

CONQUER & PREVAIL WOFFORD COLLEGE



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Class of 2020 celebration



Homecoming festivities will resume this fall, and the college is hosting several special events to celebrate the Class of 2020 and honor their resilience.

A story will always follow Wofford College's Class of 2020.

It was the college's first graduating class in 159 years not to have Commencement exercises.

The apostrophe and No. 20 that'll be by their names in alumni updates will represent more than the year they graduated.

"We'll always feel something special about the Class of 2020," says David Beacham, senior vice president for administration and secretary to the college's board of trustees. "Their time

on campus ended abruptly during the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic, when the country was in quarantine. We are looking forward to having them back to campus for a really special celebration.”

The college will celebrate the class during Homecoming Weekend, Oct. 15-17.

In addition to the various events that are part of Homecoming, there will be events just for the Class of 2020, including a Sunday morning ceremony on the seal and front lawn of Main Building. The class is encouraged to invite up to two guests for all of the weekend’s events, including the Sunday morning ceremony, which will conclude with a “Lemonade on the Lawn” reception. **Class of 2020 alumni should register for the weekend’s events.**

The class’ four officers — Curneisha Williams, Alec Konrad, Connor Kreese and Braden Tuttle — consulted with the college’s administration to identify a time to celebrate the class, its achievements and contributions to the college.

“The Class of 2020 is eager to be back on campus for this year’s Homecoming celebrations,” says Tuttle, the class secretary. “At times, our class has felt somewhat forgotten, as we did not have an actual Commencement. I know all members of the Class of 2020 are excited to be back and receive a proper send-off, as well as reunite with friends, faculty and staff.”

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Lasting impact



Dr. Mandy Mills Dailey '07 and her family have established the Dailey Family Endowed Fund to support the college’s track and cross country teams. They’re helping others have the opportunities that she enjoyed as a student.

Dr. Mandy Mills Dailey '07 cherishes her Wofford College memories. Her favorite moments include being a student-athlete, attending campus social functions and Interim travel.

She and her family want to ensure that future Terriers have the same opportunities through

the Dailey Family Endowed Fund to support student-athletes on the college's track and cross country teams.

"Endowing a scholarship for the women's cross country and track teams allows us to give back to the college in a way that hopefully strengthens the program and enhances the recruitment of well-rounded student-athletes," says Dailey, an optometrist in Houston, Texas.

As a student Dailey embodied the definition of well-rounded.

She was a biology major with a minor in business, who also participated in various student organizations, a sorority and the admission ambassador program, all while lettering in cross country and indoor and outdoor track. She also traveled to Greece and Italy during one of her January Interim experiences.

"I hope that our contribution allows future student-athletes the opportunity to experience everything Wofford College has to offer," Dailey says.

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An exercise in understanding



Mustafa Akyol to speak on "An Islamic Case for Freedom and Tolerance"

Mustafa Akyol has been called one of the top thinkers in the world today. He'll show why in an upcoming talk at Wofford College.

Akyol will bring his talk, "An Islamic Case for Freedom and Tolerance," to Leonard Auditorium at 7 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 11. The talk is open to the public.

Akyol has been a senior fellow at the Cato Institute since 2018, focusing on the intersection of public policy, Islam and modernity. He has been a contributing opinion writer for The New York Times since 2013, covering politics and religion in the Muslim world. Earlier this year,

Prospect Magazine of the United Kingdom listed him among the world's top 50 thinkers.

"Mustafa Akyol is one of the most famous public intellectuals in the world," says Dr. Philip Dorroll, associate professor of religion and the author of "Islamic Theology in the Turkish Republic." "He's had a long career as a journalist and researcher. The basic issues he works on and talks about are how to understand and promote human rights and the values of liberty within the Islamic tradition."

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'Elevation from Within'



The Johnson Collection's annual collaboration with Wofford is featured in a Forbes story on the top art exhibitions on college campuses this fall. "Elevation from Within: The Study of Art at Historically Black Colleges and Universities" will be on exhibit through Dec. 15 at the college's Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts.

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