

# CONQUER & PREVAIL

## WOFFORD COLLEGE



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## Twilight Bowl



Wofford Theatre's production of "Twilight Bowl" will be on stage Nov. 4-6 and Nov. 10-13. All performances begin at 8 p.m. in the Jerome Johnson Richardson Theatre. The cast includes Taylor Giles '23, Mary-Michael O'Hara '25, Mac Gavin '24, Audrey Buffington '24, Wade Wood '22, Hailie Gold '23 and Emmy Monteverde '24.

Wofford Theatre's production of "Twilight Bowl" is a comedy, but that doesn't mean audiences won't walk away with much to reflect on when it comes to serious issues impacting society.

The play is based in a small-town Wisconsin bowling alley, where a few friends gather and soon recognize the divide widening between them. It was written by playwright Rebecca Gilman and debuted in 2019.

“Audiences can expect to laugh and enjoy themselves, but at the same time they will be challenged and provoked by the material, the characters and the staging,” says Dan Day, associate professor of theatre and the play’s director.

Wofford Theatre’s production will run Nov. 4-6 and Nov. 10-13 in the Jerome Johnson Richardson Theatre. All performances will begin at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for students, \$10 for Wofford’s faculty and staff and \$12 for the public. The college’s COVID-19 protocols require masks while inside campus buildings.

Thirty-five Wofford students have been involved with the production, including the cast, crew, designers and students working with Wofford Theatre’s Technical Director David Kenworthy.

The rehearsal process involved several group research projects that examined social and cultural issues that will be explored in the play. The cast examined the opioid crisis in the United States, the relationship between incarceration and poverty, the history of feminism and the role of Christianity in American culture and politics.

“We felt we had to do our best to understand and portray as truthfully as possible the world of the play — a world of drug abuse and addiction, substandard levels of education, domestic violence, poverty, low wages and limited opportunity,” Day says. “And so even though ‘Twilight Bowl’ is a comedy, there is a very strong undercurrent of analysis and critique in our version.”

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## Feathered friends



Biology students studied the impact of different variables on the foraging habits of songbirds.

Dr. Lori Cruze and Dr. John Moeller and their students are working on a research project that's for the birds. Really.

The purpose of the project is to measure the impact of different variables on the foraging habits of songbirds. Cruze, assistant professor of biology, and one of her classes started the project in the spring, setting up bird feeders on the periphery of campus. They measured the amount of seed the birds ate and whether the amount changed depending on whether the seeds were shelled or unshelled. They also introduced predators (fake owls) to gauge the impact of their presence on the birds' eating habits.

Tucker Couch '24, an undeclared major from Bristol, Tennessee, took it a step further during Interim, introducing competitors into the project and measuring their impact. He used fake redbirds to simulate male cardinals, which are known to be aggressive.

"This has helped me to get a feel for what research is like," Couch says. "It's one thing to talk about it in class, but it's a whole different thing to go out and do it. It's helped me to understand the whole process."

Moeller's animal behavior class joined in for the fall semester. They added feeders to the central campus and observed which birds were coming to particular feeders and at what times. They also introduced different colored competitors to measure their impact.

"We've been observing to see how the birds interact, which sites have the most traffic and how much the birds are eating," says Bradleigh Mills '22, a biology and Spanish double major from Boiling Springs, South Carolina.

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## Fall choir concert



Wofford's choral ensembles' "Fall Concert: Dawning Light" will be held 7 p.m. Friday in Leonard Auditorium. The Men's Glee Club, Women's Choir and Wofford Singers will perform. The public is invited. Masks are required. The event will be live streamed on the Wofford College Facebook page.

## SoCon Undergraduate Research Forum



About 100 students from 10 colleges and universities with athletics teams competing in the Southern Conference (SoCon) will be on Wofford's campus Friday and Saturday giving presentations based on research they have conducted. The fifth annual SoCon Undergraduate Research Forum (SURF) is a collaborative project of the membership of the SoCon. It will include research from the humanities, social sciences, arts and STEM disciplines. The conference takes place in the fall to showcase students who spent their summers conducting research.

## The Wofford Witch?



There's a lot of talk about witches going into this weekend, but do you know about the Wofford Witch? In the late 1960s, Dr. Dan Olds and Professor Aubrey Hartman began efforts to usher Wofford into the computer age. Both were faculty members in the Wofford physics department. The college received its first computer terminal in 1968. In 1975, the college purchased the Wofford Witch, a PDP-11/40 minicomputer made by Digital Equipment Corp., after receiving a grant from the Hoechst Corp. The computer was in operation from 1975 to 1989. It ran a timesharing operating system from 1975 to 1986. **Learn more about the Wofford Witch at a website started by alumni with fond memories of the experience. The computer's purchase order, shipping papers and issues of Dr. Olds' "Terminal Talk" newsletter can also be viewed.**

**Office of Marketing and Communications**

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