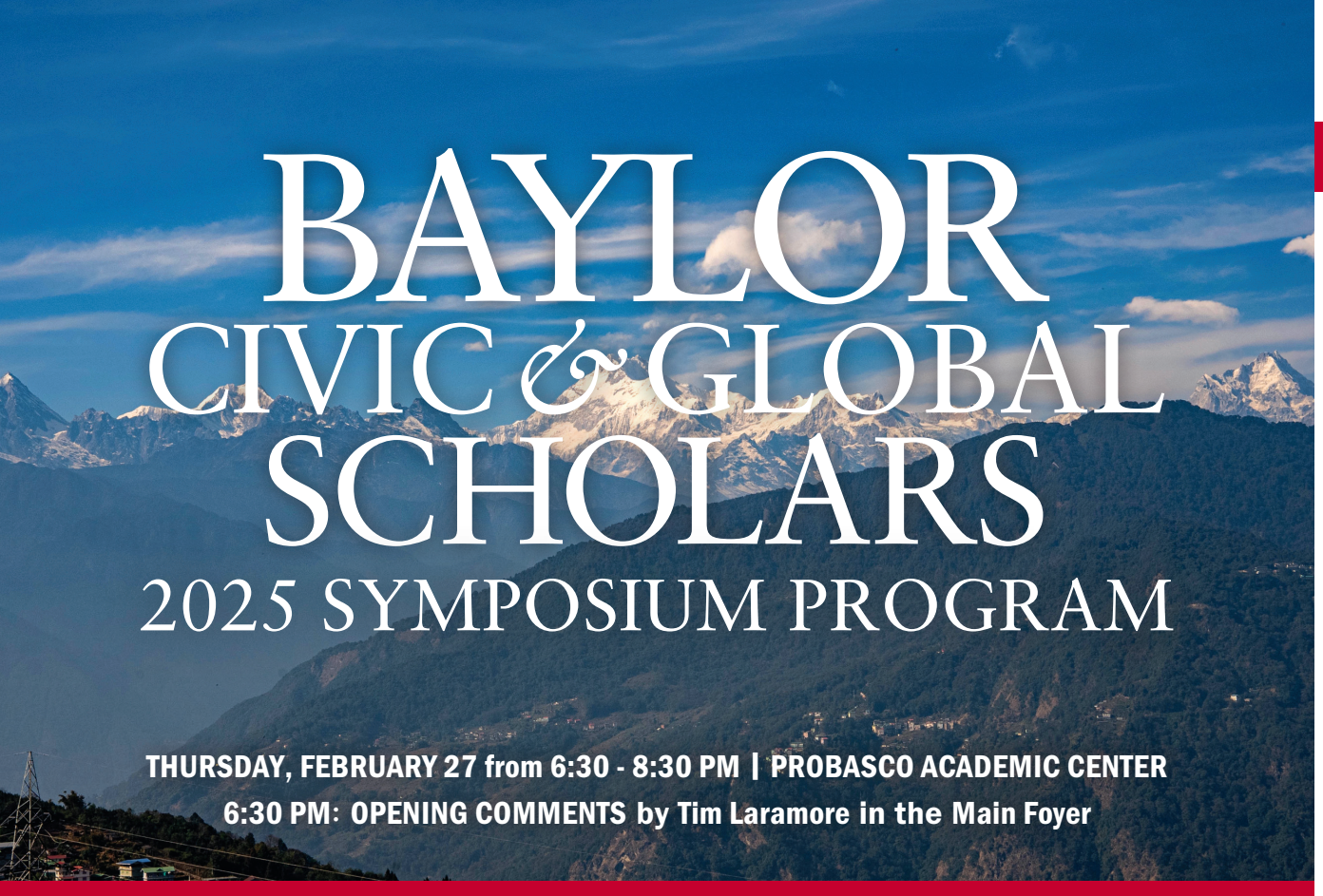

BAYLOR CIVIC & GLOBAL SCHOLARS

2025 SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27 from 6:30 - 8:30 PM | PROBASCO ACADEMIC CENTER

6:30 PM: OPENING COMMENTS by Tim Laramore in the Main Foyer

10 MINUTE SESSIONS IN PAC 201

6:35 – 6:45 PM
COMMUNITY STITCHES
Oona Cruikshank

Oona created a service-based knitting club and will explain her motivation behind the effort and the path we can all take to finding and implementing new ways to serve our community.

6:50-7:00 PM
Education Systems Around the World
Lea Masson

While on exchange in France, Lea met fellow students from around the world and became fascinated by the educational systems of their home countries. Lea will offer a comparison of education systems in Canada, France, the US, Ireland, Japan, and England.

7:05 – 7:15 PM
PARENTING IN THE DIGITAL AGE
Jayla Simpkins

Jayla will explore how the proliferation of technology, and social media in particular, has changed the landscape of parenting and has presented new challenges for both parents and children.

7:20 -7:30 PM
A TRADITIONAL JAPANESE TEA CEREMONY
Abigail Angel

Abigail participated in a traditional tea ceremony while traveling in Japan, and in this session, she sill share her experience and explore the importance of this cornerstone of Japanese culture.

7:35 – 7:45 PM
LEARNING FROM VIDEO GAMES
Michelle Jiang

In this session, Michelle will push back on the notion that video games are not educational by demonstrating through historical examples how games of all kind have influenced human development.

7:50 – 8:00 PM
PLANNING A MODEL UN CONFERENCE
Julia Gardner

Julia and her fellow leaders will share their experiences in leadership of a recent Model UN Conference, including all the challenges and successes of organizing and implementing the event.

8:05 – 8:15 PM
International Community Structure
Oona Cruikshank

Oona's trip to Jamaica with the RESPECT program offered her a unique look at two different communities. She will share some observations and a comparison between communities in the US and Jamaica.

8:20 – 8:30 PM
OLYMPIC CULTURE 2024: FRANCE IN THE GLOBAL ARENA
Anna Stoddard

Anna witnessed France's hosting of the Paris Olympics while on exchange, and she will explore how the Olympics impacted France and discuss what the Olympics could bring to Los Angeles in 2028.

10 MINUTE SESSIONS IN PAC 202

6:35 – 6:45 PM
WHY SHOULD YOU VOTE?
Harper Kelly

Concerned about the problem of low voter turnout, Harper will explore why it is critical that we exercise our rights and vote in both national and local elections.

6:50 – 7:00 PM
PERUVIAN PACHAMAMA RITUAL
George Stowe

While in Peru, George participated in an annual ritual aimed at reconnecting to the Earth and giving thanks for its bounty. He will explain and recount the Pachamama Festival with stories and photos.

7:05 – 7:15 PM
LIVING IN TWO CULTURES
Helena Garcia Nieto

Moving from Spain to Chattanooga to attend Baylor has given Helena a unique view of the differences and similarities between the two cultures, and she will explore some key comparisons in this session.

7:20 – 7:30 PM
THE RESPECT PROGRAM
Meghan Royal

As a board member on Baylor's RESPECT program, Meghan will outline the various opportunities the program provides for servant leadership and what those opportunities have taught her.

7:35 – 7:45 PM
NAMIB SKY PROJECT
Virginia Foster

After visiting Namib Sky Project in rural Namibia, Virginia embarked on an ambitious plan to help fund the addition of a 5th grade to the local school. This session will explore the many challenges and victories of the Namib Sky Project and Virginia's advocacy.

7:50 – 8:00 PM
PROTESTS IN PANAMA
Bruin Webster

While traveling with Walkabout in Panama, Bruin witnessed protests across the country that halted a major mining project. He will explain the controversy that led to protests and the impact the demonstrations had on global trade and activism.

8:05 – 8:15 PM
TOURISM IN THE SERENGETI
Mia Perdomo

On her trip to Serengeti National Park in Tanzania, Mia learned about the importance of tourism in this unique locale. Mia will share what she learned in the Serengeti as well as the Lake Jipe and Tanga Coast regions.

8:20 – 8:30 PM
READING BEGINS HERE
Tova Ajayi

Tova used a RESPECT grant to create a phonics program for tutors and students, and she will describe the experience of inspiring young scholars to read.

10 MINUTE SESSIONS IN PAC 205

6:35 – 6:45 PM
THE POWER OF MUSIC
Alisha Chandra, William Hubbard, and Shanina Dong

The benefits of making music are manifold; however, access can be impeded by the high barrier to entry. These students will show how they brought more music to Carver by making an existing program more inclusive by introducing a new instrument for all: drums.

6:50-7:00 PM
TIBET AND THE DALAI LAMA
Reed Martin and Johnny Sutter

Reed and Johnny will explore the dynamic and complicated history of Tibet and China, especially as it relates to the Dalai Lama and his government in exile.

7:05 – 7:15 PM
IMPROVING YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH
Mia Perdomo and Miriam Sliman

A RESPECT project to install a "chill room" at the Westside Community Center taught Mia and Miriam the importance of addressing mental health for the students in their care.

7:20 -7:30 PM
REFLECTIONS ON COMMUNITY SERVICE
Aidan McRorie

In this session, Aidan will reflect on what her time in the RESPECT tutoring program has taught her and why learning is important both for academics and for everyday life.

7:35 – 7:45 PM
A (POLITICAL) PARTY IN THE USA
Benjamin Daniel

What does it take to form a political party? Why do political parties stay, and why do some fade away? Benjamin will take us on a tour of political parties in the past, present, and future.

7:50 – 8:00 PM
POLAR BEARS IN SVALBARD
Greg Bailey

Greg's interest in polar bears took him to Svalbard, a Norwegian archipelago in the Arctic Ocean. In this session, he will recount his foray into polar bear habitat.

8:05 – 8:15 PM
THE DECLINE OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT
Luci Hemphill and Franny Brooksbank

While working on a project to get young voters engaged in recent elections, Luci and Franny were dismayed by the lack of enthusiasm and will explore why students her age lack civic engagement.

8:20 – 8:30 PM
SOUTH AFRICAN EXCHANGE
Karis Kimrey

After her exchange to South Africa, Karis realized the many important impacts of travel and cultural immersion. Karis will share her experiences and explore the value of travel.

SESSIONS IN PAC 101

7:00 – 7:35 PM
VETERANS HISTORY PROJECT
Claire Ellish

Claire will screen an interview with her great grandfather about his service in World War II. The movie is from the Library of Congress and is shown at the National World War II Museum in New Orleans.

7:45 – 7:55 PM
THE IMPACTS OF WHITEWATER SPORTS ON TOURISM
Charlie Good

Having experienced whitewater adventure in the US, India, and Costa Rica, Charlie will explore the cultural and economic impacts that river recreation can have on a country.

Scan here to view the Global Symposium Program on your phone.