Southern

A Publication for Alumni and Friends

Spring 2014 Volume 40, Number 1

WITHOUT BORDERS

A glimpse into the boundless, creative expressions of alumni visual artists

Birmingham-Southern College



Inside'Southern

'Southern magazine / Spring 2014 / Volume 40, Number 1

A Publication for Alumni and Friends

BSC



Departments

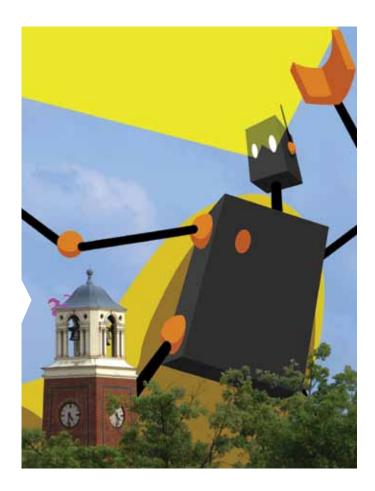
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The Edwards Bell Tower gets a visit from a benevolent golden-caped robot (and a tiny, furry, pink friend). The image was created especially for us by John Lytle Wilson '99, a talented artist who teaches in the Department of Art and Art History. Most of Wilson's paintings are large, vivid, acrylic canvases, but he also "corrects" existing paintings, prints, and photographs like this one, usually with his signature monkeys and robots. Read more about Wilson and other alumni artists on page 22.



Editor's Note

New beginnings quite like spring

Spring is always a time to think about new beginnings, but I have a special excuse this time around. As I write this, I am not in the office putting the final touches on this issue of 'Southern. Instead, I'm at home with a brand-new addition to our family: our week-old baby.

As I type with her on my lap, I can't help but gaze down on her and wonder: Who will you be? How will you discover your special gifts? What skills and support will you need to best fulfill your potential?

This, in a way, is what everyone here at Birmingham-Southern does for each of our students. When they arrive their first year, they're not as innocent as newborns (I suspect even their parents might agree), but they are just as open to an infinite world of possibilities. If they want to shed their high school identity and try something new, they can do that in a safe residential environment. If they want to take their accomplishments to the next level, they can do that, too, under the guidance of faculty and staff committed to help them develop. Over their four years here on the Hilltop, they'll discover what excites them and figure out how to follow those passions and make them work in the "real world."

In this issue, we explore some of those pathways. Our main feature follows alumni artists who have approached their field from many different directions and found artistic and commercial success. You'll also find a photo essay that follows a group of students who mount a play during the January Exploration Term, playing multiple roles and learning the ins and outs of professional-scale production. And of course, you'll also learn about some of our student and faculty achievements in the news sections and find your old friends and classmates' own success stories (and birth announcements!) in Class Notes.

There's only one thing missing: your own story. Please let us know how Birmingham-Southern opened your eyes, propelled you toward your future, or changed your life. You can email us at comments@bsc.edu. We look forward to hearing from you, and of course, you're always welcome to visit us during the beautiful springtime on the Hilltop.

Forward, Ever!

Hannah Wolfson

Director of Communications

Handwort

Share your story

Professor of Chemistry Dr. Laura Stultz, the 2013 Alabama Professor of the Year as recognized by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education, is looking for alumni stories to consider for her commencement remarks this year. She would like to hear from alums about how a liberal arts background has impacted your life in unexpected, but significant ways. Submit your stories to **Istultz@bsc.edu**.

Gen. Charles C. Krulak, President Dr. Wayne Killion Jr. '72, Chair, Board of Trustees

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explore your passion get hands-on experience and excel at business



entrepreneurship camp

Sunday, June 15 through Friday, June 20, 2014.







Birmingham-Southern's Entrepreneurship Camp immerses rising high school juniors and seniors in a highly collaborative business program.

This is a special opportunity for teen entrepreneurs to engage in a hands-on curriculum—with instruction by BSC faculty and visiting experts—designed to enhance their entrepreneurial mindset and skills. Over the course of six days, participants **will work in teams to construct a complete business plan** with the opportunity to win a \$4,000 Stump Entrepreneurship Scholarship to BSC.

Participants will experience real-world business activities through case studies, role-playing, and sessions with local entrepreneurs. Plus they'll learn life skills that will put them on a path for success throughout their careers!

The curriculum covers a range of topics including:

- · Business plan writing
- Social responsibility
- Marketing
- · Competition/collaboration
- Cash flow/budgeting
- Leadership

Dates: Sunday, June 15 through Friday, June 20 **Cost:** \$500/camper, includes all room, board, and activities

Application deadline is Thursday, May 15, 2014. **www.bsc.edu/academics/business/camp.cfm**

For more information, call **(205) 226–7851** or e-mail Amy Hayes at **ahayes@bsc.edu**.

Planned activities include:

- Hands-on training on how to create and present a business plan
- Visits to local businesses and the award-winning Innovation Depot business incubator
- Personalized talent assessment through StrengthsQuest
- A course on creativity
- Panels and mealtime talks from local entrepreneurs and business experts
- Time for reflection, team-building, and fun



Remembering Bishop-in-Residence Bob Morgan

We are sad to write that Dr. Robert C. Morgan '56, who served

at Birmingham-Southern for more than a decade, passed away March 16 at the age of 80.

A native of Birmingham, Morgan joined BSC in 2000 as bishop-in-residence after serving a year as president of the United Methodist Council of Bishops, the highest elected office in the church. He was an honorary life member of the BSC Board of Trustees and received an Honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from the college in 1980.

He received a Master of Divinity from Emory University's Candler School of Theology, which named Morgan as one of its three distinguished

alumni in 2010.

Morgan taught and mentored many Birmingham-Southern students over the years through his coursework, which included "The Gospel of St. John," John Wesley and the People Called Methodists," and "The Parables." He also guided groups of students on Interim term trips to Greece, Turkey, and Italy to explore the journeys of the Apostle Paul, and to England to follow the footsteps of John Wesley.

"In the office next to him, I could hear his voice say 'Come in!' with great excitement to *every* student who paused at the threshold," said Laura Sisson, director of church



Bishop Bob Morgan lecturing to students in Rome

relations at BSC. "Students would often come out of his office with a book to read, and many times with permission to be added to his class."

"Bob was a tremendous resource as to what the mission of the college should be—focusing on service to the church by nurturing intelligent faith in a high quality academic setting," said Dr. Neal Berte, BSC president emeritus. "His remarkable ability to teach, speak, and write about the gospel opened students' minds to new insights."

Morgan is survived by his wife, Martha Storey Morgan '60, and four children: Carol Morgan Carmichael of Birmingham; Lesli Morgan Blair '82 of Toney, Ala.; Ken Morgan of Waynesville, N.C.; and Robert Morgan Jr. '85 of Birmingham.

At the request of the family,

memorial contributions can be made to the Bishop Robert C.
Morgan Scholarship through the Office of Institutional Advancement at BSC, Box 549003, 900
Arkadelphia Road, Birmingham, AL 35254. The scholarship was established in 1984 by Vestavia Hills United Methodist Church to honor Morgan upon his election to the episcopacy and in recognition of his service to the church. The scholarship is given annually to any deserving students.

Rev. Dalton Rushing '05, pastor of North Decatur UMC in Decatur, Ga., posted a tribute of Morgan titled, "On the Passing of a Giant," on his blog: http://networkedblogs.com/V42DZ. Read these other moving tributes from some of his former students, posted and shared on Facebook:



Morgan



L to r: Bishop Bob Morgan with former Church Relations Assistant Donna Thomas, Director of Church Relations Laura Sisson, and Denson N. Franklin Professor of Religion Dr. Larry Brasher.

Lora Parker '12

"Bishop is the one who looked me dead in the eye as a sophomore and told me, 'Lora, you're supposed to be in ministry.' To say this wonderful person had an impact is a slight understatement. His persistent support, encouragement, and love helped get me to where I am today, and I could not be more thankful for that. I am so very glad for everything he did and pray for peace with Mrs. Martha and his family. Man, did heaven just gain a lot of sass and awesome!"

Rev. Matthew Lacey '05

"Bob Morgan: one of the few people who exemplifies the words 'pastor,' 'storyteller,' and 'teacher' for me. He taught us all so, so much through his words and actions and helped influence so many in the ministry today. He will be missed more than anyone can say."

Mary Catherine McAnnally '11

"My favorite thing about TA-ing for the incredible Bob Morgan was

getting to hear him teach three different 'John Wesley and the People Called Methodists' classes. My favorite of his lessons: God's prevenient grace exists in your life before you even knew you have it. It's the grace that's standing just around the corner, waiting to meet you whenever you decide to turn. I remember taking notes through tears the first time I heard that lesson—so, so powerful! Those words are grafted in my heart. What a gift to so many. We love you, Bishop."

Rev. Brian Erickson '97

"Prayers of gratitude for the life and legacy of Bob Morgan, who spent his life seeing gifts in others they didn't know they had, and then relentlessly chasing those same folks into doing the work of God. May perpetual light shine on you, Bishop."

Olivia Woodard '09

"Bishop Morgan was such a wonderful, intelligent, thoughtful friend and mentor. He made such

an impact on so many of our lives and his legacy will continue to live on with our memories and stories. I am so grateful and blessed that God placed him in my life, and for him sharing his knowledge and wisdom with me over the years. I will never forget the 'Footsteps of Paul' adventures, the many study nights at the Morgan home . . . He will truly be missed. Sending my deepest thoughts and prayers to the Morgan family. Love you, Bish."



Bishop Morgan with students at St. Andrew's Parish Church in Epworth, England

One of BSC's top cops retires after 31 years with department

Carl Wilson '01 spent most of his adult life keeping the Hilltop safe, but that run came to an end in March when he retired after 31 years with the BSC Campus Police Department. He spent the last 13 of those as deputy chief.

Wilson said retirement will give him a chance to devote more time to travel, playing golf, reconnecting with friends, and most of all, concentrating on his real estate business

"I'm really excited about this new chapter in my life," said Wilson. "I'm sad, but I'll keep busy to get over it."

He is an eight-year veteran of the U.S. Air Force and served two tours of duty in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War. During his years on the Hilltop, he earned a bachelor's degree in business from BSC's former Adult Studies Program.

At a campus retirement reception for Wilson, BSC Police Chief Randy Youngblood said Wilson's departure is bittersweet.

"We both came to Birmingham-Southern as young adults to serve and protect," he said. "In our nearly 32 years of working together, we've both evolved so much. He's my brother."

Vice President of Administration Lane Estes presented a rocking chair, a retirement gift for Wilson, and Youngblood gave him a plaque honoring his more than three decades of service to the college.

"Deputy Chief Wilson helped me to gain valuable insight and achieve new focus in choosing a career path," said Michael Elcott, a BSC senior and work-study for the

Department. "He always showed a special interest in helping those around him and the campus community as a whole."

Here are three of Wilson's most memorable BSC experiences, in his own words:

- "A large black bear wandered on campus in June of 1993. The bear had been struck by a vehicle while crossing I-59 and entered the woods north of our campus. The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office SWAT team was called in along with several other law enforcement agencies. The bear exited the campus from the Bruno entrance, and, after a two-day search, was captured in a nearby yard. After that experience, everyone referred to the animal as the Bruno bear."
- "When President Bill Clinton stepped onto the campus during his re-election campaign in the fall of 1996, I was the contact person for his security team. I got to hang out with the team during his visit as well as shake the president's hand and get a picture taken with him."
- "During the 1996 Summer Olympic Games, hosted by Birmingham, BSC housed several of the athletes. Every law enforcement agency you can think of was on our campus; the Alabama state troopers served as lead. The college turned the entire dorm quad into an Olympic village and fenced it in."



Safewise.com has named Birmingham-Southern one of the four safest colleges in the South.

"Not only do Birmingham-Southern alumni have an impressive record for acceptance into medical, dental and law schools, but they complete their undergraduate studies on one of the safest campuses in the south," Safewise writes. It credits BSC's energetic Campus Police department that works diligently to reassure parents that their students are in good hands—whether it's 24-hour on-campus escorts, bike patrols or emergency response, the college is on the case to keep its staff, faculty, and students from harm.

Safewise.com is a website that compares home security providers and reviews home security products. It compared police statistics from 2013 to come up with its rankings.



Gen. Krulak featured in national publication

BSC President Gen. Charles C. Krulak was recently featured in a leadership Q&A in the magazine Diverse: Issues in Higher Education in February. Here are some of the thoughts he shared:

Why did you choose BSC?

"The desire to reconnect with the next generation of leaders led me to seek a college presidency. I had never even been to the state of Alabama, nor had I ever heard of Birmingham-Southern. My name had come up in presidential searches for three other colleges or universities when I was invited to visit the city of Birmingham on an unrelated matter. While I was here, a friend who knew I was looking for a new challenge told me about BSC, which was currently looking for a new president. My wife and I visited campus and we spent six hours on an individual tour, after which, we knew without a doubt that BSC was the place for us. Why? First off, the quality of the students. We found great young men and women of character who were clearly more driven to serve on Main Street than to profit on Wall Street. Second, we met a remarkable, selfless faculty who truly believes that the education they provide can and should be life-changing. Third, I encountered a staff who clearly saw that their main purpose was to serve the students and the faculty members who teach the students. All in all, there was a unique sense of family that I found at no other campus."



What can higher education learn from the military and vice versa?

"The biggest takeaway is that, at the end of the day, character counts. The effectiveness of a professor or a staff member—or the president!—is directly related to

her or his strength of character, moral courage, and integrity. We need to remember that our role is not just to prepare students mentally, but also to develop their strength of character, for that's what will sustain them when they're in the 'real world.' The military, on the other hand, could learn a lot from higher education. From an administrative perspective, higher education

has shown me how to slow down and value the process, especially when it comes to shared governance. From an educational one, we need to remember that there's a huge difference between simply training young people—that is, loading them up with specific knowledge—and truly educating them to be critical thinkers, problemsolvers, and connectors of ideas. That's what colleges like Birmingham-Southern do so well, and it's why the U.S. will continue to be a

"We need to remember that our role is not just to prepare students mentally, but also to develop their strength of character, for that's what will sustain them when they're in the 'real world."

leader in innovation well into the future."

What do we need to do to create the next generation of leaders?

"First off, I believe that leaders are made and not born; that you can in fact learn leadership. Also, leaders must have a foundation, and that foundation is a strength of character. Thus, as you're developing young leaders, you must start with that foundation and then build it up from there. The specific traits, methods, and even 'tricks' that help make leadership effective are nothing without that basis in character, which is why I feel that's one of the most important things we help develop as educators."

How do you spend your spare time?

"What spare time? Seriously, along with my 'day job,' I attend almost every sporting event, performance, and other event on this campus. I love being out there to support the students! And then there's travel to visit alumni and spread the word about BSC in other cities. My wife and I love to read, do crosswords, and watch movies. But the reality is that at least 90 percent of my time is spent on campus."







Spring graduation ceremonies and speakers

Glenn

Stultz John

BSC Professor of Chemistry Dr. Laura Stultz, the 2013 Alabama CASE/Carnegie Professor of the Year, will address the Class of 2014 during the 155th Commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 17, at 9 a.m. at Bill Battle Coliseum on campus. A President's Reception will be held on campus immediately after the ceremony.

Stultz was named the BSC Outstanding Educator of the Year during the college's 2013 graduation ceremony. The award is given to a member of the BSC faculty who, according to recommendations by his or her colleagues, excels in all aspects of teaching, including scholarship, classroom performance, and student advising. The award includes a cash stipend and an invitation to speak at the following Commencement.

Stultz joined the BSC faculty in 1997 after doing postdoctoral research and teaching at Indiana University. She received her Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and her bachelor's degree in chemistry from Oberlin College.

Dr. Luke Timothy Johnson, Distinguished Professor of New Testament at Emory University's Candler School of Theology, will deliver the annual Baccalaureate address on Friday, May 16, at 1 p.m. at Canterbury United Methodist Church in Mountain Brook. A Capping ceremony will be held that same day at 4 p.m. in the coliseum.

Lisa Glenn '06 will deliver the Convocation address at BSC's Honors Day ceremony on Thursday, May 1, in Munger Hall Auditorium. Glenn was recently promoted to director of programs at New Global Citizens, an education nonprofit in Tempe, Ariz.



Gardner

Ambassador of "happyness" shares secrets at BSC

Chris Gardner, whose best-selling 2006 autobiography, *The Pursuit of Happyness*, was made into an acclaimed film of the same name starring Will Smith, delivered BSC's 2014 Alex P. Stirling Lecture on campus in March to an audience of about 600.

Gardner talked about his one-year struggle in San Francisco as a broke, homeless, single parent to a 14-monthold son, and how he held on to his dream of financial independence. With no college education and virtually no connections, he earned a spot in the Dean Witter Reynolds training program and became the sole trainee offered a job at the firm in 1981.

Now, after just trying to survive, he has some advice for others.

"You can achieve success in life regardless of your circumstances if you find your passion, have a plan, and take practical steps," said Gardner, whose talk was preceded by a trailer of the movie. "Start where you are. Find your 'button' and do what you love."

Science doesn't tell you who you'll become in life; only spirituality does, according to Gardner, age 60, whose talk was called "Spiritual Genetics and the American Dream."

"Spiritual genetics is what makes you, you," he stated. "Your future is not already determined because of your zip code or family situation or DNA. If it were, I should have become an alcoholic and an abuser like my step-father." Instead, Gardner said he chose to take a different path. He told how his mother, Betty Jean Triplett, encouraged him

"I saw the light in my mom and I embraced it," he said. "She told me that I could be or do anything."

Gardner explained that he spelled "happiness" with a "y." He said the "y" is to remind people that they and they alone determine their success.

Gardner started his own successful Chicago brokerage firm; he has now resigned from it to allow more time for speaking, writing, and philanthropy, including working with programs for the homeless and for victims of domestic violence. He also is a board member of the National Fatherhood Initiative and received the group's Father of the Year Award in 2002.

"My book is really a love story about a man committed to giving his son what he never had—a father," said Gardner, who also has a daughter and granddaughter. "It's the book of all us who had the opportunity to be all the negative stuff in our faces, but chose to go the other way."

The Stirling Lecture Series is sponsored by the Birmingham-Southern Student Government Association in memory of Alex Stirling, a BSC student who died of cancer in 1995.



Alabama's Professor of the Year

A mix of service, devotion to students, and interdisciplinary research earn Laura Stultz teaching award

BY PAT COLE

Chemistry students usually don't have trouble learning facts and figures and solving problems. But they may struggle with how to frame research questions, how to think about variables, and how to set up an experiment, says BSC Professor of Chemistry Dr. Laura Stultz.

This observation led her to hone a method that combines hands-on exploration in the lab and in-depth discussion to guide students through challenges and model how science is done professionally. It also helped Stultz earn the title of 2013 Alabama Professor of the Year from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. She traveled to D.C. in November where all of the Professors of the Year—36 nationally—were awarded certificates.

"This is a wonderful honor for me and the college," says Stultz, who is the fourth Birmingham-Southern professor to earn the distinction. "I agreed to be nominated to give BSC and our faculty recognition for the type of teaching we do on our campus, and I'm glad to be recognized—but I represent the faculty as a whole."

When working with students in the classroom and the laboratory, Stultz uses a method called gradualism to move

them through ideas and concepts one step at a time, building on their previous knowledge. By the time they approach graduation, they're asking interesting, thought-provoking research questions, and learning how to approach them as real scientists. They must learn to overcome obstacles when an equation doesn't accurately predict results or if an experiment goes awry.

"We designed our experiments so students tackle just one part of the project instead of the whole thing, then they pool their data with their peers and draw comparisons and more global conclusions," Stultz says. "We've got to move students away from 'cookbook' labs to an environment where there's more inquiry, analysis, and student input into the design of the experiment."

Stultz, who has taught at BSC since 1997, is admired by students and faculty for her teaching, research, and commitment to service.

"Dr. Stultz is invested in her students and genuinely cares about their wellbeing," says Kyle Hoffman, a senior chemistry major from Madison, Ala. "You can tell that she doesn't view being a professor as just a job, and this is reflective in her attitude and commitment to her students."

BSC Provost Dr. Mark Schantz praised

Stultz for her "levelheadedness and keen intelligence."

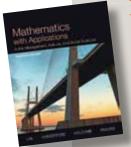
"Laura has made landmark contributions to her students, to chemistry, and to Birmingham-Southern," Schantz says. "Her influence on her own department's curriculum has been nothing short of revolutionary. Her innovations represent the kind of revision needed in all introductory science laboratories."

In addition to her teaching, Stultz has served on several elected campus committees, served as chair of the Department of Chemistry and Physics for four years, and is currently co-chair of the Faculty Advisory Committee, BSC's equivalent of a faculty senate. She has long involved students in her own cutting-edge research on the potential uses of metals as anti-cancer drugs. Stultz was awarded a National Science Foundation grant last year along with Biology Department colleague Dr. Pamela Hanson to involve students in bona fide research experiences in both introductory and advanced courses. She and Hanson also submitted a grant to NSF to create workshops for faculty around the country to teach them how to integrate collaborative research and teaching into their classes. They held their first workshop this past October, which drew some 30 professors from around the South.

Stultz also teaches a "Foreign Language Across the Curriculum" course biennially with Associate Professor of Library Science and Library Director Dr. Charlotte Ford. Students in the course learn the implications of chemistry across borders while improving their Spanish skills.

A native of West Virginia, Stultz received her Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

"I love being at Birmingham-Southern and working with the students," she says. "I am in a good place in my career and would like to continue this work with my colleagues and students. I just want to share the exciting things we are doing at BSC with more people."



BSC professor co-writes mathematics textbook

It's not every day that students can say their professor wrote the textbook on a given subject. But that is true for BSC Professor of Mathematics Dr. Bernadette Mullins, who recently co-wrote the 11th edition of the classic text, *Mathematics with Applications in the Management, Natural, and Social Sciences.*

The book is a long-standing favorite for classes aimed at non-math majors. Mullins said the big task for her and Dr. John P. Holcomb Jr. of Cleveland State University, who partnered with her on the new edition, was to come up with hundreds of new exercises, drawn from real-life examples in business, medicine, and other fields.

The problems include data from Major League Baseball, earnings reports from Apple and Google, and current health and geopolitical data. There are exercises based on medical diagnoses, the reach of advertising, the Case-Shiller home price index, and even the New York lottery. The book is most often used in classes aimed at students studying the social sciences, business, and natural sciences, such as the mathematics of finance, descriptive statistics, and applied calculus.

"There's very, very recent data in there," Mullins said. "I want students to find these cases interesting and compelling, so they can understand and go beyond rote learning, and interpret and communicate what their results are."

Mullins, who worked on the project for more than two years, said she also drew support and inspiration from her colleagues at BSC. Faculty in the Mathematics Department and in other fields helped her find some of the most up-to-date, interesting problems to include.

"I think that reflects the fact that at BSC, we're about team effort," she said. "There are a lot of things that one person can't make happen. I'm so thankful to be part of a community where people step up to help."

Book by BSC biologist wins environmental writing award

Dr. Scot Duncan, associate professor of biology and urban environmental studies at BSC, has won this year's Reed Environmental Writing Award from the Southern Environmental Law Center for his new book, *Southern Wonder—Alabama's Surprising Biodiversity*.

The SELC, a Virginia-based nonprofit, bestows the Reed Award on two works each year that exemplify the best environmental writing in the South. Each author received a \$1,000 prize.

Reed Award contest judge and SELC Board Vice President Rick Montague called Southern Wonder

"an amazing and eye-opening book, comprehensive enough to be a field guide as well as a doorway to the natural world." The award is named for SELC founding trustee Phil Reed, a talented attorney and committed environmental advocate who deeply believed in the power of writing to change hearts and minds.

Duncan is currently studying endangered species and ecosystems in Alabama, including the Ketona dolomite glades, montane longleaf pine woodlands, and the watercress darter.



Dr. Scot Duncan received his award at the Virginia Festival of the Book in Charlottesville, Va. Photo courtesy of the SELC.



Music Department hosts typhoon benefit concert

BSC's Music Department hosted a benefit concert for victims of the deadly typhoon in the Philippines. "Alabama Sings!" featured some of the state's finest classical singers, with proceeds going to the American Red Cross in support of its efforts to help the victims of Typhoon Haiyan, which ravaged the central Philippines in November.

The 15 professional soloists included faculty members Dr. Jacqueline Leary-Warsaw, Dr. Jeff Kensmoe, and Dr. Jennifer Bryant. Conservatory of Music faculty member Dr. Virginia Dismukes accompanied on piano and President Gen. Charles C. Krulak delivered the opening remarks.

The concert, which was sponsored by the Alabama Chapter of the National Association of Teachers of Singing, included works from popular operas, musicals, and oratorios, along with art songs and classical jazz.



BSC historian to teach MOOC

Birmingham-Southern is making its first foray into the growing field of Massive Open Online Courses, or MOOCs, this spring.

BSC Associate Professor of History Dr. Randall Law's eightweek course, "The History of Terrorism," will launch May 12. The course is described as "an introduction for people to truly understand the root causes, social context, and methods of terrorism in the 21st century."

The MOOC is free and open to anyone with an Internet connection. BSC alumni, parents, and friends are invited to

join in. Three modules will be released to participants each week through CourseSites by Blackboard; each includes an online video lecture, readings, a quiz, and discussion forums. Students who complete all of the coursework and undergo assessment may also purchase a certificate of completion.

Law is an award-winning teacher and the author of an acclaimed study, *Terrorism: A History*, that puts terrorism into broad historical, political, religious, and social context from ancient Assyria to the post 9/11 War on Terror. He is also editing the *Routledge History of Terrorism*, due out in 2015.

To learn more about the course and view a preview with Law, go to www.bsc.edu/mooc. To enroll, go to www.coursesites.com.

Student pride Honors, experiences, and achievements



Bisese



Gilliland



Russell

Birmingham-Southern students are doing great things all the time. Here's just a sample:

Senior English majors Samantha Bisese of Huntersville, N.C., and Catie Gilliland of Metaire, La., presented scholarly papers at this year's Alabama Modern Language Conference. The conference, titled "Converging Cultures: Languages, Literatures & Identity," was held at the University of Alabama. Bisese's paper, "Tragedy in Solitude: Evidence of Greek Family Sagas in One Hundred Years of Solitude," and Gilliland's paper, "The Things I'm Told and the Things I Tell: Dante and Storytelling in Vargas Llosa's The Storyteller," were originally written for Professor of English Dr. Jane Archer's Contemporary International Fiction class. "The students were a big hit at the conference," said Archer. "Most presenters were faculty or graduate students."

Hollie Russell, a senior music major from Huntsville with a Distinction in Leadership Studies, was selected for the 2014 corps of Teach for America. She will teach secondary social studies in South Carolina starting this fall. TFA is a national teacher corps of college seniors, graduates, and professionals/volunteers who commit to teach for two years and raise student achievement in public schools. This elite program accepts only around 11% of their applicants each year.



Potts

Robert Potts, a senior business major from Homewood, was among 39 students who enrolled in the January Exploration Term course "Senior Capstones in Business." The students were divided into groups for a business competition focused on creating and marketing products to the campus and local community. Potts' team customized business cards, catch-all boxes for organizing, and nameplates that show school spirit. The \$700 profit they earned from their project, dubbed "Southern Desk Essentials," was donated to BSC's Senior Gift Campaign. "Our final presentations were given to executives from around Birmingham and the Southeast who have relationships to the college and were able to provide us with 'real world' feedback," said Potts.



Reese

Kiona Reese, a sophomore musical theatre major from Chattanooga, chose an independently-contracted Exploration Term project and spent four weeks in New York City expanding her knowledge of musical theatre. Her experiences ranged from dancing in multiple studios to singing for Tony Award winners at the renowned Birdland Jazz Club.

"I had the amazing opportunity to venture to 'The Great White Way' [Broadway], where I took dance classes from working professionals," said Reese, whose career goal is to be a Broadway performer. "During my time in NYC, I stayed with an actor working on Broadway."

Elizabeth Hagale is a media and film studies major from Huntsville whose senior seminar paper, "The Lizzie Bennet Diaries: A Transmedia Love Story," was accepted into the 2014 Society for Cinema and Media Studies Undergraduate Conference. Only 30 students are selected to attend the conference, which was held April 18-19 at the University of Oklahoma.



Hagale

The three student winners of the annual Dorsey and Frances Whittington Competition at Birmingham-Southern performed on campus with the Red Mountain Chamber Orchestra. First-year baritone **Nick de Castro** of Baton Rouge, La., sang "Der Vogelfänger bin ich ja" from Mozart's Die Zauberflöte; sophomore tubist **Wesley Chambers** of Atlanta played the opening movement of the Concerto in E-Flat for Horn, also by Mozart; and soprano **Elizabeth Drugan**, a junior from Naples, Fla., sang "Monica's Waltz" from The Medium by Gian-Carlo Menotti.

Rather than heading to the beach for spring break, March 17-21, many BSC students participated in intensive weeklong public service experiences in Boston and D.C. One group served in mission facilities and volunteered for a financial literacy program in Boston to gain a deeper understanding of the influence and impacts of homelessness as well as the ways in which the city addresses the problem. Another team traveled to D.C. to serve in food banks, visit nonprofit advocacy agencies, and explore public policies in a seminar program.



L to r: Nick de Castro, Wesley Chambers, and Liz Drugan



Students in Boston

Share Your News

Students, send us information about your honors, awards, volunteer work, and other activities of interest. We also welcome your photographs. Submit photos to **pcole@bsc.edu**.



L to r: Anna Marie Ronderos, Zack Perkins, Ashley Bice, and Hope Ervin.

New SGA executive officers elected

Four new Student Government Association executive officers will lead the campus governing body during the 2014-15 academic year.

Zack Perkins, a junior collaborative education major from Woodville, Ala., is president; Ashley Bice, a junior business and physical therapy major from Florence, is executive vice president; Hope Ervin, a math major from Huntsville, is secretary; and Anna Marie Ronderos, a sophomore biology major from Springville, is treasurer.

In addition, 19 student representatives were elected to serve the SGA.



Hilltop Singers Season Finale

Monday, May 5 | 7:30 p.m. Hill Recital Hall, BSC campus

Don't miss this annual event by the 16-member student vocal ensemble!

Songs for the final show will range widely in style—from the '40s-era Harry Warren hit "There Will Never Be Another You" to Ben Folds Five's "The Luckiest"—along with songs by The Beatles, John Legend, Burt Bacharach, Take 6, and more.



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The Liar

Students pull off intricate French comedy without a hitch

PHOTO ESSAY BY TOM COINER

Three weeks. Two dozen students. One play. Each year, the BSC Theatre Department tackles what seems like an insurmountable task: staging a full dramatic production from start to finish during the January Exploration Term period. While their classmates study or travel to exotic locales, the students work from sunup to sundown learning all aspects of the theatre, from building sets to designing the soundscape to creating characters and bringing them to life. This year, the team tackled *The Liar*, a 17th Century French farce that brought additional challenges, not least of them the need to memorize lines in iambic pentameter. We followed along with the cast and crew to capture them in action.

Scan the QR code with your mobile device or go to http://www.bsc.edu/academics/theatre/features/liar.cfm to watch a video about the E-Term production of *The Liar*.



THE LIAR | January Exploration Term 2014



Tunagur paints props and sets

Meryem Tunagur, freshman

Worked on props crew and played Geronte, Dorante's father

"Having multiple roles not just acting-wise but tech-wise was very interesting because usually you're either cast in the show or you're on crew. And so to be able to do both of those at the same time was very humbling. It was a great experience because I got to experience the show from backstage while I was putting it on. So it was really great to know the tech side of the show while I was able to be in the actual show."



Gronemeyer preps on opening night

Brooke Gronemeyer, senior

Played Clarice, a young lady of Paris

"Part of the challenge of the piece was getting into these costumes and the makeup and the wigs, and so we kind of had to work out a process with our dressers every single night to get comfortable with lacing everything in and putting on the wig caps and pinning on these wigs and putting on this makeup which, looking back, was probably the easiest part!"

THE LIAR | January Exploration Term 2014

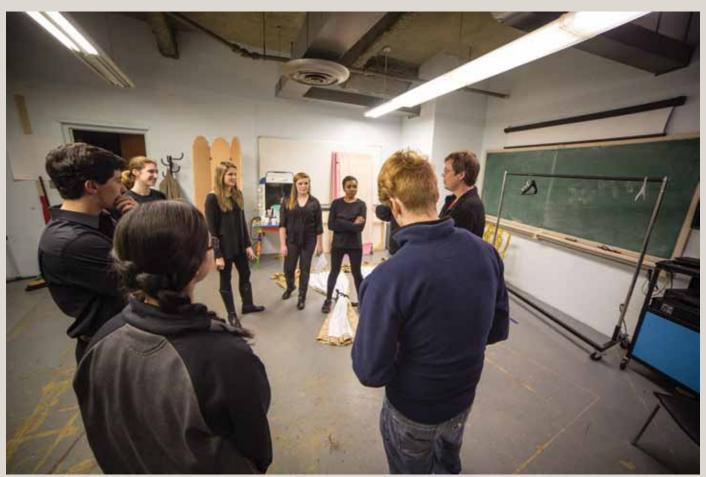


Litsey, far left, works with students on developing the sound for The Liar

Dr. Alan Litsey, professor

Director

"What we always say is that the process is the most important thing. Process gets you the production. And the students really embrace that. It's exciting to see them own that process... You apply the tools whatever field you're in, whether you're a plumber, an educator, or in the theatre."



Polk, top left, and other crew members rally in the wings

Kelly Polk, senior (top left)

Stage manager

"Because it's done in only three weeks, we really have to depend on each other. A lot of my job specifically was overseeing everyone, so a lot of times I'd have to put my paperwork or whatever on the back burner because someone else had a deadline they weren't going to meet. Everyone really banded together and it became a team effort."

THE LIAR | January Exploration Term 2014



Hindsman, left, and Gronemeyer, right, on opening night

Robert Hindsman, senior

Played Dorante, the lead

"It's a lot of teamwork, a lot of trust. These people are your peers, and when it comes down to it you only have each other, so you have to trust each other... Kindness and friendship. We're a family here in this department. We have to be—otherwise we would drive each other crazy."





without borders



A glimpse into the boundless, creative expressions of nine alumni visual artists

BY PAT COLE

Birmingham-Southern has graduated many men and women over the years who have found success as working artists and professionals in the visual arts—and others who are following varied and interesting career paths and journeys as they work toward their creative goals. In this gallery, we've tried to showcase just a few.

There's no way to demonstrate the full range of talent in our alumni pool, but we've tried to select a representative group of artists who each use a different medium or use the same medium in a different way. In doing so, we hope to underscore the importance and significance of the visual arts to a liberal arts education—and the way a BSC education shapes artists. You'll meet a former surgeon who gave it up for art, a photographer

who drew from his sculpture classes, and a video installation artist whose work is based on drawing.

Of course, the pull of the liberal arts doesn't just apply to those working in the fine arts. The college's goal has always been to prepare students for whatever field they choose. And the routes they take are as wide as they are varied. It could be the English student who veered into pastoral work, a medical doctor who started out as a philosophy major, or a chemistry major-turned-poet; Birmingham-Southern helps all students find their passions, artistic or otherwise.

Welcome to the colorful, beautiful, personal, emotional, bright, meaningful, playful, and deep world of visual art from BSC's alumni:

Through A Camera Lens

مردناي

WES FRAZER '02

Wes Frazer knows how to turn photos into fine art.

Frazer has shot for The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, Garden & Gun magazine, and also worked on the Alabama Gulf Seafood campaign for BIG Communications, among many other clients. His work is known for being creative, Southern-centric, and detailed. He excels at portraiture and delights in capturing surfers.

Frazer has adapted his talent mainly for editorial features and commercial advertising work. This photo is from a series he's been working on for the past six years focusing on the traditions of small town Cajun Mardi Gras, specifically in Lake Arthur, La.

"I come from a fairly large spread of

family across the country, so my parents and siblings and I traveled quite often," says Frazer, who is from Birmingham. "When I was a teenager, I started using my dad's camera on the trips and became fascinated. Fast forward many years, and I'm still just as fascinated with making images with a camera. Photography is 'second nature' for me now."

Frazer worked for professional photographers Melissa Springer and Mark Gooch while attending BSC, often accompanying them on their photo shoots. He received his BFA degree with a concentration in photography.

"I took quite a few painting and sculpture courses at BirminghamSouthern too that honed my composition technique," says Frazer. "The sculpture classes really helped me to slow down, which greatly improved my photographs."

After graduating from BSC, he taught kindergarten and some advanced art classes for two years at Birmingham's Hilltop Montessori School before getting into photography full-time.

Most of his time is spent traveling and shooting. He has already visited 15 states this year and flew to California at the end of April. His photography has been exhibited around the Southeast. His most recent event took place at the Old 280 Boogie Music and Arts Festival in Waverly, Ala., on April 19.



Frazer



Photo by Wes Frazer (www.wesfrazer.org)

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Art As Narrative

JASMINE HIGBEE '11

Jasmine Higbee uses moving drawings to get to the very heart of the political and environmental issues she feels the most strongly about.

"My work explores group identity and the notions of legacy and sustainability," explains Higbee, who has made her foray into video installation art, a contemporary form that draws all aspects of an environment into the work. "I experiment with political and environmental rhetoric to investigate contested histories and challenge current understandings of stewardship."

Higbee's work is provocative, yet stylish, and while her primary medium is video and sound, her practice is grounded in drawing.

"My artistry often incorporates the space around the video and often includes sculptures as part of the installation," she explains. "Sometimes my work has multiple screens playing videos, yet they are all one piece."

This image, "Hope/Fear," comes from a single channel video installation that uses environmental documentaries on electronic waste (e-waste) processing in the Agbogbloshie wetland in Accra, Ghana, to re-examine a wasteland through labor. The invisibility of this e-waste labor embodies global environmental injustice.

Higbee was adopted from the Philippines and moved to the U.S. at an early age. She attended the Alabama School of Fine Arts before earning a BFA in studio art from BSC.

"I probably should write a book about the benefits of a liberal arts education for artists," says Higbee," who started drawing at age two. "The diversity and rigor of the classes, the cultural events, the tight-knit community, dedicated faculty and staff, and overall positive and strong school culture are some of the best things I remember about my experience on the Hilltop."

She received her MFA in studio art at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston in August. Since September, she's been teaching afterschool classes such as stop-motion animation, relief printmaking, and video at the city's Advent School. She also works as a substitute teacher at Boston Trinity Academy in Hyde Park.

Highee has exhibited her video work in Boston six times in the past two years and has practiced her art professionally for the past three years. She also sells her video compilations, which are available nationally and internationally.



Higbee



Hope/Fear by Jasmine Higbee (www.jasminehigbee.com)

A Brush With Nature

atib.

BETHANNE BETHARD HILL '89



Hill. Courtesy of Karen Graffeo

Bethanne Bethard Hill is a full-time painter and illustrator whose distinct palette reflects her Southern heritage.

"I have always been drawn to rural landscapes," says Hill. "Growing up in Alabama with my family meant long, hot car trips spent looking out the window as my parents pointed at the scenes that reminded them of their childhood homes in the farmlands of southern Ohio."

Hill's paintings are usually done in acrylic on wood, paper, or canvas out of a studio behind her Birmingham home. This creation, entitled "Goat's Rue," shows tree-climbing goats and a tangle of wildflowers, including one flower called Goat's Beard.

"In my paintings, I re-tell Southern stories and embellish them in my own way," she tells. "I have friends with goats, who have crazy goat stories. Images like this return in my work again and again, but are reimagined in different ways."

Hill graduated from the Alabama School of Fine Arts and earned a BFA in painting and sculpture from BSC. She says her artistry was encouraged by professors who cared.

"[Emeritus Professor of Art] Bob Tucker was a great influence, warm and funny, with a generous approach to teaching," says Hill, who is married to award-winning mixed media artist Darius Hill and is the sister-in-law of BSC Associate Professor of Art Jim Neel '71. "Tucker's own work was infused with a sense of humor and reflected his fascination with nature. Both he and Neel taught me to follow the work where it takes you, and go with what you really love."

Each year, Hill exhibits a selection of her work at the Magic City Art Connection, Bluff Park Art Show, and Kentuck Festival, and her work is represented by Blue Spiral 1 in Asheville, N.C., and Leiper's Creek Gallery in Franklin, Tenn. She has illustrated several CD covers and books, including a children's book, *Why the Oyster Has the Pearl*. She also stays busy with shows, illustration assignments, and commissioned work, and has paintings in many public and private collections, including those belonging to Alabama Power Co.; Children's of Alabama; writer William Eggers; and Mike Wolfe of the History Channel show "American Pickers."



Forging Connections

ation.

ALLEN PETERSON '94

For many years, Allen Peterson has blended his artistic talents with a passion for exploring themes of system and community in his work.

"As I plan and create each work of art, creating systems for myself and working with the communities where the art will go is important to me," he explains. "I often reference the interconnectedness of communities through my compositions, where many elements combine to make something larger than the sum of their parts."

Last year, BeltLine Atlanta commissioned Peterson to create *Phoenix: Atlanta's Railroad Rebirth*, shown here. The eight-foot sculpture, made of over 1,000 railroad spikes, stands on a granite plinth, welcoming those who enter the BeltLine trails—a new 22-mile loop linking the neighborhoods around downtown Atlanta.

Peterson says he discovered at an early age his love for making things and his fascination with fire. He grew up in various towns in North Alabama and moved to Birmingham in 1990 to attend BSC.

"I learned so much from the art and art history professors at 'Southern that I still hear their voices in my head," says Peterson, who received a BFA in studio art. "My painting skills developed under Steve Cole's guidance, but I found myself migrating further and further toward sculpture."

After BSC, Peterson spent three years as an artist-in residence at Birmingham's Sloss Furnaces. He left Sloss to get his master's degree in sculpture from the University of Minnesota. After teaching at several colleges and universities, he accepted his current position at the Savannah College of Art and Design in Atlanta.

"I teach many aspects of making sculpture, including cast metal and metal fabrication (welding)," he says. "I produce my own sculptures, drawings, prints, and other artwork from my backyard studio."

His work has been shown throughout the U.S. as well as internationally. It is also included in the permanent collection of late Birmingham civil rights pioneer Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth.



Peterson

Phoenix by Allen Peterson (http://allenpeterson.com/portfolio)

The Durbin Gallery

Since 1965, the Durbin Gallery, housed in the Kennedy Art Center/Azar Studios Complex on campus, has organized nearly 300 traveling, faculty, and student exhibitions with related lectures and forums. Gallery exhibitions are free and open to the public during exhibition hours: Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. For more information, call (205) 226-4928.

An alumni exhibition honoring BSC Emeritus Professor of Art Robert "Bob" Tucker will be shown Nov. 7-25 in the gallery. Tucker mentored thousands of students, art majors, and non-art majors alike during his career. A few of them were so directly influenced by his imagery that it became a part of the vernacular in their own work. The exhibition will be curated by Allen Peterson '94 (see above).





Making artistic noise

Public exhibits and scholarship give BSC art and art history faculty a chance to shine



L to r: Jim Neel, Dr. Kathleen Spies, Steve Cole, Pamela Venz, Kevin Shook, and Dr. Tim Smith

Birmingham-Southern's Art and Art History Department faculty are an eclectic and gifted group, as dedicated to their creative and scholarly pursuits as to their work in the classroom.

The studio art professors exhibit their own original works at diverse venues locally and across the state and country. Many of them use a wide array of materials to convey their thoughts, ideas, and experiences through paintings, photographs, sculpture, drawings, installation art, and/or prints.

The art history professors bring up-to-date knowledge and experiences with some of the top museums and galleries to the table. In addition to teaching, they engage in academic research—publishing in journals and writing books—that informs their scholarship in the visual arts. Their writings have been featured in major journals, enriching both the intellectual community and the world at large.

Together—and the two disciplines truly do work together in a tandem department rare among the college's peers—the faculty offers a BFA and BA in Studio Art in the disciplines of drawing, painting, photography, sculpture, and printmaking, and a BA in Art History. BSC is one of only two schools in the Associated Colleges of the South consortium that offers a BFA.

Since its founding in the 1920's, the department has graduated thousands of alumni who live in dozens of U.S. states as well as overseas and are teaching, curating, and creating in their areas of art training and expertise. Its central goals have been to strengthen the acknowledgement of innovation and visual literacy as both integral and complementary to research and academic scholarship on the Hilltop.

Here is a sampling of the art and art history faculty's accomplishments:



The Hate Project

BABEL,

Babel. Courtesy of the John Michael Kohler Arts Center



Twitterpated

STEVE COLE, PROFESSOR OF ART

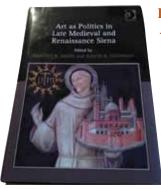
Cole's work addresses a wide range of contemporary issues reflective of a pluralistic society. He posits questions of religious intolerance, hate group bigotry, and interpretive Biblical literalness with presentations that compel the viewer to challenge the assumed neutrality of cultural institutions. "The Hate Project," exhibited this past Sepember, received national attention. His work was recently included at Truman State University and will be exhibited at Allegheny College in Meadville, Pa., in January before traveling to other galleries in the U.S.

JIM NEEL '71, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ART

Neel is a printmaker, sculptor, and freelance photojournalist whose work focuses on socio-political issues. His installation "Babel" is part of the permanent collection of the John Michael Kohler Arts Center in Sheboygan, Wis. It will be featured in the center's "Arts/Industry: Collaboration and Revelation" series through Aug. 31. Neel was awarded a residency in 2008.

KEVIN SHOOK, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR AND DEPARTMENT CHAIR

Shook's recent series *Simulacrumedia* addresses the effects of media on social communication and our perception of reality. According to him, the process of interpreting communication and the world through media stems from the ritualized interaction society has with the media including news, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Pinterest. His printmaking work has been exhibited in regional and national exhibitions that include participation in the traveling exhibition of miniature artist's books to 17 states and six foreign countries.



DR. TIMOTHY SMITH, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ART HISTORY

Smith's research has focused on Italian Renaissance art and ancient Roman art and archaeology. He has spoken and published widely on the architecture and decoration of reliquary shrines in the Tuscan city of Siena. Smith is a contributing co-editor of the anthology Art as Politics in Late Medieval and Renaissance Siena,

published in 2012. His current book project explores viewer reception of visual environments created for three major sacred treasures in Renaissance Siena, and underscores both continuities and innovations in images employed in the Sienese cult of relics.

DR. KATHLEEN SPIES, PROFESSOR OF ART HISTORY

Spies, a scholar of modern and American art, has published on Thomas Eakins and neurasthenia, on Reginald Marsh, burlesque and humor, and Walt Kuhn's nationalism in his portraits of showgirls. Her most recent research examines the development of Modernism in the U.S. through the work and career of Kuhn, a co-organizer of the famed 1913 Armory Show. She was selected to present her findings this past fall at the Southeast College Art Conference in North Carolina and at the Newberry Seminar in American Art and Visual Culture in Chicago. She is currently working on a book-length project on the burlesque and circus subjects of Kuhn.



Artwork by Walt Kuhn

PAMELA VENZ, PROFESSOR OF ART

The photographs from Venz's "Iceland" portfolio were accepted into the 2014 Dogwood Regional Fine Arts Exhibition in Knoxville, which was exhibited April 4-26. The annual juried exhibition was developed to showcase and award the finest emerging and established artists within a 300-mile radius of Knoxville. This particular portfolio of work has been included in six previous juried exhibitions in four additional states since August. Venz developed the department's multi-faceted photography program in 1998; her captivating photographs have been exhibited all over the Southeast and overseas.



From Iceland portfolio

Remembering the life and art of Bud Spivey

Cooper "Bud" Spivey, who taught art at BSC for more than two decades, passed away on Oct. 11, 2013, at the age of 66. He was a resident of Columbiana.

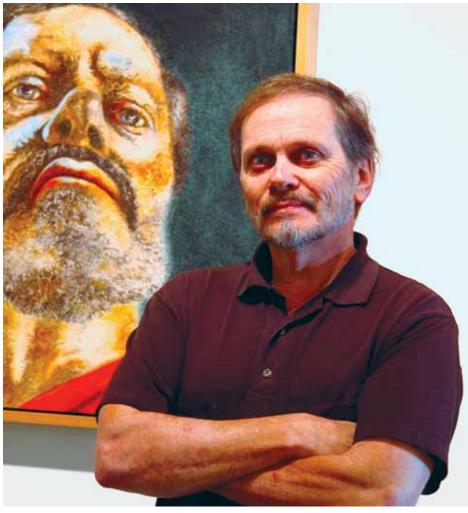
Spivey grounded the concentration in painting for 'Southern's Art Department, but his reach was far greater. He also mentored students in the BFA program, offered criticism and support in the senior seminar, and wrote scholarly art reviews and criticisms. His work was widely shown and celebrated. In 1996, he was awarded a Visual Arts Fellowship from the Southern Arts Federation and the National Endowment for the Humanities. Several of Spivey's paintings are displayed in the lobby of the college's Kennedy Art Center/Azar Art Studio complex.

Spivey held an MFA from the Vermont College of Fine Arts and earned MAE and BFA degrees from UAB. He served as a U.S. Navy medical corpsman with a Marine combat infantry platoon in the Vietnam War. Survivors include his wife, Peggy, and a daughter.

At a campus memorial service in Spivey's honor, Associate Professor of Art Jim Neel '71 shared one of Spivey's last lessons as a teacher and mentor: "Be open to life. Life is going to offer you lots of challenges, but be open to accepting them. Don't be afraid; don't let fear get in your way. Trust yourself."

"Bud Spivey came into our lives when we needed him, and we are changed by his presence," said Neel. "He has written a chapter in our individual novels that no editor can remove."

The family requests that memorial donations be made to the BSC Art Students League through the Office of Institutional Advancement at BSC, Box 549003, 900 Arkadelphia Road, Birmingham, AL 35254.



Spivey



The Art Department, along with several of Spivey's former students, are working on establishing the Bud Spivey Art Award in 2015 to honor a junior art major who they say "can prove he or she can make art and talk about it at the same time." If you're interested in making a donation or pledge to the award, contact John Sweeney, director of corporate and foundation relations, at (205) 226-4910 or jsweeney@bsc.edu.

A Unique Medium

ation.

HERB WILLIAMS '96



Williams

Herb Williams is coloring the world with his original Crayola crayon sculptures. Known globally for turning those little wax sticks into masterpieces, he's taken the most familiar and basic tool for creative expression to a whole new level.

Fifty-pound cases containing 3,000 crayons each are delivered regularly to Williams at the Rymer Gallery in Nashville, which he co-founded with Jeff Rymer in 2009. He also serves as the gallery's curator.

"I work in almost all mediums—from spray painting graffiti to carving stone—but the crayon sculptures are what the public seems to dig most," says Williams, who grew up in Montgomery. "There are literally millions of crayons in the studio right now."

This piece, titled "The Ripple Effect," is one of the first sculptures from Williams' new "Call of the Wild" exhibition, which showed at a contemporary art space in Nashville, in March.

Some 40,000 melted crayons were used for the deer alone.

Williams received a BFA in sculpture from BSC. "Leeway," a steel sculpture he built his sophomore year with Branko Medenica '72, still stands outside the Kennedy Art Building on campus. Since graduating, Williams has been making a living doing what he loves; he started out at a bronze foundry in West Palm Beach, Fla.

"BSC opened my eyes to the greater art world and gave me a lifelong fascination with seeing things differently," he says. "I am still inspired by [Emeritus Professor of Art] Bob Tucker, [the late] Doc Slone, and other friends I made at BSC."

Williams has made national appearances on NPR and CBS, and his sculptures are in a number of private and public collections, including museums, hospitals, and the White House. About 60 of his sculptures and paintings will travel to China this summer for a six-city, two-year traveling exhibition.



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Dramatic Images

JOHN LYTLE WILSON '99



Wilson

John Lytle Wilson has built his career on richly painted animals and robots.

"The cartoons I watched as a child really influenced the formal aspects of my paintings in terms of the style, color choices, and characters," he says. "But my work also draws heavily on religious art from my travels to Shanghai, China, allowing me to explore issues such as consciousness, free will, and mortality. I see monkeys and robots as both symbols of the id and superego and also as proto-and post-humans—one giving way to the moral, conscious creatures that we are and another as immortal creations whose creator can offer no salvation."

A native of South Carolina, Wilson came to Birmingham-Southern on a fine arts scholarship. He received his MFA from Florida State University. He is currently an adjunct professor at BSC,

teaching painting.

"BSC was a small pond, but that has definite advantages," says Wilson, who is married to Liz Godwin Wilson '00. "The faculty was always very encouraging and accessible. I spent countless hours in the studio, usually late at night. It is surreal to be teaching here now."

According to Wilson, this 56 x 68-inch image called "Vortex of the Most Glorious Future" was painted last year with acrylic on canvas. "I was playing with the ideas of backlighting, depth, and the use of hard edge geometric abstraction as background."

Wilson's work has been featured in many publications, including New American Paintings. In 2012, he was named one of Oxford American magazine's "100 Under 100: The New Superstars of Southern Art."

He exhibited a collection of his work at the Magic City Art Connection festival April 25-27 at Birmingham's Linn Park. On May 2, he's been invited to hold a solo art show at the newly opened Trim Tab Tasting Gallery in downtown Birmingham. His paintings will also be exhibited at the Birmingham Art Walk festival in September. Wilson's work is shown locally year-round at Naked Art Gallery, located in the city's Forest Park area.



Vortex of the Most Glorious Future by John Lytle Wilson (http://johnlytlewilson.com)

Lessons In 3D

ation.

JAMEY GRIMES '00



Grimes

Jamey Grimes describes his three-dimensional sculptures as fragments of a conversation with nature.

"The dialogue can be hostile, soothing, or both," he says. "Reflecting on my own vivid experiences with nature, I realize that imagination plays a powerful role, transforming observations into unique, dream-like forms."

Some of Grimes' most notable works are his largescale sculptures, especially his honeycomb-like pieces he makes out of corrugated plastic that hang close to the ceiling and literally transform a room. Both of these pieces, titled Wash IX and Wash X, are being exhibited at Chipola College in Marianna, Fla., until the end of May.

"It's an abstract installation drawn from patterns in nature," he describes. "I've been working with these organic forms for a while."

A native of Tuscaloosa, Grimes says he grew up in a very artistic family. He graduated with a BFA in painting from BSC.

"Birmingham-Southern provided me with many diverse and enriching experiences. I have tremendous respect for the talent and commitment of the art faculty and strive still to meet their standards of excellence."

Grimes worked at the Florida Sea Base for the Boy Scouts of America before enrolling at the University of Alabama for an MFA. Since then, he's had the opportunity to teach design and drawing full-time at the university.

"I never saw an important difference between drawing, painting, and sculpture—it's just fun to make things," he says. "I do enjoy physically exploring imaginative environments, so the three dimensional work caught my attention."

Grimes has exhibited widely at the national and regional level and has received many honors, including a 2012-13 Visual Arts Fellowship from the Alabama State Council on the Arts. He and Natalie Dunham '07, who is director of the Rhymer Gallery in Nashville, displayed their artwork together at the "Chroma" exhibition, which was held this past November on the BSC campus.

His sculpture work will be exhibited at the Kentuck Art Center in Northport, Ala., on July 3, and the Dinah Washington Cultural Arts Center in Tuscaloosa on July 11.



Wash IX



Wash X by Jamey Grimes (www.jameygrimes.com)



Comic Creator

atib.

HOWARD CRUSE '68



Cruse

Howard Cruse credits his BSC immersion in stagecraft for helping him develop the rich and multi-faceted characters that have become a hallmark of his comic book work for the past 40 years.

"The theatrerelated classes I took as a drama major were enlightening, but it was the practical experience I received through the staging of one play after another that served as the most enriching influence on the life I've led," says Cruse, a resident of Williamstown, Mass. "Several of my Birmingham-Southern professors and mentors were terrific in their individual ways; however, [late Professor of Theatre] Dr. Arnold Powell decisively shaped my perspective both during and after college."

After graduating from BSC, Cruse was awarded a playwriting fellowship to Penn State University, but was unfocused on grad school at the time.

He even dabbled in professional acting before beginning his work as a freelance cartoonist in the 1970s. His cartoons started attracting nationwide attention and have been mass produced for numerous books and magazines.

His original comic artwork has been included in gallery exhibits in Birmingham, New York, and other American cities as well as overseas. In the 1990s, he published an internationally acclaimed graphic novel, *Stuck Rubber Baby*, which tells the story of a young man growing up in the South in the 1960s and becoming aware of his own homosexuality alongside society's racial injustice.

Cruse describes this image, which he drew for use as an award at the 2003 International Comics Festival in Angouleme, France, as a "deitylike guy" dripping cartoons from his pen "Creativity."

Cruse has worked as a cartooning instructor at the New York School of Visual Arts and the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts. Although he no longer teaches, he is periodically invited to speak and present slideshows about his work at U.S. colleges and universities.

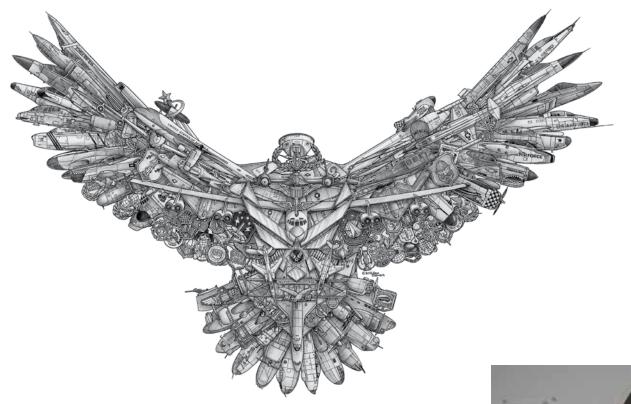


Creativity by Howard Cruse (www.howardcruse.com/portfolio)

مردئي

Drawing Attention

DR. DON STEWART '81



Aiming High by Dr. Don Stewart (www.dsart.com/gallery)

Dr. Don Stewart doesn't regret his nearly three-decades-old decision to turn his back on a surgical career to become a full-time visual humorist. He even wrote a book about it: Past Medical History: Recollections of a Medical Miscreant was published in 2013.

"I draw what I call composite images—big pictures composed of smaller designs," describes Stewart, owner of DS Art Studio in Homewood, Ala. "My drawings are done almost exclusively in ballpoint pen; they're built along a consistent theme, and usually contain some element of humor in the form of visual puns."

This drawing, titled "Aiming High," is Stewart's tribute to the U.S. Air Force. The work represents a falcon composed of aircraft from the beginning of military flight to the present day. Fighters appear on the wings, bombers on the tail, with support craft and personnel represented throughout.

"I created the first of these designs as an assignment in [Emeritus Professor of Art] Robert Shelton's art class at BSC my senior year," says Stewart, who graduated with a biology degree. "After leaving medicine in 1986, I developed the style into a signature genre."

He has participated in hundreds of juried shows and exhibits, including the BSC Alumni Visual Arts Open in 2009, and unveilings of military drawings at the National Infantry Museum and the National Museum of the U.S. Marine Corps.

Currently, Stewart is compiling a collection of humorous medical drawings for a new book, fARSe MEDICA: The Clinical Humor of Dr. Don Stewart.



Stewart

Have ideas?

Send me an email (clambert@bsc.edu). I'd love to have suggestions for events and thoughts on how alumni can stay better connected to each other and to BSC!



Lambert

BSC names new director of alumni affairs and stewardship

Chris Wenning Lambert '86 was appointed to the newly created position of director of alumni affairs and stewardship at Birmingham-Southern in January.

As director, Lambert oversees a staff of five with the mission of providing superior programs and services for BSC's more than 16,000 alumni worldwide. She also works closely with Vice President for Institutional Advancement Chuck Vinson to support development initiatives, including Annual Fund campaigns, and to manage the Advancement Services Department.

"Chris has considerable experience leading groups of volunteers and high-performing teams, which will benefit the college greatly," said Vinson. "She is a great addition to the advancement team that we are building here on the Hilltop."

Prior to joining BSC, Lambert served as director of communications and then senior director of member engagement for the IHG (InterContinental Hotels Group) Owners Association, headquartered in Atlanta. During her four years with the association, she oversaw all strategic marketing, media outreach and engagement, and re-branding initiatives. She was BSC's director of communications from 2008-10.

"I feel very lucky to have the opportunity to do what I love for a place that means so much to me," said Lambert. "Like all of our alumni, I believe in Birmingham-Southern. My goal is to turn that belief into action by increasing engagement from our alumni with students—prospective and current—and with each other in our own communities. The more we are together, sharing stories and making new memories, the more pride and support we'll generate for BSC."

Lambert received her bachelor's degree, cum laude, in English. She is married to Christopher Lambert '88 and has a son and daughter, Connor and Eva, and a stepson, Colin, who will be attending BSC as a freshman this fall.

Alabama's first black federal judge speaks at Brown Bag Luncheon on campus

BSC's Black Alumni Affinity Group hosted its fifth Brown Bag Luncheon in February, featuring U.W. Clemon, Alabama's first black federal judge.

Clemon shared stories of his upbringing in a U.S. Steel town just west of Birmingham and his participation as a foot soldier in the city's civil rights movement. Clemon and three others were the first to integrate the Birmingham Public Library; he also played a major role in the black boycott of downtown businesses that helped get the attention of national civil rights leaders.

He talked about wanting to attend BSC for college—but the all-white school was out of reach.



Clemon

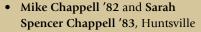
"We'd pass by this marvelous institution and I'd see Stockham Hall and hear about a literature class, or I'd hear the BSC choir on the radio," Clemon said. "I desperately wanted to go there, and I knew better than to apply."

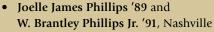
Instead, Clemon attended Miles College and Columbia Law School and later became the chief judge of Alabama's Northern District. Clemon talked about some of his landmark cases—including the employment discrimination suit brought by Lily Ledbetter and another against his father's employer, U.S. Steel—and about how important education is for the country's future. He is now a shareholder at the Birmingham law firm of White Arnold & Dowd PC.

The next Brown Bag Luncheon is tentatively scheduled for June 4. Look for updates on the speaker and confirmation of the date and time in communication from Alumni Affairs as well as on the alumni website, www.alumni.bsc.edu.

Spring alumni chapter news

This spring, Alumni Affairs paired up with Admissions to hit the road with BSC President Gen. Charles C. Krulak. The team visited with prospective students; parents of current, former, and incoming students; and alumni in Huntsville, Nashville, Decatur, and Auburn. A special thanks to our chapters and hosts in those cities for their gracious hospitality:





- Mallie Searcy Hale '07, Decatur
- J. Tutt Barrett '73, M. Clayton Humphries, Jr. '75, Frances Capps-Palmer '75, Clay Price '82, Sonya Thomas Wachter '86 and Chad Wachter '87, Dr. Shannon Cason '87 and Kathy VanCleave Cason '88, Dr. J. Kevin Royal '90, and Lisa Anz Persons '98, Auburn

The Alumni Association also hosted receptions for Gen. Krulak in Washington, D.C., and Tuscaloosa during March and April. All of these events brought together more than 200 alumni this spring.



Gen. Krulak with Sonya and Chad Wachter in their home in Auburn.

Alumni tune up

Before May 31, 2014, complete your "Alumni Tune Up" at www.alumni.bsc.edu.

- Notify us if you have a BSC car tag
- Let us know if you have a future BSC student in your family
- Make your Annual Fund contribution
- Tell us about you—new job, wedding, birth (grandchildren too!), award or recognition
- Volunteer your time and talent
- Follow BSC Alumni Affairs on Facebook and Twitter













Vinson

Chuck Vinson serving as vice president for institutional advancement

Charles "Chuck" Vinson has joined Birmingham-Southern as the college's new vice president for institutional advancement after serving in a similar role at the Jesuit College Preparatory School of Dallas.

Vinson oversees the various fundraising initiatives of the Office of Institutional Advancement and is tasked with building support for the college among alumni, local businesses, and the community, as well as students, faculty, and staff.

He has experience on both sides—raising money and managing money. In his last two positions, Vinson was part of teams that raised record amounts of funds, participating in a \$200 million campaign at the University of North Texas and a \$30 million campaign at Jesuit College.

At Jesuit College, he was also a managing trustee of the school's foundation, which manages the institution's endowment. In addition, he was director of development and then senior director of development for the Athletic Department at the University of North Texas in Denton and CEO of the Santé Center for Healing in Argyle, Texas.

Vinson, who holds a BBA degree from the University of North Texas in strategic management and entrepreneurship, praised the team at BSC for doing so much hard work in recent years.

"I want to celebrate the successes BSC had in the past, and I want to part of tomorrow's successes," he said. "It really is time to move forward and be aspirational about where we can go as a college."

BSC's president, Gen. Charles C. Krulak, praised Vinson for his enthusiastic approach and being a "true partner" in fundraising. He is encouraging Vinson and everyone else at Birmingham-Southern to dream big about the college's future.

"The time has come for us to do something really special here," said Krulak.

Friends are inspired to honor late college student

In 1986, three Birmingham-Southern friends—Steve Noser, Trent Lowery, and Joey Lesesne—spent the summer in England, attending lectures and seminars in the British Studies at Oxford program.

While driving back to their residence on a weekend field trip, they passed a sign for a waterfall and decided to take a swim to cool off. After a few minutes of swimming, Lowery made his way to the waterfall and swam underneath it. He was swept into a dangerous current that flipped him through the water as though he were in a washing machine. The last thing he remembered was a vision of Noser diving into the water and heading toward him. Lowery surfaced outside the pull of the waterfall, but Noser was pulled under and drowned.

At the time of Noser's death, friends and family established the Joseph Steven Noser Scholarship, a travel fund to provide financial assistance to BSC students who wanted to participate in British Studies at Oxford. Many of Noser's friends did not have the ability to contribute in a substantial way to the fund at that time, but now, more than 25 years later, they've joined together to establish a new memorial scholarship to honor him.

"Steve's death was a life-altering event for many of us who knew him," remarked Lowery '87, who named his only son in Noser's memory. "The beauty of what Steve did is that it was a spontaneous decision that crystallized the essence of his personality. I know that



From left: Trent Lowery, Steve Noser, and Joey Lesesne in Glasgow, Scotland.

he recognized the danger of what was happening, and despite that, he jumped in to save me, which cost him his life; that's deeply humbling. We hope this scholarship will keep his memory alive for those of us who knew him as well as provide inspiration for those who did not."

"Steve was brilliant and fun-loving," said Brant Watts '87, one of the friends organizing the scholarship. "He was very inquisitive and enjoyed challenging thoughts and concepts. He taught us to be more tolerant and not take ourselves too seriously."

To date, more than \$30,000 has been pledged to fund the memorial scholarship. The goal to fund the scholarship in a way that will ensure its long-term ability to assist BSC students is \$250,000. If you would like to help establish this memorial scholarship, contact John Sweeney, director of corporate and foundation relations, at (205) 226-4910 or jsweeney@bsc.edu.

Have you given to the Annual Fund this year?

Donations to the Annual Fund provide a vital source of unrestricted support for the college's greatest needs, especially when it comes to student scholarships. A thriving Annual Fund is a key component of every successful college's fundraising operations, and gifts made by alumni, parents, faculty, staff, and friends continue to ensure considerable progress for the institution while making a difference for current students, including those who couldn't attend Birmingham-Southern without financial support.

While the Annual Fund thrives on generous gifts from all sources, gifts made by alumni make the difference. BSC alumni support has grown significantly over the last few years, moving from 28% in 2011, to 34% in 2012, and then to more than 36% in 2013. This rapid growth is a sign of confidence—major corporations and foundations consider this factor when reviewing applications for grants and large gifts, and national rankings and publications also use this statistic as an indicator of alumni satisfaction. It takes about 120 alumni gifts to move just one percentage point. That means that, while the college depends on large gifts, all donations make an impact, regardless of size.

Help us meet our goals of \$2 million and 40% alumni participation by May 31, 2014, by giving today!

To make a gift to the BSC Annual Fund, simply complete and mail the enclosed form and envelope with your gift, or make a secure online gift at www.bsc.edu/egiving. Questions about the Annual Fund or any other gift-related matters should be directed to the Office of Institutional Advancement at (205) 226-4909.

Become a class agent volunteer

Forty percent—that's the goal for alumni participation in the Annual Fund this year, and to help the college get there, 'Southern alumni are stepping forward to serve as "class agents."

Class agents have made a commitment to reach out to their classmates for financial support, and their grassroots efforts will be an integral part of achieving our Annual Fund goal this year and in the future.

"Class agents are responsible for contacting their classmates to ask for their financial support," said Erica Crump Sellers '05, director of annual giving. "They can also enlist other classmates to make phone calls, but they are taking on responsibility for managing their list and reporting results. The alums taking on these roles are going above and beyond to help us achieve our goals, and we are so appreciative of their valuable assistance."

If you are interested in becoming a class agent, please contact Sellers at (205) 226-4908 or esellers@bsc.edu. Learn more at www.bsc.edu/advancement/agents.cfm.

40%

Reach an alumni giving percentage of at least 40%

College raising funds for endowed professorship in accounting

Birmingham-Southern is excited to be moving forward in its efforts to return accounting as a major.

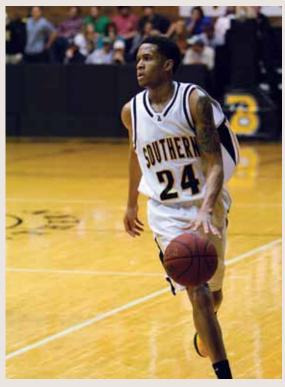
Beginning in mid-2013, the Office of Institutional Advancement, BSC's provost, and BSC's dean of the business program began meeting regularly with local and regional accounting firms to solicit input on the proposed major from the leadership of these firms. The overwhelming message taken from these meetings was an understanding that accounting firms are looking for well-rounded, critically-thinking young graduates—exactly the type of student BSC excels at producing.

A key step in re-establishing the major requires funding a Professorship in Accounting. This professorship will solidify the accounting program at Birmingham-Southern and allow business students to pursue an accounting major once again.

If you're interested in making a donation or pledge to the Professorship in Accounting, contact John Sweeney, director of corporate and foundation relations, at jsweeney@bsc.edu or (205) 226-4910.

Panther sports shorts BIRMINGHAM-SOUTHERN





Freshman Elise Pittman

SAA Men's Basketball Player of the Year Larry Thomas



Birmingham-Southern student-athletes and coaches had busy and successful fall and winter seasons of play in the Southern Athletic Association (SAA).

WOMEN'S SPORTS

Cross country

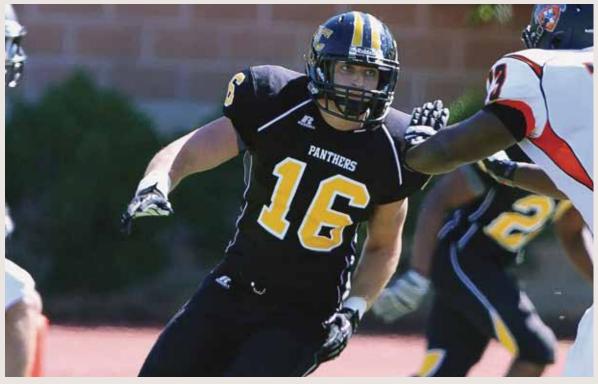
The Panther women's cross country team had a strong showing in 2013, with the women earning a No. 9 ranking in the U.S. Track and Field/Cross Country Coaches Association South/Southeast Regional in October. Sophomore Kelsey Holdbrooks was the top women's runner in four of eight races and freshman Elise Pittman finished first among Panthers three times, including at the 2014 SAA Championship and the 2014 NCAA South/Southeast Regional Championship. Pittman was 10th at the SAA Championship with a 6K time of 23:51.51, earning All-Conference honors, and 34th at the NCAA Regional Championship with a 6K time of 23:42.24, earning All-Region accolades. The BSC women finished fourth at the SAA Championship and ninth (in a field of 27 teams) at the regional.

Sophomore Katie Ann Bass and freshman Shannon Walsh also earned All-SAA honors after placing 11th and 13th respectively at the conference championship.

Volleyball

The volleyball team had another winning season, going 21-9, including a 9-0 start to the season. The Panthers also became an interesting footnote in the NCAA record book during the 2013 SAA Volleyball Championship. In the first-round match against Millsaps, the second set, usually played to 25 points, was won by Millsaps by a score of 46-44, setting a new NCAA record for points scored in a single set. Senior outside hitter Alex Bothe earned First-Team All-SAA honors and junior right side Kathleen Pfitzer and sophomore libero Lauren Bedford earned Honorable Mention honors.

PANTIEUERS



Senior Cameron Budzius

Soccer

Women's soccer put together a 7-10 record and a 4-3 mark in fall conference action under first-year Head Coach Emily Clifford. Senior forward Amanda Babbin was named First-Team All-SAA, while senior forward Bailey Kimbell and sophomore forward Jessie Sperry were named Second-Team forwards. Senior goalkeeper Richelle Byrd, senior defender M'Kayl Lewis, freshman defender Bethany Kuerten, senior midfielder Kelly Craft, and freshman midfielder Nicole Newton were all named to the Honorable Mention All-Conference Team. Kimbell was also named to the College Sports Information Directors of America Academic All-District Team.

Basketball

The women's basketball team was under the direction of first-year Head Coach Rena Faust-Holden, who took over as head coach last spring. The Panthers were a young team this season, with only one senior in Elizabeth Bromirski, who was named First-Team All-Conference. Only three other players had seen time on the court in a BSC uniform last season, leaving 17 newcomers to the

program. BSC put together a 10-17 record, going 6-8 against SAA opponents. The Panthers drew the fifth seed in the SAA Championship, hosted by Rhodes College, and lost to fourth-seed Berry College in the first round. Besides Bromirski's First-Team All-SAA nod, sophomore Kelsey Brown was named to the Honorable Mention All-Conference team.

MEN'S SPORTS

Football

The football team put together another great season on the gridiron. The Panthers started their season with three straight wins and ended up with a 5-4 mark overall and a 3-3 record in the SAA. Five BSC players earned All-Conference honors, headlined by senior offensive lineman Jarrett Hubbard and junior linebacker Austin Hansard being named First-Team All-SAA. Junior wide receiver Michael Cowan and junior defensive lineman Connor Shannon were named Second-Team All-SAA and senior linebacker Cameron Budzius earned an Honorable Mention nod. It was Hansard's second straight year earning First-Team honors; he led the team with 62



Senior Cory Gonzalez

total tackles (41 solo, 21 assisted) and also had three interceptions and two fumble recoveries. Sophomore punter Hagen Mancuso was also honored with a spot on the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) Capital One Academic All-District team, and junior Ty Keenum earned D3football.com National Team of the Week honors in September.

Soccer

The men's soccer team put together one of the best starts in program history, going 6-0 to begin the fall season. The Panthers entered the NCAA Regional rankings at 10th, the first regional ranking for the program at the Division III level, and then entered the D3soccer.com national rankings for the first time, coming in at 22nd in the coaches' poll. They ended the season with a 9-8-1 mark and a 3-4 SAA record. Six players were named to the All-Conference team, with senior defender Cory Gonzalez earning First-Team honors. Senior midfielder Brooks Busby and senior forward Tobias Winter were named to the Second Team, while junior goalkeeper Jonas Heidrich, senior defender Jeremy Evans, and junior midfielder Johannes Loeffler were named All-SAA Honorable Mention. Evans, Winter, and junior Ryan Deveikis also earned CoSIDA Capital One Academic All-District honors, and Winter and Evans were named to the National Soccer Coaches Association of America Scholar All-Region Team.

Cross country

Freshman Chris Roberts led the men's cross country team, placing first on the team in six of eight races, while senior Christian Clesi led the team in two races,



SAA Men's Swimmer of the Year Duncan Bonney with SAA Commissioner Jay Hoffman

including the NCAA South/Southeast Regional Championship. The men were sixth at the SAA Championship and 17th (in a field of 24) at the regional.

Basketball

The men's basketball program continued its tradition of winning seasons once again in 2013-14, highlighted by junior Larry Thomas being voted the 2014 SAA Player of the Year; he also earned a spot on the All-Conference First Team. The Panthers put together a 17-10 record and were 10-4 against conference opponents. They upset two ranked opponents—No. 17 Guilford College in December and No. 22 Centre College in February—and finished tied for second in the SAA regular season standings. BSC earned the second seed in the 2014 SAA Championship, hosted by top-seeded Centre, and won the first-round game against seventh-seeded Hendrix, but lost to third-seeded Oglethorpe by two points in the semifinals. Senior Griffin Schamp was voted to the All-Conference Second Team and sophomore Ross Welch earned Honorable Mention honors. Thomas also hit a career milestone in January as he passed 1,000 career points as a junior. He ended the season with 1,182 career points and sits at ninth on the all-time scoring list heading into his next season. He also received a trifecta of honors in March, being named to the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) First-Team All-South District, NABC Third-Team All-America, and D3hoops.com First Team All-South Region.



2014 SAA women's swimming and diving champions

Swimming and diving team caps off second season with SAA crown

In only its second season of competition, BSC's Swimming and Diving program had a banner year. After a regular season where personal and school records fell at nearly every meet, the Panthers went into the 2014 SAA Championship as a top contender on both the men's and women's sides of the competition.

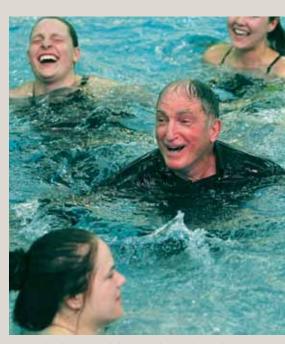
The championship was held at the Birmingham CrossPlex Natatorium, just two miles from campus. Heading into the third and final day of the event, both the Panther men's and women's teams sat in first place in the team standings, having already won several individual championships, but with hopes of a team crown as well.

The men's race came down to the final event of the day, with Centre College edging the Panthers by only eight points. But the women held onto the lead to win the 2014 SAA title, finishing over 40 points ahead of second-place Rhodes College.

The Panthers won plenty of individual accolades. Sophomore Hannah Busk was the Women's Swimmer of the Year, sophomore Duncan Bonney was the Men's Swimmer of the Year, senior Cody Spradlin was the Male Diver of the Year, and freshman Scott Taylor was the SAA Male Newcomer of the Year.

All in all, BSC won 19 individual SAA championships over the course of the weekend, and 11 of those set new SAA records while seven were NCAA B-cut times.

Bonney qualified for the NCAA Swimming and Diving National Championship held in March at the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis Natatorium in Indianapolis, Ind. He received Honorable Mention All-America accolades in two events after finishing 12th in the 200-yard individual medley and 10th in the 100-yard breaststroke.



Gen. Charles C. Krulak jumped into the pool, business attire and all, after the women's swimming and diving team won this year's SAA Championship.

Birmingham-Southern names tennis complex after Coach Ann Dielen

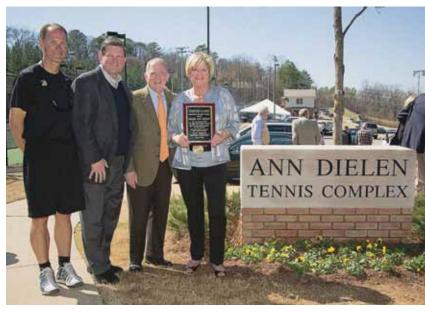
Birmingham-Southern honored tennis coach Ann Dielen, who has served at the college for more than three decades, by naming the school's tennis complex after her this spring.

A new engraved sign and a plaque were unveiled at a ceremony in March. The plaque reads:

"In recognition of a career of dedication and service, BSC honors Coach Ann Dielen for starting the men's and women's tennis programs in 1977 and building it to one of championship caliber for five decades and does hereby name the BSC tennis facility the Ann Dielen Tennis Complex."

"This is such an incredible honor," said Dielen, who also serves as the college's senior women's administrator. "To see my name on a facility that I've called home for so long is one of the highlights of my career."

Under Dielen's direction, the women's team participated in the NAIA National Championships every year from the tournament's inception in 1980 until the college's final NAIA membership season in 2001. No other program can boast



L to r: Head Men's Tennis Coach Kel Lange, Director of Athletics Joe Dean Jr., BSC President Gen. Charles C. Krulak, and Dielen.

this impressive feat. The men's team, which was under Dielen's guidance until she turned it over to former assistant Brian Rahaley, was equally successful, reaching the national tournament 19 of 24 seasons.

She has been past president of the National Tennis Association and was named NAIA District Coach of the Year seven times, was the ITA Women's Tennis Coach of the Year in 1992, and received the USTA Community Service Award in 1997.

Dielen's husband, son, daughter, and two grandchildren were on hand at the ceremony, as were many of her former tennis players and friends.



Dielen speaking to those gathered for the dedication.



Lasting connections—Six new inductees to the BSC Sports Hall of Fame were honored during Family/Homecoming/Alumni Weekend festivities Nov. 1-2. The Bob Strain Distinguished Service Award winner was also recognized. The award is named after the late 1940 BSC alum who founded the hall of fame in 1981. Pictured (I to r) are Sarah Hibbard Leachman '05 (air rifle); Head Men's Soccer Coach Preston Goldfarb, who accepted the award on behalf of Karim Dietz '05 (men's soccer), who couldn't attend; George Salem '75, a 2002 Hall of Fame inductee for the sport of baseball and longtime supporter of Birmingham-Southern athletics, who was honored with the 2013 service award; Paul Fleming '95 (basketball); Steve Baxley '71 (basketball); Nikki Rombough '06 (softball); and Wes Letson '07 (baseball). With the addition of the 33rd class, 184 individuals and teams have been recognized for raising the bar of excellence for the college's athletics program.

New coach looks to build upon volleyball team's success

BY PAT COLE

The volleyball team kicked off a new era this year when Jeff White took the reins as the head coach of the Panthers, and so far, he's happy with the team's progress.

"We have a great group of student-athletes who are getting acclimated," says White, former head volleyball coach at Brenau University in Gainesville, Ga. "Their attitude and effort in the gym has been positive. My goal is to have them consistently come in prepared and ready to play every point in practice like it's the championship. Then, once we get there, they'll just play the way they've always played. The winning and losing will take care of itself."

White replaced former head coach Judy Green, who led the volleyball squad to a 21-9 winning season this past fall—gaining them entry to the 2013 Southern Athletic Association Volleyball Championship. The team has an overall record of 99-59 from the past five seasons.

"These players genuinely love each other and they have a great chemistry," White says. "That's something that most coaches spend a lot of time trying to develop. Since that was already in place, we moved on to the on-court performance and training. They go for every ball, work hard, and are anxious to learn the new system."

Along with a new coach came a strategic overhaul for the squad. White implemented a new Gold Medal Squared system, which incorporates swing blocking, passing off the net, middle-middle defense, and jump serving. The system is used by the U.S. men's and women's Olympic teams, along with top schools such as the University of Washington, BYU, and Arizona State.



White

White coached four All-Conference volleyball players and four NAIA Academic All-Americans at Brenau. He also had 12 conference All-Academic recipients and guided the squad to 37 wins. Prior to his time at Brenau, he was director and head coach for the GA5 Volleyball Club in Suwanee, Ga.

White, who says he's been coaching since the age of 16, has rarely been the No. 2 man.

"I'm a Type-A personality, and being an assistant coach is very difficult for me," says White, who stands 6'6" tall. "I would rather impart my own philosophy to a team; I like things done a certain way."

White grew up playing beach volleyball on the sandy Los Angeles beaches. He played basketball in high school and attended California State University-Northridge, graduating with a degree in physical education. He earned his master's in health studies from the University of Alabama.

Over the years, he's earned many coaching honors, including being named Georgia High School Volleyball Coach of the Year in 2001, 2005, and 2008, and Atlanta Journal-Constitution Girl's Volleyball Coach of the Year in 2001 and 2008. He still commutes back and forth to Georgia to visit his wife, Stephanie, who is a teacher, and to work toward his Ph.D. in coaching education at the University of Georgia.

But mainly, he spends his time on campus working on a formula for continued success for the BSC volleyball team. The team will have plenty of experience on their side with five returning starters and a libero (defense player) from the 2013 squad.

"Winning championships involves high performance, consistency, and a little bit of luck," says White. "I hope this team experiences all of these in the coming fall season."

ClassNotes BY PAT COLE



AlumNews '66



Dr. David Vest is convinced that studying English provided the perfect foundation for his career in music.

"Reading a poem or listening to jazz, you can really feel the beat in both of them," said Vest, who majored in English at BSC and received a master's and a Ph.D. in the subject from Vanderbilt University. "The more you learn about what's going on, the more enjoyable it becomes."

Vest is a Southern-bred poet and boogie-woogie pianist who won the 2013 Maple Blues Award for Piano/Keyboard Player of the Year. After his Maple Blues nomination for 2013 Recording of



the Year for his album *East Meets Vest*, he was signed to Cordova Bay Records, a leading Canadian independent label. He also played piano on a new album by blues guitarist David Gogo that was recently nominated for a prestigious Juno Award.

Vest has been rocking and shouting the blues since the age of 15, inspired by hanging out with artists from the golden age of R&B and swing. He grew up in West End, just a few blocks away from Ensley's famed Tuxedo Junction.

After enrolling at BSC with plans to become a writer, Vest supported

himself through college by performing on local television on weekday mornings and playing several nights a week in downtown clubs. He'd go from jamming with Big Joe Turner to studying Coleridge on the Hilltop.

By the time he was a junior, he had written the first songs ever recorded by his friend Wynette Byrd, soon to be known as country music superstar Tammy Wynette.

"I got to meet all of the musicians who came to the campus to perform," he said. "Carlos Montoya, the flamenco legend, allowed me to carry his guitar to the car after a show."

Vest has won numerous awards over the years for his piano playing and has performed at countless blues festivals. At age 70, he shows no signs of slowing down. This month, Vest is touring and promoting his new CD, *Roadhouse Revelation*. On April 26, he held a CD release show at one of his favorite venues, Hermann's Jazz Club in Victoria, B.C.

He lives with his wife, Anne, in Canada and has three sons from a previous marriage and five grandchildren. Vest said he intends to keep on rocking and shouting the blues "as long as the flavor lasts."

'46

Emily Blake Vail was awarded the 2013 Georgia Author of the Year Award for poetry for her book *Poems from Times Past:* Crossroads, Byways, Destination. She now resides in Greensboro, N.C.

'58

Donald Brown, author of the BSC history Forward, Ever, is adding another title to his repertory of books. His first novel, Gruesome, is being published this spring. The story is based on a crime he covered half a century ago as a young reporter at The Birmingham News. Borgo Publishing is producing the book, which will be sold on Amazon.com and other online media. In addition to writing the college's sesquicentennial history, Brown is the author, cowriter, and editor of nine other books. He and his wife, Hannah, live in Tuscaloosa, where he teaches advanced journalism at the University of Alabama. He is the former senior editor of daily newspapers in Tuscaloosa and Florence.



In honor of the 100th anniversary of the death of composer and pianist Erich J. Wolff, Arabesque

recording "Michelangelo Cycle and Selected Songs" performed by internationally known baritone **Dr. ST Kimbrough Jr.** of Durham, N.C. His distinguished career spans operatic, musical theater, concert, and art and folk song repertory performed and recorded on four continents. His recordings of arts songs have twice been nominated as "Best Vocal Recording of the Year."

Records has released the

'61

Jonathan May of Sawyerville,
Ala., edited and published his late
friend Tom Canford's work Baker's
Daughter, Miller's Son: A Memoir
of the Family of Tom Miller and
Norma Miller in August 2013. On
Aug. 26, May's essay "Burying
Tom" was published in the online
edition of The New York Times.
May has a website,
www.hollowsquarepress.com,
which features his published works
and Canford's. Included on the
site are books, movies, and "all the

'66

rest."

At a Synod held recently in Newport Beach, Calif., Dr. Jack Lloyd Jr. of Panama City, Fla., was re-elected to serve as Speaker of the Assembly of Laity of the Anglican Catholic Church for the next two-year term. He is the father of Jack Lloyd III '09 of Panama City.



'67
Alabama
Gov. Robert
Bentley
tapped
longtime
lawyer Joe
Basenberg
last summer
to be the

new Mobile County District Judge. Basenberg has practiced law since 1976 and has worked at Hand Arendall LLC since 1981. He practiced maritime law throughout his career, and in more recent years, mass tort defense litigation.

'75



Terrell
Finney was
recently
elevated to
president for
the National
Association
of Schools
of Theatre
in March,

after serving a three-year term as vice-president. Finney also is associate dean for academic affairs and director of graduate studies at the University of Cincinnati's Conservatory of Music, a post he has held since 2010. Prior to that, he served for nearly 25 years as head of the Division of Opera, Musical Theatre, Drama, and Arts Administration and Theatre Design and Production at UC. Finney has taught at BSC and at the School for the Creative and Performing Arts in Cincinnati. He earned an MFA in directing from Boston University.

'81

Carol Herrmann Steckel is the new senior director for public policy at WellCare Health Plans in Tampa, Fla. According to Steckel, she and her husband, Arthur, "are enjoying the warm weather!"

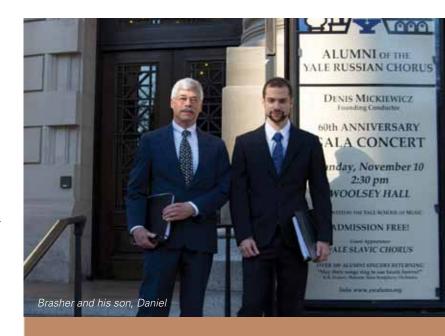
'82

Adeana Curry Goforth Kracke retired from the Mobile County Public School System in June 2013. She taught first grade at Hollinger's Island Elementary School for 30

'84

years.

After some 25 years in higher education as a physics professor and then chief academic officer at Gettysburg College and Washington & Jefferson College, Jay White is now head of school at Linden Hall, the country's oldest boarding and college preparatory school for girls, located in Lititz, Penn. White travels a lot domestically and internationally for the international boarding school, but is still able to teach an occasional physics or astronomy course. "I look back to my experiences at 'Southern as critical ones that helped me lay a foundation for what has come after my four years there," he said. White received BSC's Outstanding Young Alumni Award in 2004. He and his wife, Lisa, are the parents of two boys: Sebastian and Alistair.



A 60th anniversary affair—Dr. Larry Brasher,

Denson N. Franklin Professor of Religion at BSC, returned to Yale University for the 60th anniversary concert of the alumni of the Yale Russian Chorus. He joined the historic Yale chorus in 1971 as a baritone soloist while he was working on his Master of Divinity degree. At the 60th reunion on Nov. 10, 140 alumni gathered to perform in Woolsey Hall, the premier concert venue at Yale. Brasher's son, Daniel, who sang in several university choral groups, was invited to join them. Before the concert, Brasher met up with three former students for dinner—now all graduate students at Yale: Sara Doughton '04, former BSC staff member and student in the M.Div. program at Yale Divinity School; Sara's husband, Webb Lyons '06, former Truman Scholar and Yale Law School student; and Emily Roebuck '12, a BSC religion graduate and student in the MAR program in Women, Gender, and Sexuality at Yale Divinity School. "It was a very special event," said Brasher. "It was great to sing with my son next to me and to see my students from BSC."





100 years of memories—Vivian Harrington Whitt '52

celebrated her centennial birthday on Oct. 30 at her home in Roff, Okla., surrounded by 15 family members who had traveled from Texas, Kansas, and Alabama. Whitt was a non-traditional student at BSC who had a career as a medical lab technician. "She inspired so many of her nieces and nephews to take up a medical career as she did," said Teresa Snider, daughter of Whitt's niece **Judith Smith Stacey '63** of Hayneville, Ala. "Her celebration was a wonderful occasion. She was especially proud to have been featured in the Fall 2013 'Southern." Even at 100, Whitt is as sharp mentally as she's ever been. She takes care of herself at night and has a caretaker during the day. So what's in Whitt's recipe for longevity? "Take the punches as they come," Whitt shared. "When problems come up, handle them and go on; don't get stressed out about life."

'85

Chris Dupont, chef and owner of the fine dining restaurant
Café Dupont, has opened up a second restaurant in Birmingham.
Tau Poco is a casual eatery that features a menu of international street foods.

'86

John Collar Jr. has been included in the list of 2014 Georgia Super Lawyers. Only five percent of the lawyers in the state are selected. Collar is a founding partner and family law attorney at Boyd Collar Nolen & Tuggle in Atlanta.

'90

David Benck, vice president and general counsel for Hibbett Sporting Goods Inc., has joined the board of directors of USA Gymnastics for a term that will run through the Rio 2016 Summer Olympics. He has been a Birmingham resident since 1986.

'91

Drummer **Maury Levine** of Birmingham recently published



his first book, a comedic mystery, titled Shopping Bagged.
The book is available on Amazon.com.

Renasant Bank recently named Lee Riley as a senior vice president and private banker in its wealth management group for Birmingham. Riley has more than 14 years of experience in private banking in the Birmingham market. He earned an MA from Baylor University.

'93

Joe Fanning and two of his colleagues at Vanderbilt University Medical Center recently coauthored What Patients Teach: The Everyday Ethics of Health Care. The book draws from 55 interviews with patients to argue that health care ethics are rooted in the vulnerability of patients and the responsiveness of clinicians. The authors conclude that clinicians and bioethicists interested in truly patient-centered care should focus more on daily care practices and the skills needed to develop therapeutic relationships. As a faculty member in the Center for Biomedical Ethics and Society, Fanning directs the center's clinical ethics consultation service. He and his wife, Carrie Smith Fanning, live in Nashville with their three children.

'95

After graduating from BSC, Erin Whikehart Freeman earned an MFA from the Savannah College of Art and Design in Savannah, Ga. Since then, she's worked in the field of graphic design as a creative director with clients such as IBM, Buffalo Rock/Pepsi, Verisign, and Volvo. Freeman is now a full-time faculty member at the Art Institute of Atlanta, and has taught numerous graphic design courses for the past 12 years. She is also the portfolio director for the BFA and AA program candidates in graphic design. She and her husband reside in Tucker, Ga., and have a son, Andy, who is five.

'96

Iberia Bank has appointed **Gregory King** of Birmingham, formerly
market president for northern
Alabama, as the head of its
Alabama operations. King holds
an MBA from UAB and has also
worked for Highland Bank and
AmSouth Bank in Birmingham.



Ismat Shari was recently

was recently selected as the 2013-14 Teacher of the Year for the Hamilton Township Public

School District and for Hamilton High School West in Hamilton, N.J., where she teaches algebra. This is her fifth education award; she was also named Outstanding Teacher in 2000 for BSC's former Adult Studies Program, selected Teacher of the Year at Green Acres Middle School in Ensley in 2000 and 2001, and awarded at the Teacher Recognition Program for Birmingham City Schools in 2000-01.

'98

Ben Bolton has been re-appointed by Gov. Bill Haslam to the Tennessee Water and Wastewater Financing Board for a three-year term. Bolton, an environmental scientist with EnSafe Inc. in Nashville, has served on the board since 2006 as the manufacturing representative. He helps oversee municipal, county, and utility water and wastewater systems that are in financial trouble, and also assists these systems with high water loss issues.

'99

Thomas Rainer is a licensed landscape architect living in Arlington, Va. He received his master's degree from the University of Georgia and is currently associate principal for the



Courtesy of Darren Higgins

D.C. firm Rhodeside & Harwell. He also teaches for the George Washington University Landscape Design program, and is the pioneer of the blog Grounded Design. His work has appeared in numerous publications; he offered gardening tips recently via The New York Times in the Nov. 20, 2013, online article "He'll Try Anything."

'00

Jon Patterson has been named a partner at Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP in Birmingham. Patterson's practice focuses on mortgage litigation and commercial and business litigation. He holds a J.D. from the University of North Carolina School of Law.

04



Lattimore Black Morgan & Cain PC recently added Brian Chamblee, CPA, to its Brentwood, Tenn., office.

Chamblee joined the accounting and business consulting firm in the LBMC audit services division, where he is working in a variety of industries including healthcare, restaurants, organizations, and manufacturing. He previously worked as a financial analyst at Regions Bank. He and his wife, Meg, have a daughter, Sara, who is three.

'06

Stephen Williams, an associate attorney at Long, Flanagan & McDonald in Guntersville and Huntsville, has been elected president of the Marshall County Bar Association for 2014. He has served as vice president of the organization since 2012. Williams is a 2010 graduate of both the University of Alabama School of Law and UA's Manderson Graduate School of Business. At BSC, he earned a music degree in guitar performance. His law practice focuses on creditors' rights, domestic relations, and juvenile law. He also serves as the youngest member of the Alabama Law Institute's Criminal Code Revision Committee.

Karen Claunch will begin studies in the Doctor of Physical Therapy program at UAB in January 2015. She has spent the past year working in media communications and with children with disabilities in Amman, Jordan. Her work is under the auspices of Foundation Outreach International at the invitation of Her Royal Highness Sarvath El Hassan.



Martin **Landry** is the assistant music director in the off-Broadway original musical comedy "Til Divorce Do

Us Part" as well as an understudy for one of the lead actors. The show is running at the DR2 Theatre in New York City. Since graduating from BSC, Landry has been featured in numerous plays and musicals. He is also a published composer/lyricist and a member of the BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop.



Alum News '05

For quite some time, pubs and bars have been male-dominated domains. But change is brewing in the beer-making industry.

Lauren Wiersma recently joined forces with the brewing team at the newly-opened Trim Tab Brewing Co. in Birmingham. She is believed to be the only female brewer in Alabama.

Wiersma developed a fondness over the years for learning about beer and wine making and the fermentation process, as well as the creativity and complexity of beer.

"Beer can have the wonderful finesse and nuances that you find in wine, and is fun to learn how to pair with food," said Wiersma, who grew up in Vestavia Hills. "My goal is not only to be a great brewer, but also to educate women on craft beer and to help them get into the industry."

She was formerly employed with Oskar Blues Brewery and Left Hand Brewing Co. in Longmont, Colo. But when Trim Tab's head brewer, Will Crenshaw, saw a rant from Wiersma on Facebook about the cold and snow, he sent a message about an opening at Trim Tab and asked her to send a résumé if she was interested. She and Trim Tab founder and CEO Harris Stewart were both scheduled to be in New Orleans that weekend and decided to meet over beers.

It isn't the first time the BSC connection has paid off, she said.

"Having BSC on my resume has helped me so much in my career," noted Wiersma, who studied Spanish. "I met some wonderful people there and had some terrific professors. One of my favorite memories is going to the home of [Professor Emeritus of History] Dr. Bill Nicholas for tacos and margaritas."

She sold wine for three years after graduating from BSC, and while studying for the Certified Specialist in Wine exam, she started learning even more about wine making and beer making. She begged to volunteer at Avondale Brewing when they first opened in Birmingham, but eventually she went to Longmont for a three-week internship with Pumphouse Brewery.

"I wanted people to know that I was willing to work really hard to learn this craft and to prove myself," she said. "I love what I do and I love beer. I drink it pretty regularly—for inspiration."

In addition to settling into her new job, Wiersma is busy planning a wedding to Logan Wiley. They will marry on May 31 in Lonamont.

'08

Clifford Ray moved to Nashville in August 2013 to accept a job with Asurion, a technology protection provider. His new role is senior financial analyst in the corporate financial planning and analysis area.

'09



Gary Crosby graduated with honors from the London School of Economics with a master's

degree in social policy in the fall of 2013. He is now a first-year student at Tulane University Law School on a merit-based scholarship.

11

Elizabeth Walker graduated from Georgetown University in August with a master's degree in museum studies. As part of her graduate studies, she interned with the Smithsonian's Freer and Sackler Galleries of Asian art and attended Sotheby's Institute of Art in London, where she concentrated in the arts of Asia and their markets. She is now a content coordinator at Ralph Appelbaum Associates of New York, one of the world's largest museum planning and design firms.

12

Jessica Mayne earned a master's degree in secondary mathematics education from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville this past fall. She is now teaching 8th grade math in Chattanooga.

Weddings

Courtney Bailey '99 to Erik Maas, Aug. 10, 2013. Sally Bedgood '00 to David FitzMaurice, March 16, 2013.

In Memoriam '41



Claire Morrison Dixon, a former city historian, civic activist, and genealogy expert, passed away on April 13, 2013, in Alexandria, Va. She was 92.

Dixon was an Air Force wife who lived in France, Germany, Panama, and on Guam as well as in several states. Her extensive travels took her to five continents. She lived in Warner Robins, Ga., for 45 years prior to her move to the Hermitage retirement community in 2010.

In Georgia, Dixon was active in community affairs, serving as city historian for Warner Robins and authoring an updated city history, Warner Robins, the Second Twenty-Five Years. In 1981, she was named Woman of Achievement by

the Business and Professional Women's Club of Warner Robins.

She retired from the Georgia Department of Labor and also worked as an actuary and tax consultant. Dixon served as a member of the Macon (Georgia) Symphony Board and was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church in Warner Robins. She also supported animal protection efforts and loved pursuing her family history.

Dixon was the first winner of the prestigious four-year Phi Beta Kappa Scholarship to Birmingham-Southern, where she studied mathematics. She remained an ardent supporter of the college throughout her life.

"My mom always loved Birmingham-Southern," said her daughter, Mary Dixon, who resides in Alexandria. "I remember visits there when I was small, and have always had great respect for the college."

Other survivors include two granddaughters and two great-grandsons.

Anna Cunningham '08 to

Benjamin Gray on Nov. 9, 2013. Jenny Stedham '08 to Phillip Noble on Oct. 12, 2013. Ashley Lovell '11 to Mark Messenger '11, Oct. 26, 2013. Stefan Neely '11 to Emily Fredericksen '12, April 27, 2013. Karly Kitabchi '12 to Hunter Vitello '12, Dec. 14, 2013.

Births/Adoptions

A daughter, Hanna Elizabeth, Nov. 21, 2012, to Denise Mason Steckler '93 and husband,

to Tori McCaig Johnston '99 and husband, Bryan.

Twin boys, Mabry Stiles and Owen Armour, Sept. 20, 2013, to Christi Daniel Lunsford '00 and husband, Ben (big brother, Graham).

A son, Elliott Rhoades, Sept. 10, 2013, to Beth Erickson Moon '00 and husband, Tucker. Proud grandparents are Steven D. Erickson '72 and Linda Smyly Erickson '72. Proud uncles are Brian Erickson '97 and Brad Erickson '04

A son, Trace Aaron (born Nov. 8, 2010) was adopted Nov. 6, 2013, by Natalie Gray Ballenger '01 and husband, Kevin.

A son, James Roger, Dec. 26, 2013, to Roger Ball Jr. '03 and wife, Nancy Williams Ball '04.

A son, Reid McCaig, April 22, 2013, A daughter, Mary Brooks, Oct. 3, 2013, to Kelley Brooks Simoneaux '07 and Bradlee John Simoneaux '08.

In Memoriam

'41

Ethridge Billard "E.B." Copeland

of Knoxville, Tenn., on May 5, 2013. Copeland was drafted into the U.S. Army after graduating from BSC with a degree in economics and served on Guadalcanal with the 244th Coast Artillery Corps in heavy combat. He earned the World War II Victory Medal, Navy Presidential Unit Citation, and Battle Star for the Guadalcanal Campaign. He came to Knoxville in 1953, starting a long business career, and retired as president and owner of Johnstone Supply Co. of Knoxville and Chattanooga. Copeland served on several boards and was involved in many civic activities to strengthen his community; he was honored with a street named "E.B. Copeland

In Memoriam '41



Katherine Meadow McTyeire, a lifelong Birmingham resident and pioneering female business owner, died on Dec. 18, 2013, at the age of 94.

McTyeire was perhaps best known for founding Iron Art Inc., a home furnishings store and design studio, which began on the Southside of Birmingham and later moved to Mountain Brook Village. She was the first woman to serve as director for the Birmingham Area Chamber of Commerce, Better Business Bureau of Alabama, and First National Bank of Birmingham (now Regions).

McTyeire was a member of the board of trustees at Birmingham-Southern and had served as president of the National Alumni Association. She received BSC's Distinguished Alumni Award

in 1979 and was also awarded an honorary Doctor of Law degree from the college in 1987. She studied sociology at BSC.

Among her numerous awards, McTyeire was elected into the Kiwanis Club of Birmingham's Business Hall of Fame and selected as Woman of the Year by the Business and Professional Women of Birmingham. She was also asked by the governor to chair Alabama's 150th anniversary celebration.

She balanced well the many demands of business, civic responsibility, and family. Her family members accepted the Jemison Visionary Award on her behalf at the Mountain Brook Chamber of Commerce's annual luncheon in January.

She is survived by four children and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. At the request of the family, memorial contributions may be sent to the Katherine Meadow McTyeire Scholarship Fund through the Office of Institutional Advancement at BSC, Box 549003, 900 Arkadelphia Road, Birmingham, AL 35254. The scholarship memorializes McTyeire's son, who died while he was a student at BSC. The scholarship provides assistance to majors in history.

Boulevard" on the campus of Fort Sanders West in Knoxville. He was also an avid golfer. He is survived by three daughters and several grandchildren and stepgrandchildren.

Henry Parrish Hanna of

'43

Birmingham, on Nov. 9, 2013. A U.S. Navy veteran of World War II, Hanna fought in both the Atlantic and the Pacific theatres. He saw action aboard the U.S.S. LST 358, where he served as stores officer, gunnery officer, and first

lieutenant. Hanna next served as executive officer and then commanding officer of the ship U.S.S. LST 397. After the war, he and his brother, L.R. Hanna '41, hung their shingle, Hanna and Hanna Accountants, and served a multitude of clients in the Birmingham area. In 1976, Henry moved to the firm of Lovoy and Summerville CPA, where he served until he retired in 1986. He was a member of the National Society of Public Accountants. He is survived by his three daughters. The Hannas are cousins of the

Yieldings, for whom BSC's Yielding Chapel is named; according to their daughter, Marie Hanna Nelson, their strong family values have been and continue to be inspiring.

45

Dr. Dewey A. White Jr. of

Mountain Brook, on Oct. 24, 2013. White received his medical degree from the University of Virginia Medical School. Following two years of service in the U.S. Navy, he completed his pediatric residency at Children's Hospital of Alabama. He opened a practice

in Mountain Brook and remained there during most of his private medical career. White was also very involved with local hospitals and served as president of staff at Children's. He later organized the Department of Pediatrics at Baptist Medical Center-Montclair and served as its chief of staff. In 1974. White was elected to the Alabama House of Representatives; he ran again in 1978 for state senate and served until 1982. Soon after his first term, White relinquished his practice to his partners, but continued to practice medicine. He later became professor of pediatrics and medical director of student health at UAB. White retired in 1987; he was recognized by numerous organizations for his dedication to children. He is survived by his wife and four children.

'46

Mary Virginia Stallworth Sorsby

of Birmingham, on Oct. 9, 2013. After graduating from BSC, Sorsby attended Johns Hopkins University and became a certified orthoptist (eye care specialist). She worked at the university hospital for a time and practiced orthoptics in Birmingham. After being home with her son and daughter for many years, Sorsby took up a 20-year career as a science and English teacher at Thompson Middle School in Alabaster, where she was awarded Teacher of the Year before her retirement. She spent more than 60 years as an active member of South Highland Presbyterian Church.

49

Clyde N. Garmon Jr. of

Birmingham, on Nov. 20, 2013. He received his pharmacy degree from Howard College (now Samford University) and served in the U.S. Navy Medical Corps for two years. Garmon was a salesman for the Upjohn Company for 11 years and then became co-owner

In Memoriam '48



Ruth V. Anderson Knight, who was an educator, passed away on Dec. 21, 2013, in Granbury, Texas. She was 86.

For many years, Knight was a member of the Weber State University Continuing Education staff in Ogden, Utah, where she conceived and made possible many groundbreaking educational and social-betterment projects that were funded by federal and state grants. With the WSU Education Department, she organized a successful program to deliver teacher education classes to native Navajo speakers that graduated more than 60 men and women who could teach tribal children in their own language. She also obtained funding for and helped supervise parent and child education projects on the Ute reservation.

In retirement, Knight served on various state and community boards, including the Ogden City Urban Forest Committee. She enjoyed gardening, decorating and, most of all, her family and friends.

She married U.S. Navy Capt. Ordeen Knight in 1948 and raised five children. They lived in Kaneohe Oahu, Hawaii; Imperial Beach and San Mateo, Calif.; Upper Saddle River, N.J.; and finally Huntsville and Ogden. She studied biology at BSC.

Survivors include her children; brother, **Dr. Richard Anderson '56** of Charlotte, N.C.; and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Her parents were the late BSC Professor of Music Raymond Anderson and Agnes Houghton Anderson. Raymond influenced many choral music programs in schools and churches in Birmingham. He retired from the college in 1971 and served for several years on the BSC Board of Trustees.

At the request of the family, memorial contributions can be made to the Raymond F. Anderson Scholarship through the Office of Institutional Advancement at BSC, Box 549003, 900 Arkadelphia Road, Birmingham, AL 35254. The scholarship was established after his death in 1985; it is awarded annually to students concentrating their studies in music.

of the Vestavia Rexal Drugstore for 24 years and remained as the manager when the store became Harco Drugs. He was president of the Vestavia Merchant's Association and member of the Alabama Pharmaceutical Association. Garmon attended Trinity United Methodist Church. He is survived by his wife, Kap Price Garmon '52; son, Ben Garmon '78, also of Birmingham; two daughters, Kathy and Polly; and five grandchildren.

'50

Frances Anne Norton Bari, of Doraville, Ga., on May 7, 2013

Doraville, Ga., on May 7, 2013.
After graduating Phi Beta Kappa from BSC, Bari earned a master's degree from Auburn University and attended Tulane University for further graduate study in mathematics. She lived most of her adult life in New Orleans. During her varied career, Bari worked as a biostatistician for the LSU School of Medicine and the Louisiana Department of Health,

was a reliability engineer for Boeing during its rocket development that landed a man on the moon, and sold real estate. She loved to sing and was a theatre and dance enthusiast and violinist. She was a lifelong member of the United Methodist Church, having sung in many choirs in Birmingham and New Orleans. Survivors include a brother, Wade Norton '49 of Doraville, and a host of other relatives who graduated from BSC. The college's Edward Lee

Norton Board of Advisors is named after her uncle, a 1913 graduate of BSC's predecessor, Birmingham College.

'51

Dr. Clarence Richard Causey

Jr. of Decatur, Ga., formerly of Montgomery, on Aug. 30, 2013. Causey was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II. After serving his country in Hawaii, he received degrees from BSC and the University of Alabama as well as a doctorate from Auburn University. As a professional educator, Causey was a teacher, principal, district assistant superintendent, and worked for the Alabama Department of Education until he retired in 1988. He loved tennis and was inducted into the BSC Sports Hall of Fame in 1999; he also was an avid fan of golf, football, and baseball. He is survived by his wife, four children, and three step-children.

′5:

Walter Lassiter Anderson,

of Hoover, on June 27, 2013. Anderson was a manufacturer's representative for Hickory Chair Co. for 23 years. He also was a general manager of the Birmingham Holiday Inns, and before that, he owned the clothing store Durham Woolen Mills. Anderson served as a chief petty officer in the U.S. Navy during World War II, teaching classes in metal work in Florida and Oklahoma, where the main focus was repairing airplanes damaged in combat. He was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church and was an avid fisherman and golfer. Survivors include his wife, Aline Chestnutt Anderson '48; his son, Arnold Scott Anderson **'83 (Katy Lowrance Anderson** '84): and his daughter. Sherrie Anderson Tarpley '76 (Phil Tarpley '84), all of Birmingham.

E.E. "Jack" Cavaleri III of Vestavia Hills, on July 27, 2013. Cavaleri

spent two years in the U.S. Army before embarking upon a 50-year career in real estate and mortgage banking. He was executive vice president at Jackson Company, president at SouthTrust Mortgage Corp., and vice president at B.F. Saul Company in Bethesda, Md. He finished his career as vice president at Byars and Company. Cavaleri had many professional and community affiliations, and was a member of All Saints' Episcopal Church. He is survived by his wife, two daughters, and three grandchildren. Both of his parents were BSC alumni.

'56

Frances Dinsmore McLaughlin

of Birmingham, on Dec. 4, 2013. McLaughlin was a magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa graduate of BSC. She worked as a librarian at Birmingham-Southern, UAB, and the Baptist Hospital School of Nursing for a number of years. McLaughlin was a member of Ensley Highlands Presbyterian Church (now Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian). Among her many interests were gardening, needlework, reading, bridge, and enjoying loving relationships with family, friends, and neighbors. McLaughlin was 101 years old. She is survived by a daughter and several grandchildren, greatgrandchildren, and great-greatgrandchildren.

58

Mary Ann "Sam" Braden Whisner of Verbena, on Dec. 3, 2013. She realized her love for world travel during her husband's Air Force career, living in South America and Europe. Always active, Whisner was elected to the boards of the Maxwell-Gunter Credit Union and Chilton County Bank. She was president of the German-American Women's Club while living in Stuttgart; while in former Yugoslavia, she served as community liaison officer for the

U.S. Embassy. After retiring to Verbena, Whisner ran the antiques and curiosities shop Bits and Bobs and devoted her energy to various civic activities as well as supporting various functions in the Chilton-Clanton Public Library. She and her husband continued to travel abroad in retirement.

'59

James Arthur "Jim" Raines of Lynchburg, Va., on Feb. 1, 2013. He served in the U.S. Air Force as a medic during the Korean War. After graduating from BSC, Raines began a career with the YMCA, which took him to Montgomery; Albany, Ga.; San Francisco; New York City; Birmingham; and finally Lynchburg, Va. He retired in 1996, but continued to consult at YMCAs throughout the country. Raines

was a civic leader who was very

involved in his community. He

was an active member of Peakland United Methodist Church and loved playing golf. The endeavor of which he was most proud was being the promoter, chief roadie, and booking agent for his family singing group, The Rainedrops. Raines and his wife, **Shirlee Dover Raines '59**, were married students at BSC. "'Southern was a fantastic experience for us," she said. "We cherished our years there."

Frederick Jackson "Jack" Zylman

III of Birmingham, on Nov. 13, 2013. Zylman was a Unitarian minister and a liberal activist against racism, war, and poverty. After graduating from BSC, he attended the Meadville Lombard Theological School at the University of Chicago. He devoted his life to making the world a more just place and worked tirelessly for the civil rights movement and causes he

believed in. In 2010, he won the Fannie Lou Hamer Human Rights Award from the Southern Human Rights Organizers Conference. Survivors include a wife and daughter.

'61

Phyllis Pugh Szabo of Tuscaloosa, on July 5, 2013. Szabo taught kindergarten, first, and second grades in Birmingham, Jefferson County, and Tuscaloosa County. She also taught piano and organ for several years. She and her late husband, Michael W. Szabo '61, loved to sing and go camping. Her sister, Luvenia Pugh Butler of Bessemer, who attended BSC in 1961 and 1962, remarked "Phyllis said the happiest days she ever had were at Birmingham-Southern; it was certainly one of the best decisions I ever made."

In Memoriam '63



E. Frank Schmidt of Sterrett, Ala., a longtime bank executive, passed away on Jan. 17, 2014.

Schmidt joined SouthTrust Bank one year after his BSC graduation. He began work in the audit department and quickly moved into the bank's manager training program. He was head of all of SouthTrust's Mobile branches before returning to Birmingham in 1994 to become executive vice president of Alabama operations—a position that placed him over all branches in the state

In 1999, Schmidt became president of the market bank division. He was SouthTrust's lead executive in overseeing the

bank's merger with Wachovia in 2004.

He was a BSC trustee from 1987-99 and was a generous supporter of the college. He had also served in several organizations and community groups, including the Birmingham Regional Chamber of Commerce, Dean's Community Advisory Committee of the UAB School of Optometry, and Birmingham Rotary Club.

Schmidt received his bachelor's degree in history and political science. In addition, he was a graduate of the University of Oklahoma's School of Commercial Lending and Rutger's Stonier Graduate School of Banking.

Survivors include his wife, Carolyn. Schmidt was also one of the men who established the Mobile Area Scholarship at BSC. The scholarship was established by business, civic, and church leaders in the Mobile area who are friends of the college and in recognition of BSC's commitment to quality education.

'62

Dr. Rachel Clarke Mathes

of Birmingham, on Oct. 25, 2013. While studying under BSC Professor Andrew Gainey, Mathes earned a Fulbright for graduate study to the Academy for Music and Performing Arts in Vienna, Austria, which kicked off her operatic career. After she won the Baltimore Opera Vocal Competition, she began performing abroad in many large theatre houses of Europe. Her American debut was made in Pittsburgh, followed by the Metropolitan Opera and New York City Opera. In 1977, Mathes returned to Birmingham to begin her teaching career in voice at BSC and then UAB, later founding UAB Opera; she also continued to perform. Her students were winners and finalists in numerous music competitions. Mathes received two Obelisk Awards and was honored by the Alabama Music Hall of Fame. She earned her DMA degree at the University of South Carolina in Columbia, and retired from teaching and performing in 2009.

'63

Bruce Hulberg of Hoover, on Nov. 12, 2013. Hulberg was a dedicated teacher for more than 30 years in the Shelby County School System. Survivors include his wife and two children.

64

James Christie "Chris" Conway

of Lincoln, on Feb. 3, 2014.
Conway was a journalist with the Birmingham Post-Herald during Birmingham's civil rights movement. He later worked in public relations for Alabama Power Co. and was a leader of state and regional PR organizations. Conway sang in the choir and served on the vestry at St. Simon Peter Episcopal Church. He was a talented painter and woodworker. He is survived by his wife, Karla Shackleford Conway '88 (MPPM grad).

'66

Rita Watkins Peterson of Athens, on Dec. 12, 2012. Peterson did a superb job on everything she touched, from cooking to drama, theater directing, sewing, and garden work. She was an avid reader and always had a kind word for everyone who came across her path. For 48 years, Peterson opened her home to people who were homeless or who needed help or support of any other kind. She is survived by her husband, Don Peterson '62, two children, and five grandchildren.

'69

Lawrence Wade Black Jr. of Birmingham, on Feb. 2, 2014. Black worked ceaselessly for

human rights. For the past eight vears, he had served as executive director of the Birmingham Pledge Foundation, and for the past year as co-chair of the Birmingham Metro Diversity Coalition. He had many careers over his lifetime, including teaching filmmaking, for which he won many awards. Black was remarkable for his huge intellect, his voracious appetite, and capacity for learning. He earned a master's and almost completed a Ph.D. in English from Florida State University. Among survivors are his mother, Auguste Richerzhagen Black '43 of Huntsville, and a son.

Larry Joeseph Lamon of

Birmingham, on June 24, 2013. Lamon retired as supervisor of systems development from Southern Natural Gas with 20 years of service. He was a member of St. John's United Methodist Church, where he previously worked with their youth program. His wife, Sharon, is among survivors.

Friend

Cooper "Bud" Dixon Spivey of Columbiana, on Oct. 11, 2013 (see artists feature on page 33).

The Reel BSC

BSC archivist Dr. Guy Hubbs recently uncovered this amazing vintage newsreel about the college from 1938! The film, which is about six minutes long, can be viewed here: www.bsc.edu/goto/newsreel. During the pretelevision era, newsreels would be shown in neighborhood movie theatres before the main attraction. This short (and soundless) clip, produced by a student club, includes the 1938 BSC Concert Choir, Professor of English Dr. James Saxon Childers and other former faculty, and other nuggets of campus life, including the annual May Day celebration—a major campus event of that time. Originally shot in color, but now very faded, this is BSC's oldest known film footage. Happy viewing!





BIRMINGHAM-SOUTHERN COLLEGE

HOMECOMING/REUNION

October 3-4, 2014

SAVE-THE-DATE

Mark your calendar—Oct. 3-4, 2014, is Alumni Weekend as well as Homecoming and Family Day! We had record-breaking attendance in 2013, so make plans to attend the festivities this fall. The weekend will honor class years ending in "4" and "9" and include the 50th Class Celebration for the Class of 1964, Alumni Awards Luncheon, Honor Class Tailgating, and Young Alumni Fifth Quarter Party. If you'd like to serve on an Honor Class Committee, please contact Claire DeBow, assistant director of alumni affairs, at cdebow@bsc.edu or (205) 226-7738.





Got good news?

We want to hear it! BSC takes great pride in the achievements and success of our alumni. Whether you've had career changes and promotions, family additions, business and community recognitions, interesting travels, awards, reunions with classmates, marriages—or anything in between—submit a Class Note through the college's online alumni community at www.alumni.bsc.edu.

A few of my favorite things

BY DR. MARK SCHANTZ, BSC PROVOST

When I was asked to write about the role of the arts at BSC, my mind returned time and again to a few of my favorite things. (It's your own choice as to whether you're hearing Julie Andrews or John Coltrane right now.) Below is a pointillist rendering



Schantz chatting with BSC students

of stuff that I like about the fine and performing arts—here at the college and beyond.

The arts tell us who we are. Imagine how little we would understand about the ancient Egyptians, the Greeks, or the Romans without the artifacts they left behind. As an historian myself, I know that the arts tether us to the past even as they challenge us to think in unfettered ways about the future.

The imagination required to produce works of art, to write and perform music, or to write and stage a play is the foundation of a liberal arts education. Without imagination, it's difficult to conceive of advances in any other field—the humanities, the social sciences, or in any of the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) fields. Einstein allegedly said something once about the capacity to imagine as being more important than possessing knowledge. If he didn't, I wish he had.

The creativity required for artistic endeavor improves our lives. Practicing the arts requires skills—discipline, the ability to take criticism from others, the capacity to develop sustained reflection on a single project or piece—that allow us to succeed in other walks of life.

Art critiques us, our values, and our ethical choices. It asks us to be better selves than the ones we are now. As only one example, think of BSC's own Steve Cole and his "Hate Project" installation this past fall. Or of Jim Neel's "Babel" project. Or of the ways that Michael Flowers, Dr. Alan Litsey, and Matthew Mielke in our Theatre Department unfailingly find a way to make our productions speak to us about important social issues. Think about "The Laramie Project," or "ReEntry," or the production of "Jesus Christ Superstar" and you'll know what I mean.

There is also sheer bliss. Recall the Music Department's annual "Lessons and Carols" service and the greater realities to which it draws us. As I write this today, I'm listening to a recording of the heart-rending Chaconne from Bach's Violin Partita in D minor. I've experienced yet again the way that Jascha Heifetz puts the bow to the strings of the very first phrase of that performance in a way that makes the

hair on the back of my neck stand up. I'm about to walk over to hear a faculty voice recital from BSC music faculty member Dr. Jeff Kensmoe, whose own joy in performance is an inspiration. Neurological research now charts the impact of music on the human brain, but anyone who has been so deeply moved by a musical performance that they've forgotten what time it is instinctively understands this point.

As we flit at light speed from one new medium of technology to another, the value of the arts will become, I expect, even more pronounced. Helping us make sense of the world around us is part of what art does. If you happened to see Kevin Shook's recent art opening "Simulacramedia," you might have glimpsed the connections (and the distance) between his works and the miniature woodcuts and engravings from past centuries. But now, let's look again through the lens of smart phones and computer screens. In art, the old greets the new and the new trades on the old.

And there are, of course, the many and beautiful artistic renderings produced by our students: The Concert Choir touring the Washington, D.C., area this spring, the most recent BFA student art opening, and the extraordinary quality of last year's campus literary magazine, The Quad, are constant and consistent reminders of the many ways in which our students make art, and of the ways that art makes them.

These are a few of my favorite things. I hope you have your own.

Editor's Note: Dr. Mark Schantz has been BSC's provost since 2009. He recently announced that he will return to the classroom, where his heart is, after a sabbatical in the next school year. The college has launched a search for a new provost.



Parting shot

By day, Melinda McEachern Mathews '65 is a successful estate planning lawyer at Sirote & Permutt PC in Birmingham, and in her free time, she enjoys crafting her unique miniature pottery. Mathews, who graduated from BSC with a degree in English, paints in both acrylics and watercolors. Selections of her work are exhibited at the Artists Incorporated art gallery in Vestavia Hills, and she has hosted exhibitions both locally and regionally. Check out a portfolio of her work at http://melindamathews.com.





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