



Three students earn Penny Koger Memorial Scholarship



Leslie Koger, second from left, with MauriAnna Richardson '25, Ashley Manigault '24 and Taylor Fuller '24 at the Black Alumni Summit.

Three Wofford College students have been recognized for their service to the campus and local communities.

Taylor Fuller '24, a biology and sociology and anthropology double major from Roebuck, South Carolina; Ashley Manigault '24, a French and psychology double major from Charleston, South Carolina; and MauriAnna Richardson '25, a chemistry major from Columbia, South Carolina, have earned the Penny Koger Memorial Scholarship. They were honored during the Black Alumni Summit held during Homecoming.

Fuller also earned the inaugural Harold Mitchell Jr. and Marlon Hunter ReGenesis Healthcare Undergraduate Scholarship for students pursuing studies in health care-related fields at a four-year college or university in South Carolina.

In addition, Nadia Ferguson '25, a chemistry major from Spartanburg, received the 1854 Heritage Fund award.

“The primary consideration for each of these awards is community service,” says Dr. Dwain Pruitt ’95, Wofford’s chief equity officer and vice president for community initiatives. “These young women are extraordinarily involved in the community, in addition to being heavily committed to initiatives within our campus community. We are extremely proud of them.”

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Special Advent messages

Four Wofford graduates with a common bond have teamed to deliver a new message each Sunday during Advent.

The Rev. Dr. Ron Robinson ’78, Perkins-Prothro Chaplain and Professor of Religion, started the series on Dec. 3, followed by three members of the college’s board of trustees: the Rev. Lisa Yebuah ’99 on Dec. 10, the Rev. Will Malambri ’98 on Dec. 17 and Bishop Will Willimon ’68 concluding the series on Dec. 24.

In addition to being Wofford graduates, the four share another tie. Robinson, Yebuah and Malambri were all students of Willimon’s at Duke University Divinity School.

“It’s very special, and I think it says something about our distinct community,” says Robinson. “We all have a real common connection with each other, and we’re all involved in the life of the college now.”

While filming, the team learned that Willimon had never even heard of Advent and Incarnation before a religion class at Wofford. Now he’s written a book and filmed a video series on Advent and Incarnation that’s being used in hundreds of churches around the country this year. The publications are linked here:

- abingdonpress.com/product/9781791029036/
- youtu.be/r_F74Y_RwSg
- youtu.be/X2qq9gFc3zQ

Wofford’s Advent series can be found [HERE](#).



Get the latest updates from the college, see highlights from Family Weekend and Homecoming, read about pioneering women and history making gifts and catch up on alumni news. **Read the winter issue of Wofford Today online.** And feel free to share stories to your social media!

Fraternity names contest in honor of Albert Gray '71



Spartanburg's graduate chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. honored Albert Gray '71, Wofford's only member of the chapter, by naming its oratorical contest for him. Gray was Wofford's first Black student.

When the brothers of Spartanburg's graduate chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. wanted someone to be the face of a new event, one name rose to the top of their list: Albert Gray Sr. '71, Wofford College's only member of the chapter.

The inaugural Albert W. Gray Oratorical Contest was held Dec. 2 in the Franklin W. Olin Building. Ken Peterson, president of the local chapter, approached Dr. Dwain Pruitt '95, Wofford's chief equity officer and vice president for community initiatives, about holding the contest at Wofford and naming it for Gray.

"It was a great way for us to honor Albert Gray and for him to pass on his knowledge and experience to students," says Peterson, senior director of human resources and chief diversity officer with ScanSource in Greenville. "He played a pivotal role. It wasn't just about having his name."

Gray, who grew up in Spartanburg, became Wofford's first Black student in 1964. His college career was interrupted when he left to serve in the U.S. Army in the Vietnam War, but he returned to earn a bachelor's degree in sociology. He went on to earn an MBA from Clark Atlanta University and had a successful career in business. Gray is a former member of Wofford's Board of Trustees.

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Wofford soldiers united in Kuwait



Three Wofford College graduates were stationed at the U.S. Army base in Kuwait for most of the year.

Lt. Col. Bennett Gore '02 of the South Carolina National Guard's 228th Signal Brigade and Capt. Jessica Graham '16 of the National Guard's 151st Expeditionary Signal Battalion, completed a nine-month deployment to Camp Arifjan in October. Capt. Sabastian Conour '13, who is on active duty in the U.S. Army, is stationed there.

While in Kuwait, Gore and Graham, who played volleyball while at Wofford, completed their advanced open water SCUBA certification.

Gore is a civilian claims attorney with the U.S. Army in Columbia, South Carolina. Graham is a brigade human resources officer with the National Guard in Greenville, South Carolina.

Remember, there's still time to make a gift to the college's military memorial project. Visit Wofford.edu/militarymemorial to learn more.

Sweet treats



Heide Woodworth, administrative assistant for math and computer science, and her daughter, Colette, took top honors in the Department of Mathematics' annual dessert competition.

Sugar plus spice equaled a winning recipe for Heide Woodworth and her daughter, Colette, in the Department of Mathematics' annual dessert competition.

Heide, administrative assistant for math and computer science, and Colette took top honors with a three-layer cake topped with a gingerbread house and copious amounts of frosting.

"It was unexpected, and I'm honored to have won the competition," Woodworth says. "I had a vision in my head and a lot of spices around the house, so I looked up a recipe that could use those."

The cake swept first prize, decided on by a panel of three judges, as well as the people's choice award, voted on by the attendees. This was Woodworth's first entry in the annual competition, and she both competed and helped organize the event.

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Athletics updates

Volleyball's Loehr, Morgan named CSC Academic All-District

2024 baseball schedule announced

2024 softball schedule announced

NCAA graduation success rate data

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