



## Inspired giving



Wofford students benefit from new high-profile gifts for experiential learning.

When Jerry Richardson '59 gave \$150 million to Wofford in February — one of the largest ever single gifts to a U.S. college — he also inspired others to give.

One alumnus, wishing to remain anonymous, gave \$5 million in support of the vision laid out by the college's trustees and administration, and to express his appreciation for "all the good Mr. Richardson has done."

Richardson's most recent \$150 million gift to the endowment is designated to support four areas of the college: the renovation and repair of Richardson-named buildings, a boost to the minimum compensation on campus to \$15 per hour, need-based scholarships and need-based experiential learning opportunities, something that's a hot topic in higher education today and aligns perfectly with Wofford's mission and core values.

The anonymous donor simply asked the college to use the gift so that it could further Wofford's reputation as a national liberal arts college and provide a complete experience for students.

Two million dollars of that gift is being used to match donations being made to support

student experiences. Trustee Howard Coker '85 also made a gift to support gift matching initiatives.

“I was given an opportunity at Wofford that I’ve been able to leverage, and we have an obligation to make Wofford better,” says Coker, CEO of Sonoco. “While we have a responsibility to provide a higher value experience for today’s students, there’s an understanding that they will, too.”

Each of the gifts supporting student experiences involved donors closely examining student needs to enhance their Wofford experience.

Susu and George Dean Johnson Jr., entrepreneur, business leader and founder of The Johnson Group, recently established the Corry W. Oakes III Endowed Interim Support Fund in honor of Corry Oakes '89, Johnson’s business partner and immediate past chairman of the Wofford College Board of Trustees. The award supports opportunities for international travel, internships and other experiences during the Interim for students with financial need.

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## Staying on course



Ole Berg '22 competes in a race in June 2020 in Rudskogen, Norway. Berg and his father will compete at the same track beginning Friday. (Motorphoto by Jørn)

By Robert W. Dalton

Ole Berg '22 grew up watching his father, Paal, race on the Norwegian Grand Touring circuit. When he was old enough, Berg got behind the wheel of his own car to follow in his father’s footsteps.

This coming weekend in Rudskogen, Norway, they’ll race at the same event for the first time,

although in different classes.

“I so appreciate him sharing this great sport with me,” says Berg, a finance and economics double major from Oslo and a back on Wofford’s soccer team. “It’s really cool.”

Berg raced go-carts while growing up and jumped up to the Norwegian GT4 class in 2019, driving a Honda Civic. He moved up to GT3 and a Porsche in 2020.

“GT3 is by far the most competitive class,” Berg says. “The cars are much faster, about 360 horsepower.”

Berg spends his weekdays working remotely on his internship as an analyst with Leedon Park Capital, a private equity firm in Charlotte, North Carolina. Then it’s off to the gym or a race car simulator for a workout.

The races are a weekend event. On Fridays, drivers get a feel for the course, and the teams try to get the right setup for the car. Saturdays begin with a warmup and qualifying, followed by the first race. Two more races on Sundays complete the weekend.

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## Spring 2021 Dean’s List



Read the names of students who made the **Dean’s List during the spring semester.**

# JEDI Town Hall

Watch a recording of the **June 3 Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Steering Committee town hall** that discussed the committee's work over the past year, recommendations and next steps.

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