

# CLASSICAL STUDIES NEWSLETTER Spring 2026



WILLIAM  
& MARY

CHARTERED 1693

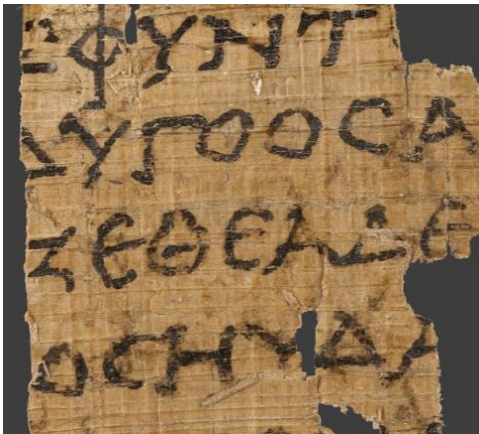
Another year draws to a close! Read more by following the links.  
~ Professor Molly Swetnam-Burland, Department Chair

## Homer in our hands!

One Tribe One Day is April 29, 2026! We are celebrating with a Homerathon from 2-4 pm in the Classical Studies Library. Students and faculty will read their favorite bits of of Homer and Vergil. *Join us in person or virtually.*



[Join us!](#)  
4-29-26  
2-4 pm

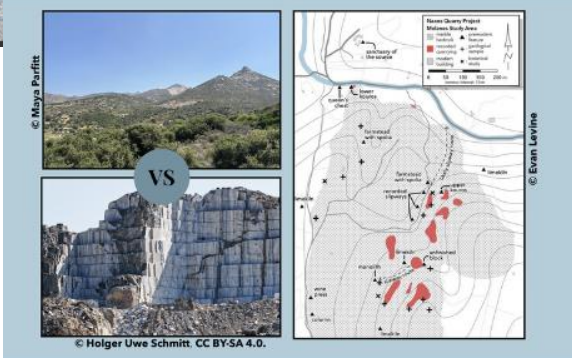
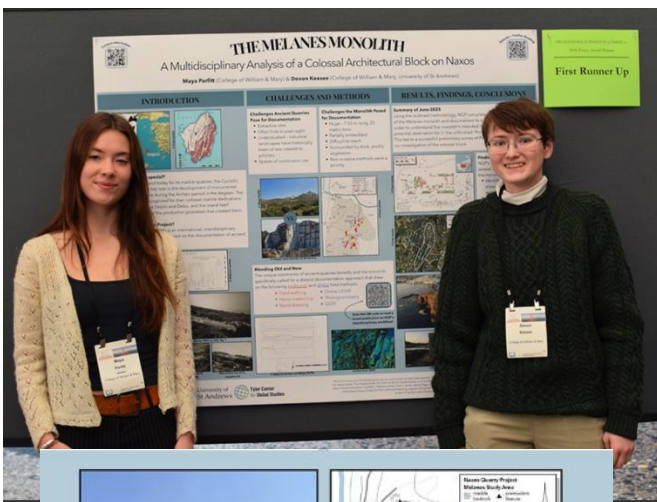


[Getty 76.AI.56](#), Homeric fragment

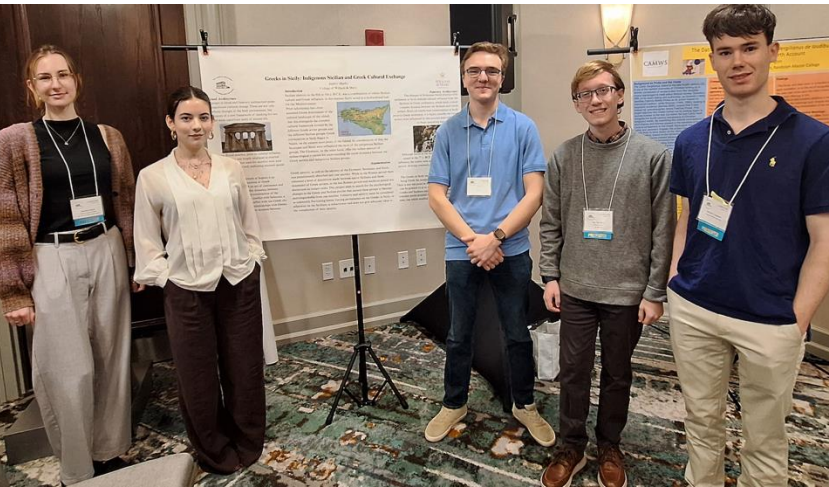
## An Award from the AIA!

Two students distinguished themselves at the annual meetings of the Archaeological Institute of America this January. *To left: Maya and Devon with their poster.*

Devon Keese (JDP '26) and Maya Parfitt ('27) presented their work on the Naxos Quarry Project and were “runners up” for the best poster. They were competing against PhDs and graduate students! Read more about it [here](#) and you can see their poster [here!](#)



# Spotlight on Undergraduate Research!



We had a record number of undergraduate and post-baccalaureate students presenting their original research in professional settings this year, many of them funded by “research in motion” grants from the Charles Center. *To left: students at CAMWS*

Papers presented in 2026:

- Benjamin McClarty: “Hercules Reflected: Patterns of Intertextual Inversion in Seneca’s Apocolocyntosis,” SCS
- M. Swetnam-Burland, B. McClarty, and P. Carpenter: “Miracula, Myth, and Memory in L. Ampelius’ Liber Memorialis,” CAMWS
- M. Baird :“Absent Adonis: Setting and Speaker in the Poetry of the Adonia”, CAMWS
- A. Marks: “Greeks in Sicily: Indigenous Sicilian and Greek Cultural Exchange in Colonialism,” CAMWS

## Liber Memorialis Project Update

Several students joined the Liber Memorialis Project, directed by Professor Swetnam-Burland. Our new focus is creating educational materials aimed at high school students!

*New Members:* Julia Womersley-Jackson, Riley Kozal, Madeline Baird Hollis Martin. *Continuing Members:* Benjamin McClarty, Patrick Carpenter Hannah Ryan, Elissa Press.

We also got a grant from the Provost’s ASE Exchange, which we’ve used for the publication and to support student travel. Read more [here!](#)



Prof SB, Elissa Press, and Patrick Carpenter at W&M’s ASE award night

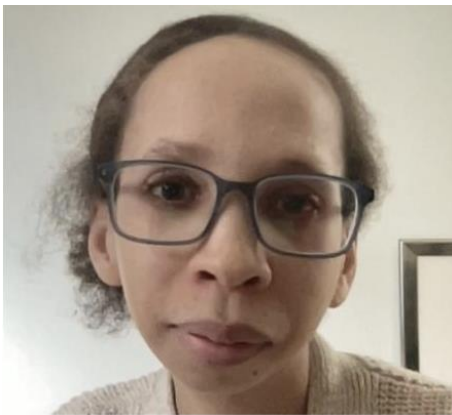
## Junior and Senior Prizes

The department honored several students with prizes in recognition of their performance in and beyond the classroom. Read [here](#) for more about their interests and plans for the future.

- Selby Corey Award for an Accomplished Junior: Ben McClarty '27, JDP
- Hogan Award for Excellence in Greek and Latin: Keara Dean, '26, JDP
- Classical Journal Award for Service, Andrew Francois, '26
- CAMWS Award for Excellence in Latin, Hollis Martin, '26
- Eta Sigma Phi Award for Excellence in Latin, Katy Lenshin '26
- SCS Award for Excellence in Ancient History, Anna Gillespie '26



Keira Dean, Anna Gilsepie, Katy Lenshin



Irene Morrison-Moncure '11



Support Classical Studies!  
<https://go.wm.edu/5R1pfz>

## Career Profiles

We bring our “year of the teacher” to a close with two more profiles of our alumni. Both Amy Carpenter '18 and Irene Morrison-Moncure '11 tell us how they used their degrees in innovative and unusual ways. Both are, in fact, still teaching! But they show how a degree in Classical Studies can be used creatively, by entrepreneurs and administrators. Read these and more of our profiles [here](#)!



Amy Carpenter '18. Make sure to check out her website especially if you are local! [Carpenter Tutoring](#)

## Faculty Updates and Accolades



Professor Swetnam-Burland was interviewed by Archaeology Magazine about one of the most interesting houses uncovered in the new excavations of Pompeii. Read [here](#) for more!

### Congratulations to our faculty

Professor Mitch Brown received the Alumni Award for excellence for a recently tenured faculty member.

Professor Lily Panoussi was honored with a [Plumeri Award](#), W&M's signature prize for research.

Professor Jessica Stephens received the Phi Beta Kappa award for Excellence in Teaching. Very deserved, as our students know well.

Professor Jessica Paga will be headed back into the field to work on the [Naxos Quarry Project](#) with W&M students this summer. Expect to hear more in the Fall!

Professor Georgia Irby continues as the editor of the [Classical Journal](#).

Professor Paul Eberwine has joined us permanently as Teaching Assistant Professor. Check out [this interview](#) with him, if you missed it.



Professor Mitch Brown



Professor Panoussi's Plumeri portrait



Professor Stephens at the PBK ceremony in the Wren building

## Highlighting Faculty Research

We are proud at W&M to be “teacher scholars,” which means that all faculty are active in publishing our work. Here, we highlight a few things for you to read if you’re still hungry to learn more about the ancient world.

**From Prof Brown, an article written for the public.** “This [article](#) illuminates how the classical scholarship of the Founding Fathers facilitated the creation of the famous motto *Sic Semper Tyrannis* on the Virginia seal. George Wythe - William & Mary professor and a signer of the Declaration of Independence - created the motto by translating into Latin a phrase from the Greek text of Plutarch, an ancient biographer.”

**From Prof Paga, the first findings of the Naxos Quarry Project.** This article explores what we can learn by exploring the sites where stone was extracted, worked in the rough, and prepared for shipping. It is open access, so you can read it in [full](#).

**From Profs Hutton and Panoussi,** a new [edited volume](#) featuring the work of prominent scholars from all around the world. “This volume examines the synergy of memory, ritual, and identity from multiple disciplinary perspectives and provides both an illustration of the variety of configurations that synergy took in Greco-Roman antiquity and how they persisted and evolved over time.” You’ll find many familiar names in the table of contents, but most especially take note of a contribution by **our alumnus Brett Evans ’13!**

We also gather news from our alumni/ae on our website.  
Send news to [jrholm@wm.edu](mailto:jrholm@wm.edu)

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