



MEDIA ALERT

UAH to kick off \$600K Gulf Scholar Program on Thursday, April 17, 2025

What: The University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH), in collaboration with Calhoun Community College, will kick off the [Gulf Scholars Program](#), a \$600,000 fellowship aimed at preparing students to address environmental, health, energy and infrastructure challenges faced by the Gulf coastal states.

This free event is open to the public. [Attendees should RSVP here](#).

When: Thursday, April 17, 2025, at Noon

Where: UAH College of Nursing Building, 1610 Ben Graves Dr NW, Room 103. Click [here](#) for a campus map.

Agenda:

- **11:30-12:30 p.m.** Gulf scholars kickoff event/ introduce the initiatives fellowship program/lunch
- **1:00-3:00 p.m.** Performance by the [Addiction Performance Project](#) featuring an accomplished group of film, television and stage actors aimed at breaking down stigmas associated with addiction and the impact on families involved.

Why: The Gulf Scholars Program is part of a five-year, \$12.7 million National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine pilot program that seeks to support Gulf region colleges and universities in preparing undergraduate students to address critical challenges in community health and resilience, environmental protection and stewardship, and offshore energy safety.

Addiction poses a significant challenge in the Gulf states, and effectively addressing this issue can greatly improve quality of life and increase life expectancy. The accompanying theatrical performance will serve as a catalyst for guided audience discussions about substance use and addiction as these issues affect individuals, families, caregivers, and communities. Research shows that educating communities about addiction, along with prioritizing treatment and prevention efforts, can lead to healthier populations and lower healthcare costs.

Interviews: Dr. Azita Amiri of the UAH College of Nursing as well as members of the Bloomberg American Health Initiative at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health will be available for interviews. Bloomberg is supporting the event: RSVP Bloomberg interview requests to Caitlin Hoffman at choffman@jhu.edu.

More info: Presented by Theater of War Productions, the supporting performance will feature dramatic readings of Act Three of Eugene O'Neill's "Long Day's Journey into Night," which depicts the struggles of Mary Tyrone, a woman who abuses prescription painkillers and relapses into full-blown morphine addiction.

The event will feature performances by:

- Kathryn Erbe (Law & Order: Criminal Intent, Oz)
- Peter Francis James (The Rosa Parks Story, Godfather of Harlem)
- Alex Morf (Daredevil, Mindhunter)
- Marjolaine Goldsmith (Company Manager, Theater of War Productions)

Media RSVP: Julie Jansen at julie.jansen@uah.edu