

# CONQUER & PREVAIL WOFFORD COLLEGE



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## Celebrating legacies



Wofford College President Dr. Nayef Samhat meets members of the Cheek and Fant families who are supporting the college by establishing endowed funds. Left to right: Samhat; James Cheek '73; Dr. Dwain Pruitt '95, Wofford's chief equity officer; Myrtle Cheek; Phillip Fant '74; Margaree Fant; Anneliesa Finch, a Wofford leadership gift officer; Eric Cheek and Phylicia Fant.

Phillip Fant '74 proudly remembers the days he shuttled his daughter, Phylicia Fant, from school to extracurricular activities and the lessons he shared over the years. James Cheek '73 makes it no secret that he took great pride in the holiday and birthday gifts he bought Phylicia, his only niece.

She recognizes the impact her parents and uncle have had on her life and understands they've meant a lot to many others, including generations of students at Wofford College. In their honor, she established the Phillip Fant '74 and James A. Cheek '73 Endowed Scholarship Fund, which will benefit need-based students from Spartanburg.

“Legacy matters and they were courageous,” Phylcia Fant says. “The whole idea of the shoulders we stand on is real.”

Her father and uncle were among the first Black students to attend Wofford. They made contributions to shape the student experience, and recent gifts from their family will continue to impact the campus for years to come.

Cheek has established the Arthur Earl Cheek and Myrtle Jackson Cheek Legacy Endowed Scholarship Fund to honor his parents. Fant and his wife, Margaree, started a travel fund to support students traveling with the college’s Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. All of the new funds were announced during one of the college’s Black History Month events on Feb. 21.

Cheek worked in the college’s admission office as a student, and that led to a full-time job before he started law school. Fant, his brother-in-law, was probably one of the first people Cheek informally recruited to Wofford while talking about his time on campus when visiting with friends and family.

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## Arts update



### IN THIS ISSUE:

- + Wofford Theatre: “The Fairytale Lives of Russian Girls” and “Pride and Prejudice.”
- + Cultural Affairs: “Being Moved: An Exploration of Organic Movement and Expression,” led by Robin Levine.
- + Museum Exhibitions: “I Work with Clay,” American ceramics from the Hackney-Haight Collection.
- + “Dr. Francis Robicsek (1925-2020): The Art of Collecting.”
- + Gallery Exhibition: “Rural Queer.”
- + RSRCA Interim: “Slow Fashion.”
- + Symposium: Celebrating Dr. Peter Schmunk.

### MUSEUM AND GALLERY HOURS

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays  
and Saturdays: 1-5 p.m.

Thursdays: 1-7 p.m.

Closed Sundays and Mondays

Admission is free.

The Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts is hosting an artist talk and workshops involving dance Friday (Feb. 25) and Saturday (Feb. 26). [Learn about these upcoming events and other arts happenings on campus in the Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts newsletter.](#)

# SpartanDogs



After a two-year layoff, the SpartanDogs returned to action in November. The team has another race coming up in April.

By Benjamin H. Bledsoe '24

For two years, the SpartanDogs faced an obstacle they couldn't go over, under or around.

The Spartan race team, started in 2019, competed in one event before COVID-19 shut them down. The team returned to action in November and has another event coming up April 10 in Concord, North Carolina.

Harrison Chase '22, Leah Wilson '20 and Liesel Rutland '20 started the team. They shared an interest in running and competing in triathlons and Spartan races and wanted to create a club that focused on strenuous physical feats in a team setting.

Spartan Races are physically demanding, ranging in length from 3 miles to 26 miles. Throughout the race, runners must complete difficult obstacles to get to the finish line.

[READ MORE](#)

## Upcoming Black History Month event

“bell hooks and Black Feminism,” a panel discussion with Dr. Bria Harper, assistant professor of English; Dr. Dresden Lackey, assistant professor of sociology and anthropology; Jessica Scott-Felder, assistant professor of studio art; Dr. LaTasha Smith-Tyus, director of career services; and Dr. Nancy Williams, associate professor and chair of philosophy, will conclude the college’s Black History Month events and help kick off Women’s History Month at 6 p.m. Monday in Olin Theater, Franklin W. Olin Building.

## Southern Conference Basketball Championships



Sam Godwin '24 attempts a shot against East Tennessee State University. Godwin is fifth on the men's basketball team in rebounds (90), and he's made 64% of his shots.



Jackie Carman '22 faces a double team against UNC Greensboro. Carman leads the women's basketball team in scoring with 12.3 points per game.

The men's and women's Southern Conference Basketball Championships will be held in Asheville, North Carolina, Thursday, March 3 through Monday, March 7. The men conclude the regular season at 7 p.m. Saturday at home against Mercer. The women's team will end the regular season at 1:30 p.m. Saturday at Chattanooga. The seeds for next week's tournaments will be announced over the weekend.

**Find information, including how to purchase tickets, for the Southern Conference Basketball Championships.**

## **Celebrating food and family**



Wofford's campus community was treated to more than lunch in the Burwell Dining Hall. A Mardi Gras-themed celebration took place to celebrate the grand re-opening of the building after a two-year renovation.

Wofford College and its culinary partner, AVI Foodsystems, celebrated the grand re-opening of Burwell Dining Hall with a Mardi Gras-themed celebration.

**Read all about it and what the new Burwell has to offer.**

**Watch a video tour of the new Burwell led by Megan Santos '23.**

## In concert

Internationally renowned trombonist John Fedchock will perform with the Spartanburg Jazz Ensemble at 8 p.m. this evening in Leonard Auditorium. Admission is free. Prior to the event, Fedchock held a masterclass for Wofford students. [Read more about Fedchock.](#)

**Office of Marketing and Communications**

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