

Lewis & Clark



Inaugural Michael Graham Scholar Alexandre Monteiro

Alexandre Monteiro, a 2020 graduate of Portland's Wilson High School, was the recipient of the inaugural Michael Graham Scholarship. He is completing his year of study, and his reflections are found in the next column.



Alexandre's parents immigrated to Portugal from Guinea Bissau, a small country in West Africa, fleeing war. Alex was then born in Portugal (he speaks fluent Portuguese), living there for 14 years before his family immigrated to the United States, settling in Portland, Oregon.

Alex is currently enrolled in the Academic English Program, taking classes both online and in person, working diligently on improving his writing and speaking skills in English, as well as his analytical and critical thinking skills, as he prepares to fulfill his higher education goals.

We welcomed Alex in a Zoom gathering in Fall 2020 and will bid him farewell in a similar Zoom meeting in May.

Parting Thoughts from Alexandre Monteiro

My experience at Lewis & Clark has been phenomenal even though we are in the middle of a pandemic. To be honest, it hasn't been the way I thought it was going to be because of Covid regulations. However, I love that we are able to go to school in person and still have connections with colleagues and teachers. All my teachers are very helpful and care about having personal connections with their students, which makes me feel much more comfortable as I go into school, and it creates a family environment. Also, the LC classroom assistants work very hard to make me and other students feel comfortable at school, which is something that I'm very appreciative of. While being at Lewis & Clark, I have been meeting wonderful people that I'm going to carry for life. This opportunity has given me a chance to improve my English and intercultural communication.

Selection Process for 2nd Graham Scholar

This is the second year to award 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.

This winter, we expanded our promotion of the Graham Scholarship to five high schools in Portland. There is considerable enthusiasm for this educational opportunity at those schools, each of which enrolls many immigrant and refugee students.

The Graham Scholarship selection subcommittee expects to make a selection in early spring, and we plan to announce the recipient before the end of the semester.

Spring Plans for Kwibuka 27

The Dallaire scholars and undergraduate Rwandan students, with the support of the Dallaire Committee, have annually sponsored a Kwibuka during the month of April so that we might all come together, remember, and reflect. Kwibuka means "to remember," and describes the annual commemoration of the 1994 genocide. This year, we would like to invite you to do this in the safety of your home by watching the final version of *Komora: to heal*. This film was co-produced by former Dallaire scholar Emmanuel Habimana and Natalia Ledford. They have kindly offered us a free link to the documentary on Vimeo. See below.

"This National Geographic-funded, award-winning documentary chronicles the lives of orphan survivors of the genocide in Rwanda." You may have seen the world premiere of this film at L&C in 2013. It was, however, not the final version, and since its completion has won awards and acclaim throughout the world. Please note that in addition to featuring Emmanuel's voyage in the aftermath of the genocide, the film includes an interview with former Dallaire scholar Solange Impanoyimana.

<https://vimeo.com/84700146>

Wednesday, April 7, 2021, is the International Day of Reflection, which marks the beginning of Kwibuka 27, the national mourning period that lasts until Liberation Day on July 4th, a day set aside to celebrate when the Rwanda Patriotic Front brought to an end the genocide.

<https://www.officeholidays.com/holidays/rwanda/genocide-against-the-tutsi-memorial-day>

<http://kwibuka.rw/>

Remembering and Reflecting on Kwibuka

Because our Kwibuka 27 will be a remembrance during this COVID global pandemic, we invite our readers to re-visit past remarks. On April 2019, the Kwibuka 25 at the National Press Club featured official remarks of the Rwandan Ambassador, **Mathilde Mukantabana**. We invite you to listen again [here](#).

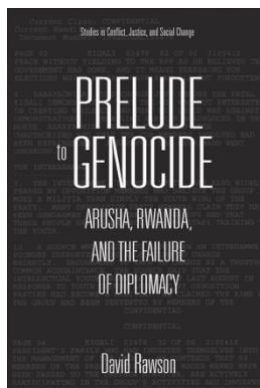


*Mathilde Mukantabana,
Rwandan Ambassador to the United States*

Remembering a lifetime of dedicated service

[David Rawson](#), U.S. ambassador to Rwanda from 1993–96 and former visiting scholar in the Graduate School of Business at George Fox University, also attended Kwibuka 25 at Lewis & Clark.

Sadly, [Ambassador Rawson died at age 79 in September 2020, as noted in this George Fox University press release](#).



Ambassador Rawson recently recounted the events leading up to the tragic event in his book, [Prelude to Genocide: Arusha, Rwanda, and the Failure of Diplomacy](#), released in the fall of 2018 through Ohio University Press. In it, he provided a detailed account, drawn from declassified documents and his personal involvement, of what went wrong.

We remember his lifetime of dedicated service with gratitude.

See photo of Ambassador Rawson in opposite column at Kwibuka 25 in April 2019

Reflections from U.S. Ambassadors

At Kwibuka 25 in April 2019, in addition to the students' remarks, attendees also heard formal remarks from [former Ambassador to Guinea Joyce Leader](#), who served as deputy to the U.S. ambassador in Rwanda during the genocide. During her 21-year career, she has represented the U.S. in attempts to resolve threats to peace and human rights in Central Africa. Ambassador Leader and Ambassador Rawson were serving in Rwanda before the genocide and were responsible for the evacuation of Americans to Burundi.

Please read Ambassador Leader's remarks [here](#).



From left: [Niels Marquardt BA '75](#), former Rwandan Peace Corps volunteer, four-time ambassador, and L&C's new diplomat in residence; [Fabrice Sibomana](#), L&C's 2018-19 Dallaire Scholar from Rwanda; [Joyce Leader](#), former ambassador to Guinea; and [David Rawson](#), former ambassador to Rwanda

Updates from former Dallaire Scholars

This spring, we reached out for 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.

Update on Academic English Studies 2020-21- Laura Shier, Director

AES continues to struggle with low enrollment exacerbated by the pandemic. We have two levels this spring semester and serve 15 students in AES. Travel restrictions may affect access to the plan for fully in-person classes for 2021-2022. While we anticipate low enrollment for fall 2021, we intend to provide at least two levels of courses.

We look forward to welcoming our Dallaire Scholar, Souzane Murekatete, and our second Michael Graham Scholar this fall. Our program has been especially enriched by having Alexandre Monteiro, our first Michael Graham Scholar, with us this year, so gratitude to our donors in supporting this new scholarship.

Special recognition must be given to [AES faculty, who have provided consistent quality instruction for students attending classes both in-person and virtually](#), and to [Amy Baskin, our Community Friends Coordinator](#). Amy's work and the participation of our community friends to support AES and Lewis & Clark international students has been essential in helping those living either on campus or in their home countries feel connected to Lewis & Clark and Portland.

15th Dallaire Scholar Chosen for 2021-22



Souzane Murekatete has been selected to be our 15th Dallaire Scholar, with her enrollment deferred until the 2021-22 academic year because of the global pandemic.

Souzane is 28, and a 2017 graduate of the Akilah Institute for Women, where she earned a 3-year diploma in Entrepreneurship. Souzane has focused on empowering women artisans by connecting them with designers and markets. She writes:

“It has been a great journey to help Rwandan women to make something beautiful that represent Rwandan culture as well earnings their independency from invent and create new things for crafts market here in Rwanda.” We look forward to welcoming Souzane Fall 2021 and convey our congratulations to her on her selection!

Committee Comings and Goings

Max Clary, 2018 – Max served as a student member on the Dallaire Scholarship Committee from 2015-18. Along with Committee members and scholars from Rwanda, Max also shares a demonstrated interest in sub-Saharan Africa. He was actively involved with Amnesty International as well as his own initiative to interview former child soldiers in Uganda in Summer 2016.

Since graduation, Max has been busy not only academically, but in starting an NGO in Uganda. Recently, Max has been accepted by Stanford Medical School. Here’s a bit of a recent message from him.

“A brief update on my end, I am nearing the completion of my MPH from George Washington University. Because of Covid, I have been able to tele-attend which has given me the ability to stay in Uganda and continue contributing to the amazing work we are doing. I feel deeply fulfilled in the goals I set out to achieve since leaving Portland. My greatest hope was to make a business model that was sustainable, locally adopted and positively impactful for the people here. I think we continue to achieve those goals as our Ugandan directors run the show (I only meet with them about once a week for a few hours now) under mentorship from our international advisory board. We have pivoted to focusing on local food processing and distribution to create jobs for young people (women in particular) and access to affordable nutritious food at the local level. We have wonderful mentorship and funders pushing us along and have a little over 40 employees servicing 1000+ locations in Uganda. It’s been such a wonderful thing to be a part of and I look forward to watching Organic Route continue to pivot and grow as I transition to medical school. I think the only other small update is that I am officially a [published author](#)! I am so proud to have contributed to the scientific community and hope to continue to long into my future.”

Dallaire Scholarship Committee members

Current faculty and staff: Alexis Olson, Laura Shier (Academic English Studies); Mark Duntley (Spiritual Life); 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); emeriti faculty member Joann Geddes; Community member Katharine Lawrence.

We encourage you to make a gift at this time.

To make a gift to the **Roméo Dallaire Scholarship**, please follow this [link](#). To make a gift to the **Michael Graham Scholarship**, please follow this [link](#).

If you have any questions about the Roméo Dallaire Scholarship or the Michael Graham Scholarship, please contact swynne@lclark.edu. For questions about giving a gift, please contact Stephen LeBoutillier, Director of Annual Giving, at 503-768-7940 or sgl@lclark.edu