THE WORLD’S OUR STAGE

Spartans in the Arts Make Their Mark Far and Wide

PG. 14
Class in Session: Dance students got the chance in April to learn from School of Music, Theatre and Dance Distinguished Alumni award winner Christal Brown ’01. Christal will return in 2016 as an alumna choreographer of Spring Dances and guest teacher for the Fifth annual Summer Dance Technique/Repertory Intensive in June.
Light the Lights

If there’s one thing better than old campus traditions, perhaps it’s a bright new one. On Reading Day 2015, UNCG alumni will join with all in the campus community to enjoy the lighting of the Vacc Bell Tower and Plaza, along with the traditional luminaires. It’s “Glow Time” on College Avenue.

The inaugural event at the bell tower was held last year - and it got, well, glowing reviews. And this year, there’ll be even more lights.

Plus this year, see the progress being made on the installation of additional bells. UNCG will become one of five sites in the state with a full carillon of bells. The tower will have 49 in total.

Get there early. Last year, the UNCG community started assembling a half hour before it officially began. Dr. Nancy Vacc ’85 EdD, who donated the funds for the bell tower in honor her husband Dr. Nicholas Vacc, plans to join in the festivities. Dr. Nicholas Vacc taught at UNCG for 23 years and served as Head of the Department of Counseling and Education Development from 1986 to 1996. Dr. Nancy Vacc, after completing her doctorate in curriculum and teaching at UNCG, joined the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at UNCG in 1987. She received the UNCG School of Education Teaching Excellence Award in 1998.

In 2004 she gave, in memory of her late husband, the bell tower at Anniversary Plaza as well as funds for landscaping the area. Two doctoral fellowships and a Distinguished Professorship also are marks of their support. Now, a full, resounding carillon will give the campus a beautiful sound.

Come be a part of “Glow Time” on Dec. 1 at dusk at the Vacc Bell Tower. Enjoy cocoa and cookies. Sing songs. Immerse yourself in good cheer, surrounded by friends, faculty and students. The entire campus will be illuminated with its annual display of luminaires.

Million-hour milestone for service

UNCG students are now engaging in more than 1 million community service hours annually. The 1 million hours documented in community service include UNCG students in myriad activities throughout the county.

This is the first time UNCG’s Office of Leadership & Service-Learning has tabulated a million hours. The exact number is 1,060,829 hours.

That is for the 2013-14 academic year, the last year for which all the numbers have been calculated.

Fall 2015 enrollment increased by 4 percent over Fall 2014. The increase by 751 students bumps UNCG’s fall enrollment to a total of 19,398 students.
TAKE THE BUS

Let’s take science on the road. That’s the idea behind the new NanoBus, an after-school outreach program promoting science. The young students interact with UNCG and NC A&T State graduate students from the Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering. And they contribute in conducting demonstrations, spurring interest in science and math studies. Have test tubes, will travel.

2,065

UNCG women’s soccer faced off against defending national champion Florida State on Sept. 17, attracting a crowd of 2,065 fans – the second largest in program history.

Musical adventures in Europe

This summer, UNCG alumni, friends and parents are invited to embark on the trip of a lifetime: a 13-day music, art and food tour across Europe with the UNCG Wind Ensemble. In what will be the School of Music, Theatre and Dance’s (SMTD) largest international student trip, the tour will take place May 9-21 and will pass through Prague, Salzburg, Florence and Rome. While the wind ensemble will also travel to neighboring towns to perform, the tour participants will remain in the four major cities, exploring each city through world-class musical performances (including several UNCG Wind Ensemble performances), local cuisine, museum visits and historical tours led by local experts.

The boutique tour will be hosted by SMTD Dean Peter Alexander and led by SMTD Professor of Music Dr. David Nelson. Nelson is the founder of musical travel company In Mozart’s Footsteps and has been hosting tours through Europe for more than 20 years.

Take a Trip

For more information and to register for the tour, contact David Huskins, SMTD director of development, at dhhuskin@uncg.edu or by phone at 336-256-0166. You can also register online at www.inmozartsfootsteps.com/UNCG.
The 2015 University Honors evening was a celebration of service, as Betsy Buford ’68 and Fred Chappell were lauded.

Betsy Buford ’68 received the Adelaide F. Holderness / H. Michael Weaver Award, which honors North Carolinians who have rendered distinguished public service to their community or state. Fred Chappell received the Charles Duncan McIver Award, which recognizes individuals who have rendered distinguished public service to the state or nation.

Buford has worked with individuals, legislators and grassroots organizations over the decades with the goal of preserving North Carolina’s history and arts – and promoting social equity. She served as deputy secretary of the N.C. Department of Cultural Resources for nine years, 1993 to 2002. She served as director of the North Carolina Museum of History and director of the Division of State History Museums from 2002 to 2007. A history major at UNCG, she had begun her career as a legislative intern on the staff of Congressman L. Richardson Preyer and joined the state’s Division of Archives and History in 1975. Her many awards include N.C. Federation of Women’s Clubs’ Woman of the Century, the Ruth Coltrane Cannon Award from Preservation North Carolina, Special Recognition for Speaking Out from N.C. Equity/Carpathian Awards, Indies Arts Award from Independent Weekly and the Alumni Distinguished Service Award from UNCG. She was the second recipient of the Bowers Medal of Arts from Friends of the Arts N.C. State University. She has served on nearly 50 boards. She has chaired the Advancement Council of The University of North Carolina Press and has served as president of the N.C. Literary and Historical Association and as president of the Women’s Forum of North Carolina. She currently is serving as a director of the UNCG Excellence Foundation for the second time.

In receiving the award, Buford thanked many people and spoke about coming to UNCG in the 1960s, a place with a great legacy of service since its founding by Charles Duncan McIver. Chappell has established a body of acclaimed literary work that few in North Carolina have ever matched. He is the author of 19 volumes of verse, four story collections and eight novels. He has received, among other awards, the Bollingen Prize in Poetry, Aiken Taylor Award in Poetry, T.S. Eliot Prize, the best foreign book prize from the Academie Francaise, Thomas Wolfe Prize, the Tyler Caldwell Award and Rumi- Chovan Poetry Prize eight times. He was the Poet Laureate of North Carolina from 1997 to 2002. His impact on the world of letters is seen not only in his books but in the many students who have gone on to successful writing and teaching careers. He taught at UNCG for more than 40 years and helped create the MFA in Writing program. A recipient of the UNC system’s highest faculty honor, the O. Max Gardner Award, Chappell held the Burlington Industries Professorship from 1987 to his retirement in 2004. In receiving the McIver award, he thanked many people and spoke of his MFA in Creative Writing colleagues, past and present. He also noted for 40 years he’d taught in a building dedicated to the university’s founder, Charles Duncan McIver.

Both recipients showed their appreciation for the other. “He’s a superstar,” Buford said of Chappell. “He’s the best. I’m so pleased to share an evening with him.” Chappell returned the compliment. “I want to thank Betsy Buford for being Betsy Buford.” High praise indeed.

The University Honors event was held May 14, as Fred Chappell and Betsy Buford were honored.
Alumni of Distinction Awards

Each year, UNCG’s Alumni Association recognizes some of the university’s most extraordinary graduates through a series of Alumni of Distinction Awards. These graduates are honored for their dedication to service, community and professional excellence. “UNCG produces so many extraordinary graduates who show a commitment to their communities and professions,” said Mary Napier, president of the Alumni Association. “These award winners, however, are the best of the best. They exemplify the university’s mission to live service-filled lives. We couldn’t be more proud of our graduates and everything they have accomplished.” The Alumni of Distinction award winners were honored at a special dinner during the week of Homecoming in October.

Ten alumni were named WC Legacy Award recipients:

Dr. Margaret Bourdeaux Arbuckle ’74 MEd, ’82 PhD - Alumni Lifetime Achievement Award
Dr. Margaret Arbuckle is known for her passion for education and tireless work to improve opportunities for all children, especially the disadvantaged. She has pushed not only for quality education, but also for healthcare access, early education and other efforts to improve the quality of life for children in Guilford County and throughout the state.

Dr. Karrie G. Dixon ‘00 MA - Alumni Distinguished Service Award
As the University of North Carolina system’s vice president for academic and student success, Dr. Karrie Dixon is responsible for leading the Office of Academic and Student Affairs. She dedicates much of her time to the betterment of education in the state of North Carolina and across the nation.

Dr. Barbara Mitchell Parramore ’54 - Alumni Distinguished Service Award
Dr. Barbara Parramore is professor emerita in the North Carolina State University College of Education, and her leadership has contributed to the continued growth of that college. With more than 40 years in public education, she has worked at all levels including teacher, counselor and principal.

Dr. Margaret JoAnne Safrit ’57 - Alumni Excellence Award
Dr. Margaret JoAnne Safrit is a pioneer in the field of kinesiology. She was a professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison for 20 years before she became American University’s chair for its Department of Health and Fitness. She also serves on the boards of the Alumni Association and the Excellence Foundation.

Christy Johnson ’03, ’05 MA - Young Alumni Award
Christy Johnson is a songwriter, performer and actress. She is the manager and front vocalist for the rock band DREAMKILLER, which has produced two albums and whose songs have been featured in seven feature films. She was also a gold medalist in the 2009 National Inline Speed Skating Junior Olympics.

Rev. John A. Robinson Jr., ’69 - Alumni Distinguished Service Award
Rev. John A. Robinson Jr. is a Presbyterian minister and leader in the field of disaster relief.

Dr. Jerry Tolley ‘92 EdD - Alumni Distinguished Service Award
Dr. Jerry Tolley is the mayor of Elon, and coached two back-to-back national championship Elon University football teams.

Dr. Sue Medley ’65, ’76 MA, ’85 EdD - Alumni Distinguished Service Award
Dr. Sue Medley is a longtime Elon manager and advocate for excellence in teaching.

Patricia Wood Davis ’57 - Alumni Distinguished Service Award
Patricia Wood Davis is a social worker, public health professional and educator who has received many local, state and national awards.

Judy Rosenstock Hyman ’56, ’73 MEd - Alumni Distinguished Service Award
Judy Rosenstock Hyman is a volunteer, advocate and fundraiser for children’s issues in education, human services and political causes.

Gayle Hicks Fripp ’63, ’69 MA - Alumni Distinguished Service Award
Gayle Hicks Fripp is a historian with an expertise in local history and retired senior director of Greensboro Historical Museum.

Alice Sink ’59 C, ’78, ’81 MFA - Alumni Distinguished Service Award
Alice Sink is a retired High Point University English professor and author of 23 books.

Anne Prince Cuddy ’60 - Alumni Distinguished Service Award
Anne Prince Cuddy is a longtime IBM manager and an advocate for excellence in teaching.

Ann Turner Collins ’53 - Alumni Distinguished Service Award
Ann Turner Collins is an active and vibrant part of the UNCG community, as well as a lifelong volunteer and fundraiser.

Ten alumni were named WC Legacy Award recipients:

Martha Kirkland Walton ’43
Martha Kirkland Walton is a former trustee at UNC-Chapel Hill and N.C. State, as well as a three-term Wilson, NC, councilwoman.

Dr. Sue Medley ’65, ’76 MA, ’85 EdD
Dr. Sue Medley is a lifelong teacher, administrator and advocate for public education. She retired as an associate superintendent of Guilford County Schools.

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Outtake

FAIRY, FAIRY BEAUTIFUL Students from across the nation, including some of UNCG’s own, played immortal fairies in the classic Gilbert and Sullivan comic opera “Iolanthe” in June. The performance was part of Greensboro Light Opera and Song (GLOS), a summer intensive program for young artists. With National Opera Association president and UNCG professor David Holley at the program’s helm, UNCG is a light-opera mecca each summer. The production was musically magical.

PHOTOGRAPH BY MARTIN KANE

“An opera begins long before the curtain goes up and ends long after it has come down.”

— Maria Callas
Celebrating Maud Gatewood

The late Maud Gatewood ’34 was one of the most significant painters to work in North Carolina in the 20th century.

Her years at Woman’s College were highly influential on her career. “I thought it was a good art department and realized it was better after I left it,” she once said. “It was progressive and very open to new ideas.” She became known for her modern paintings that use a variety of different styles, materials and creative methods.

This fall, the UNCG Art department organized a Maud Gatewood Trail—a map of 18 North Carolina and Virginia locations exhibiting her art work—to reintroduce the public to Gatewood’s work. Three exhibitions were held on campus. The Weatherspoon’s exhibition will remain on display until Nov. 25.

Onto campus for “Into the Woods”

Under the musical direction of Broadway music director Dominick Amendum ’01, UNCG students will bring the music of “Into the Woods” to life this April.

The musical, written by Stephen Sondheim and based on the book by James Lapine, intertwines the stories of several popular fairytales, including “Little Red Riding Hood,” “Jack and the Beanstalk,” “Rapunzel” and “Cinderella.” The concert style performance will be at 8 p.m. on April 29 and 30, and will feature a full orchestra, an ensemble and soloists. Tickets are on sale now and cost between $10 and $20. They can be purchased from Triad Stage at 1-866-579-TIXX (8499) or on the Triad Stage website.

Avant-Garde across the Americas

Drawn from the University of Miami’s Lowe Art Museum’s collection, “Pan American Modernism: Avant-Garde Art in Latin America and the United States” will explore the rich visual dialogue that occurred across the two Americas between 1919 and 1979. This UNCG Weatherspoon Art Museum exhibition in the Bob & Lissa Shelley McDowell Gallery will be on view Jan. 30 - May 1.

Nearly 70 artists from 13 countries are represented, from Argentina to Cuba to Mexico, as the Weatherspoon presents a fuller understanding of modernism as an intercontinental phenomenon.

Come to the free-admission Preview Party Friday, Jan. 29, 6:30-8 p.m. Enjoy jazz music, a gallery tour and refreshments.

Our State and the scoop on Southern lit

A yellowed piece of paper with a jagged edge is pinned above Elizabeth Hudson’s desk at Our State magazine. Penned in tight cursive are nine characteristics of Southern fiction, including deep involvement in place, family bonds and local tradition.

Elizabeth jotted down those words as an undergraduate student at UNCG in Charles Davis’ Southern Fiction class. Now, as the magazine’s editor-in-chief, she uses those characteristics as a guide to build each issue of Our State.

“This is exactly how I make a magazine every month,” she told those gathered at a UNCG Friends of the Libraries talk.

A Class of ’95 English major at UNCG, she “dabbled” in a number of subjects, including geography and film. In the geography classes, she developed a “sense of place,” and the film courses strengthened her storytelling skills.

“This is the kind of school that lets you explore with a lot of things,” Elizabeth said. “Everything that happened here somehow stayed with me.”
He wore a Cassius Clay shirt to the Q&A in UNCG’s Brown Building Theatre. But to many of the students who came to hear him speak, Chris Chalk is the greatest.

Since graduating with his acting MFA in 2001, Chris has had a memorable role in the Academy Award Best Picture film “Twelve Years a Slave.” On Broadway, he starred alongside Denzel Washington and Viola Davis in “Fences.” He received a Theatre World Award for his turn in the role of Cory. He’s landed roles in acclaimed television series “Homeland,” “The Newsroom” and “Justified.” He has a growing role in the Batman series “Gotham,” playing young Bruce Wayne’s mentor. Soon, he’ll appear in some episodes of “Underground,” and the film “Come and Find Me” will open next year.

But on this April night before a UNCG Theatre production of August Wilson’s “Joe Turner’s Come and Gone,” he would give some hard-won career advice to the students.

“Oh, we’re going to talk!” he told one, eager to ask a question before it began.

One of his former professors, Jim Wren, and Chris sat in straight chairs on the stage. Chris took questions and mentored the students on the artistry of playwrights such as August Wilson, making your way in the Big Apple and the audition process at that level.

CHRIS, MEET DENZEL AND VIOLA

When he arrived in New York in 2001, he did not get out and audition or meet people like he wishes he had. “I’m shy,” he explained. “New York is all this energy!”

“I remember my audition for (August Wilson’s) "Gem of the Ocean," he said. The director, the esteemed Timothy Douglas, said, "Yeah, that’s cool. Now go work on it."

Chris saw he needed to reach deeper in auditioning. “It had to come from the belly.” He’s also learned more about August Wilson’s artistry. “Real humans doing real things,” that’s what Wilson writes about, Chris explained.

Another memorable audition for the Broadway production of the August Wilson play “Fences.” “The audition was terrible,” he told the Spartan crowd.

But months later, he surprisingly got a call-back. And then, he got another call-back - a third audition.

“I woke up petrified at 6 a.m. I worked out. I did yoga,” he said.

Chris found himself in the audition with Denzel Washington, who would play the father. The moments remain vivid years later - a high-energy, physical scene. “I pushed him. He pushed me. I kicked him. He kicked me.” Asked later about that physically demanding audition, he explained, “We were in the moment. You see how far you can push it. He was being open and doing his thing. I was being open and doing my thing.”

After a fourth audition, he got the news.

UNCG SENDS A NEW GRADUATING CLASS of artists to all parts of America and beyond, year after year. They return to campus as their careers advance, encouraging the students with this message: There are a lot of alumni in New York, in LA. Give two or three alumni a call and make connections.

Costume design, stage managing? Yes and yes. Broadway? You bet. Television? Yep. Movies? One alum was featured in a recent Oscar Best Picture. Art museums? Literary awards? The Emmys, Tonys, Grammys and Academy Awards red carpet? If there’s an art and high achievers are being recognized, UNCG is there. Let’s take a look. Cue the lights...
“Baby It’s Beth at Tonys”

Mamma Mia! The series finale of “ER.”

“Baby It’s You!” A pilot for the new TV series “Nunsense.”

The new musical “The Bandstand.” And that’s just scratching the surface.

“There’s never a dull moment,” Beth Leavel ’80 says with a laugh as she raffles off the long list of impressive projects she’s worked on recently.

The last time UNCG Magazine caught up with Beth, she had just won a Tony Award for her performance in Broadway’s beloved musical comedy “The Drowsy Chaperone.” Since then, she’s kept herself very busy, including another Tony Award nomination for her performance in “Baby It’s You!”

Given the way her career skyrocketed, you’d think Beth was born singing. In reality, she didn’t discover her love and talent for musical theater until her senior year of high school.

“It was the proverbial high school senior musical, and my friend said, ‘Why don’t you audition for this? It’s a great way to meet guys!’” Beth remembers. “I got the job. It was so satisfying. It was a community of people where you just like me.”

Beth didn’t know what to do with her newfound passion.

“She was North Carolina in the 1970s – I didn’t think there was a place to make a living doing theater.”

She decided to attend Meredith College and study social work and counseling. She minored in theater and auditioned for everything she could get her hands on.

Upon graduation, one of Beth’s professors encouraged her to continue with theater. In what she calls “one of the best decisions I ever made,” Beth stayed in North Carolina to pursue her MFA at UNCG and graduated in 1980. Soon, she was on her way to New York. Although she’s been doing a fair amount of TV and film, her heart remains with musical theater – the connection she feels with the audience is something she can’t find anywhere else.

“If you’re not there that night, then you never witnessed that moment. That’s the great thing about theater.”

Beth’s been pulling double duty this fall rehearsing and performing for “The Bandstand” and finishing the pilot for “Nunsense.”

“The Bandstand” opened at the Paper Mill Playhouse in New Jersey Oct. 18 and is directed and choreographed by Andy Blankenbuehler, best known for “In the Heights” and “Hamilton.”

Amidst her numerous projects, Beth’s found time to come back to the place that spurred her career. Beth will return to Greensboro for the first time in nearly a decade to perform with Dominick Amendum ’01, musical director of “Wicked.” The two will perform a version of her show from New York City’s Feinstein’s/54 Below club at Triad Stage on March 14. Tickets can be purchased at the Triad Stage box office. What would she say to UNCG students and recent graduates hoping to make it in musical theater?

“Know your strengths. Know who you are as a performer, which means knowing who you are as a person. And keep working at your craft.”
F

A “WICKED” DECADE

UNCG IN THE ARTS

Dominick Amendum talking with students during a visit to campus.

“I didn’t come to New York thinking I was going to make it. I came to New York knowing I had to earn it.”

When you ask Julie DeVore “10 how she’s been so successful, she doesn’t sugarcoat anything. She talks of the small production assistant job she held during the first couple of years. She recalls shadowing production stage managers and asking as many questions as possible. And she credits fellow UNCG alumna Bonnie Becker ’00 with giving her a chance.

In 2010, Julie and a group of seniors in UNCG’s theater program visited the Big Apple for the program’s annual showcase, an opportunity for talented students to get in front of top casting directors, agents and managers. Julie met Bonnie, a seasoned production stage manager who worked on some of Broadway’s biggest shows, including “Legally Blonde” and “Billy Elliot The Musical.”

Bonnie invited Julie to the Imperial Theatre. “She was doing ‘Billy Elliot’ and she let me shadow her back stage.” Julie remembers. “She was so kind. I was so inspired by her.”

Bonnie recognized Julie’s potential immediately. She passed along Julie’s name to her contacts with the “Billy Elliot” National Tour, and Julie was hired as a production assistant.

Bonnie and Julie crossed paths again when they started doing readings together. One of those readings, “On the Town,” booked a Broadway theater. Bonnie, the show’s production stage manager, hired the only person who made sense. Julie. The hit show received four Tony Award nominations this year including Best Revival of a Musical.

Julie recently reunited with Bonnie on what has become a dream come true: “School of Rock – The Musical.”

For Julie, the most exciting part about “School of Rock” is working with seasoned composer Andrew Lloyd Webber. Webber has composed the music for many top Broadway shows such as “The Phantom of the Opera.”

“This is the guy who inspired me to do theater, and now I get to be in the same room as him.”

As production stage manager and assistant stage manager, Bonnie and Julie are part of a team that manages nearly every aspect of the show. From calling cues for lighting to checking the prop preset to updating the script, they do it all. During the technical rehearsal process, the team will start at 10 a.m. and work until 1 a.m. But for Bonnie, there’s nothing she’d rather be doing.

“This is what I like to do, I’m not really qualified for any other job that I know of,” she says with a laugh. “I’m lucky, I love my job and I’ve had a fair amount of success.”

Bonnie says her experience at UNCG helped her crack Broadway.

“A stage manager needs to have knowledge of all aspects of theater. My education at UNCG really gave me that.”

Julie adds, “There are a lot of UNCG alumni who are here doing excellent work. It’s fun to be a part of that.”

What started as one UNCG alumna giving another a chance has turned into five years of shared success and friendship. However, Bonnie is quick to add that Julie has earned it all.

“Julie is her own person,” Bonnie says. “I like having her around. It’s easy now because she knows my way of working. We have a huge age difference, but I think of Julie as a friend.”

Where does Julie see herself in the future? Working for Bonnie.

“I know up to her so much,” Julie says. “I hope in five years that I’m working for her. I’ve never been happier working for someone in my life.”
FROM ‘AVENUE Q’ TO OPERA

When you’ve been “puppet wrangler” for the dozens of puppets plus wardrobe designer for Avenue Q” on Off-Broadway, creating costumes for 14 actors in an opera may be a snap. Right?

With more than a dozen fellow UNCG students whirring away on the sewing machines and cutting wide swaths of cloth, the UNCG Costume Shop was abuzz as opening night for UNCG Opera’s “Galileo Galilei” approached. Few stopped to talk – too much to focus on. Fittings were underway and they had to keep on schedule.

“I love the excitement,” costume designer Trent Pcenicni ‘15 said. “It builds as you get closer and closer to the show.”

Trent, who graduated in May, knew he wanted to design the costumes for Philip Glass’ “Galileo Galilei.” He loves this show. UNCG is apparently the first university to ever stage this challenging, beautiful opera.

He’s had a lot of opportunities. In addition to doing costume supervision and “wrangling” the puppets in Avenue Q” Off-Broadway, he has been wig and make up supervisor at Gateway Playhouse on Long Island the past six years. He’s done the same for an international touring production of “Phantom of the Opera.”

He’s worked on many of the UNCG Opera productions since he first came to UNCG as a freshman a decade ago, usually responsible for make-up and wigs.

UNCG Opera director David Holley said he’d fly him down from New York City to do that – he’s that talented. Holley said, “Trent is one of the most gifted make-up/wig artists with whom I have had the chance to work.”

He began receiving professional offers early on, as a Spartan undergraduate, but now he has finished his degree program in Drama – Design & Technology.

The opera was a hit. Celebrated composer Philip Glass was on hand to see part of a rehearsal and talk with cast and crew, then see a full production.

The work in design and in the Costume Shop helped set the stage. In taking a quick break just before the production opened, Trent talked of colors in the costumes. He pointed out the stark black and white of the clerics. The primary colors used with others, largely reds and golds.

He pointed to various costume concepts he created, filling one wall. As he passed mannequins, bearing some of these designs that have come to fruition, he revealed the layer after layer of cloth needed for some of the more intricate costumes – sometimes six layers.

The artistry was in the details. They got each one just right.
"I'm Ready for My Hairspray"

People stop him in Greensboro and say, "Hey, you were in 'Beautiful Star'!

"It's a beloved Triad Stage production, and Michael Tourek '12 has starred in many of them."

Last summer he returned to the Elm Street theater for "Common Enemy," a UNCG Theatre MFA program. "The first Triad Stage show I ever saw "was 'Beautiful Star,'" he recalls. "As it ended, he never felt so confident as an actor, he explains. "He shaped me into thinking I wanted to do more in conducting," she said. "He made conducting fun." After graduating from UNCG, Baker moved to New York where she taught music in a junior high school. Four years later, she applied to Columbia University and received a fellowship to pursue her master's degree in teaching. She successfully completed her master's degree in one year, taking 18 credit hours a semester and preparing a vocal recital. "I worked hard, but I think UNCG prepared me well," Baker said. She moved to Maryland following her graduation, where she received her doctorate in music education from the University of Maryland.

Baker began teaching at Eleanor Roosevelt High School in Greenbelt, Maryland, in 1978. "I intended to stay there for 5 years, and I stayed there for 30 years," she said. Over her three decade span at the high school, Baker directed many outstanding choirs. "We won national and international competitions. We traveled the world for festivals," she said. Baker's talent as a director was noticed, and she was asked to direct special choral events across the globe. She was a guest conductor for the City Of Mondovi, Italy’s Black Gospel Music Festival, the Royal Dublin Society in Ireland and the Houston Ebony Opera Chorus. Baker also headlined at a conference for the Scottish Association of Music Educators. She's served as artist in residence for the Portland Symphony Girls Choir, The Pemaculsa Children's Chorus and the Children's Chorus of San Antonio. She has conducted choirs at the John F. Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. on several occasions, as well. "UNCG has served me well," she said. "I think UNCG prepared me well for graduate school and my career."
I wasn’t interested in reproducing anything I saw. I was more interested in the adventure of going in and finding things that had not existed before.”

Whether she was leading the way for women in science or integrating scientific theory into art, McDonald. “Mackey” Bane ‘59 MFA has always been a pioneer. Growing up in the mountains of southwest Virginia, Mackey was drawn to art as a young girl.

“I happened to have grown up in a home that had original art hanging in it,” Mackey said. “At that particular time and place, that was unusual.”

While Mackey had raw, artistic talent, she never had any formal instruction as a child. “My first art class was kind of a disaster,” Mackey said. “I was more interested in the adventure of going in and finding things that had not existed before.”

Mackey transferred to Virginia Polytechnic Institute (now Virginia Tech), where she earned a bachelor’s degree in science. She got married, moved to North Carolina and landed a job in textile research, but art was still calling her name. In 1955, Mackey learned about the art department at Woman’s College (now UNCG) on a talk radio show. She was hooked.

“Apparently, one of the students at Woman’s College had done a drawing of a male nude. People saw that and were horrified – this nice, Southern girls’ school!” Mackey said with a chuckle. “I thought to myself, ‘This sounds like an interesting place.”

Mackey arrived on campus intending to take an art class or two and left her meeting with Gregory Ivy, founder and head of the art department at the time, having signed up for a full course load. She took undergraduate courses for a year and then continued with the department’s graduate program, earning her MFA in 1959.

“Whether she’s using mechanical devices in drawings or aligning her work with the unique chemical properties of the materials she’s incorporating, Mackey is known for her abstract, almost radical way of thinking and creating. For example, take a simple line – Mackey enjoys twisting and turning it in ways you’ve never imagined to create the illusion of three-dimensionality in her work.”

“I let ideas develop and evolve. It’s a building process.”

When asked which work she is most proud of, Mackey can’t point to a particular piece. “Rather, it’s the culmination of her work that has created such a strong legacy. Mackey’s work has been shown across the nation and is in the permanent collections of the Museum of Modern Art in New York City, the Mint Museum in Charlotte and UNCG’s Weatherspoon Art Museum, among others. Despite all of the national recognition, Mackey hasn’t forgotten her roots. “UNCG was excellent for my career,” she said. “I studied with some really good people when I was there.”

Macky Bane, “Untitled”
by Dr. Hepzibah Roskelly

You know they say that as you grow older you begin to look more and more like your elders, the ones whose photographs we used to stare at in old albums or in frames on the piano.

You might say that we come into our own faces as we grow up and older, and we find it’s not just our own face we see in the mirror but someone else’s too—Uncle Joe’s or Grandma’s or the cousin with the big bow in her hair that nobody can quite remember.

I’ve spent a lot of time looking in many, many boxes in the university’s attic, and I spot lots of resemblances as I look out at you, the Class of 1965. It seems to me that you have grown to look more and more like your elders here at your university, those teachers whom you listened to and learned from during your years here and teachers who were gone long before you came, but who left a legacy you became part of.

This class has accomplished so much. I’ve been hearing of your successes—successes in business, in community action, in family and civic life. My aim today is to remind you of how you got here; at least in part, why you succeeded. It has something to do with your connections to the brave, brilliant and active educators who created a path that you could follow and build on.

This afternoon, I’ll talk about just a few of the stories that I could tell you. Many you’re familiar with, at least by name.

Anna Gove came here shortly after the college first opened, in 1894. The daughter of a small town New Hampshire physician, she had graduated from the Women’s Medical College in New York and had taken a job at the State Normal School in North Carolina. She was the third woman physician in the state, the first in Guilford County. The Bloomer movement in support of looser fitting and practical female clothing had swept the country, and Anna Gove had her students put their new clothes to use. She was a reluctant convert. Nevertheless, she was determined, and she put this determination to work.

The female lady doctoress was a believer—and this was at a time when it was a rarity—in preventive medicine. She understood the benefits of exercise and fresh air, and she put her girls on a regimen of personal hygiene and walking. Last year my graduate students and I traced the path—two miles—that Gove had her students walk every day. This is in conformance with recent research, which has linked regular exercise to stress reduction, improved sleep, and better overall health.

Anna Gove’s office was in a small room, with beadboard paneling and views of the unused upstairs room in Foust. It’s a beautiful room, with headboard paneling and views of the whole campus from every angle. I used to have my office in Foust, and when my freshmen students would come for conferences, I would tell them the story of the young girls upstairs.

“She never was permitted such a thing,” Miss Kirkland responded with a wink. “Yes, and see what it did for us.”

She remembered all the girls’ names, one former student wrote. Apparently, she was magnetic. “We spoke of her as Queen Victoria,” another student wrote.

But another gift she left the girls was never to take yourself too seriously—even if you did seem as majestic as the Queen. When a Miss Biddle reported that two girls were in the lobby with two young men unchaperoned, protesting that “we never were permitted such a thing.” Miss Kirkland responded with a wink, “Yes, and see what it did for us.”

She too came from the rural Eastern part of the state, in the first 223 students who came in 1892. Her colleague Minnie Lou Jamieson was born in 1886 and lived here until her death in 1948. She was in the first 223 students who came in 1892. She too came from the rural Eastern part of the state and with a dollar to last a year. She began to teach the high school here in home economics, which was called then domestic science. She often

Walk through time, with Class of ’65

The Class of 1965 asked Hepzibah Roskelly to share her unique perspective on the history of our university. At Reunion, she stood before them and did just that. She shined a spotlight on some of those who have made the university what it is—some well-known, others less-so. Those attending Reunion had known some of them. It was a remarkable talk (in edited form here), the Elliott University Center Auditorium becoming as cozy as a front porch.
said to her girls that “no community can rise above the level of its homes.” In addition to her teaching, she served with Miss Kirkland as an assistant lady principal. She saw home management and farm ecology as “mental culture.” During WWII she worked across the state to help rural women grow and preserve crops more efficiently and safely. She taught crop rotation and how to use the new “fireless cookers” equally well.

One of her primary legacies was her tireless work to create a beautiful environment on her campus.

She arrived in a wagon in September, 1892: “When we arrived the new beautiful slope in front of the Administration Building was an old staid field covered with cornstalk, brick and mortar and other debris from the buildings. Only one tree, a sickly pine, stood on the hill in front of Mrs. McRuer’s room. It soon died.”

Miss Jamieson worked hard to change that. We owe some of our own landscape - its careful beauty - to Miss Jamieson’s advocacy.

Harriet Elliott was until her death the Dean of Women. Before that, she was a political science professor renowned for her oratory and her skill with audiences in classes and in public lectures. As Chancellor Jackson noted at her death in 1947, she shaped an entire generation of North Carolina women.

And how? She not only taught political science; she lived it. The campaign long and hard for suffrage. She worked in the state, across the country, speaking and teaching on leadership in commissions designed to improve the status of women. She served as the head of the Women’s Division of the Democratic National Convention in 1924 and directed the Women’s Section of the War Finance Committee to encourage war bonds during WWII under the oversight of FDR’s secretary of state (who famously visited Foust Building one day and waited while she finished counseling a student!).

As dean of the college, she made students become more responsible for their own educations by giving them responsibilities. It was she who began to call the dorms “residence halls” to encourage mutual responsibility and respect. Elliott, whose name is given to this building, proclaimed the necessity of both service and leadership. “It is a privilege and duty to be involved in civic life,” she said. “To be trained to lead, too often, is to be UNWILLING to lead— is the unpardonable sin of democracy.”

One of her students was Celeste Ulrich, who, when she was three years old, was reined down in the School of Health and Physical Education at Oregon. She was lectured to by a famous professor that a musical hero of hers, Paul Robeson, was not allowed to go across campus at night because she reasoned she could get there and back without anyone knowing. She walked over (she was a PE major), got in, but as the concert began a rainstorm began and the lights went out. Robeson began singing in the dark. It was magnificent. But she had to run back all the way and still missed lockup.

She had to re-educate Miss Katherine Taylor, who was not amused. She had to go see the chancellor. Who instead of expelling her as she expected gave her a campus—she couldn’t visit the Corner for a month. He, it turns out, was a trustee at Bennett and a music lover himself.

One story she told me was about her time as an undergraduate. Her roommate was a famous professor, Jackson, who gave his name to our library. Jackson came to our university in 1924 as history professor, became a vice provost in 1929 and, in 1945, was named chancellor. He retired in 1950, but his influence lingered far into the ’60s when you could have heard a pin drop. “The lights were turned off,” she said, “and he walked into the cafeteria,” Smart Drome remembered in 1980, “you could have heard a pin drop on the teachers; ‘who might have called on us on a little too much’ she says, were supportive and the teachers were too. Joanne Smart and Betty Tillman, who followed quickly in their wake, that stirred the imaginations of the young women at this school and at Bennett, their WC blazers, including Dearsley, walked in protest. The white men who had given up someone here before us,” Anne said, pointing to the A&T students who had been harboring a point of protest. The white men who had given up their stools to the girls cursed them. They were all afraid, Darussey remembers, but they stayed until the store’s closing, worried about how they would get back. At that point, the black protes- tored a circle around them and linked arms. They said the Lord’s Prayer, and the WC expanded their sense of the world as Anna Gove had done. They are the heroes you knew about when you arrived on campus only the year afterward. Some of you might have known them.

I have a student, Laura, who worked with me several years ago in a project in the university’s archives. We were trying to discover how women at this school and at Bennett, our white WC in Greensboro, developed and oped leadership in early days. We quickly concentrated of our energy on the civil rights era, since it was, we discovered, such a point of contact for the two schools.

I feel so proud that I worked with her, this student who saw herself in the old photos she studied. Laura suddenly caught the sense of history as living—in her— that learning and remembering your past can teach you. But you know that already. You’re here. Thank you for coming back. You show all of us here at UNCG who we should come to look like.

The “lady principal” Sue May Kirkland was magisterial.
Cancellor Franklin Gilliam Jr. joined The University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG) as our 11th chancellor in September. He came to UNCG from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), where the longtime professor of public policy and political science had been dean of the Luskin School of Public Affairs since 2008. A Minnesota native, he has also taught at Grinnell College, the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the University of Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania and Brandeis University. Since arriving in North Carolina, he and his wife Jacquie have been “on the road” reaching out to alumni across the state with “meet the chancellor” events. He has spoken with thousands of alumni and friends of the university already.

“I have been struck by the gracious Southern hospitality my wife Jacquie and I have received,” he says. Their visits in recent months have taken them westward to Asheville and Winston-Salem and eastward to the Triangle, Wilmington and Carteret County. Chancellor Gilliam has articulated recurring themes about UNCG at these alumni gatherings:

A heritage of opportunity for all “We will never forget the Woman’s College legacy,” he says. He typically notes particular stories WC alumni have told him; many of these stories are a testament to the fact that our campus provided women an opportunity to obtain a college education. Today, UNCG continues that pattern with support for first-generation students, our campus’ remarkable diversity and UNCG’s strong online presence providing access to those in rural areas.

Student-oriented and research intensive The research at UNCG is world-class – and there is a wealth of research opportunities for undergraduates and graduate students where they learn how to solve problems, work in teams and be persistent. UNCG also has a strong emphasis on faculty teaching – that’s part of its DNA. The faculty are keenly interested in innovations in teaching – how to enhance student learning. Experiential learning on campus and in the community is highly valued.

This is a unique place There is a “here” here and it’s remarkable. A majority of the students come from the crescent of the state from Charlotte to Wilmington. And a majority of UNCG’s alumni reside in that crescent as well, he has observed. The net result is that UNCG is inextricably tied to the region.

One billion and one million add up For the first time, UNCG’s tally for student service and engagement in the community has surpassed 1 million hours annually. Service, he notes, has been part of the campus’ fabric since the 19th century. UNCG’s impact on the Triad region is far-reaching, and a recent study calculated it in hard dollars. The overall impact is nearly $1 billion. UNCG, then, is an essential part of the regional economy.

We need our alumni to be involved Some alumni come back to speak to student groups and classes. Some come to applaud our music performances, our plays and our readings. Some cheer at the ball games. Many support the annual fund or help fund a particular scholarship or initiative. Others engage in mentoring or attending student research expos. There are many ways to support our students and faculty.

This is an exciting time for UNCG. Our enrollment rose four percent this year. Work toward a new strategic plan is yielding great ideas and building consensus on our future direction. The governor and legislature have added UNCG’s much-needed prospective Nursing and Science building to the March bond referendum.

Step on campus. Every day you can see so much learning and creativity taking place. It’s inspiring. Together, we can bolster that – and build on the powerful legacy that this university has built up over the decades – to ensure that UNCG is a world-class university.
Paving the way: Young alumni go for GOLD

A massive beadie at Kaplan Commons. A competitive photo scavenger hunt that guides teams to the best taverns on Spring Garden Street. Free food and lots of UNCg swag. “Spartan Hop” wasn’t your typical Alumni Association reception. And the GOLD (Graduates of the Last Decade) Council isn’t your typical alumni group.

Formed last year by the UNCg Alumni Association as a way to reach young alumni, the GOLD Council is a 12-member advisory group that works to engage other GOLD alumni through programming, fundraising and social media.

The 12 council members, all millennials who live across North Carolina, understand that interacting with young alumni looks a lot different than interacting with baby boomers. In addition to the “Spartan Hop” that took place during Homecoming, the council recently held a “Meet the Chancellor” party for young alumni at the rooftop of the Center Pointe conference center in Greensboro.

However, the council also hopes to increase cross-campus networking alumni in the area.”

Moving forward, Taylor wants to start working with other universities to learn more about what their young alumni groups are doing and how they have been successful. The council also hopes to increase cross-campus collaboration, working with other UNCg groups to better reach recent graduates.

Given the success of the GOLD Council’s inaugural year, Jacqueline and Taylor are enthusiastic about the future. “I’ve been really impressed with what the council has accomplished in just one year,” Jacqueline said. “I think we are going to see really great things coming out of the council in the next two to three years.”

How can GOLD alumni get connected and start engaging with the university? Recent graduates are invited to apply for GOLD council membership, serve as a committee volunteer, attend an event, make a gift or become a social media ambassador. For more information and to learn how you can get involved, visit alumni@uncg.edu/GOLD.

GOLD Council members and GOLD alumni celebrate at the Red Carpet Reception in May, a new UNCg tradition that welcomes recent graduates into the Alumni Association. (From left to right) Jennifer Anwuli, Bryan Therra, Lisa Adamczyk, Kasa Barrett, Stephania Watton, Kelvin Okons, Chloe Walker.
1940s

MCNELL LINDSAY MITCHELL '40, MA, PhD & MSW received the 2014 Alumni Association Excellence Award in Community Service. Nancy has a family that consists of three sons and five grandchildren. Four grandparents, two daughters-in-law and one great-granddaughter. She enjoys being with family, working in her yard and garden, bridge and church work.

JESSIE GAYNOR WALKER received the 2014 UNCG/Woman's College Legacy Award.

PELHAM FABER received "this is her story," the story of her life. She previously published "Miss Faber's Jamboree," "Miss Faber's Jacket" and "Big Dog: A Simple Song." She also wrote two songbooks/Spray supplements.

1950s

CHERRY BARTON SMITH '56 received the 2014 UNCG/Woman's College Legacy Award.

NORMA LOUISE UNDERWOOD provided funds to purchase a new headquarters for the FRANCIS MARIE BLACKWELL SCHOLARSHIP. The fully restored, Queen Anne-style house in the heart of Broyhill Avenue neighborhood represents the longest donation the opera company has received since its founder was named its first honorary member.

JACQUELINE ALEXANDER FOSTER '56, MA received the 2014 UNCG Alumni Award.

1960s

WALLACE BLACK '66, associate professor of business economics, has written "Demență și Productivitate," a study of the impact on productivity in the coffee sector in Costa Rica. He has received a Fulbright Fellowship and previously worked with the World Bank. He plans to continue the research during his sabbatical this spring.

1970s

ADAM FERGUSON ’78 spoke to students at UNCG about the formation of the school of communication studies.

CHUCK HARRISON ’78, MD, associate professor of medicine at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, has been named to the FAMU-FSU College of Medicine’s Pathologist Faculty. He has been honored with awards by various organizations for his contributions to medicine.

NANCY L. MCDONALD ’75, associate professor of criminal justice from Davidson County Community College, was named principal at Davidson Central High School by Governor Pat McCrory. She will serve her last year of her 11 years in education in 2017.

JENNIFER WILHOIT ’74, PhD, was named an assistant professor in the English Department at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she has been an associate professor since 1986. She is the author of three books, including "Mr. Incorrigible: A Novel in Letters." She is the first UNCG graduate to be named to the UNC faculty in 40 years.

ANNE WARD ’74, owner of Wells Interior Design, has been named to the board of directors of the Beaches Area United Way.

MARY NICHOLS ’77, PhD, was appointed to the board of directors of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. She is the first UNCG graduate to be named to the UNC faculty in 40 years.

DOROTHY ALLEN ’77 inducted into the Virginia Hall of Fame at North Wilkes High School. Francis taught home economics at North Wilkes for 26 years and served as the school’s athletic director for 20 years. She is a member of the UNCG Athletics Hall of Fame and was inducted into the UNCG Alumni Association Hall of Fame in 1987.

1980s

KATHY COOK ‘83 (BAS) was a guest speaker at the Rotary Club of Moorehead’s Luncheon. The Rotary Club was established in 1924, and it meets each Monday for a four-year term as town manager of the city of Mooresboro. She is a life-long volunteer in the Guildford County community and was a member of the board of directors of the Girl Scouts Touring Council for 15 years and was recognized by the Greensboro United Way as a Volunteer of the Year in 2008.

JAMIE BROWN ’90 has joined ERA Mountain View Property. He has been a manager for the past 15 years.
The Howard sisters are believed to be the only five sisters to have graduated from UNCG. The sisters include Mary Lois Howard Harrison ’47 (seated) and (from left) Jean Howard Taylor ’53, Jane Howard Price ’53, Betsy Howard Breckenridge ’53, Elizabeth Howard ’54. Barbara Billings Hoffman, Susan McDonald, Jane Taylor Brookshire. For more information, contact Mary Swantek at the UNCG Office of Alumni Engagement, 336-256-2011 or reunions@uncg.edu.

Tom Wayne ’89 was named chief operating officer for the Bank of Oak Ridge. He was appointed to the board of directors in March 2014. Tom has served as an adjunct lecturer for the UNCG Bryan School of Business and Economics since 2003.

Parker Collins ’03 MBA is senior corporate account manager of Kersey Valley Attractions. Parker previously worked with Dick Broadcasting Company.

Sonya Green ’94 competed in the 2015 Boston Marathon.

Andrea J. Sinclair ’11 has joined Sherrard & Roe, PLC, in Nashville as an associate. She earned her law degree at Vanderbilt University Law School.

Rachael Kennedy ’99 MED, Virginia Tech’s Peace Corps recruiter, is pursuing her doctorate in the Department of Agricultural, Leadership and Community Education. She conducted preliminary field work for her dissertation in Turkey. She now teaches at the Peace Corps’ training center in Virginia.

Patty McNair Thel ’15 received the Grad Firtdings Excellence in Teaching Award. She serves as the Dean of the North Carolina Department of Community College Education. She earned her masters degree at Catawba College. She was the founding program director for nursing and was a founding member of the North Carolina Association of Community College Presidents.

The Class of 1967 50th Reunion Planning Committee met for its first meeting, March 23, 2015. L-r, Susan Prince Watson, Toni Honey Downey, Kay Albright, Alison Hayward Mimms, Monette Wood, Nancy Chappell, Jennifer Callahan, Jane Frank, and Robert McNeese II, class president. The event will be held on the UNCG campus on May 9, 2015. For more information, contact Jane Frank at 336-507-9903 or janefrank@wells Fargo.com.

Send your photos
Not only do we want to hear from you, we’d like to see you too.

UNCG Magazine is now publishing pictures of your milestones, such as weddings, births and reunions. All you have to do is send us your photos. 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), graduation year and degree.
• Photographs from a professional photographer must be accompanied by a release 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.

Send your pictures to alumni@uncg.edu as an email attachment. Please use “Class Note Photo” as your subject line. Or you can mail a print to Class Notes Photo, Alumni Engagement Office, Alumni House, 26170. Mailed photos cannot be returned.

Not only do we want to see you too.
years of management experience in the financial services industry.

LORI H. CARTER ’80 has taught at the Shepard commuter Center, South Carolina State University, and is a commissioner for the South Carolina Humanities Commission.

DAVID E. FOX ’85, ’88 MM is a composer, conductor, and business executive who has been a member of the American Choral Directors Association and the National Association of Verdi Choral Centers. He is a member of the North Carolina Arts Council's Commission on the Arts.

SUSAN KLUTTZ ’88 is a professor of English at Greensboro College and chairs the English department at Carver High School. She is a recipient of the National Endowment for the Arts fellowship and has been a fellow at the National Endowment for the Arts.

JOHN T. KELLY III ’93 is the president and CEO of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte Foundation and a board member and officer of the Rural Development Center.

GARY J. KONRAD ’93 has served in various leadership roles at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. He is a member of the Charlotte Board of Education and the National Governor’s Association.

DAVID W. LAUGHLIN ’93 is director of the Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams Legacy Foundation and a board member and officer of the Rural Development Center.

ROWAN JACOBSEN ’92 is a writer and editor at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. She is an associate professor of English at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

FAYE T. J. JOHNSON ’93 is a writer and editor at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. She is an associate professor of English at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

JOSEPH J. JONES ’93 is a writer and editor at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. He is an associate professor of English at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

BRENT K. JONES ’93 is a writer and editor at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. He is an associate professor of English at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

KIMBERLY A. JONES ’93 is a writer and editor at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. She is an associate professor of English at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

BRENT K. JONES ’93 is a writer and editor at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. He is an associate professor of English at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.
Phillips North Carolina Superintendent of Schools has been named a finalist for National Superintendent of the Year by the American School Board Journal.

Phillips was named the director of the Western Piedmont Symphony and the music director of the Winston-Salem Black Arts Center. He is currently the executive director of the Winston-Salem Foundation.

Phillips has received numerous honors and awards throughout his career, including the 2018 North Carolina Superintendents of the Year Award and the 2019 National Association of Fine Arts Administrators Teacher of the Year Award.

In addition to his work in education, Phillips is an active community leader and advocate. He is a member of the Board of Directors for the Guilford Arts Center and serves on the board of the Southeastern North Carolina Association of School Superintendents.

Phillips' dedication to education and his commitment to excellence in the field have earned him recognition and respect from colleagues and communities alike.

For more information on Phillips and his work, please visit the website of the Guilford Arts Center or the Southeastern North Carolina Association of School Superintendents.
ANDREA BRYANT JENKINS '04
is principal of Wesleyan Christian Academy.

AMANDA POPE '04
is a full-time member of the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra. She previously taught voice at Young Voices, a children’s community choir. She previously taught voice at Young Voices, a children’s community choir. She previously taught voice at Young Voices, a children’s community choir.

MICHAEL DAVID HORTON '06
was named director of the School of Music at Radford University. He previously served as director of audio technology at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts.

MORGAN STEELE '06
is a full-time member of the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra. She previously taught voice at Young Voices, a children’s community choir. She previously taught voice at Young Voices, a children’s community choir.

KELLY REYNOLDS '06
is director of development for the College of Creative Arts at West Virginia University.

MICHAEL MCKENZIE '06 PHD
is an associate professor in the department of music at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke.

ERICKA MARIE HEDGECOCK '02 MS
was named the CEO of Roof Diagnostics Solar in Wall, New Jersey. She previously served as CEO of Photovoltaics International.

LAUREN FIELDS '07
has been named the CEO of Roof Diagnostics Solar in Wall, New Jersey. She previously served as CEO of Photovoltaics International.

MICHELE SHERRILL '06
is principal of Wesleyan Christian Academy.

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ANTOINETTE GORE BOSTON '09
is a blogger with SBnation.

AMY BOWDELL '10
has been named the CEO of Roof Diagnostics Solar in Wall, New Jersey. She previously served as CEO of Photovoltaics International.

CHAD BLEDSOE '08 PHD
is a project manager for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in San Antonio, Texas. He is assigned to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in San Antonio, Texas. He is assigned to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in San Antonio, Texas.

ERIN SLOAN COWAN '09
is a full-time member of the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra. She previously taught voice at Young Voices, a children’s community choir. She previously taught voice at Young Voices, a children’s community choir.

DANIEL CAMERON WAGONER '00
is a lead teacher in the Harrisonburg City School District in Harrisonburg, Virginia. He previously served as a lead teacher in the Harrisonburg City School District in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Ryland Harrison was named manager of Uptown Lexington.

CHANDRA DANIELS '04
is a full-time member of the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra. She previously taught voice at Young Voices, a children’s community choir. She previously taught voice at Young Voices, a children’s community choir.

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JACOB JONES '12
is principal of Efland-Church School.

KELLI GOINS DALTON '07 MSA
is principal of Efland-Church School.

RAYDELL HARRISON '08 MS, '13 EDS
is principal of Efland-Church School.

CAROLYN HALL '05 MM
is a full-time member of the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra. She previously taught voice at Young Voices, a children’s community choir. She previously taught voice at Young Voices, a children’s community choir.

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ANTOINETTE GORE BOSTON '09
is a blogger with SBnation.

AMY BOWDELL '10
has been named the CEO of Roof Diagnostics Solar in Wall, New Jersey. She previously served as CEO of Photovoltaics International.

CHAD BLEDSOE '08 PHD
is a project manager for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in San Antonio, Texas. He is assigned to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in San Antonio, Texas. He is assigned to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in San Antonio, Texas.

ERIN SLOAN COWAN '09
is a full-time member of the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra. She previously taught voice at Young Voices, a children’s community choir. She previously taught voice at Young Voices, a children’s community choir.

DANIEL CAMERON WAGONER '00
is a lead teacher in the Harrisonburg City School District in Harrisonburg, Virginia. He previously served as a lead teacher in the Harrisonburg City School District in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Ryland Harrison was named manager of Uptown Lexington.

CHANDRA DANIELS '04
is a full-time member of the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra. She previously taught voice at Young Voices, a children’s community choir. She previously taught voice at Young Voices, a children’s community choir.

CHRISTA LEIGH SAUNDERS '05
is a full-time member of the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra. She previously taught voice at Young Voices, a children’s community choir. She previously taught voice at Young Voices, a children’s community choir.

Lee County Community Orchestra’s third installment of its “Symphonic Creatures” concerts. Elizabeth teaches at High Point University and at her private studio in Greensboro.

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NEVILLE HEAD-DITTMER '72 MSU is a librarian at the Liberty Public Library. She is employed by Terra's Rental, a Pullman at a Clanton County elementary school and was promoted to assistant principal.

MICHAEL CREEPER '55 is principal at Amanda-Clearcreek Local Schools. He previously served as assistant principal at Central High School and as an assistant principal in the Clinton Local School District.

STEPHEN W. PETTIS has been admitted to the North Carolina Bar. He is a corporate and business lawyer in New Bern. lhs. He graduated from Wake Forest University School of Law, where he served as managing editor of the Journal of Business and Intellectual Property Law. While in law school, he interned at the National Hispanic Media Coalition under Robert J. Hunter, Esq. He is admitted to practice in both North Carolina and South Carolina under Judge J. Lea Gale.

JOY WARD has exhibited her paintings in the Galerie de Saint-Cloud Arts Council in France. She was featured in the June 2015 issue of Fine Art Connoisseur, a magazine dedicated to the coryphées of the arts. She has exhibited her work at the Genome, Saffron, and Fine Arts 12, where her art was featured in the 2015 edition of the American Artist magazine.

JORDAN THOMAS' poem was published in the Saint Stephen's A.M.E. Church in Raleigh, NC. This poem is a tribute to the late Charlotte McCallum, who was a tireless advocate for education. She was a strong supporter of the Saint Stephen's A.M.E. Church and made significant contributions to the community. Thomas's poem captured the spirit of McCallum's dedication to education and her commitment to making a positive impact on the lives of others.

RACHEL LADD '10 MA is a lead columnist for the Asheville Citizen-Times. She formerly was a teacher at South Buncombe High School and now is an assistant principal at Asheville High School. Ladd's column, titled "The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly," focuses on issues affecting the Asheville community.

NICHOLAS PALMER '77 is a photographer with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. Palmer has worked on numerous projects, including the conservation of endangered species, such as the bald eagle and the American alligator. He also has served as a consultant to various organizations, including the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

WILLIAM ANTHONY SMITH '78 has been appointed as the new executive director of the North Carolina Museum of Art. He previously served as the museum's chief operating officer and chief financial officer. Smith's appointment marks a significant milestone for the museum, as it enters a new era of growth and development.

KELLY MARSHALL '79 MA has been promoted to chief operating officer at the North Carolina Museum of Art and Cultural Resources. She has served in various leadership positions at the museum, including chief development officer and chief financial officer.

SUSAN LADD '10 MA is a lead columnist for the Asheville Citizen-Times. She previously was a teacher at South Buncombe High School and now is an assistant principal at Asheville High School. Ladd's column, titled "The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly," focuses on issues affecting the Asheville community.

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Claudia Emerson '91 MFA, who received the Pulitzer Prize for poetry in 2006, died Dec. 4, 2014. The cause of death was cancer, said Virginia Commonwealth University, where she was professor of English.

Emerson was awarded fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Library of Congress, and the Guggenheim Foundation. She was poet laureate of Virginia from 2008-2010. She received the Pulitzer for “Late Wife” in 2006. Earlier, her book “Thorn, Phair” was nominated for the prize.

She received her MFA degree in Creative Writing, and she served as editor of the Greensboro Review.

For a 2012 UNCG Magazine article, she was asked what drew her to UNCG. “I was living in southern Virginia, my ex-husband not very movable, so I looked for a program in commuting distance from there,” she said. “UNCG’s reputation was stellar, and I was drawn to its faculty – and to its history.”

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The WC Theatre chose the musical “The Pajama Game,” the tales of individuals working in a pajama factory. Competition to join the touring group was fierce. Selection was limited to juniors and seniors due to “the sophisticated nature of the clubs which the Company would frequent during the tour.”

This was actually the second time the college was asked to be part of a USO-American Educational Theatre Association tour. In 1999, WC Theatre was the first college theatre in the South to be selected. They traveled to Japan, the Philippines, South Korea and Hawaii to perform “The Woman.” In 1966, a group participated with a “Li’l Abner” production.

The WC Theatre chose the musical “The Pajama Game,” the tales of individuals working in a pajama factory.
AT REUNION, YOU’RE AT HOME.
Virginia Edwards Hester ’39 can tell you. She’s been coming to Reunion for decades. When you come through the door, you’re in a special place. The walnut door actually is from a massive tree on her farm. Everyone has a special connection to Alumni House. It’s symbolic of the personal connections with our fellow alumni. We’re part of an unbroken band. Come have fun reliving memories and creating new ones. Make yourself at home. For details, call (336) 256-2011.
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