Wofford student’s short film a finalist at IES Abroad Film Festival

Maya Gentilin ’24 traveled to Chicago earlier this month for the IES Abroad Film Festival. Her short film, “Lost Time,” was one of three finalists in the annual festival.

Brandi Wylie ’24, student intern

Maya Gentilin ’24 was hoping for a passing grade for the short film she helped create as a final project for a Spanish cinema course she took while studying abroad in Granada, Spain during the 2022-23 academic year. She got that, and much more.

Gentilin’s film “Lost Time” was selected as one of three finalists in the IES Abroad Film Festival. Gentilin, a Spanish and art history double major from Charleston, South Carolina, attended the festival Oct. 11-13 in Chicago. She was Wofford’s first finalist in the annual film festival. The film can be viewed HERE.
She worked with study abroad friends Grant Didway from Whitman College, Emily Greenzang from the University of Rochester, and Sophia Papas from Beloit College on the 4-minute, 50-second film. “Lost Time” was created to mark the students’ departure from Granada, and it was filmed during their final weekend abroad in the spring. Gentilin was the lead actress and assisted in the writing process.

“When we were thinking about what to make for the film, we knew it was the last few weeks and wanted to make an homage to leaving and bittersweet goodbyes,” Gentilin says. “We ended up playing with the idea of the tangibility of memories, having physical objects to represent your time and memories.”

The film represents an abstract portrayal of these ideas, as evidenced by the absence of dialogue.

**Wofford Partners with Opendorse for NIL Platform**

Wofford College has partnered with Opendorse to create a Name, Image and Likeness (NIL) platform for the Terriers. Opendorse maximizes NIL opportunities for student-athletes, while delivering security and simplicity for all involved parties.

As part of the partnership, Wofford will receive a branded, compliant marketplace. Wofford fans, brands, sponsors and donors will be able to browse, book and pitch student-athletes for NIL activities on a platform built specifically for student-athletes with their needs in mind. This marketplace is expected to launch by the end of the fall semester.
“By partnering with Opendorse we will be able to provide our student-athletes a simple platform for name, image and likeness,” says Director of Athletics Richard Johnson. “As the NIL landscape continues to evolve, this will enable our student-athletes to take part in opportunities that previously were not available.”

**Alpha Alpha Alpha chapter chartered at Wofford**

The Theta Omicron chapter of Alpha Alpha Alpha has been chartered at Wofford. Alpha Alpha Alpha, a national honor society for first-generation college students, was founded in 2018 at Moravian University. Wofford’s first-generation population currently represents 14% of the student body. Additionally, many members of the faculty and staff were the first in their families to graduate from college.

Wofford will host its first induction ceremony during the week of Nov. 6, which is designated as first-generation college student celebration week. The national first-generation college celebration day is on Nov. 8.

“Tri-Alpha helps to promote academic excellence, cultivate leadership skills and build a sense of community among first-generation college students,” says Dr. James Stukes, assistant dean of student success and college access. “We are excited to join the dozens of other colleges and universities in recognizing this important student group.”
Maggie Genoble ’24 is going big with her upcoming solo exhibition in the Richardson Family Art Gallery, taking on the theme of technology and its connection to the human body and society. The 2023 Whetsell Fellow from Jonesville, South Carolina, spent her summer working on numerous mixed media pieces, from etched computer screens to silicone molds of body parts.

“During my summer research, I began diving into readings about the posthuman body — the cyborg — and what that means for identity,” says Genoble, who is majoring in art history and studio art.

Genoble began researching her topic after completing a project in a drawing class that involved etching excerpts from scenes found in historical paintings made by 19th-century male artists into the screen of a broken laptop. The body of work Genoble is preparing for this exhibition consists of a television screen etching, silicone molds, clothing and discarded medical equipment.
Promise Henry ’25 and Josh Harris ’09, Wofford assistant professor of finance, look over research focused on the relationship between self-esteem and finance. Promise Henry ’25 knew she didn’t want to pursue a traditional internship in finance at a bank to gain experience in the financial field.

“I have an interest in higher education,” says Henry ’25 a double major in finance and accounting with a minor in education from Cowpens, South Carolina. “I thought it would be best for me to reach out to one of the finance professors here at Wofford to see what things look like in academia.”

Henry contacted Josh Harris ’09, assistant professor of finance, and Harris introduced Henry to a long-term project that explores the impact of self-esteem in personal finance.

“We are trying to examine what role, if any, personal self-esteem has in financial resiliency,” says Harris. “If someone has high self-esteem, does that mean that they are less likely to miss a payment, or is someone who has low self-esteem less likely to miss a payment?”

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