Inspiring through art

Walker Antonio ’23, Megan Santos ’23 and Kate Timbes ’23 designed and painted murals for the Spartanburg Opportunity Center. The center provides shelter and services for people who are homeless.

By Brandi Wylie ’24, student intern

Three Wofford College students dedicated the first half of their summer to creating art to inspire and encourage those at the Spartanburg Opportunity Center.

Walker Antonio ’23, Megan Santos ’23 and Kate Timbes ’23 led a project to each create unique murals for the center, a Spartanburg nonprofit that helps people who are homeless by giving them exactly what their name says: opportunity.
This is the third mural opportunity for Timbes, a studio art major from Columbia, South Carolina. The primary aspects of this work include inspiration from a photo of Spartanburg in 1940 as well as a depiction of two hands weaving.

“Weaving is a meditative process, slowing down and looking at the bigger picture, taking it one step at a time,” Timbes says. “We live in a society of high expectations, and America is so fast-paced, so I wanted to transcend that within my imagery.”

Santos, a biology and studio art double major from Concord, North Carolina, used yellow butterflies to invite the SOC’s clients to recognize that what is to come is better than the present situation. Her piece has a personal connection as well, as butterflies always signaled something transformative in her life.

**Tenure and promotions**

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“Wofford College’s faculty are recognized for both their deep commitment to students and their dedication to their fields of study,” says Dr. Timothy Schmitz, interim provost. “The college’s newly tenured and promoted faculty embody these ideals. It’s a privilege to celebrate their contributions to the college and their distinguished work by announcing their tenure and promotions.”

Letter from Coach Conklin

Dear Terriers,

I want to start by thanking all of our fans and alumni for their passion and support the past four years. The opportunity to be the head football coach at Wofford College is a blessing. I respect the opportunity I have been given. I approach it with gratitude, and I understand the work ethic it takes to compete at a national level. I did not attend Wofford College, but I have a passion for and a connection to how this college transforms lives.

I married into a family from which three generations of student-athletes graduated from Wofford, and all three of them wore a Wofford football uniform. When I decided to take this job, my father-in-law told me a story about his dad, Al Clark Sr. The story spoke to the
seriousness of my decision to lead this football team and the responsibility I was signing on to.

After serving with the U.S. Marine Corps in the Pacific theater during World War II, the GI Bill gave Mr. Clark an opportunity to attend Wofford. That opportunity changed his life and his family’s life. It gave him a foundation for professional excellence and unwavering leadership. He loved Wofford College because it gave him an incredible foundation.

Every day I come to work I am reminded of that story. It is a story that resonates with me because it connects my purpose and calling as Wofford’s head coach to the college’s life-changing history.

College football has changed rapidly in the past four years. The trajectory we are now on is completely different than it was five years ago. Our program faces new challenges, complex issues and an ever-changing environment, and we are navigating this new landscape with great confidence.

I am excited about Wofford football and its future. After executing a four-year transition plan, we are embarking on a new era of Wofford football in a new era of college football. This transition has not been easy, and it won’t be easy moving forward. Our staff, our coaches and our players are prepared for the fight.

This program is built on our players, men of character who wear old gold and black and relentlessly pursue a standard of excellence. Our fans and alumni should be proud of these young men. Their attitude, toughness and work ethic are inspiring. The love they demonstrate to one another and the commitment they have to this team are what makes this game so special.

Thank you for all you do, and thanks for your support. Now is the time to step up, face these new challenges together, seek excellence in everything we do and prepare for a great future.

We are looking forward to 2022.

Go Terriers,

Josh Conklin
Head football coach

You can purchase tickets for the 2022 season online. Season tickets and single game tickets are available.
Recording of a town hall with the college’s leadership team

The college’s leadership team held a town hall on June 23 that focused on Wofford’s vision, operations and enrollment. If you were unable to attend, a recording can be found above.

We’d like to hear from you

The Conquer & Prevail newsletter began two years ago to keep Terriers connected during the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic. The college’s Office of Marketing and Communications would like to hear your thoughts on the newsletter. What do you think of the publication’s content and frequency, and is there anything that you’d like to see that’s not included? Please participate in a reader survey and be entered into drawings for Terrier gear.