



Alexander Smalls homecoming



Alexander Smalls, a world-renowned opera singer and award-winning chef, will return to Wofford College on Oct. 12.

Only one person is believed to have won Tony, Grammy and James Beard awards, and he's a former Wofford College student.

Alexander Smalls '74 says his work and awards are simply just him following his passions.

"My mother said if you love what you do, you'll never have a job," says Smalls, who lives in Harlem, New York.

Smalls, who also is an author, will return to Wofford on Oct. 12 for a campus visit. He'll participate in "A Conversation with Alexander Smalls and Craig Melvin" that the public is invited to attend at 6 p.m. in the Jerome Johnson Richardson Theatre. He and Melvin '01, a

“TODAY” show host and Wofford trustee, will discuss Wofford, food and life in New York City. Smalls’ latest cookbook, “Meals, Music and Muses” will be for sale after the event, and he’ll have a book signing.

Smalls won a Tony and a Grammy in 1977 for the cast recording of “Porgy and Bess” with the Houston Grand Opera. He won a 2019 James Beard Award for his groundbreaking cookbook “Between Harlem and Heaven” and his restaurant The Cecil was named “Best New Restaurant in America” in 2014 by Esquire Magazine. He recently signed a new book deal with Phaidon Press for his fourth cookbook, and he’s opened five critically acclaimed New York City restaurants over the past 30 years. In June, he released his first solo recording.

[READ MORE](#)

Revels named Hoy Professor



Dr. Tracy Revels, professor of history, has been named the Laura and Winston Hoy Professor of Humanities. She traveled to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, last week to meet the Hoyes.

By Robert W. Dalton

Dr. Tracy Revels loves teaching history and writing.

Because of her passion for that combination, Revels, professor of history, has been named the Laura and Winston Hoy Professor of Humanities.

“This is a very great honor,” says Revels. “Wofford has really been my life since I was 28 years old. It’s nice to be able to add this as a part of that life.”

The endowed professorship was established through a gift from Laura and Winston Hoy of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, in 2007, with additional funds from the Daniel Estate. They are the parents of Will Hoy '03, and Laura Hoy is a former member of Wofford’s Board of Trustees.

Revels follows Dr. Deno Trakas, who was the Laura and Winston Hoy Professor of Literature until his retirement in 2020.

“I just adore Deno,” says Revels. “His class (on novel writing) is the only one I ever audited at Wofford. To be able to be gifted with something he held is really special to me.”

Dr. Tim Schmitz, interim provost, says Revels was a natural fit for the professorship.

“Being named the Laura and Winston Hoy Professor of Humanities speaks to Dr. Revels’ long career in the classroom,” Schmitz says. “She’s a popular professor of history who also has distinguished herself with books and presentations about women in the Civil War and Florida tourism.”

[READ MORE](#)

Hipp Center to host Mike Rogers



Mike Rogers, a former chair of the House Intelligence Committee, to visit Wofford.

Mike Rogers, the former congressman for Michigan's 8th District, will speak at Wofford College on **Tuesday, Oct. 4 at 7 p.m. in Leonard Auditorium. The event is free and open to the public to attend.**

Rogers' lecture is titled "The Importance of the American Dream at Home and Abroad." It's part of the college's Hipp Lecture Series on International Affairs and National Security.

"Mike Rogers is one of the most respected Americans in the field of national security today," says Van Hipp, founder of the college's Hipp Center for National Security and Foreign Policy. "His leadership as the former chairman of the U.S. House Intelligence Committee and today as chairman of the MITRE Corporation has made a difference in the national security posture of our nation and has helped to keep America safe and strong."

Rogers, a Republican, served seven terms in Congress, 2001-2015. He chaired the House Intelligence Committee and oversaw a \$70 billion budget that provided funding to the country's 17 intelligence agencies. Before becoming an elected official, he served as an officer in the U.S. Army and as an FBI special agent.

[READ MORE](#)

Wofford hosts 44th annual Tri State Sculptors Association conference



Wofford College to host the 44th annual Tri State Sculptors Association conference the weekend of Oct. 7.

By Brandi Wylie '24, student intern

The Tri State Sculptors Association's five-week exhibit at Wofford College's Richardson Family Art Museum will conclude with its annual fall conference the weekend of Oct. 7.

Michael Webster, Wofford assistant professor of art and studio art coordinator, has attended almost every conference the association has offered in the past five years, and he is excited to bring the event to Wofford.

"This will be the first art conference that the college has hosted," Webster says. "It's showing that our new studio art program has reached a regional presence."

Oscar Soto, Wofford's studio art manager, and Webster have planned the conference and anticipate an estimated 100 guests at the college for the weekend.

[READ MORE](#)

A Day for Wofford



A Day for Wofford takes place **Wednesday, Oct. 5**. Join alumni, students, parents, faculty, staff and friends of the college for this 24-hour day of giving.

This year's goal is to raise \$500,000 from 854 donors.

Alumni, friends of the college and trustees are offering more than \$250,000 in challenge dollars to encourage donor participation and to multiply impact.

Donors may choose to support the area of Wofford that means the most to them. All gifts will make Wofford stronger and help unlock additional money throughout the day.

"The experiences I had at Wofford changed the trajectory of my life immeasurably. Contributing to Wofford gives me the opportunity to play a small part in providing similar

positive outcomes for today's students," says Charlie Simpson '95 from Mobile, Alabama, and parent of Catie Simpson '26.

Join the fun!

Family Weekend

The college's annual Family Weekend takes place this weekend, but the forecast is questionable. **Visit the weekend's website for the complete schedule and updates.**

Office of Marketing and Communications

Wofford College · 429 N. Church Street, Spartanburg, S.C. 29303-3663
864-597-4183 | woffordnews@wofford.edu | wofford.edu

Follow us @woffordcollege

