



Beatrice  
Institute



**BEATRICE  
INSTITUTE  
REPORT  
2020-21**

**PITTSBURGH, PA**

# WHO WE ARE

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# INTRODUCTION

## MISSION

Beatrice Institute is an ecumenical learning and research community based in Pittsburgh that fosters friendships around the Christian intellectual and cultural traditions in pursuit of the Beautiful, the True, and the Good.

## VISION

Beatrice Institute contributes to the universities and community of Pittsburgh, and beyond, in three ways. First, we address the gaps in undergraduate and graduate education in Pittsburgh by facilitating engagement with the intellectual and cultural riches of the Christian tradition. Second, we sponsor advanced research projects within a Christian framework, built around the expertise of our local faculty. Third, we host public events to promote the renewal of culture in the Pittsburgh area. We aspire to become the center of Christian intellectual life in Pittsburgh and a light beyond it.

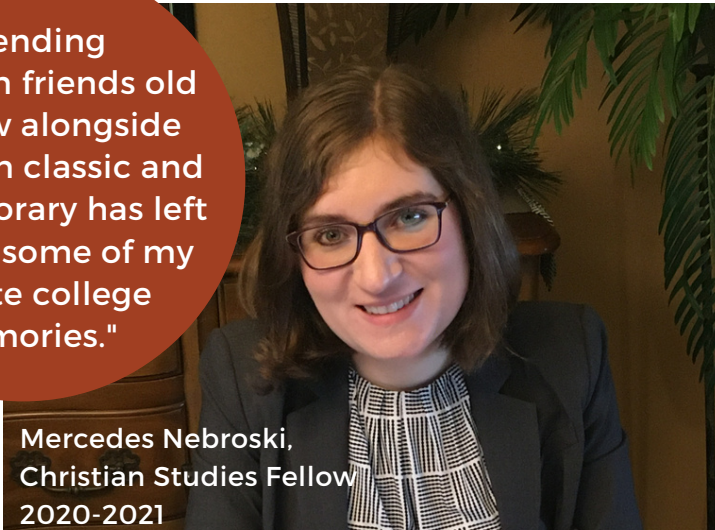




# CHRISTIAN STUDIES FELLOWS PROGRAM

Christian Studies Fellows are undergraduates from a wide variety of majors who want to learn more about the Bible and Christian history, culture, and theology in community. Fellows meet for dinner and a bi-weekly seminar. We welcome students from any major, year, or religious affiliation.

"Spending time with friends old and new alongside texts both classic and contemporary has left me with some of my favorite college memories."



Mercedes Nebroski,  
Christian Studies Fellow  
2020-2021

## AT-A-GLANCE:

- Fall 2020 - Fall 2021 Fellows: 33
- Engineering Happiness Workshop  
Participants: 45
- Expanded to two seminar groups in Fall 2021:
  - Formative Christian Ideas
  - Body and Soul

## TOPICS COVERED INCLUDE:

- Mind/Body Dualism: Engaging Descartes
- The Fall: Milton & Hutchinson
- Human As Worker
- The Eucharist as the Medicine of Immortality
- The Body Politic and the Church as the Body of Christ
- God as Abba, Father
- Hypostasis: Against the Nestorians and the Monothelists



"Thanks to the religious diversity and transdisciplinarity of its community, Beatrice Institute offers excellent opportunities for stimulating and fruitful dialogues surrounding faith and theology."

# CHRISTIAN STUDIES FELLOWS PROGRAM



*Students participated in a city-wide endeavor to pack one million meals for Thanksgiving.*

## EXCURSIONS SPONSORED BY BEATRICE INSTITUTE:

- "How to Listen to Mary Lou's Mass" Concert-Lecture
- Mary Lou Williams' *Mass for Peace* Performance, cosponsored by Saint Jude and Saint Mary Magdalene Parishes
- Pittsburgh Creche Tour: "The Manger in Urban Spaces"



*Dr. DeMasi took students to dinner and a discussion of sacred music before the performance of Mary Lou's Mass.*



*Students watched and discussed the movie C.S. Lewis: The Most Reluctant Convert.*

# GRADUATE SEMINAR

## AT-A-GLANCE:

- Theme: "What is Truth?"
- Seminar leaders included:
  - Dr. David Wright, Nymbus Media
  - Prof. Grant Martsolf, UPMC & Pitt School of Nursing
  - Aaron Abma, PhD candidate, Pitt, Philosophy

The Beatrice Institute Graduate Seminar helps students frame their increasingly specialized studies with the resources of the Christian cultural and intellectual tradition.

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## FACULTY FRIENDS

These Faculty Friends supported Beatrice Institute this year:

Prof. Thérèse Bonin (Philosophy, Duquesne University)

Rev. Dr. Daniel Hall (Bioethics, Associate Professor of Surgery, School of Medicine, University of Pittsburgh)

Prof. Christina Hoenig (Classics, University of Pittsburgh)

Prof. Paul Leu (Industrial Engineering, University of Pittsburgh)

Prof. Grant Martsolf (Health Policy, School of Nursing, University of Pittsburgh)

Prof. Calum Matheson (Communication, University of Pittsburgh)

Prof. Ryan McDermott (English, University of Pittsburgh)

Prof. Irene Mena (Mechanical Engineering & Materials Science, University of Pittsburgh)

Prof. Brent Robbins (Chair, Dept. of Psychology, Point Park University)

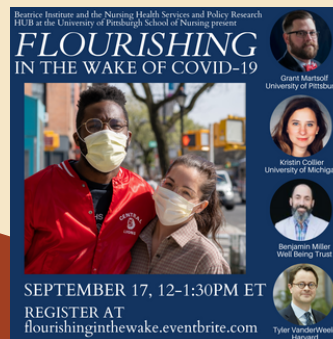
Prof. Elise Lonich Ryan (English, University of Pittsburgh)

Prof. David Sanchez (Civil & Environmental Engineering, University of Pittsburgh)

Prof. Luke Sheahan (Political Science, Duquesne University)



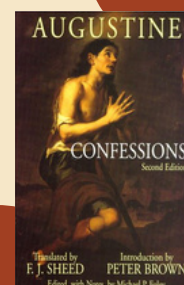
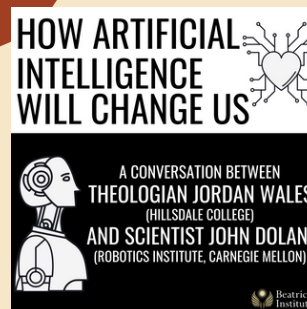
# PUBLIC EVENTS



Public events hosted by Beatrice Institute bring to life the Christian intellectual and cultural heritage often hidden in our own backyard.

Despite the pandemic, BI provided a number of events on Zoom, including:

- **Augustine's Confessions in 90 Days**, a reading group for members of the community (July 2020)
- **Flourishing in the Wake of COVID-19**, with a panel of hosts moderated by Professor Grant Martsoff (September 2020)
- **Deep in History: On Christian Genealogical Thinking**, in collaboration with Collegium Institute (December 2020)
- **Artificial Intelligence & the Moral Life**, with theologian Jordan Wales and scientist John Dolan (January 2021)
- **The COVID Vaccines: An Online Conversation**, with bioethicist Gilbert Meilaender (February 2021)
- **The Green Mr. Rogers**, with theologian Jason King and litterateur Sara Lindey (March 2021)
- **Catholic Midcentury Modern: The Church & Other Possible Modernities**, in collaboration with Collegium Institute (December 2021)



**TOTAL ZOOM WEBINAR PARTICIPANTS: 668**

# PUBLIC EVENTS



*Deanna Witkowski Trio shared "How to Listen to Mary Lou's Mass," a concert-lecture introducing the magnum opus of this Pittsburgh jazz legend, at Saint Benedict the Moor Church in Pittsburgh.*

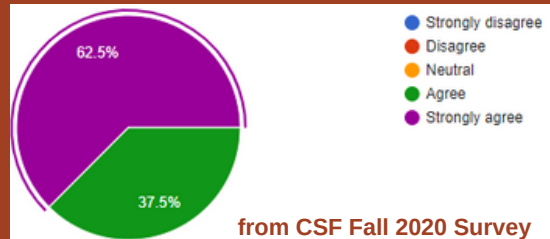
**"How to Listen to Mary Lou's Mass,"** October 2021

**Performance of Mary Lou Williams' *Mass of Peace*,**

October 2021

(in collaboration with Saint Jude Parish and Saint Mary Magdalene Parish)

"BI EVENTS OPENED UP A RANGE OF EXPERIENCES I WOULD NOT HAVE ENCOUNTERED OTHERWISE."



## TOTAL ATTENDANCE AT IN-PERSON EVENTS: 537



# RESEARCH PROJECTS

Beatrice Institute houses three research projects, reflecting our broad range of intellectual and cultural pursuits. In the coming year, these projects will be manifest in our podcast, our seminars, and our offerings for the public.

**GENEALOGIES  
OF MODERNITY,**  
LED BY RYAN  
MCDERMOTT

**PERSONALISM &  
PUBLIC POLICY,**  
LED BY GRANT  
MARTSOLF

**BEING HUMAN  
IN AN AGE OF  
ARTIFICIAL  
INTELLIGENCE,**  
LED BY JOHN  
DOLAN

## BI PODCAST EPISODES #15-46

### TOP PODCASTS

- **Another Life Is Possible: 100 Years of the Bruderhof w/ Clare Stober**
- **Walker Percy and the Modern Search for the Self w/ Jessica Hooten Wilson**
- **Secularization from a European Perspective w/ Philipp Rosemann**
- **Physician As the Modern Priest w/ Dan Hall**
- **Heroes of the Fourth Turning and Other Happenings w/ Ryan and Elise**

**7,878 TOTAL INDIVIDUAL  
DOWNLOADS SINCE 2020**



# THANK YOU!

**WE WOULD NOT HAVE  
BEEN ABLE TO BRING OUR  
VISION TO LIFE THIS YEAR  
WITHOUT THE SUPPORT OF  
OUR INDIVIDUAL DONORS**

**YOU  
GAVE MORE  
THAN  
\$85,500**

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

(JULY 2020 - JUNE 2021)

## REVENUE

**\$132,632.11** TOTAL REVENUE

**\$85,514.95** INDIVIDUALS

**\$47,117.16** FOUNDATIONS

## COST

**\$132,670.15** TOTAL COST

**\$5,092.55** PUBLIC EVENTS

**\$12,089.61** UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

**\$5,974.50** PODCASTS

**\$101,123.00** PAYROLL & BENEFITS

**\$8,390.49** MANAGEMENT & GENERAL