

VOLUME 49 | ISSUE 4 | SUMMER 2017

# WOFFORD

TODAY



A commitment to a complete  
**liberal arts education**





## WOFFORD TODAY

Summer 2017 | Volume 49 | Issue 4  
[wofford.edu/woffordtoday](http://wofford.edu/woffordtoday)

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### « A Chilean adventure

Sarah Spiro '18, a biology and Spanish major from Sylva, N.C., studied abroad in Chile during the spring semester. She's a member of the college's track and field team and has been recognized on the Southern Conference all-academic team and on the academic honor roll.

## MESSAGE *from the* PRESIDENT



**Unbridled creativity, beauty and excitement — that's what the Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts brings to Wofford College.**

Every day will be a celebration with plays and exhibitions and performances.

Although we officially dedicate the building as a community on Sept.

12, Jerry Richardson '59 threw a gala in May for family and friends to honor his wife and building namesake, Rosalind Richardson, and her love of art, family and Wofford College. You'll find an interview with Mrs. Richardson and some photos from the event in this issue of Wofford Today.

This issue also applauds our newest graduates, follows the baseball team on a remarkable visit to the National September 11 Monument and Museum and features alumni who are living, working and thriving in New York City.

See for yourself how Wofford's commitment to a liberal arts education — in all its forms — is stronger than ever.

Go, Terriers!

Nayef



»  
 President Nayef Samhat gave Mrs. Richardson her first tour of the new Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts at a gala event for family and friends on May 13.





## IT'S YOUR WORLD. CELEBRATE IT.

Crucifer Chiedza Mushayamunda '18 (above), college marshals and banner bearer Chris Paschal '17 led the Class of 2017 to the lawn of Main Building for the college's 163rd Baccalaureate Service. To read more about Commencement and view a gallery of photos from the weekend, visit [wofford.edu/woffordtoday](http://wofford.edu/woffordtoday).





A GROUP OF Wofford College students are shown above as they paraded in the business district here last night in what they called a "protest against the verdict of the Greenville trial." The parade was informally held through midnight after news was received here that students charged with lynching Willie Earle on Feb. 17 had been acquitted by a jury at Greenville. About 50 students participated in the protest parade. City policemen said the demonstration was orderly and attracted little attention because few people were on the streets.



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## THE WORLD @ WOFFORD

Read more about these and other stories at [wofford.edu/woffordtoday](http://wofford.edu/woffordtoday) »

### A. CONNECTING ACROSS GENERATIONS

In February, Wofford hosted a conference on South Carolina's last lynching and preaching to confront racism. The event featured the insights of Dr. Will Willimon '68 and Dr. Will Gravelly '61. Current Wofford students responded by raising funds to replace a stolen monument to Willie Earle, the victim of the last lynching in the state.

*Continued online.*

### B. BETWEEN THE COURTROOM AND THE CLASSROOM

During the spring semester the Hon. Henry Floyd '70 (above right), U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, left his gavel and robe at the U.S. Courthouse in Spartanburg and returned to Wofford a few times a week, where he was the expert witness (or professor) in Dr. David Alvis' Constitutional Law of the United States class.

*Continued online.*

### C. A GOOD MAP IS HARD TO FIND

The classroom in Daniel Building 203 now has a new, large-scale map of the world thanks to Jake Brice '18 (above), an international affairs and economics double major from Greenville, S.C. Brice searched the world for the rare map, secured Campus Union funding and helped install it when it arrived on campus.

*Continued online.*

### D. SUMMER STUDY IN CHINA

Riddick Blocker '16 (above on the Great Wall) and Sam Alford '19 have been awarded the U.S. Department of State's Critical Language Scholarship to study in China this summer, all expenses paid. The highly competitive national scholarship will fund an intensive, eight-week Chinese language living and learning experience, including home stays in Suzhou and Dalian, China, respectively.

*Continued online.*

### E. TOLBERTS CONTINUE RESTORATION SUPPORT

A selection of works of Julia Elizabeth Tolbert will be fully restored and become a part of the college's permanent collection thanks to the generosity of Dr. Tom Tolbert '67 and Judy Klasen Tolbert '77. Julia Elizabeth Tolbert studied under Lamar Dodd and was active through the 1940s into the mid-1950s.

*Continued online.*

### F. STUDENTS ATTEND INNOCENCE NETWORK CONFERENCE

Dr. Dawn McQuiston, associate professor of psychology and pre-law advisor, took four students to the Innocence Network Conference in San Diego, Calif., in April. Attending the conference were (left to right) Faith Lifer '17, Sami Bernstein '17, Amanda Knox (wrongfully convicted in Italy as an exchange student), Cierra Kaiser '17 and Peggy Payne '17.

*Continued online.*

### G. FACULTY HONORED IN THE SPRING

Wofford faculty received statewide, national and college-level accolades this spring, including Dr. Bill DeMars, professor and chair of the Department of Government and International Affairs, who was recognized with the 2017 Excellence in Teaching Award presented by South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities.

*Continued online.*

### H. WOFFORD CONFERS HONORARY DEGREES

During the college's 163rd Commencement Wofford presented honorary degrees to Harold Chandler '71 (below), chairman, president and CEO of Milliken & Co, who also delivered the Commencement address; Nikky Finney, a South Carolina poet; and Susan Phifer "Susu" Johnson, community volunteer, philanthropist and art collector.

*Continued online.*



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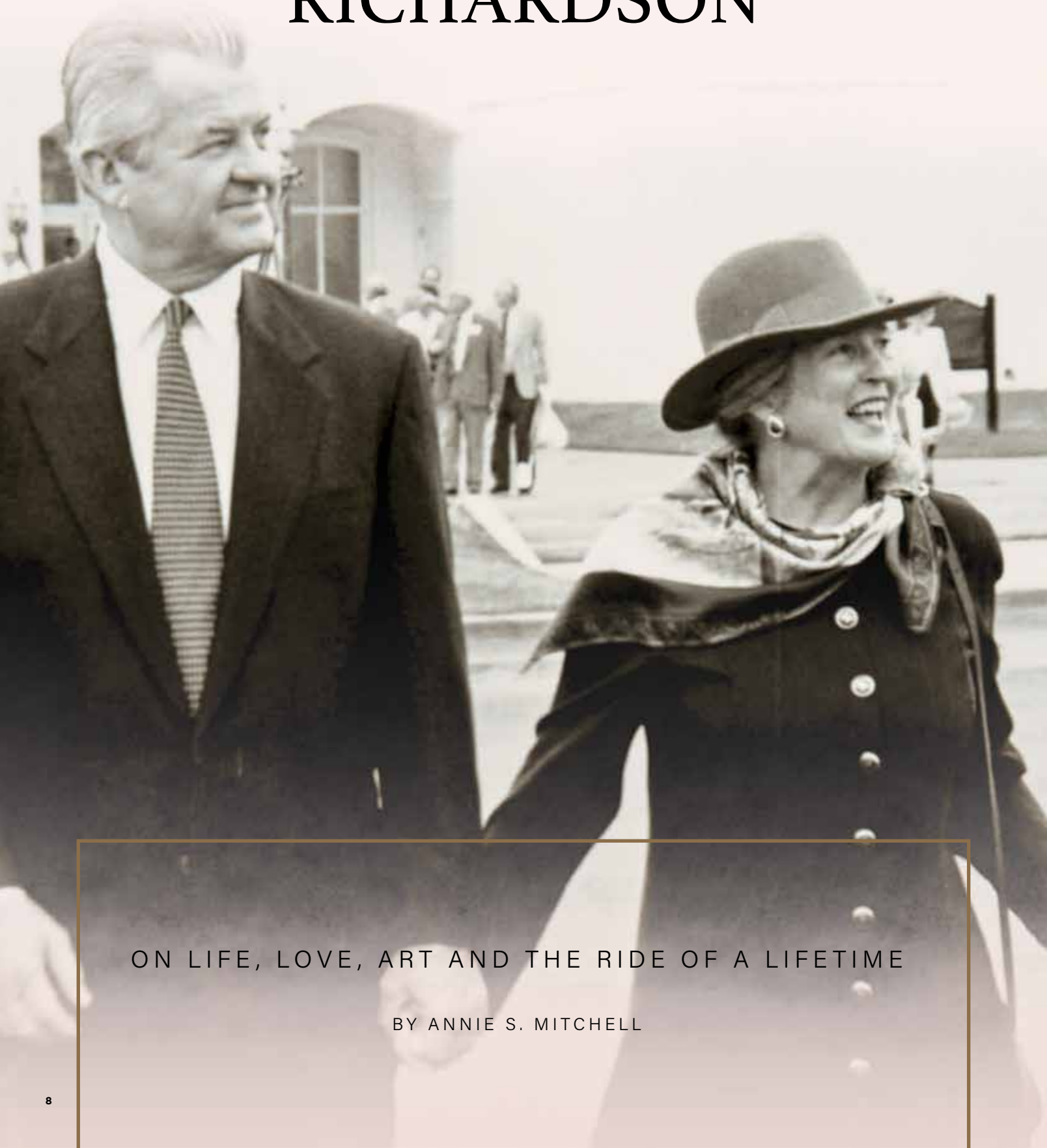


**UNLEASHED** (RATHER, UNBRIDLED!)

Caroline Adams '20, a native of Lafayette, La., and member of the Wofford Equestrian Team, enjoyed cutting up with Mambo, one of the competition horses, during the Lander University Show. Follow the team on social media: @WoCoEquestrian, facebook.com/woffordequestrian and instagram.com/wocoequestrian.



# ROSALIND SALLENGER RICHARDSON



ON LIFE, LOVE, ART AND THE RIDE OF A LIFETIME

BY ANNIE S. MITCHELL



She picked him up the day they met. Their love story began on a dirt road called Hazard Street. But, according to Rosalind Sallenger Richardson, their life together has been anything but a hazard.

“It has just been the best thing that ever happened to me, and Jerry has said it has been the best thing that ever happened to him. So that’s the way it is.”

It was summer in the late 1950s. Rosalind Sallenger, a student at the all-female Winthrop College, was vacationing at Pawleys Island with her family. Jerry Richardson ’59 was also at Pawleys Island with friends from his Wofford College fraternity. It was one of the first summer trips with the brothers of Kappa Alpha Order Mr. Richardson had been able to make; for the first time, work and football practice had not interfered with vacation plans.

Mrs. Richardson and her best high school girlfriend, Bunny Schipman, were driving down Hazard Street when they came across four young men with thumbs out. Schipman and Mrs. Richardson instantly recognized the men as Wofford students and decided to give them a ride.

“I was in the front middle seat, and Jerry was in the back middle seat. There were no seatbelts, and you could sit anywhere you wanted, so I turned around with my back to the front of the car, and I talked to all of them and just had a wonderful time... I really majored in having a wonderful time. That was my main and best class,” laughs Mrs. Richardson.

The group reached their destination — a party hosted by Converse College women. Everyone went inside, but Mr. Richardson wanted to stay and talk to the pretty woman in the front middle seat. So they stayed in the car together and talked, and after a long

conversation, he asked her to go on a date with him that very night.

According to Mrs. Richardson, the conversation went something like this:

Rosalind: No, I can’t go out with you tonight. I just met you!

Jerry: I really am a nice person.

Rosalind: I have never met you before, and I don’t know anything about you.

Jerry: Well, if you will just get out of this car and come in this house with me, I have friends in there, and they will tell you that I’m nice, and you will be perfectly safe going out with me.

After about 30 minutes of haggling, they decided to go on a triple date with two other couples — putt-putt golf at Myrtle Beach. To this day they disagree on who won the miniature golf game. He says she beat him; she





says he beat her. They agreed to keep seeing each other, often going on dates in Charlotte, N.C., the city that eventually would become their home. A movie at the Carolina Theatre and dinner at The Open Kitchen Restaurant was a favorite dating activity.

“We would order one pizza and one beer, and we would split the pizza and the beer because we didn’t have any money. And we would sit in the same corner booth, side by side, and just get as close as we could. It was just wonderful,” says Mrs. Richardson.

A year later, Jerry Richardson proposed to Rosalind Sallenger the same way he met her — in a car on a dirt road.

“I said yes right away,” says Mrs. Richardson. “I was in such a hurry to say yes because I knew the next year I had to take algebra. And when he asked, I said, ‘Absolutely I will marry you! I am so excited I am not going to have to take algebra next year!’”

The love story that epitomized the beginning of their relationship has continued through a lifetime of three children, nine grandchildren and many long and close friendships. To this day, Mrs. Richardson remains close to the girlfriends she made in her Florence, S.C., kindergarten class, and each year Mr. Richardson spends time with the close Fayetteville, N.C., friends he made in grammar school through high school. True friendship is important to both of the Richardsons, a sentiment Mrs. Richardson shares when asked what advice she would give to Wofford students. “I would tell them to really enjoy themselves while they are in school, make good friends, and try and keep up with them,” she says. “Pick good friends — that’s so important.”

On Oct. 21, 2014, a new chapter was written in their love story — the announcement that Mr. Richardson provided the gift to build Wofford College’s first arts building, named in honor of his wife. “It has been my good fortune that Rosalind agreed to marry me many years ago,” Mr. Richardson says of the gift. “It gives me great pleasure to honor my wife with the naming of this facility



Left: Mrs. Rosalind Richardson from the 1959 Bohemian, Jerry Richardson nominated her as one of the “Miss Bohemian Beauties.”

Below: A beautiful portrait of Mrs. Rosalind Sallenger Richardson by Santa Fe, N.M., artist Ned Bittinger graces the lobby of the building that bears her name. The portrait is a gift to the college from Mr. and Mrs. Steve Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Chris Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Lukas Allen and Dr. and Mrs. Evan Myers.

dedicated to the arts on the Wofford campus, my alma mater. Rosalind’s love of art and our love of Wofford are a perfect match in making this vision for the college a reality.”

“I was so surprised when Jerry announced that he was going to build a building with my name on it. ... I just couldn’t get over it,” says Mrs. Richardson. During the campus announcement, Mrs. Richardson tenderly patted Mr. Richardson on the knee. Of that moment she says, “I thought he was just so wonderful. How did he ever think to name something for me? It was just such a shock... a very wonderful moment in my life.”

A building that houses Wofford’s departments of art and art history and theatre, along with state-of-the-art spaces for instruction, performances and exhibits, is the perfect compliment to its namesake, a woman to whom art and creativity are important. “We are all creative in our family,” says Mrs. Richardson. “Everybody can do different things, and it’s so exciting to see what people come up with. Our family has all different types of interests, but I think the main thing that we all have is a love for this beautiful earth, its flowers, its trees and each other.”

Mrs. Richardson’s love of nature shines in the red, gold and yellow colors of Chihuly sculptures that grace the Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts, colors by request of Mrs. Richardson to reflect those of the leaves of the ginkgo and other trees changing colors in the fall.

In addition to fall colors, it’s no surprise what other colors Mrs. Richardson enjoys. “I like Panthers colors,” she says. “I think the shades of blue that I see in sports are beautiful.

“And black and gold, for sure,” she quickly adds.

Mrs. Richardson finds the bold work of Georgia O’Keeffe breathtaking, and she enjoys creating her own work. She started taking lessons in charcoal and throughout the years has worked in acrylic, oil, screen-printing, woodcutting and pottery. She gives her art to her children and grandchildren, and makes each of them a unique, handcrafted pottery ornament every Christmas.

Sports are another passion of Mrs. Richardson, however, the first lady of football’s love for athletics began long before she met Mr. Richardson. “In the neighborhood we played whatever sport was going on in the leagues,”







—  
**“FROM  
 THE TIME I  
 MET JERRY  
 RICHARDSON,  
 LIFE HAS BEEN  
 EXCITING.”**  
 —

she says. “If it was baseball, we played baseball... if it was football, we played football, both boys and girls. My father made us a basketball court in the backyard by putting baskets on two pine trees so we would have the full court. The only problem was that as the trees grew, the baskets got higher!”

While it held no interest to her three sisters, as a young girl Mrs. Richardson would watch football on the snowy black-and-white television each Sunday after church with her father, Ed.

“We would sit right there and watch football together, and he would explain everything to me,” she says. “I did not realize at the time that my life would always be surrounded by sports.” In high school Mrs. Richardson played sports as electives, including basketball, tennis and cheerleading.

On the adventure of her life she has shared with her husband, Mrs.

Richardson imparts the simple secret to a happy marriage: just try to not irritate the other person. “If there’s something you know that irritates them, just don’t do it,” she says.

“From the time I met Jerry Richardson, life has been exciting,” says Mrs. Richardson. “Jerry has led an exciting life, and I am so happy that I was the one who got to go along for the ride. And it has been a great ride, and we try and take care of each other, and we just make things fun.”

On May 13, 2017, Jerry Richardson honored his wife, Rosalind, with a celebration of the Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts. Craig Melvin '01 served as host to an event that featured artist Dale Chihuly (upper left) as well as the Wofford Goldtones (lower right).





COME VISIT THIS SUMMER.



## THE ROSALIND SALLENGER RICHARDSON CENTER FOR THE ARTS

The Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts is open! Although crews are still installing technology, special lighting and audio in the Jerome Johnson Richardson Theatre, people can visit the building over the summer to see three incredible exhibits:

**PASSION FOR PAINTING: THE ART OF SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL** is on exhibit in the Richardson Family Art Museum now through Sept. 16. In addition to 10 Churchill paintings, the exhibition includes memorabilia from the skilled statesman who led the British during World War II. These pieces are on loan from the National Churchill Museum, part of the collection of the family of the late Julian Sandys, grandson of Churchill.

**THE MOUNTAINS ARE CALLING: HIGH SEASONS IN THE CAROLINAS FROM THE JOHNSON COLLECTION** offers a study of the landscapes of the American South on exhibit through Sept. 16 in the Richardson Family Art Museum. Beyond the inaugural display, the Johnson Collection will lend annual curated exhibits to the museum. The Johnson Collection was founded in 2002 by Susan Phifer "Susu" Johnson and George Dean Johnson '64.

**PRINTEMPS DES ARTS: SUBTLITIES OF RESISTANCE AND RENEWAL** in the Richardson Family Art Gallery features the works of three Tunisian artists through Aug. 19. The show is curated by Meghan Curran '19 as her capstone project for her Middle Eastern and North African studies program. The 27 pieces are from the collection of Dr. Cathy Jones, a professor at Converse College.

While you're in the building, also enjoy the breathtaking glass sculptures of Dale Chihuly, a permanent fixture and tribute from Jerry Richardson '59 to his wife and building namesake, Rosalind. Exhibit hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 1 to 5 p.m., with extended hours Thursdays until 9 p.m.

Visit this summer then return in the fall for a play, a musical performance and new art exhibitions. The campus and Spartanburg communities will celebrate the official opening of the Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts on Tuesday, Sept. 12, at 11 a.m.

PLEASE JOIN US!







The  
POWER  
of the  
GIFT

**Alumnus puts pep in scholarship gift**  
Hollis '58 funds scholarships for students in music groups

by Laura Hendrix Corbin

Richard E. Hollis '58 loved playing his tenor saxophone in the Wofford College pep band while he was a student.

While he majored in business administration, Hollis relished his time playing in that small, "pickup-style" band.

"We played for basketball games. That little Wofford pep band loved to play at every event we could, but sometimes it was difficult because money was very tight," says the Union, S.C., native who was in the marching band at Union High School.

That's why Hollis took advantage of the Trustee Matching Fund in order to create

the Richard E. Hollis Endowed Scholarship Fund that he hopes will go to students participating in Wofford's pep band/jazz band, currently known as "The Wofford Thundering Terrier Athletics Band and Jazz Ensemble." Such a student is the first preference for the scholarship, created for students "of good character, academic promise and with a demonstrated financial need," preferably students who participate or will participate in "approved musical organizations of the college."



“This wonderful scholarship was directed to support performing music groups that have the greatest exposure to the community and alumni, which would be groups that perform at athletics events,” says Ron “Doc” Miller, director of athletic bands and jazz studies. “The WOCO Band, which includes all Jazz Ensemble class members, is the ‘pep band’ performing at all home basketball games. ... We are so grateful for Mr. Hollis’ gift.”

“I wasn’t that good at music, not like my brother,” Hollis says, explaining why he went into business instead of a musical career. His brother, the late George Truett Hollis ’49, earned his bachelor of music degree in piano performance from Yale University after graduating from Wofford. He received his bachelor of arts degree and Ph.D. in music history from the University of Southern California and later taught piano performance as well as music history at Converse College and East Los Angeles College.

When Truett Hollis died in January 2016, he left \$300,000 to Wofford for the Sandor Teszler Library’s academic commons project.

After graduating from Wofford, Richard Hollis spent two years in the U.S. Navy, then went into banking, and later was a business development and marketing officer for architectural and construction management firms in the Washington, D.C., area. He spent 30 years in the Alexandria, Va., area, where he was recognized for his leadership in local civic affairs before returning to Spartanburg. He served as a member of Wofford’s Alumni Executive Council and in other volunteer positions.

Hollis says his brother “was probably the smartest of all of us (there were eight children in the family), and he tried harder. He made the Dean’s List every semester he was at Wofford.”

Later in life Truett Hollis was even more dedicated to his music, Hollis says. “He practiced every day for two hours, even up until he died. He was the pianist at Wofford even before Sam Moyer came, and Sam depended a lot on Truett.” Moyer, most famous at Wofford for the men’s vocal group Moyer’s Men, was a professor of music and art and director of the college band and glee club from 1947 until 1963.

Hollis says his brother decided to include the Sandor Teszler Library in his will because he was a major supporter of

students using the library. “Throughout his life, he had given gifts to the library. He wanted to support academics — he was always upset with me if I didn’t go and study. He was a great user of the library and felt that’s where his money should go.”

“Truett Hollis’ significant gift will have a meaningful and lasting impact on the experiences of our students and faculty, allowing us to tailor spaces that contribute to the unique liberal arts education that Wofford provides,” says Kevin Reynolds, dean of the library. “The Sandor Teszler Library is nearing its 50th year of service to the Wofford community, and in that time much has changed in the information ecosystem and in the ways our students and faculty carry out their work. Thanks to Mr. Hollis’ generosity, the Wofford community will see our library begin to evolve into a 21st-century academic commons that serves as a space to contemplate, connect and create.”

Richard Hollis knows Wofford always held a special place in his brother’s heart, and that he was committed to supporting the college throughout his life and beyond. “Wofford had a profound influence on him throughout his life.”

As for Richard Hollis, Wofford’s broad liberal arts education gave him a lifetime of confidence. “It gave me the confidence to undertake different career opportunities when presented and to assume leadership positions in all of the civic and personal activities in which I was a participant,” Hollis says. “I think my desire to be an integral part of the communities where I lived and to give back to the community and to those who were less fortunate was instilled in me through my Wofford experience.”



# LEARNING THE Language of Music

Wofford music program continues to expand, evolve

Nearly half of Wofford College’s 1,650 students take advantage of the college’s ever-expanding and improving music education and performance opportunities. Those include:

- Wofford Singers, a mixed voice choir.
- Men’s Glee Club, a male chorus and the oldest performing group on campus.
- Women’s Choir, a women’s chorus established in 1989.
- Wofford Men, a small “pops” a cappella men’s ensemble.
- Goldtones, a small “pops” a cappella women’s ensemble.
- Show Choir, a group that performs Broadway melodies with choreography.
- Gospel Choir, a group founded to uplift the community through song, fellowship and praise.
- Band, which performs at concert venues and athletics events.
- Voice Lessons, individual music laboratory instruction.
- String Ensemble, a group that studies and performs selected string literature.
- Musical Interim projects, offered every other year in January in conjunction with Wofford Theatre.
- Classes in musical history and theory.

Wofford offers no music major, but a minor is under consideration.

With the opening of the new Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts, which houses the visual and performing arts programs, new possibilities open for music performances as well.

“I think smaller ensembles will use the beautiful new facility for a concert venue on occasion. I also anticipate musical theatre opportunities opening up in the future. With the new Jerome Johnson Richardson Theatre, we may see some of our student concerts being held there. It’s a wonderful opportunity.”

— Gary McCraw ’77  
associate professor and director of music



# WOFFORD GOES TEST OPTIONAL

HIGH SCHOOL GPA REMAINS BEST  
PREDICTOR OF ACADEMIC SUCCESS

BY LEIGH ANN MILLER '13



Effective for the fall 2018 admission cycle, Wofford College joins more than 900 four-year colleges and universities nationwide that are test optional. Wofford no longer will require standardized test scores — SAT or ACT — to complete an application for students pursuing admission to the college. The new policy was endorsed unanimously by the faculty enrollment committee with overwhelming support from the campus community. More than half of U.S. News & World Report's Top 100 national liberal arts colleges are now test optional; Wofford is 77th on the Top 100 list.

"We hope this change will encourage more students to apply to Wofford," says Brand Stille '86, vice president for enrollment. "We consider a number of factors when students apply for admission to Wofford. These factors include high school grades, academic rigor, extracurricular activities, an essay and recommendations. Consistently, a student's high school GPA has

been the best predictor of academic success at Wofford. We remain confident we can continue to make sound admission decisions without standardized test scores."

Wofford considers the following components to make an admission decision:

- Common application
- High school transcript
- High school report form
- Essay
- Activities
- Recommendations (optional)

If test scores are submitted, they will be considered as well. The Office of Admission still will collect SAT and ACT test scores after all admission and financial aid decisions for the purposes of research on the correlation between test scores and first-year student success.

Do you know a student who would be a good fit for Wofford? **TELL US ABOUT THEM!**

Introducing Wofford's **RECOMMEND A STUDENT** page.

Visit [wofford.edu/alumni](http://wofford.edu/alumni) to tell us about your family member, friend, neighbor, etc., and we will send them information about Wofford.

## WOFFORD JOINS NATIONAL ALLIANCE TO EXPAND COLLEGE ACCESS, OPPORTUNITY

by Laura Hendrix Corbin

*Group works to recruit, enroll talented low- and moderate-income students*

As part of Wofford College's ongoing efforts to expand educational access for underrepresented students, the college has joined the American Talent Initiative (ATI), an effort to substantially increase the number of talented low- and moderate-income students at the nation's top-performing undergraduate institutions with the highest graduation rates.

Wofford joins 67 of the nation's most respected colleges and universities in the alliance, including Harvard, Princeton, Yale and Johns Hopkins, in the commitment to enhance efforts to

recruit, enroll and support lower-income students, learn from each other and contribute to research that will help other institutions expand opportunities.

"Our nation's best colleges and universities are enhancing our commitment as vehicles of opportunity for future generations," Wofford President Nayef H. Samhat says. "Wofford looks forward to working with its partners in ATI in carrying out the mission to provide the best education for talented students regardless of their financial background and means. ... Wofford's extraordinary and transformational educational experience is accessible to all, including socio-economically underrepresented students, and through this ATI partnership, we will broaden our accessibility even more."

Wofford previously has announced other initiatives to address these issues, including committing \$300,000 in scholarships for first-generation college students from South Carolina.

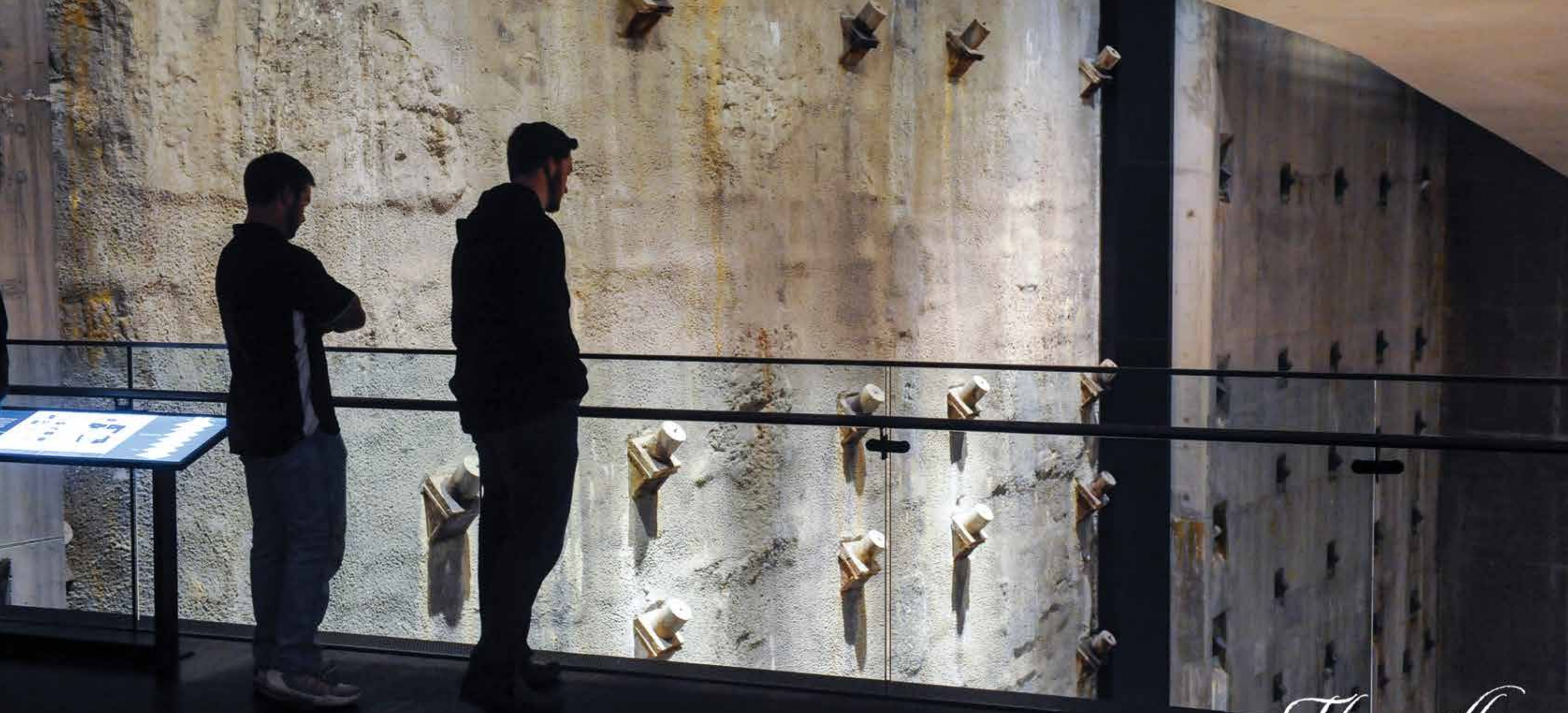
The New York Times has recognized Wofford as one of the most economically diverse colleges in the country and named Wofford among the "Top Colleges Doing the Most for Low-Income Students."

Launched in December 2016, the American Talent Initiative is supported by Bloomberg Philanthropies and was founded with a national goal of educating 50,000 additional high-achieving, lower-income students by 2025 at the 270 colleges and universities with the highest graduation rates. Based on the most recent federal data available, there are approximately 430,000 lower-income students enrolled at these 270 institutions. ATI's goal is to increase and sustain the total number of lower-income students attending these top-performing colleges to about 480,000 by 2025. To reach this ambitious goal, ATI aims to add more top-performing colleges to its membership in the coming months and years.

Wofford College recognizes that America's top-performing colleges have an important role to play in this effort. Research shows that when high-achieving, lower-income students attend institutions such as Wofford, they graduate at higher rates and are more likely to hold leadership positions and enjoy opportunities for advancement. Yet in each graduating high school class, there are at least 12,500 lower-income young people with outstanding academic credentials who do not enroll at institutions where they have the greatest likelihood of graduating. These students have earned opportunities, but for a variety of reasons — including a lack of information about their options, confusion about costs and inadequate financial aid offers — many of them simply lack access. ATI seeks to ensure that these "missing" students have a path to attend and thrive at the institutions with the highest graduation rates and best track records for postgraduate success.

*Read the full story online at [wofford.edu/woffordtoday](http://wofford.edu/woffordtoday) »*





*They will*  
**NEVER FORGET**

Wofford baseball visits National September 11 Monument and Museum

by Jo Ann Mitchell Brasington '89





Spencer Kulman '17 (above) was a first-grade student in Westchester, N.Y., when two planes crashed into the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001. He remembers waiting in the school's hallway, watching his teacher crying, then hearing that the school was on lockdown. While he waited, confused, for his mother to pick him up from school, Joe Graziano Sr., a firefighter from Engine 22, Ladder 13, searched the north tower, clearing floors the size of football fields, beginning with the 24th and moving down. Of the 10 firefighters from his station who went into the building that day, he was the only one to make it out alive.

The two met in New York over spring break at the National September 11 Monument and Museum, along with the rest of the Wofford baseball team, and it's an experience none of them will ever forget. "It was a beautiful day. Not a cloud in the sky. The temperature was great."

## “YOU DIDN'T THINK ANYTHING BAD COULD EVER HAPPEN ON THAT DAY.”

That's how Graziano started his talk to the team, most of whom had limited memories of Sept. 11 because they were so young when it happened. Graziano, who had not spoken publicly about the day until talking with the Wofford team, gave them an account of the events: sitting around the kitchen table in the firehouse joking with his FDNY brothers, seeing the first

plane go into the north tower, contacting his wife about leaving a key for his son because Graziano now was anticipating a change in his routine, seeing the second plane hit, realizing it was terrorism and not just a horrible accident, getting the call to go to the World Trade Center.

"We went from my firehouse, right through Central Park to the West Side highway. ... We were flying. Police were directing traffic. No one was allowed on the streets. We got there in about five minutes," says Graziano, who, along with other fire fighters, immediately reported to the command center. "First they told us to take our coats off, then they said gear up. ... We serpentine our way to the north tower — the first one hit — through falling glass. People were jumping. At the time we thought we were safer inside the building than out. We knew right then and there that we were in trouble."

They went in anyway: Tommy Casoria, Mike Elferis, Graziano, Tommy Hetzel, Walter Hynes (captain), Vinny Kane, Dennis McHugh, Marty McWilliams, Tommy Sabella and Greg Stajk. All died when the north tower collapsed, with the exception of Graziano, who was helping another firefighter get a 300-pound man who was having a heart attack down the stairway to an ambulance.

"He was ready to give up, so I said, 'What's your name?' He said, 'Ralph.' 'Ralph,' I said, 'we've got to keep moving. This is something you'll be able to tell your grandkids one day.' Eventually we had to move his legs for every step. I thought about my three boys and daughter. I thought, 'Who's going to play ball with my kids if I'm gone?' I just wanted to get this man out, get him to an ambulance and get back inside to my friends."

Graziano made it out with Ralph, but when they were about 50 yards outside the doors, the building started to collapse.

"I looked up, and it looked like the building was coming right at me," says Graziano. "Ralph fell, and I laid on top of him. We got buried — not bad, but we were buried. The dust ... you gotta remember this was 220 stories of offices. After it was over you couldn't find a telephone. You couldn't find a computer. The only thing that survived was paper. ... Your face started to expand from all the dust."

Once Graziano saw that Ralph had medical attention, he tried to radio his FDNY brothers. He walked back and forth from Battery Park to Stuyvesant calling them. Then he spent weeks checking the rubble for their bodies and the bodies of other victims.

As the Wofford baseball team listened to Graziano tell his story, they started to get a sense, some for the first time, of the magnitude of the tragedy. Graziano told the story from the perspective of a brother who lost his brothers — something that resonated with a team as close as Wofford's baseball team.

"That day sticks out mainly because it was different," says Kody Ruedisili '17, an economics and finance major from Jupiter, Fla., who came to Wofford because of the close community. He was in the first grade during the attack. "I was the last one in class because the other kids were getting picked up. When my mom came, she took us for ice cream and tried to explain. I was shocked when Coach I (Todd Interdonato) told us that we were the first team that Joe was willing to talk to."



⌘ The Grazianos presented the Wofford baseball team with warm-up shirts bearing the names of the fallen firefighters from Graziano's house. The team wore them proudly against the Naval Academy the next day.





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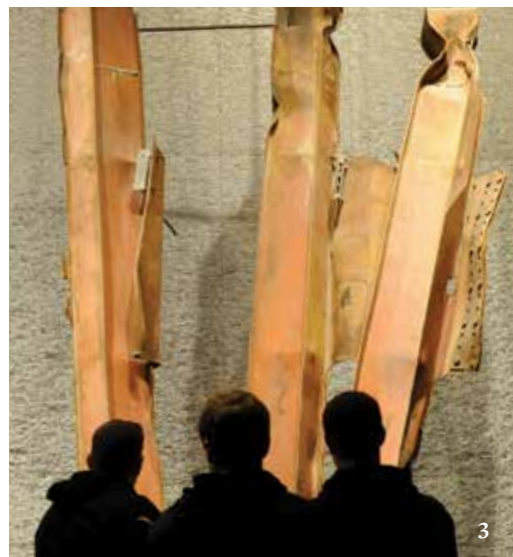
**1**  
Joe Graziano Jr. met the team at the Reflecting Absence pool and pointed out the names of firefighters who lost their lives.

**2**  
Joe Graziano Sr. shared his story as one of the last firefighters to make it out of the north tower alive.

**3**  
Young men who were in preschool or first grade absorbed the time line, the voices and the remains of Sept. 11, 2001.

**4**  
The team signed game balls and presented them to the Grazianos so they would remember them and the difference they made in their lives.

**5**  
A mangled fire truck served as the backdrop for a team picture with Joe Graziano Sr.



3



4



5

One of the most powerful things Graziano did was tell the Wofford student-athletes a little something about each of his FDNY brothers.

*“Captain Walter Hynes*

was a lawyer, besides being captain in the NYC fire department. He would do pro bono work for anyone.”

*“Marty McWilliams*

was a plumber. Lots of firefighters did work on the side. I was a pub owner.”

*“Mike Elferis*

was an Upper East Side bartender — a favorite with the girls.”

*“Tommy Casoria*

was a short stocky guy. He was our shortstop (softball is serious business for the FDNY) ... always the dirtiest guy on the field. Tommy was found in 2015. ... I was the guy that identified him.”

*“Greg Stajk*

pitched a no-hitter at Kings Park High School. ... He was an artist — 20 years I worked with the guy and didn’t know he was an artist.”

*“Tommy Sabella*

was a carpenter and an excellent practical joker. He would actually design practical jokes and could fix and do anything.”

*“Tommy Hetzel*

was an electrician. He would just sit and talk to Chris, my younger son.”

*“Dennis McHugh*

was a real young guy with three children. He was rock solid — a rugby or Irish football player.”

“We thought we had plenty of time,” Graziano explained, looking out across the solemn faces, some of whom were wiping tears from their eyes. “We lost nine guys, but only found eight.

The last guy I saw before leaving the building was Tommy Sabella; he’s the only one we couldn’t find. I knew right where he was. ... Forty percent of families that lost loved ones that day have never found their remains.”

After hearing Graziano and walking through the museum — seeing the twisted I-beams made of two-inch steel, reading the bios of those who died, absorbing the darkness, hearing the calls from people who knew they were never going to leave the building alive, marveling at the things that miraculously survived — Max McDougald ’18, a government major from Anderson, S.C., sat with his teammates processing the experience.

“Coach I tried to explain this to us before, but nobody could describe it,” he says. “We knew it was going to be a big day, but after hearing Joe speak and walking through the museum. ... He lost all of his brothers. I made the connection to my teammates, which made the experience hit home harder. This is going to change my life and how I go about my day.”

September 11, 2001 changed the lives of so many people. Graziano spent weeks after the attack talking with the grieving families of firefighters about what it was like in the building and his last memories of the men they loved.

“I don’t think that there’s a baseball team in the country that’s had the experiences we’ve had at Wofford,” says Kulman, a pitcher for the Terriers. “The things I’ve experienced here ... I don’t even know that baseball is the best part.”

That’s just fine with Interdonato, head coach of the Terriers since 2007. “Our guys are students first, which means we expect them to learn in the classroom and on the field. I want them to have experiences that will make them better people, not just better baseball players,” says Interdonato, who met Joe Graziano Jr., former Georgetown Hoya pitcher, at a baseball recruiting showcase in New York state the year before. Graziano shared his dad’s story with Interdonato, and the two worked out every detail of a plan for Graziano Sr. and the Wofford baseball team to meet.

The experience was in line with others that Interdonato had organized. Last year the team played Baylor over spring break. Guys on the team from Texas enjoyed crowds of their relatives and friends watching and cheering in Wofford gold and black. Over the past four years the team also has traveled to Nashville, Tenn., and Rome, Italy. This year the spring break trip included a series with Villanova (outside of Philadelphia) and a game against Navy (in Annapolis). Besides the detour to New York, the team also spent a day in Washington, D.C.

“I’m thankful to Wofford baseball for driving in the opposite direction, and going out of their way to come to New York to learn more about and honor those we lost that day,” says Graziano Jr.

Before leaving, the Wofford baseball team gave signed game balls to the Grazianos. The Grazianos then presented the team with black T-shirts with the FDNY logo, the words “NEVER FORGET” and the names of the fallen from Engine 22, Ladder 13 on the back. The team wore them proudly in warm-ups against Navy.

**“IT’S A WAY TO HONOR THEIR MEMORIES,”**

says Graziano Sr.





# SMALL WORLD NEW YORK

WOFFORD GRADUATES SHARE  
THE **ART** OF LIVING  
AND WORKING IN THE BIG APPLE

BY JO ANN MITCHELL BRASINGTON '89







# CRAIG MELVIN '01

THE *art* OF SHARING TODAY'S STORIES

NBC's Craig Melvin '01 credits makeup and lighting with making him look good on TV, but from watching him since he made the jump to NBC (as co-anchor of "Weekend TODAY," national correspondent for "TODAY" and MSNBC anchor), it's about much more than the lack of shine on his nose.

Melvin is smart. He's engaging, and he loves meeting people and telling their stories. Wofford proudly claims him, and he's quick to claim Wofford and his South Carolina roots as well — using Main Building as the backdrop for MSNBC's live broadcast of the state's Republican primary, interviewing Wofford faculty and students about the election and even wearing a Wofford hat while on the air. He was the Commencement speaker for the Class of 2015 and helped Omar Elmore '19 secure an internship this summer with MSNBC in New York. Melvin also serves on the college's board of trustees.

"I was a scholarship kid. I had a lot of help going to college," says Melvin, whose mother was a schoolteacher and father a postal clerk. "There wasn't a lot of money lying around for college."

When President Nayef Samhat approached him about serving on the board, Melvin knew that he didn't have a surplus of time, but he still had a strong interest in the college and desire to give back.

"College is the great equalizer. I'm proof of that," says Melvin. "Plus, it's a great opportunity for me to spend time with Dean

Roberta Bigger '81. When you're a student you don't fully appreciate the role of the dean of students. Now I tell her, 'God bless you!' For 30 years she's been a human piñata for students. Still, she shows up for work every day and surrounds herself with bright people, knowing she's going to be vilified. I know; I was part of the machine that burned her in effigy for four years."

Melvin considers his choice to attend Wofford one of the smartest decisions he's ever made, right alongside marrying his wife, ESPN anchor Lindsay Czarniak, and their decision to have children, Delano "Del," now 3, and Sybil Ann "Sibby," born last fall. Melvin has shared some of the reasons he chose Wofford on a series for NBC.com geared toward helping parents and students through the college admission process.

"I spent some time talking about 429 North Church Street and why it was so special to me," says Melvin. "I knew I wasn't the kind of guy who could go to college with 15,000 people. I needed something smaller. Wofford's reputation even back then was stellar. It was far enough away from home, and to me it just felt right."

Melvin grew up in Columbia, S.C., and got his start with WIS-TV when he was in high school. Since then he's covered the Olympics, presidential elections and inaugurations, Super Bowls, natural disasters and even Christmas miracles.

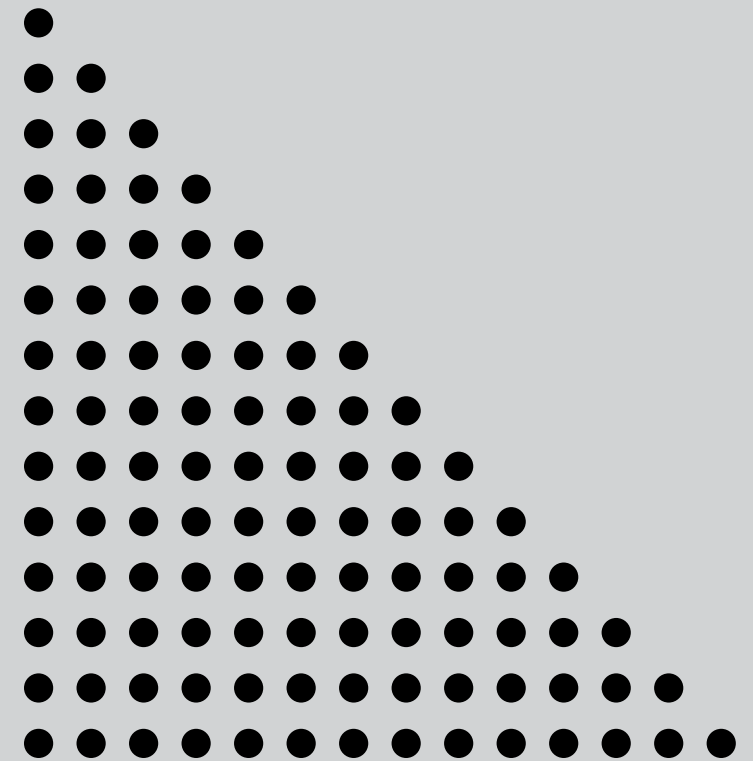
"I get to meet some cool people. Sometimes that's glamorous, sometimes that's not. When a news crew shows up it's either a good day or a really bad day," says Melvin. His favorite people to interview aren't famous or political figures. "I love talking to ordinary people who have done something exceptional."

One of those recent stories hit particularly close to home. The Rev. Lawrence Meadows '99, Craig's older brother and a minister at New Bethel Baptist Church in Woodruff, S.C., was diagnosed with early onset Stage IV colon cancer. He was only 39.

"It was his idea," says Melvin. "He wanted to use the worst thing that's happened to him to shine a light on the disease and provide hope for others."

Now anyone with an internet connection can learn more about the disease and recommended screening by watching Melvin and Meadows. Melvin, a self-professed man of faith, also set an example for viewers by scheduling a colonoscopy for himself and posting social media updates on the procedure and results.

No, Craig, it's not the lights or the makeup that make you look good on TV. Just as you're drawn to inspirational stories and stories of uncommon good, we're drawn to you for the same reason.







## KATHERINE AUL '07

### LIVING THE **ART** AND SCIENCE OF LANDSCAPE DESIGN

Katherine Aul comes from a long line of master gardeners, so when Dr. Peter Schmunk, professor of art history, pulled up a slide on Versailles, she leaned just a little closer and slid forward in her seat.

"Landscape architecture hit something in my DNA," says Aul, who now designs urban gardens in New York City — from rooftops in Manhattan to backyards in Brooklyn. "Dr. Schmunk and Dr. (Karen) Goodchild (professor of art history) were incredible. They became mentors. Dr. Schmunk would bring me clippings from incredible gardens in New York, and he encouraged me to take French so I could understand garden terms."

After graduation Aul taught English in Japan while applying to master's degree programs in landscape design. She was accepted into Columbia University and moved to New York equipped with her family influences, Wofford art history training and an admiration for Japanese natural spaces and architecture.

Four years ago, Aul founded Staghorn NYC. "I live and breathe it," she says, referring to the nonstop demands of owning her business based in the Red Hook area of Brooklyn. "People say when you love what you do, it's not work. That's B.S. I absolutely love it, but it's work — extremely hard work — but it's exactly what I want to be doing, and I'm excited about the direction it's all going."

The work fulfills both Aul's creative side and her affinity for organization. She loves the parts of the job that involve science and engineering just as much as the parts that involve art. Her favorite clients are families who want to use and enjoy the spaces she designs.

"We have several goals for each project: Is it sustainable? Is it beautiful? Is it functional? We really like working with people who want to hang out in their yard. They want to store toys in the furniture and invite friends over for barbecues," she says. "I love to think about people making family memories in the spaces we've created for them."

Aul and Staghorn NYC have been featured in several magazines — *Elle Décor* and *Dwell*, for example. She and her team of seven are booked solid, and the projects continue to get bigger and more involved. That's just what Aul had in mind when she followed her dreams to New York.

"I'm really ambitious, and the people who come here are ambitious as well," she says. "They move here because they want to work. They want to be the best in their field and around the best in the field. There's a world of opportunity and creative energy in New York, but you always have to be willing to raise your game. I love that challenge and being around that kind of energy. It keeps me growing."



## PAUL VECCHIONE '10

### CREATING A PLACE WHERE **ART** MEETS CUSTOMER SERVICE

New York is home now for Paul Vecchione, but first he had to jump from a life of suits and security to one where nothing is guaranteed.

"Right out of college I was a program analyst for the federal government in Washington, D.C. I thought that's what I wanted to do," says Vecchione, who majored in business economics and Spanish at Wofford. "The whole time, though, I was filming stuff on the side — almost every weekend, even using sick days to film."

His brother, Zach, started Starr Media, a full-service production company in New York, and when the business was big enough to support both of them, Vecchione made the jump as well.

"The first year was rough," says Vecchione. "I basically lived on Amtrak trains going from shoot to shoot." Now the company supports seven full-time employees and has relationships with the best contract talent in the industry. "It's been a grind, but we're always learning. Always building clients. Always working."

After 12 years in the business, the brothers have an office in New York with an enviable view overlooking Times Square as well as offices in Seattle and Copenhagen.

"We work 24 hours a day so clients and projects get passed across time zones. Tommy's in the headquarters in Amsterdam. When I get up, my brother is finishing his day. At 6 p.m., I pass things off to Jason in Seattle, so someone is taking care of business for our clients around the clock,"

says Vecchione. "The clients like the attention. It's a saturated market, and anyone feels like they can get a camera and shoot video. We knew we needed to get a leg up on the competition. We knew if we weren't editing through the night, someone else would. I consider us a customer service company that happens to make films."

It's working. Starr Media does commercials, documentaries and videos for clients such as Tommy Hilfiger, Nike, Disney, Universal Sports, Red Bull, Gatorade, Adidas and World Marathon Majors, among others.

Vecchione, who has lived in California, Texas, Nevada, Oregon, D.C. and South Carolina, says New York is where he's always wanted to be.

"I feed off the energy. There's constantly something to do. It really is the epicenter of the world. All of our clients have offices here even if they're not based here," says Vecchione.

Wofford Theatre audiences may remember Vecchione as the lawn chair man from "Flight of the Lawn Chair Man" or Rocky from "The Rocky Horror Picture Show." He also performed with Wofford's Chamber Music Players and played soccer and ran cross country for the Terriers.

"I'm ADD, so I need that," says Vecchione. "The challenge helps me stay engaged."

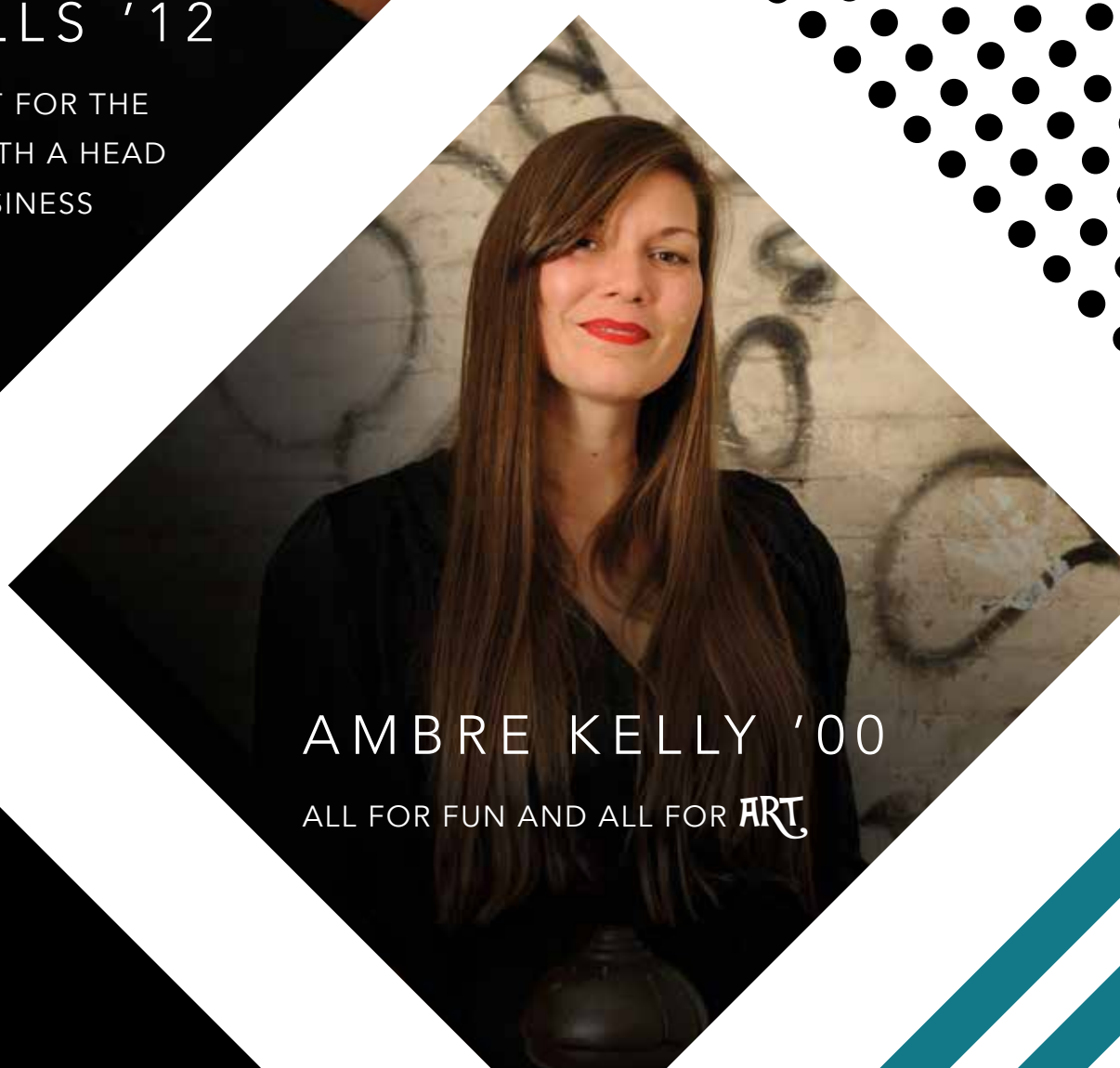
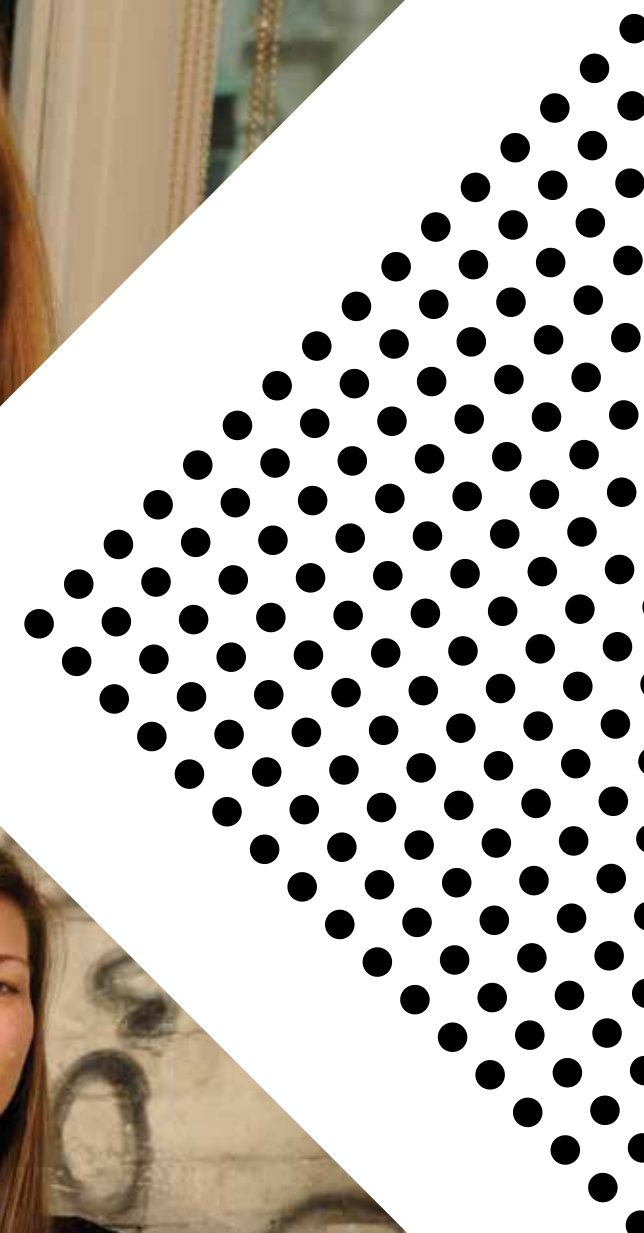
It worked at Wofford, and it's certainly working with Starr Media in New York.





## COURTNEY WALLS '12

A HEART FOR THE **arts** WITH A HEAD FOR BUSINESS



## AMBRE KELLY '00

ALL FOR FUN AND ALL FOR **ART**

COURTNEY WALLS loves living and working in New York.

“You can casually see a Vermeer at 10 a.m. on a Tuesday morning. No big deal,” she says from her Aspen Institute office overlooking St. Patrick’s Cathedral. Walls, who holds a master’s degree in art business from Sotheby’s Institute of Art, NYC, works as the program coordinator for the Aspen Arts Program, a public program within the institute’s broad and diverse system.

“I do a little bit of everything, which is fun,” she says. “I do a lot of event planning, especially fundraising events, and I’m involved in the Ideas Festival.”

Walls also writes grants and does the necessary reporting that goes along with that. She’s the budget person for all arts programming, and her claim to fame, in the New York office at least, is that she’s read the employee handbook from cover to cover.

Walls says her experience in the Wofford Presidential Seminar, an Aspen-like seminar, helped her land the job, especially when combined with her campus leadership positions, internships experience and postgraduate study. It also didn’t hurt that she had a recommendation from a past employer, Nikki Haley, former South Carolina governor and current U.S. ambassador to the United Nations.

Now Walls is connecting arts innovators and arts funders in an effort to bring arts programming to rural and underserved areas and to address society’s arts-related concerns. Walls, who loves crunching numbers and fiscal planning as much as she loves the arts, majored in art history and business economics at Wofford. She’s particularly excited about the opening of the Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts.

“The arts have become such a presence on campus,” she says. “This building further distinguishes Wofford as an exceptional place.”

AMBRE KELLY went to law school for a day.

“The professor called on me and asked what the meaning of law was. I gave this long explanation about art, and when I sat down I thought, “What am I doing here? I should be doing art.”

She packed her bags and spent two years in Italy earning an MFA through American University. Her path then led her to New York, where she worked for Vera Wang, then Condé Nast, before landing a job designing art fairs. It’s about the art, but it’s also about developing relationships, managing logistics and thinking far outside the box.

Six years ago she founded and still organizes New York’s annual SPRING/BREAK Art Show, an internationally recognized exhibition platform using underused, historic and atypical New York City spaces to activate and challenge the traditional cultural landscape of the art market. The first exhibit was held at St. Patrick’s Old School, the following at the James A. Farley Post Office. During March 2017, more than 160 curators premiered new artworks created by more than 400 artists. The show was held at 4 Times Square in the former Condé Nast offices.

“I studied painting and am still a painter. Oil. Mostly related to the art market and professionals in the art world,” says Kelly, “but I’m also a collaborator. You meet someone in a café, and all the sudden you’re planning something together. There’s such a great collaborative arts community in New York, and I love being a part of that.”

Along with her husband, Andrew Gori, Kelly founded The They Co. Together they since have organized, curated, facilitated and produced events with the New Museum, Brooklyn College, Art Hamptons, The Underground Library, the San Gennaro Festival and many other organizations.

Art isn’t just a job for Kelly; it’s who she is, and she’s not afraid to put herself out there if it means raising awareness for art, artists, arts programming and uncommon gallery spaces. For example, although already married, she and Gori turned their wedding into an artistic and political statement during the 2015 SPRING/BREAK Art Show.

“Our first wedding was in Italy in 2014. That was our real, spiritual wedding,” says Kelly. She enjoyed their “big fun Italian wedding” surrounded by family and friends but chose not to complete the paperwork because of her personal beliefs regarding marriage and the state. “For the next SPRING/BREAK Art Show, the theme was TRANSACTION. Andrew and I thought we should do a piece for the show, so we said, “What if we get married, but legally this time so the transaction happens?” We held the wedding during the press preview and called out in the crowd: “Who wants to be a witness?” Because we already had the spiritual wedding, we kept this one robotic and unemotional.”

Kelly, who admittedly loves getting married, says that she and Gori are thinking about doing the performance wedding in every state. Although they’re legally married in New York now, they think it could be interesting to find art spaces throughout the country and marry repeatedly — all for fun and all for art.





## DAKOTA WILLIMON '07

### CONNECTING THE LIBERAL *arts* TO A CAREER IN INTERIOR DESIGN

Every job starts with a budget. That's yet another lesson Dakota Willimon has learned as an interior designer in New York City.

"People think my job is super glamorous, but sometimes I'm schlepping tile to a client in the rain, meeting architects on a job site outside of the city or working on project logistics in the office. Exciting things, like picking out fabric or furnishings, are actually the smallest part. That being said, I'd rather do those things in New York than anywhere else," she says.

Willimon interned with an interior designer in Louisville, Ky., after graduation and realized that she needed additional technical training to successfully pursue a career in the field. She worked during the day and took community college classes in the evening to learn AutoCAD and drafting for interior design. She spent a few years gaining experience before making the leap to New York.

Now four years later Willimon is working with Jenny Wolf Interiors and getting the right kind of attention in the design world.

The December issue of *House Beautiful* will feature a full renovation/decorative project Willimon designed for a young family in Litchfield, Conn.

"I've gained so much experience in New York," says Willimon. "Sometimes people think that to be a successful interior designer you need to go to Parsons or another art school. A liberal arts college, however, gives you such a broad background and such incredible connections. You never know where your path might take you as a liberal arts grad."

Even now, Willimon finds herself recalling her art history studies at Wofford. "I remember once talking with Dr. (Peter) Schmunk about modern mid-century furnishings. Now I'm pulling things for clients that have those same classical details."

According to Willimon, another Terrier now is working with the firm. Katherine Posey '15 joined the staff as Wolf's assistant to gain experience in the field.

"There's definitely no place like New York for design," says Willimon. "It's the place to be."



## JEFF ASHWORTH '04

### THE *ART* OF TURNING WEIRD JOB EXPERIENCES INTO A CAREER IN WRITING

To produce a 100-page magazine on the Broadway musical *Hamilton*, it helps to have backstage passes.

"It's the closest to the stage I've ever been, and that includes plays I've acted in," says Jeff Ashworth '04, editor-in-chief at Topix Media Lab.

Ashworth was an actor at Wofford during the transition from Dr. J.R. Gross to Dr. Mark Ferguson '94, and he remains a fan of the type of theatre he studied there: work that's as challenging as it is entertaining.

"What J.R. brought to Wofford, and really Upstate South Carolina — what he dared to do — took courage," says Ashworth. "He created a space for the communication and exploration of radical ideas in a region of the country where radical ideas are often not well received. And Mark has done an incredible job carrying that mantle forward."

After graduation, Ashworth worked at the Warehouse Theater in Greenville, S.C., where he met a group of actors who decided to move to New York together. They shared a small apartment and waited tables or took odd jobs between gigs. "Pretty cliché, actor-y stuff," says Ashworth.

To add diversity to his acting resume, Ashworth began pursuing stand-up comedy, which in turn helped him discover a skill he'd never considered using to pay his bills: writing. "I was working freelance revising emails for Harvard Business grads, which was enlightening," says Ashworth. "I'd assumed everyone knew how to write."

Ashworth's hodgepodge of experiences helped him land a job with World Wrestling Entertainment, writing for *WWE Magazine*. "I had no publishing experience and very little pro wrestling knowledge, but the guy in charge took a chance on me," says Ashworth. "Plus, I was willing to work for practically nothing, which was viewed as an asset." After two years at the magazine, Ashworth joined *WWE*'s creative writing team.

"Twitter had just become a thing, and most businesses didn't understand it," says Ashworth, who used a pitch meeting to propose using the social media platform to enhance storylines. "*WWE* is a live soap opera. So my job became connecting characters on television to their social media accounts in real time." Things escalated quickly. "I went from composing a few random tweets to traveling the globe producing TMZ-style ambush videos for *WWE.com* and orchestrating stunts at Comic-Con. It was a weird job."

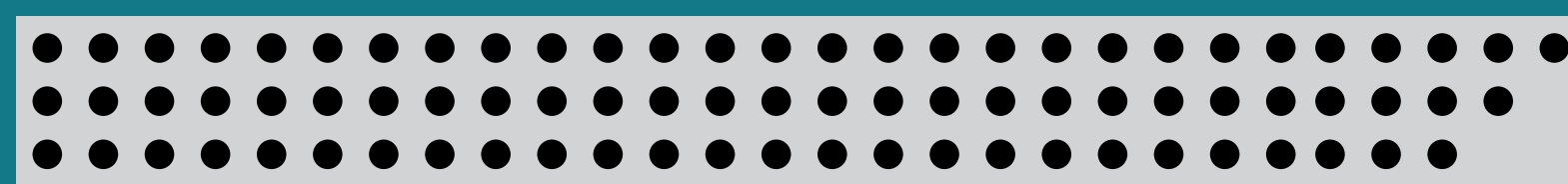
A few years later Ashworth was recruited by his former boss at "*WWE Magazine*," the founder of Topix Media Lab, to become the company's editor-in-chief, where he oversees the production of upwards of 100 magazines and books per year for Disney, Marvel, Hasbro and several other brands — *Newsweek* and *WWE* included. "I've edited stories about John Wayne, marijuana and My Little Pony — often in the same day. It's another weird job."

Ashworth credits his experiences at Wofford with preparing him for the multidisciplinary nature of his current career. "The greatest takeaway from my liberal arts education was learning the value of pursuing knowledge for its own sake," he says. "It just took me a while to learn how to turn that into a marketable skill."

When they aren't enjoying New York's "unrivaled arts and cultural scene," Ashworth and his wife, Lindsey, enjoy taking their dog, Zelda, to Prospect Park ("So she can experience what life is like in a world with grass") or spending time with their surrogate New York family.

"We have a great support system here," says Ashworth. "It's a big city, but your neighborhood — and the relationships you build within it — make it feel as intimate as Wofford College."





## AMBER HEINTZBERGER '97

THE *art* OF WRITING,  
RIDING AND PHOTOGRAPHY

Amber Heintzberger made her first trip to New York with Dr. Vic Bilanchone and the Wofford women's ensemble. They sang at Carnegie Hall.

Her husband, Juergen Grosserhode, proposed to her on the top of the Empire State Building, and they lived in the city until a few years ago.

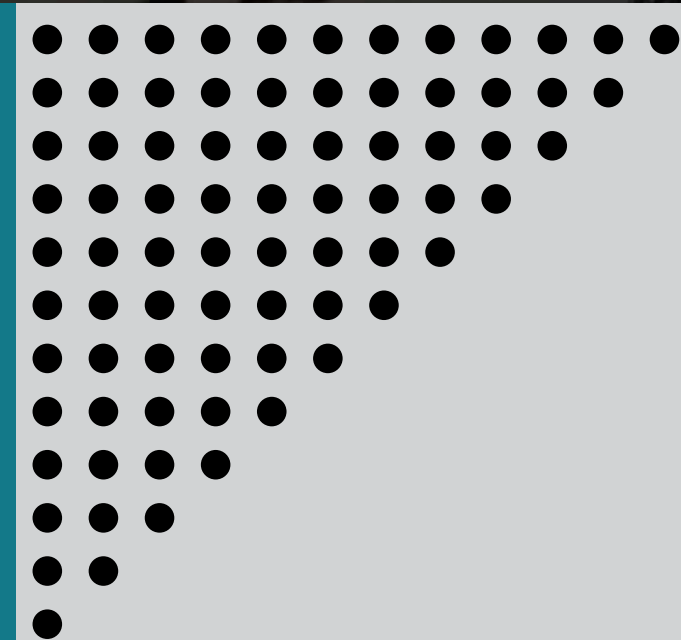
Now she commutes to the city to visit friends, eat and wander the eclectic neighborhoods and, of course, to work the Central Park Horse Show.

"I like the energy and all the people," says Heintzberger, who is an equestrian journalist and photographer as well as a media and public relations consultant for world-class eventing and dressage clients. She's also the co-author of two books: "Beyond the Track" (with Anna Ford) and "Modern Eventing" (with Phillip Dutton).

Her byline and photo credits appear in Chronicle of the Horse, Dressage Today, Practical Horseman, Warmbloods Today and other national and international equine magazines. She's written about the controversy surrounding legislating carriage horses, the best way to avoid being kicked by your horse and major competitions, including the Pan American and World Equestrian Games.

Heintzberger completely understands the inspiration that New York offers for writers, artists, musicians and other creative people. She still enjoys coming and soaking it in, but she also appreciates the space and ease of living in the historic suburb of South Orange, N.J., just a short train ride from Manhattan.

"I read this book not too long ago called 'Goodbye to All That: Writers on Loving and Leaving New York,'" says Heintzberger, who explains that New York was hard to leave, but staying meant challenges as well, particularly with school-age children. "It's a very special place."



## HATTIE WEBER '15

TURNING MILLENNIAL  
JOURNALISM INTO AN *ART*

The summer before her senior year Hattie Weber did an internship with an event planner in New York City. At the end of the summer, Weber was ready to return to the Wofford community, but she didn't want to leave New York.

The philosophy major with a sociology minor found her way back right after graduation, and now she's writing about millennials like herself and enjoying every second of her new life.

"I love just walking around. There's so much to see ... two years and I haven't seen half of Manhattan," says Weber. She appreciates both the respite of reading a good book in the sunshine near the water as the boats go by and going out with friends, soaking in the lights and crowds. Probably most of all she loves New Yorkers.

"In New York no one pretends to be someone they're not," explains Weber. "I love that. There are lots of misconceptions about New York. New Yorkers have a commuter face that says leave me alone, don't talk to me, but if someone asks a question, of course they're helpful. New Yorkers are real. They're not on the surface."

Weber blends life and work as an associate editor for Business Insider magazine and as senior editor for an online magazine called Badass Living. It covers a little bit of everything, but is primarily geared toward women in business.

"I love writing about millennials and career. One of my first pieces — it's still one of my favorites — is how to do sales over the phone when you don't love talking on the phone. I come up with a lot of the content myself. If something's frustrating to me, I want to figure it out, and I do that by researching a topic and writing about it."

Weber considers herself a badass about 90 percent of the time. "A badass is someone who's unapologetically themselves," she says. "This is who I am. Sometimes I'm having a bad day, sometimes a good day, but regardless, that's me, and I just go with it."



## MADDI EBERHARDT '16

PERFECTING HER *ART* ONE  
EXPERIENCE AT A TIME

When Maddi Eberhardt studied abroad through the Moscow Art Theatre semester in Russia, she knew New York was the next step if she was going to pursue a career in acting.

"I knew that if I didn't go for it, I'd regret it, and I'm not the kind of person who lives in the 'what ifs,'" says Eberhardt. She found a job as a live-in nanny, signed up for acting classes, hired a vocal coach and found a weekend job teaching musical theatre to children through the Creatively Wild Art Studio in Brooklyn. She's figuring out how to live cheaply in the city, taking in everything she can about the business, auditioning and building a resume.

"It's a little intimidating, the city itself and the process of auditioning, but I trust my training," says Eberhardt. "Wofford Theatre prepared me to face it all. No matter who I'm auditioning with, I feel prepared."

According to Eberhardt, Wofford gave her the confidence to move to New York as a 22-year-old. "Wofford Theatre demanded so much of me, but I got so much because I gave so much," she says. "Theatre represents real life, and real life isn't simple. It's complicated. Wofford Theatre taught me that. It taught me to be open and say yes. That's the beauty of the craft. If you're open to learning, you're allowed so many more opportunities."

A year into her experience, Eberhardt continues to work on her craft, audition and support herself. "Acting is all. I can't picture myself doing anything else."



# CLASS NOTES

## 1949

**Dr. Marion Peter Holt** was interviewed extensively for an article in the Spartanburg Herald-Journal on the renovation of Spartanburg's historic Montgomery Building and the revival of the Carolina Theatre, which has sat abandoned for more than 40 years. Holt, a Spartanburg native who now lives in New York, remembers watching his first vaudeville performance at the theater and ushering there during high school and college. Holt is professor emeritus of theatre at CUNY.

## 1955

After retiring as associate professor of mathematics and vice president for administration from Columbia College, **Dr. Joe Mitchell** has formed a diverse group that meets each weekday at Trenholm Plaza Starbucks in Columbia, S.C., for support, friendship and laughter while discussing current issues. To see the group in action, visit "The Mayor of Starbucks" on YouTube.

## 1960

The South Carolina Football Hall of Fame inducted **Fisher DeBerry** during an enshrinement ceremony on April 20. DeBerry played college football and baseball at Wofford and coached the U.S. Air Force Academy football team for 23 years.

## 1964

**Dr. Bill McCall Jr.** and **Dr. Mark McCall '68**, brothers and retired dentists, were inducted into the 2016 Second Wind Hall of Fame, an honor that recognizes local retired citizens who have proven through volunteerism that life can remain impactful and productive. They live and serve in the Tryon, N.C., area.

## 1965

Retired South Carolina Supreme Court Chief Justice **Costa Pleicones** delivered a lecture on "Civility in an Uncivil World" during Wofford's Phi Beta Kappa annual convocation. Pleicones serves as secretary of the college's board of trustees.

## 1968

*Ronald G. Bruce, class chair*

**Neal W. Dickert** was honored in February by the State Bar of Georgia during the annual Justice Robert Benham Awards for Community Service in Atlanta. The Augusta attorney received the Lifetime Achievement Award for work beyond the courtroom as a champion of at-risk youth.

Springer Publishing recently released "Unconventional Conflict: A Modeling Perspective," the second book by **Dr. Dean Hartley**. Hartley is the principal of Hartley Consulting and chief operating officer and vice president of Sisyphus Energy Inc. He lives in Oak Ridge, Tenn.

## 1970

*Buzz Rich, class chair*

After 30 years **Dr. Riddick Ackerman III** retired from the practice of obstetrics and gynecology in Walterboro, S.C. On June 16, 2016, he also welcomed his first grandchild, Riddick "Penn" Ackerman V, the son of Brooke and **Riddick Ackerman IV '04**. The baby comes from a long line of Wofford graduates. His great-grandfathers, **Dr. Riddick Ackerman Jr. '26** and **Roddey Lebew Bell '42**, are also graduates.

## 1971

*Kenneth Smith, class chair*

**J. Harold Chandler**, chair of the board, president and CEO of Milliken & Co., wants to "make the company a more visible partner in the Spartanburg business community," according to a Feb. 23 article in the Spartanburg Herald-Journal. Chandler took the reins at Milliken in October 2016 and has been actively re-engaging the community with the Milliken story since. He was the 2017 Commencement speaker at Wofford and received an honorary doctor of humanities degree.

On Feb. 28, **Edward Roberson** sold his interest in the independent insurance agency in Tarboro, N.C., where he has worked for the past 35 years. He's thoroughly enjoying retirement, and he and his wife are looking forward to spending more time with their daughter, son-in-law and their three children (ages 10, 9 and 6) and their son, daughter-in-law and their 2-year-old daughter.

## 1972

*Allen Guignard, class chair*

As of March 2017, **Hunter Marshall** is a North Carolina Board Certified Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC). Marshall and his wife, Sarah, live in Monroe, N.C.

## 1973

**Richard Cohn Sr.**, founder and chairman of Cohn Construction Services and Cohn Management Services in Columbia, S.C., spoke to Wofford students this spring about his time at Wofford, his career and what it takes to build a business. Cohn spoke at The Space in the Mungo Center.

## 1974

*Jerry Calvert, class chair*

After serving as a circuit judge and subsequently general counsel at Santee Cooper, **Jim Brogdon** has returned to the practice of law. He is a certified circuit court mediator and focuses on mediation and arbitration.

**Woody Willard** of Spartanburg began his term as the new chairman of the South Carolina Department of Transportation in January 2017. He has been representing the 4th Congressional District on the SCDOT Commission since 2014.

## 1977

The Columbia Star featured **Emily deQuincey-Newman**, a descendant of American patriots and civil rights leaders, and her interest in history and genealogy in its Feb. 10 edition. She is the managing partner of Harbison Hall Assisted Living.

**The Rev. Dr. Donald Ray Hayes** is the vicar for Christ Church Florence. He lives in Dillon, S.C.

## 1978

*Armando Lorente, class chair*

**Barnwell Fishburne** has been elected vice chair of the Colleton Medical Center Board of Trustees. An active member of the board since 2014, he is president of Fishburne and Co. Development Corp. Fishburne lives in Walterboro, S.C.

## 1979

*Wade Ballard, class chair*

Florence, S.C., dentist **Dr. James A. Richardson** recently was appointed to the Medical University of South Carolina Board of Visitors. Richardson has been practicing dentistry for 32 years and currently works at Lunn Cosmetic and Family Dentistry. He and his wife, Dr. Wendy Caldwell, have two children.

## 1981

*Patrick Watson, class chair*

After retiring from a career in education, **Alice Littlejohn Bomar** has returned to Wofford as the administrative assistant to the dean of the library and the interlibrary loan coordinator at the Sandor Teszler Library. She worked in the library for two years while attending Wofford.

## 1982

*Madison Dye, class chair*

Coldwell Banker Caine recently welcomed **Anne Robinson Poliakoff** as a residential sales agent in the firm's Spartanburg office.



## ALWAYS EAGER TO LEARN

*Wofford graduates share expertise with Lifelong Learning at Wofford*

*by Jo Ann Mitchell Brasington '89*

Scott Neely '00 and Gervais Hollowell '85 are back in class at Wofford, but this time teaching people who prove each day that learning never stops.

Neely, the chief strategist and facilitator, and Marlanda DeKine, the executive director, of Speaking Down Barriers brought quiet, thoughtfulness, laughter and shared insight to Lifelong Learning at Wofford participants during a two-part series this spring. The event, "Transforming Our Stories with Speaking Down Barriers," included discussion and storytelling focused on rethinking and retelling stories of race and racism to reshape the world.

"Our stories seem so small, but what we find is that they carry great weight in our lives," says Neely. "When we deal with race, we are dealing with something that is full of pain and full of disagreement. There's very little shared perspective and much at stake."

Jack Lawrence '65, who has attended several Lifelong Learning classes and seminars, attended the session because he believes it's important to make his days count. Considering the power in his story and the stories of others fills that need. "It's incumbent upon us to speak up," he says.

A few weeks later, Lifelong Learning at Wofford visited Hollowell at Little River Roasting Co., in Spartanburg for "From Farm to Cup: Exploring and Tasting the World of Coffee." Although the conversation was lighter, the group of lifelong learners took their coffee exploration seriously.

Hollowell, owner of Little River Roasting, discussed ideal soil composition, climate and sun exposure for coffee growing as well as harvesting, processing and screening on the production end. "Everything fascinates me about coffee," he says. "It's amazing how many times coffee beans are touched by human hands." While Hollowell talked, lifelong learners sipped different coffees.

Carol McCulloch was one of the participants in Hollowell's coffee seminar.

"Lifelong Learning at Wofford is the most interesting thing in Spartanburg as far as I'm concerned," she says. "It's an undiscovered secret. I can't rave about it enough."

McCulloch is now a program regular. During the spring session she took Dr. Phillip Stone's "Southern Politics" class on Tuesdays from 3 to 4:30 p.m. in the Sandor Teszler Library. Stone, the college archivist and a 1994 Wofford graduate, kept McCulloch engaged with tales of the South's interesting political characters. She also enjoys the field trips, extra speakers and movie-watching events that are all a part of the program.

"I love learning new stuff and meeting new people," she says. "Learning makes you a more perceptive and receptive person. I'd hate to think that as we get older we can't be open to new ideas and new people."

Lifelong Learning at Wofford started in 2015 under the leadership of Charlie Gray '72. Morgan Jordan took over after Gray retired and has watched the program jump from 180 participants to 342 in less than a year.

"The world is such a big place, and a lot of people crave the opportunity to see and experience it," says Jordan. "Lifelong Learning at Wofford is a way to bring the world to our community."

The spring term allowed participants to study Appalachian culture, learn to play bridge, take a watercolor class, debate foreign policy or write a short story, and that's just the beginning. In addition to a diverse listing of eight-week courses, Lifelong Learning at Wofford also offers a slate of cultural explorations, roundtable discussions and other special events for members.

Membership is growing, new instructors (including a number of Wofford faculty and staff) have joined the program and community partnerships continue to expand.

"We have participants from every profession, and ages range from 35 to 88, although most participants are 50 years and older," says Jordan. "Lifelong Learning at Wofford is a great service for Spartanburg residents, and it showcases Wofford in a new and wonderful way."

To learn more, visit [wofford.edu/lifelonglearning](http://wofford.edu/lifelonglearning). The fall session begins in September.

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FROM THE ARCHIVES



by Phillip Stone '94

Wofford's student publications — the Bohemian, The Journal and the Old Gold and Black — frequently have been forums for the arts on campus. Founded in 1889, The Journal initially covered campus news and sports as well as including a literary section. Especially after the 1930s, no doubt due to changing printing technology, The Journal and Bohemian began to feature more candid photography, more colorful covers and more student art. The covers of The Journal, several of which are pictured here, reflected seasonal themes, student life and even student photographic talent in later years. Several of these 1930s-era covers were drawn by student artist William Gladden '39.

**DYLAN YOUNG**

Memphis, Tenn.  
Major: business economics

Young has joined the management training program as a sales associate at PepsiCo in Columbia, S.C. He says he will miss playing football for the Terriers because of the relationships he built with his teammates, but he's excited about returning to the campus to see the completion of the new buildings and the college's growing efforts in the area of diversity and inclusion.



**JAY PEAY**

Clinton, S.C.  
Majors: accounting, finance  
Minor: economics

A self-proclaimed "huge fan" of Mrs. Cathy's egg white omelets, Peay says he'll miss Wofford breakfasts and is already looking forward to returning for Homecoming. In the fall he begins a master's degree in accountancy at Vanderbilt University.



A retired U.S. Army colonel, **Claude Schmid** recently published a military novel titled "Princes of War." It tells the story of young soldiers at war and how they deal with the challenges of combat. Schmid served for more than 30 years.

**1983**

Scott Gantt, class chair

The Florence Morning News featured **Nick Townsend**, a chef and musician, for his work with the Taste of the Symphony fundraising event in Florence, S.C. Townsend has served as the food service director of Carolinas Hospital System/Morrison Healthcare for 26 years. He also sings with Masterworks Choir and is on the Florence Symphony Board.

**1984**

Ken Kirkpatrick, class chair

**Del Allen Jr.** has met more than 500,000 elementary school students since founding Diamond Del's Gem Mining Adventure in 1993. He travels to schools throughout the Southeast in his mobile mining truck, teaching students how to study and identify rocks.

**1991**

Leslee Houck Page, class chair

**Bo Bozard** and his wife, Amy, are proud to announce the birth of their son, James Hudson Bozard, born July 27, 2016. He joins big brother Robert Hugh Bozard. The family lives in Manning, S.C.

Longtime York Comprehensive High School teacher and coach **Joey Moore** was confirmed in February as the school's new athletics director. Moore began coaching at York in 1998 and most recently has been the Cougars' offensive line coach and head boys' track and field coach.

**1993**

Sarah Copeland Sawicki, class chair

**Dennis Carl Nielsen II** is the CEO/owner of BiQED, a business intelligence firm that offers data assessments and consulting, business analytics and cognitive solutions, web and mobile app development and asset analytics in White, Ga. He and his wife, Janine, have two children.

**Pamela Garner Sloss** is the new library media specialist at Tyger River Correctional Institution, a division of the South Carolina Department of Corrections. She is responsible for supervising inmate library clerks and supporting GED and vocational students in the education department. She lives in Union, S.C.

**Dr. Rich Williams** has been elected treasurer of Healthy Learners, a faith-based nonprofit in Columbia, S.C., that connects children to care so that poor health is not an obstacle to doing well in school. Williams is a senior vice president and general manager at Unum US.

**1995**

Brandie Yancey Lorenz, class chair

**Brandon McKillop** and two partners have opened a Shane's Rib Shack franchise at 1735 John B. White Sr. Blvd. in Spartanburg. To learn more, visit shanesribschack.com/spartanburg.

**1996**

Curt Nichols, class chair

After more than a year and a half of planning, Commonhouse Aleworks has announced that it is opening a production brewery and tap house in the Park Circle neighborhood of North Charleston, S.C. **Pearce Fleming Jr.** is one of the partners. The opening is scheduled for late fall 2017. Visit commonhousealeworks.com for more information.

**Angel Johnson-Brebner** is the executive vice president of the Coastal Community Foundation in Charleston, S.C. She works with the organization's new CEO, **Darrin Goss '93**. She and her husband, Alec, have three children, Dorie Lou (7) and twins Sandy and James, born Aug. 15, 2016. "The boys were nice enough to let mom and dad drop sister off at school before making their debuts," she writes.

**1997**

Beth Mangham Guerrero, class chair

**Shelley Haddock Dempsey**, director of On Your Time Initiatives for the University of South Carolina, has been admitted into the Ph.D. in higher education administration, also at USC. She and her husband, Scott, live in Lexington with their two children, Aiden (12) and Cooper (9).

Former director of the South Carolina Department of Revenue, **Rick Reames** is back with Nexsen Pruet in Columbia, S.C. He once again will be assisting clients with complex tax, business and public policy issues.

**Lt. Col. Travis Smith**, stationed with the U.S. Coast Guard in New Orleans, La., wrote an article for the Coast Guard Air Station newspaper honoring Col. Wayne Magee Jr. on the occasion of his retirement and thanking him for his service. Smith and Magee first met at Wofford when Magee served as Smith's assistant professor of military science.

**1999**

Zach Atkinson, class chair

**Emily Long**, director of Handshakes and Hugs, Downtown Church, has been named one of The State newspaper's "20 under 40" honorees, a list that recognizes people making a difference in the South Carolina Midlands. Also honored on this year's list is **Ralph Montague Laffitte III '00**, regional president for South State Bank.

**Joshua Mason** is the general manager of The Dump furniture outlet in Atlanta, Ga. He has two children, Hayden (15) and Celia (13).

The South Carolina Economic Developers' Association has named **Brian Nash** its president for 2017-18. Nash serves as vice president of development for Agracel's Southeast region, headquartered at Drayton Mills Marketplace in Spartanburg.

The American Optometric Association has named **Dr. Elizabeth Anderson Steele**, associate dean for clinical affairs at the University of Alabama Birmingham School of Optometry, its Optometric Educator of the Year. The award was presented on June 21 in Washington, D.C.

South State Bank announced that **Larry D. Windham Jr.** has been named senior vice president in Moncks Corner, S.C. He and his wife, Sarah, have two children.

**2001**

Jenna Sheheen Bridgers, class chair

A partner in the Smith Moore Leatherwood law firm, **Allyson Jones Labban** obtained her certification in health care privacy compliance. She works with hospitals and other health care providers to identify, respond to and resolve compliance issues.

**2002**

Yorke Gerrald, class chair

**Brooke Joye** and Will Anthony welcomed baby boy Wilson Luke Anthony on Jan. 21, 2017. The family lives in Mount Pleasant, S.C.

The Self Family Foundation Board of Trustees has announced the election of **Dr. Lucas McMillan** as a trustee. McMillan is the dean of the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences and associate professor of political science at Lander University in Greenwood, S.C.

**2003**

Tracy Howard, class chair

In April **Will Bowen** completed training and was sworn in as a deputy U.S. marshal. He and his wife, Lauren, and their three children, McKenna, Wood and Jeb, have relocated from Ashburn, Va., to Columbus, Ga.

**Rebecca Terry Coleman** and her husband, Thomas, announce the birth of their daughter, Mary McBee "Mary Mac" Coleman, born March 17, 2017. They live in Columbia, S.C.

**Laura Fowler Watson** and her husband, Trenton, welcomed a daughter, Ruby Beatrice Watson, born in January. She joins big brother Simon, who is 5. They live in Ballwin, Mo.

**2004**

Fred Byers, class chair

Look for **Ashley Borders** as one of "six lifelong friends" navigating "careers, love lives, friendships and legacies" on the current season of "Southern Charm: Savannah," a spinoff of the popular "Southern Charm" reality show based in Charleston, S.C. The show premiered May 8 on Bravo.

**Dr. Hitesh Tolani**, an entrepreneur and dentist in private practice in Boston, spoke to the Wofford campus community in March, sharing his immigrant story and how his persistence and the support of the Wofford family brought him to where he is today. Tolani also held a smaller gathering with students in The Space in the Mungo Center. There he talked about careers in dental medicine and what it takes to be an entrepreneur.

**2005**

Ryan Waller, class chair

**Dr. Catherine England-Plisiewicz** and her husband, Paul, announce the birth of Elizabeth Clair England-Plisiewicz, born Feb. 18, 2017. The family lives at Ella's Grove in Marion, S.C.

**Jon Wheeler** has joined the Wofford football coaching staff as an assistant coach working with outside linebackers. Wheeler has spent the past two seasons as assistant head football coach and assistant athletics director at the Hammond School in Columbia, S.C.

**2006**

Hadley Green Inabinet, class chair

**Joseph Bias** of McAngus, Goudelock and Courie in Columbia has been named the 2017 Lawyer of the Year by the S.C. Bar Law Related Education Division. The award recognizes Bias' longtime volunteer efforts with mock trial programs in schools.

**Margaret Beacham Conner** and **Garrison Kennedy Conner '09** announce the birth of Margaret Louise "Molly" Conner, born May 15, 2017. Everyone is healthy and happy.

**2007**

Hunter Miller, class chair

In May **Matt Giles** played Bud Davenport, one of the leads, in the hit musical spoof "Gutenberg! The Musical!" at the Jewelbox Theater in Seattle, Wash. In the role, he and his co-lead play all the parts and sing all the songs. Giles is a theatre director, performer, teacher and producer in the Seattle area. He is the associate producing director at the Seattle Repertory Theatre.

On March 7 **Lollie Haselden** became the executive assistant to Bishop L. Jonathan Holston of the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church. Haselden has served as Rock Hill District administrative assistant for the past five years. She is pursuing her MA in practical theology with a concentration in church administration at Pfeiffer University in Charlotte, N.C.

**John P. Linton** announces the formation of the law firm of Walker, Gressette, Freeman and Linton in Charleston, S.C. Linton lives in Mount Pleasant with his wife, Julia, and their sons, Jack and Fritz.

**2008**

Nathan Madigan, class chair

**Sarah Shelley Ford** has joined First Citizens Bank as a business banker. She is based in the East Bay Street office in downtown Charleston, S.C.

**Nathan Madigan**, chief operating officer of LEAD Public Schools, has been selected by the Vanderbilt University Owen Graduate School of Management to receive a two-year full-tuition scholarship to the university's executive MBA program.

The South Carolina Department of Commerce has hired **John Wood** as business development manager for the agency's office in Europe. He will work with European companies seeking to locate or expand business operations in the state.

**2009**

Peyton Hray, class chair

**Garrison Conner** is the new director of residential life at Baylor School in Chattanooga, Tenn. He had been director of admission and financial aid at Christ School in Asheville, N.C. He and his wife, **Meg Beacham Conner '06**, have a 2-year-old son and a newborn daughter (see Class of 2006).

**Alexandra Corby** and Elliott Fraser were married on Nov. 12, 2016, in Baton Rouge, La. They now live in Charlotte, N.C., where Alexandra is in client engagement with Wells Fargo. Elliott is an assistant solicitor for South Carolina's 6th Circuit Court. Wofford friends in the wedding included **Meredith Corby Conner '12**, **Will Conner '08**, **Nancy Rucker Greene**, **Luci Laffitte '11**, **Courtney Tuz Redding '08** and **Samantha Hall Thornton**.

GOLD, BLACK AND TARTAN:  
WOFFORD PROUD AT THE 49TH  
ANNUAL RBC HERITAGE



Wofford Terrier golf fans paired their gold and black with tartan plaid this year during the 49th annual RBC Heritage.

Doug Smith '80 (above right) served as 2017 tournament chairman, and William McGirt '01 (above left), winner of the 2016 Memorial Tournament, finished in a three-way tie for third. The Rev. Dr. John Wall '72 gave the invocation for the opening ceremony of the tournament on Monday, April 10, and Bud Mingleddorf '68 hosted drop-ins on his yacht, Wofford flag flying proudly.

**ASHLEY DUCKWORTH**

Greeneville, Tenn.  
Major: government  
Minor: history

Duckworth will attend Washington and Lee University's School of Law beginning in the fall. She says she has been surprised to find that there is "always a Wofford connection along the path, which is a great comfort taking the next step."



**BRANDON BERARDO**

Clover, S.C.  
Majors: Chinese, finance

Berardo will use the skills he learned during his time at Wofford in a global context as he travels to China for a 27-month stint teaching English to university students with the Peace Corps. He previously has studied abroad in China twice and was inspired by his experiences to return.





**Dr. Ashley Carr Sims** and her husband, Cole, welcomed their second son, Benjamin Charles Sims, on Feb. 19, 2017. Big brother Colston (2) is excited, too. They live in Chapel Hill, N.C.

A lobbyist, **Stewart Barber Young** is the vice president for federal affairs with Corley Consulting in Washington, D.C.

## 2010

*Kari Harris, class chair*

GoUpstate.com featured **Laney Alverson** for his development of Project Hub, a “maker space” or place for people to collaborate, innovate and cultivate community. He says the company operates in the same way as a fitness center, with a membership fee that includes access to equipment, space and classes. Project Hub was founded in 2014.

The Westminster Foundation of West Virginia has called the **Rev. Chris Bailey** as the new campus minister of Marshall UKirk or “university church.” Bailey was co-moderator of the Presbyterian Student Association (now Spartanburg UKirk) at Wofford for two years.

**Meredith Ann Carter** has joined the insurance defense firm of McAngus Goudelock and Courie in Columbia, S.C. She works in the area of workers’ compensation defense.

**William Render** is the senior director for ambulatory care operations at the Regional Medical Center in Orangeburg, S.C. He manages day-to-day transportation operations among the center’s 20 primary care and specialty care physician practice locations.

Poets & Quants named **Austin Webb** one of the Best and Brightest MBAs of 2017. Webb, a graduate of Tepper School of Business at Carnegie Mellon University, gives much credit for his success to

Wofford mentors. Read a story about Webb and his start-up, RoBotany, from the Spring 2017 Wofford Today, online at [wofford.edu/woffordtoday](http://wofford.edu/woffordtoday).

## 2011

*Nam Pham, class chair*

While working as a reimbursement analyst with the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, **Paul Gores Jr.** is pursuing a master’s degree in health administration, also at MUSC.

**Margaret Elizabeth “Megan” Heil** and William Frank Revson were married March 4. She is the manager of TC Bearies in Easley, S.C. Her husband works at The Gordian Group in Greenville.

**Anna Barber Marsh** has joined the insurance defense firm of McAngus Goudelock and Courie in Columbia, S.C. Her practice focuses on general liability defense. She’s married to **Richard Marsh ’08**.

## 2012

*Hallie Willm, class chair*

**John Thomas Cannon** and **Kimberlee Allen Lockwood** were married on March 18, 2017. They live in Irmo, S.C. The bride is employed with the Lexington Richland Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council in Columbia. The groom works with First Community Bank in Lexington.

**Stephanie Jean Lenes** and Gerry Jacob George were married at Saint Philip’s Church in Charleston, S.C.

## 2013

*Victoria Amick, class chair*

**Cory Heimburger** was promoted to the rank of captain on May 1. He is a U.S. Army paratrooper assigned to the historic 3rd Battalion,

509th Parachute Infantry Regiment stationed in Anchorage, Alaska. His unit is a response force for the Pacific theater.

**Dr. Brantlee Tinsley** received her doctor of dental medicine degree in 2017 from the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston. She now lives in Greenwood, S.C.

**Rebecca Willis Vickery** and her husband, Zane, welcomed baby girl Nelle on Feb. 3, 2017. Rebecca just completed her doctor of pharmacy degree on May 5. The family lives in Greenwood, S.C.

**Hampton Lake Williams** and **Julia Lake Cauthen ’14** were married on March 25, 2017, at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Charlotte, N.C. The bride is an executive search consultant with Find Great People, International of Greenville, S.C. The groom is attending the University of South Carolina School of Medicine Greenville.

## 2014

*Shri Selvakumar, class chair*

**Brecken Harper Cornely** is a behavior analyst with the Project Hope Foundation. She and her husband, **John Cornely IV ’11**, a sales representative with Physicians Pharmacy Alliance, live in Charleston, S.C. The two will celebrate their first wedding anniversary in November.

## 2015

*Maggie Stroud, class chair*

**Jillian Marie Cothran** and **James Whipple Heard ’17** were married Feb. 11, 2017, in Charlotte, N.C. The bride is employed with Johnson and Wales University as a Reformed University Fellowship intern. The groom is a pastoral intern with Bethel Presbyterian Church in Clover, S.C., where the couple are making their home.

**Jacolvy Garcia** is a family services coordinator with Atlanta Habitat for Humanity.

The LandTrust for Central North Carolina has named **Sam Parrott** as its new membership and outreach associate. The trust, headquartered in Salisbury, has conserved more than 25,000 acres in 10 central North Carolina counties. Parrott has worked with conservation organizations in Arizona, Colorado and South Carolina as well.

**Madison Walter** is working at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Division of Global Health Protection as a health communications ORISE fellow. She graduated from Emory University Rollins School of Public

Health in May with a master’s degree in public health in behavioral science and health education. She lives in Atlanta, Ga.

## 2016

*Marianna Conrad, class chair*

**Ashlyn Keightley Miller** and her husband, Logan, welcomed a son, Bron Verlin Miller, born March 7, 2017.

Coldwell Banker Commercial Caine recently welcomed **Wiley North** as a commercial sales associate in the Spartanburg office. North also volunteers with Troop 1, a unit of the Palmetto Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

## TERRIER BUDDIES CONVERGE ON MIRACLE PARK: BERSIN AND OTHERS MAKE APPEARANCES AT CAROLINA MIRACLE LEAGUE 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

*by Brent Williamson*



The Carolina Miracle League held a celebrity game on April 20 to celebrate a decade of providing baseball to kids with special needs. Wofford was well represented with current student-athletes, coaches and a notable former student-athlete, Brenton Bersin ’12.

Bersin, who signed a new contract with the Carolina Panthers in the offseason, made the drive from Charlotte to take part as one of more than 30 celebrity buddies. He helped the kids run the bases and field balls on defense during the two games played as part of the event at Miracle Park in Boiling Springs.

“I somehow never made it out here when I was at Wofford,” says Bersin. “It means a lot to come back to Spartanburg and participate in this event. One of my friends in Charlotte works for an organization called Rainbow Express that helps children with disabilities, so I have helped out with them in the past. I grew up playing baseball, and it is one of my favorite sports, so it is great to give these children that same opportunity.”

Other members of the Wofford family taking part in the event were men’s basketball coach Mike Young, running backs coach Dane Romero ’09, members of the 2016 football team David Marvin ’17 and Nick Colvin ’17, Boss the Terrier and the voice of the Terriers, Mark Hauser.

“It is awesome just to be able to give back to the community that has given me so much in my four short years here at Wofford,” says Nick Colvin ’17. “It is rewarding to see the smile on a kid’s face rounding third base and coming towards home plate.”

During the past 10 years, the Carolina Miracle League has provided nearly 350 participants facing mental and physical challenges with the opportunity to play baseball, bolster their self-confidence and bond with others sharing similar challenges. Their families also benefit from the support network created through Carolina Miracle League.



## YUMENG ZHANG

Shenyang, China

**Majors: government, French**

Zhang leaves Wofford to pursue a master’s degree in international affairs at George Washington University. “I look forward to meeting Wofford alumni working in all fields in all parts of the world,” she says. She is grateful to the college for the guidance she received from the Office of International Programs.



## ALBERT KITCHENS

Columbia, S.C.

**Majors: accounting and finance**

Kitchens, who now is working as a fly fishing guide at A Bar A Ranch in Wyoming, says he is looking forward to returning for Homecoming each year and networking with other Wofford graduates. He says he’s going to miss Interim travel/study opportunities, Spring Weekend, Spring Concert and time at the Stewart H. Johnson Greek Village with friends.



## CARSON WALN

Atlanta, Ga.

**Major: biology**

Waln plans to use the skills and relationships he has developed as a student-athlete to make a positive impact in the world around him. He’ll start by working in pharmaceutical development, pursuing an MBA and making a run at a professional career in baseball.

## JOSE GALLEGOS

Spartanburg, S.C.

**Major: biology**

Although Gallegos is excited to be joining a close-knit alumni network, he says, “in all honesty, I’ll miss the meal swipes (plan).” Following graduation, he will attend the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston. He’s quick to say that one day he plans to give back to the Wofford community in repayment for the support he received as a student.

## ANN CASEY HUGHES

Birmingham, Ala.

**Majors: applied mathematics, French**

Following graduation, Hughes will pursue a Ph.D. in applied mathematics at the University of Colorado in Boulder, where she is looking forward to “the freedom of adult life and the challenge of being more independent.”



Class of  
2017

Class of  
2017

## SAM OGBURN

Winston-Salem, N.C.

**Majors: economics, finance**

Ogburn is pursuing a master’s degree in financial analysis at London Business School, which recently was ranked the #2 business school in the world by QS. Ogburn spent his entire junior year in London, so he is eager to return to the “vibrant cultural center.”





# IN MEMORIAM

## 1941

**John William Gore Jr.**, Jan. 10, 2017, Taylors, S.C. Gore served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He was an outside sales representative for Allison-Erin Co. and a member of White Oak Baptist Church.

## 1945

**William S. "Jack" Dowis Jr.**, March 13, 2017, Florence, S.C. Dowis served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He was an architect and artist. His paintings were exhibited throughout the Southeast and are part of numerous collections. He also was active in his church and in various civic organizations.

## 1948

**James Robert Griffith Jr.**, April 26, 2017, Americus, Ga. Griffith spent his career in hospital administration. He held numerous leadership positions in the field and was recognized with the Palmetto Patriot Award from the lieutenant governor's office for outstanding work in gerontology. He was a presidential nominee for the White House Council on Aging in 1995.

## 1950

**George Kilgo Livingston Jr.**, April 26, 2017, Charlotte, N.C. After serving in the Korean War and earning a Bronze Star for valor, Livingston enjoyed a 37-year career with BellSouth and AT&T. He was active in the community, serving as president of both the Charleston (S.C.) Chamber of Commerce and the United Way of Charlotte.

**George Raymond Morgan Sr.**, March 3, 2017, Charlotte, N.C. Morgan was the founder of Craftsman Printing Co. and co-owner of the Antique Cupboard in Pineville, N.C.

## 1951

**Earl F. Hoffmeister**, March 7, 2017, Knoxville, Tenn. Hoffmeister served in World War II before coming to Wofford, where he played basketball and football. He had a long career in education, culminating in service as superintendent of Knox County Schools.

**Dr. John Monroe "Jack" Shingler Jr.**, April 27, 2017, Spartanburg. Shingler retired in 1999 after 45 years as an anesthesiologist. In addition to being an active volunteer in the Spartanburg community, he did short-term medical missions work abroad and was active in the life of Trinity United Methodist Church. A U.S. Army veteran, Shingler was the recipient of the Wofford Alumni Association Distinguished Service Award for his support of nursing at Spartanburg Medical Center.

## 1953

**Francis Sidney Hipps**, April 21, 2017, Lake City, Fla. Hipps served in the Marine Corps before coming to Wofford. He spent his career working in the timber business. After retirement he earned his real estate license and

worked as an agent. He also was active in his church and community.

## 1954

**Harley H. Christopher Jr.**, Feb. 24, 2017, Anderson, S.C. Harley worked for Frank Myers Motors, retiring after 27 years. He also worked for South Carolina National Bank. After retirement he was active in his church and as a community volunteer. At Wofford, Christopher was a member of the Wofford Glee Club.

**James Mitchell "Dasher" Ditty**, May 8, 2017, Weimar, Calif. Ditty played football for the Terriers, served in the U.S. Army and pursued a career as a teacher and educator. He loved travel and outdoors activities, particularly sailing.

## 1955

**Berry E. Adams**, April 26, 2017, Easley, S.C. An avid golfer, Adams enjoyed a long career in textiles and the paper industry. He retired as executive vice president of Mount Vernon Mills, Dryer Felt Division.

## 1958

**The Rev. Carl Nickolas Harris**, March 29, 2017, Loris, S.C. Harris served in the South Carolina United Methodist Conference for 44 years, leading numerous congregations and holding national and international positions in the church. After retirement he formed the Second Mile Evangelistic Association in 2001 and the Loris Interfaith Task Force in 2002.

**Daniel Edward King**, Feb. 22, 2017, Forest City, N.C. King died as the result of an automobile accident. He served in the military before attending Wofford. He worked as a manager in textile mills before earning a master's degree and becoming a guidance counselor at Chase High School. He was a lifelong active member of First United Methodist Church of Forest City.

**Thomas Coburn Watson Jr.**, Feb. 10, 2017, Florence, S.C. A veteran of the U.S. Air Force Security Service, Watson served during the Korean War and was a member of the occupation forces in Germany. He retired from the Social Security Administration.

## 1960

**William Hawksley Barbee**, Feb. 14, 2017, Hickory, N.C. Barbee was a member of Wofford's championship basketball team that made it to the NAIA National Quarterfinals. He was a mathematics professor for 40 years, serving at both Mercer and Elon universities.

**Rupert Edward Howard**, April 6, 2017, Rutherfordton, N.C. A veteran of the U.S. Navy, Howard was a lifelong member of Adaville Baptist Church and was dedicated to his church and family.

**Rupert LaMarr Smith**, March 17, 2017, El Paso, Texas. Smith taught English for 20 years at Emory and Henry College before becoming

a nurse and nurse administrator. He retired in 2008 after 25 years in his second career.

## 1961

**Ronald Allen Shumaker Sr.**, April 9, 2017, Scottsdale, Ariz. Shumaker worked in banking, stocks, real estate and retail. He enjoyed tennis, reading, music, singing, performing, golf, telling jokes and his family.

## 1963

**Larry Eugene Dent**, Feb. 17, 2017, Spartanburg, S.C. A talented musician and photographer, Dent served as a U.S. Army helicopter pilot during Vietnam. He retired after a long career with the Federal Aviation Administration as an air traffic controller.

**Dr. Laurens Warren Fort Jr.**, March 23, 2017, Great Falls, S.C. Fort served in the U.S. Air Force Dental Corps before returning to Great Falls to practice dentistry until his death. He was active in the life of Dearborn United Methodist Church, a member of Sigma Nu fraternity, a reserve police officer, member of the Chester County School Board and athletics photographer for the Great Falls Red Devils.

**Archibald Gordon McLarty**, May 8, 2017, Shelby, N.C. McLarty died after a battle with lung cancer. He was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity at Wofford and became a golf professional at Lan-Yair Country Club after graduation. He also worked as a stockbroker and in the automotive business.

## 1964

**Gary Mitchell "Mickey" Byrd**, Feb. 24, 2017, Mechanicsville, Va. After three years in the Marine Corps, Byrd received a football scholarship to play for the Terriers. Byrd taught high school for 35 years, coaching baseball most of those. After retirement he continued to teach driver's education classes.

**Edward E. "Buddy" Cubitt**, April 6, 2017, Spartanburg, S.C. Cubitt played basketball and tennis for the Terriers and enjoyed a long, successful career in real estate development, including founding Southeastern Roofing Co. and Eagle Metals. He also was an active member of the Episcopal Church of the Advent. Memorials may be made to The Buddy Cubitt Basketball Fund at Wofford.

## 1965

**Charles Wendell McAlister**, March 5, 2017, Columbia, S.C. A devoted husband, father, grandfather and basketball coach, McAlister played basketball at Wofford and was a member of Kappa Alpha Order. He was a charter member of Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church, a corpsman in the U.S. Navy and a leader in the field of residential contracting.

**Dr. Thomas Wayne Riley**, March 3, 2017, Charleston, S.C. Riley practiced dentistry in Summerville, S.C., until 1985 when he retired to farm full time. He served in the U.S. Army.

## 1966

**Richard Raymond Prigmore Jr.**, Feb. 1, 2017, Houston, Texas. A huge sports fan, Prigmore loved Texas teams and was famous for his tailgating food and hospitality. He owned and operated Appraisal Consultants until his death.

**The Rev. Dennis Earl Reid**, April 9, 2017, Summerville, S.C. A retired Church of God minister, Reid pastored more than 10 churches in South Carolina during his 51-year ministry.

## 1967

**Alyn Denny Abrams**, March 25, 2017, Greenville, S.C. The retired owner of Dyna-graphics and Foxfire Gallery, Abrams was a member of Northside United Methodist Church.

**Ellis Michael O'Tuel III**, May 16, 2017, Bennettsville, S.C. O'Tuel died after sustaining brain trauma in a fall at his home. O'Tuel owned O'Tuel Farms and ran the family's businesses: E.M. O'Tuel Cotton Co. Inc., O'Tuel Gin, Marlboro Warehouse Inc. and Southern Gin and Fertilizer Co. Leadership in the church and community were integral parts of his life, including helping Marlboro County implement the 911 Emergency Services system, serving as president of the United Fund of Marlboro County and serving on both the Wofford Parents Advisory Council and the Alumni Executive Council.

## 1968

**Dr. Noah Francis Gibson IV**, April 6, 2017, Danville, Va. Gibson served as a pediatrician at the U.S. Army hospital in Okinawa, Japan, and as chief of pediatrics at Moncrief Army Hospital in Fort Jackson, S.C. He was a beloved pediatrician in Danville from 1978 until his retirement in 2016, also teaching medical students at University of Virginia School of Medicine and other area universities. He was an avid violinist, helping found the Danville Symphony Orchestra and playing first violin from 1993 to 2017.

**Dr. John Blanding Stewart Jr.**, March 18, 2017, Santa Fe, N.M. Stewart died after a yearlong battle with pancreatic cancer. He served in the U.S. Army in Alaska and taught English as a second language in Milan and Jerusalem before becoming a clinical psychologist. He worked at the Dayton Mental Health Center in Ohio for the majority of his career.

**Franklin James Talley Jr.**, March 6, 2017, Moore, S.C. Talley came to Wofford to play basketball and returned after graduation to coach at Wofford for a few years. He later taught history and coached at Dorman High School. He retired after 20 years with Spartan Foods Systems. He was a huge fan of Wofford athletics and a leader in the Terrier Club.

## 1969

**William John Lyne**, April 15, 2017, Hendersonville, N.C. Lyne worked in education, then worked in the furniture industry.

## 1971

**Charles Summerall Holley**, March 1, 2017, Birmingham, Ala. Holley was happiest enjoying family, a little mischief and sharing tall tales. He was active in his church and community.

## 1972

**David Michael Sidbury**, March 6, 2017, Awendaw, S.C. Sidbury learned the construction business from his father, later founding a successful commercial construction and development firm.

## 1973

**Dr. William L. Patterson**, May 13, 2017, Jacksonville, Fla. Patterson continued the dental practice that his father built, maintaining loyalty to the clients and staff for more than 45 years. He retired in 2015.

## 1981

**Henry Monroe Whitesides Jr.**, April 11, 2017, Belmont, N.C. Whitesides was a Sigma Nu at Wofford. He owned a law firm and was the legal voice of WBT talk radio. He also was active in Parkwood Baptist Church.

**David Lynn Wilson**, March 30, 2017, Seneca, S.C. Wilson was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity at Wofford and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army upon graduation. He retired as a major after serving 20 years in the South Carolina Army National Guard. He served on the Terrier Club Board of Directors and worked in property development and management. Wilson was an avid cyclist, who died tragically while cycling. He is the father of a current student, Sarah Wilson '18.

## 1987

**Dr. Stephen Hinston Bell**, April 17, 2017, Kennesaw, Ga. Bell was a mathematics professor at Kennesaw State University until 2016.

## Friends

**Duane Austin "Doc" Stober**, March 25, 2017, Spartanburg, S.C. Stober retired from the Wofford Department of Athletics after a long career as the college's athletics trainer. He started the training program at USC-Upstate. His wife, Audrey Hanson Stober, died on March 16, 2017. An educator, she started the home economics program at Charles Lea Center. The Stobers were faithful members of St. James United Methodist Church and enjoyed coming to Wofford athletics events and seeing old friends.

### Making Memorial Gifts

There are three ways to make a memorial gift to Wofford:

1. Call the Office of Advancement at 864-597-4200.
2. Visit [wofford.edu/supportwofford](http://wofford.edu/supportwofford).
3. Mail a check made payable to Wofford College Office of Advancement 429 N. Church Street Spartanburg, S.C. 29303-3663.

Remember to include the name of the person you are honoring with your gift.

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To connect with The Space, visit [survey.woffordspace.com](http://survey.woffordspace.com) and complete a short survey.



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SPARTANBURG MARRIOTT, DOWNTOWN  
\$75 per person  
Live Entertainment | Mobile Bidding

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD

The Wofford College Alumni Association Board of Directors (AAB) is now accepting applications from alumni seeking to join the board.

The AAB will accept applications through Sept. 1, 2017. Those selected will be notified on or before Oct. 1 and will be invited to attend the fall meeting to be held on Wofford's campus on Friday, Nov. 10, 2017.

For more information and to apply, visit [wofford.edu/AABapplication](http://wofford.edu/AABapplication).





## MAKING ROOM IN THE INN

*Daniels works to show hospitality and build hope for Charlotte's homeless population*

*by Jo Ann Mitchell Brasington '89*

About 200 people line up outside the old train depot in Charlotte, N.C. There's music, laughter and conversation. Some sit quietly, the thoughts of not having a home weighing heavily. Others celebrate the warm, safe place to sleep and the home-cooked meals that are a bus ride away.

Children do their homework on the sidewalk. A woman rolls her bag down the hill from her car. Two men debate their NCAA tournament brackets.

At the center of it all — answering questions, reassuring, organizing, smiling and, above all, welcoming — is Matt Daniels '98, innkeeper at Room In The Inn (RITI), a program of Urban Ministry Center (UMC).

"We match people who are homeless with different organizations that shelter them for the night," says Daniels, referring to the Christian churches, Jewish synagogues, Muslim mosques, nonprofit organizations, YMCAs and even schools that come to the UMC late each afternoon from December through March to welcome and provide comfort to their "neighbors." In total, these organizations provide about 18,000 beds on a rotating basis. "So many people have taken on this different way of sheltering people during the winter."

RITI offers short-term housing for people who are transitionally or chronically homeless. They've lost a job or have a job but can't afford housing. They've broken up with a spouse and don't have other family and friends as a backup. They're mentally ill. During the season, Daniels will work to house about 1,500 individuals.

"Chronic homelessness is on the decline, but transitional homelessness is on the rise because of the market," says Daniels. "As a city we found that the cost is about \$40,000 per year to support someone who's homeless and living on the streets." Part of the reason for the price tag is the high cost of emergency room services for minor ailments and expenses associated with jail time for victimless crimes, such as loitering. "At Room In The Inn, the cost is closer to \$14,000 per

year. We're less expensive, and the people who we house are healthier because we connect them to other social services."

The UMC started as a soup kitchen in downtown Charlotte. With the banking boom, the business community bought land nearby and built a facility. Now the center includes counseling services, a nurse, showers and a laundry. The center serves as a post office each day to more than 1,000 people who lack stable housing.

"You can't deliver a disability check to the third bridge on the right," says Daniels. "We make sure checks get into the right hands."

Daniels, a computer science major who served as president of both Campus Union and Kappa Sigma fraternity while at Wofford, went to work after graduation for Milliken & Co. He then worked in benefits administration for several companies. When he and his family moved to Charlotte, they joined Myers Park United Methodist Church and began volunteering for UMC. That's where he found his passion.

"This job speaks to my compassionate, quirky, nerdy side. It's been an interesting and cool fit." Daniels brings a strategic thinking and technical expertise to the position that's uncommon. He's added an ID card system that also is used to identify people who need special accommodations for their evening stays. He rerouted the entrance and exits and has streamlined the registration and departure system. He's now working on a short documentary about the program to show at potential housing sites so they better understand how RITI works.

"Matt has been like a breath of fresh air for this program," says Patsy Sheppard, who, along with her husband, Ron, works as a volunteer during registration and check-in. "He's easy to talk to. He listens. He's so tech savvy. He's a calming force. It can be chaotic here, but he doesn't get rattled. It's not just a job for him; it's a ministry — a passion — and you can tell it. He's living out his faith."

*Read the full story online at [wofford.edu/woffordtoday](http://wofford.edu/woffordtoday) »*

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Tuesday, September 12 • 11 a.m.

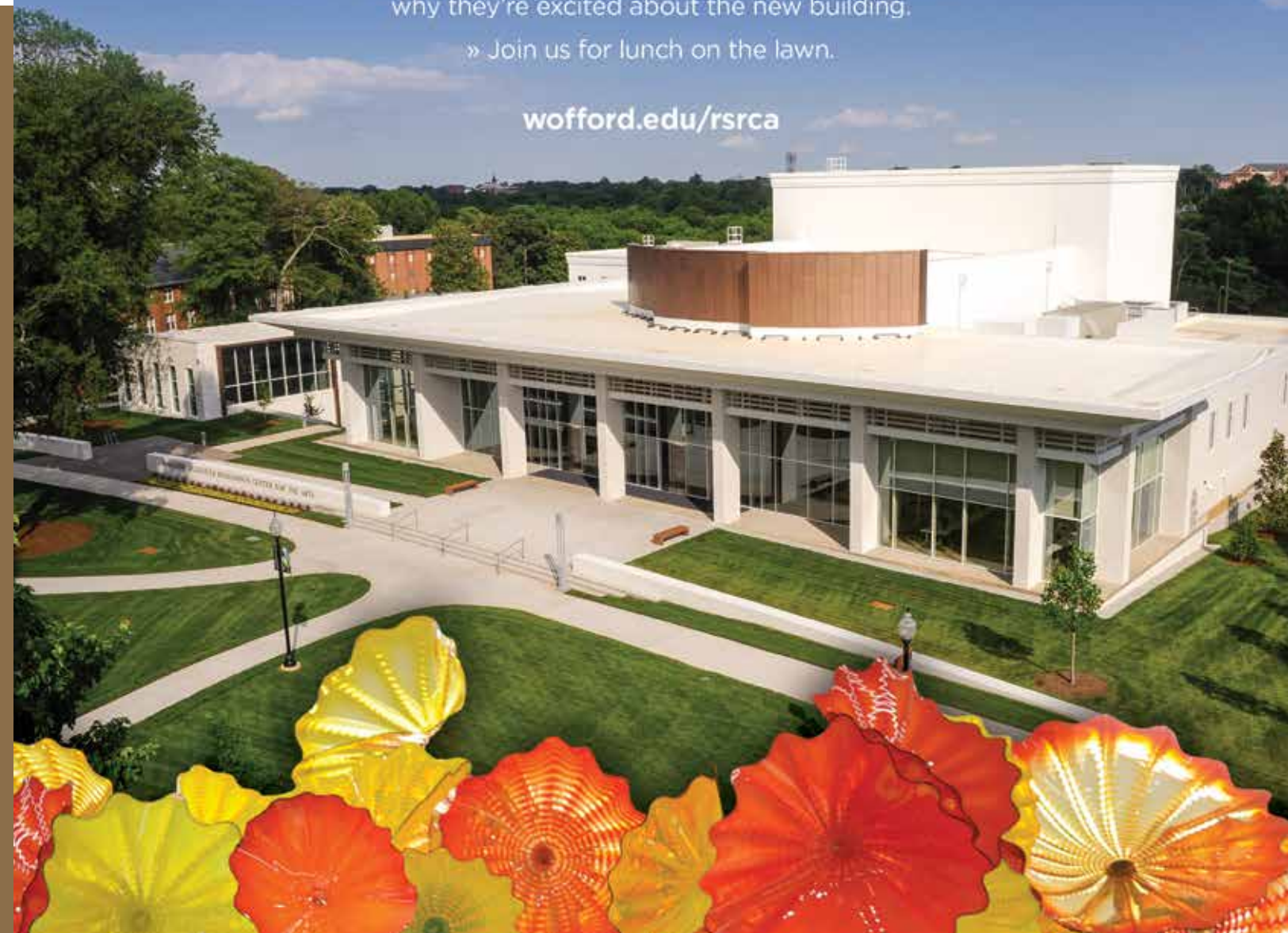
» Tour the building.

» Enjoy "The Mountains Are Calling: High Seasons in the Carolina from the Johnson Collection" and "Passion for Painting: The Art of Sir Winston Churchill" in the Richardson Family Art Museum.

» Talk with Wofford students, faculty and staff about why they're excited about the new building.

» Join us for lunch on the lawn.

[wofford.edu/rsrca](http://wofford.edu/rsrca)







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### THE ARTS AT WOFFORD

“The Mountains Are Calling: High Seasons in the Carolinas from the Johnson Collection” (on the cover), “Passion for Painting: The Art of Sir Winston Churchill” and “Printemps des Arts: Subtleties of Resistance and Renewal” are the first exhibits in the new Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts. Come see them this summer at Wofford College!

ON THE COVER