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## An Interview with Mohammed Hossain

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# An Interview with Mohammed Hossain

Hometown: Brooklyn, NY

Major: Double major in Philosophy and Psychology

**Hobbies:** Jazz, Lindy Bop dancing/teaching, traveling, dance competitions, listening to uplifting music (classical and jazz), current favorite tv show is Viking.

### Do/did you like Geneseo? Why did you choose to come to Geneseo?

Mohammed: I wanted some kind of independence because I would not have been able to achieve the same level of focus in my household. Students at Geneseo have the opportunity to do what they want in terms of independence, and it is less expensive than other good schools. Here, you can study what you want for less. I also think Geneseo is a good place to discover what you want to do.

### Why do you feel that GREAT Day is important?

GREAT Day is one of the only days when students get to be proactive in what they show their peers. In other circumstances, a student might be writing a paper, or doing a presentation for a class. They are mostly encouraged to do work through extrinsic motivation, that being that they get a grade at the end of the semester and do not want to fail their classes because they need a degree to get a job. But GREAT Day is an opportunity for students to showcase exactly what they want because they *want* to do it and for no other reason, which is important.

#### How did it feel to present your work at GREAT Day?

I really enjoyed presenting. It was the first time I did a presentation out of my own volition instead of using a prescribed assignment as motivation. The subject matter presented in my paper was something that I was really, genuinely, interested in. My thesis was an idea that I generally believe and so even though it was based off of a very impersonal, broad subject, it felt very intimate to me. I was really putting myself out there and telling people what I believed and why I believed that to be case. It was nice to have people chime in and respond to that.