DEON’TE GOODMAN BOUNDS ONTO BROADWAY

Joining Spartan legends Joseph Forbes and Beth Leavel

PG. 18

A FRESH DINING CONCEPT THAT IS JUST, RIGHT PG. 26

EMBARKING ON GLOBAL JOURNEYS PG. 30

COCHLEAR IMPLANT INNOVATION PG. 36
news front  
University and alumni news and notes

out take  
Annual UNCG International Festival

studio  
Arts and entertainment

Spartans Take Broadway  
Deon’te Goodman ’16 makes his Broadway debut in “Hamilton” as Joseph Forbes ’75 receives the ultimate honor for his hundreds of scene designs and Beth Leavel ’80 MA continues to dazzle audiences.

Just. Right.  
Kathryn Hubert ’12 recently opened Chez Genèse, in downtown Greensboro. It’s a French restaurant that employs individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The effect is transformative – for the downtown food scene and the Greensboro community.

Global Journeys  
For students abroad, the landscapes, the cuisines, the cultures, the art, the conversations, the classes are all eye-opening. And spectacularly transformative.

Listen Up  
Faculty and graduate student researchers in the School of Health and Human Sciences work with community members to measure the impact of support provided to older adults with cochlear implants.

legacies  
Alumna Pam Murphy supports musical theater at UNCG, Inspirational Educators are honored by a School of Education initiative, and alumna Marsha Munn and her husband Duncan provide a meaningful gift for Beyond Academics.

grad tidings  
Lots of class notes and pictures, too

Enhanced magazine website!  
Visit alumnimagazine.uncg.edu to enjoy the digital version of the magazine in both photo-rich stories you can easily share on social media and in PDF format. While there, you can also submit a class note, view video clips, or click on archives to see former issues.
We face an important question together at UNCG: How will we transform ourselves and realize our full potential as a great public university? To help answer this, I have used metaphors, like “Giant Steps” and “our inflection point.” So, how are we moving from metaphor to action across UNCG?

We are investing in student success programs, hiring new faculty to support our growth, and launching new programs in highly desirable disciplines. We have expanded our research infrastructure and are investing in information technology to make access to data faster and more open. We are growing our campus itself—constructing the new Nursing and Instructional Building, working with the Legislature to secure support for a renovation of Jackson Library, and making early plans for new facilities on Gate City Blvd. and Tate St. We are competing in athletics while our student-athletes excel in the classroom. And we have done much more to tell our story and raise our visibility.

As you can see, we have stuck some pretty significant “stakes in the ground” (another metaphor!) to mark our progress and show how we are taking “Giant Steps.”

UNC Greensboro graduated its inaugural class of McNair Scholars in May, and now 11 of the 17 scholars have started the next chapter in their academic journey: graduate school.

The UNCG-McNair Scholars Program is a federal TRiO program funded by the U.S. Department of Education that prepares undergraduate students for the pursuit of a doctoral degree. The program is designed for first-generation students from low-income backgrounds, as well as students who are members of groups that are traditionally underrepresented in graduate studies.

UNCG launched its McNair Program in the fall of 2017 and is one of just five universities in the UNC System to offer it. UNCG-McNair provides students with faculty mentorship, research and conference presentation opportunities, and graduate school preparation.

Alyssa Sanchez ’19 is now pursuing a doctorate in pharmacy at the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy. Some of her peers enrolled at graduate programs here at UNCG. Others left Greensboro for master’s and doctoral programs at American University, the University of Nevada, Reno, and the University of South Carolina, to name a few.

Alyssa credits UNCG-McNair for helping her get accepted to what was her top choice for graduate school.

“The entire program was very student-centric,” said Sanchez. “The McNair staff provided mentorship, helped me study for the Pharmacy College Admission Test, and supported me financially to continue with my research over the summer.”

WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT UNCG–MCNAIR? Visit studentsuccess.uncg.edu/uncg-mcnair-scholars-program.
In May, UNCG University Libraries hosted bestselling author Zadie Smith for a reading and public conversation. The event in Cone Ballroom, attended by 500 community members, was one of the two largest included in Greensboro Bound, a city-wide literary festival.

Smith is the author of critically acclaimed novels “White Teeth,” “On Beauty,” and “Swing Time,” as well as two books of essays. She received the 2018 National Critics Circle Award, and is a writing professor at New York University.

Among other topics, Smith spoke on the profound effect a good book can have.

“I feel when I’m reading and I’m really engrossed in something that I lose myself for a little bit, which is a good experience,” she said. “It’s a good experience not to be caught in my subjectivity, my desires, and my needs and to be attentive to somebody else’s consciousness, somebody else’s ideas – parse through their sentences, see the world as they see it. When I step out of the writing and into the world again, something has changed.”

“Access to other lives is always what I’m looking for, and it’s a gift.”

Ken Jeong

Why at UNCG? WWI liberty bonds rally
Best movies? “City Lights,” “The Kid”
Seen recently on: A 40 ft. silver screen
Spoke to: 5,000 at site of today’s Petty Building
Reaction to crowd: Blew a kiss to the students sitting on the grassy banks
Best line: “They got $100,000 out of me, and I’m some little business man.”
Known for: Bowler hat and oversized shoes
How audience reacted: “The students who crowded up front at Curry Court to see his feet were disappointed.” He was well-dressed.
How he ended: Pulled his hat down over his ear, flapped his hands, and did the funny Chaplin walk

Charlie Chaplin

Why at UNCG? Commencement
Best movies? “The Hangover,” “Knocked Up”
Seen recently on: A 40 ft. mural in Midtown Greensboro, where he posed for a fun Twitter pic
Spoke to: 15,000 at Greensboro Coliseum
Reaction to crowd: “Thank you, Spartans! Wooh, wooh, wooh, wooh.”
Best line: “I don’t know if everything happens for a reason, but I do know everything happens.”
Known for: White doctor’s coat
How audience reacted: Lots of laughter and cheers, especially for his tales of family and growing up in Greensboro.
How he ended: Asked for his private jet

Refugee Resource

After a tragic 2018 apartment fire in Greensboro, many immigrants and refugees there needed support securing new places to live. UNCG’s Center for New North Carolinians (CNNC) helped. Student interns made a huge impact, and at the end of the 2018-2019 school year they organized the first CNNC Intern Symposium. Topics included healthy housing information and best practices for working with refugees and interpreters.

Learn more at CNNC.UNCG.EDU.

Why at UNCG? "White Teeth" promo night
Best movies? “City Lights,” “The Kid”
Seen recently on: A 40 ft. silver screen
Spoke to: 5,000 at site of today’s Petty Building
Reaction to crowd: “Thank you, Spartans! Wooh, wooh, wooh, wooh.”
Best line: “I don’t know if everything happens for a reason, but I do know everything happens.”
Known for: White doctor’s coat
How audience reacted: Lots of laughter and cheers, especially for his tales of family and growing up in Greensboro.
How he ended: Asked for his private jet

Ken Jeong vs. Charlie Chaplin

The two comedians spoke to huge audiences at our university, nearly one century apart.

Zadie Smith’s other lives
Banking on mother’s milk

Best-case scenario, says Dr. Maryanne Perrin, a baby drinks its mother’s milk. But that’s not always possible, especially for premies, because the mother’s mammary glands don’t fully develop until the end of pregnancy. “That’s where donor milk comes in,” says the assistant professor in UNCG’s School of Health and Human Sciences.

Breast milk is especially important for the over 15 million infants born prematurely each year. Because preemies’ digestive tracts aren’t fully developed, toxic bacteria can penetrate weak gut linings. “Breast milk contains proteins that bind pathogenic bacteria, so infections and disease are more acidic conditions. “Fresh out of the swimming pool, into the ocean we go,” says Ann Barry Somers. "It was being underwater myself and seeing the wonder-world that is coral reefs, and having the knowledge that coral reefs are in decline, that made me want to lead this course," said Somers. Recently, Somers was honored with three state-level awards: the Thomas L. Quay Wildlife Diversity Award, the North Carolina Association for Biomedical Research (NCABR) Distinguished Teaching Award in STEM Education, and the Governor’s Award for Excellence in Public Service.

At UNCG Somers has also created courses such as “Wildness as a Teacher” and “Biology and the Conservation of Sea Turtles,” for which students travel to Costa Rica to study and collect data on sea turtles. "It’s an exciting time to be in this field." she says. "It was being underwater myself and seeing the wonder-world that is coral reefs, and having the knowledge that coral reefs are in decline, that made me want to lead this course," said Somers. Recently, Somers was honored with three state-level awards: the Thomas L. Quay Wildlife Diversity Award, the North Carolina Association for Biomedical Research (NCABR) Distinguished Teaching Award in STEM Education, and the Governor’s Award for Excellence in Public Service.

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From ‘SNL’ to Greenpoint

Comedy writer and producer Emily Spivey ’93 has been a highly successful—and hilarious—creative force in American television for nearly two decades. The High Point native, UNC Greensboro alumna, and Emmy-award winning writer has kept us doubled-over laughing with her work on “Saturday Night Live,” “Parks and Recreation,” and “Modern Family”—just to name a few. In May, she celebrated the premiere of “Wine Country,” a Netflix original film that she stars in and co-wrote. The movie boasts an all-star cast of some of the funniest women in TV and film, including Amy Poehler, Tina Fey, and Maya Rudolph, who are longtime friends and colleagues of Emily. Her newest project? “Bless the Harts,” an animated series that recently premiered on Fox. The show is set in the imaginary town of Greenpoint, which Emily describes as an “amalgamation of High Point and Greensboro.”

“It’s really, really High Point and Greensboro specific, down to the street names and restaurants,” she says, “I hope you’ll watch it and be like, ‘Oh my lord, I know these people.’ That’s my goal.”

SPARTANS WILL STORM THE STREETS

The men’s basketball home opener vs NC A&T tips off Tuesday, Nov. 5, at 7 p.m. The cheering will begin hours earlier. The UNCG community is invited to join for a festive spirit march from campus to Coliseum. At 4:30 p.m., be part of a brief pep rally. Then it’ll be “on to the game.” A shuttle will be available for anyone with mobility issues. Season tickets are on sale. Reserve your seats as the Spartans look to build upon last year’s SoCon regular season title. Call 336-334-3250 for information.

BATCHELOR’S LIFE

The most exciting careers have twists and turns. UNCG’s career services experts say most people have multiple careers over a lifetime. Just ask Dr. John Batchelor ’83 MA.

A junior high school teacher of language arts and social studies for 15 years, he started writing professionally on weekends. It made him a better teacher. “My former students told me they learned to write in the eighth grade.”

He’s written columns for 38 years and over 1,000 dining reviews, most for the News & Record. He currently writes for Yes! Weekly.

As a UNCG graduate, he wrote “The History of Guilford County Schools.” He co-wrote the popular high school textbook “The American Nation.” He wrote “Race and Education in North Carolina,” for LSU Press.

He then was a consultant and writer for education foundations and centers.

What does he predict for new trends in cuisine? He demurs. “My crystal ball is greasy.”

Call 336-334-3250 for information.

Fall 2019 • UNCG magazine
"The horse knew the way to school and would take them to school. It was four or five miles because they lived out in the country. And then the teacher would be waiting to unpin them, and then they would do the same thing on the way home. So I had this image of these two girls, a year apart, in school. What was it like under that blanket in the freezing cold? What did they say to each other?"

What was your favorite book, as a young person?

"I think I already knew I wanted to be a writer, but I think reading ‘As I Lay Dying’ at maybe age 15 or 16 and trying to figure out what the hell was going on, but also being really seduced by the rhythm of the prose and by the mastery of the structure of the novel, and understanding without being able to articulate that something really masterful and powerful was going on."

What was the most influential book you read during your formative years?

"‘Madame Bovary,’ that’s the book for me. That’s the book that tells you what you need to do to be a fiction writer."

What’s the most memorable piece of writing advice you ever received?

"I was really lucky to study with the novelist Lee Smith. … One time, I said, ‘I’m serious, I really want to do this! Is there any advice that you can offer?’

‘And she said, ‘Yeah, write every day for ten years.’

‘And she said it like, ‘Oh, that’s just what one does.’ And so I did. I wrote every day for ten years. I wrote when I was deathly ill. I wrote when I had terrible hangovers. … Years later I ran into her and I said, ‘You know, I can’t thank you enough for giving me that advice.’ She said, ‘Oh, you didn’t believe me, did you?’"

DOGS HAVE THEIR DAY

WHAT COULD BE MORE LOVABLE THAN A SPARTAN PUP? How about dozens of them posing in favorite spots all over UNCG’s beautiful campus? Watch for more photos online, a social media video, and opportunities to submit photos of your Spartan dog (or cat!)

VISIT ALUMNIMAGAZINE.UNCG.EDU FOR FULL INFORMATION — AND MORE PHOTOS.
Kayla Martin’s mother told her as a child that she was born with a hole in her heart. Neither of them fully understood what that meant at the time.

“I kind of thought it was cool, and I would tell my friends,” she said. “But I never understood that it affected my physical activity.”

Martin has a heart condition known as Atrial Septal Defect (ASD) that causes oxygen-rich blood to mix with deoxygenated blood and get pumped into her lungs. The once-massive hole that separates the two upper chambers of her heart has shrunk to only a few millimeters, but her heart and lungs must still work harder as a result.

The reason Martin knows so much about her condition is because she’s a recent graduate of UNCG’s School of Nursing. She started learning about ASD during her first semester, when she took a class that covered congenital heart defects in children.

“The nursing program really opened my eyes to the fact that this can be a serious condition,” she said. “I need to be an advocate for myself and, as a nurse, an advocate for my patients who have this condition and help them understand it’s going to affect all aspects of life.”

Martin graduated from UNCG in May with her bachelor of science in nursing degree. Her senior honors thesis focused on what people living with heart conditions experience. Now a registered nurse, she has helped treat patients with heart failure in the Cardiac Intensive Care Unit at Novant Health Forsyth Medical Center in Winston-Salem.

“The similarity is that my condition can lead to heart failure. Pregnancy can cause heart failure,” she said. “So, that’s the reason I can relate to my patients.”

“OUR HEROES CHANGE”


In 2016, Aycock Auditorium was renamed UNCG Auditorium. As part of that decision, the Board of Trustees charged UNCG’s Public History program to interpret the record and legacy of Aycock in the building that formerly bore his name. Previous director of Public History Dr. Benjamin Filene and 10 graduate students (now alumni) worked on the exhibition over the course of two years. Now, the exhibition has taken two national awards.

The American Association for State and Local History has honored their work with an Award of Excellence, the nation’s most competitive award recognizing projects which are exceedingly entrepreneurial.

“This project is a perfect example of the excellence embedded in the work of UNCG Greensboro students,” said Provost Dana Dunn. “With the guidance of talented faculty, the project was conceived and executed as a valuable learning opportunity for students, designed to enhance their career success post graduation. I’m very proud of the student team who did this work and believe it will be a valuable resource for our campus for many years to come.”

The exhibition can be viewed during public events and is located on the second floor of the auditorium.

“Back in the Strike of ’69”

1969. The first steps on the moon. Vietnam War protests. And at UNCG, a big strike.

The cafeteria workers, a majority of whom were black, expressed dissatisfaction with working conditions and low pay. Hundreds of students joined the picket lines in support. The Student Government Association, in a controversial move, voted to use student funds to pay for a lawyer for the strikers.

The lawyer, Henry Frye, worked behind the scenes with then-Chancellor Ferguson. Student government president Randi Bryant Strutton, aware that a large group of protesters from on-campus and the community threatened to damage the Chancellor’s House, mollified them by saying she’d just learned he agreed to speak with them in the morning. Then she had to work with others to convince him to do just that.

Ultimately, the workers got more than they’d originally asked for. And there was no violence.

READ RELATED ARTICLES AT ALUMNIMAGAZINE.UNCG.EDU.
ROUND AND ROUND All the sights and sounds of the annual UNCG International Festival can be wonderfully dizzying. With more than 30 countries from across the globe represented at the welcoming, inclusive event, it’s a joy to behold. Diversity is a UNCG forte, and this big festival puts that global engagement in the spotlight. There’s great music, fun learning, and tasty culinary treats. And it’s free admission. If you’ve never checked it out, bring family and friends and come give it all a spin. The date? April 4, 2020.

PHOTOGRAPH BY MARTIN W. KANE

“I believe the world is incomprehensibly beautiful – an endless prospect of magic and wonder.”
— Ansel Adams
Choral music lovers consider Greensboro’s First Presbyterian Church a uniquely ambient space. Good news: UNCG’s choral program this year will host more concerts there than ever before.

Dr. Welborn Young and Dr. Carole Ott, along with doctoral students, will conduct the choral groups.

The Gothic Revival church is crafted largely from brick and stone to create what author Gerald Allen called “a loose interpretation of the cathedral at Abbi in southern France.” New York architect Hobart Upjohn, principal designer, collaborated with architect Harry Barton. Barton designed many UNCG campus buildings, such as UNCG Auditorium and Brown Building.

The free-admission concerts will be held Oct. 20, Nov. 24, April 18, and April 19. Donations are accepted.

VISIT FROM OPERA ROYALTY

RENÉE FLEMING is the only classical artist to sing the national anthem at the Super Bowl. She is the first woman in Metropolitan Opera history to solo headline an opening night gala. The National Medal of Arts holder and multiple Grammy winner has performed at events from the Nobel Peace Prize ceremony to Queen Elizabeth II’s Diamond Jubilee.

In February, she will perform at UNCG Auditorium, with a reception for VIP ticket holders.

The 2019-20 UNCG Concert and Lecture Series (UCLS) also will host “Hamilton” star Daveed Diggs. Best known for originating the roles of Thomas Jefferson and Marquis de Lafayette in the award-winning musical, Diggs is a writer, actor, and musician. He has been seen in the film “Wonder” and TV series such as “Bob’s Burgers” and “Blackish,” and has won acclaim as a member of hip-hop trio “clipping.”

UPCOMING 2019-20 UCLS SHOWS:

Feb. 8 – Camille A. Brown & Dancers: Modern dance
Feb. 26 – Renée Fleming: Singer
March 19 – Ann Hamilton: Visual artist
April 9 – Daveed Diggs: Actor and rapper

TO THE HOOP Among the Weatherspoon Art Museum’s extensive lineup of exhibitions and events this year, the “To the Hoop: Basketball and Contemporary Art” exhibition looks to be a slam dunk. Coinciding with the NCAA Men’s Basketball Tournament hosted in the Greensboro Coliseum this spring, the exhibition will explore basketball’s intersection with contemporary art and culture. The work of over twenty artists will delve into ways in which race, gender, and economics help to shape both the sport and the art world. The exhibition will be on display from Feb. 1 to June 7, 2020.

London calling: Dominick Amendum

What do you do when you come off the high of having worked on the first national tour of the smash Broadway hit production of “Wicked”? Well, you begin work on a high-profile, international stage production of a wildly successful animated film. This February, the Dominion Theatre in London will play “The Prince of Egypt,” a new musical based on the celebrated Dreamworks Animation film. Dominick Amendum ’01, currently the UNCG Smart-Tillman Artist in Residence in the School of Theatre, is music supervisor for the production. Building upon his New York theater experience, Amendum joins an international all-star production team to bring this new musical to life.

Dominick’s role as an artist-in-residence allows him the time to work on productions such as “The Prince of Egypt,” while still having the opportunity to teach and mentor students at UNCG. This year, Amendum and Musical Theatre faculty Erin Spoor have successfully launched the undergraduate major in musical theatre, and they have welcomed the first cohort of seven students this fall. The new program in the School of Theatre offers a BFA in acting with a musical theatre focus. See related story on p. 38, and see video at alumnimagazine.uncg.edu.
In March of this year, Deon’te Goodman ‘16 experienced the night all actors dream about – his first night on the Broadway stage.

“I was terrified,” he says, remembering the seconds before the curtain went up at the Richard Rodgers Theatre.

No wonder.

It’s only “Hamilton” – arguably the hottest show on Broadway in the last three years, a show that set box office records in New York City and won multiple Tony awards and, in 2018, Kennedy Center Honors.

“At some point I did make a slight mistake,” confesses the perfectionist. “It happens, but after that happened it was a relief. The show continued and it kept going. And then I was able to move on with the rest of the night, and the adrenaline was rushing, and it was sort of a blur. As soon as I got out of the show, I went home and passed out – I was exhausted.

Two alumni grabbed the spotlight in this year’s awards season. Meanwhile, one more young Spartan took the stage – in the most celebrated Broadway show of our time. By Susan Kirby-Smith ’06 MA, Alyssa Bedrosian, and Mike Harris ’93 MA • Photography by Martin W. Kane.
from one night. The amount of energy that races through your body is euphoric and exhausting.”

When Deon’te joined the cast of Lin-Manuel Miranda’s story of nation-building, he says, “changed the trajectory of the theater, theater for people of color, and representation in theater.” It was not only stepping on the Broadway stage that fulfilled his dream, but also having that moment take place within a work of art he truly believed in.

Becoming a Broadway performer is not a short path. The audition process lasted for six months, and that came to Deon’te after achieving another hard-earned career goal, his New York City debut in “Freedom Riders. The Civil Rights Musical.”

But for these opportunities, he was prepared. From ear-training to a solid audition book, his work in classical voice training to a solid audition book, his work in classical voice workshops in the School of Theatre had given him the skills, and the seasoning, to rise to the (many) occasions.

Deon’te says that he finds where he fits into the “Hamilton” family, the cast has been very supportive, and not only the cast but the larger Broadway community.

“When I first started in theater, I placed the actors on Broadway and the inner workings of the Broadway community on a huge pedestal. These people have achieved something great, but it was surprising to me to see some people I admire and to see how human they are. To see how human and down-to-earth kind and nurturing the community truly is.”

Mariah Carey and Emma Watson have come to see the show:

“People I grew up idolizing,” he says. “I meet these people, and I want to do nothing but give them the utmost praise, and yet, they’re congratulating me on what I’m doing. I want to say, ‘But do you know who you are?’ I was honored to present something for them, and it teaches me that we are all providing a service to someone.”

He is working on creating his solo concert debut in New York City, and he also performs at other events, such as a Feinstein’s/54 Below show about civil rights activist Bayard Rustin.

Any downtime he has, he makes sure to spend on things that feed his soul. He likes to try his hand at songwriting and playing guitar. He collects vinyl records—Whitney Houston, Gregory Porter, Nat King Cole, Nina Simone, Emily King, Adele, and Amy Winehouse are a few of his favorites.

“And I love being around friends and people who feed me positive energy.” He talks with his UNCG School of Music voice teacher, Dr. Carla LeFevre often, and she and his former professor in musical theater, Dr. Justin Cowan ‘14, ’16 MM, ’18 DMA, have both been to see him in “Hamilton.” He also stays connected with another former professor, co-creator of UNCG’s program in musical theater Dominick Amendum ‘07. Deon’te prizes those connections with his mentors and he’s glad to offer moral support and advice to any UNCG students or alumni who contact him as they make their own journeys to professional careers.

“The thing I’ve definitely learned since joining ‘Hamilton’ is that this is all so much bigger than me. My role in this story, in ‘Hamilton,’ is not just to be great for myself but to tell a story and allow an audience to see the greater picture. There is something so freeing about that in your day-to-day life. I hope that something that I say or do speaks to someone else on a more personal level than it speaks to me and changes someone else more than it changes me. Being in the show with these castmates has given me a completely different perspective on how I can inspire and uplift and encourage those around me. What we do is always for a greater purpose than ourselves.”

Since joining the cast of “Hamilton,” his life has been even more of a whirlwind.

He performs in eight shows a week, and sometimes two a day.

“It’s a very intense schedule, which we love, but when you’re doing that, you have to find time to go grocery shopping or go to the gym, hang out with friends, have time to yourself.”

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Any downtime he has, he makes sure to spend on things that feed his soul. He likes to try his hand at songwriting and playing guitar. He collects vinyl records—Whitney Houston, Gregory Porter, Nat King Cole, Nina Simone, Emily King, Adele, and Amy Winehouse are a few of his favorites.

“And I love being around friends and people who feed me positive energy.” He talks with his UNCG School of Music voice teacher, Dr. Carla LeFevre often, and she and his former professor in musical theater, Dr. Justin Cowan ‘14, ‘16 MM, ‘18 DMA, have both been to see him in “Hamilton.” He also stays connected with another former professor, co-creator of UNCG’s program in musical theater Dominick Amendum ‘07.

Deon’te prizes those connections with his mentors and he’s glad to offer moral support and advice to any UNCG students or alumni who contact him as they make their own journeys to professional careers.

“The thing I’ve definitely learned since joining ‘Hamilton’ is that this is all so much bigger than me. My role in this story, in ‘Hamilton,’ is not just to be great for myself but to tell a story and allow an audience to see the greater picture. There is something so freeing about that in your day-to-day life. I hope that something that I say or do speaks to someone else on a more personal level than it speaks to me and changes someone else more than it changes me. Being in the show with these castmates has given me a completely different perspective on how I can inspire and uplift and encourage those around me. What we do is always for a greater purpose than ourselves.”

Since joining the cast of “Hamilton,” his life has been even more of a whirlwind.

He performs in eight shows a week, and sometimes two a day.

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If you’ve been to a Broadway show, chances are you’ve seen Joseph Forbes’ work on stage. “Beetlejuice.” “Frozen.” “The Prom.” “To Kill a Mockingbird.” The list goes on. They all feature work from Scenic Art Studios, a premier scene painting studio for Broadway that Joseph founded more than 25 years ago. The company's backdrops, sculptures, and painted built scenery have brought to life more than 350 Broadway productions over the years.

In June, Joseph received the ultimate honor for his decades’ worth of work – the Tony Honors for Excellence in the Theatre, an annual award for individuals and organizations that have demonstrated extraordinary achievement in theater. Joseph was one of four individuals to receive the award this year.

For Joseph, it all started in the early 1970s, when he was studying set design under Professor Andreas Nomikos at UNCG. His first assignment – draw a tree, a cloud, and a person – didn’t go as planned. Joseph sloppily drew an array of sticks and puff balls, and walked away defeated.

“But soon, under Nomikos’ direction, Joseph started to develop as an artist. He also gained a broad understanding of theater – in part thanks to Nomikos’ “mind-numbing” History of Theatre course – that helped propel his career. "I learned how to be a theater person. That has really served me well," he says. "I’ve done props. I’ve hung lights. I’ve built scenery. You had to touch all of those things as a student at UNCG, and it made you into that well-rounded theater person."

After UNCG, he worked as a carpenter for a year to save money. He arrived in New York City in 1977 with $1,000, a strong foundation from UNCG, and an all-or-nothing determination. He continued his studies at a set design school in the city, and “got really good at scene painting.” From there, he worked in a variety of roles at different backdrop companies. When the company he was working for went bankrupt, he opened Scenic Art Studios thinking that it would last a week. That was 1994.

"At that moment I thought, ‘My career ends now,’” says Joseph with a laugh. "But soon, under Nomikos’ direction, Joseph started to develop as an artist. He also gained a broad understanding of theater – in part thanks to Nomikos’ “mind-numbing” History of Theatre course – that helped propel his career. "I learned how to be a theater person. That has really served me well," he says. "I’ve done props. I’ve hung lights. I’ve built scenery. You had to touch all of those things as a student at UNCG, and it made you into that well-rounded theater person."

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What’s something the average theater-goer may not know about set design? “I’m not sure they realize the amount of time, money, and effort that goes into Broadway scenery,” he says. "A set for a Broadway musical is millions of dollars. For ‘Frozen,’ we worked on that set for a year. There’s a lot that goes into mounting a Broadway show."

Joseph put the paint brush down a while ago, and is now focused on management. There are about 20 artists who work regularly at the studio, and another 30 who are brought in for specific projects.

“Setting the Scene
Joseph Forbes ’75

“I’ve done props. I’ve hung lights. I’ve built scenery. You had to touch all of those things as a student at UNCG, and it made you into that well-rounded theater person."

“Joseph has made an indelible mark on the industry – not only as an artist, but as a teacher – during his more than 40-year career.

So how does he feel to be recognized, to receive a Tony Award after all of these years? "Humbled," he says. “Primarily because that Tony Award represents the work of so many people. I’m privileged to be the front man for the band, but it’s really the work of the band that’s being honored here.”

Joseph says he’s still having fun, walking into his shop and seeing the huge, breathtaking pieces. "It’s a pinch yourself kind of deal. I consider myself incredibly lucky."

“SETTING THE SCENE
JOSEPH FORBES ’75

“I’ve done props. I’ve hung lights. I’ve built scenery. You had to touch all of those things as a student at UNCG, and it made you into that well-rounded theater person."

“The digital age is moving so fast, and a lot of hand-built technologies are being lost on a daily basis,” he explains. Joseph has made an indelible mark on the industry – not only as an artist, but as a teacher – during his more than 40-year career.

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The 2019 Tony’s telecast begins. The full casts of the nominated musicals hit the stage. One actress cheekily plops a hat on the host’s head.

Only one of Broadway’s brightest stars could do that. That was Beth Leavel ’80 MA. Beth premiered on Broadway in “42nd Street” in 1980.

Her Manhattan cabaret shows are legendary. Her next one, “Thirteen Shows and Counting” will debut soon. And she has appeared in dozens in television shows, including the final episode of “ER.”

Every few years, she returns to UNCG to speak with UNCG Theatre classes and have a public Q&A.

“Coming back, it’s like coming home,” she said in her 2016 visit.

With each UNCG visit, she gives real-world advice.

“Know your strengths,” she says. “Are you a strong singer? A great dancer?”

She wishes she’d taken more dance. “I’m not a dancer. I can sing really well.” She tells students of her quietly walking out of the audition space for “Cats” — but then how she succeeded in auditions for “42nd Street” and also for “Crazy for You,” her first two major shows.

Originating a role is so much better than taking over a role from a star, she tells them. She replaced Andrea Martin in “Young Frankenstein.” You have less leeway in finding your character — and in the case of “Young Frankenstein,” the doors were not constructed for someone as tall as she is. She had to bend.

“Have a good, trusting relationship with the stage manager. Some fans may think she’s a diva. But she’s down to earth.

Finally, be ready for whatever’s next. “Keep going. You see the path. It’d be a shame not to explore,” she says. “Just do it. Even if it doesn’t work out, what’s the worst? You’ll have amazing experiences. Just go for it.”

ENJOY MUSICAL THEATRE? See p. 17 for a Spartan in London’s West End and UNCG’s enhanced musical theatre program. See videos of these alumni at alumnimagazine.uncg.edu.

**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**
- Tony Award for starring role in “The Drowsy Chaperone” (2006)
- Tony nomination for starring role in “Baby It’s You” (2011)
- Tony nomination for starring role in “The Prom” (2019)
- Other honors include Drama Desk, NY Outer Critics Circle and LA Drama Critics awards

**LEAVEL BEST**

BETH LEAVEL ’80 MA

UNCG’s 1978 production of “Hello Dolly,” with Beth in the title role, is part of her legend. Leavel attended Meredith for her undergraduate degree. She selected her UNCG’s MFA program for actors “a really, really smart choice.”

She said, “Being here validated my passion.”

Beth was surrounded by “like minds and supportive teachers,” she explained. “I felt so privileged to be here.”

She was terrified of moving to New York City and trying to break into the theater world there, she told the students. Soon, after being noticed in a musical based on the Nancy Drew series, she had booked “42nd Street” and she was on her way. Her other Broadway credits include “Baby It’s You,” “EL,” “Mamma Mia!” “Young Frankenstein,” and “Show Boat.”

“Keep going. You see the path. It’d be a shame not to explore.”

ENJOY MUSICAL THEATRE? See p. 17 for a Spartan in London’s West End and UNCG’s enhanced musical theatre program. See videos of these alumni at alumnimagazine.uncg.edu.
If there’s a handbook for how to start and run a restaurant, Kathryn Hubert ’12 has completely rewritten it.

As owner and chef of Chez Genèse, Greensboro’s newest French restaurant, she decided to do things differently when the restaurant opened last fall.

She hired a staff with virtually no restaurant experience. Instead, she looked for people with a strong work ethic and a positive attitude.

She created an integrated work environment for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) to thrive.

She instituted no tipping and decided to pay all employees above minimum wage.

And she said “no” to dinner. The restaurant is only open for breakfast and lunch, so that Kathryn and her team can enjoy a healthy work-life balance.

It’s a model that has not only found success, but has been transformative – for her staff, for downtown, and for the Greensboro community.

AN ORIGINAL RECIPE

Kathryn grew up in Boone, North Carolina. As the oldest of four girls, she often found herself in the kitchen, alongside her mom, cooking for her family.

“I’ve always loved food – I’ve been fascinated by it,” she says. “In high school, it became an outlet for me to de-stress, be creative, and do something that was practical for the people I cared about.”

She completed her two-year culinary degree, and then moved to France for one year to work and cook at a conference center in the Burgundy region.

Things were different in France – the pace was slower, the food was better, and there was a focus on quality of life that was new to Kathryn.

“They’re not so time- or efficiency-driven,” she says. “They work hard, but they really value the time that they have off, and what they eat and how they eat.”

After a year, she returned to the United States, and started at UNC Greensboro. The University had a strong hospitality and tourism program, and accepted her credits from culinary school.

While at UNCG, she worked part-time for the Autism Society of North Carolina. It wasn’t her first time working with individuals with disabilities – Kathryn has three cousins with autism. Ultimately, her involvement with the organization led to a full-time job as a behavioral support assistant in Guilford County Schools upon graduation.

It was at this point when Kathryn started daydreaming about opening her own restaurant. She had a culinary degree, a hospitality degree, and international culinary experience. She also had a desire to provide an opportunity for those who are often excluded.

She left her job in the school system after two years and landed at the Iron Hen Café – one of Greensboro’s favorite breakfast spots. There, she learned every aspect of the restaurant business.

At the same time, her vision for her restaurant became clearer. The food would be French, the environment would foster community, and the culture would be one where people of all abilities would be valued.

NEW BEGINNINGS

Chez Genèse, which roughly translates to “the place of new beginnings,” opened in October of 2018.

Since then, Kathryn has received a slew of recognition for her unique concept. But she’ll be the first to tell you that it’s not about her – it’s about the team and the culture she is creating.

“I think something will only last for so long if there’s...
He’s also the founder of Spectrum at UNCG, a student organization that serves as a support network for students with autism. While his long-term goal is to become a professional historian, working at Chez Genèse has helped him improve his customer service and communication skills.

“It’s been amazing to work some place where I’m accepted. People see me as a person and not someone with a disability,” says Bridget, a recent graduate of the Retailing and Consumer Studies program. “It’s crazy for me to think about how far we’ve come and how far I’ve come since we started.”

Nils started working at A Special Blend last fall, a coffee shop in Greensboro that exclusively hires individuals with disabilities. He landed at Chez Genèse because he was drawn to its integrated approach. Nils is now back at UNCG as a graduate student in the Master of Library and Information Studies program.

It’s this experience in particular that prepared her for her role at Chez Genèse. “Event planning is all about connecting and making space in a very busy culture,” she says. Chez Genèse hosts one to three events per week, in addition to external catering. During the holidays, the restaurant hosts a variety of corporate events and parties. They’ve even held a wedding ceremony and reception in the space, which seats 45.

To be clear, Chez Genèse is not a nonprofit. It’s structured as a for-profit business.

“It was important for me to lay the foundation and say, ‘I believe everyone has abilities and skills to contribute, and I can make that real and put my money where my mouth is by making this a business,’” says Kathryn.

She explains that she hires people of differing abilities because she believes it’s the best business decision she can make.

So far, it’s worked. Chez Genèse has quickly become a local favorite – the restaurant is packed on the weekends, and often during the weekdays, and is one of the top-ranked brunch spots in Greensboro according to Yelp. It’s also helped bring to life the South End District, a portion of downtown that is experiencing growth after decades of decline.

In hiring individuals with disabilities, the restaurant hopes to decrease the percentage of unemployed adults with I/DD - a rate that currently sits between 70 and 80 percent, educate the public on what it means to live with a disability, and train people to obtain and maintain a job in another work setting in the future.

And in bringing a piece of France to downtown Greensboro, the Chez Genèse team hopes that their guests will begin to slow down, connect with one another, and enjoy life a little more.

“While it is a French concept, I think the values are bigger than France,” says Bethany. “The value of genuinely caring for people – caring for employees and caring for guests. That’s something everyone has been excited about.”

See how other Spartans are supporting individuals with I/DD on p. 39.
ON EVERY INHABITED CONTINENT, UNCG STUDENTS ARE LEARNING, PUSHING RESEARCH FORWARD, AND TRANSFORMING THEIR PERSPECTIVES. HOW THEY SEE THE WORLD WILL NEVER BE THE SAME.
For some students, it’s a first plane ride. For some, it’s a first experience in a land where your language is the foreign one. The landscapes, the cuisines, the cultures, the art, the conversations, the classes are all eye-opening. And spectacularly transformative.

**THE DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY, ENVIRONMENT, AND SUSTAINABILITY** took 10 students to Iceland this past summer for a two-week field experience. In this photo, Dr. Jeffrey Patton and Dr. Jay Lennartson lead students in an exploration of a glacial lagoon formed by the meltwater of the retreating Fjallsárlón Glacier.

**COSTA RICA**

MIRACLE JOHNSON, a biology major, studied Spanish and Tico culture while there. Her study abroad group volunteered with the Costa Rican Humanitarian Foundation to renovate a mother’s bathroom in La Carpio, and she volunteered at Life Monteverde farm.

**SCOTLAND**

KAYLEIGH RIKER, a psychology major, says her experience at the University of Strathclyde was the most rewarding thing she’s ever done. “I had the chance to meet so many new, inviting people from all over the world!” She notes the dramatic Scottish landscape, as evidenced in this photo of her by Lloyd International Honors College classmate Alexis Raphael, also studying at Strathclyde.

**ICELAND**

Be open to new experiences and put yourself out there!

**POLAND**

LILLIAN BERLINSKI, an international business major, traveled to Wrocław, “The City of Bridges,” on the Oder River. From learning the tram system to using the Polish national currency, the złoty, Lillian’s journey offered her many challenges, but also the chance to meet her Polish family members. Here she holds flowers on Dzień Kobiet, Women’s Day, in the Market Square in Wrocław.
KELLY DONOVAN ’13 was selected in 2012 to enroll in Beijing Normal University’s Chinese Language Learning Program and the U.S. Department of State’s Critical Language Program. She currently teaches in China. “My study abroad experience while at UNCG was truly the beginning of a path I never expected.”

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

For some, their undergrad experience leads directly to more international adventures:

AT OLDUVAI GORGE, a million years of human evolution is on display. With Dr. Charles Egeland, students participated in a paleoanthropological field school, which included hands-on excavation and research of ancient archaeological artifacts. Being involved in cutting-edge research at one of the most prominent archaeological sites in the world was an experience like no other.

KTOAN KTOAN ‘13 studied abroad in Plymouth, England, in 2012. “The experience was truly life changing,” the business major says. He has greater awareness of different backgrounds and cultures, essential in the corporate world. He is currently a senior business systems analyst at Red Hat.

CAMERON WARREN studied marketing, law, and Spanish during her half-year in Montevideo, Uruguay. Her favorite thing? “Being a part of a very close-knit group of international and local students. I made a new international family and I feel like I’ve made lifelong connections with a lot of people.”

JORDAN GRIFFIN ’16 traveled to Shanghai, China, in 2014. There, he took classes and was a program coordinator leading exchange students to volunteer at a program for children of migrant families. He is currently teaching in Chengdu, China.

JETHRO TALAVERA ’18 says Hong Kong was always a place he wanted to visit. Whether studying at the Chinese University of Hong Kong or hiking into the mountains with new friends, the marketing major was deeply immersed in the uniquely international culture. “Studying abroad just changed my outlook on life,” he says. “It taught me to be open to new things, look for an adventure, and to completely step out of my comfort zone.”

The Women’s Basketball Team in August experienced Rome, Florence, and Milan, exploring sites like the Colosseum, St. Peter’s Square, and Ponte Vecchio between playing exhibition games. “The trip was a learning experience for our young women, where they were able to learn about different cultures, taste new foods, explore beautiful cities, and bond as a team,” said Head Coach Trina Patterson. “It is a lifetime lesson they will never forget.”

URUGUAY

ITALY

Stop thinking about it and do it! It is such a life-changing experience.
– CAMERON WARREN

Want to study abroad or explore other international opportunities? Want to help others have these life-changing experiences? Contact the International Programs Center at international.uncg.edu.

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A cochlear implant has the following parts:
- A microphone, which picks up sound from the environment.
- A speech processor, which selects and arranges sounds picked up by the microphone.
- A transmitter and receiver/stimulator, which receive signals from the speech processor and convert them into electric impulses.
- A transmitter and receiver/stimulator, which receive signals from the speech processor and convert them into electric impulses.
- A cochlear implant, which picks up sound and sends the impulses from the electrodes that collects which is a group of impulses. The cochlear implant has four main components:
  1. A transmitter and receiver/stimulator, which receive signals from a speech processor and convert them into electric impulses.
  2. An electrode array, which is a group of electrodes that collects the impulses from the stimulator and sends them to different regions of the auditory nerve.
  3. A speech processor, which selects and arranges sounds picked up by the microphone.
  4. A microphone, which picks up sound from the environment.

LISTEN UP

A unique project benefits both researchers and older adults.

BY ELIZABETH L. HARRISON • PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARTIN W. KANE

Lauren Costner (left), Kaela Powers (middle), and Logan Mims (right) are graduate clinicians working on a research study to assess the impact of a program designed to support older adults with cochlear implants.

I t’s a Friday morning, and UNC Greensboro’s Speech and Hearing Center has the warm feel of a group of friends catching up. The conversation flows so easily, despite that two members in the group would be unable to hear without a small electronic device visible just behind the ear.

The meeting of graduate students in the School of Health and Human Sciences’ Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders and older adult community members is part of a leading-edge research project measuring the impact of support provided to older adults with cochlear implants.

“We’re the exception rather than the rule here,” said Dr. Denise Tucker, Professor and principal investigator for the project. “It’s not common for late-deafened adults with cochlear implants to have this kind of opportunity.”

The Cochlear Implant Connections (CIC) research project is a three-year study with its roots in a clinical service program that ran between 2007 and 2014 at UNCG. Tucker and Dr. Mary V. Compton, associate professor emeritus and co-investigator, noticed children with cochlear implants received support while older adults were left out.

A main component of the project is to provide students with clinical training in working with adults with late-onset deafness and cochlear implants.

In the early phase, Tucker and Compton partnered with area otolaryngologists (ear, nose, and throat physicians) and audiologists like Dr. Amy Myers, now an assistant professor at UNCG, to identify qualifying patients – adults who lost their hearing later in life and are now implanted need aural rehabilitation as they learn how to listen again with a biomedical device.

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“My goal is that I want this to be the standard of clinical care.”

It has been very helpful,” said Larry Plyler, 75, a participant who received a cochlear implant three months ago. “It makes me realize some things I hadn’t been paying attention to, but should be.”

The Speech and Hearing Center on Friday mornings isn’t just a research lab. It’s a place where people who may not otherwise have such an opportunity can share their hearing journey and support one another. And for Tucker, it’s the kind of care that should be available to everyone.

“My goal is that I want this to be the standard of clinical care.”

Two PhD and three master’s students are involved in the project. “It’s not common for late-deafened adults with cochlear implants to have this kind of opportunity,” said Dr. Christopher Atkins, associate professor and director of the Speech and Hearing Center.

Graduate student Kaela Powers will graduate in May 2020 with a master’s in speech language pathology. She said the hands-on experience she’s received working on the study has been enlightening.

“It’s giving us a chance as graduate clinicians to be exposed to how the world of audiology and speech language pathology is meshed together to help those with hearing loss,” Powers said.

The goals of the program are multifold. First, to help older adults understand the technology and usage of the cochlear implant, manage strategies for hearing impairment, and learn to communicate with the new device.

People hear with their ears, but they understand speech and sound with their brains. Late-deafened adults who lost their hearing later in life and are now implanted need aural rehabilitation as they learn how to listen again with a biomedical device.

To accomplish this, it takes a collective and interprofessional effort of audiologists and speech therapists – with the students, Atkins, Myers, Compton, and Tucker at the helm.

The second goal of the program takes a holistic approach to rehabilitation; they don’t just look at hearing loss, but the participants’ lifestyle, family, and friends. Through counseling and peer mentoring, participants gain confidence, become advocates for themselves, and enhance their quality of life.

“The project is designed to provide subjects with support, instruction, and structured listening activities. Participants are older adult community members who have a cochlear implant at least one ear and have never attended group therapy. This time around, participation is free.

“Part of our aim for them is to move forward incorporating evidence-based practice, and we believe strongly that this is a good way to do that,” said Dr. Christopher Atkins, associate professor and director of the Speech and Hearing Center.

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LEARN MORE AT CEC.WP.UNC.GS/SHC
Sharing love of song and dance

Alumna Pam Murphy’s first public singing performance was at the age of eight, and the musical maestro is still going strong, most recently as part of Greensboro’s 2019 production “An O’Henry Celebration: Stories and Songs,” where she has had a more than 30-year run. “I’ve always sung,” she laughs. “I can’t remember not singing!”

Over the years, Pam has served twice as president of the Community Theatre of Greensboro, been the musical director of scores of productions, performed opera, acted with the Livestock Players, and sung in the First Presbyterian Church choir, among other achievements. Pam Murphy’s gift impacts the new Musical Theatre program in three major ways,” Dominick said. “We are providing scholarship funds to two incoming freshmen that will continue for their eight semesters of study here. Pam’s gift also helps to fund the general start-up and continued administrative costs of a new program like this. And finally, her gift was used to underwrite UNCG’s fall 2019 production of the musical “PIPPIN.”

Perhaps that part is serendipity: Pam was in the cast of UNCG’s only prior production of “PIPPIN” back in the early 1980s, and she has remained friends with several fellow cast members ever since.

To Dominick and his School of Theatre colleagues, the inclusion of Musical Theatre at UNCG represents an important intersection of music, theatre, and dance, where the resources of three esteemed schools create a new and exciting course of study. The BFA in Acting with a Musical Theatre Focus.

To Pam Murphy, musical theater represents joy, which helps to take the “crazy” out of life – something we all need now and again.

“I trust and believe in this dedicated program and the amazing future it holds for us all as individuals. Donations like the one from Ms. Murphy will help the program continue to serve more students and grow.” — PIPPIN CAST MEMBER MADDIE CONTI

A first for Beyond Academics

Duncan Munn attributes his 45-year career coordinating services for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) to a part-time job his senior year in college. At the institution where he worked, he met Eric; a young man with UDD, who had been there since the age of six.

Eric had an older brother in college, and more than anything, he wanted to live on his own and go to school like his brother. Duncan realized Eric was denied a future of his choosing not because of his own limitations, but because of society’s. A continuum of community support services available from birth through adulthood for him and his family would have dramatically changed Eric’s life. Determined to promote inclusivity for the UDD population, Duncan, with support from his wife, Marsha, “... seitied one of the first community early childhood intervention programs in North Carolina. Their years of serving the very young gave them a vision of possibilities for adults. After Duncan’s retirement, they became involved with the development of UNCG’s Beyond Academics and ultimately made a testamentary gift to the University to establish the Duncan and Marsha Munn ’73 Beyond Academics Endowed Scholarship.

Beyond Academics is a certificate program for students with UDD established more than a decade ago. Emphasizing self-determination, life planning, and career development, it is the only four-year college program of its kind in the state. Duncan currently serves on the board of Monarch Inc., UNCG’s nonprofit partner, which provides support services to student enrollees. Structured to provide a higher education experience, Beyond Academics is integrated throughout UNCG’s campus and in Mar’s graduated largest class, most of whom were already employed. Passionate about ensuring the availability of post-secondary education for the next generation of young adults with UDD, the Munn’s intend for their scholarship to secure the program’s longevity by providing tuition support for students with financial need. "The cost of a college education is daunting, even more so for families who have a child with special needs,” says Duncan. “Most never set aside the resources because they don’t believe college is an option. We want to make Beyond Academics accessible to more families.”

For Marsha, Beyond Academics is a good fit at her alma mater. She credits the University’s commitment to excellent faculty and inclusive programming, which produce transformational outcomes for students with UDD: a social network, the competencies to live independently, and the skills to work at a paying job. In other words, a fulfilling future.

SEE MORE STUDIES AT ADVANCEMENT.UNCG.EDU.
1950s

BARBARA ELLEN BROWN ’51 was honored at Brevard College, and has been an active volunteer. She shares volunteer support segments, connects people with the resources they need, and acts as a mentor.

BARBARA ELLEN BROWN ’51

1960s

MARY ELLEN SNODGRASS ’66

JUDY HARRIS BEAL ’68

JUDY HARRIS BEAL ’68

KEVIN HALL ’80, ’84, ’86 MFA

KEVIN HALL ’80, ’84, ’86 MFA

1970s

DANIAL WILSON ALLEN ’71 was honored at the Mt. Branch alumni homecoming in Denton, N.C. Susan holds an educational administration degree from Virginia Tech, an education specialist degree from Appalachian State University, and an advanced certificate from Johns Hopkins. She retired many years after having served as principal of Byrkit Creek Elementary School in Davie County (N.C.) for seven years.

DANIAL WILSON ALLEN ’71

1980s

BERNARD ALBRIGHT ’82 was named to the Davie County (N.C.) Heritage Foundation’s 1970s book of short stories, “As Rain Turns Green.” He was named to the Davie County (N.C.) Community Foundation board of directors. He taught social studies in the Davie County Schools for 38 years. He also served as athletic director for 20 years and coached basketball and track. A past president of the Mocksville Lion Club, he has co-authored two books: “Looking Back at Davie County in the Fifties and Sixties” and “Looking Back: Davie County in the Fifties, Sixties, and Seventies.”

BERNARD ALBRIGHT ’82

1990s

KEITH MARTIN ’79, ’84 MFA

KEITH MARTIN ’79, ’84 MFA

1990s


ROBERT A.J. ORR ’91, ’95

JASON RUSSELL PEOPLES ’92 has been named to the UNCG Board of Trustees. She will serve a four-year term. He is executive vice president and chief officer for Cox Communications.

JASON RUSSELL PEOPLES ’92

KERN Turns 76: At 76, Kern is the featured author of a monthly event held at the Blackwood (N.C.) Library. Kern was the NC Humanities Council’s Linda Flowers Literary Award, was a runner-up of the Thomas Wolfe Fiction Prize, and was named to the Best American Short Stories as one of the “Distinguished Stories” of the year. He wrote “Finding” in 2011.

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Professional designation from the National Speakers Association.

JANET LAMPE '91 was guest speaker at Montclair State University’s annual Founders Day worship service, as guest speaker of history, chair of the Department of History and Social Studies, and assistant director of the honors program at the university.

SANDRA ROBERTS '86 gives guided tours of the Old Smithville Smith House in Surfport, N.C., a retired teacher, she is a frequent public speaker for Southeastern organization.

CATHY WILDESS '11 is director of 9-12 instruction, ESL, online education for Randolph County Schools. She served as interim director. She has a master’s degree in school administration from Appalachian State University.

RODERICK BOWIE '86 MA received the Silver Baton Award, a National CAavic Heart award, for more than 20 years work in the Boy Scouts of America. He currently serves as the James W. Bond for his 37 years of volunteer work with the Order of the Arrow, a service corps in Scouting. Rodney spent 18 years in furniture delivery and also taught night classes in history for 25 years at Louis-Mine University and two years at Catawba Valley Community College.

JOHN CHRISTIAN COLBY '81 was recognized as one of the Top 25 Most Powerful Women in Technology by the Institute for Diversity. She is researching and development vice president of the Quality-Care Continuum Enterprise Software Testing Division at SAS. She received a recent award honoring faculty at UNC for outstanding contributions to the field and to inclusion and technology capacity building for her work. She serves on the board of trustees for The North Carolina Black College Fund. Colby received her bachelor’s degree in education at Shaw University, represents SAS on the Wake Downtown Campus Board, serves on the UNCG Board of Trustees, and is a fellow of the North Carolina Women’s Network. Colby has written “The Code-Yo-Yo Challenge: Inspiration for a Lifetime of Good Health.” Ann received her master’s degree in nutrition and epidemiology from UNC Chapel Hill.

JAN LUNEMBERGER '64 is president of the United Way of Greater High Point (NC). June joined the organization in 2006 as a campaign staff and previously served as vice president of revenue development.

University of Virginia School of Medicine, represents SAS on the Wake Downtown Campus Board, serves on the UNCG Board of Trustees, and is a fellow of the North Carolina Women’s Network. Colby has written “The Code-Yo-Yo Challenge: Inspiration for a Lifetime of Good Health.” Ann received her master’s degree in nutrition and epidemiology from UNC Chapel Hill.

In 2019, the Trail Blazer Business Journal recognized her as an Outstanding Woman in Business.

CANDACE BALEY '87 is a fellow of the National Humanities Center. A music professor at NC Central University, Candace was among dozens out of 500 applicants worldwide for the 2019-2020 Van Winkle Fellowship. Candace, a musicologist, will use the fellowship to spend a year at the National Humanities Center working on her book manuscript, “Women, Music, and the Performances of Gender in the Nineteenth Century.” Candace received her Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro where she is a fellow of the National Humanities Institute. Candace is the 2017 winner of the National Endowment for the Humanities grant award for her project examining music in the context of the lives of women who lived in the South between 1700 and 1870. She also received the American Antiquarian Society’s Kate Van Winkle Kehr Fellowship for Research in Early American Music and Dance to engage in scholarly research and writing on American music. In 2019, she wrote “Charlotte Belle: Abundant. The Mount Magazine Collection of Harriet Lawrason, Herron, Harris, Atwood, and Leona Rebecca McCord.” She holds a master’s and doctoral degree in musicology from Duke University.

In 2019, she was recognized in a discussion about C.S. Lewis’s life, by Jonathon T. Davis, as one of the world’s leading authors.

She is the author of Steinbeck’s classic novel, “Of Mice and Men.”

SCOTT OWENS '94 MFA is executive director of the Davidson County (N.C.) 21-Day Yoga Challenge: Inspiration for a Lifetime of Good Health. Scott is a contributing editor for the 21-Day Yoga Challenge and has been with the City of Thomasville for 21 years as its parks and recreation director.

She is a fellow of the North Carolina Women’s Network. Colby has written “The Code-Yo-Yo Challenge: Inspiration for a Lifetime of Good Health.” Ann received her master’s degree in nutrition and epidemiology from UNC Chapel Hill.
gradtidings

at LeMoyne–Owen University and has published a book of contemporary poetry.

UNCG magazine is now publishing pictures of your milestones, such as weddings, births and reunions. All you do is send us a photo.

A few things to keep in mind:

• Digital images need to be high resolution for print (at least 300 dpi).
• Please identify everyone in the photo and be sure to include your name (including your maiden name, if applicable).
• Photographs from a professional photographer must be accompanied by a release form from the photographer.
• While we welcome wedding photos and baby pictures, we will not publish engagement or pregnancy pictures.
• Please send photos from the past year.
• Finally, depending on photo quality and/or volume of submissions, we may not be able to publish every photo we receive.

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2000s

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is adjunct professor of the Student Success Center at Blue Ridge Community College in Winston-Salem, NC. She previously served as the interim dean of Business and Technology at Blue Ridge Community College.

HOLLY MANUEL ’08

is coordinator of the Center for Access and Success at Caldwell Community College in Winston-Salem, N.C. He recently conducted the elementary arts magnet school in Caldwell County, N.C. He recently conducted the elementary arts magnet school in Caldwell County, N.C.

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CHRISTOPHER WALSH ’12
TREISTON BURNETTE ’12
KIMILI LONG ’11
DAVID LAMBERT ’11
...is assistant recreation director at the Garner (N.C.) Memorial Day Kwanzaa celebration.

CAROLYN PASOUR MILLER ’54
ELINOR WRENN HADLEY ’54X
MARY ALICE THOMAS ’53
ELIZABETH ANNE “BETH” CORNWELL PAGE ’53
MARGARET LEAH PETREE HOLDER ’53
WILLIAM OTTO BEVILAQUA ’52 MFA
MARGARET “PEGGY” HARRELSON BAIRD ’52
EMILY M. MANLOVE ’51
JEAN PROFFITT WEYNAND ’49
ROBERTA RIDGE REEVES ’49X
BETTY JO GABRIEL LOWRANCE ’49
BARBARA APOSTOLACUS LIPSCOMB ’49
CECILIA PRICE HOLDING ’49X
MARY RUTH BODENHEIMER SHROPSHIRE ’48
RUTH VAUGHAN HARRELL PHELPS ’47
GLORIA SCHLOSSBERG LEVINE ’47
DOROTHY LEE TAYLOR JERNIGAN ’47X
MARY LOIS HARRISON ’47
MARTHA FAYE COLLINS ’68 MED
RICHARD E. CLAYTON ’68 MA
CLAIRE “NANA” HODGES ERB ’67C
ELAINE GREENBLATT BROWN ’66
ALWAYNE MCCLURE ’65 MED
CONNIE DELL WAGNER ANDREWS ’65
JILL LEVINE ROSEN ’64X
BETSY ALLEN CARRIER ’64
GERTRUDE “TRUDY” WALTON ATKINS ’63 MFA
MARY RUTH BODENHEIMER SHROPSHIRE ’48
WANDA HART HAGA ’55
CLARA RAMSEY BENNETT ’55
...in the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools and the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School at Elon University and has a bachelor’s degree in Latin, with teacher certification, from the Classical Association of the Middle Schools, has received the Kraft Award for Excellence in Teaching from the Classical Association of the Middle Schools. He is leading a three-year project which will culminate in an exhibition in 2017.

CAROLYN MORGAN PATTON ’84
POLLIE PATTSON HUNTER ’84
ANNE CATHEY JONES ’58
BEVERLY BRYANT BURGESS ’58
FRANCES WESTMORELAND WINSTEAD ’57
FRANCES JONES HILL ’56
FLOWE RODGERS PRICE ’55
HELEN STREET MCDONALD MOHAN ’55
WANDA HART HAGA ’55
CLARA RAMSEY BENNETT ’55
...in Charlotte, N.C., and is enrolled in the doctorate program at UNCG.

MARTHA HONEYCUTT MELVIN ’43
HELEN HIGGINS FULP ’43
LOUISE STIREWALT REYNOLDS ’42
KATHERINE KILLEBREW LORENZ ’42
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JUMPING OUT OF A PLANE AND ON YOUR FEET CHANGES EVERYTHING.

“Earning my U.S. Army Airborne School basic parachutist wings was my ‘aha’ moment. When I realized that when I put my mind to something, I can accomplish it. I came to UNC Greensboro seeking a new opportunity as a veteran. UNCG delivered that through the Veteran Access Program. The curriculum is well-balanced for veterans and provides all the assets and opportunities that I need. I am excited to walk across the graduation stage and get to work helping others as a nurse.” — Edward Othari ’19
CELEBRATE GOOD TIMES!

Welcome home, Spartans. In October, UNC Greensboro will host a campus-wide Homecoming party, and you won’t want to miss it.

- Friday Bonfire with food trucks and DJ
- Saturday Block Party at Kaplan Commons
- Live music, food, and children’s festival
- Free photo booths and more
- Homecoming 5K
- Dozens of alumni reunions
- Women’s Volleyball vs. Mercer
- Men’s Soccer vs. Wofford

OCT. 16–19
See more at homecoming.uncg.edu