

# CONQUER & PREVAIL

## WOFFORD COLLEGE



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## February events at Wofford



Wofford will host a variety of Black History Month events, starting with Galen Abdur-Razzaq's lecture and musical performance at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 1, in Leonard Auditorium.

Wofford opens its 2024 Black History Month observance with a lecture and musical performance by flutist and educator Galen Abdur-Razzaq.

Abdur-Razzaq will present "Jazz and the Civil Rights Movement" at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 1, in Leonard Auditorium. He will chronicle jazz history and illustrate how jazz became an advocacy for the Civil Rights Movement, with proceeds from jazz concerts used to finance major events such as the Freedom Rides and the March on Washington in 1963.

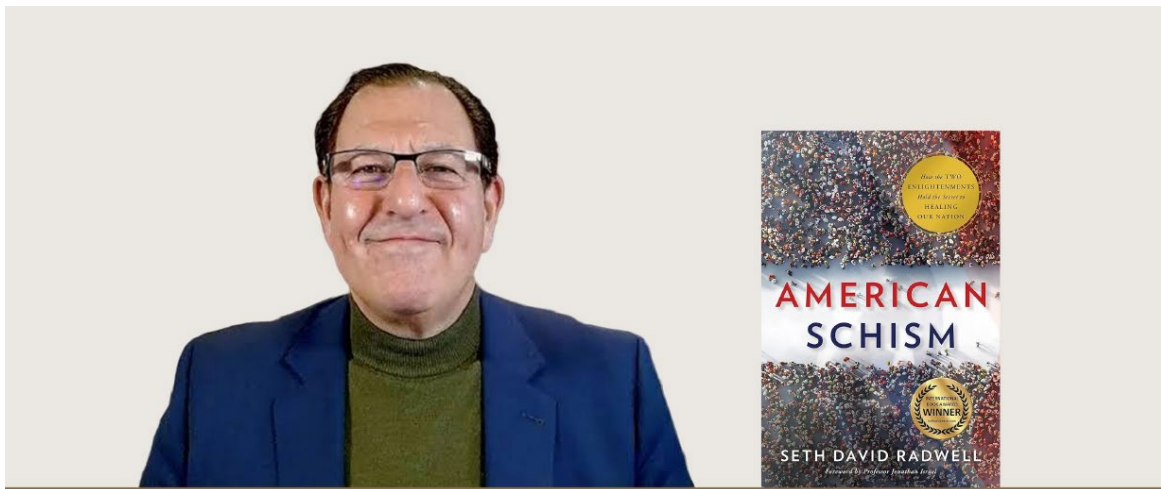
"Black History Month's founder, Dr. Carter G. Woodson, imagined this annual observance as a way to remind Americans that Black Americans' history needed to be integrated into an inclusive American historical narrative," says Dr. Dwain Pruitt '95, Wofford's chief equity officer and vice president for community initiatives. "While Black History Month focuses on the

Black experience, it is also an important reminder for all of us that there are many American experiences, and all are worthy of historical inquiry.”

In addition to several other Black History Month events, February also includes the second and third installments of the college’s new series, “Defining or Dividing?: Issues in American Culture and History.”

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## New speaker series continues with Seth David Radwell



Seth David Radwell will discuss his award-winning 2021 book “American Schism: How the Two Enlightenments Hold the Secret to Healing Our Nation” during a talk at 6 p.m., Monday, Feb. 5, in Leonard Auditorium.

After the 2016 election, Seth David Radwell became concerned that political discourse in America was collapsing. He began researching previous times when the country was deeply divided, and the result was his award-winning 2021 book “American Schism: How the Two Enlightenments Hold the Secret to Healing Our Nation.”

Radwell is the next speaker in Wofford’s new series “Defining or Dividing?: Issues in American Culture and History.” He will give a talk on the book at 6 p.m., Monday, Feb. 5, in Leonard Auditorium.

The event is free and open to the public. Copies of “American Schism,” the 2022 winner of the International Book Award, will be available for sale and signing.

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## Entrepreneur in residence



Becky McLeod Connelly '96, founder of Non Disclosure Apparel.

Becky McLeod Connelly '96 pursued her entrepreneurial dream.

This week, Connelly, the founder of Non Disclosure Apparel, a bra company based in Charleston, South Carolina, returned to campus to share her experience with students.

Connelly is serving as Wofford's entrepreneur in residence for the week as part of The Entrepreneurial Mindset Interim course. She's giving lectures, working with students individually and in groups on their startup ideas, helping them prepare to pitch those ideas and more.

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## Stories of Spartanburg



Students in Dr. Philip Dorroll's Stories of Spartanburg Interim course visited The Johnson Gallery in downtown Spartanburg on Monday, Jan. 17.

Dr. Philip Dorroll is leading 20 Wofford students on a deep dive into Spartanburg's past.

Dorroll, associate professor of religion, is teaching the Interim course "Stories of Spartanburg." His objective: to teach students Spartanburg's history by approaching the city and surrounding areas as a field site for them to explore and gain a better understanding of the community.

"When you're a student in college, you tend to think of the community as an accessory to your college life," says Dorroll. "Spartanburg has a rich history, and Wofford is a big part of that. I've developed a much deeper appreciation for Spartanburg just from teaching this course, and I hope students do the same. Maybe someday they'll take what they've learned and use it to study the history of other communities they might be part of."

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## Off the deep end



Wofford students sharpened their swimming skills at Converse University's pool during Interim.

Charles Beltz '25 wasn't thinking of himself when he decided to take the plunge during Interim.

"I took this course because I might have kids one day and I want to be able to save them if they have a near-drowning experience," says Beltz, a biology major from Inman, South Carolina. "I swam in the deep end for the first time. I could barely float when I started."

The Learn to Swim course aims to teach students basic water safety and swimming skills. Students also are learning about the history and cultural significance of the favorite recreational pastime. They're studying the societal barriers that contribute to an alarming rate of people who are unable to swim the length of a pool, a statistic that affects more than one-third of adults in the U.S., according to the USA Swimming Foundation.

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**SoCon announces fall Academic All-Conference teams**

**Breda Brennan earns SoCon honors**

**Nate Williams promoted to assistant coach**

**Sherika Christie named Field Performer of the Week**

## Athletics updates

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**Sherika Christie named Field Performer of the Week**

**Rachael Rose sets record**

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