



*Dallaire Scholarship
Kwibuka28 Commemoration
Friday, April 8, 2022, 6 pm
J.R Howard Hall 202*

*Reflections on Kwibuka 28
Rev. Mark Duntley,
Dean Emeritus of Spiritual Life
Dallaire-Graham Scholarships Committee*

In the spring of 1994, the country of Rwanda experienced 100 days of horrific genocide. It is estimated that somewhere between 800,000 and 1 million Rwandans were murdered and lost their lives. Every year on April 7th in Rwanda, Kwibuka (which means “to remember” in Kinyarwanda) takes place to commemorate those tragic days, and to help the nation continue to heal. The theme for Kwibuka 28 in 2022 was “**Remember, Unite, Renew.**”

Here at Lewis & Clark we have recognized this annual time of remembrance since 2006, with each year’s gathering bringing people together to honor and remember those who died, to acknowledge the change and progress of the present, and to look with hope to the future.

As I reflect back over our Kwibuka gatherings at Lewis & Clark, I have special gratitude for some of our American students like Michael Graham, gratitude to heroes who served humanity in Rwanda like United Nations Lt. General Romeo Dallaire and to mission worker Carl Wilkins, both of whom have spoken multiple times at Lewis & Clark, and gratitude most of all to our Rwandan students and in particular to our Dallaire Scholars.

The Romeo Dallaire Scholarship at Lewis & Clark was established in order to bring a Rwanda student here to study in the AES program so that they could enhance their skills in English and then return to Rwanda to further the work of human rights there.

Beginning in 2006 we have welcomed 15 Dallaire Scholars here, with Souzane Murekatete being our current scholar. As a member of the Dallaire Scholarship Committee over all those years, I can say that our campus has truly been enhanced and blessed by our Dallaire scholars.



Above: John Mbanda '25, Souzane Murekatete, 15th Dallaire Scholar, and Portia Uwase '21

Once again at our Kwibuka 28 commemoration we were reminded that even the greatest examples of human tragedy cannot extinguish hope if we each do our part to treat one another with respect and love, if we strive to honor and protect the human dignity of everyone, and if we commit ourselves to “**Remember, Unite, and Renew.**”

After I gave an opening prayer at this year's Kwibuka, our current Dallaire Scholar **Souzane Murekatete** spoke about the 1994 genocide and led us all in a candle lighting ceremony and a moment of silence for the victims.



John Mbanda, a current Lewis & Clark student from Rwanda, then provided a very upbeat presentation on the current situation in Rwanda and how the nation and her people have risen from the ashes of the genocide to become a shining light for the entire continent of Africa.

Recent Lewis & Clark alumna **Portia Uwase** also spoke briefly, and a member of the greater Portland Rwandan community who lived through the genocide shared some of his insights as well. The program concluded with Souzane, John, and Portia answering questions from those who attended in a brief panel discussion.

It was a meaningful evening, and while it is always a somber occasion to remember the tragedy of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, it was once again important to gather in community and solidarity with our Rwandan students and with Rwandans everywhere.



Above: John Mbanda '25 presents a power-point of Rwanda Now

Special thanks to Cecilia Benenati and Steve Kirkwood from the Dallaire events subcommittee, and in particular to Isabelle DeMarte who worked diligently to enable Kwibuka 28 to be included as a part of the April 8th Festival of Scholars events on the undergraduate campus.

Rev. Mark Duntley
Dean Emeritus of Spiritual Life
Dallaire Scholarship Committee member

*15th Dallaire Scholar
Souzane Murekatete*

Souzane Murekatete, our 15th Dallaire Scholar, is a 2017 graduate of the Akilah Institute for Women, where she earned a three-year diploma in Entrepreneurship.



REFLECTIONS: SOUZANE MUREKATETE

Thank You Note to My Sponsors from Dallaire Scholarship.

First of all, I would like to thank you for being so generous, kind, empathetic and sponsoring my education for the 2021-2022 school year in Academic English Studies which was mostly needed for my diary communication with international people back home in Rwanda.

It truly means a lot to me! Back to my old memories, I remember how miscommunicating I was but again no hope to improve on my communication skills because of poor resources and I was always wondering if there will be a way for me to work on it.

Luckily, I applied for this scholarship one in my life and I was blessed enough to get it.

My next goal right after my arrival back in Rwanda in the beginning of May, it will be market expansion for arts products that are being made by neglected one who I work with every single day.

Immediately, my first plan is to take our woven baskets to the coast of Africa at Benin for the purpose of representing the central East African arts and craft.

But all this won't happen without the English skills that I got from Lewis & Clark College and all Dallaire sponsors made my dream true because of giving me this great opportunity in my life.

Again, thank you so much for your hospitality and generosity as well. I am so thankful for everything you have done for me!

Yours Sincerely,

Souzane Murekatete

Selection of 2022-23 Dallaire Scholar

The Kigali interviews for the four Dallaire Scholarship finalists were accomplished by Dallaire Scholar alumni in February. The on-campus selection committee completed its work in April.

The Committee is pleased to announce the selection of **Amani Rene Pacifique** as the 16th Dallaire Scholar for 2022-23.

Amani is a 2016 graduate of the Integrated Polytechnic Regional Center College of Technology with a focus on Biomedical Equipment Technology. He has served as a Rwanda Peace Ambassador in Kigali, and founded *One Help One Direction Ihumure*, a registered NGO in Kigali, Rwanda.

A warm welcome, **Amani**.



Violeta Molina Santos, our second Michael Graham scholar, came to the U.S. from Guatemala in 2018. She graduated from McDaniel High School (formerly Madison) in June, 2021.

REFLECTIONS: VIOLETA MOLINA SANTOS

Remarks at April 5 AES gathering: Thank you for the opportunity to speak today at this celebration. Let me tell you a little about myself. I'm originally from Guatemala but I came to the U.S. in 2017 and have lived in Portland since 2018. I went to high school here and have lived with a foster family. I came as a refugee and I have recently become a U.S. resident. It has been a long and stressful process, so I'm very happy and relieved now. It makes me feel I can move forward with my life here in the U.S.

I would like to share a little about my experience here this year, the meaning of the scholarship to me, and how this year of study will help me in my future.

I lived at the College, and it was a great experience because I could be near places to study, meet new people, and be able to participate in activities. I participated in the different events such as eating outside with the program activities that I did were to join the Spanish club.

Also, the last trip we took to the Japanese garden was a great opportunity to be close to my classmates and make new friends. I like that I am near places where I can do homework such as the library. The library is my favorite place. Living in the dorms is a big change because when I was living with my foster family I had my own room. So living in a dorm exposed me to living with other people and sharing the bathroom. That was a big change and a nice experience. It was an opportunity to meet my roommates who have really helped me a lot with the language and who have offered to help me and correct me in the language. At Lewis & Clark where I met my best friend.

Receiving the Michael Graham Scholarship was the most important to my experience. It gave me the opportunity to live on campus and study. I would never have had this experience without this scholarship. I learned a lot by taking AES classes. I learned a lot such as how to give my presentation and develop my speaking but the credit is to the teachers that I have in my classes. Thank you so much. It is an honor to be part of this program this year.

My plan for next year is to start my degree in nursing. All this experience that I got from this year is preparing me for my next step which is going to university. I will attend George Fox University and focus on nursing, and being a professional. My goal is to help the communities.

Lewis and Clark College and the program were a good place to prepare for the language and be more confident about myself. I will never regret taking this opportunity that has helped me a lot to improve my languages and to meet wonderful people.

Selection Process for Graham Scholar

This is the third year of the Michael Graham Scholarship which pays for one year of study at Lewis & Clark's Academic English Studies program for a young immigrant or refugee in the Portland area. We recently expanded our promotion of the Graham Scholarship to three high schools in Portland (Roosevelt, McDaniel, and Wells). There is considerable enthusiasm for this educational opportunity at those schools, each of which enrolls many immigrant and refugee students. [\(continued\)](#)

The Committee is pleased to announce our 3rd Graham Scholar, *Julissa Duran*, 19, who will be graduating from Roosevelt High School this June. Julissa came to the U.S. in 2019 from El Salvador. She plans a career in Public Accounting and will join us for the 2022-23 academic year.

A warm welcome, *Julissa!*

Selection Process for first Graham Scholar from Afghanistan

Through the assistance of President Wim Wiewel, we are adding a second Michael Graham Scholar for the 2022-23 academic year, Afghani *Nabi Gharib Dost*, a 2022 graduate of Beaverton High School. Nabi has lived in the U.S. with his family for over four years.

When he arrived, he spoke no English. Nabi now speaks, Pasto, Dari, and English, as he continues his education with a year of study in the Academic English Studies program at Lewis & Clark College, with a goal of majoring in Computer Science.

A warm welcome, *Nabi!*

Special thanks to the many donors who honored Emeritus Professor Arleigh Dodson (1932-2021) with gifts in his honor this spring dedicated to the Michael Graham Scholarship.



General Dallaire with Arleigh Dodson, 2013

Zimbabwe Artists Project Holiday Sale



The Zimbabwe Artists Project (ZAP) holiday sale was **a resounding success**. Most of the remaining inventory of African artwork created by the women of Weya, was sold during the one-day sale in Templeton Student Center. **Over \$2000 in proceeds was directed to the Graham Scholarship Fund.**

Thank you to all Committee members (as well as former committee chairs Dell Smith and Greg Fredricks) who participated in planning and hosting this day-long sales event in the Templeton foyer between Fields and Stamm Dining Halls.

Updates from former Dallaire Scholars

We continue to receive updates from a number of our former Dallaire Scholars. We will continue to add them to our [website](#) as they arrive. Lots of news and exciting developments!

Take a look and enjoy catching up with our former Dallaire Scholars all over the world. As you will see, the investment donors have made over the years has given our scholarship recipients a huge boost, enriched our community at Lewis & Clark, and then paid further dividends as Dallaire Scholars use their education for the common good in Rwanda and elsewhere.

Palaces for People Ukrainian Refugee Support



Many of us have watched with alarm and horror as events have unfolded in Ukraine, and we have also recognized the immense challenges faced by the countries which have begun to host refugees. Michael Graham did so as well and decided to take action! He recently located a vacant palace in Poland, sought out partners with whom to work, and invited our first Dallaire scholar, Romeo Umulisa, to work with him on this recently launched project.

[*Palaces for People*](#), which hopes to become a partnership between organizations here in the U.S. and in Poland, has come together to repurpose underutilized palaces in order to provide safe and comfortable spaces for refugees to live in. Together with the Jewish Community Center (JCC) of Krakow, they have now leased the entire palace in order to provide low-cost, high-support housing for families, almost exclusively women and children.

[You can learn more here about the incredible work of the JCC Krakow through this recent profile on the New York Times.](#)



Michael Graham and his on-site partners are currently looking for U.S. partners to support this effort. Their ideal partners

would commit to an initial financial contribution and leverage their networks to find more support.

They are also seeking advisory board members who are interested in expanding this model, which they believe could provide an important cost-effective bridge between short-term and long-term housing needs for refugees long into the future.

For more information or to support this effort, please visit the website: [Palaces for People](#)

Dallaire-Graham Scholarship Committee 2021-2022

Current faculty and staff: Alexis Olson, Laura Shier (Academic English Studies); Rebecca Holt, Stephen LeBoutillier (Advancement); Steve Kirkwood (Business Office); Cecilia Benenati, Isabelle DeMarte, (World Languages); and Laura Vinson (International Affairs). Former faculty and staff: retired administrator Michael Ford; retired staff member Susan Wynne (chair); retired Dean Emeritus of Spiritual Life, Rev. Mark Duntley; emeriti faculty member Joann Geddes; community members Katharine Lawrence and current undergraduate Milania Soares Da Costa

At the May, 2022 meeting of the Committee the following volunteers announced their “retirement” from their lengthy service as Committee members:

Joann Geddes, Susan Wynne, Mark Duntley, and Michael Ford. Alexis Olsen, Instructor, AES, also announced that she will be on a Leave of Absence during the 2022-23 academic year.

We are grateful to these colleagues for their selfless service (several since the mid-90s) to help create, sustain, and renew the Dallaire Scholarship and to expand to create the Michael Graham Scholarship.

Our collective thanks to you all as we look forward to welcoming three new scholars for 2022-23, with a re-envisioning of ways in which we support these scholars in the Academic English Studies program, now celebrating its 50th anniversary.

A planning meeting in summer 2022 will further clarify these specifics for ongoing support of our Dallaire and Graham Scholars.

The Honourable Roméo A. Dallaire

Nine years ago, Lieutenant-General and Senator Roméo Dallaire returned to the Lewis & Clark College campus in 2013 as the College of Arts & Sciences commencement speaker and recipient of a Doctorate in Humane Letters, Honoris Causa

During his moving address to graduating seniors, General Dallaire reminded graduates “Your responsibilities go well beyond your town, your state, the borders of your country.” He further stated that when a great nation has power “it has a responsibility well beyond its border, to humanity

The unprovoked Russian invasion of Ukraine in late February 2022 - and the resurgence of war crimes and acts of genocide in Ukraine committed by Russian soldiers - have galvanized support of the United States, NATO, and many other countries, corporations, NGOs, non-profit organizations (e.g. [Palaces for People](#)), and millions of people of good will everywhere in our global community for the Ukrainian people in multiple ways in the face of this aggression.

The words spoken with passion and eloquence by General Dallaire in his 2013 Commencement address to the College of Arts & Sciences graduates remind us once again of our ongoing responsibilities as world citizens in these very troubling times.

[Commencement Address](#)



Lewis & Clark graduate Matthew Rugamba '13 introduced General Dallaire, Commencement 2013

We encourage you to make a gift at this time.

The Roméo Dallaire Scholarship is now endowed at a level sufficient to support one scholar each year.

We invite you to make a gift to the Michael Graham Scholarship at this [link](#).

For questions about giving a gift, please contact Stephen LeBoutillier, Director of Annual Giving, at 503-768-7940 or sgl@lclark.edu