DEON’TE GOODMAN BOUNDS ONTO BROADWAY
Joining Spartan legends Joseph Forbes and Beth Leavel

A FRESH DINING CONCEPT THAT IS JUST, RIGHT PG. 26
EMBARKING ON GLOBAL JOURNEYS PG. 30
COCHLEAR IMPLANT INNOVATION PG. 36
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 ’13 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

Cover photography: Deon’te Goodman ’16 inside the Richard Rodgers Theatre, New York City, April, 2019. By Martin W. Kane

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.

UNC 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.

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

“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?

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

Charlie Chaplin

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

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.
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 preemies, 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 fully developed, toxic bacteria can penetrate weak gut linings. Breast milk contains healthy bacteria that reduce GI infections and disease.

In the four years after the Surgeon General issued a call to advance donor milk access, use in neonatal intensive care units increased by 75 percent. The trend is encouraging, but it brings up a host of questions. “There are over 40 studies on how pasteurization affects donor milk – but what happens at the milk bank prior to pasteurization, and what happens to the milk afterwards, at the hospital?” asks Perrin. “Are we mixing, fortifying, and storing it correctly?”

Add to that the variability in human milk’s nutritional value. “If you think you are giving a preemie a 210-calorie milk and instead the milk is 14 calories, it can have a big impact on their growth,” Perrin explains. “You have a small window of time for infants to grow, and if they miss that window, they can’t catch up.”

Her research on infant nutrition guides hospitals’ practices. With an industrial engineering degree, a doctorate in nutrition, and an MBA, she is one of the first to study the comprehensive process of milk banking.

Perrin’s research, such as a recent study documenting the impact of maternal diet on milk composition, aids milk banks as they assess donor eligibility and sort milk to provide more uniform nutritional content. She also applies her unique expertise on the board of directors for the Human Milk Banking Association of North America, where she helps set guidelines and develop answers to complex questions related to collection, screening, processing, and distribution. These include whether women should be paid for their breast milk and who should use the milk. “Groups other than infants scant breast milk, like athletes and cancer patients,” she says.

Perrin attended a summit at Oxford University where global milk-banking representatives and the World Health Organization discussed ethical considerations that will guide future public health recommendations around access to human milk. “Human milk has been used outside the maternal-child relationship as far back as we know – the first U.S. milk banks formed in 1919. But the biotech component is new,” she says. “It’s an exciting time to be in this field.”

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“Fresh out of the swimming pool, into the ocean we go,” says Ann Barry Somers in describing her 2019 summer study abroad course – the first at UNCG that has involved scuba diving.

A passionate conservationist and promoter of citizen-science, the senior lecturer in the Departments of Biology and Geography, Environment, and Sustainability and Lloyd International Honors College faculty fellow accompanied students to Little Cayman Island for a course on coral reef conservation. Somers herself only took up scuba diving two years ago, but her experience in deep waters showed her the urgency of familiarizing students with underwater research and coral reefs, including how they are threatened by warming waters and more acidic conditions.

“‘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.
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.

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.

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 Greentown, 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.’

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

“I said, ‘Ten years? Every day for ten years?’ She said, ‘Yeah,’ 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 on the day that my daughter was born, I wrote on the morning that I got married. 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. I feel like it made such a difference in my discipline.’

And she said, ‘Oh, you didn’t. I was just kidding. You didn’t believe me, did you?’

Michael Parker published his first book the first year he taught at UNCG, 1992. He published his 10th book as he retired from UNCG earlier this year.

“I’ve always loved teaching the undergraduates here,” he said. “They’re very open-minded. They’re fun to teach, because they don’t get offended. A lot of them have full-time jobs, and they have other lives, and when they’re writing fiction, they have stuff to write about.”

The nationally prominent MFA in Creative Writing program attracts high-caliber graduate student writers. They are drawn to plenty of one-on-one opportunities with the faculty, he said.

The novelist was the first to hold the Nicholas and Nancy Vacc Distinguished Professorship. As he spoke, he turned to the distant Vacc Bell Tower, named for the Vaccs. “I’ve been lucky enough to be the recipient of their generosity for the past five years.”
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,” she said. “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.”

**WHAT’S IN A NAME?**


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 Filano 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 and prestigious recognition of achievement in state and local history. The exhibition also received a History in Progress Award, which recognizes projects which are exceedingly entrepreneurial.

“This project is a perfect example of the excellence embedded in the work of UNC 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.

**GOOGLE GURU** Jaime Casap, education evangelist at Google, advocates for building innovation in our education policies and practices. Raised by a single immigrant mother, Jaime believes strongly in the power of education to change families.

He will visit campus on Friday, April 17, for a free, public event as part of the Bryan School of Business and Economics’ 50th anniversary celebration.

**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.
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 Albi 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.

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

Purhcase tickets at vpa.uncg.edu.

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 Speer 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 musical theatre focus. See related story on p. 38, and see video at alumnimagazine.uncg.edu.

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.

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.

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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...
THE LESSONS WE LEARN IN THE EXPERIENCE ARE WHAT PREPARE US FOR OUR NEXT STEPS IN LIFE.

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.”

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, Gregori Porter, Nat King Cole, Nina Simone, Mariah Carey and Emma Watson have come to see him.

He talks with his UNCG School of Music voice teacher, Mariah Carey and Emma Watson have come to see him.

Deon’té prizes those connections with his mentors and his former professor, co-creator of UNCG’s program in musical theater Dominick Amendum ‘01. Deon’té praises those connections with his mentors and his former professor, co-creator of UNCG’s program in musical theater Dominick Amendum ‘01. Deon’té prizes those connections with his mentors and his former professor, co-creator of UNCG’s program in musical theater Dominick Amendum ‘01. Deon’té prizes those connections with his mentors and his former professor, co-creator of UNCG’s program in musical theater Dominick Amendum ‘01.

Dr. Carla LeFevre often, and she and his former professor in musical theater, Dr. Justin Covarr ‘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 ‘01. Dr. Carla LeFevre often, and she and his former professor in musical theater, Dr. Justin Covarr ‘14, ‘16 MM, ‘18 DMA, have both been to see him in “Hamilton.”

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.”

The “Hamilton” family, the cast has been very supportive, and not only the cast but the larger Broadway community.

“My New York City debut in 2017 as part of “Freedom Riders: The Civil Rights Musical” (top right)

He appeared in several UNCG Opera productions such as “Gallias Galilea” (above) and “Amahl and the Night Visitors.”

Previously, he was in an Orlando production of “In the Heights,” by Lin-Manuel Miranda (right)

Deon’té after achieving another hard-won 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 in UNC Greensboro’s School of Music and musical theater workshops in the School of Theatre had given him the skills, and the seasoning, to rise to the (many) occasions.

Deon’té says that as 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.

“My first day 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 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.”

It’s a different kind of hard work. It’s a different pace. We’re always asked by those around us, by friends, shopping or go to the gym, hang out with friends, have time to yourself.

“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.”

The “Hamilton” family, the cast has been very supportive, and not only the cast but the larger Broadway community.

“My first day 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 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.”

It’s a different kind of hard work. It’s a different pace. We’re always asked by those around us, by friends, shopping or go to the gym, hang out with friends, have time to yourself.

“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.”
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.

“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.”

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.

“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.

“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.”

“‘Bernhardt/Hamlet’ (top left and top right), “The Prom” (bottom left), and “Kiss Me Kate” (bottom right)”
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. 

Leavel’s Broadway debut was 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 of 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?”

“LEAVEL BEST”

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 called her selection of UNCG’s MFA program for actors “a really, really smart choice.”

She said, “Being here validated my passion.” Leavel had several 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,” “Elf,” “Mamma Mia!”, “Young Frankenstein,” and “Show Boat.”

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

“THE PROM”

“THE PROM” is the story of a small-town graduate who takes her friends to the prom of her dreams. But when she arrives, she’s met with a generation gap. The cast is a mix of stars and unknowns, and the music is a blend of contemporary and classic.

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.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

**Marie T. Price**

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THE PROM photos by Deen Van Meer. © 2018 Deen Van Meer. All rights reserved.

“Hello Dolly” and clipping courtesy of UNCG Archives.

**LEAVEL BEST**

Beth Leavel ’80 MA

**BROADWAY**

**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” (2018)
- Other honors include Drama Desk, NY Outer Critics Circle and LA Drama Critics awards

- 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.”

For ‘Hello Dolly,’ Leavel Aims ‘To Make The Role My Own’

Beth Leavel with students, Feb. 2018

UNCG magazine • Fall 2019
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 moved to Greensboro for one year to work and cook at a conference center in the Birgundy 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.”

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.

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.

“If the managers here really appreciate my work,” he says. “I love my job.”

SWEET SUCCESS

That’s the culture that Kathryn and her team have worked so hard to create. It’s a culture where everyone – from server to dishwasher to guest – knows they are valued.

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.

“It’s not distinctly 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.”

People come into this space and they feel at home. This is just a really restful place to be – from the decoration, to the food, to the overall experience.

To see more, visit alumni.uncg.edu.

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.

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.

COSTA RICA

ICELAND

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.

Be open to new experiences and put yourself out there!
— ALEXIS RAPHAEL

This country has taught me things about myself that I never knew.
— LILLIAN BERLINSKI

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.

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.

SCOTLAND

Be open to new experiences and put yourself out there!
— ALEXIS RAPHAEL

GLOBAL JOURNEYS
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.

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.”

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.

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.

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.

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

– CAMERON WARREN

Additional photos at AlumniMagazine.uncg.edu.
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.
- 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.

A cochlear implant is designed to provide subjects with support, instruction, and structured listening activities. Participants are older adult community members who have a cochlear implant in 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.

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.

“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.”

LEARN MORE AT CSD.WP.UNCG.EDU/SHC

By Elizabeth L. Harrison • Photography by Martin W. Kane
Legacies

ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF THE UNIVERSITY MAKE AN IMPACT HERE.

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. I’ve always sung,” Pam says.

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 — so it’s not surprising this preeminent member of the Triad’s theater community jumped in with the first major donation to the new Musical Theatre program.

The money raised by this initiative will support a viable and respected art education for UNCG students through an endowment fund that will continue for their eight semesters of study and make an impact through their life’s work.

Groups or individuals can make a nomination for a donation of $1,000. The nominees — teachers, professors, principals, counselors, librarians, deans, or administrators — will be recognized at a ceremony next spring. Nominators and nominees do not have to be affiliated with UNCG.

The money raised by this initiative will support generations of UNCG students through an endowment fund that will provide scholarships within the School of Education.

“We’re trying to elevate the profession of education,” says Dr. Randy Penfield, dean of the School of Education.

“This is a great opportunity to support a viable and respected art form,” Pam said, “and I want to see this program grow as a path for kids with the same passion I have.”

Musical Theatre faculty Dominick Amendola ’01 shared his thoughts about the significance of Pam’s generous contribution.

“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 four 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.’”

“Pippin” has raised funds for people who want to go into the education profession.”

For Amber Doniere ’11, it was a chance to honor her late grandmother, Carol Doniere, media specialist in the School of Theatre. Carol 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 — so it’s not surprising this preeminent member of the Triad’s theater community jumped in with the first major donation to the new Musical Theatre program in UNCG’s School of Theatre.

“This is a great opportunity to support a viable and respected art form,” Pam said, “and I want to use this program grow as a path for kids with the same passion I have.”

A SALUTE TO INSPIRATIONAL EDUCATORS

For Amber Doniere ’11, it was a chance to honor her late grandmother, Carol Doniere, media specialist in the School of Theatre.

For Nancy Yacc ’85 EdD, it was a shout-out to friends and colleague Dr. Ed Uprichard, former UNCG provost and dean of the School of Education, to recognize “his special skill of fostering a sense of community based on trust, respect, and open, honest dialogue.”

And for the Howard family, it was a tribute to Sandra Howard ’93 EdD’s success in instilling in her students — and her children — a work ethic that would serve them well in their careers.

To Dominick and his School of Theatre colleagues, the inclusion of Pam’s gift to the new Musical Theatre program in UNCG’s School of Theatre represented a major milestone.

“This is a great opportunity to support a viable and respected art form,” Pam said, “and I want to use this program grow as a path for kids with the same passion I have.”

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 I/DD, 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 I/DD population, Duncan, with support from his wife, Marsha, ’73, started 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 I/DD 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 Marsha graduated its 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 I/DD, 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 I/DD: a professional social network, the competencies to live independently, and skills to work at a paying job. In other words, a fulfilling future.

For Amber Doniere ’11, it was a chance to honor her late grandmother, Carol Doniere, media specialist in the School of Theatre.

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.” — Pam Murphy ’85 EdM

“Pippin” cast members rehearsing in the Curry Building, foreground from left: Kezae Moore, J. Andrew Spares, Jasmine Marshall, Background from left: Courtney Walker, Parker Perry, Kamari Bryant, Toni DePulso, Grace Bell.

SEE MORE STORIES AT ADVANCEMENT.UNCG.EDU.
1960s

JUDY ROUSE '68 is a CPA with her husband, Ron, Rose, at the Ridgefield County (S.C.) Chamber of Commerce in Ridgefield, N.C. She also serves on the board of managers for the Ridgefield County Golf Club.

JOHN HARRIS B L Y '68 of Lawrence, N.C., and her husband Beverly celebrated their 50th

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1970s

DAN MILLER ALMON '73 won the Mr. UNCG University-wide Homecoming Game Pageant in 1973 and has since worked as a substitute teacher at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls.

JOHN BOWEN '76 of Greensboro, N.C., is a partner in BCC Partners, a Charlotte-based investment management company.

Nancy Arnold Carlisle '72

18. Congratulations to the 2019 honorees!

Distinguished Excellence Professorship. The

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Share your news

1950s

1960s

HAROLD "H.P." PHIPPS '68 has published his

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The Alumni Awards honor alumni for contributions to their profession, community,
Professional designation from the National Speakers Association.

ALANI LAM '89 was guest speaker at Mount Olive College's annual Founders Day worship service. Allan is director of the History, chair of the Department of History and Social Studies, and associate director of the honors program at the university.

MOUNTAINEERS 1984 was given special thanks of the Old Smithville Bicentennial in Southport, N.C. A retired teacher, she is a frequent public speaker for Southeastern organizations.

CATHER WIGGINS '81 is director of pr-2 instruction/ESL, online education for Randolph College's School of Continuing Education. She previously served as interim director. She was also a student at Appalachian State University.

RODNEY BOWIE '83 MA received the Silver Beaver Award, a National Court of Honor Beaver Award, a National Court of Honor Preceptor Award, and the University of South Carolina Heritage Council and the National Council of Honor Preceptor Award.

RODNEY BOWIE '83 MA received the Silver Beaver Award, a National Court of Honor Beaver Award, a National Court of Honor Preceptor Award, and the University of South Carolina Heritage Council and the National Council of Honor Preceptor Award.

JAMES LANGER '88 MFA is a concert singer and has sung with many professional opera companies and was also recognized for his 47 years of service at Catawba Valley Community.
gradtidings

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

SHERYL BROWN REID is a CPA at the Rockingham County (N.C.) Early Childhood Foundation Board of Directors. Her husband is an assistant professor of accounting atUNCG. The couple has two sons. She spent 15 years in public accounting before turning her focus to non-profit management.

LORI RUSEK is a CPA at the Chowan University’s annual Hobson Awards Dinner, which focuses on his works, and culminated with a presentation of the prize and lecture. When he’s not on the road, he’s often at home in the mountains of western North Carolina where he continues to write and produce his own music.

Sox vice president for amateur scouting. Mike is the Boston Red Sox and served as assistant general manager for 13 years and is serving her second term on the organization’s board of directors.

DAVID RUSSELL ’96 is a CPA at Hutchinson Family Offices, a middle school art teacher at Wake Forest University. He most recently served as a lecturer at NC State University as Region II coordinator for NC A&M for seven years.

MELODY KNOX BURNETT ’01 is the interim director of nursing education at Watts Community College in Winston-Salem, N.C. She is also a licensed practical nurse and a certified nursing assistant. She has worked professionally as an actor and musician. She has been a graphic designer and illustrator.

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at Lenoir-Rhyne University and has served as the associate superintendent for human resources and operations at Catawba Valley Middle School Board. She has served as the associate superintendent for human resources and operations at Catawba Valley Middle School Board. She has served as the associate superintendent for human resources and operations at Catawba Valley Middle School Board. She has served as the associate superintendent for human resources and operations at Catawba Valley Middle School Board. She has served as the associate superintendent for human resources and operations at Catawba Valley Middle School Board. She has served as the associate superintendent for human resources and operations at Catawba Valley Middle School Board. She has served as the associate superintendent for human resources and operations at Catawba Valley Middle School Board. She has served as the associate superintendent for human resources and operations at Catawba Valley Middle School Board. 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2010s

Erik Shepard '12 graduated from the cardiovascualr sonography program at Forsyth Tech (NC) Technical Community College. She is employed as a cardiac sonographer at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center.

Erika Smolik '12 is a volunteer EMT with the Peachtree City Fire Department in Peachtree City, Ga., after graduation.

Carolyn Clarkson '68 MFA is a professor of drawing and printmaking at Maryville College in Maryville, Tenn.

Richard E. Clayton '68 MA is a professor of speech and hearing sciences at the University of Mississippi.

Earline Gibbons Wadell '54 is a part-time instructor at Watauga Community College in the Asheville area, N.C.

Our student-athletes to the national stage. The Campaign for Champions “5 for 5” for scholarships, posted a record GPA, and drew an all-time attendance high in the stands. We are a Southern Conference leader, and a leader in student development. The Campaign for Champions “5 for 5 seeks to build on this success by investing $5 million in UNCG Athletics. Through your support we will enhance our program, amplify our reach, and elevate our student-athletes to the national stage.

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JUMPING OUT OF A PLANE AND LANDING ON YOUR FEET CHANGES EVERYTHING.

“Earning my U.S. Army Airborne School basic parachutist wings was my ‘aha’ moment. That was 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 determined that through the Veterans Access Program, the curriculum is well-balanced for veterans and provides all the assets and opportunities that we need. I am excited to walk across the graduation stage and get to work helping others as a nurse.”

— Edward Ottati '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