



Sophomore Week 2021



Because of the pandemic, the Class of 2024 missed out during 2020 on some of the orientation events and gatherings that mark the typical start of the Wofford experience.

“As we continue to return to a sense of normalcy, we are excited to empower students to build strong bonds with their peers and develop deeper connections within our community,” says Allen Lollis, assistant dean of students for residence life and dean of the sophomore class. “Our inaugural Sophomore Week will kick off a continuing series of events aimed to celebrate this extraordinary class, their resilience and all that they add to the Wofford community.”

The week has included:

- Donuts with the dean.
- Meet and greet with sophomore Campus Union delegates.
- Dump the sophomore slump workshop.
- BenJo Bash (an event that brings all students together).
- Class of 2024 photo and banner signing.
- Study abroad fair (all students).
- Mungo Exchange Block Party (all students).
- Class of 2024 celebration.

Lollis says the week has been a success, and he looks forward to working with the Class of 2024 on other upcoming events and programs.

Meeting needs



Woods Wooten '23, Destiny Shippy '22, Sera Guerry '22 and Kenzie Syiem '23 worked together to improve access to menstrual products across campus and to get dispensers installed in restrooms.

Kenzie Syiem '23 watched Netflix's award-winning documentary "Short, Period. End of Sentence" and immediately felt moved to email students, faculty and staff at her high school in Virginia to stress the need for menstrual products in the school's restrooms.

She again championed the cause shortly after arriving at Wofford College in 2019 and made requests to a Campus Union candidate last spring.

"Menstrual products should be freely available," says Syiem, an English and Spanish major from Shillong, Meghalaya, India. "It's as necessary as toilet paper."

The request was heard, and a team of students took action.

"As I was campaigning for student body president, I started an Instagram campaign where I would ask Wofford students to share their concerns, questions, comments, literally anything that they would like to see changed at Wofford," says Destiny Shippy '22, a sociology and anthropology major from Spartanburg, who is a senior delegate. "Kenzie said she wanted to see free menstrual products around campus. When I saw this, I instantly began thinking about the people to contact to make this happen, because it's such a necessity."

Shippy was connected with Sera Guerry '22, an at-large delegate with Campus Union and a student coordinator in the college's Office of Diversity and Inclusion, and Woods Wooten '23, chair of Campus Union's Campus Relations Committee. The three of them partnered with Syiem and had discussions with the college's administration. Dispensers were installed over the summer in six restrooms across campus.

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Raising their voices



“Place, memory & identity: contemporary Korean-American women artists” highlights the work of three artists.

Two collections showcasing works by traditionally underrepresented artists are on exhibit in the Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts.

“Elevation from Within: The Study of Art at Historically Black Colleges and Universities” and “Place, memory & identity: contemporary Korean-American women artists” will be on exhibit through Dec. 15.

“These exhibitions are timely with the college’s work on the new (Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion) strategic vision,” says Dr. Youmi Efurd, Wofford’s curator. “They focus on diversity and marginalized artists. We are pleased that they have chosen to share their work at Wofford.”

“Elevation from Within” pays tribute to alumni and faculty of historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs). The exhibition features 47 works by 41 artists and was curated by Dr. Leo Twiggs, the distinguished artist in residence at Claflin University, for the Johnson Collection. Twiggs created “Requiem for Mother Emanuel,” a series of nine works, in the aftermath of the 2015 murders at Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina.

“Place, memory & identity” consists of recent works by In Kyoung Chun, Kakyong Lee and Jiha Moon. Born and raised in Korea, Chun, Lee and Moon now live and create in the United States. Efurd says their work is shaped by their culture, memories and sense of place.

Efurd says the works in both exhibits are as diverse as the artists themselves, reflecting a variety of mediums, styles and eras.

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Upcoming event: African-American History Talk

Dr. Sylvanie Diouf, visiting scholar at Brown University's Center for the Study of Slavery & Justice, will give a talk titled "Out of Slavery and into the Wild: Maroons in the United States." It is the story of the men, women and children who escaped slavery to make the Southern wilderness their home. The event will be held Wednesday, Sept. 29 at 4 p.m. in the Olin Theatre.

Upcoming campus events:

Mustafa Akyol, lecture and book signing

Oct. 11 at 7 p.m.

Leonard Auditorium

Aykol is a senior fellow at the Center for Global Liberty and Prosperity at the CATO Institute. He focuses on the intersection of public policy, Islam and modernity. Since 2013, he has been a contributing opinion writer for the New York Times, covering politics and religion in the Muslim world. He's the author of three books, including one released earlier this year, "Reopening Muslim Minds: A Return to Reason, Freedom, and Tolerance."

An evening with Eddie Glaude

Oct. 28 at 7 p.m.

Leonard Auditorium

Glaude, the James S. McDonnell Distinguished University Professor of African American Studies at Princeton University, will speak on James Baldwin and African American history. A book signing will follow. His most recent book is "Begin Again: James Baldwin's America and its Urgent Lessons for Our Own."

SEMA 2021: Medieval Passions and Proclivities

Nov. 11-13

Spartanburg Marriott, 299 N. Church St.

Wofford will host the Southeastern Medieval Association Conference. The conference will include plenary speakers: Dr. Wan-Chuan Kao, associate professor of English at Washington and Lee University, and Dr. Michelle Sauer, Chester Fritz Distinguished Professor of English at the University of North Dakota. Dr. Laine Doggett '88 and Dr. Daniel Bennett '14 return to Wofford to present at the conference. Also presenting are Dr. Tim Schmitz, Wofford's interim provost, and Sam English '22 also will present. Dr. Natalie Grinnell, Reeves Family Professor in Humanities, made the proposal for Wofford to host the conference.

Find more exhibits and events on the [campus calendar](#).

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