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FALL 2023

ST. MARY'S COLLEGE OF MARYLAND

July 2023 — June 2024

ALUMNI COUNCIL

Executive Board

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Tae-shi Savage '24

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Black Alumni: Janssen Evelyn 'oı

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PRESIDENT

Tuajuanda C. Jordan, PhD



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A curiously petite fire hydrant at the
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Hands-on work experience helps students connect coursework concepts with real-life application.

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Award-winning filmmakers, the Braker Brothers turned their love of the Chesapeake Bay watershed into a career.

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COVE

Aerial view of campus with the Jamie L. Roberts Stadium visible in the distance.

T IS EXCITING TO START A NEW ACADEMIC YEAR WITH A NEW STRATEGIC PLAN, "The Rising Tide," in place. Hoisted by its four pillars and steered by the fresh ideas from campus and community stakeholders, this plan for 2023-2026 focuses our collective strategic efforts to become the college of choice. The energy of the crew – the steering committee and working groups – that brought the plan to the point of being approved at the Board's May 2023 meeting has provided the wind for our sails as the strategic plan implementation team (dangerously dubbed "SPITFire") navigates this ship and keeps the momentum propelling St. Mary's College of Maryland forward.

On September 22, we name the rowing center in tribute to longtime College friend and supporter William E. Seale. He may think this is payback for his having named a new rowing shell for the women's rowing team after me in 2017 but it is done with all admiration, respect and goodwill for this economist and professor emeritus of George Washington University who served as a trusted adviser on both the College's Foundation Board and the Board of Trustees.

We also celebrate that day and evening with the launch of the public phase of the "Taking the LEAD" fundraising campaign to support the implementation of the goals of the strategic plan. I hope you'll come help us celebrate and catch a returning favorite, the Kelly Bell Band, for a free evening concert in the Nancy R. and Norton T. Dodge Performing Arts Center — the inside back cover has the ticket details.

Last September, we dedicated the Dodge Performing Arts Center and the new Learning Commons building. The Dodge Performing Arts Center has drawn 21,000 visitors to campus since its sold-out opening-day performances that showcased the supreme versality of this acoustical space with "Carmina Burana" directed by our own Larry Vote and '70s chart-toppers Average White Band. Sweet Honey in the Rock, Artrageous and thought-provoking lecturers like Nina Totenberg and Jelani Cobb are waiting in the wings for the fall. Please join us (details on inside back cover).

Another fine time to visit campus is Hawktoberfest & Family Weekend, October 21-22. Enjoy spending time with families, alumni and friends in a fun-filled weekend of activities that showcase truly how "life is better by the river."

Tuajuanda C. Jordan, PhD

President, St. Mary's College of Maryland

Editor's Note

S A COLLEGE STUDENT WORKING part-time jobs to help offset tuition, I didn't think about connecting the work to my studies. In fact, the most important consideration was that the work not overlap or interfere with school.

I got a full-time teaching job straight out of college — what else would an English major do? Part of me bristled at that "what else" sentiment yet I really didn't know what else I might do. I left teaching after a year, enrolled in grad school and took a part-time job to cover rent. But this part-time job surprised me when it connected work and school in a meaningful way.

While I started out making copies and folding brochures for the small software company, soon I was writing the brochures and ads promoting an upcoming book my bosses were writing. The book was a training manual for their custom software program to study, model and improve the efficiency of queues. From engine parts moving down an assembly line to people moving through a waiting line for a roller coaster, any queue could be simulated and the software used to remove bottlenecks and increase overall throughput. When I expressed an interest in the book my bosses eagerly handed me the opportunity to edit and index it. This was work I hadn't considered before, especially as a part-time gig. When given the chance, I discovered I liked it.

It's almost as if Wolverine Software Company's queuing efficiencies have been applied to today's St. Mary's College students: the Learning through Experiential and Applied Discovery (LEAD) initiative fast-tracks for them from year one what didn't happen for me until grad school. Turn to page 12 to witness the work experience students have gained with the help of faculty, staff and alumni professionals who purposefully engage in this effort and who, like **Andrew Braker '17** and **Kate Fritz '04** (p. 17), turn their own discoveries into exciting careers.

LEE CAPRISTO, editor

COLLEGE NEWS



A Summer of Milestones

The season launched with the 4th Annual Mulberry Music Festival's four acts (Oh He Dead, Kevin Howard, The Bone-shakers, The JoGo Project), nimbly coordinated by mistress of ceremonies and "DC's Queen of the Blues" **Carly Harvey** '07. A fast-moving storm only served to cool off the dancers, who quickly re-emerged from shelter to catch the final act.

The award-winning River Concert Series, having brought the Southern Maryland community together through music for an incredible 25 years, was back for another season, this one with fireworks. The concert series is a harmonious collaboration



between SMCM and the accomplished Chesapeake Orchestra, with the baton held by Maestro and Professor of Music **Jeffrey Silberschlag**.

Sailors and spectators alike had a chance to participate in the historic 50th annual Governor's Cup Yacht Race hosted by St. Mary's College



of Maryland. The race is the oldest and most distinguished overnight competition on the Chesapeake Bay. Ninety-nine boats competed in race legs starting in Annapolis, Virginia, Solomons and the Potomac River. The race from Maryland's modernday capital to its colonial first capital in St. Mary's City included the Pride of Baltimore, a 105-foot topsail schooner built to the lines of an 1812-era Baltimore Clipper. The new Maryland Dove, an 84-foot replica of a 17th-century square-rigger from Historic St. Mary's City, was the finish boat at St. Mary's College of Maryland.



St. Mary's College Graduates 294

Two hundred ninety-four students received Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, and Master of Arts in Teaching degrees from St. Mary's College of Maryland in the annual Commencement held on Saturday, May 13 on the College's Townhouse Green. Five-time Grammy Award winner Angélique Kidjo delivered the Commencement address, reminding graduates that true success comes from lifting up those around you, just as the graduates achieved success through the people who supported them. President Jordan and Board of Trustees Chair Susan Dyer presented honorary degrees to Kidjo and Nancy Ruyle Dodge. The Class of 2023 had four valedictorians: Hannah Gorel, a double major in computer science and mathematics from Jessup, Maryland; Nicolette lacona, a psychology major from Severna Park, Maryland; Eleanor **Pratt**, a history major from Leonardtown, Maryland; and Emily Rudo, a double major in environmental studies and political science from Elkridge, Maryland.

BOARD & FOUNDATION BOARD NEWS

St. Mary's College Welcomes New Trustees

St. Mary's College of Maryland welcomed four new trustees appointed by Governor Wes Moore in June: Arthur "Lex" Birney, Kristen Greenaway, **Talib Horne '93** and Kimberly Kelley. Greenaway, Horne and Kelley will serve six-year terms while Birney serves the remainder of William

Seale's term, ending May 31, 2025.

Governor Moore also re-appointed the following board members to continue their service for another six-year term: Dyer, **Nicolas Abrams '99**, Gail Harmon, Peter Bruns and **John C. Wobensmith '93**. Finally, two additional members rotated onto the board by virtue of their respective positions: **Kate Fritz '04**, president of the St. Mary's College Alumni Association and chief executive officer

of the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay; and **Isabella Woel-Popovich '24**, a computer science major from Crofton, Maryland, student trustee selected by the Campus Life Board Committee.

Board Chair Susan Lawrence Dyer thanked outgoing board members Lawrence Leak '76, Alice Bonner '03, Douglass Mayer '04, Glen Ives, William Seale and Brayan Ruiz Lopez '24.

PRESIDENT'S NEWS

On August 3, **President Jordan** participated in a panel discussion at Swarthmore College in Swarthmore, Pennsylvania. The event was sponsored by the American Academic Leadership Institute and gave college administrators a format to share best practices for success at their institutions.

President Jordan began her twoyear term as president for the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges (COPLAC) on July I. Since 2014, she has served in several leadership roles in COPLAC. As its president, she will host at St. Mary's College the annual COPLAC meeting of all member institutions in June 2024.

For the newly established Carnegie Postsecondary Commission,



President Jordan is co-chair with Shirley Collado, president and CEO of College Track. The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, in partnership with the XQ Institute, announced members in June.

Composed of diverse leaders in higher education as well as K12, the Commission aims to identify the most effective ways to help millions of low-income, underrepresented and first-generation college students achieve their postsecondary education goals and secure meaningful careers. The Commission will focus on scalable, affordable, careeraligned higher education models; technology-powered teaching and learning methods; pathways that blur the boundaries between secondary, postsecondary, and work; and policy ideas that promote equity and greater opportunity for low-income, underrepresented and first-generation students.

ANOTHER ALUMNI WEEKEND SUCCESS!

Alumni Weekend, held June 8-11, boasted big crowds, lots of smiles (like these '70s alumni) and absolutely the best weather ever!





FACULTY, STAFF & STUDENT NEWS

Welcome & Best Wishes

The College welcomes the following new tenure-track faculty:

Rafael Barreto De Andrade (environmental studies), Matthew Burger (political science), Ellington Carthan (music), Kelsey Champagne (history), Sara Chari (mathematics), Sam Chatterjee (computer science), Liz Leininger (neuroscience), Victoria Muller Ewald (psychology), Jenna Pruett (biology), Parisa Rinaldi (environmental studies), Talha Salam (business), Alla Semenova (economics), Diego Villada (performing arts).

Best wishes to the following faculty who retired from the College:

Jeffrey Byrd (biology); Joshua Grossman (physics); Jeffrey Hammond (English and the George B. and Willma Reeves Distinguished Professor in the Liberal Arts since 2001).

Faculty Promotions

The following five faculty were promoted to associate professor, effective August 1, 2023: **Andrew Cognard-Black** (sociology); **Jerry Gabriel** (English); **Argelia González Hurtado** (Spanish); **Cassie Gurbisz** (marine science); **Shanen Sherrer** (chemistry & biochemistry).

Professorships Awarded to Six Junior Faculty

President Jordan awarded six junior faculty professorships, effective August 1, 2023. These two-year professorships are presented to junior faculty who have been employed by the College for three to 10 years and who are exemplary teacher-scholars within their academic program areas. When there are two from the same department, the more senior faculty member is named the Pandion haliaetus (seahawk) Professor and the other honoree is the Haliaeetus leucocephalus (eagle) Professor. Congratulations to the new awardees: Daniel Chase (chemistry), Kristina Howansky (psychology), Sarah Latchney (neurobiology), Jessye McDowell (digital media), Tristan Cai (photography), Sarah Malena (history).

Professor of History **Christine Adams** was an academic visitor at the University of Auckland, New Zealand, from May 15 – June 13.
On May 25, Adams gave a talk on her research on the French Merveilleuse, titled "Fashion and Female Influence Under the Directory (1795-1799). On May 30, she presented a workshop on writing about history

for the broader public, titled "History's Public(s) Why (and how) to Op-Ed."

Professor of English **Karen Leona Anderson** wrote a short essay about her previously published poem,
"Rat" that was published in Poetry
Daily's "What Sparks Poetry: Ecopoetry Now." Additionally, on May

4, Anderson was an invited reader at the "The Materials Issue" poetry reading, a collaboration between the Phillips Collection and the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA) in Baltimore, Maryland. Her poem "Fainting Couch" was published in "The Materials Issue: Full Bleed."



Professor of Psychology Aileen Bailey and alumni Allison Barrett '18, Lane Havens '19, Erica Leyder '18, Taylor

Merchant '19. Hannah Starnes

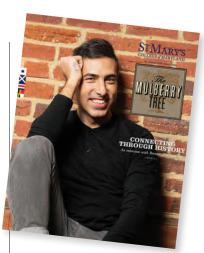
'17 recently published an article entitled "Changes in social, sexual, and hedonic behaviors in rats in response to stress and restoration by a negative allosteric modulator of assubunit containing GABA receptor" in the journal Behavioural Brain Research.



Assistant
Professor of
Biology **Emily Brownlee** and
colleagues
recently had
their research
work titled
"Mixoplank-

ton and mixotrophy: future research priorities" accepted for publication in the Journal of Plankton Research. This paper is the result of a multi-year working group called "Mixotrophs and Mixotrophy" supported by the Ocean Carbon & Biogeochemistry Project Office funded by the National Science Foundation.

Lee Capristo, director of writing and content in St. Mary's College of Maryland's Institutional Advancement/Integrated Marketing office, won an Award of Excellence in the 35th Annual APEX Awards for Pub-



lication Excellence Competition.
The award recognized her writing of
the Mulberry Tree magazine feature
"Connecting Through History: An
Interview with Ramtin Arablouei"
in the fall 2022 issue.

Assistant Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience Torry Dennis and his team (Mackenzie Ellis '23 and Madeline Wright '22) recently published an article entitled "Estradiol administration increases anxiety-like behavior follows."

increases anxiety-like behavior following chronic escalating morphine administration in hormone-replaced ovariectomized female rats" in the journal Pharmacology, Biochemistry and Behavior.



Associate
Professor of
Philosophy
Barrett Emerick recently
began his
term as president of the
North Ameri-

can Society for Social Philosophy, an important academic association that has played a significant role in influencing the practice of contemporary social and political philosophy in the Western tradition. Emerick has been a member of the organization since 2006. In 2019 was chosen as vice president/president-elect by the membership and has served in that role for the past four years.



Associate Director of Waterfront Activities Rick Loheed and members of the College's Offshore Sailing Club onboard the "Poor Richard." Loheed and his crew raced the "Poor Richard" in this year's Governor's Cup Race.

Vice President for Academic Affairs Katie Gantz served as a senior co-facilitator at the 2023 Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges (COPLAC) Beard Leadership Circle at Sonoma State University in California. Approximately 40 participants met to develop professional networks, attend panels and discuss case studies related to common challenges in the public liberal arts workplace. As one of the founding organizers of the BLC summer institute, Gantz leads the BLC's workshop specifically for new department chairs.

Professor of History **Charles J. Holden** was published in The
Washington Post on June 27. The
historical perspective article is titled
"Some GOP rhetoric is similar to
that of American Nazis from the
1970s."

Sue Johnson's artwork was part of a two-person exhibition at The Delaware Contemporary in Wilmington, Delaware from June 9 - August 27. In "External Reflections | Internal Identities" artists Sue Johnson and Constance McBride both explored the lives of their respective mothers.



Assistant
Professor of
Biology and
Neuroscience
Sarah Latchney recently
published an
article in the
journal Genes,

Brain and Behavior. The article expands upon a prior research study published last year, examining how differences in physical activity levels, maternal care and biological sex can contribute to variations in how genes are expressed in the brain. The current study expanded the repertoire of genes to include additional genes with known roles in brain development.

The College's Associate Director of Waterfront Activities Rick **Loheed** worked behind the scenes of the Governor's Cup Yacht Race for the past 15 years, but this year he entered as a contestant, racing "Poor Richard" in the Dahlgren leg of the event on Aug. 4-5. His crew included members of the College's Offshore Sailing Club: Molly Antinucci '25, Adrianna Danvers '23, Nate Norris '25, Celeste Shiflett '26, Mortimer Shiflett '27, Maxwell Taylor '26. They didn't win their class but they enjoyed the experience!

Associate Professor of French George MacLeod is quoted in Pulitzer Prize-nominated journalist Jacqueline Charles' recent article in the Miami Herald on difficulties facing Haitian migrants in Tijuana, Mexico. The article describes how, during a research trip to Tijuana in late April 2023, MacLeod, who is fluent in French and proficient in Haitian Creole, spoke with many Haitian refugees about their lives. MacLeod relates how the Haitian refugees had difficulty finding employment and enrolling their children in school. His research conducted in Tijuana, made possible thanks to funding support from his St. Mary's College Pandion Haliaetus Professorship, will form the basis for his presentation at the Haitian Studies Association conference in Atlanta in October, 2023.

Professor of Biochemistry Pam Mertz served as the lead organizer of the 2023 American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB) summer education meeting held at Suffolk University in Boston, July 27-30. Professor Mertz gave a talk at the conference, "Leadership Opportunities with ASBMB: Professional Development and Community" and led a leadership session on negotiation. Mertz also serves as a co-principal investigator with the other three organizers on a \$49,650 NSF Improving Undergraduate STEM Education grant (award number 2310451) that provided registration, travel, and parental care funds to increase access to the conference.

Mary Claire Nemeth, visiting assistant professor, has been awarded two grants through the Maryland State Arts Council. Nemeth received a \$6,000 award through the Grants for Artists program which supports the working and living expenses of Maryland artists. She also received

a Creativity Grant in the amount of \$2,130 to support a new body of work involving large-scale printing on Tyvek material.

Professor of Art **Carrie Patterson** is one of several landscape painters to be a visiting artist at Mt. Gretna School of Art where she led a landscape painting workshop for two weeks in June. Patterson gave a talk titled "Sight To Site: A Visual Field Guide" as part of her visit.



Professor Emerita Merideth Taylor and David Taylor of Phocus Video in Lexington Park, Maryland,

received a silver Telly Award for the short documentary film titled, "Sotterley: Talking and Walking Common Ground." The production highlights Sotterley's Common Ground Initiative and Descendants project. It explores the various perspectives between the diverse descendants as they discuss Sotterley's past and its impact on their lives. The Telly Awards is the premier award honoring video and television across all screens.



Jon Geyer
'26, a double
major in
anthropology
and Asian
Studies with
a minor in
Chinese, has
been award-

ed the American Anthropological Association's Ina Rosenthal-Urey Mentorship Award. The award pairs undergraduate anthropology majors with mentors from both academia and practice, who support the student in learning about their educational and career options after graduation. Geyer will spend the fall semester studying at Mahidol University in Bangkok, Thailand. His long-term goal is to teach cultural or linguistic anthropology or work in the foreign service.

Kylie Hall '24, a computer science major from Saint Leonard, Maryland, and Alex Stoyanov-Roberts '24, a computer science major from Burtonsville, Maryland, recently completed their industry-standard Linux+ certification through a partnership with Resource Management Concepts Inc. (RMC), a leading information technology services company located in nearby Lexington Park. RMC has committed to providing training opportunities to SMCM students, free of cost, to earn industry certifications that prepare them for entry into the workforce upon graduation. In November, a group of nine SMCM students attained the CompTIA Security+ certification through a similar opportunity provided by RMC.

Brayan Ruiz Lopez '24 completed a nine-week neuroscience internship program at the Princeton Neuroscience Institute at Princeton University this summer. He learned about



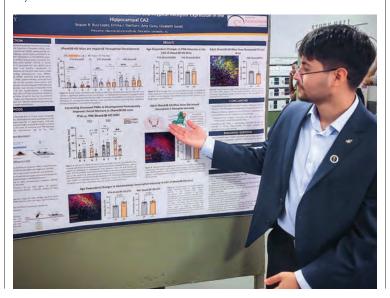


Two St. Mary's College of Maryland students have been named to the 2023-2024 class of Rachel Carson Campus Fellows (RCC), a highly competitive national program whose mission is to "build and deepen critical connections between campuses, communities and advocates with the goal of advancing environmental health and equitable policy." Lily Riesett '24 and Nathan Villiger '24 are among the 29 students in the 2023-2024 class of RCC fellows.

the opportunity from **Sarah Latchney**, assistant professor of biology and neuroscience and Ruiz Lopez's research mentor. He applied (along with 1400 others) and was one of 11 admitted to the program. Ruiz Lopez studied social memory and novelty preference in mice lacking their SHANK3B gene, the genetic cause of Phelan-McDermid syndrome. Common characteristics of Phelan-McDermid syndrome are autistic-like traits like the inability

to recognize familiar faces or voices. Ruiz Lopez plans to pursue a PhD in neuroscience.

Nadia Velasco '25 participated in the Political Science Predoctoral Summer Institute hosted by Georgetown University on June 12-16. The competitive program offers training for students considering a PhD in political science or closely related field. A double major in public policy and economics with a minor in sociology, Velasco worked on a PhD proposal about constitutions in Latin America and considered what might indicate success (operationalized as human development) under a constitution.



Brayan Ruiz Lopez '24 completed a nine week neuroscience workshop program at the Princeton Neuroscience Institute at Princeton University.

The Rising Tide

THE STRATEGIC PLAN 2023-2026

he challenges and opportunities confronting higher education today require us to be forward-thinking and deliberate about what we provide students and how we prepare them to thrive as responsible and thoughtful citizens and leaders.

I am pleased to present the St. Mary's College of Maryland (SMCM) 2023-2026 Strategic Plan: "The Rising Tide, Charting a Course for the Future of St. Mary's College of Maryland." It is an ambitious and comprehensive blueprint focused on our students, faculty, staff and community. "The Rising Tide" solidifies our position as a College of choice for these constituencies and a national leader in liberal arts education.

A dedicated steering committee collaborating with faculty, staff, students and the community developed "The Rising Tide" based on four foundational pillars. It builds on two prior plans and manifests our commitment to fostering academic excellence, inclusivity, innovation and community engagement. Moreover, it reflects our ambition to create a college experience that prepares students for their immediate professional aspirations and a lifetime of intellectual curiosity, personal growth and civic responsibility.

SMCM remains firmly committed to its history and future as a public liberal arts college because we know that such an education is a great democratizer and provides students with a foundation in curiosity, critical thinking, communication, problem-solving and adaptability. With a liberal arts education accessible to all who can do the work, regardless of socioeconomic background, we ensure that all individuals can acquire these skills and knowledge, fostering social mobility

and creating a more equitable society. Ultimately, liberal arts education empowers individuals to thrive as responsible and thoughtful global citizens and leaders who positively impact the world in which they live, whether in their backyard or in new environments.

As one of two designated public honors colleges and the first of its kind in the nation, our College is recognized for its success in providing an accessible and exceptional liberal arts education. This, as it relates to our mission, provides a path for social mobility for all students who are admitted into our campus community. Our new strategic plan will enable us to continue and improve upon this record of institutional success.

The plan centers on four pillars:

- Create an innovative, distinctive and competitive academic identity that attracts and retains talented students, faculty and staff.
- Empower all students for success.
- Build a sustainable, vibrant and diverse student body that exemplifies an inclusive institution.
- Become a sought-after regional resource and develop opportunities for student educational engagement with communities that are mutually beneficial.

No one pillar stands alone; instead, they are like the sails on a ship, working together to fortify, energize and move SMCM forward.

Among the highlights of what we can expect in the months and years ahead:

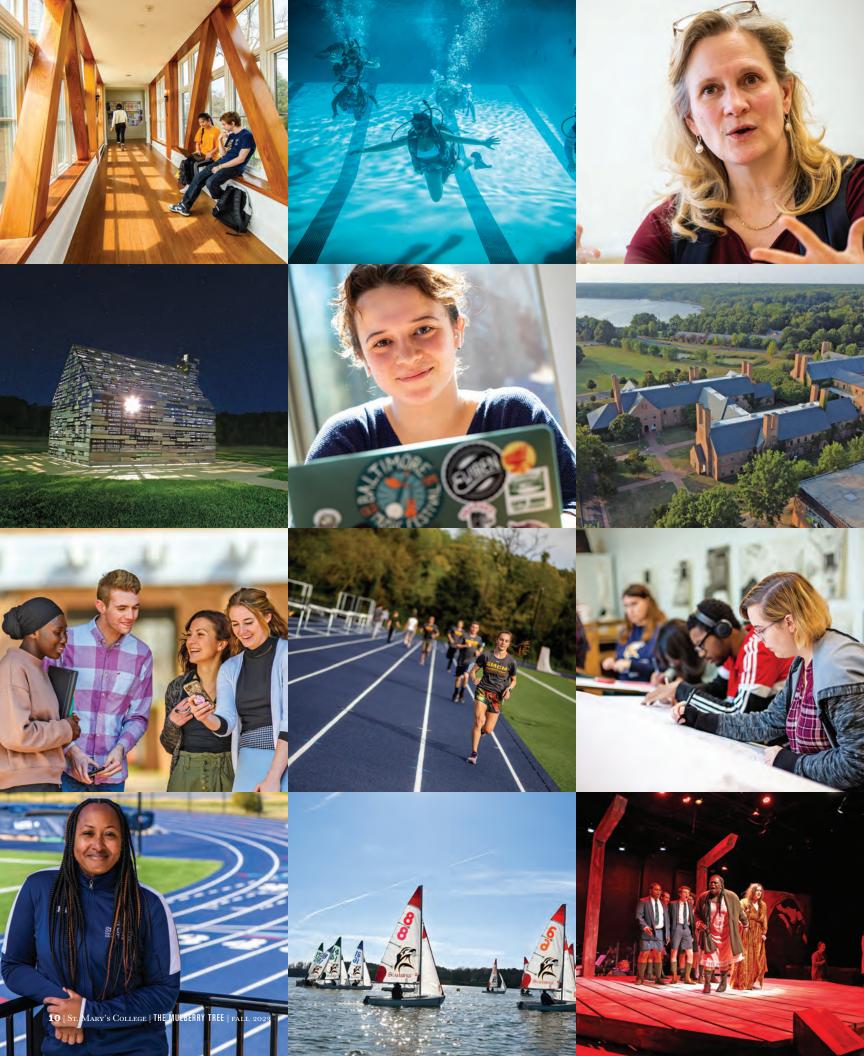
 Three to five new academic programs (including potential interdisciplinary and certificate programs) that are relevant, attractive and sustainable

- New international experiences, such as "Globalization-at-home" and a passport initiative, to increase global awareness of countries and cultures beyond North America and Europe
- Development of a Student Success Center for all student support services
- Expansion of our community engagement and opportunities for student involvement in curricular and co-curricular offerings

In this post-pandemic world, we face uncharted waters that present challenges unlike anything we have encountered before, with unprecedented threats to our democracy, climate and fundamental human rights. Our course forward demands our full attention and collective efforts. As an academic institution committed to nurturing engaged citizens, SMCM stands at the helm, ready to empower our students, faculty, staff and community to contribute meaningfully to finding innovative solutions and shaping a better future for all.

Together, we can navigate these new waters, creating a tomorrow that is not only secure but also prosperous and harmonious for all who traverse its depths.

Tuajuanda C. Jordan, PhD
President, St. Mary's College of Maryland



PILLAR I

Create an innovative, distinctive and competitive academic identity that attracts and retains talented students, faculty and staff.

The core of SMCM's strategy to create an innovative, distinctive and competitive academic identity is the LEAD Initiative (Learning through Experiential and Applied Discovery), launched by the College in 2019. The LEAD journey provides an all-encompassing and integrative pathway to ensure success for all students and includes curricular and co-curricular opportunities for all students, faculty and staff.

GOALS

- Develop and implement innovative new programming that continues to make the curriculum more distinctive and attractive to prospective students, faculty and staff.
- Expand the College community's national and global awareness and engagement impact.
- Cultivate a curriculum and campus environment that promote physical, mental and social wellness.
- Integrate leadership and professionalization through professional development for students, faculty and staff.

PILLAR II

Empower all students for success.

Student success requires institutional support that is personalized, flexible, equitable and inclusive. Empowering our diverse student population requires individualized measures of success that may include academic achievement; personal agency and self-reliance; preparation for the future; growing and thriving; and maintaining physical, mental, social and financial health.

GOALS

- Ensure student access to a centralized, equitable and effective holistic support system.
- Foster a sense of belonging for all new students.
- Provide a "Graduate Return on Investment" grant to empower (and incentivize) new, first-time students to engage in activities that facilitate graduating within four years of matriculation.

PILLAR III

Build a sustainable, vibrant and diverse student body that exemplifies an inclusive institution.

As SMCM grows, its student population should reflect that of the state of Maryland. Significantly, the success of this Pillar relies on the successful implementation of Pillars I, II and IV to distinguish the College as The National Public Honors College, thereby becoming the college of choice for prospective students and families.

GOALS

- Employ strategies to have a student body that reflects Maryland's diverse and multi-ethnic population.
- As The National Public Honors College, increase the number of out-of-state students.

PILLAR IV

Become a sought-after regional resource and develop opportunities for student educational engagement with communities that are mutually beneficial.

As The National Public Honors College, St. Mary's College of Maryland desires to be an anchor institution locally and in the region, raising its visibility, presence and impact. It seeks to be a partner of choice, cultivating long-lasting and impactful relationships that contribute to the best and most equitable place to live, work and study. This community-focused pillar immerses our students in pathways for success, meaning, service and collaboration while developing opportunities for student educational engagement with the local and regional communities.

GOALS

- Enrich regional life by assessing and advertising College resources available to the local and regional communities.
- Expand opportunities for students to be engaged within the region through curricular and cocurricular offerings that advance the St. Mary's Way.



Just as a rising tide brings growth and regeneration, this plan offers expanded growth opportunities to create new and valuable experiences for students, faculty and staff and to revitalize and strengthen ties between the College community and the region and state. It champions inclusion, diversity and interdisciplinary exploration, with the goal of creating a diverse and vibrant intellectual environment where the ebb and flow of varied perspectives challenge and inspire the community to embark on an enriching educational voyage.

For more details visit www.smcm.edu/president/strategic-plan



LEAD Takes Flight on the Wings of Seahawks

BY LEE CAPRISTO WITH CINDY GREB '87 AND THE CCPD TEAM

t St. Mary's College, the **Honors College Promise** guarantees every student the opportunity to pursue an internship, research experience or international study. The LEAD initiative (Learning through Experiential and Applied Discovery) supports the Honors College Promise in blending together a thoughtful and purposeful academic experience with professional skill development, weaving credit-bearing courses and hands-on opportunities into every program of study.

One of the key responsibilities of the Center for Career & Professional Development (CCPD) is to expand and enhance experiential learning through internship opportunities for students as part of the Honors College Promise. That team, led

by Cindy Greb '87, exudes energy that lets you know they can get the job done. Since summer 2022, the CCPD team has increased student participation in internships by over 176% and continues to expand the number of internship opportunities available. As the number of opportunities grows, so does the variety of industries. For example, in spring 2023, students participated in 188 internships in 22 industries.

CCPD also hosts the Career & Internship Fair each semester to connect students and employers for internships, jobs and career exploration. During the 2022-2023 school year, over 1,000 students attended the fairs with more than 20% receiving offers for an interview, an internship or a job on the spot.

Funding for these learning experiences comes through the College's Signature Honors Internship Program (SHIP), which compensates students for internships both on and off campus. The CCPD works tirelessly to cultivate strategic part-

> nerships in the community and leverage alternative funding sources (Federal Work Study & Dream.US) in order to provide these unique learning experiences for students.

Trying out work in an area of personal interest and learning about the work and the people who do it for a living can be a rewarding experience. The handson work experience helps students connect coursework concepts and theories with real life application. The College's diverse Seahawk family (faculty, staff, alumni and friends of the College) helps out as mentors, sponsors, hosts, advisers and network connections. It's often a win-win, in that the student and the employer/mentor both reap benefits from the connection. Here's what some students say about their experience:

INTERNSHIPS BY FIELD

SPRING 2023

188 internships in 22 industries

- 14 Agriculture
- 7 Art & Design
- **Athletics**
- Biology
- **Career Services**
- Chemistry
- Data & Research
- 17 Diversity
- 22 Education
- Environmental Sciences
- Event Management

- 5 Finance
- 12 Healthcare
 - Information Technology
 - International Relations
 - 16 Library Science
 - 15 Marketing & Communications
 - 6 Museum Studies
 - 30 Performing Arts Philanthropy
 - Political Science
 - Social Services



Blaire Dickens & Tiffany Dioko

Blaire Dickens '25 (philosophy and English majors) and Tiffany Dioko '25 (biology major) interned during the summer of 2023 at the Kate Chandler Campus and Community Farm. They were mentored by Barry Muchnick, associate professor of environmental studies and the programming and organizing force behind the farm's success and its new partnership with Farming 4 Hunger. Summer farm intern responsibilities included taking care of chickens, watering plants, weeding, planting crops, harvesting crops, donating eggs and produce, and anything else needing to be done at the farm.

Dickens: "One of my biggest successes at the farm has been, essentially, learning how to learn. As an English and philosophy major, my fields of study aren't even adjacent to what I do at the farm, and I have no past experience with farming or even gardening. In my time at the farm, I've gone from knowing nothing about farming to being able to take a quick look at the farm, know what needs doing, and do it without needing help."

Dioko: This opportunity has also opened my eyes to the Southern Maryland community. Our partnership with Farming 4 Hunger has shown me a new level of fulfillment. When I deliver eggs and produce, I meet other individuals who want to help the community and the community itself. It genuinely brightens my day to know that I am part of the community and I can make a difference."

Molly McCardell & Ethan Sklar

Molly McCardell '26 (anthropology major) and Ethan Sklar '25 (history major) held internships in archaeology with Historic St. Mary's City, doing outdoor field site work as well as indoor lab work.

McCardell: "I have been working with the St. Mary's Fort crew, helping to uncover a building that was used during the fort's occupation. I've been helping with site opening, excavating, troweling units (to check for features], and screening soil for artifacts. In the lab, I clean and categorize artifacts, giving me a better understanding of how artifacts are stored and preserved by the museum."

Sklar: "I've watched my skills in archaeology grow and improve with support from the crew. At the beginning, I didn't even know how to start [excavating] a unit properly, which I now do regularly."





Hudson Christensen

Hudson Christensen '25 (political science and public policy majors) had a summer 2023 internship at Genco headquarters, sponsored by Genco's president and CEO John C. Wobensmith '93. Genco is the largest U.S.-based drybulk shipping company, headquartered in New York City, with offices in Singapore and Copenhagen. The company transports iron ore, coal, grain, steel products and other drybulk cargoes along worldwide shipping routes. Forbes named Genco one of America's 100 Best Small Companies in 2022.

Christensen's summer internship was divided into three distinct parts to provide an understanding of the shipping industry and what Genco does.

"The first group I worked with was operations, who were responsible for the day-to-day operation of the ship and responding to issues and challenges that happen when moving cargo from one place to the other. Then I worked in finance, where I was able to do a side project with an upcoming Supreme Court case and even reached out to authors of an amicus brief and had a call with them to discuss their thoughts. Finally was chartering, which is the process of finding cargo and brokers for ships around the world!"





Ashlyn Conley

Ashlyn Conley '26 (sociology major, business management minor) interned this past spring at Historic Sotterley in Hollywood, Maryland. Conley contributed photographically and through video to help build those assets for the museum's print advertising and social media efforts.

"Sotterley's education director and my personal internship mentor, Katherine Humphries, is an incredible storyteller; she gave me insight into the historical perspective of the grounds."

"To be able to work for some sort of social change nonprofit, preferably one that is very hands-on in its community, would be the dream! I can say with 100% confidence my experience with Historic Sotterley gave me an inside look into that realm of work."

Kyle Murphy

Kyle Murphy '24 (biochemistry major) interned with the Home Land Environmental Lab in Waldorf, Maryland, during the summer of 2022. Murphy ran tests on drinking water to detect heavy metals, foreign sediments and compounds like phosphates and nitrates. At the end of the internship, he was tasked with writing a scientific report about the tests he'd performed. The experience served Murphy well: his senior capstone project that he completed during the summer of 2023 relied upon his knowledge about testing for contaminants in drinking water. Murphy is an active EMT and plans to go to medical school, possibly to train to be an emergency room doctor.

"[The employees at Home Land Environmental Lab] were all very personable and easy to talk to, but most importantly they were inclusive and taught me everything they knew about the lab and the chemistry surrounding drinking water testing."





Morgan Marzec

Morgan Marzec '24 (biology major with math minor) interned as a research assistant to the entomology department at the University of Delaware, at the Carvel Research Station in Georgetown, Delaware. Responsibilities for Marzec included insecticide efficacy trials and vineyard and corn-ear worm pest monitoring.

"An interesting side project I had was trapping and identifying spotted wing drosophila. This was being done to pass along information to the USDA in regard to an experiment they were doing involving beneficial insects. I had a wonderful experience at this internship and learned so much every day."

Raina Crew

Raina Crew '24 (psychology major, neuroscience minor) interned with the Child and Family Therapy Center at Kennedy Krieger in Baltimore, Maryland. The internship responsibilities included scoring psychology measures, observing therapy sessions, paperwork and other training tasks.

"I had one special project assigned to me where I got to make a list/resource guide for the LGBTQ+ community with information on local hospitals, practitioners, programs and other centers that provide gender-affirming care and or specialty services for gender non-confirming people. There were so many resources offered and the people were very wonderful to shadow/work with."

Jordan Manns

Jordan Manns '23 (biology major) worked as a lab and building assistant on campus for the staff and faculty in the biology department.

"The internship experience was great! We have tackled many projects throughout the semester. The projects ranged from daily tasks such as watering plants in the greenhouse, or cleaning test tubes, to making a cool tutorial video on how to use a spectrometer for POB [Principles of Biology] class! Also, we tested some of the experiments for POB, which was a fun task! Some tasks might be mundane but need to be done to make everyone's life in the department easier."





EVERY ALUMNI KNOWS THAT THE ST. MARY'S RIVER GETS IN OUR VEINS

and influences us in ways we don't even realize. For me, the river has led to a career in natural resource management and restoring the rivers of our Chesapeake Bay. I met **Andrew Braker '17** and his brother Eric Braker along the banks of Penns Creek in Pennsylvania in May 2022. It is no surprise that Andrew and I, proud Seahawks, were connected not just through the filming of "The Chesapeake Tales," but through our passion shaped by our time on the St. Mary's River. – **Kate Fritz '04**

How did the award for "A Journey Upstream" come about?

The award was very fitting for the film considering that Lefty Kreh was a Marylander who spent many hours fishing the very waters in the film; however, there is no thematic reasoning for why the film received the award. The Fly Fishing Film Tour (F3T) is a very difficult film festival to make it into for up and coming young filmmakers. In an effort to help shine a spotlight on young filmmakers, F3T created this award (named after arguably the most influential fly fishing angler to have ever lived) to be given to films that are created by young filmmakers. Regardless of the semantics involved with being accepted into the tour, we are extremely honored to have accepted the award named after one of our idols.

Your education is in environmental studies and your brother's is in film, so the combination is ideal for your film creations. Was combining them like this a longtime goal now realized or a seize-the-moment kind of opportunity? Would Braker Brothers films have continued to be made if not for Fly Fishing International wanting more?





TOP: Kate Fritz '04 met up with Andrew Baker 17 on the banks of Penns Creek in May 2022. BOTTOM: Andrew and Eric at the Breck Film Festival in 2021.

Eric's education is actually in marketing (Susquehanna University), but through practice he has become more of a filmmaker. I was an environmental studies and public policy major at SMCM. I then went on to receive my MS in environmental science and policy from Johns Hopkins University.

Regardless of our formal education, we still love the story angle of two brothers creating films using our combined knowledge -1) environmental understanding and 2) filmmaking skills. It's a great combo!

This combination was a long time coming, but we have both dipped our toes in both sides over the years. For example, I spent much of my teens carrying a GoPro and developing my photography/video skills. Eric recently increased his involvement in the environmental world when he signed on to work with the Alliance for the Chesapeake [Bay]. It seems like as time goes on we are both becoming proficient in both worlds.

I'm not sure if Braker Bros would have continued if "A Journey Upstream" wasn't so successful. But, after the ride that we had after creating "A Journey Upstream," we knew we were going to keep the train rolling.









How did the 1,000 miles, 7 days and 1 watershed translate into seven episodes of Chesapeake Tales in terms of how many hours of footage, storyboards and editing you logged in the process?

The Chesapeake Tales ended up forming into seven different episodes because each stop on our journey was filled to the brim with great experiences and conversations. Each one really deserved its own episode in order to capture the essence of place, fishery, conservation story, people, culture, etc. It was really hard to boil all of this down into short episodes.

A production like this requires a ton of preproduction planning. Linking together seven different locations, fishing with a different person/ people each day, setting up an interview each day, traveling in between destinations every day, avoiding bad weather windows, maintaining camera battery life and storage ... this was no easy feat. We could have easily created a film all about one of these stops, but the collection of seven different places, all located around the watershed, is what made this concept so great.

Through this experience of collaboration between the Braker Brothers, what's something you've learned about each other?

During our time developing Braker Bros Productions we have learned that we are very similar. At the heart of what drives both of us is that we love spending time in nature, we love documenting those experiences, we love sharing that content, and we love doing it together. It's through this process that we achieve our greatest shared goal which is promoting a more sustainable planet via inspiring other people to care, understand and experience nature as well.

In creating the series of films that you did covering the upstream of the Chesapeake Bay, what was one thing in one of the locations that completely surprised you? Why?

The thing that surprised us the most about producing "A Journey Upstream" was how much the Appalachian high country inspired us. The highest headwaters of the Chesapeake Bay are the little creeks that reach into the mountains of West Virginia and Pennsylvania and the other high elevation zones within the watershed. It was our understanding that the only mountains that inspired us were the Rockies, the Tetons, the Sierra Nevadas, and the other classic craggy peaks of the American West. But what we found is that the Mid-Atlantic has its own little gem in our backyard — majestic green mountains, rocky outcrops and cascading creeks filled with colorful native brook trout. This environment has become one of our favorites.

Where might your next journey take you? Is **Braker Brothers an ongoing enterprise?**

We won't be stopping anytime soon! The next Braker Bros film will actually be taking a step outside of the world of fishing. We are currently producing a mountain lion conversation film. Make sure to follow us on Instagram and Facebook to stay up to date.

www.brakerbros.com/ www.instagram.com/brakerbros/ www.facebook.com/brakerbros www.youtube.com/c/BassBoundFishing

PHOTOS COURTESY OF BRAKER BROTHERS

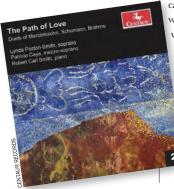


ALUMNICONNECTION

CLASS NOTES

1950s

J.R. Roseberry '53HS published his first two full-length books with Maudlin Pond Press in March and July of 2023, both of which are available in paperback, hardback and ebook formats through Amazon, Barnes & Noble and other venues. "Tybee Island Heroes and Hooligans, the Making of an Island Paradise Vol. 1" and "More Tybee Island Heroes and Hooligans, the Making of an Island Paradise Vol. 2" are compilations of J.R.'s newspaper columns profiling the colorful characters who helped make Tybee Island, located just outside Savannah, Georgia, one of the most popular beach resorts in the country. His second book is dedicated to M. Louise Truxal, former professor of English at St. Mary's Seminary-Junior College, who encouraged him to change his major at the University of South Carolina from engineering to journalism and pursue a writing career. J.R. went on to serve as a writer and editor for Pacific Stars & Stripes and the Associated Press in Japan and was also employed by the Atlanta Journal,









Norfolk Virginian-Pilot, Savannah Morning News, The State and The Washington Post. After 20 years' work as a reporter, editor and administrator, he retired from the Post and published his own newspaper, The Tybee News, for a short time. After selling the paper, he pursued freelance writing for newspapers and magazines and became an award-winning author of short stories. J.R. currently resides in Tybee Island, Georgia.

1970s

Donna L. West '76 [1] organized a gathering at the Dewey Beer Company in Milton, Delaware, on June 29, 2023 for alumni residing in the Eastern Shore region. Five decades of alumni were present, with attendees ranging from the Classes of 1973 to 2022. After a private tour of the brewery, Director of Alumni Relations Dave Sushinsky '02 shared campus updates and discussed ways alumni can stay engaged with programs like Mentora-Seahawk, Refer-a-Seahawk and Giving Tuesday.

Mezzo-soprano **Patricia Caya '77 [2]** released her most recent album on

June 2, 2023 with Centaur

Records. Recorded in 2021,

"The Path of Love-Duets of Mendelssohn, Schumann and Brahms" is currently available on all streaming platforms. The album's cover art was designed by fellow alum and Patricia's former roommate, **Virginia**Bartlett '77.

Biology majors Michael Rein-

1980s

sel '81, Chrissy Gray Moore '96 and David McDaniel '22 [3] are currently employed by the United States National Arboretum, Agricultural Research Service, United States Department of Agriculture. Michael is a biological science lab technician at the Beltsville, Maryland Floral and Nurser-Plants Research Unit. Chrissy is a curator/horticulturist at the National Herb Garden in Washington, D.C., where David is an intern. It's no surprise that outside of work, all three love the great outdoors.

Carole Burton Sox '87 [4]

is an associate professor and chair of the undergraduate business program at Columbia College in South Carolina. She received her PhD in hospitality management from the University of South Carolina, where she taught for almost ten years, and holds a master's degree in management from Southern Wesleyan University.

Most recently, she was awarded the Faculty Excellence Award and the Rookie Innovative Educator Award at Columbia College along with the Educator of the Year Award from the South Carolina Restaurant and Lodging Association. Her current research explores mentor and sponsor relationships for women executives. She teaches courses in business and hospitality and lives in South Carolina with her husband and two daughters.

Stacie Boughn Marvin '89

was named an Albert Einstein
Distinguished Educator Fellow
for the 2023-2024 school year.
Einstein Fellows represent
diverse teaching backgrounds
and offer their expertise as K-12
educators to federal agencies
and congressional offices. Also
a recipient of a 2019 Presidential
Award for Excellence in Math
& Science Teaching, Stacie will
complete her fellowship in the
House of Representatives on
Capitol Hill in Washington,
D.C.

1990s

Daniel J. Schiffman '91 earned a spot on the 2023 Forbes' list of Top Financial Security Professionals for his work as a wealth management advisor at Northwestern Mutual. He joined Northwestern Mutual

in 1998 and, with his expertise in financial planning and investment strategies, built a successful business in Frederick, Maryland. In May of 2019, he was honored as the recipient of the George Delaplaine Distinguished Citizen Award for his many contributions to the Frederick community. He presently serves as a board member for Frederick Memorial Hospital, the Community Foundation of Frederick County and the Religious Coalition for Emergency Human Needs and sits on the Foundation Board of Directors for St. Mary's College of Maryland.

Bill Mish '92 [5] won first place in the 2023 Save the Bay Photo Contest for his work, "Red Fox Hunting."

David M. Smith '92, Heidi Castle-Smith '93 and Shannon Lewis '23 [6] were crew members for the July 2023 production of "Tender," presented at the Transformation Theatre (TT) in Georgetown as part of the 16th annual Capital Fringe Festival. A. Lorraine Robinson '92, board member and secretary of TT, Inc., was in attendance. With Shannon as assistant stage manager, David as lighting designer and sound board member and Heidi as set and projection designer, "Tender" received a five star review





from D.C. Theater Arts and was named one of the "best of Fringe" by Washington City Paper. David currently serves as the resident lighting designer and technical director at St. Mary's College and is president emeritus of TT, Inc. Heidi is currently the College's visiting assistant professor of scenography and is the coartistic director and co-founder of TT, Inc.

Diane Rose Wathen '95 was named president and CEO of Insitu, a subsidiary of the Boeing Company, headquartered in Bingen, Washington. She took leadership of the company on March 31, 2023, moving up from her previous position as Insitu's vice president of programs.

Jae Jennifer Williams Rossman '95 graduated from Simmons University with a PhD in library and information science

in May of 2023. Her dissertation research on changing attitudes toward access in academic library special collections will be published with Rowman & Littlefield in 2024. Jae was appointed associate director of special collections instruction and research services at Yale University's Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library. Her private press, the jenny-press, recently published

two books: a career retrospective of artist Angela Lorenz and an artist's book by Julie Graves Krishnaswami addressing interruptions women face when speaking in professional settings.

Laura Resau '96 [7] published a picture book with Charlesbridge Press, which was released in English and Spanish for children ages six through ten (and for the young at heart). Co-authored with the Indigenous Ecuadorian leader Patricia Gualinga and illustrated by Vanessa Jaramillo, "Stand as Tall as the Trees: How an Amazonian Community Protected the Rain Forest" recounts the true story of how Patricia's Kichwa community won an inspiring victory after an oil company invaded their land. The book received a rare starred review

from Kirkus, which called it "a moving account of those who spoke truth to power and triumphed." Laura fell in love with Ecuador while collaborating with another Indigenous Kichwa woman, María Virginia Farinango, on "The Queen of Water," a true story for teens and adults.





SAVE THE DATE - FAMILY WEEKEND

OCTOBER 20 - 21, 2023





The National Public Honors College

2000s

Lisa Carey '05 was featured in the summer 2023 issue of the Kennedy Krieger Magazine about her role in helping children with cancer attend school in person. Lisa is an assistant professor in The Johns Hopkins University School of Education and is the assistant director of the Center for Innovation and Leadership in Special Education as well as an education specialist for the neuropsychology department. Her partner, Michael Carver '05, is a search consultant for Aspen Leadership Group in Baltimore.

George Jakuta '05 joined the Kennedy Krieger Institute's LEAP School in July of 2023 as the curriculum instruction assessment coordinator. In this position, he will work with students with autism and support the school faculty.

Kate Meyer Jakuta '07 graduated from the University of Maryland-Baltimore County in May of 2023 with her master's degree in social work. She attended classes part-time for four years while working full-time.

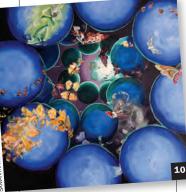
PhD in anthropology from Syracuse University in 2022 for his dissertation, "Fragmented Landscapes: An Archaeology of Transformations in the Pra River Basin, Southern Ghana." He currently works as a postdoctoral researcher and lecturer at the University of Virginia.

Sean H. Reid '07 earned a



Zach Bankert '08 [8] was named executive director of the Ocean City Development Corporation, a non-profit community development corporation focused on revitalizing Downtown Ocean City, Maryland. He previously worked as a realtor in the Salisbury area and is the co-owner of Bankert Rentals, which invests in residential rental properties and fix and flip projects. In addition to his real estate background, Zach is the former owner and operator of a motorcycle and scooter shop and a lead paint inspection business. He currently lives in Salisbury, Maryland, with his wife Claire and five-year-old son Oliver.

Makeyda Hilliard Soriano '09 was recognized on June 6 as the 2023 Secondary High School Counselor of the Year for Mont-





gomery County Public Schools in Maryland. She currently serves as the resource school counselor for Montgomery Blair High School, where she supervises the counseling department at the largest-enrolled school in Maryland.

2010s

classmates.

Sara Morgan Watters '10, Catherine Shanahan '15, Gloria Kevliciute '21 and Sophie Taczak '21 [9] clinched the inaugural Susan Widmann Women's Championship regatta under the team name, "St. Mary's College of Maryland Alumnae," at the Noroton Yacht Club in Darien, Connecticut, in June of 2023. Fellow sailing alumni Katie Prigmore Maxim '00 and Katie Gluskin '12 also competed in the regatta. John Wallace '12 was in attendance to support his former

Samantha Nickey '12 [10] will present her first solo art exhibition from November 4-30, 2023 at the Mary Condon Hodgson Art Gallery of Frederick Community College. "Creep. Cringe. Crunch." features oil paintings that examine the subject matter of bugs as a metaphor for

the smallness of humans in the cosmic scale. In challenging associations of bugs with fear, disgust and insignificance, even the most minute creatures have their redemptive qualities and flourish in their own space. An opening reception will take place from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. on Saturday, November 4. "Moth Mandala: Oil Paint, 2019" (pictured) will be one of many original works on display.

Travis B. Lear '12 [11] received his PhD from the University of Pittsburgh in 2020 with the graduation ceremony occurring in the spring of 2022. He was awarded a prestigious K99/Roo Pathway to Independence Award from the National Institutes of Health for study into Alzheimer's Disease and hopes to lead an independent laboratory in the near future.

Olivia Caretti '14 was quoted in a July 25 article by Joe Heim in The Washington Post about volunteer efforts positively impacting oyster restoration in the Chesapeake Bay region. Olivia is coastal restoration program manager for the Oyster Recovery Partnership, a Maryland non-profit.



Christy Coombs '15 recently joined the Ruppert Landscape team as the IT department administrator.

Terrence Thrweatt Jr. '15 has been appointed to the Baltimore City Board of Elections by Governor Wes Moore. In this position, he supports polling place access for the disabled and those in minority-majority neighborhoods across Baltimore City. Terrence also wrote a piece of legislation which was endorsed by Governor Moore. Named after Terrence's brother, the Imari Business Pride Act aims to establish LGBTQ-E procurement certification for state contractors.

Grace De Oro '17 successfully defended her dissertation proposal in February of 2023, reaching her candidacy in pursuit of a PhD in public policy. Her research is focused on nonprofit resilience in the face of the CO-VID-19 pandemic and includes a case study on emergency management nonprofits. Grace received her master's degree in public policy from the University of Maryland-Baltimore County in 2019.

MARRIAGES & UNIONS

Alexander Thompson '10 and Karima Thompson [1] were married on May 28, 2023 at The Westin Georgetown in Washington, D.C. Kara Skipper '10 was the best "man" and Christian Skipper '09 officiated the ceremony. Alumni in attendance included Ashleigh Dueker '10, Karen Stark '10 and Sarah Fiedelholtz '10. The couple honeymooned in France and currently reside in Alexandria, Virginia.



Erica Ramos '14 and John Trainor '14 were married on June 25, 2022 in Annapolis, Maryland, with many fellow alumni by their side. Erica majored in psychology at St. Mary's College and currently serves as a school counselor for Montgomery County Public Schools. John majored in philosophy and is a criminal defense attorney in Towson, Maryland. The couple met on the Townhouse Green and started dating in their senior year.

Lauren Rost '15 and Conor Colgan '17 [2] were married on January 21, 2023 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Emily Rost '16 was the maid of honor. Kelsey Abernathy '15, Megan Ritter '15 and Michelle DiMenna '15 were bridesmaids and Benjamin Weiss '15 was a groomsman. Alumni in attendance included Amy Maenner '15, Bryan Pelkey '15, Cyrus Chimento '15, Elise Valkanas '15, Gabriel Jensen '15, Jemile Kelderman '15. Keene Kelderman '15, Kristina Colaccico '15, Maura Glascock '15, Nate Babcock '15, Patrick Montague '15, Rebecca Wenker '15, Reese Cassard '15, Tim Perugini '15, Zack Tarallo '15, Grant Burgess '16, Kate Somerville '16, Kian Karimi '16, Michael Speer '16, Ryan Reis '16, Connor McKissick '17, Katie Padgett '17, Meg Marcelli '17, Zach Lilley '17, Nick D'Antona '18, Scott Pichon and current Seahawk Olivia D'Antona '24. The couple honeymooned in Bali, Indonesia, and currently reside in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where Lauren works as a senior data science analyst for Mayo Clinic and Conor works as an artist at Radiant Hall.

Karlie Straight-Braker '16 and Andrew Braker '17 [3] were married on October 29, 2022 at the Chesapeake Bay Foundation in Annapolis, Maryland. Alumni in attendance included Brooke Gue '15, Alex Bland '16, Luke Land '16, Amanda Mainello-Land '16, Zoe Lucas '16, Tally Aumiller '17, Jonathan Bland '17, Kia Blum '17, Joey Haavik '17 and Matt Walchuck '17. The couple honeymooned in Belize and currently reside in Fort Collins, Colorado.

Taylor Merchant '19 and Nicholas Miner '18 [4] were married on November 5, 2022 in St. Leonard, Maryland. Amanda Siskey '19, Becca Crosby '19, Hannah Porter '19, Lauren Swam '19 and Taylor Miner '21 were bridesmaids Robert Thompson '18 was the best man with Christian Harris '18 and Evan Lesser '18 as groomsmen. Alumni in attendance included JP Herald '16, Mairin Rivett '17, Handy Cho '18, Jacob Traver '18, Jean-Paul Pellet '18, Malik Jackson '18, Nabiha Kasmani '18, Whittni Pickens '18, Yifan Yan '18, Dale Lacey '19, Evelyn Hernandez '19, Jake Mahnke '19, Julius Fuller '19, Marina Glennon '19, Reilly Cook '19, Tyler Paul '20 and Cory Shorter '21. The couple reside in Leonardtown, Maryland.























BIRTHS& ADOPTIONS

Sarah Golden Raley-Dale

'04 [1] and husband Mark welcomed their fourth daughter, Tava, on August II, 2022. Older sisters include eight-year-old Zara, born March 8, 2015; six-year-old Alora, born June 17, 2017; and three-year-old Solei, born April 18, 2020. The family (including Fancy the pup) resides in Valley Lee, Maryland, where Sarah works for NAVAIR in career planning and development.

Dustin Reichard '07 [2] and wife Elizabeth welcomed a son, Lucian Fox, on February 5, 2023. Proud older brother Lincoln turned three a few days after Lucian was born. The family resides in Delaware, Ohio.

Susan Hanna Peterson '07 [3]

and husband Tug welcomed a daughter, Hanna Ann, in April of 2023. She joins older brother, Theodore "Theo" Robert, who was born in June of 2021. The family resides in Poolesville, Maryland.

Laura Walker Greeley '08 [4] and husband Chris welcomed a son, Jack Denning, on January 27, 2023. Walker, age two, is

27, 2023. Walker, age two, is the proud older brother. The family resides in Catonsville, Maryland.

Sara Rubinstein Schreibstein

'08 [5] and husband Michael welcomed a son, Raymond "Ray" Isaac, on August 20, 2022. The family resides in Columbia, Maryland, where Sara works for the Jewish Federation of Howard County and Michael works for Offit Kurman Law Firm.

Marjorie Foley Walsh '09

MAT '10 [6] and husband Greg welcomed a son, Zenon, in June of 2023. Emmet, age two, is the proud older brother. The family resides in Leonardtown, Maryland, where they recently moved down the street from St. Mary's College Professor of English Ben Click.

Diana Abells Kiesewetter
'11 and Dietrich Kiesewetter
'11 [7] welcomed a daughter,
Valarie Victoria, on January 25,
2022 in Columbus, Ohio.

Scott Marsh '13 and Kaitlyn Wisniewski Marsh '13 [8] welcomed a son, Silas Henry, on January 5, 2023. The family resides in Severna Park,

Robert Stouffer '14 and Virginia Williams Stouffer '13

Maryland.

[9] welcomed fraternal twins, Maddalyn Rose and Luca Winston, on April 25, 2023. Isabell is the proud older sister. The family resides in Gaithersburg, Maryland.

IN MEMORIAM

Ethel "Peggy" Burch Saliunas HS'47 died on April 5, 2023 at Chesterbrook Assisted Living in Falls Church, Virginia, at the age of 94. She was a retired membership secretary with the Pennsylvania Podiatric Medical Association and a member of St. Theresa Parish in her former home of New Cumberland. Pennsylvania. She remained active in the community with book and bridge clubs, exercise and movie groups, senior centers, churches and libraries and was a volunteer for Meals on Wheels. Peggy is survived by her four children and is predeceased by her husband, Joseph Raymond Saliunas.

Bette Jayne Laufer Gerding

JC'50, originally of Baltimore, Maryland, died on October 14, 2022 at the age of 93. She was preceded in death by her husband Tom and daughter Linda Bradley. Bette is survived by her sons Henry and John and daughter Bridget Anne Howard along with many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Janet Montgomery Densmore JC'61 died on November 26. 2022 with her husband, Bob Densmore, by her side. She maintained a long and successful career as a certified public accountant, was an accomplished pianist and even spent time working towards her pilot's license. Janet and Bob enjoyed

traveling around the country

and were dedicated to building

a loving home for their son and daughter. Janet is survived by her husband, as well as by her son, daughter, granddaughter and three siblings.

Raymond Edward Nowak '72

of Lexington Park, Maryland, died on April 30, 2023 at age 73 after a long battle with Parkinson's disease. Ray was the first mathematics major to graduate from St. Mary's College. He joined the Department of Defense and served a 32-year career supporting aircraft/ weapon systems test and analysis. In 1980, Ray received a Presidential Recognition Award from President Carter for his substantial contribution to more efficient government operations. He retired from government service in 2004.

In retirement, he enjoyed fishing, woodworking and photography. Ray is survived by his wife, Barbara Cook, along with his daughter, step-daughters and two grandchildren.

Timothy "Tex" Sullivan '75

of Washington, D.C., died on March 15, 2023 at the age of 70. He studied biology at St. Mary's College of Maryland and the University of Maryland before joining the National Institutes of Health where he worked until his recent retirement. Tex is survived by his niece and nephew, many dear cousins and a large, cherished friend group.

Christopher Paul Kallfelz '87

died on April 25, 2023 at his home in Lusby, Maryland. He served his country as a sergeant in the United States Army from 1980 to 1983 before matriculating at St. Mary's College, where he graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in philosophy in 1987. He then moved to Baltimore with his wife, Melissa, where he enrolled at the University of Maryland School of Law. Putting his legal knowledge to work for the American Motorcycle Association in Westerville, Ohio, he fought for motorcyclists' rights in courtrooms across the country. As a writer and rider, he also shared his passion for motorcycles in the association's magazine, American Motorcyclist. Christopher is survived by his wife, Melissa Worthington Kallfelz, to whom he was married for 38 years.

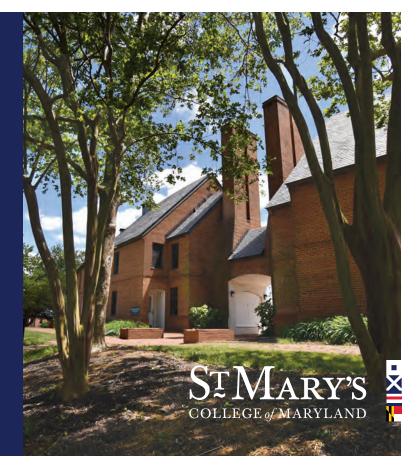
St. Mary's College of Maryland

FOUNDATION Inc.

The St. Mary's College of Maryland Foundation Annual Report can be found online. You may read it and download it at www.smcm.edu/mulberrytree or contact the Office of Institutional Advancement for assistance at 240-895-4282.



Stay tuned for Taking the LEAD: A Campaign for St. Mary's College of Maryland kicking off on September 22!



A LILIPUTIAN AND A GIANT

By Lee Capristo with Justin Mattingly, campus arborist and Steve Gregory, superintendent of grounds

In 2017, tree specialists confirmed that a willow oak behind St. Mary's Hall, at the Garden of Remembrance, showed evidence of wood decay fungi at the root crown area, along the main trunk and in the upper crown. The mighty oak had suffered significant damage from lightning strikes and high winds during its estimated 90-year life. Over a three-day period in July 2017, the tree was cut down and removed [1].

During the stump removal process, a petite and antique fire hydrant got in the way. It had been there first but had been overtaken by the oak. The fire hydrant dates to about 1902; the tree to about 1926. [2] [3]

The Eclipse model 2A fire hydrant was manufactured by the Kupferle Foundry Company in St. Louis, Missouri. The company was established in 1857 by John C. Kupferle and the Eclipse model 2 was patented in the 1880s. The model 2A was a smaller version of the model 2. [4]

An artesian well, drilled in the late 1880s behind the main building (which burned to the ground in January of 1924), may have been the water source for the hydrant. A water tower, erected nearby around 1910, may also have served the hydrant. A photo from 1941 shows the water tower that stood behind Calvert Hall until 1971. [5]

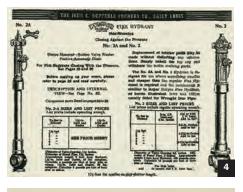
Not long after the giant was felled, a new, young willow oak was planted to start the cycle anew. This time, however, there's more than 90 years' worth of gap between the Eclipse model 2A and the tree. [6]















BIG **EVENTS** AT SMCM









AT THE NANCY R. AND NORTON T. DODGE Performing Arts CENTER



Featuring renowned public figures. acclaimed performers and local favorites, there's something for everyone within reach here in Southern Maryland. Join us in our intimate and acoustically optimized auditorium for a world-class experience.

STMARY'S COLLEGE of MARYLAND

The National Public Honors College

TUESDAY, SEPT. 12

FRIDAY, SEPT. 22

SATURDAY, SEPT. 30

THURSDAY, OCT. 12

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 25

FRIDAY, OCT. 27

SATURDAY, OCT. 28

FRIDAY, NOV. 3

NINA TOTENBERG | 7:00 P.M.

Legendary journalist and Supreme Court doyenne

KELLY BELL BAND | 7:00 P.M.

Irresistible blend of blues, funk and rock

ALEXANDRIA SINGERS | 7:00 P.M.

DC Metro area's premier pops chorus

ARTRAGEOUS | 7:00 P.M. 5

High-energy electrifying art & music circus

JELANI COBB | 7:00 P.M.

Historian and Peabody Award-winning journalist

SMCM ORCHESTRA | 7:00 P.M.

Our own students led by Professor

Jeffrey Silberschlag

COSMIC SYMPHONY | 3:00 P.M.

Southern Maryland's community orchestra

SWEET HONEY IN THE ROCK | 7:00 P.M. 5

Grammy Award®-nominated female a cappella vocal quartet





The National Public Honors College

ombine eight enthusiastic student interns with one passionate environmental studies professor and the support of the Center for Career & Professional Development with equal parts soil, water and sunshine and you've got a bountiful harvest at the Kate Chandler Campus and Community Farm. Kudos to Barry Muchnick, associate professor of environmental studies as the programming and organizing force behind the farm's success and its new partnership with Farming 4 Hunger and to the summer 2023 farm interns: Raven Davis '25, Blaire Dickens '25, Tiffany Dioko '25, Flor Katz-Starr '24, Sarah LaBille '25, Haley Roche '25, Andrew Severson '26, Kate Wachter '26 and student farm manager Grace Dillingham '22.

- 1 Pride Garden planted in zinnias
- 2 Herb Spirals completed and planted
- 4 Heirloom Garden Beds planted
- 8 Kate Farm Summer Interns
- **12** Community Partners (food pantries, soup kitchens, food banks, volunteer organizations)
- 17 Hours per week per Intern (average)
- 69 Broiler Chickens Introduced
- 70 DeSousa-Brent Volunteers ("Put Down Roots" sunflower planting activity)
- 832.5 Pounds of produce donated
- 1,200 Vegetable Starts transplanted
- **1,548** Total Summer Intern Hours (between 5/15-8/9)
- 8,444 Number of eggs donated (between 5/15-8/9)



"When I deliver eggs and produce, I meet other individuals who want to help the community and the community itself. It genuinely brightens my day to know that I am part of the community and I can make a difference."

- Tiffany Dioko '25







