

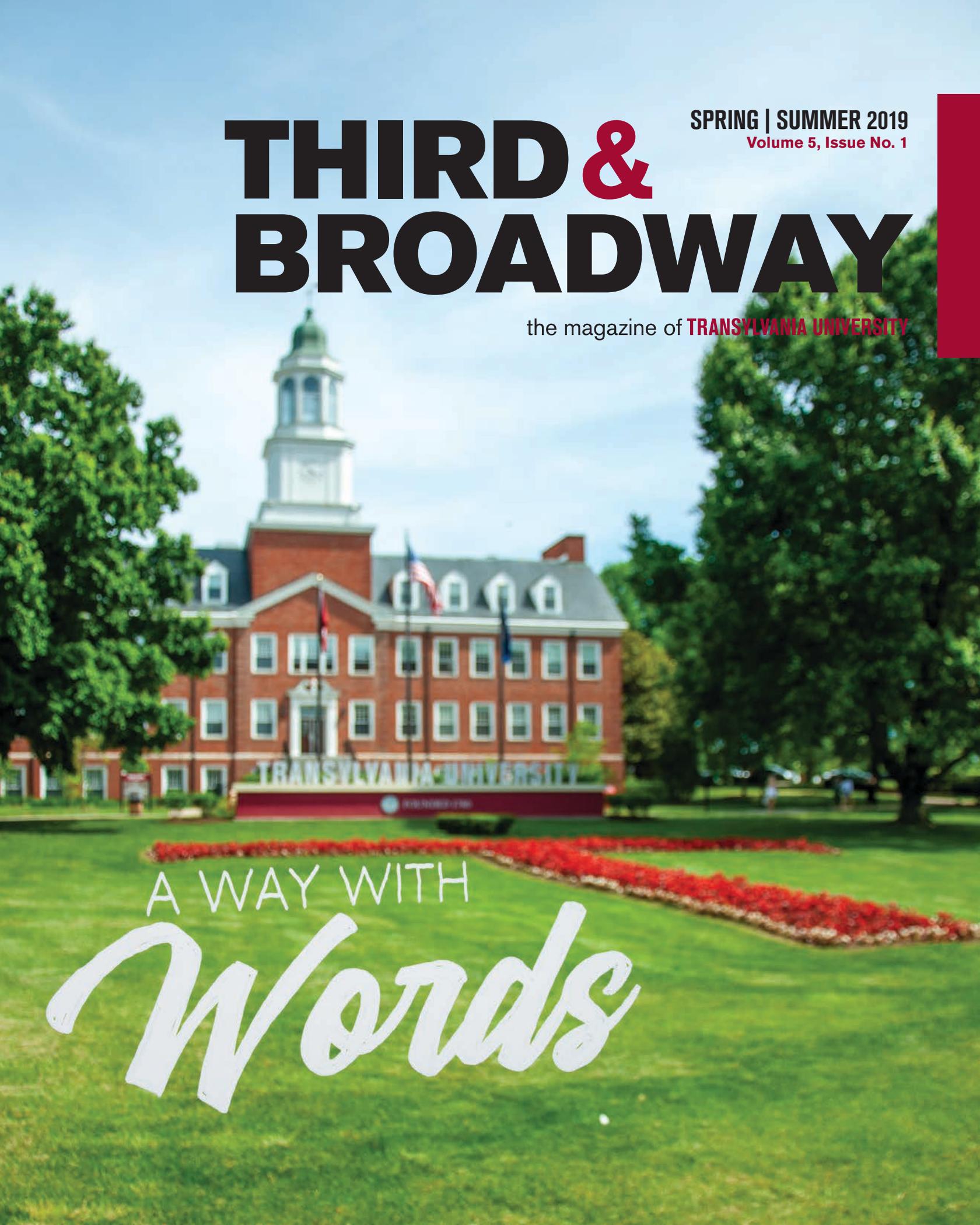
THIRD & BROADWAY

SPRING | SUMMER 2019
Volume 5, Issue No. 1

the magazine of **TRANSYLVANIA UNIVERSITY**

A WAY WITH

Words







THIRD & BROADWAY

Volume 5, Issue No. 1



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Transylvania University, located in the heart of downtown Lexington, Kentucky, is a top-ranked private liberal arts college featuring a community-driven, personalized approach to a liberal arts education through 46 majors. Founded in 1780, it is the 16th oldest institution of higher learning in the country, with approximately 1,000 students.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT ON WRITING

Like most substantive human activities, writing can be a metaphor for how we live. If we take writing seriously, we learn as much about ourselves as we do about that which we write. Writing gives voice to the murmurings of inchoate experience, and in developing a voice, we learn more about who we are and want to be. We deepen our awareness of self.

Like education, writing orients us toward the future, even if we are writing about the past. To set out on a writing project is to make a promise to oneself to bring something into being that does not exist. As we work toward keeping that promise, we increase our freedom by staking our claim on the future.

In “The Age of Surveillance Capitalism,” Soshana Zuboff presents an exquisite analysis of ways in which our ability to stake a claim on the future is being undermined by the pervasive operations of big technology. In contrast, she sees the act of writing as an example of how we can preserve our freedom by giving voice to our experience. She writes, “I made a promise to complete this work. ... It represents my commitment to construct a future that cannot come into being should I abandon my promise. ... I am an inchworm moving with determination and purpose across the distance between now and later. ... I can promise to create a future, and I can keep my promise. This act of will is my claim on the future tense.”

This act of will is an act of human freedom. As Toni Morrison points out, “Word-work is sublime ... because it is generative; it makes meaning that secures our difference, our human difference — the way in which we are like no other life.” Word-work — writing — is an exercise in human freedom that enables us to stake a claim on the future by giving distinctive meaning to our lives.

There are technical elements to writing that help. Grammar is a powerful set of organizational tools that direct the way we structure our sentences and hence

our thoughts. Knowing grammar helps the writing process, but by itself knowing grammar doesn’t lead to good writing, just as knowing the rules of a sport does not in itself make one a good athlete.

Practice and repetition help. Many writers lament their early work. Over time, as one’s experience becomes richer and thoughts become more complex, the persistent writer becomes more adept with language. The ability to express complexity with clarity increases. Nuance settles into sentences and paragraphs, layering meaning into words. James Baldwin ties together the importance of experience with the agency of shaping it with language when he observes, “It is experience which shapes a language; and it is language which controls an experience.” Like grammar, experience is essential to a maturing writer, but by itself does not guarantee the proficiency we seek.

Imitation helps. In grammar school and my early years of high school, I traveled around New York City to watch the best high school basketball players in the area. When I got home that evening or the next day, I would try to imitate something they did, and I would repeat it until it could be done with some fluency. Reading other writers is similar. In paying attention to the way they develop a story, a character, an argument, or focusing on the style and efficiency of word use, we can identify and adopt patterns of writing that help us say what we want to say. But, like knowing grammar, imitation is an aid to finding one’s voice. It is not the goal.

Good coaching helps. Constructive critiques of one’s writing from careful readers is invaluable. A good writing coach points out pitfalls to avoid and tips to employ. While the words, sentences and ideas we generate can be hard to let go, the sooner we shun attachments of the ego, the quicker we can advance.

For some of us, the blank page is our biggest challenge. As hints of an idea slide around elusively beneath consciousness

and deadlines close in, our thoughts and perceptions become restrictive. The only creativity we seem to be able to muster is in multiple forms of procrastination. To overcome the restrictiveness that often accompanies stress, we can trust in the richness of the world. There is always a new story, a different angle, a revealing metaphor to anchor an idea waiting to be noticed if we trust in our experience and in our ability to see it. William James’ account of attention is helpful here: “Attention ... is the taking by the mind, in clear and vivid form, of one out of what seem several simultaneously possible objects or trains of thought. ... It implies withdrawal from some things in order to deal effectively with others.”

James is reminding us that we decide what we pay attention to. And what we pay attention to not only influences how and what we write, it determines how we live. Again, James: “Our lives are what we agree to attend to.” Through writing, which is a process of upholding promises to which we commit, we increase our claim on the future tense. We expand our freedom.

This is what liberal education does. It is well known that one of the most notable qualities of Transylvania graduates is their proficiency for writing. By extension, Transylvania exemplifies the very best of liberal education by guiding the attention of students to the richness of the world and encouraging them to stake their claim on the future tense. It is no surprise that so many Transylvania graduates assert their freedom by being attentive to the well-being of others and to improving their communities. They understand that their lives are “equivalent to what they attend to,” and their attention is devoted to what is most important and, ultimately, most rewarding.



Carey stepping down as president, John Williams '74 to serve as interim

Transylvania's 26th president, Seamus Carey, has announced he is stepping down to assume the presidency at Iona College in New Rochelle, New York.

"Serving this community as your president has been both an honor and a privilege. I am grateful for all of the support I received and for all of the friendships we developed," Carey said. "The past five years have presented many challenges — some that we overcame and others that remain works in progress."



Dr. John Norton Williams Jr., a 1974 graduate of Transylvania and member of the university's Board of Trustees since 2007,

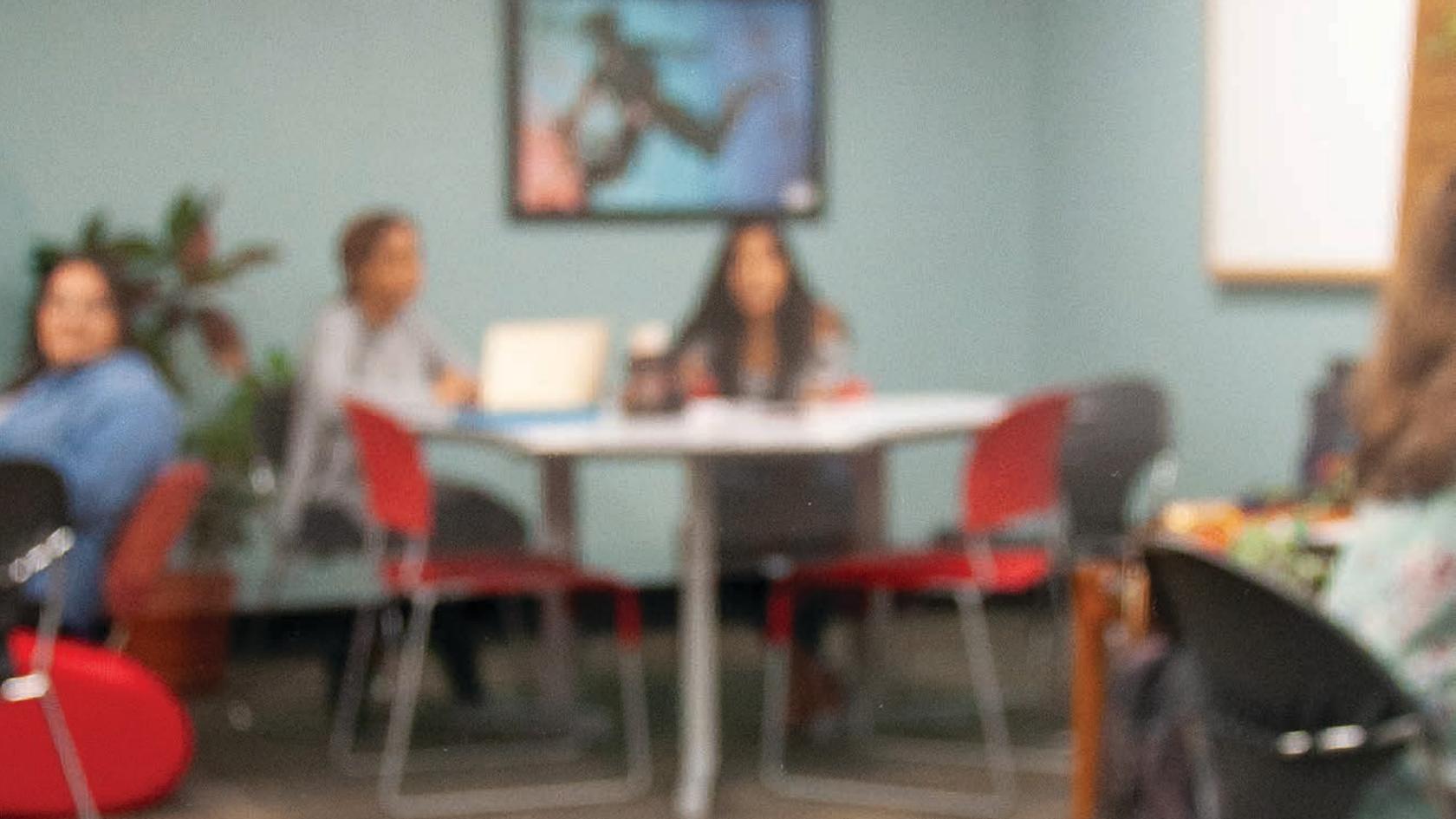
will serve as interim president beginning Aug. 15, 2019.

"Transylvania is a vibrant academic community with outstanding students, faculty and staff," said Williams. "It is an honor for me to serve the university as interim president and share its great tradition of liberal arts education with future generations, just as it has done so well for almost 240 years."



During an academic career that spans three decades, Williams has held provost and dean positions at Indiana University, the University of North Carolina and the University of Louisville. He holds a Doctor of Dental Medicine and a Master of Business Administration from Louisville, as well as a Bachelor of Arts in biology from Transylvania. He is nationally and internationally known for his work in accreditation, academic program development and assessment.





THE *place* OF WRITING

BY TYLER YOUNG

TRANSY'S WRITING CENTER IS PUSHING CREATIVITY TO THE NEXT LEVEL

“It was at this point that the transition was first made to the conception that rhetoric was a teachable skill, that it could ... be passed from one skilled performer on to others, who might thereby achieve successes in their practical life that would otherwise have eluded them.”

— Aristotle, *The Art of Rhetoric*

Most of us can remember learning grammar — parsing sentences and practicing subject-verb agreements.

Many of us remember spelling tests and saying aloud with our schoolmates, “i’ before ‘e’ except after ‘c”

But do you remember learning to write? Do you remember who taught you to take those jumbled ideas in your head and transfer them to paper in a pathway of paragraphs and pages? It seems most of us probably don’t.

Could it be because we’ve always known how? From the moment we began making up stories as toddlers, or telling

our parents what we did that day, we’ve been telling stories, organizing our thoughts in a way that communicates what it is we want to say.

We’ve always been writers. It’s building our toolkit — the research, the knowledge of literature, the tricks and turns of phrases — that gives us the confidence to call ourselves that. Writing is a skill that we all have, but it’s a skill that can be developed with intentional training and learning from others.

That’s what Aristotle was referring to when he called rhetoric — his word for communication — a teachable skill that adds tangible value to our lives. And perhaps that’s what alumni mean when they say, over and over, that they learned to write at Transylvania.

“That’s one of the foundations to a traditional liberal arts education,” says Scott Whiddon, professor of writing, rhetoric, and communication. “It’s the DNA of what we do.”

Whiddon talks about writing like a parent talks about their children. It involves discipline and love and frustration and breakthrough and fear, but it’s always evolving — and never boring.

He’s the director of Transylvania’s Writing Center, a campus hub of creativity and mentorship located in the library’s Academic Center for Excellence. His team of staffers spend time every week — approximately 800 hours a year — working with their fellow students, in one-on-one and group sessions helping them build their own toolkits. They also hold workshops in classes around campus, helping faculty carry out their own writing assignments.

It’s not about fixing papers or correcting typos. It’s about intentional conversation on the goals of an

assignment, on supporting a thesis, on breaking rules and not being afraid to let your personality shine in your piece.

“This space is sort of a cross between a recording studio and a personal trainer,” he says.

Wait — hear him out. In addition to his teaching, Whiddon has been a working musician since he was 16 years old.

“In a recording studio, you have to actively listen, collaborate, figure out the end product and allow yourself the benefit of surprise. You have to have a really good sense of genre and know the shape of things.

“But you go to a personal trainer with a specific set of goals in mind, and you go regularly and keep building on that bar set, and through that process you end up with an exceptional product.”

That strategy has grown the Writing Center into the force that it is today — 20 staffers, fully trained, working with students from all years, all majors and all skill levels.

Potential staffers are recommended to Whiddon, who puts them through a semester-long training practicum where they learn to be effective teachers and collaborators. From reading scholarly research on good writing center practice, to shadowing current staffers, to role-playing scenarios, the students soak up the Writing Center’s values of collaboration, creativity and community.

Once they become full staffers, they get requests submitted by students looking for writing assistance — they call them “patrons” — and meet one on one to help with anything from brainstorming to citing sources to clarity to length. They often find that what the patrons are really seeking is confidence in their work.

“One of the most common questions patrons have is ‘Does it make sense?’”



Chetali Jhamnani, left, working with a student in the Writing Center.

“It’s not about rules, it’s not about forms. It’s about learning to think like a writer — you have to experience it.”

— Martha Gehringer, professor emeritus, writing, rhetoric, and communication

says junior staffer Isaac Settle. “Nine times out of 10, it does — that’s not the issue. What they usually want is affirmation.”

The staffers consistently talk about the importance of making the patron feel comfortable in the sessions, that it’s the best way to bring out confident and creative writing. It’s hard when students are working on so many papers, trying to perfectly fulfill the assignment’s requirements, to coax them into truthfully expressing themselves, but that emphasis is one of the things that makes Transy’s Writing Center so unique.

“I always start by welcoming them to the Writing Center, by introducing myself,” says senior staffer Chetali Jhamnani. “It’s really important to get a rapport with students, especially if you haven’t worked with them before. A lot of people are scared to talk about their writing, and you have to help them get comfortable.”

Senior staffer Jewell Boyd echoes the importance of being at ease in writing. “If they’re not comfortable, they’re either not willing to make changes in their writing, or they’ll just take every single thing you say and do it immediately,” she says. “And that’s not what we’re looking for. We’re looking for collaborative effort.”

This method and its success has earned the Writing Center national recognition. In addition to being asked to present at various conferences around the country, Transy’s Writing Center has

been honored with the 2018 Martinson Award by the Small Liberal Arts College Writing Program Administrators, as well as three Christine Cozzens Research and Initiative Awards from the Southeastern Writing Center Association.

Transy’s Writing Center was the brainchild of WRC professor Martha Gehringer, who, in the late 1980s, observed a need for students to get extra help with their writing. Nationwide, there was a movement to instill the value of writing into all programs and across all curricula, and at the same time pedagogical research was placing a greater emphasis on collaborative learning and writing, showing that students learn particularly well and get quality attention from each other.

Gehringer was able to get a work-study student — Lisa Jones ’89, who sat outside her office in a partition — and the two of them worked with students on their writing. They were the first Writing Center. Listening to Gehringer talk about her vision from 30 years ago, the value system is strikingly familiar to how the Writing Center functions today.

“It’s not about rules, it’s not about forms. It’s about learning to think like a writer — you have to experience it,” she says. “It’s a way that you don’t necessarily learn from teachers. You learn from watching others.”

As the Writing Center grew, Gehringer’s office was moved to the basement of what was then Haupt

Humanities so that they could have more space for more staffers and patrons. Students started coming in, not just for help on their academic assignments, but on their personal essays and poems. One student asked Gehringer for help on how to get a poem published.

“I said, ‘You don’t have to know how to publish it — go write it on my door,’” Gehringer says. “So she wrote her poem on my door and signed it and dated it. I said, ‘It’s published.’ Next thing I knew, people were flocking to write poems on my door.”

Gehringer’s door filled up with poems. Shy students would write on the edges or even on the inside so you couldn’t read them when it was closed. During a time when writing was really beginning to flourish at Transy, the door stood as a symbol of its great potential, of playfulness and permanence and power that remain deeply instilled in the culture of writing that exists here today.

“That’s what I inherited from Martha Gehringer, and the seed of what we do here,” Whiddon says.

The door sits in the Writing Center as a reminder.

Very often you’ll hear a Transy student say that they write a lot. Depending on the student’s state of mind, that statement could be exciting or exhausting, freeing or terrifying. But it’s universally true — Transy students write. They may study English, business, anthropology, German, philosophy, physics, but they will write.

It can be daunting when you don't know what to expect. Transy has set up courses for first-year students — First-Year Seminar and First-Year Research Seminar — that help give them an idea of the kind of writing that will be expected of them as students here. Most students taking those courses will end up in the Writing Center at some point or another — staffers often say that those are their favorite patrons to work with — and that relationship is a great way to set the tone for the university's culture of writing.

"I consider myself someone who loved writing before coming to college," Jhamnani says. "I don't think I was as confident coming in, though. But I've definitely gotten better at it. FYS and FYRS prepare you to be a college academic writer. And I've taken a lot of writing classes and the Writing Center practicum, and all of that combined has really helped me develop as a writer."

An international student who grew up in Liberia, Jhamnani is a biology major who was just accepted into graduate school for medical sciences at the University of Kentucky. She plans to go to medical school or possibly to

continue studying in the sciences. And she's a writer.

Settle is a double major in history and political science who is preparing to go to law school. And he's a writer.

Boyd is a WRC major whose dream is to work in publishing. Of course she's a writer.

Look at the Writing Center's appointment log in any given semester, and you'll find every major represented. There may be no better testament to the way writing has become intertwined throughout disciplines.

"Writing is embedded at Transy," Settle says. "You're going to get better, even if you don't really care to get better. That's a beneficial tool that Transy has. Think about all the applications and resumes you'll be doing. Think about writing emails — do you know how many emails I get that don't make any sense?"

"The writing I do now, I assume, will be different from the writing I do in graduate school. But I've been exposed to a lot of different types of writing. After working in the Writing Center, I wouldn't be as scared to tackle a paper in another discipline. It's professional development

for my own writing."

Seeing his staffers excel in their lives and careers is just as rewarding to Whiddon as seeing Writing Center patrons blossom

in their own academics. He gets emails and cards from them, marveling at how they've become professors, surgeons, lawyers, parents. He sees how being a part of the writing culture at Transylvania has instilled in them warmth and curiosity and active listening. He and some of the current staffers recently unveiled a new research project where they will be surveying Writing Center alumni and getting a sense of how working in the Writing Center influenced their lives.

"I have the best colleagues imaginable — they just happen to be undergraduates," he says. "The maturity they have — they're the face of writing at this college."

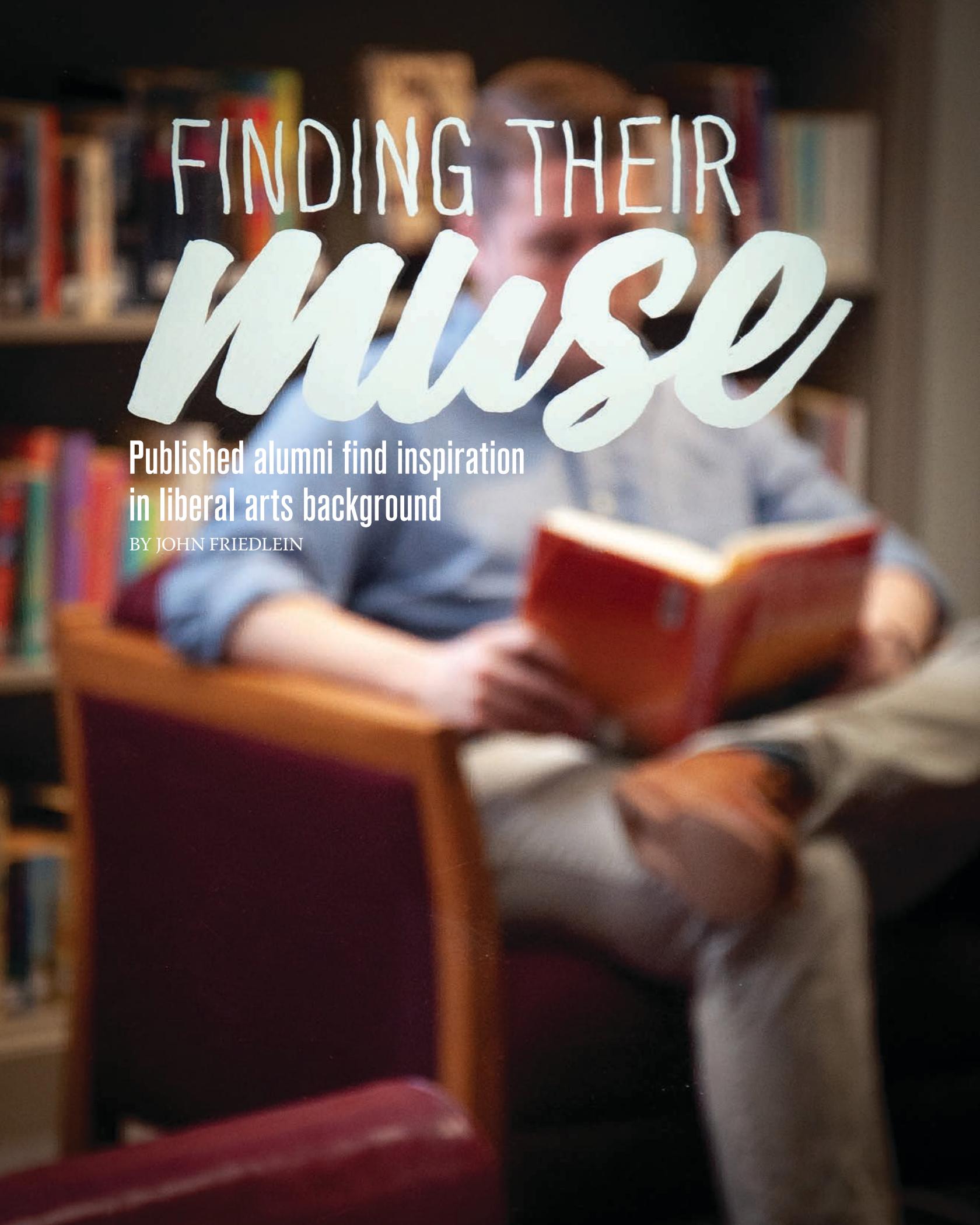
"The students who are staffers can get into any school in the world because they can write," Gehringer adds. "They can take any question and see how to get it to the page in ways that you couldn't teach them in the classroom. They're patient. They'll give you time. They're learning by teaching."

Those values aren't much different from what makes any liberally educated student successful. Look at the quality of writing at a liberal arts institution, and you'll probably have a pretty good idea of the quality of the education. The two always inform each other. At Transy, the results speak for themselves.

"I have the best colleagues imaginable — they just happen to be undergraduates. The maturity they have — they're the face of writing at this college."

— Scott Whiddon, professor of writing, rhetoric, and communication



A photograph of a person sitting in a library, reading a book. The person is wearing a blue shirt and is seated in a wooden chair with a red cushion. The background is filled with bookshelves, and the lighting is warm and focused on the person and their book. The text is overlaid on the top half of the image.

FINDING THEIR *Muse*

Published alumni find inspiration
in liberal arts background

BY JOHN FRIEDLEIN

Billy Reed's path seemed clear right out of high school. The future Hall of Fame sports writer already was covering games for two daily newspapers, and he had a journalism scholarship in hand to the University of Kentucky.

Reed instead chose Transylvania University, which didn't even offer a journalism class at the time. The reason was pretty trivial: It would have been a hassle for him to drive across town from work to UK, not to mention find a place to park. But the impact of his broad-based Transy education was anything but trivial.

Being so busy, Reed wasn't exactly a great student. But the breadth of what he learned helped him become a great writer. "I did learn a little bit about a lot of things," says the 1966 graduate.

That's the result of Transylvania being steeped in the liberal arts tradition, which forces students out of well-worn ruts, helping them make unexpected connections between far-flung subjects. It also develops the whole person through a range of enriching activities — from mentorships to cultivation of self-expression and discovery.

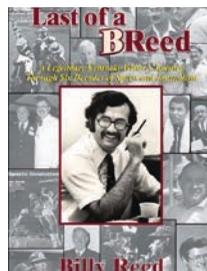
"I became a big believer in the liberal arts," Reed says. In fact, one of this courtside scribe's favorite classes at Transy was Philosophy, Religion and Life.

"If you read good sports writers, they will have various allusions — literary allusions, historical allusions," he says. "It's because they've had that kind of an education too. You can pull something out that you've learned and apply it to a current situation."

He also found a mentor in coaching legend C.M. Newton, who imparted lessons that reverberated throughout

Reed's life and career. "I'll always remember him saying: 'Billy, winning is not important unless it's done the right way.' That is a mantra that I've used in my writing over and over again. He helped me set my standards for journalism."

Reed recognizes the late coach in his book "Last of a BReed," a celebration of the golden era of sports journalism published this past November. He hopes the readers will take away "the importance of people along the way who will give you a hand up when you need it, who will mentor you and believe in you if you're willing to work hard and have a good attitude. We all need those kinds of people. I found a lot of them at Transy."



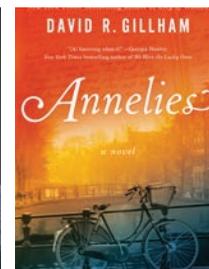
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Another alum, New York Times bestselling author **David Gillham '79**, found inspiration at Transy in political science and history professors such as Don Dugi and Joe Binford. "They not only permitted me to blend my creative work with history, but they encouraged me to do so, and in the process deepened my understanding of my writing and the world's historical and political pageants," he says. "I have been writing fiction that blends history and politics ever since."

Published in January, his novel "Annelies" tells a fictional story of Anne Frank, had she survived the concentration

camp. "On a personal level, I suppose, I simply hoped to provide one of my greatest literary heroines with a life that she was cheated of," Gillham says. "But in a larger sense, I wanted to underscore what Annelies Marie Frank and her work have come to represent to me and to millions of others: hope."

Writing about Anne Frank was a calling for Gillham, who believes "a liberal education is vital to anyone who dreams of pursuing a writer's life. It opens your creative process to worlds of thought and experience that expand your heart and soul. A writer can find subject matter to exploit in any of those worlds — not just history, literature and the social sciences, but math and the natural sciences as well."



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Professor of English **Maurice Manning**, who was a finalist for the 2011 Pulitzer Prize in poetry, incorporates this interdisciplinary approach into his teaching. Recently, themes as diverse as popular culture, psychology, history, creativity and poetic technique came up in a single class period, because they were in the range of thought and inquiry in his students' poems, he says. "This is what I always find exciting about a liberal arts education. We attempt to write a poem, and upon reflection and analysis, we find the poem is connected to the world we

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"[A] liberal education is vital to anyone who dreams of pursuing a writer's life. It opens your creative process to worlds of thought and experience that expand your heart and soul." — David Gillham '79

live in and the vast array of intellectual disciplines that capture human curiosity. I like to think that the liberal arts approach inspires curiosity and gives our students the hands-on skills and the outlook necessary to follow that spark and see where it goes.”



Colene Elridge '05, author of “Monday Morning Pep Talks: Inspiration to Make Your Week Thrive,” also finds inspiration in diverse, real-life experiences — thanks in part to her anthropology major, which forced her to look at things in a new way. “I find inspiration from everything, because I was taught how to observe the world,” she says.

Elridge is a coach and motivational speaker who sends inspirational emails to subscribers every Monday morning. These messages are included in her book, which came out this past October.

“I’m always taking notes about things that have happened during the week — random things I see,” Elridge says. “Sometimes it’s a song lyric or a verse that I’ve read somewhere. I can be at a coffee shop and see something and think: Ooh how can I apply that in a bigger way? Being able to look at the world through this lens gives me an endless amount of material to write the pep talks every week.”



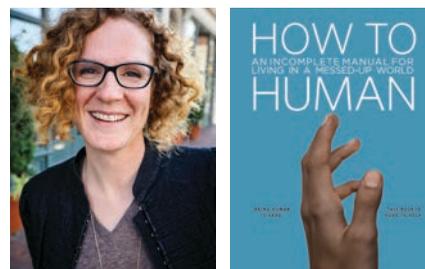
Two other Transy alumnae, **Beth Silvers** and **Sarah Stewart Holland**, also help readers discover their better selves.

The 2003 graduates — who hail from different sides of the political spectrum — recently published a book titled “I Think You’re Wrong (But I’m Listening): A Guide to Grace-Filled Political Conversations.” The book is based on their Pantsuit Politics podcasts, which encourage civil, nuanced conversations — as opposed to shouting and insults. They’ve recently made multiple appearances on MSNBC’s Morning Joe and were featured on Bloomberg Radio and in The Atlantic magazine.

Their liberal arts background helps them foster dialogue that is enriched by many viewpoints. “We really try to look at each issue holistically and from a variety of perspectives,” Silvers says. “That to me was the essence of what my education at Transy was about.” Transylvania taught her to “approach everything from an interdisciplinary perspective and understand that everything builds on itself and that you can’t really understand sciences without the arts and vice versa. I feel like that’s the foundation of what Sarah and I do — this kind of blending of things.”

Additionally, Holland sees the liberal arts values of engagement and openness as ways to incorporate politics into our lives. “We hope that people first and foremost

see the book as a better way to understand and grow, and through that growing and self-awareness begin to engage with their fellow citizens, their fellow family members, their fellow community members about politics again — not just with people who agree with them,” Holland says. “We really think that the ability to talk politics with one another is essential to the health of our democracy, so we really hope this opens the door to people who have sort of cut politics and political conversations out of their lives.”



Not demonizing others, seeing them as complex human beings, is also a goal of **Alice Connor '99**.

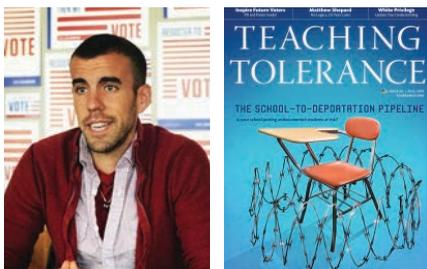
Her upcoming book, “How to Human: An Incomplete Manual for Living in a Messed-Up World,” arose from her work as a campus minister at the University of Cincinnati. She hopes readers will take away “a sense of the complexity of human experience and a willingness to engage difficult questions for themselves more.”

To do so requires opening your mind. “We get stuck in boxes a lot — emotional, spiritual or vocational, or sometimes physical even — we don’t see what’s outside of them,” Connor says. Not coincidentally, escaping mental constraints is a main goal of the liberal arts. “My experience at Transy opened up the idea of possibilities for me.”

“We really try to look at each issue holistically and from a variety of perspectives. That to me was the essence of what my education at Transy was about.” — Beth Silvers '03

Despite her book being called a manual, what it asks of us isn't easy. "Much of the book is about vulnerability and a need to not just be taken seriously ourselves as valuable people, but to take other people seriously."

"To do what I'm asking people to do requires a lot of engagement ourselves. And that's really hard and unpleasant. It's also deeply delightful when you give yourself over to something like this. You're attempting to look at yourself more clearly, and you're attempting to look at your own patterns and the other people around you and see them as complete and beautiful and beloved human beings."



Cory Collins '13 — a senior writer for Teaching Tolerance, an advocacy organization started by the Southern Poverty Law Center — also draws on the complexity of being human in his recently published piece, "The Book of Matthew." The article and poem is about Matthew Shepard, whose life was taken in an anti-gay hate crime 20 years ago.

Over the years Shepard has become a symbol. Collins, however wanted to portray him not as that, but as a person. "I wanted people to realize he had faults, that his parents recognized he had very human dreams and missteps. I also wanted to tie him into this larger narrative of people who came before and after him. His story was not the first and not the last instance of horrific violence or hate crimes, and I wanted people to reflect on what we could learn from his story and how we should be responding when and if this happens again."

At Transy, Collins learned that in writing there are always interdisciplinary connections to be drawn. "I could take a class like Sports in Latin America and see how that related to an anthropology class

I was taking, and how that related to an English literature course that I was taking. Those interconnected threads are a big part of writing well, because if you don't have that nuance, your story is missing something. Stories aren't singular — they don't come out of nowhere, and there are multiple angles from which to view them."

Martha Gehringer, professor emeritus of writing, rhetoric and communication, facilitated this cross-fertilization of ideas across academic subjects in part by helping develop a May term art and writing course in Ireland. She also encourages all students — regardless of their area of concentration — to think of themselves as writers.

"You're really denied something in life if you think you can only write in response to an assignment," Gehringer says. "There's just something to be had for the rest of your life from learning to know the role of writing — and not just to work out feelings. It's an art form, and it's something that you should know that you can do. You don't have to be good at it — it's just part of how you can be human. In my own life it's been that way."

Professor **Richard Taylor**, a former Kentucky poet laureate, says Transylvania graduates tend generally to write well academically. Additionally, the creative writing program flexes their imaginations in poetry, fiction and creative nonfiction.

"Courses in these areas give students the chance to draw on the creative intelligence all of us possess but not all of us exercise," Taylor says. "These experiences are empowering. These students leave with a sense that creativity is not just the stuff of anthologies or bookshelves, but with the confidence that 'this is something I can do.' It's no surprise to me that, in fact, they find their creative imagination and publish."



Poet **Tiara Brown '16** just completed an MFA at the University of Kentucky as a Lyman T. Johnson Fellow. At Transy she received both the Delcamp and the Judy Gaines Young student writing awards and gained the confidence she needed to pursue the "writing life." Read more on the 1780 blog at blog.transy.edu.

reply to "how can you become a writer?" after eve merriam

eye a blackberry on a shrub
follow its contours
with your finger
every juicy bulb
giving way

commit to memory
the way this glossy clot clings
to the stem (and how each thorny
stem curves from the branch
as if on display)
how it bursts forth in April
how it flowers in May

come early June crush
one in your palm &
let its flesh stain you

then watch as it is vanquished
in the autumn air

& in winter when there is no leaf left

create one



Moving
THE FIELD
FORWARD

Science Writing
BY ROBIN HICKS

Mark Sirianno '19 remembers his eureka moment. Alone in the lab one evening, a few years into his work with Associate Professor of Biology Paul Duffin, he opened the incubator and found that the *Neisseria sicca* bacteria, which scientists heretofore had deemed immutable, had, in fact, transformed. They had, Sirianno explains, "taken up DNA from their environment and incorporated it into their genome."

In a world in which *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* is becoming resistant to antibiotics, portending catastrophic epidemics, any new light on *Neisseria* bacteria could be helpful — particularly, as Sirianno notes, when 75% of the human population carries non-pathogenic *Neisseria* in their nasopharynx (the cavity behind the nose).

"Every time you take antibiotics," Sirianno explains, "it makes those *Neisseria* (in the nasopharynx) antibiotic resistant. If they can exchange DNA with the pathogenic version, it's no wonder *gonorrhoeae* is becoming resistant so quickly and so efficiently."

Sirianno is helping to prove that Duffin's thesis is correct, that this nonpathogenic strain is subject to "inter-species genetic transfer."

Yet who would know about the discovery or the broader implications if the researchers failed to write up their work clearly and concisely, and, ultimately, craft an abstract compelling enough to be accepted for presentation at a conference among peers?

"The process of science isn't done until you've communicated it," says Sarah Bray,

professor of biology and interim associate dean for academic affairs. "It's exciting to be learning something that no one else knows," but, as she reminds her students at Transy, "you haven't really participated in science until you have others read it, think about it and respond to it."

But first you have to write it. And through the process of writing, a deeper comprehension develops.

Articulating the work is so much more than merely detailing what's been done. "[Writing] helps us understand our science and think about what we're doing," says Bray. "We've gathered data, we've looked at it, we've visualized it, but that process of verbalizing it in a way for another individual to understand often leads to greater depth of thinking about what your results mean."

For Sirianno, the writing process reveals whether he's done a good job in his research. "Writing makes you organize the ideas and the process," says Sirianno, who won second place in the microbiology undergraduate poster competition at the Kentucky Academy of Sciences meeting in the fall of his junior year. "It definitely shows you new things."

Bray describes the linear structure of the end product of science writing: the universal format of an introduction followed by a methods section, then results and, finally, a discussion section. Bray notes, however, that she has improved as a writer in the sciences "by understanding that we often write in a very nonlinear way," assessing the methods, for example, before composing the introduction. And that final piece

of writing, she explains, "is really the springboard to asking: What is the next problem that I need to address in my work?"

Kelly Lennington Ronald '09, who researches animal behavior, can't imagine science without writing.

"Writing is integral to science," she says. "We give presentations and have conversations, but it's really those peer-reviewed publications put out for the research community that move the field forward. So I don't see science and writing as being separate; it's the same thing. That's how you do science."

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— Kelly L. Ronald '09, assistant professor of biology, Hope College

A William T. Young Scholar, Ronald is one of several Transy grads to win a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, which is, Bray says, "incredibly competitive" and very much based on the written proposal. She sees these fellowships and postdoc grants as illustrations of the quality of the writing of Transy's science grads.

Ronald, who also won the prestigious Walter Clyde Allee Award for best student paper (an early career award from the Animal Behavior Society), points to the skills she developed in a "writing-intensive environment," at Transy, "both in the classroom, and as a Writing Center tutor." All of that writing became a "natural extension" for her writing in demanding graduate programs.

The ability to write strategically, persuasively and concisely, drawing on



Left: Mark Sirianno '19, William T. Young Scholar
Right: Kelly L. Ronald '09, assistant professor of biology at Hope College



Sarah Bray, professor of biology and interim associate dean for academic affairs

specifics relevant to the application rather than on personal generalities, she says, helped her secure the NSF funding. And having the grant gave her the time and opportunity to devote all of her focus to the broad, interdisciplinary questions she first began to tackle at Transy as a double major in psychology and biology.

“I study animal behavior,” explains Ronald, who earned a Ph.D. from Purdue, a postdoc at Indiana University and, most recently, a tenure-track position in biology at Hope College, “so it really is the combination of both understanding the evolution of animals and why, historically, they make the decisions they do.”

Ronald is interested in why animals make their decisions and how they interpret the information around them. In evolutionary terms, choosing a mate is one of the most important decisions made, she notes, “because that is the decision that produces offspring, and that is what evolution works on.” Her work, particularly with birds and mice, investigates the larger questions of evolution but also drills down to the individual level, asking: “How does this one particular animal sense its world and make a decision?”

In doing so, her research is contradicting the long-held idea, for example, that all birds share the same

perception of beauty in plumage or song when picking a mate. Her research shows that “not all animals agree about what beautiful is. The way they see and hear changes their interpretation of what is attractive. In that sense, it allows for animals to vary in their preferences.”

She acknowledges how Transy has been the model for her being able to span fields and labs in her work, to ask the big questions and not be intimidated.

Bray points out how Transy’s liberal arts education gives students “unique tools for understanding how people [and, in Ronald’s case, animals] look at the world differently and how they might interpret information.” The interdisciplinary approach trains students to communicate not just with academic peers, but with policy makers and the general public, and to translate their work into more “digestible” content for blogs, podcasts and social media.

For the past two years, students in Bray’s upper-level classes have been creating podcasts and blogs. Students look first at the peer-reviewed literature and write an annotated bibliography, then “translate” this very dense scientific information into the format of a podcast for the casual listener.

“The fact that students write across the curriculum here — they know these different modalities of communication,” Bray remarks.

Bray believes that essential questions in biology encompass ethics, politics and sociology. The answers require thoughtful, educated exposition, not a series of facts and numbers.

“Because big societal issues often involve these different disciplines,” she says, “one of the big things about learning to write and being a good writer is this ability to integrate ideas.” It makes a person a better communicator and, ultimately, “an active participant in conversations about the issues that we face.”

Sirianno, a philosophy and biology double major, tested these principles at Yale University’s Summer Institute in Bioethics, where he found his Transy training had prepared him to write for

a highly educated, interdisciplinary audience that included scientists, philosophers and lawyers.

Being steeped in two different disciplines made it possible for him to do the research and understand the data that summer, he recalls, but also to present the results in a final form that was written with his diverse audience in mind.

“How you interpret and write about your findings changes what people will glean from them,” he notes. “I think it’s very important to be able to take that hard data and write about it in an eloquent, educational way, where you don’t lose any of the information and you don’t put in anything that’s not necessary. And that’s not something that’s easy to do. It takes a lot of practice,” he adds.

As he prepares to enter medical school at the University of Kentucky, Sirianno plans to continue his research and acknowledges how important writing will be in every facet of his future work, from lab work to ethics boards. “Medicine has given me a route to practice everything I’ve learned here at Transy and put it all together — from the philosophy, the research, the biology, to health care as well,” he says. “Writing has profoundly affected the way in which I think about just about everything.”

“Writing has profoundly affected the way in which I think about just about everything.” — Mark Sirianno '19

In July, Ronald begins her work as assistant professor at Hope College. She will have a research team of students that will meet weekly to read scientific articles and discuss project ideas. The goal, as at Transy, will be to present and publish the results. “Writing will definitely be a part of anyone who joins my lab,” she says.

“We will be writing all the time.”

Right brain, left brain, one brain:

Tech entrepreneur Mike Finley '90 trained them all at Transy

What do you do when you've just sold a global tech business?

You embark on your next startup, yes, but if you're tech innovator Mike Finley '90, you also take time to write about how you got there. After 10 years of developing the technology and building a company, Finley wanted to capture all of the knowledge he'd gained and to share it with others.

He says he was motivated, in part, by the kinds of frustrating conflicts satirized in the cartoon series, "Dilbert." Finley, who is a member of Transy's Board of Trustees, had witnessed how the conflicts between engineers and management, and the imbalance of skills and training, often kept people and companies from succeeding. He wanted to see more tech people taking those leadership roles, as he had.

So, he wrote an article, "Build a Winning Technical Team: How to Prepare and Promote Left Brain Techies for Right Brain Leadership Roles," and published a book with Honza Fedák titled "You.next(): Move Your Software Development Career to the Leadership Track."

As someone who had developed both sides of his brain at Transylvania, Finley entered the workforce able to innovate, do the science and build the technology. He could easily shift to marketing, account management and executive leadership. He knew how to communicate as well as to create. He could socialize. He contrasts the outcomes of his liberal arts education with the more limited scope of so many engineering programs.

"Engineering schools take bright kids and put them in a corner and tell them to get really smart and solve problems quickly," Finley explains. "Well, how do you take that person and ask them to be sociable and to build a team and recruit? It's really hard for those people who have been crammed with all of that knowledge and none of the life skills to build an organization or a team."

At Transy, whether it was by being on the debate team, or in Pi Kappa Alpha, or David Choate's math class, he notes, "they all had this aspect of fluidity to them that required communication and responsiveness. I wasn't allowed to hide and turn my assignments in online; I had to be there and look and see and interact," he explains. "The book was capturing a lot of what that was all about. And what I think is that missing skill for some technical people to move into leadership."

Ultimately, writing is how the creator communicates and markets an innovation.

"If you're selling something that someone already makes, but you have a cheaper or faster one, then you don't have to explain very much. And you're never going to get a big premium for your product," he says.

"When you are doing something new, something that you can't compare to the one that someone else already did, you have to explain what it is you're doing, why it's new, why it's useful, why everyone is going to have it and how it's worth tackling the change." Finley describes it as "the qualitative side of business modeling," the rhetorical side of spreadsheets, charts and graphs that establishes the intention behind the new business idea.

"That's been something I've applied many times in many of the things I've done," Finley reflects, "in volunteer work, in professional work, in new product launches, in chasing investors and in different levels of financial audits.

"The ability to write and explain concisely," says Finley "continues to come up in all of those scenarios."

Read more about Mike Finley's journey on the 1780 blog at blog.transy.edu.

Commencement

CLASS OF 2019







Transylvania graduates 229 Pioneers in Class of 2019

The 229 students in the Class of 2019 celebrated a milestone in their college careers with the commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 25, in front of historic Old Morrison.

Humanitarian Deogratias “Deo” Niyizonkiza, founder and CEO of Village Health Works in Burundi, delivered the commencement address, capping off an academic year focused on the theme of civility. “I am so proud to be taking part in the graduation ceremonies at Transylvania University,” he said, “where students are taught to become citizens who are not just out to make a living, but who are living to make a difference through great ideas and actions that speak to all humanity.”

The student speaker, neuroscience major Presli Neal, is a first-generation college student from Lexington. She plans to attend physician assistant school and hopes to work in pediatrics or emergency medicine. At Transy, Neal was a member of the Student Government Association, Pre-Health Club, Pre-Physician Assistant Club and STEM Empowerment Club, and she served as membership director of her sorority, Phi Mu.

Remarking on their “wildly unique path,” Neal reminded her class that “Transylvania, in true liberal arts fashion, has provided us a set of skills to question the world around us, to think deeply about who we are and how we can impact others.” But it’s the unique bond between people, she noted, that makes Transy, with its high academic standards, such a special institution. “A university is a university, but it is the people that attend that make it a home.”

Class of 2019 highlights

Students in this year’s graduating class have distinguished themselves academically, with numerous accolades.

- Thirty-eight percent of the 229 graduating seniors are receiving Latin honors for a cumulative GPA of at least 3.5, and 47% are receiving program honors.
- Forty-seven percent of this year’s graduates studied abroad while at Transylvania — either for a full term, a summer or during the four-week May term.
- Students will pursue advanced degrees at institutions such as University College London and various medical and law schools. Other opportunities awaiting them after graduation include the Peace Corps, Fifth Third Bank’s Operations Leadership Program and various other jobs — from staff accountant to Walt Disney World cast member.
- Senior achievements include the IU Lilly Family School of Philanthropy Fellowship, a Lexington Rotary Club Ollie and Dick Hurst Award, a Cralle Foundation/Joan Cralle Day Fellowship from the University of Kentucky and a Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

Professor Paul Jones retires after 33 academic years



Professor of Religion Paul Jones leaves a lasting impact on Transylvania after retiring in May.

Members of the school community lined a hallway in the Carpenter Academic Center to wish him well after his last class and celebrate his 33 academic years at the university.

“I do not know a Transylvania without Paul Jones, and I suspect that’s true for many,” said Carole Barnsley, associate professor of religion. “He will be missed, but he leaves behind a legacy of an excellent work ethic, a loyalty to the Transy community and a well-established religion program that I am honored to get to continue.”

Jones will be remembered for building the religion program into two tracks: Western and Non-Western. “Few schools our size do that,” he said.

He also helped secure and implement a grant from the Lilly Endowment, which brought in world-renowned scholars, social activists and educators focusing on the exploration of vocation. “This is at the heart and soul of the mission of Transylvania — to help our students not only cultivate the self, but also to discern their life’s purpose and path.”

Additionally, his May term trips abroad have impacted students’ lives. “I find travel trips to be the ideal classroom,” he said. “They are a full-immersion experience.”

Jones’ last May term excursion included visits to Israel, Egypt and Jordan. He’d never been on a trip to three countries with students before. “It was designed to be my swan song,” he said.

What does he plan to do after Transy? “Breathing, living, reading, writing, traveling, enjoying, enriching, loving.”

campus NEWS

To stay informed
about the latest Transylvania
news, visit our 1780 blog at
blog.transy.edu.

Senior receives IU Lilly Family School of Philanthropy Fellowship



Senior Aaron Martin received the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy Fellowship to pursue her master's degree in philanthropic studies. The fellowship will cover 95% of her tuition, and she will receive a \$12,000 graduate assistantship.

"I'm motivated to work in philanthropy because I always want my work to be about more than just me," Martin said. "My education at Transy has helped me recognize different issues and concerns — from our local community to the greater global community."

Students kick off summer with Alternative Break



While some students started their summer break soaking up rays on the beach, others partnered with the Lexington community on projects such as gardening and exploring local neighborhoods.

Transylvania's Alternative Break program from May 27-31 focused on themes of food justice, immigration and community development in partnership with local nonprofits including FoodChain, Seedleaf and the North Limestone Community Development Corporation.

"We wanted to give students a holistic experience of the city they live in," said Tevin Monroe, Transy's AmeriCorps VISTA community engagement support specialist.

Transylvania dedicates Ronald and Frances Holley Players Lounge



Transylvania dedicated the Ronald and Frances Holley Players Lounge in April. Named in honor of Pioneer Hall of Fame athlete Sherry Holley's parents, the new, state-of-the-art locker room is a space where the team can not only get ready for games, but can also relax afterward.

Sherry Holley '88 was a three-sport athlete at Transy in field hockey, basketball and softball. She was the 1988 Pioneer Athlete of the Year and currently serves on the university's Board of Trustees.

Morlan Gallery spotlights student artworks in May



The artistic talents of Transylvania University students were featured in May at the annual Juried Student Art Exhibition. The Morlan Gallery exhibition included more than 100 pieces — from paintings to fiber to digital media.

Art faculty and the gallery director awarded prizes for creative, exceptional work in "best of" categories.

Off-Broadway comes to Transylvania in acclaimed play about graduate, gay-rights pioneer

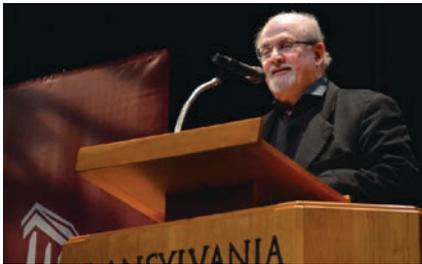
Transylvania in May hosted an off-Broadway production highlighting the accomplishments of John E. Fryer, a 1957 graduate who helped remove homosexuality from the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders.

"217 Boxes of Dr. Henry Anonymous" came to Lexington and the Transy campus through contributions by alumni, JustFundKY, Rainmaker Hospitality,

former Lexington Mayor Jim Gray, former LexArts President and CEO Jim Clark, the University of Kentucky Office of LGBTQ* Resources and other individuals and organizations who support equality and civil rights for LGBTQ people.

Donations benefited the university's John Fryer Fund for Diversity and Inclusion.

Salman Rushdie explores free speech, civility in 2019 Kenan Lecture



Acclaimed author Sir Salman Rushdie presented the 2019 Kenan Lecture on March 27 in front of a sold-out crowd in Transylvania's Haggin Auditorium.

Reflecting on this year's campus theme of "On Civility," Rushdie stressed the importance of sharing ideas, fighting for free speech, arguing respectfully and standing up to hatred as the world navigates a particularly uncivil time in its history.

The event was part of the university's New Frontiers series.

Sophomore wins U.S. Department of State's Critical Language Scholarship



Eastern Kentucky native Hayle Hall '21 received the U.S. Department of State's prestigious Critical Language Scholarship in March. She will study in China for 10 weeks in an intensive language and cultural immersion program with all expenses paid by the U.S. government. The program is administered by American Councils for International Education.

Open to American undergraduate and graduate students in all fields, the Critical Language Scholarship supports a broader government initiative to increase the number of Americans who are highly proficient in foreign languages identified as critical to national security and economic success.

Transylvania receives NCAA DIII Diversity Spotlight Initiative award

Transylvania received an NCAA Division III Diversity Spotlight Initiative award in March for connecting more than 150 current female student-athletes with female coaches, staff and faculty who are former collegiate student-athletes.

Held on National Girls and Women in Sports Day, the event gave participants a chance to share stories and insights about how past experiences as collegiate athletes helped shape them in their future careers, personal lives and as leaders.

Silas House wins Transylvania's Judy Gaines Young Book Award



Renowned Kentucky author Silas House received Transylvania's 2019 Judy Gaines Young Book Award for his novel, "Southernmost."

The annual award recognizes outstanding recent works by writers in the Appalachian region.

House gave a public reading from "Southernmost" on March 19 during an awards ceremony in Carrick Theater.

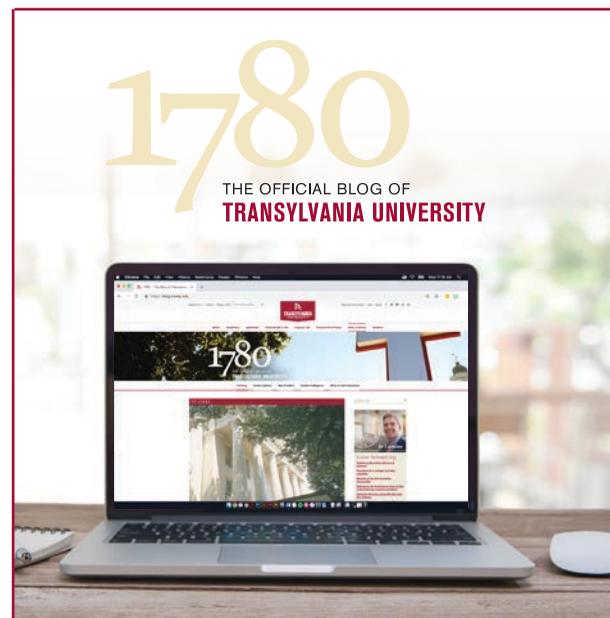
In addition to House's recognition, the university each year presents a Judy Gaines Young Student Writing Award. The 2019 winner is senior Rebecca Blankenship, a writer of weird fiction and documentary films including "The Moral Center: Chapter Two of the Poor People's Campaign."

Campus Center project underway



The university's Campus Center project got underway this past school year after the demolition of Forrer Hall. The \$30 million project includes new construction and renovations to the existing William T. Young Campus Center. The facility will re-vision the core of campus life with state-of-the-art spaces for student organizations, fitness, student services, dining and outreach to the community.

It is expected to open by fall of 2020. Until then, Transylvania has made accommodations to ease the transition, including the expansion of the Rafskeller into the main dining hall.



Get the latest Transy news and updates at blog.transy.edu.



Transylvania names vice president for advancement

Dr. Steve Angelucci joined Transylvania as vice president for advancement beginning May 20. A longtime Lexingtonian, he most recently served as president of Lexington Catholic High School for 10 years. Angelucci has an extensive background not only in education, but also in a variety of fields including athletics, marketing, fundraising and dentistry. He holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Kentucky, a master's degree in sports administration from Ohio University and a doctorate in medical dentistry from the University of Kentucky College of Dentistry.



Dubal named Transylvania's vice president for information technology

Deepa Dubal has been named Transylvania's vice president for information technology. She joined the university in August 2018 as an associate vice president and was promoted to the president's cabinet in May. Dubal previously led technology efforts at the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) in Frankfort, where she was chief technology officer. She worked at CPE for 16 years beginning in 2002 as a programmer. Gendi aut lam a non cus con res eturi con re amendis et perernatur, que porestis quamenda comnis eos eatinus eati blaborum et qui

Pioneer athletes excel this school year

The women's basketball team made its first-ever trip to the NCAA Sweet 16 in March. | After the men's golf team won its 13th-straight conference championship, Transy hosted and competed in the NCAA Division III Men's Golf National Championships. | The women's golf team matched last year's finish in the Women's Golf National Championships, placing 15th. | The men's soccer, golf and lacrosse teams and women's lacrosse, basketball, golf and softball teams won their conference tournament titles and competed in NCAA tournaments. | The volleyball team won the regular-season HCAC crown. | The cheerleading team placed eighth in its division nationally — recording its highest score ever in the 2019 National Cheerleaders Association Collegiate National Championships. | The dance team placed fifth in the Open Team Performance category of the Dance Team Union College Classic National Invitational. | Nine Pioneers in various sports won conference Player of the Year honors, eight won individual conference titles and five coaches were recognized as Coach of the Year. | In eventing, senior Abby Blackburn and her horse finished the 2018 season as champions of the Novice Intercollegiate Division. She was named Pioneer Female Athlete of the Year. | In our inaugural women's triathlon season, Elizabeth Moore finished as the individual runner-up at the national championships, receiving All-American and Freshman of the Year honors. | Senior Graham Smith was the first male Pioneer track and field athlete ever to earn All-American status after finishing as the national runner-up in javelin. He was named Pioneer Male Athlete of the Year.



alumni NOTES

Submit your alumni news
by email to alumni@transyu.edu
or mail to
Alumni Office
Transylvania University
300 North Broadway
Lexington, KY 40508

1950s

Peggy Gordon Miller '59, Volga, South Dakota, is serving a second year as President of Distinguished Alumni at Indiana University.

Guy Waldrop '59, Lexington, was Transylvania's honoree at the Association of Fundraising Professionals National Philanthropy Day Luncheon in November for his lifelong service, leadership and philanthropy.

1960s

Billy Reed '66, Louisville, released a new book titled "Last of a BReed: A Legendary Kentucky Writer's Journey Through Six Decades of Sports and Journalism" in November. See p. 9.

Charles Moore '69, Waverly, Kentucky, was recognized as a Top 50 2019 Kentucky Super Lawyer.

1970s

James Gearhart '72, Paducah, Kentucky, was elected vice president of the Paducah-McCracken County NAACP. He is also a steering committee member with Kentuckians for the Commonwealth. James is currently in his second year as board chair at First Christian Church in Paducah.

Eileen O'Brien '77, Lexington, was recognized as a Top 25 2019 Women Kentucky Super Lawyer.

Martha Billips '78, Lexington, is Professor of English at Transylvania and recently published an article, "Edith Wharton as Regionalist: A New Context for Reading Summer," which appears in the fall 2018 volume of The Edith Wharton Review.

Carroll Kelly Morrison '78, Bridgeport, West Virginia, was honored at the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Irish Legends Gala in April. She was chosen based on her contribution to Notre Dame High School, where she served as principal for 20 years.

David Gillham '79, Amherst, Massachusetts, published a novel, "Annelies," in January with Viking. See p. 9.

William McCann '79, Winchester, Kentucky, has written two plays. "Boats Against the Current" premiered in Somerset, Kentucky, at Flashback Theatre in February, and "There is No Wrigley Field" was performed in Berea, Kentucky, in March. His play "Southern Gothic" was read at the Clark County Public Library in March.

1980s

Tim W. Collins '81, Asheville, North Carolina, became director of human resources at Kanuga Conference Center in November.

Kyle Brown Rahn '81, Las Vegas, was appointed as president and CEO of United Way of Southern Nevada in February. She will provide strategic leadership to an organization that unites workplace campaigns, nonprofit organizations, volunteers and donors.

Susan Ware '84, Lexington, became senior director of donor engagement in the alumni and development office at Transylvania.

John-Mark Hack '88, Versailles, Kentucky, is the vice president of business development for Bristol Group, which is working on the Lexington Marriott City Center and the Residence Inn at City Center in downtown Lexington.

Dustin Meek '88, Louisville, was recognized as a Top 25 2019 Women Kentucky Super Lawyer.

Cliff Westfall '88, Highland Park, New Jersey, released an album titled "Baby You Win" in July. He is a country singer and songwriter based out of New York.

1990s

Laura Harrison Klumb '90, Lexington, became vice president of philanthropy for Bluegrass Care Navigators in December. In her role at the nonprofit organization, she supports the staff who provide compassionate care to seriously ill patients and their families around Kentucky.

D. Andrew Steen '92, Louisville, became the business development consultant at BehaVR LLC in November.

Paul Bird '93, Henderson, Kentucky, is a fellow with the Henderson Leadership Initiative. He has been chairman of the YMCA board, chairman of the Habitat board and vice chair on the board of the Henderson Water Utility. He also joined the Kyndle Economic Development Council.

Amy Collignon Gunn '93, St. Louis, was inducted into the American College of Trial Lawyers, which is the leading trial lawyers' organization in the U.S. and Canada.

Wendy Rankin Mahanna '93, Paris, Kentucky, entered the 10th Region Girls' Basketball Hall of Fame in February. She just finished her 11th season as assistant basketball coach

for Bourbon County High School and has been the school's athletic director the past two years.

John Scott Blair '94, Hazard, Kentucky, was elected commonwealth's attorney for the 33rd Judicial Circuit in Perry County.

Emily Phillips Gaunce '94, Carlisle, Kentucky, was elected as coroner for Nicholas County and began serving in January. She and her husband are owners of Mathers-Gaunce Funeral Home in Carlisle and Drake-Whaley-McCarty Funeral Home in Cynthiana, Kentucky.

Brian Johnson '94, Lexington, was recognized as a 2019 Kentucky Super Lawyer.

Jennifer Moore '95, Louisville, has formed a new law firm, Moore Law Group. She recently won a lawsuit against the makers of RoundUp.

Shane Rau '95, Williamsburg, Virginia, is a psychiatrist at Regroup Therapy Inc. He sees patients by videoconference, which allows people faster access to trained clinicians. He provides diagnostic evaluations for an access clinic in North Carolina.

T. Clay Stinnett '95, Louisville, became chief financial officer of Stock Yards Bancorp and Stock Yards Bank & Trust Company in May.

Brie Linkenhoker '96, Woodside, California, was quoted in a Stanford Magazine article, "Nine Tips for Smarter Decision-Making," in January.

Carrie Reed Shufflebarger '96, Union, Kentucky, was recognized as a 2019 Ohio Super Lawyer.

Kevin Brown '97, Lexington, became Jefferson County Public Schools' chief counsel in November.

Jarett Gregory '97, Lakeland, Florida, after becoming a partner at Watson Clinic and being included in the Top Doctors of 2018, has been selected to become the lead physician at Watson Clinic's new urgent care location.

Mandy McMillian '97, New Braunfels, Texas, starred in "9 to 5, The Musical" in February at the Circle Arts Theatre in New Braunfels. She played the character portrayed by Jane Fonda in the film.

Mary Ann Miranda '97, Lexington, opened her own firm, Law Office of Mary Ann Miranda LLC, in January. The firm provides services for large and small businesses, individuals and other attorneys.

The Bofill Sisters Lead Ambidextrous Lives



As two little girls growing up in a small town, the Bofill sisters learned to ask what they could do for others. The daughters of immigrants, they dreamed of participating beyond the borders of their hometown. And they chose Transy as the place to build their futures.

The sisters lead multilingual, ambidextrous lives in medicine and diplomacy. Lora Bofill '94 is a doctor and she plays one on TV. A physician and an actor, she sometimes fuses the two worlds — using the science of medicine and the story-telling of acting — to promote good health to communities.

Mariju Bofill '99, an attorney, is a foreign service officer whose recent posting put her aboard a military hospital ship, the USNS Comfort, as an embedded foreign policy advisor for the U.S. Southern Command. She has received the State Department's award for Equal Employment Opportunity and the American Foreign Service Association's Constructive Dissent Award. She recently returned to Transy's campus to talk with students and faculty, and to receive a Distinguished Achievement Award.

Read more on the 1780 blog at blog.transy.edu.

Ann McRae Stephenson '97, Lexington, became assistant director of regional advancement and foundation engagement in the alumni and development office at Transylvania.

Amit Patel '99, Lexington, was named one of the 10 Best Plastic Surgeons for exceptional and outstanding patient service in 2018 by the American Institute of Plastic Surgeons. He is an assistant professor of surgery — facial plastic & reconstructive surgery at University of Kentucky HealthCare.

Shannon Florea '99, Lexington, placed third in the Ironman triathlon in Mar Del Plata, Argentina. Her plans for 2019 are to race in Puerto Rico, Switzerland, France and possibly New Zealand. She is a physician, board certified in internal medicine, rheumatology and addiction medicine at a private practice in Lexington.

2000s

Lance Bell '00, Nashville, Tennessee, joined BRG Capital Advisors in January as a managing director and will lead its investment banking efforts in health care services.

B. Blanton Coates Jr. '00, Winchester, Kentucky, was named director of business development at Dean Builds, a Lexington-based industrial and commercial construction company, in February.

Marni Rock Gibson '00, Versailles, Kentucky, is security divisions director for the Department of Financial Institutions. She oversees supervision of securities firms and professionals operating in Kentucky.

Melinda Timberlake Sunderland '00, Louisville, is the managing director of Morgan Pottinger McGarvey and the first woman to serve in that role since the law firm was founded in 1974.

Erin Smallwood Wathen '00, Louisville, became the new associate director for marketing and communications at Week of Compassion in January.

Erica Fike West '00, Louisville, was promoted to emerging domains competency leader at Humana in January.

Jamie Ketron '01, Bluff City, Tennessee, is vice president of operations at Mitch Cox Companies.

Catherine Benson '02, Angola, Indiana, became dean of Trine University's Ketner School of Business in June.

Robert Croft '02, Louisville, became the senior counsel for Humana in November.

Sara Veeneman Judd '02, Louisville, was honored as a fellow of the Louisville Bar Foundation in March. She is currently a senior

attorney at LG&E and KU Energy LLC, where she focuses primarily on state regulatory matters.

Jamie Rock '02, Columbia, Tennessee, became district manager at Woda Cooper Companies Inc. in November. He is responsible for a portfolio of Low Income Housing Tax Credit, Project Based Section 8 and Rural Development properties in middle Tennessee and western Kentucky.

Amy Wickliffe '02, Lexington, received an Excellence in Advocacy Award from the Professional Women in Advocacy Conference in October. She was recognized as a result of successfully passing Marsy's Law through the Kentucky General Assembly.

Scott Wolford '02, Austin, Texas, published a book, "The Politics of the First World War: A Course in Game Theory and International Security," through Cambridge University Press in February.

Keith Cecil '03, Bargersville, Indiana, opened his State Farm office in Greenwood, Indiana, in January.

Sarah Stewart Holland '03, Paducah, Kentucky, and **Beth Thurman Silvers '03**, Union, Kentucky, released their co-authored book, "I Think You're Wrong (But I'm Listening): A Guide to Grace-Filled Political Conversations," in February. See p. 10.

Bianca Lynne Spriggs '03, Athens, Ohio, had a poem, "To the woman I saw today who wept in her car," nominated for the 2018 Pushcart Prize.

Crystal Mount Newton '04, Lexington, won Best Marketing Award at the Honeywell/Resideo fall 2018 convention. She attended with her Bates Security team. In May, she represented the Lexington Rotary Club in the Dancing with the Lexington Stars to raise funds for Surgery on Sundays, a local nonprofit.

Kelsey Brown O'Mara '04, Louisville, became a physician's assistant at Commonwealth Pain and Spine in September.

Matthew Roth '04, Lexington, became a financial advisor with WesBanco in January. He has started their new securities program for the Lexington market.

Joe Berry '05, Owensboro, Kentucky, became the first director of commercial real estate for The Malcolm Bryant Corporation in April. He leads the company's commercial office efforts, concentrating on customer relations, acquisitions and commercial expansion.

Colene Elridge '05, Georgetown, Kentucky, released her book, "Monday Morning Pep Talks: Inspiration to Make Your Week THRIVE," in October. See p. 10.

Clint Jones '05, Stevens Point, Wisconsin, released his first book in the J. Baird Callicott Environmental Humanity Series, titled "Ecological Reflections on Post-Capitalist Society."

Kyle Melloan '05, Lexington, became assistant U.S. attorney for the Eastern District of Kentucky in November.

Kayla Hanser Steltenkamp '05, Independence, Kentucky, is a visiting assistant professor of education at Georgetown College. She holds a master's degree in special education from Georgetown and a Ph.D. in special education from Bellarmine University.

Mayme Boehmann Clayton '06, Lexington, joined Bluegrass Integrated Communications as a web developer in January.

Adam English '06, Lawrenceville, Georgia, became vice president and general manager for the Gwinnett Stripers, the Atlanta Braves Triple-A affiliate.

Patrick Lewis '06, Lexington, became assistant editor of publications at the Kentucky Historical Society. He has also released a book titled "For Slavery and Union" with the University Press of Kentucky.

Collin Smith '06, Norton, Massachusetts, manages an IT team at Sensata Technologies.

Kathryn Shirley Akers '07, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, became assistant vice chancellor for educational and business intelligence at Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education in January.

Allison Blackburn '07, Cincinnati, became a staff psychologist at Cincinnati Children's Hospital and a member of Leading Individuals Forward Together. She works to improve school bus riding experiences for children with developmental disabilities.

Kimberly Clark Day '07, Richmond, Kentucky, earned her board certification in pediatrics from the American Occupational Therapy Association. She practices OT in an outpatient clinic in Lexington.

Mary Goldie '07, New Orleans, became volunteer coordinator at the New Orleans Museum of Art in January.

Dillon Lawson '07, Jupiter, Florida, became the New York Yankees' hitting coordinator in October.

Amanda Gabrielle Miller '07, Florence, Kentucky, became a behavioral health specialist at Northkey Community Care in November.

Meredith A. Plant '07, Lexington, became an account executive in sales for Tops in Lex in November.

Tony Smith '07, Tucker, Georgia, had his work, "Long-term Outcomes of Tetralogy of Fallot: A Study from the Pediatric Cardiac Care Consortium," published in JAMA Cardiology Journal in January.

Sarah Billiter Cameron '08, Fort Thomas, Kentucky, was recognized as a 2019 Ohio Rising Star for her practices in law.

Emily Grise '08, St. Louis, graduated from The Improv Shop training center and is often found on stage creating long-form improvised theater for St. Louis audiences.

Zach Horn '08, Frankfort, Kentucky, became a member in the law office of Kirkland, Cain & Horn PLLC in March, where he practices in the areas of civil litigation, business law, banking, creditors' rights and bankruptcy.

John Kromer '08, Tempe, Arizona, became the STEM division head in the Arizona State University Library in September.

Corey Maggard '08, Auburn, Alabama, received the Jan Strickland Assistant Coach of the Year Award in December for his work as associate head coach for men's golf at Auburn University.

Anne-Tyler Morgan '08, Lexington, returned to private practice law as a member of McBrayer Law Firm in November.

Elizabeth Meredith Rhea '08, Seattle, became a research assistant professor at the University of Washington in 2017. She investigates the molecular mechanisms of the aging brain, including Alzheimer's disease.

Brittany MacGregor Roethemeier '08, Lexington, is executive director at Fayette Alliance, a Lexington-Fayette County land use advocacy nonprofit organization.

Patrick Smith '08, Lexington, had his artwork featured in the "Pangaea" exhibition at City Gallery in the Lexington Downtown Arts Center.

Scott Mays '09, Lexington, became market director of decision support at CHI Saint Joseph Health in February.

Kelly Lennington Ronald '09, Bloomington, Indiana, will join the biology faculty of Hope College in fall 2019. She received her Ph.D. in animal behavior at Purdue University and is currently a postdoctoral researcher at Indiana University. *See p. 13.*

Holly Gilbert Stowell '09, Fort Washington, Maryland, became the senior editor/writer for the Institute of Transportation Engineers in November.

Felicia Feldkamp Woods '09, Louisville, completed her certification and training in December to become a Stroller Strides instructor with Fit4Mom.

2010s

Rachel Bramblet '10, Rochester, Minnesota, accepted a gynecologic oncology fellowship at the Mayo Clinic.

Jacob Brumfield '10, New York, joined Accenture Consulting in Manhattan to help pioneer its thought leadership on the workforce of the future, beginning at the world's largest telecom companies.

Thomas E. Hatton '10, Lexington, became a family resource coordinator at Lexington Habitat for Humanity in October.

Tyler Murphy '10, Lexington, was elected to the Fayette County school board in November.

Justin Blackburn '11, Lexington, became a cyber security analyst in November at Crowe LLP, a public accounting, consulting and technology firm with offices across the globe.

Matt Elmore '11, Little Rock, Arkansas, became executive director for Alzheimer's Arkansas in April.

Greg Finch '11, Savannah, Georgia, joined Bouhan Falligant as an associate attorney. His practice areas include health care, transportation and professional litigation matters.

Shannon Rollins '11, Antwerp, Belgium, became marketing manager for Umamido, a local Belgian ramen chain, in March. She also submitted her doctoral thesis for examination at the University of Edinburgh College of Art, and she had a chapter included in "Global Frankenstein" by Palgrave McMillan.

Paul T. Finley '12, Okinawa, Japan, is a captain serving in the United States Marine Corps as an aircraft commander of the MV-22 Tiltrotor in VMM-265.

Lauren Hatchett '12, Seattle, completed a Master of Education in education policy at the University of Washington and began as a council analyst at the university in October.

Kayla Weber Nord '12, Lexington, has started her own art studio at Springhouse Gardens and sells art online at kaylaweberart.com. Anthropologie has started selling a line of decorative globes that she designed, and she debuted a new collection of work at the LexArts Gallery Hop in November.

Quanta Taylor '12, Bexley, Ohio, received an award from the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. as the newest member of the organization that had made significant impacts and contributions to its mission. Quanta is assistant director of student involvement at The Ohio State University.

Justin Tereshko '12, Lexington, was chosen as a Transylvania representative for the HCAC's All-Decade Team.

Elizabeth Davis '13, Louisville, earned an M.A. in English literature and an M.A.Ed. in secondary English education. She is a 9th and 10th grade English teacher at Walden High School.

Anna Followell Finley '13, Okinawa, Japan, is a postpartum nurse at the Naval Hospital in Okinawa.

Amanda Skinner '13, Boston, became an Artful Adventures Museum educator at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston in January.

Lyman Stone '13, Tuen Muen, Hong Kong, was featured in two Bloomberg publications. The first is a feature about his work in population projections in Puerto Rico, and the second quotes his work on the effects of retirement due to increasing costs of housing, child care and education, as well as the decline in fertility rates.

Daniel Barber '14, Washington, D.C., earned a Master of Public Health in 2016 from the University of Kentucky and now works for the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services as a member of the legislative team, editing and writing bills in collaboration with members of Congress.

Ryan James '14, Louisville, joined Standard Sales Company LP as a sales representative in August.

SAVE THE DATE

JULY 22, 2019

Transylvania Luncheon at
DOC General Assembly

Iowa Event Center, Des Moines

SEPTEMBER 21, 2019

Alumni Board and Young
Alumni Council meetings

SEPTEMBER 26, 2019

Fall Reunion of the
Robert Barr Society

OCTOBER 27, 2019

Fall Festival

NOVEMBER 1, 2019

Alumni Authors Evening

APRIL 24-26, 2020

Alumni Weekend

Kerri Kolarik '14, San Diego, became a neighborhood partnerships manager at Feeding San Diego in January.

Allie Merritt '14, Lexington, earned a Master of Public Health from the University of Kentucky and started working at the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services in June 2018. She is an epidemiologist focused on statewide outcomes in heart disease and stroke prevention and care.

Kyle Smith '14, Orlando, Florida, is the first Transylvania men's soccer player to reach Major League Soccer, signing with Orlando City SC. He debuted in March.

Sara Williamson '14, University City, Missouri, became a social worker, MSSW, at the International Institute of St. Louis in November.

Daniel Lyvers '15, Fort Collins, Colorado, graduated from Vanderbilt Divinity School with a Master of Divinity and was awarded the Disciples Divinity House Scholar Award. He was ordained in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in May and is now associate pastor at Heart of the Rockies Christian Church.

Chloe Bingham '16, Paris, France, earned a master's degree from the School of International Relations and Diplomacy at the American Graduate School in June 2018. She is now interning and assisting in a series of presentations at the U.S. Embassy.

Cameron Kelley '16, Cleveland, became Cincinnati regional manager at ScribeAmerica in July. The company provides a medical scribing service, and he manages all accounts and contracts within his region.

Courtney Smith '16, Lexington, became director of global and intercultural engagement in the Center for Academic and Professional Enrichment at Transylvania.

Jordin Fender '17, Lexington, was chosen as a Transylvania representative for the HCAC's All-Decade Team.

Katie Hamlin '17, Lexington, became an administrative assistant in the Center for Academic and Professional Enrichment at Transylvania in December.

Elias Hanna '17, Bloomington, Indiana, became the program assistant at Indiana Geological and

Water Survey in March 2018. He is also a candidate for dual masters of public affairs and environmental science at Indiana University.

Mollie LaFavers '17, Louisville, became the communications coordinator at Volunteers of America Mid-States. She is responsible for social media management and internal communications.

Bethany Herron '18, Lexington, became a special education teacher at Mary Todd Elementary in February.

Ben Wagner '18, Racine, Wisconsin, is the technical theater director at The Prairie School. In this role, he oversees all of the theater workshop courses in Prairie's performing arts curriculum.

MARRIAGES

Erin Lane Frey '02 and Declan Foy, Nov. 9, 2018

Elizabeth Lynn Meitzler '03 and Daniel Guevara Hernandez, April 21, 2018

Kelsey Brown '04 and Dorin O'Mara, Sept. 2, 2017

Amanda Marie Arnett '06 and Jody Harris, Oct. 19, 2018

Megan Cleveland '09 and J.D. Schwetschenau, May 12, 2018

Jenna Brooke Crain '09 and **Dustin Faust '09**, Nov. 17, 2018

Leila Dawn McGuire '09 and Lance Mutter, Nov. 17, 2018

Allison Burger '10 and Chris Reynolds, Oct. 13, 2018

Katie Martin '11 and **Aaron Wainscott '11**, Sept. 29, 2018

Chelsea Blaire Sharpe '11 and Evan Woolums, Nov. 9, 2018

Emmalyne D. Wyatt '14 and **Stephen V. Willoughby '15**, Nov. 10, 2018

Kelsey DeBord '15 and **C. Gray Gideon '12**, April 7, 2018

Leah Elizabeth Grace '15 and Ryan Bennett, Nov. 3, 2018

Emily A. Salemi '15 and Nicholas Pierson, Aug. 3, 2018

Nicole Lynn Tomaszewski '15 and **Jonna Elizabeth Wilson '16**, June 17, 2018

Alex Miller '17 and Cayden Hacker, July 21, 2018

Raquel Loftus '18 and Mason Angel, Sept. 29, 2018

Katelyn Marie McMahan '18 and **James Carson Baughman III '16**, Oct. 27, 2018

IN MEMORIAM

Rose Hart Dale '35, Livingston, Tennessee, died Oct. 23, 2018.

Orpha Romohr Baxter '40, Charlotte, North Carolina, died Jan. 22, 2019.

Mary Margaret Aldridge Meyer '41, Fort Thomas, Kentucky, died Dec. 9, 2018. Survived by husband **Dexter Meyer Jr. '41** and son **Dexter Meyer III '69**.

Muriel Roth Collier '42, Erlanger, Kentucky, died Jan. 7, 2019.

Francis Dow Kindred '42, Lexington, died Dec. 26, 2018.

Norma Mae Mastin Adair '43, Paris, Kentucky, died Dec. 13, 2018.

Aubrey Edwards '43, Louisville, died Feb. 1, 2019. Survived by children **Aubrey Edwards III '68** and **Alice Edwards '76**.

Martha Thompson Frazier '46, Cynthiana, Kentucky, died Jan. 19, 2019.

Jean Fulton Foster '47, Middletown, Virginia, died Jan. 9, 2015.

Shirley Stevens Greenburg '49, Harrodsburg, Kentucky, died April 6, 2019.

Eddy Whitaker '49, Louisville, died Oct. 4, 2018.

Genrose Swango Turner '50, Maysville, Kentucky, died Nov. 27, 2015.

Dorothy Ann Kline Walters '50, Glidden, Iowa, died Feb. 22, 2019.

John L. Bray '52, Lawrenceburg, Kentucky, died Dec. 20, 2018. Survived by children **Helen Bray Cox '74** and **Susan Bray Hyatt '79**.

Henry Dennis '53, Ocala, Florida, died March 24, 2019. Survived by wife **June Ashley Dennis '52**.

Richard Rawe '53, Huntington Beach, California, died May 3, 2018.

Max Martin Smith '53, Lexington, died Oct. 28, 2018.

Richard Drane '54, Auburn, Maine, died Nov. 5, 2016.

John Roger Simmons '54, Santa Rosa, California, died Dec. 9, 2018.

Gloria Wiggins Whitson '54, Parrish, Florida, died Oct. 30, 2018.

Juliet Kalb Cate '55, St. Petersburg, Florida, died Oct. 10, 2016. Survived by son **Andrew Cate '89**.

John Harold Hopkins '56, Mansfield, Ohio, died Jan. 7, 2018. Survived by daughter **Christine Hopkins Bass '73**.

Martha Heard George '57, Zephyrhills, Florida, died Sept. 4, 2018.

Nancy Jane McNaron '57, Columbia, Tennessee, died Aug. 25, 2017.

Nancy Kelly Thomas '60, Naples, Florida, died Nov. 4, 2018.

Thomas Kelly '61, Lexington, died March 20, 2019. Survived by wife **Eleanor Fox Kelly '59** and daughter **Dee Kelly Lawless '84**.

Rose Marie Moloney Lucas '61, Lexington, died March 28, 2019. Survived by children **Jack Lucas Jr. '83**, **Elizabeth Lucas '86** and **Michael Lucas '90**.

Michael Hoffman '65, West Newton, Massachusetts, died Dec. 6, 2018.

Laura Moody Pettus '66, Lake Wales, Florida, died Dec. 11, 2018.

Leanne Chrisman Robinson '66, Gloucester, Massachusetts, died Nov. 21, 2018.

Donna Hickman '67, Payson, Arizona, died March 19, 2019.

Sandra Cole Monhollen '69, Greeley, Colorado, died March 13, 2019. Survived by husband **Steven Monhollen '69**.

Kurt Lance Krafft '70, Nashville, Tennessee, died Oct. 8, 2017. Survived by daughter **Margaret Krafft '14**.

John Montgomery '70, Shelbyville, Kentucky, died April 5, 2019.

Charles DiMaggio '72, Chicago, died March 19, 2019.

Susan Snyder Hartley '72, Louisville, died Oct. 21, 2018.

Marsha Hart Jones '71, Maysville, Kentucky, died Feb. 11, 2019.

William Michael Terry '71, Nicholasville, Kentucky, died Dec. 22, 2018.

Anne Ford Snell '72, Lexington, died Nov. 12, 2018. Survived by husband **John Snell '70**.

Michael Demarco '73, Lexington, died March 28, 2019.

Ramona Steinhoff Warner '73, Florence, Kentucky, died Nov. 8, 2018.

Evelyn L. Smith '75, Danville, Kentucky, died March 4, 2019.

Dolores Brown Harper '76, Lexington, died March 3, 2019.

Temple Dickinson '78, Glasgow, Kentucky, died Jan. 29, 2019. Survived by brother **Lewis Dickinson '67**.

Pamela Riker '79, Williamsport, Pennsylvania, died Sept. 7, 2015.

Joseph Ulanday '82, Lexington, died Dec. 4, 2018.

Sam Scott '84, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, died April 18, 2016.

Amy Olmstead Kolasa '89, Burgin, Kentucky, died Jan. 11, 2019. Survived by husband **James Kolasa '86**.

Katherine Day Carter '90, Lexington, died Dec. 21, 2018. Survived by father **Nolan Carter '60** and sister **Kelly Carter '86**.

Brian Maguire '91, Louisville, died Dec. 28, 2018.

Jacques Brousseau '93, Richmond, Virginia, died March 21, 2019. Survived by siblings **Louis Brousseau '90**, **Mignon Brousseau '95** and **Dominique Brousseau '01**.

Laura McFarling Beaty '94, Leander, Texas, died Jan. 24, 2019.

Andrew Bramblett '09, Wilmore, Kentucky, died Dec. 11, 2018. Survived by wife **Shawna Corman '10**.

alumni AWARDS

We are proud to recognize these alumni and friends for their exemplary service to Transylvania and their communities and for distinguishing themselves in their respective professions.

The awards were presented at the Alumni Celebration Convocation on Saturday, April 27, in Carrick Theater, Mitchell Fine Arts Center.

William B. Bramblet '73
Judith Richmond Bramblet '75
2019 Morrison Medallion



Bill and Judy Bramblet have over 40 years of faithful service to Transylvania. They have issued multiple annual fund challenges to alumni through the years, are supporters of the Pioneer Club, made gifts to building projects, are on the Campaign Steering Committee and have endowed a student scholarship through their estate. Bill is a member of the Board of Regents, and Judy is a member of the Transylvania Women's Club.

Gregory M. Turcotte '09
Outstanding Young Alumni Award



Greg Turcotte was part of the inaugural group of alumni who served on the Transylvania University Young Alumni Council. He served two consecutive three-year terms, including as president in 2016-17. He was the young alumni liaison for the Alumni Plaza brick project completed in 2015, and since 2014 has served as a member of the Pioneer Club Advisory Council.

Mariju L. Bofill '99
Distinguished Achievement Award



Mariju Bofill has built a prolific 18-year career in the U.S. Department of State. She is senior coordinator for interagency affairs in the J7/9 Exercises and Coalition Affairs Directorate at U.S. Southern Command, where she works on government response to national security priorities in Central America, South America and the Caribbean.

Kathleen Bruce Hill Florence '59
Distinguished Achievement Award



Kathleen Bruce Hill Florence is a former teacher, a co-owner of Vintage Store, a freelance columnist and a published poet and novelist. She helped establish a branch of a community college in Cynthiana, Kentucky, where she served as campus director for 27 years. She is currently a Donovan Scholar at Maysville Community College.

Mark C. Green '79
Distinguished Achievement Award



In 2015, after a career spanning education, pharmaceutical sales and business development, Mark Green became owner and managing director of Strategic Pathways LLC, a sales enablement company. He had previously been executive director for career development and training at Johnson & Johnson and a senior sales director at EMC Dell Technologies.

Thomas C. Polk '69
Distinguished Achievement Award



Thomas Polk founded the Furniture Bank of Atlanta, an organization that provides household furnishings to clients including formerly homeless people, veterans and survivors of domestic violence. He then founded the Furniture Bank Association of America to help start and unite other furniture banks. There are now 125 operating in the U.S. and Canada.

Paul G. Preston '79
Distinguished Achievement Award



Paul Preston is a physician safety educator and surgical quality leader for the Permanente Medical Group in San Francisco. He has done extensive research in reliable design of smoking cessation, preoperative workflows, anemia and acute stroke workflows. Paul has conducted numerous medical mission trips, most recently to Guatemala in March.

Richard L. Hempel '84
Distinguished Service Award



Richard Hempel has served on the Transylvania Alumni Board, Board of Visitors and Board of Regents (as chair in 2015-17). An active supporter of athletics, he contributed to the construction of the Beck Center and Fourth Street Athletic Complex.

K. Beth Johnson '94
Distinguished Service Award



Beth Johnson served on her class reunion committees, the Transylvania Alumni Board, the Women's Impact Council and in the 100 Doors to Success program. She has been a faithful contributor to the Alumni Legacy Scholarship and established the Evelyn F. Johnson Scholarship.

W. Scott McConnell '99
Distinguished Service Award



Scott McConnell has served on the Transylvania Alumni Board (as president in 2017-18), in the 100 Doors to Success program and on his class reunion committees. He was instrumental in starting the Alumni Welcome Tent at new student move-in day, which has become an exciting tradition.

Brian C. Wood '94
Distinguished Service Award



Brian C. Wood is a member of the Board of Trustees, served on the Beck Center Alumni Committee and chaired his class 10th reunion. He has provided financial support for the Annual Fund and numerous capital projects. He has chaired the Buildings and Grounds Committee of the Board of Trustees since 2016.

alumni WEEKEND 2019

Pioneers from around the country returned to campus April 26-28 for the “It’s Your Year” Alumni Weekend. Between dinner socials, convocation, the President’s Reception and the Barr Society induction ceremony, there was plenty to celebrate at one of Transy’s most cherished annual events.



Class of 1969 – 50th Reunion

Front Row (Left to Right): Jo Ellen Hayden, Sandy Shearer, Sandra Naylor Franz, Dale Ann Fielman Cole, Harvey Ross, William Morris, Patty Breeze, Carolyn Hensley Reynolds, Jane Fields Alexander, Gayle Purple Hutcherson, Cindy Campbell Nairn, Lynn Swetnam Boone, Yvonne Fisher Todd, Sue Williams Pahl. *Second Row (L to R):* Bill Duty, Ann Dickey Haynes, Alice Shephard Wells, Johanne Codell Daigh, Penny Fife Campbell, Sherry Monthie Ederheimer, Marnie Pearce Downs, Judy Ford, Martha Robertson Francis, Marsha Bell Uselton, Ginny Thomas Eckert, Mary Lowe Bradley, Susie Smith Eichlen (in front of Mary Bradley), Dexter Meyer, Rick Arenstein, Bob Baker, Warren Austin, Van Pedigo, David Weinberg. *Third Row (L to R):* David Shivell, Patricia Bigham Journeay, Joan Anderson Young, Mary Nell Faulkner Bowling, Cathy Cramer Tittmann, Dyanne Flynt McLaughlin, Tom Harlan, David Hilgeford, Dick Cole, Rob Myers, Doug Hutcherson, Susan Swindler Lyle, Rankin Carter, Ken Kuehne, Steve Underwood, Larkin Chenault, Don Todd, Tom Polk. *Fourth Row (L to R):* Lou Dzialo, Debbie Daugherty Piel, Tommy Bass, Reid Baumgartner, Skip Redmond, Jennifer Moore Brock, John Mack, Steve Monhollen, Ann Stafford Dahl, Tom Fuller, Catesby Woodford, Chris Snyder. *Back Row (L to R):* Richard Skaggs, Bob Atkinson, Don Browne, Whit Criswell, Jim Hurley.



Robert Barr Society

Front Row: Mary Elizabeth Wylie Snellgrove '64 *Second Row (Left to Right):* John Williams '62, Mary Frances Arthur Queen '64, Bill Watson '64, John Tackett '59, Anne Prather Cammack '59, Pryntha Alexander Hardenbergh '59, Virginia Marsh Bell '44, Patsy Alexander Nielsen '61, Kay Taylor Gevedon '64, Betsy Parry-Davenport '64. *Back Row (L to R):* Gayle Ropke Greer '58, Kay Anne Frazier Wilborn '66, Jim Boswell '64, Charlie Taylor '65, Marianne Carter Humphries '64, Carol Carter Morgan '68, Michael Morgan '68.



Class of 1974– 45th Reunion

Front Row (Left to Right): Garnett Adams Davis, Sheila Green Smith, Kathie Hultman Liebert, Carol Codell, Barbara Beckwith Candella, Donna Callison. *Second Row (L to R):* Dan Von Koschembahr, Pete Herrick, Lucy Sims Williams, Jannie Hargett Nallinger, Cathy Hancock Comley, Jeff Menkes, Ernie Arnold. *Back Row (L to R):* Bill Davis, Gregory Bass, Jane McGee Smith, John Williams, Janet McGregor, Ann Brown Hannon, Tom Grumbles.



Class of 1979 – 40th Reunion

Front Row (Left to Right): Sheila Jaynes, Nancy Allif, Genie Webb Vaughn, Denny Gash, Jack Resinger. *Second Row (L to R):* Ann Conway Blevins, Debbie Compton Balles, Dana Lawson Rice, Susan Clay Grigsby, Deanna Binion Tatterson, Kathy Payne Walters. *Third Row (L to R):* Melonie Graves, Becky Heffner Burchett, Terry Gevedon, Marc LaMond, Janna Dunavent Fitzwater, Martha Arnold Schoonmaker, Joy Arnold, Andy Graves, Leslie Linder Hammons. *Back Row (L to R):* Blake Burchett, Mark Green, Bill Bullock, Paul Preston, Lisbon Davis Hardy, Ann Cunningham Grandin, Rick Arnold.



Class of 1984 – 35th Reunion

Front Row (Left to Right): Cindy Miller Hague, Elizabeth Greenup Faulkner, Susan Ware, Liz Phearson Fulkerson, Dana Lally Haugli. *Back Row (L to R):* Bill Landers, Cathy Creech, Laura Von Greunigen Patterson, Paula Gill, David Lafferty, Tommy Simpson.



Class of 1989 – 30th Reunion

Front Row (Left to Right): Sallye Holcomb Staley, Carol Devine, Kim North Mercker, Jenny Hall Medley, Stephanie Dixon Sutphin. *Second Row (L to R):* Roy Roberson, Jay McCoy, Chip Chapman, Vince Mongiardo, Byron Perkins. *Back Row (L to R):* Paul Guillerman, James Nuckolls, Chris Rose, Mark Tussey.



Class of 1994 – 25th Reunion

Front Row (Left to Right): Kim Smith Mott, Misha Warren Bell, Mary Little Buzard, Shikha Seksaria Sundaram, Melissa Taylor Pascua, Jeannie Harrod Hixson, Beth Young Cole. *Second Row (L to R):* Michelle Cook-Becker, Beth Johnson, Stephen Burchett, Shannan Stamper, Leigh Ann Jordan Davis, Jennifer Hoppman Acklen, Amy Bentley Johnson, Melissa Stump Meier, Michelle Kosovac Clements. *Third Row (L to R):* Rob Cartwright, Dale Amburgey, Allen Eskridge, Andrew Childress, Jon Anderson, Charlie Kamuf, Beth Wright Oldendick. *Back Row (L to R):* Eric Withrow, Brian Johnson.

Class of 1999 – 20th Reunion

Front Row (Left to Right): Mariju Bofill, Shannon Florea, Jack Tsai, Tresine Tatum Logsdon, Amy Lewis Bates. *Second Row (L to R):* Raine Engle Minichan, Andrea Hill Whitenack, Jason Varney, Christy Brown, Georgeann Stamper Brown, Amit Patel, Amanda Mackey Hettinger, Sarah Puckett Cavanah, Nancy Riley, Kelly Hoskins Tyler. *Back Row (L to R):* Ashley Sanders, Robin Powell Maples, Jan Vaughn Horn, Ann-Phillips Mayfield, Vicky Johnson Gaver, Scott McConnell, Drew Beattie, Duncan Cavanah.



Class of 2004 – 15th Reunion

Left to Right: Matthew Roth, Rebecca Garman, Katie Griffin Jenner, Stephen Johnson, Erin Willhoite Johnson, Kerri Buchanan Montgomery, Rebecca Klausung Frazer.



Class of 2009 – 10th Reunion

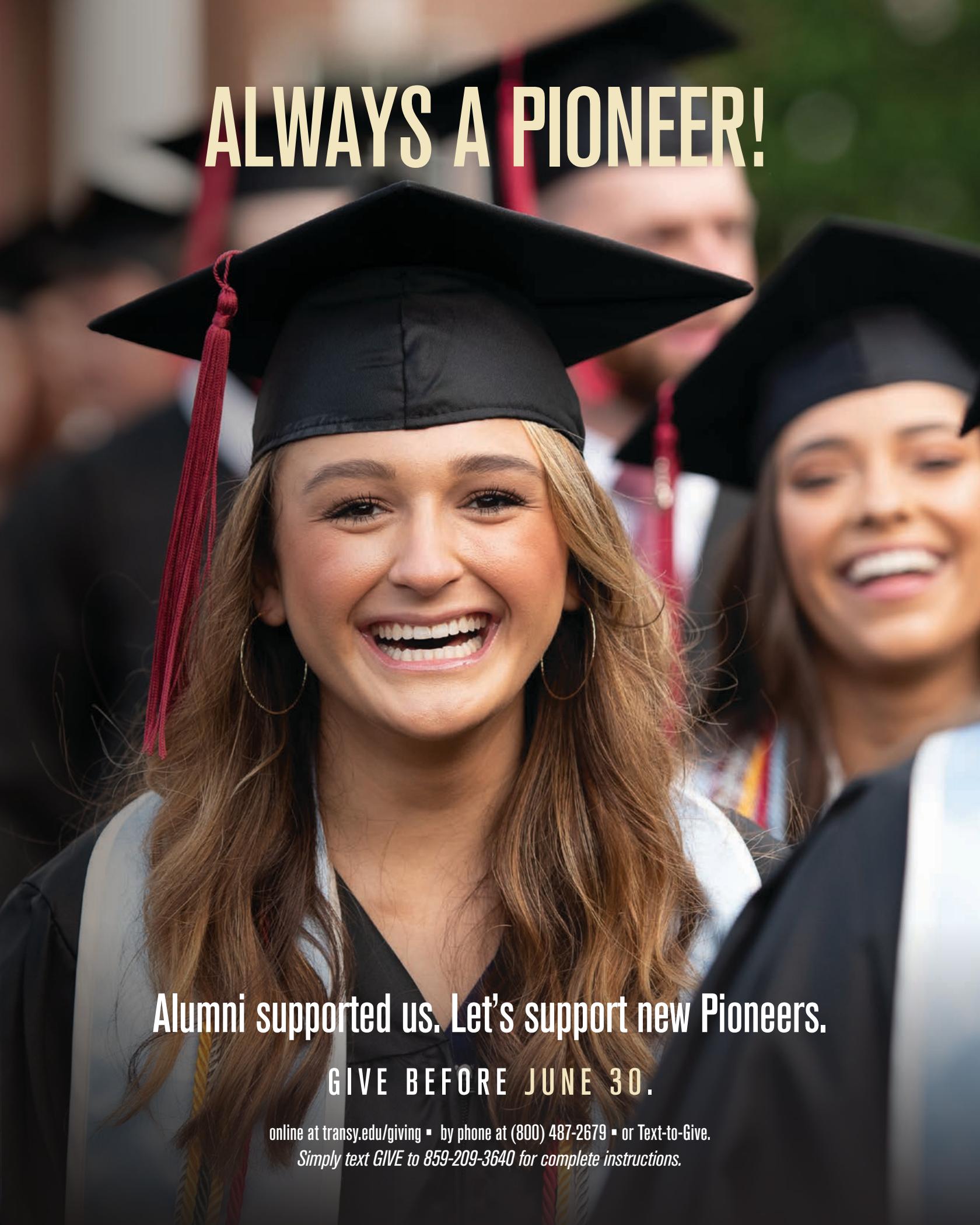
Front Row (Left to Right): Ben Mullen, Anthony Zanni, Katie Davis Crowe, Logan Lloyd, Ethan Knox. *Second Row (L to R):* Neal Turpin, Kelly Ficker, Chelsea Broering Rohrer, Kelly Spratte-Lennington Ronald, Ashley Willoughby Coons, Brittney Congleton, Chrissie Sutherland Adams, Amanda Meneghetti Turcotte, Lee Nutini. *Back row (L to R):* Kyle Spring, Erin Mead Spring, Ali Downard Koga, Sarah Wilson Spinks, Laura Broughton, Farah Delshad, Lisle Adams, Greg Turcotte, Lino Nakwa.



Class of 2014 – 5th Reunion

Front Row (Left to Right): Allie Merritt, Emily Novak, Ashley Keating, Brittany Horsley, Ilana Kline, Rachel Norris, Kayarash Karimian. *Back Row (L to R):* Evan Sizemore, Raisa Tikhtman, Daniel Barber, Liz Barczak, Kim Guy, Carly Wynn, Kim Shain.





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Transylvania Theater
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