Kathleen Kellett completed her preliminary exams and her dissertation proposal this academic year. She also presented "Monstrous Economics in Leigh Bardugo's *Six of Crows*" at the Northeast Popular Culture Association conference, for which she was nominated for a student paper award.

Mary Louise Mitsdarffer was a 2020-2021 American Public Health Association Child and Maternal Health Fellow and a David K. Sengstack Fellow. Mary presented her work on the impacts of interior immigration enforcement and Latinx Health at the 2020 Annual American Public Health Meeting, where she also serves on the program planning and professional development committees for the Child and Maternal Health Section. Mary has given talks on the effects of immigration enforcement policy and Latinx education at Stockton University, Rutgers University, Drexel University, Temple University, and University of the Sciences this past academic year. Mary, alongside faculty and program alumni – Wenhua Lu and Abigail Todhunter-Reid – recently published “Barriers and Facilitators for Mental Health Service Use Among Racial/Ethnic Minority Adolescents: A Systematic Review of Literature” in *Frontiers in Public Health* in March of 2021. Currently, Mary has a number of manuscripts in preparation for submission from both her dissertation work and past projects, which include New Jersey Health Institute’s Next Generation Community Leaders Initiative findings on the effects of guided participation, youth leadership, and community health. Mary successfully defended her dissertation with distinction in April of 2021. Mary will join Lehigh University’s Institute for Critical Race and Ethnic Studies Health Justice Collaborative as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in the fall of 2021.

Congratulations to our 2021 Graduates

- **Diana Garcia (Ph.D.)**
- **Michelle Lyttle-Storrod (Ph.D.)**
- **Mary Louise Mitsdarffer (Ph.D.)**
- **Helen Ard (Master’s) (not pictured)**
Palak Vashist was recently awarded the 2021 South Asian Studies Summer Fellowship.

Kacey Doran was accepted to the Children’s Literature Association’s virtual conference, The Arcade, and will be presenting her talk, "My Little Epona: Alternative Histories of Zelda Experiences" in June, 2021.

Michelle Lyttle-Storrod successfully defended her PhD dissertation Digital Justice: Girls, Phones and Juvenile Justice and will Graduate May 2021. She has presented her dissertation research at three online conferences this year. Recently Michelle co-authored an article about the impact COVID-19 has on young people who are incarcerated. This paper is published in Current Issues in Criminal Justice a peer reviewed journal. Michelle has one of her dissertation articles under review at an international journal and will be submitting two others over the summer. Michelle is also writing a chapter based on her innovative digital methodology for Critical Perspectives on Research with Children Reflexivity, Voice, Interdependence, Agency, and Ethics. This book is an edited collection, in partnership with the Child and Youth Studies department at the University of Suffolk, UK. Michelle will be joining Widener University as an Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice in Fall 2021 and is extremely excited to be able to continue her work with young people in Camden.

Joseph V. Giunta presented his scholarship at three academic conferences on his various research interests. Firstly, his work on fantasy circumscription and adult constructions of girlhood in early 1950s Disney animated features was presented at the Ray Browne Conference for Popular Culture Studies out of Bowling Green State University, as part of a panel focused on unpacking issues of identity in popular media. Additionally, his exploration of historical fiction television series through NBC’s Timeless (2016–18) highlights its subversion of popular network television tropes, foregrounding of marginalized figures whose contributions are framed as essential to the development of the country, and the ways in which American historical figures are contrastingly and predominantly dehistoricized in other mainstream U.S. television was presented at the Northeast Modern Language Association’s (NeMLA) annual conference. Finally, Joseph’s examination of A24’s The Florida Project (2017), particularly the ways in which it draws linkages between ideological constructs and material investments (or lack thereof) in a local Florida community resulting from its proximity to Disney World, and how the film’s young protagonist dismisses the structural and personal constraints which directly affect her to instead construct an epic tale of her own existence, was presented at Worlds of Imagination: Media, Place and Tourism in Today’s Global World out of Erasmus University Rotterdam. Joseph is also finalizing his chapter that expands upon his research presented at the Ray Brown Conference in an edited volume on Social Authority and Order in Disney and Pixar Films out of Lexington Books (late 2021 release), and beginning to work on two additional chapters: one in an edited collection out of Bloomsbury on the Nickelodeon animated series Avatar: The Last Airbender (2005–08) and its representation of agentic young people negotiating with various forms of trauma (est. 2022 release), and another chapter, co-authored with Ingrid E. Castro, in an edited collection with Lexington on Children of the Post-Apocalypse, focusing on constructions of children’s mobile and moral agency that determine the fate of the post-apocalyptic family in Raised By Wolves (HBOMax, 2020–) and I Am Mother (Netflix, 2019) (est. 2022 release).
Heather Reel is honored to be a 2021-2022 American University of the Association of Women (AAUW) Dissertation Fellow. She is also the recipient of a 2021-2022 Marsh-Gillette Fellowship in Childhood Studies in support of archival research for her dissertation on the cultural history of child multiples. This past academic year, Heather presented at the American Association for the History of Medicine (AAHM) annual conference, as well as the American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA). In May she will be speaking at the Cultural Studies Association (CSA) Conference and the 2021 American Association for the History of Medicine (AAHM) meeting. She will also be presenting her research at the XI Biennial International Conference for the Society for Children and Youth (SHCY). In addition to conference participation and speaking engagements, Heather has two articles currently under peer review. As an offshoot of her dissertation work, she is also working on a project exploring the history of children’s body books. Her greatest accomplishment, however, is surviving a year of doctoral work (along with her peers) in a year of global pandemic, racial reckoning and extreme political violence. While she recognizes that celebrating achievements can be an act of joyful resistance, she continues to mourn for the millions who have lost their lives and the many who are still struggling.

Halle Singh has a forthcoming, requested article submission entitled “Method-ological Review of Girlhood Studies: Mapping the Landscapes of Girlhood,” where she investigates and visually maps the methodological tools used in the production of knowledge with, for, and about girls and girlhood. She also spoke on a panel titled “Current State of Girlhood Studies” for the Gender Studies program at Claremont Graduate University. In the past year, she has taught a course titled “Gender and Education” for the Childhood Studies department and continued her work as a graduate assistant to the Gender Studies department at Rutgers-Camden. Lastly, Halle successfully defended her proposal for her dissertation “Girlhood After Dark: Nighttime, Leisure, and the Reproduction of the Self” in April 2021.

Lidong Xiang was a recipient of the 2021-2022 David K. Sengstack Endowed Graduate Fellowship in support of archival research for her dissertation on the cultural imaginaries of Chinese urban girlhood. She was invited to present her work about “Geographies of Chinese Children’s Literature” in Zhejiang Normal University, China. She also presented her paper “The Spatial Interaction of the Child and Modernity in The Vagrant Life of Sanmao, 1947-1949” at the 69th Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs (virtual).

Janene Ryan is a co-recipient of the 2021-2022 David K. Sengstack Endowed Graduate Fellowship in the Department of Childhood Studies. She presented her illustrative paper, Look Away, Child: A Visual Centering of Communal Racial Trauma in Black Childhood at the 2020 Childhood Studies Virtual Conference at Rutgers University-Camden. Janene's work examines the psychological impact of historic and contemporary graphics of harm and death to Black bodies at the hands of law enforcement and white vigilantes. Janene has also accepted to present her paper, The Customized Child: The Customization of Children of Color in Foster Care at the Social Science History Association Conference in Philadelphia, PA (November 2021). Janene continues to work full-time for the Division of Child Protection and Permanency as an investigator for child abuse and neglect.