



**THE THIRTEENTH ANNUAL OPEN BOOKS – OPEN MINDS  
STUDENT CONFERENCE**

April 10, 2024

**Inspired by Kristen Radtke’s *Seek You: A Journey Through  
American Loneliness***

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**ALGER 110**

Check-in	8:30 – 8:45
Welcome	8:45 – 9:00

**SESSION 1:      9:00 – 9:50      *Essays and Poetry***

**PRESENTERS:**

Isaiah Dahl, “Loneliness and Throwing an Orange Ball at a Basket”  
Malena Santia, poetry  
Davanna Jackley, “Activities to Improve Your Mental Health”  
Olivia Barone, “Dissecting Loneliness”

**FACILITATOR:**

Brandon Hawk

**BREAK:      10:00 – 10:15**



**SESSION 2: 10:15 – 11:30**

*“Disappearing Act”*

**PRESENTERS:** Film Studies 355: “Transmedia Storytelling”

Tai Bacani  
Amber Walker  
Roxy Soto

**FACILITATOR:**

Roz Sibielski

**FORMAN THEATER, NAZARIAN CENTER**

**SESSION 3: 12:00 – 12:50**

*Theater and Dance performances*

*“Seek You: A Devised Theater Piece”*

Kayla Botelho  
Steven Cere  
Gianna DaSilva  
Korinna Daniels  
Jasson DeLeon  
Rebecca DeVivo  
Jeffrey Gonzalez  
Terry Johnson Green  
Matt Macy

Written and performed by:

Amaya Moniz  
Cal Ouellette  
Caleigh Pearce  
Nyah Price  
Abby Saccone  
Shawn Simmons  
Sam Wright  
Emma McKay  
Izzy McElroy

*“Seek You”*

Chris DePina  
Abigail Lawrence

Choreographed and performed by:

Matthew Macy  
Ella Redding  
Shawn Simmons

**FACILITATORS:**

Bill Wilson and Angelica Cardente-Vessella



**ALGER 110**

**BOX LUNCH: 1:00 – 2:00**

**SESSION 4: 2:00-3:15**      *Essays and Photography*

**PRESENTERS:**

Samantha Rosa, “My Experience with Female Loneliness”

Elizabeth Ferrara, “My Battle Against Loneliness and Gender Expectations”

Leo Castaneda-Pineda, “Depictions of Loneliness: A Photo Series”

Sofia Morel, “The Impact of American Loneliness: Socialization of Gender, Technology, and Culture”

**FACILITATOR:**

Janice Okoomian

**BREAK: 3:15 – 3:30**

**SESSION 5: 3:30 – 4:00**      *Essays and Poetry*

**PRESENTERS:**

Sparrow Seabury, poetry

Marie Sinyan, poetry

Nyah Price, “Poetry as Therapeutic Process”

**FACILITATOR:**

Brandon Hawk

**CONCLUSION: 4:00-4:30**

## Become an OBOM Mentor!

Open Books – Open Minds is seeking student mentors for Fall 2024. Student mentors get course credit; they lead class discussions and present at the spring conference. It's both fun and professionalizing.

To become a mentor, contact Dr. Okoomian at: [jokoomian@ric.edu](mailto:jokoomian@ric.edu)

### OPEN BOOKS – OPEN MINDS COMMITTEE

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Brandon Hawk  
Janice Okoomian

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Anita Duneer, English Department  
Patti Nolin, Conferences and Events Office  
Sara Reilly, Student Advising Office  
Sara Sanfilippo, Adams Library  
Judith Stokes, Adams Library  
Bill Wilson, Theater Department

#### Student Mentors:

Leo Castaneda-Pineda  
Sophia diNaro  
Matheus Moraes  
Nyah Price

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