



## Emerging artist



Yasmin Lee '23, a studio art major from Columbia, South Carolina, has received two awards through the Artists' Guild of Spartanburg over the past couple of months. She's photographed here with Jessica-Scott-Felder (left), an assistant professor of studio art, after being named Best Emerging Artist by the Artists' Guild of Spartanburg.

By Jackie Carman, *Office of Marketing and Communications Intern*

Yasmin Lee '23, a studio art major from Columbia, South Carolina, has received two awards through the Artists' Guild of Spartanburg, and she hopes to use the recognition to better connect the college's relatively new **studio art program** with the larger Spartanburg community.

In May, Lee received the Judy and Brant Bynum Fine Art Award for her digital collage "Solitude." The award is given to rising juniors majoring in fine art at Spartanburg's colleges and universities. Last month, she was named Best Emerging Artist by the Artists' Guild of Spartanburg.

"We need to build a better sense of community, and winning this award could be a way for Wofford to build a stronger relationship with the Artists' Guild," says Lee of receiving the Best Emerging Artist award. Studio art became a major at Wofford during the 2020-21 academic

year.

“Solitude” allowed her to make a statement as an artist. The work is influenced by the Renaissance era and creates a dreamlike state for viewers.

“I start off with what I want to see and after that I build a story,” Lee says.

“Solitude” is a tale of finding comfort in her own company and enjoying the journey of learning herself. She drew inspiration from music artist Kali Uchis and her sophomore album titled “Isolation.” This story is represented through significant symbols within the piece.

“There are a bunch of hands willing to light this lady’s cigarette, but she is in her own tub in her own world and is lighting her own ... knowing there are others around her, she still chooses herself,” Lee says.

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## Salley participates in world-class research



Dr. Mackay Salley '95, professor and chair of the Wofford College Department of Physics, is a visiting scholar at the University of Washington this summer. He and his colleagues are hoping to solve some mysteries and possibly contribute to better solar cells.

Dr. Mackay Salley '95 is spending the summer with world-class physical chemists and some of his favorite materials — solar cells, LEDs and novel magnetic substances.

Salley, professor and chair of the Wofford College **Department of Physics**, is a visiting scholar at the University of Washington in Seattle for the summer doing optical and electronic characterization studies, which are experiments that determine the properties of materials. Some of his colleagues are making materials that could be part of new solar cell materials,

LEDs or new computing technology (spintronics).

“The lab I am visiting is world renown for their research in novel materials,” Salley says. “It’s exciting to be a part of this team.”

Salley has spent summers and a sabbatical in the university’s chemistry department in the past. One of his colleagues is Dr. Daniel Gamelin, who is a professor of chemistry and the director of the UW Molecular Engineering Materials Center (NSF MRSEC) at the University of Washington. They met while doing post-doctoral work in Switzerland in 2001 at the University of Bern, and they’ve kept in touch over the years.

Gamelin’s research group specializes in making thin films and nanoparticles. Salley participates in characterization studies to help determine the properties of the novel materials in the solar cell and LED realm. His specialty is optical spectroscopy, which is the study of how matter interacts with electromagnetic radiation or light.

“Using light to study materials is an elegant method that gives a wealth of information from macroscopic properties down to atomic level information,” Salley says. “Being able to apply those techniques to promising solar cell materials that could benefit society as a renewable energy source is super exciting to me.”

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## Student-athletes discuss mental health

Emma Seif '22, a biology major from Trent Woods, North Carolina, is a member of the Wofford lacrosse team. She was recently quoted in a column written for Yahoo! Sports that focused on the need for mental health aid for student-athletes. [Read the article.](#)

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