



Promising partnership



Anna Claire Rhyne '23, left, and Katie Palmaccio '25 work with students at Meeting Street Academy.

By Robert W. Dalton

Messiah Jones '23 surprised himself while teaching at Meeting Street Academy during the fall semester.

Jones, a sociology and anthropology major from Chicago, Illinois, discovered that he enjoyed teaching.

“I honestly had no desire to be a teacher,” says Jones. “These children are all so intelligent. Spending time with them in the classroom is definitely something I enjoy doing. I could see myself being a teacher now.”

Jones’ time in the classroom was made possible by a new partnership between Wofford College and Meeting Street, a public school of innovation in Spartanburg School District 7. Meeting Street serves the Highland, Hampton Heights and downtown areas of Spartanburg. The median household income in the attendance zone is \$11,973 and 91% of the children live in poverty.

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King Day observances



Chevara Orrin will serve as Wofford College’s guest speaker for Martin Luther King Day. Orrin will explore the complexity of King’s legacy interspersed with personal stories from her unique history as the daughter of the Rev. James Bevel, a key figure in the Civil Rights Movement.

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is often hailed as a moral voice who championed racial harmony while raising concerns about racial injustice.

King, however, didn’t receive such fanfare during his life.

“It is easy to forget Dr. King’s radical fire when we only remember snippets from his idealistic ‘I Have a Dream’ speech,” says Dr. Dwain Pruitt, Wofford College’s chief equity officer. “Dr.

King was an advocate of disruption, especially from 1965 to his death in 1968. In his day, he was considered a ‘dangerous troublemaker.’ He was reviled as a communist, harassed by the FBI and vilified in the media.”

Wofford College’s 2023 Martin Luther King Jr. Day observances will include events offering insight on what King experienced while pursuing social and economic justice and speaking against the Vietnam War.

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McMaster, National Park Service to commemorate Battle of Cowpens



Wofford College’s **Hipp Center for National Security and Foreign Policy** will host an event titled “The American Revolutionary War was Won in South Carolina!” at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 17. South Carolina Gov. Henry McMaster and representatives from the National Park Service, the American Battlefield Trust and the SC 250th Commission will participate.

The discussion will be held in the Jerome Johnson Richardson Theatre in the college’s Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts. It is free and open to the public. Living history presenters will perform from 5-6 p.m. on the front lawn of the Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts.

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Nowatka, Stukes recognized by SoCon



Dr. Cecile Nowatka and Dr. James Stukes are Wofford College's representatives on the All-SoCon Faculty and Staff Team.

Wofford College's Dr. Cecile Nowatka and Dr. James Stukes have been recognized with a place on the 2022-23 Southern Conference's (SoCon) All-SoCon Faculty and Staff Team for their dedication to the college community and Spartanburg.

Each year, the athletics conference recognizes faculty and staff from its member institutions for service to campuses and communities.

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Extensive collection



Dr. John Moeller, professor of biology and the department's chair, met Dr. Allen Mackenzie '51 and Mackenzie's family to accept a collection of insects that will be studied in biology classes and used for research.

Dr. Allen Mackenzie '51 is always on the lookout for insects wherever he goes. It's been a passion of his since he was a boy playing along Lawson's Fork Creek in Spartanburg and it intensified while he was a student at Wofford College.

"He credits a professor at Wofford, who taught a summer biology entomology class, for the start of his bug collection," says Sarah Donnan, one of Mackenzie's four children.

That bug collection was recently donated to Wofford's biology department. It includes beetles, hornets, dragonflies and many other insects that he collected around the globe.

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Former Trustee Jodie McLean named chair of Federal Reserve bank

The Federal Reserve Board named chairs and deputy chairs for its 12 Federal Reserve Banks on Jan. 10. Former Wofford Trustee Jodie McLean, CEO of Washington, D.C.-based retail real estate developer and operator EDENS, was named chair of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond. [Read more.](#)

Remembering Joe E. Taylor Jr. '80

Joe E. Taylor Jr. '80 always had a head for business and a heart for Wofford.

Taylor, who oversaw record investment in South Carolina as secretary of commerce, died Dec. 29.

“Our community was shocked and saddened to learn of the death of Joe E. Taylor,” says President Nayef Samhat. “He was an outspoken advocate for the student experience at Wofford, serving on the board’s finance, athletics, development and student life committees. No detail was too small and no project was too big for his keen mind and strength of will.”

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Wofford Choral Society: Invitation to sing in spring masterwork performance

Faculty, staff, alumni and friends of Wofford College are invited to join the student choirs for a spring choral/orchestral performance of Mozart's Coronation Mass and Beethoven's Choral Fantasy. Rehearsals will take place on Thursday evenings from 6-8 p.m. starting Feb. 9 and continue through the performance on May 9. This is an inaugural performance of the Wofford Choral Society. **Fill out this form if you're interested in participating.**

STARTALK: Let's talk about China's digital era

Rising 6th graders through graduating high school seniors from all over the country are invited to Wofford College to participate in the 9th annual STARTALK summer program, focusing on the Chinese culture and language. **Learn more.**

Office of Marketing and Communications

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