

# San Jose State University

presents

## **GRAD SLAM**

**Tuesday, April 16th, 2024**

**2:00pm-4:30pm**

**SJSU Hammer Theatre, Studio 4**

# Event Program

**Welcome** - *Dr. Marc d'Alarcao*

**Land Acknowledgement** - *Dr. Marc d'Alarcao*

**Introduction of Judges and Emcee** - *Dr. Marc d'Alarcao*

**Finalist Presentations** - *Simon Tan, Former Slam Finalist*

**Explanation of Voting** - *Dr. Marc d'Alarcao*

**Audience Choice Voting** - *Audience!*

**Choral Interlude** - *SJSU Choraliers*

**Winner Announcement** - *Dr. Marc d'Alarcao*

**Closing Remarks** - *Dr. Marc d'Alarcao*

**Curtain Call Cafe Reception**

## Masters Of Ceremonies



**Dr. Marc d'Alarcao**

Dean  
College of Graduate  
Studies



**Simon Tan**

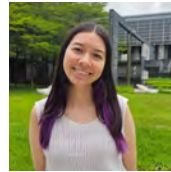
Emcee  
Sound Transit  
SJSU Alumnus

## 2024 Grad Slam Finalists



**Hyeji Han**

*The Misguided Unity: South Korea's "MZ generation" Voters*  
Communications Studies, MA



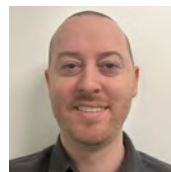
**Kate Worrell**

*How to Bring Plant Life Back to a Human Moonscape*  
Environmental Studies, MS



**Yvonne Phan**

*How Changing Racial Populations Can Influence Attitudes*  
Research and Experimental Psychology, MA



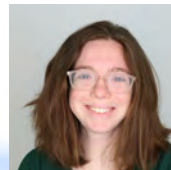
**Andrew Selvia**

*The Road Less Traveled: Resilient & Free Traffic Prediction*  
Software Engineering, MS



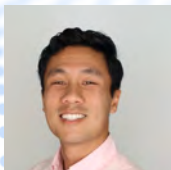
**Shruthi Srinivasan**

*Protection for Public Health: Fast and Accurate Detection of Botulinum Neurotoxin/A*  
Biomedical Engineering, MS



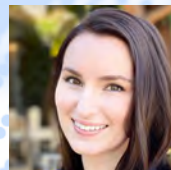
**Sarah Barker**

*The Role of Nature as a Protective Factor in Father-Child Relationships*  
Child and Adolescent Development, MA



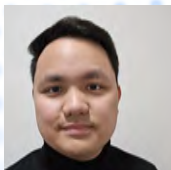
**Timothy Tan**

*Metal 3D-Printing: Brick by Brick, Particle by Particle*  
Materials Engineering, MS



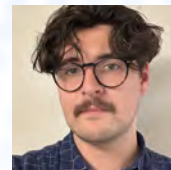
**Jennifer Benbow**

*Tech Meets Tide: Transforming Coral Resilience Research with AI*  
Bioinformatics, MS



**Jon Lim**

*Connectedness and Independence: Understanding Cultural Differences in Identity*  
Research and Experimental Psychology, MA



**Alexi Musick**

*Mapping Globular Clusters in the Enigmatic Ultra-Diffuse Galaxies of the Perseus Cluster*  
Physics, MS

## Meet The Judges



**Jaedyn Rollins**  
SJSU and CSU-Wide 2023 Grad  
Slam Winner  
San Jose State University



**Judy Nagai**  
Vice President for University  
Advancement and CEO of the Tower  
Foundation  
San Jose State University



**Ryan Skinnell**  
Associate Professor  
Department of English & Comparative  
Literature  
San Jose State University

## Judging Criteria

Presenters are allowed three minutes and one static slide for their presentation and are judged on the following criteria on a scale of 1 (needs improvement) to 6 (excellent):

### **CONTENT ACCESSIBILITY**

Does the presenter translate their outcomes and significance in an understandable and interesting way to a non-specialized audience? Do you want to learn more? Does their slide enhance the presentation's message?

### **DEPTH AND MASTERY OF TOPIC**

Does the presenter demonstrate depth of mastery of their topic with a clear and logical structure? Do they spend adequate time for each section of their presentation?

### **DELIVERY**

Does the speaker demonstrate strong public speaking skills—eye contact, stage confidence, comfortable pacing, body language, use of gestures, and vocal techniques (power, pause, pitch, etc.)—to engage the audience's interest and attention throughout the presentation?

### **INTELLECTUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

Does the presenter clearly explain how/why their project advances (or matters to) their discipline AND/OR benefits (or matters to) other interested groups without trivializing or generalizing their project?

## Prizes

First Place Winner: \$1,200

(the honor of representing SJSU at the CSU-Wide Grad Slam)

Second Place Winner: \$800

Audience Choice Winner: \$500

## Acknowledgments

### The Grad Slam Team

Cheryl Cowan | Sr Associate for Graduate Project Development (co-chair)  
Amy Russo | Coordinator for Multilingual Writing Support Services (co-chair)  
Erika Lara | Graduate Enrollment Support Specialist (Marketing and Communications)  
Jennifer Nathan | Graduate Studies Analyst  
Emily Li | Graduate Studies Coordinator

### Special Thanks



Michelle Hager | Director, The Writing Center  
Anthony Sutton | Director of Production, Hammer Theatre  
Maria Bones | Director of Patron Services, Hammer Theatre  
Max Crisp | Patron Services Supervisor, Hammer Theatre  
Hilary Rodoni | General Manager, The Party Helpers  
Kevin Lowe | Manager, A.S. Print Shop  
Teri Graziani | Multimedia Production Specialist, Center for Faculty Development  
Wallis Alviar | Producer/Editor, Walcon Media  
Richard Mocarski | AVP Research, Division of Research & Innovation  
Amy Leisenring | Associate Dean, College of Graduate Studies  
Jeffrey Benson | Director of Choral Activities, Department of Music and Dance

## CSU Grad Slam

[Tune into this year's](#) CSU-Wide Grad Slam competition on Friday, May 3 where you can cheer on and vote for our 2024 SJSU campus champion.