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## An interview with student author Kylie Mathis

Kylie Mathis  
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# An interview with student author Kylie Mathis

Nicole Callahan

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## **What did your involvement with GREAT Day mean to you?**

I would say GREAT Day is a huge part of the culture at Geneseo, so it was really cool to be asked for my work, especially my Senior Capstone Project, to be included in that.

## **What do you think GREAT Day adds to the Geneseo community?**

I think it just shows the amount of collaboration that goes on on campus and the variety of work that students are engaging in.

## **What inspired you to write this paper?**

So, my Senior Capstone was actually on feminism in film. It was based on a wonderful class taught by Dr. Melanie Blood. A lot of our work went into the idea that film typically only shows one perspective, and a lot of voices go unheard. Comic books are a form of media I regularly engage in, and I wanted to apply that same idea to a different form of media.

## **What were the goals in creating this?**

My goals were first, to get people interested in comics, because they may not have considered that media form as something they wanted to engage in. And second, to comment on a trend that I think is troubling and problematic. Comic books are great, they're an important part of our culture. We see superheros reflected in advertisements, and commercials and everything, and I really think the sexual violence we see still today in comic books is troubling.

## **What did conducting your research teach you about your discipline?**

I think when conducting my research what I really found was there's not a lot of information out there on sexual violence in comic books, despite the research we have on how violent media really affects public opinion on things like rape and sexual assault.

### **Are you currently writing about topics related to your piece?**

No, I am not. I was actually an education major, but my concentration was women and gender studies.

### **Do you think your GREAT Day presentation was in some way helpful in preparing you for the demands of work after graduation or in graduate school?**

I learned how to condense a lot of information into something that readers who may not know much about the subject can understand.

### **In retrospect, do you think your GREAT day project was an essential part of your experience at Geneseo?**

Yeah, absolutely. I think it's something I'll look back on and really be proud that I worked on.

### **How did you feel when you presented your work?**

That's a tough one! I would say I was pretty proud. I put in a lot of work to the essay all semester, and I was pretty proud to pull everything together. Especially at the end of my senior year.