouraging. During the trials and tribulations of applying for law school, he was a constant comfort. When things did not work out the way I first wanted, he continued to encourage me. His impact on my life continues. I appreciate Dr. Dillard's encouragement; and I am in my second year of law school at the University of Richmond. I only regret that I cannot make it to Harrisonburg to see him more often. Dr. Dillard is truly one of JMU's best, and he embodies the Be the Change spirit. Thanks, Dr. Dillard!

JOHN L. "TRIPP"
HUGHES III ('09)
Midlothian, Va.

PRE-1970 ALUMNI: WHERE ARE YOU?

I read *Madison* regularly and think it is a wonderful magazine, but I don't see Class Notes from alumni from the pre-1970s era. Where are you? I hear personally from a number of my former students, and I

know you are doing great things. Why don't you share your lives and your career successes with classmates through the magazine's Class Notes? Your classmates will enjoy catching up with you, and your former professors will enjoy reading about your success. I am proud of what I know about you and want to know more! C'mon, join in the *Madison* crew!

LEOTUS "LEE" MORRISON, PROFESSOR
EMERITA OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION
Harrisonburg, Va.

◀ **EDITOR'S NOTE:** Alumni: Share your Class Notes with *Madison* by e-mailing madisonmag@jmu.edu, or write to *Madison*, JMU, 725 South Mason Street, MSC 3610, Harrisonburg, VA 22807.

Keep those letters and story ideas coming! *Madison* welcomes letters in response to magazine content. The staff reserves the right to edit for clarity, length and style. Anonymous letters will not be published. Send to "22807" *Madison*, 725 S. Mason Street, MSC 3610, JMU, Harrisonburg, VA 22807, or e-mail madisonmag@jmu.edu.

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As general manager of JMU's student newspaper, *The Breeze*, **Brad Jenkins ('99)** advises the news staff and oversees advertising sales and general operations. "My goal," he says, "is to empower students to produce the paper so they have real-world experiences that will guide them in their careers." Before becoming general manager, Jenkins was a reporter and editor at Harrisonburg's *Daily News-Record*. His greatest joys, he says, are "my girls" — his wife, whom he met during his freshman year at JMU, and two daughters, who know and love the *JMU Fight Song*. Read Jenkins' cover feature about JMU's yearlong emphasis on the "Dance of Art and Science" beginning on Page 30.



Gabrielle Piccininni ('11) is an English and studio art double major with a minor in medieval and renaissance studies. The *Madison* magazine editorial intern is applying to graduate schools to continue her study of literature. She hopes to work in the publishing industry after graduation. Piccininni was inducted into JMU's chapter of Phi Beta Kappa this year, and she is a member of the Sigma Tau Delta honor society. Read her alumni articles about Ed Turner ('60) and his Madison legacy family on Page 46, and Teacher of the Year Janice Wiley ('77) on Page 56. She also

wrote about Colleen Legge ('97) and other alumni working with the LIVESTRONG Foundation in Texas. (Page 48).

Jean Young Kilby is a freelance writer and an instructor in the Intensive English Program at Eastern Mennonite University. A brief teaching stint in Ethiopia launched her English as a Second Language career, and she has since enjoyed her work with international students, many of whom now study at JMU. She is a graduate of both the University of Arkansas and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, where she earned a master's degree in education. She and her husband, Bill, are the parents of two grown daughters. Read Kilby's story about the JMU Department of Nursing's Health Care for the Homeless program on Page 28.



Amelia Wood ('13) is an editorial intern in the *Madison* magazine office and also writes for *The Breeze* and *Political Currents*, the newsletter of the political science department. Read her alumni articles about AmeriCorps volunteer Kim Wheeler ('09) on Page 59 and HIV educator Wes Mitchell ('10) on Page 61. Wood is double majoring in media arts and design and English. She is also completing the pre-professional program in secondary education. A member of Zeta Tau Alpha, Wood also works as a frontline assistant for the JMU Computing Help Desk.

"Graphic utility player" is how **Rinn Siegrist** describes the most current of her many roles in nine years at JMU. Graphic designer, marketing program coordinator and adjunct faculty member are among other positions held by Siegrist, who earned a Master of Arts in advertising design from Syracuse University and also runs a freelance graphic design business. In her other real life, Siegrist's heart for helping those who can't help themselves rings true in her volunteer work for Siamese Cat Rescue Center.



JENKINS ('99) PHOTOGRAPH BY DAN GORIN ('11); PICCININNI ('11), WOOD ('13), AND SIEGRIST BY KATHY LAM; KILBY BY MARTHA BELL GRAHAM