



MARYVILLE

M A G A Z I N E

SPRING 2018



MARY ELLEN FINCH:

A LEGEND RETIRES AFTER 44 YEARS

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ON THE COVER

Mary Ellen Finch, PhD, is retiring after 44 years as a consummate teacher, mentor and cheerleader for countless faculty and students.
photo by *Jerry Naunheim*



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Maryville University is a private, independent institution offering 90+ degrees at the undergraduate, master's and doctoral levels. Maryville has forged its outstanding reputation based on academic excellence, individualized student attention and alumni success.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

This issue of Maryville Magazine illustrates important milestones for Maryville University. Our enrollment, which now stands at 8,000 for the first time in our history, will continue to expand thanks to our ambitious national ad campaign featuring a bold, new message aimed at working adults who strive to complete their degrees and re-invigorate their careers—"Let's be Brave Together." We are bringing our innovative Maryville education to the US and we will help transform the lives of thousands of adult learners in the months and years to come.

The stories in these pages also showcase our graduates, who are in high demand among regional and national employers and who also strive to make a difference in their communities.

Maryville's faculty continue to lead a revolution in personalized learning through our Digital World initiative, and you will read about several of these amazing pioneers in this issue.

We also salute and honor those who are retiring this year. These remarkable people in particular helped shape and build the Maryville of today: Nurse Pam Culliton, MSN, ARNP; Pam Horowitz, PhD, acting dean of the Simon School of Business; Music Therapy Director Cynthia Briggs, PsyD; nursing faculty member Linda Schultz, PhD, CRRN-A; Vice President for Institutional Advancement Tom Eschen; and of course—a Maryville treasure—Dr. Mary Ellen Finch, vice president for academic affairs.

Mary Ellen has given her heart and soul to Maryville University over 44 amazing years and done so with such enthusiasm, grace, humor, consistency and passion that she leaves a legacy of achievement and wonder perhaps never to be equaled.

On a personal note, working with her has been one of the great and rewarding joys of my career. We have challenged each other, learned from each other and supported each other through every conceivable issue and obstacle. Above all, Mary Ellen—more than anyone else—has helped recast and reshape Maryville as an educational institution. I have said, and will continue to say, that Mary Ellen is an Active Learning Ecosystem all by herself. The Maryville family will continue to honor and salute her many achievements.

Please take the time to say thank you to Mary Ellen and all of the incredible people who are saying goodbye this year. As Maryville continues to lead a revolution in higher education we thank all of you for your support and good counsel.

Warmest wishes,

Mark Lombardi

Mark Lombardi, PhD

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Focused on the difference one person can make, junior Josh Parrish weaves volunteer opportunities into his campus life and academic breaks.



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With confidence and dreams, some of Maryville's newest alumni look ahead to their personal and professional lives beyond graduation.



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A relentless advocate for Maryville's faculty and students over the past 44 years, Mary Ellen Finch bestows a remarkable legacy of teaching and learning excellence.

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This game board illustrates how communication program students compete for points and prizes each academic semester, building competitive portfolios and resumes along the way.

34 Q+A | Tom Eschen

After a successful decade of raising funds to help expand Maryville's facilities, programs and community presence, Tom Eschen, vice president for institutional advancement, retires.



LEADERSHIP TEAM: Over the past decade, Mary Ellen Finch, PhD, retiring vice president for academic affairs, and President Mark Lombardi, PhD, have worked together to transform Maryville University into a nationally ranked institution of higher learning.



NATIONAL AD CAMPAIGN LAUNCHES WITH MESSAGE OF BRAVERY

It isn't easy. In fact, it takes courage and resolve to return to college as an adult to achieve personal and professional goals. Research shows more than 30 million people across the country, ages 25 to 40, already have some college and many want to complete degrees they started three, five, or even 10 years ago. Maryville University's national TV and radio ad campaign for its online programs, which debuted in January, sends an important message to these adults: "Let's Be Brave Together."

The television ads are running on myriad cable channels across the country and aired on the NBC affiliate in St. Louis during the 2018 Winter Olympics broadcasts. Radio ads are featured on a combination of terrestrial, satellite and internet stations.

By all accounts, investing in higher education is still the best decision individuals can make for career advancement. To emphasize the value of degree completion and make college more accessible nationwide, Maryville partnered with Pearson to launch the advertising campaign for Maryville online programs. The theme, "Let's Be Brave Together," engages audiences to trust their own determination and Maryville's long history of bucking the norms of higher education to better serve its students.

Maryville was founded in 1872 by fearless, pioneering women as the first school for girls west of the Mississippi. Out of these roots grew a college for women in the 1900s, at a time when women were discour-

THE THEME, "LET'S BE BRAVE TOGETHER," ENGAGES AUDIENCES TO TRUST THEIR OWN DETERMINATION AND MARYVILLE'S LONG HISTORY OF BUCKING THE NORMS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

aged from pursuing higher education. The college relocated from its longtime campus in St. Louis city to west St. Louis County—where the potential for growth was exciting—and admitted male students in the 1970s, a departure from an all-women tradition to serve the entire St. Louis community. And it seems adult education is in Maryville's DNA: The University was one of the first local institutions to offer weekend and evening academic programs to meet the needs of working adults.

Today, Maryville University continues to bravely innovate, in large part by revolutionizing the educational experience for online students. The focus is on excellence in course content and delivery—and providing ample academic support and technology services to guide students every step of the way.

This fall, 10 high-growth undergraduate programs will be added to existing academic programs through Maryville Online. Courses are developed by an in-house team of instructional designers who use state-of-the-art technology tools and work closely with faculty to ensure every course is effective and dynamic—and that students and faculty keep connected throughout the learning process.

Let's Be Brave Together: that's been the Maryville promise since its founding in 1872. **M**



Program to Address Cyber Security Job Shortage

A new Maryville University program funded through a \$132,595 grant from the Monsanto Fund, "Cyber Ready St. Louis," serves students and educators in the St. Louis County school districts of Jennings and Ritenour.

Starting salaries for cyber security jobs are expected to approach \$90,000. Despite such promising figures, not enough American workers are preparing for careers in cyber security. The gap could be closed if more underrepresented workers were trained in the field; less than 14 percent of the workforce in the STEM fields—science, technology, engineering and math—are minorities.

Jennings and Ritenour are diverse, high poverty school districts. Eighty students and their teachers will participate in the program. As part of the program, they will visit Maryville's state-of-the art Cyber Fusion Center to spark interest in

the field and develop skills. Once complete, tested, and revised, the curriculum will be made available free online so many more students may benefit.

"The districts will each receive tens of thousands of dollars in computing and technology equipment to be used in this curriculum, which also provides an immediate benefit to the students this grant serves," says Rebecca Dohrman, PhD, associate professor of communication. Dohrman is co-principal of the program, along with Paul Gross, assistant professor of cyber security and information systems. Steve Coxon, PhD, associate professor and executive director of Maryville's Center for Access and Achievement, leads the program. Coxon is a former teacher in high-poverty public schools and has extensive experience with STEM programs. **M**

Starting salaries for cyber security jobs are expected to approach \$90,000.



FISTER NAMED VP FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Cherie Fister, MFA, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, will serve as vice president for academic affairs, beginning June 1.

She replaces Mary Ellen Finch, PhD, who has announced her retirement. “I can think of no better person to lead Maryville as vice president for academic affairs than Cherie Fister,” says Finch. “She is thoughtful and wise and a true supporter of our Strategic Plan, especially our beliefs in active student learning and innovation. Her belief in our faculty and their ability and willingness to learn, grow and change as Maryville also grows and changes is strong and palpable.”

Fister, a professor of graphic design and AIGA Fellow, joined Maryville in 1995. Prior to serving as dean, she built and directed the graphic and interactive design programs. Fister earned her bachelor’s at Northeast Missouri State and her MFA at Southern Illinois University.

“It’s an exhilarating time at Maryville—so much passion for teaching and learning and creativity and access,” Fister says. “I believe in Maryville and the tremendous community that embodies the commitment first demonstrated by the brave women who began the institution. I am honored by the challenge to support the students and faculty as we learn together.” **M**

FACULTY / **STAFF NEWS**



NINA CALDWELL, EDD, vice president for student life, has been recognized as a Distinguished Leader in the 2017 Delux 100 Power Awards, presented by *Delux* magazine, for exemplary leadership in the St. Louis community and extraordinary professional achievements.

MATT RAITHEL, instructor of game design, moderated a panel on starting and maintaining an indie game development business at the 2017 XPO Game Festival for gamers, fans, developers and game industry leaders.



CHARLES J. GULAS, PHD, dean of the Walker College of Health Professions, has been selected by the Associated Schools of Allied Health Professions (ASAHP) Board of Directors as an ASAHP Fellow for his leadership and significant contributions to allied health.

STACY HOLLINS, PHD, associate professor of information systems, has received a 2017 Delux Power 100 Award, presented by *Delux* magazine, as one of the St. Louis region’s most inspiring and influential African American professionals.



CAREN SCHLOSSBERG-WOOD, graphic design instructor, had a series of typographic collages featured in *The Professional Practice of Illustration and Design*, an exhibit at Anderson University featuring works by design education professionals.

MICHAEL KIENER, PHD, director of the rehabilitation counseling program and professor of rehabilitation counseling, has been elected to a three-year term on the Missouri board for the Association of People Supporting Employment First.



JENNIFER HENRY, LPC, director of personal counseling, has received the Founder’s Award, presented by the Missouri Eating Disorders Association. The Founders Award recognizes those making a difference in the community through education and awareness of eating disorders.

TURAN MULLINS, assistant dean for diversity and inclusion, has been named a 2018 Young Leader by the St. Louis American Foundation.

Accessibility +
Affordability =
Opportunity

MARYVILLE ANNOUNCES 2018-19 TUITION FREEZE FOR ALL
UNDERGRADUATE AND MOST GRADUATE PROGRAMS

To create greater access to higher education and extend significant cost savings to students and their families, Maryville University has announced a tuition freeze for all undergraduate and most graduate programs for the 2018-2019 academic year.

While many universities locally and across the country have announced tuition increases ranging from 3 to 10 percent, Maryville’s unprecedented enrollment growth and financial vitality allow the University to fully operate—and continue to innovate—at current tuition levels.

“By every measure, earning a degree is the single best investment individuals can make in their future success,” says President Mark Lombardi, PhD. “Maryville has announced a tuition freeze for the 2018-2019 academic year in direct response to the rising cost of higher education. We want to ensure deserving students have the opportunity to achieve their academic and career goals.”

Full-time, undergraduate tuition at Maryville is currently \$26,070. As part of the University’s One Fee program, students pay a single annual fee of \$2,400. The One Fee program includes all course materials, books and technology a student may access. Graduate and online student fees, which vary by program and platform, will also remain at current rates.

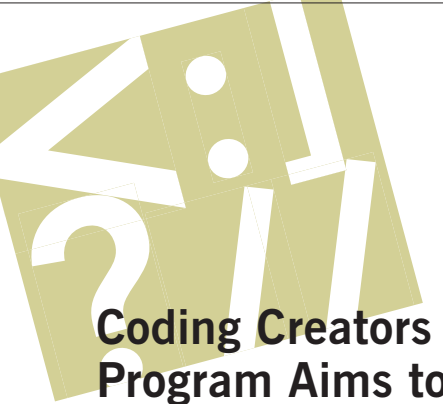
“Maryville has developed a revolutionary new vision for higher education, one that empowers students to pursue an individualized path to learning and success,” Lombardi says. “Students embrace this revolution because it is a much greater reflection of who they are and their

reality. It’s one of the reasons our enrollment sets new records every year and why our retention rate is so high.”

Maryville has been recognized as one of the top three fastest-growing private universities in the nation by the *Chronicle of Higher Education*. Over the past decade, Maryville’s enrollment has doubled, five academic programs have been nationally ranked, and 97 percent of graduates have a job or are enrolled in advanced education programs within six months of graduation. In addition, the University continues to develop key partnerships with strategic corporate entities such as Apple, Salesforce and Pearson to strengthen curriculum and enhance learning experiences.

Strategic fiscal management has also allowed Maryville to invest in a wide range of valuable academic resources and initiatives:

- The Cyber Fusion Center, a state-of-the-art space where students work with more than 150 non-profit client organizations nationally to help ensure data protection
- The second phase of Saints Hall—Maryville’s newest residence hall—which is set to open in Fall 2018
- New technology-rich learning spaces across campus that emphasize Maryville’s focus on personalized and collaborative learning
- Continued investment in faculty hiring and ongoing, paid professional development for faculty
- The hiring of additional life coaches to ensure a holistic approach to helping students achieve personal, academic and career success. **M**



Coding Creators Program Aims to Attract Students to STEM Fields

Students in middle school can't be expected to know where their career paths will lead. But for jobs in computer-oriented fields, if teens don't receive basic preparation in science and mathematics, they may find it tough to catch up.

With a \$125,000 grant from Boeing, Maryville University will work with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater St. Louis to engage middle school students in coding through a new program called Coding Creators.

With eight-week courses in robotics and app development plus a web-coding program in the summer, at least 240 students and club staff members will participate in the Coding Creators project, designed to point the way toward in-demand future jobs. The program will also provide 144 computers and 48 robotics sets for permanent use by the clubs.

"Coding is the language of the future. By engaging kids with real-world projects such as making apps they can use on their own phones, we are not only teaching vital skills, but creating a life-long love of coding," says Steve Coxon, PhD, associate professor of education and executive director of Maryville's Center for Access and Achievement. Coxon will direct the Coding Creators project. **M**

Tech Bar Students Deliver Computers to Boys' & Girls' Club

Students working with the Cyber Fusion Center's Tech Bar delivered 24 refurbished computers to Mathews-Dickey Boys' & Girls' Club this spring.

In a tactical effort to bridge the academic achievement gap and the digital divide, Mathews-Dickey is expanding its information technology offerings and will expose youth to coding, cyber technology and data science. The computer donation will assist in that effort.

"Maryville is committed to serving as a community resource in the area of access to technology," says Stacy Hollins, PhD, associate professor of information systems. "Through the Tech Bar, our students provide services to nonprofit organizations and individuals who have limited or no access to technology hardware, software and training needs."

As part of the Cyber Fusion Center, Maryville students also work with more than 150 nonprofit agencies in the U.S. and abroad to provide cost-free information security services. **M**

photo by *Jerry Naunheim*



RICK STEVES TALKS TRAVEL: As part of the St. Louis Speakers Series, travel guru Rick Steves came to St. Louis—and visited campus to speak with students, faculty and staff about his travel philosophy. He advocates independent travel and exploring beyond the typical tourist locations to encounter local residents and learn more about life in European cities and countries.



NEW RESOURCE FOR STUDENT VETERANS

Thomas Wolff, '14, recently returned to the Maryville community as a veteran service specialist for students. Previously, he worked at MERS/Goodwill as the organization's veteran service coordinator.

"I have been working with veterans since I graduated in 2014 from Maryville's rehabilitation counseling program, but to be able to come back and work with veterans has been amazing," he says.

Wolff processes Department of Veteran Affairs educational benefits for students.

"I am also the point of contact for all students utilizing education benefits through the Department of Veterans Affairs, meaning I help those students with anything they need," says Wolff. "That could be helping students line up tutoring services or helping with issues happening outside of campus. I am very determined to be more involved with student veterans on campus and those enrolled in online programs." **M**



LOUIE GOES INTERNATIONAL: While traveling with Sean Ragan, associate director of international admissions, Louie visits with students from Ly Tu Trong High School in Nha Trang, Vietnam. Along with Vietnam, Sean and Louie met this spring with prospective international students in India, Hong Kong, Kazakhstan, China and Kenya.

STORY COLLIDER:

Kyra Krakos, PhD, professor of biology, participated in a spring Story Collider event hosted by St. Louis Public Radio. The evening featured five local scientists who shared stories about how science makes a difference and how it changes people on a personal level.



NEW DEAN TO LEAD SIMON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Doris Shaw, PhD, will join Maryville University as dean of the John E. Simon School of Business, beginning in June. She comes to Maryville from the Haile/U.S. Bank College of Business at Northern Kentucky University (NKU) where she is professor of marketing and chair of the departments of marketing, sport business and construction management. She has also led NKU's economics program.

"I am thrilled to join the Maryville leadership team to lead the Simon School of Business," says Shaw. "The University's student-centered focus and innovative culture provide an ideal environment for me to build on existing partnerships, invigorate program offerings and prepare future business leaders."

Prior to moving into higher education, Shaw worked for more than 15 years as a business marketer at AT&T and IBM Corporation.

As a Fellow with the prestigious American Council on Education (ACE) Fellows program in 2016-17, she spent a year in the Office of the President at San Jose State University, where she worked with colleagues in the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion to develop policies and programs to support faculty diversity initiatives and close the achievement gap for diverse students.

Shaw earned her PhD in business marketing at Kent State University, an MBA in business management at Baldwin-Wallace College and a BBA in operations analysis at the University of Toledo. **M** photo by *Richard Nichols*



photo by Travis Lufsey

NEW LIBRARY LEADERSHIP

After 30 years away, Sandra Harris returned to her hometown of St. Louis last fall to serve as Maryville’s University Library director. Most recently, she worked as executive director of Desert Caballeros Western Museum in Arizona.

The most significant questions facing libraries today, Harris says, are how to manage physical and digital resources and how space can be designed to encourage new ways of learning. Maryville’s library already offers a variety of flexible spaces for student groups to meet and the technology tools they need to collaborate, but there’s room to grow, she says.

“We want to keep creating spaces where people can collaborate and make connections,” she says.

Harris graduated from Washington University with an undergraduate degree in psychology and sociology with a Spanish minor. She is also a graduate of the museum studies program at Arizona State University and has worked in several museums across the country. **M**

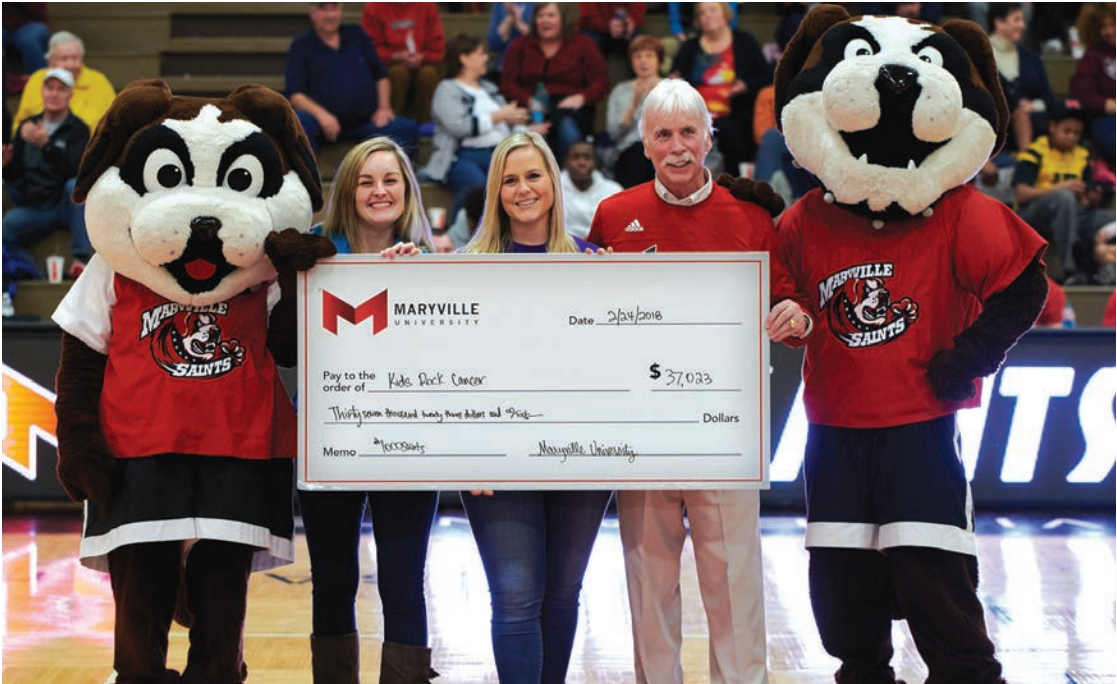


photo by Dan Donovan

#1000SAINTS SURPASSES GOAL: Maryville University’s fifth annual #1000Saints basketball night at Moloney Arena raised more than \$37,000 for Kids Rock Cancer, far surpassing a fundraising goal of \$20,000. The event rallies the Maryville community in support of the men’s and women’s basketball teams, while also raising funds for Kids Rock Cancer. The annual tradition calls for 1,000 fans—students, alumni, faculty, staff and friends—to pack Moloney Arena, home of Saints basketball, for a double-header. Nearly 1,400 fans were in attendance this year. Funds raised will bring the healing power of music to kids with cancer and other blood disorders and their families.



MUSIC THERAPY PROGRAM WELCOMES NEW DIRECTOR

Laura Beer, PhD, MT-BC, will serve as director of the music therapy program, beginning in June. She comes to Maryville from Marylhurst University in Marylhurst, Oregon, where she has served as an associate professor and director of the music therapy program as well as chair of counseling and creative therapies.

Previously, Beer served as coordinator of music therapy at Lesley University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and also taught and coordinated the internship program at Naropa University in Boulder, Colorado.

She has extensive clinical experience in a wide range of settings and is the incoming editor-in-chief (assuming the full role in 2019) for *Music Therapy Perspectives*, a national music therapy journal. Her primary research interests center on multicultural issues in music therapy education as well as arts-based methodologies.

Beer received her doctorate from the University of Northern Colorado, her MA from New York University and her bachelor’s from Smith College. **M**

IMAGINE PEACE

EXHIBIT CHALLENGES VIEWERS TO TAKE ACTION

By Janet Edwards

On an average day, 96 Americans are killed with guns. When a gun is present in a domestic violence situation, the risk that the woman will be killed is increased fivefold. And the firearm homicide rate is 20 times higher in the U.S. than the total combined rates of 22 peer countries.

A powerful traveling exhibit curated by metalsmith artist Boris Bally, *I.M.A.G.I.N.E. Peace Now*, inspires reflection and discussion on the pressing issue of gun violence in America. This spring, Maryville partnered with Craft Alliance Center of Art and Design to present the exhibit.

Brought to St. Louis with the help of Michael Staenberg, a longtime collector of Bally’s artistry, and other generous supporters, the exhibition features work by 75 metalsmith artists who crafted sculptures using decommissioned firearms collected during community buy-back programs. The guns were of various types, sizes and age—some handed down through families for over a century or more, says the curator.

The Innovative Merger of Art & Guns to Inspire New Expressions, or *I.M.A.G.I.N.E. Peace Now*, exhibition, brings the highly diverse work of these contemporary metal artists into the national discussion.



photo by Jerry Naunheim

“This country is so polarized, ... and the role of artists is to inspire. We offer a gray zone, a chance to turn a potentially negative conversation into a positive one,” says Bally.

The collection was divided between Maryville’s Morton J. May Foundation Gallery and the Craft Alliance gallery in University City, Missouri. John Baltrushunas, MFA, associate professor and

director of the May gallery, says the exhibit is important because it allows people to view firearms through a different lens.

“Looking at ordinary things in a gallery transforms them,” he says. “The public context is stripped away so it’s not the same thing as viewing, in this case, a gun in someone’s holster. The shock of an artistic visual can stimulate thought, reflection and reassessment.”

Bally wants viewers to look beyond just appreciating the art; he wants people to respond with action. “Creating a ripple to spark some other project or activism—that’s the hope. This doesn’t have to begin and end here,” he says.

He had other inspirations, as well.

“I wanted to show my kids you need to get out and change the world,” he says.

A Swiss-trained studio metalsmith, Bally has shown work in numerous exhibitions. In 1996, he became affiliated with Pittsburgh’s Antiviolence Coalition

Gun Buy-Back Program and began dismantling their weapons for use in political art. His national exhibition, *Artists of a Different Caliber*, opened a year later. *I.M.A.G.I.N.E. Peace Now* was inspired by that earlier work.

A dinner discussion with fellow metalsmiths prompted the idea for Bally’s latest exhibition. The group had lamented the sustained relevance of his previous show, and then the conversation took on a sense of urgency, he recalls.

“We work in metal, so it’s our people who make these scary things,” Bally says. “And we thought, ‘Can’t we be the ones to transform them?’”

In conjunction with the exhibit, a panel discussion, “A Conversation Towards Peace,” was held on Maryville’s campus following the opening reception. Panelists included Bally, along with local experts in psychology and criminology, including Geriann Brandt, a former policewoman and director of Maryville’s criminal justice program. **M**



MESSAGE FOR PEACE: One of the 75 works of art shown in the *I.M.A.G.I.N.E. Peace Now* exhibit brought to St. Louis by Maryville University and Craft Alliance Center of Art and Design, “Peace Pipe” by artist Nancy Fouts, was created using a decommissioned gun, wood, feathers, leather and beads. photo by Dominic Lee

Josh Parrish spent spring break where other college students tend to congregate—in balmy Florida. But unlike students relaxing on the white, sandy beaches along the Gulf of Mexico, Parrish was pounding nails into two-by-fours.

As part of Maryville University’s annual alternative spring break trip, Parrish and 13 other students spent four days building a house for Habitat for Humanity in Pensacola. This marked the third

Step Ministries, offering his time constructing homes devastated by natural disasters in places like Oklahoma, Mississippi and South Carolina. Last summer, he did volunteer construction work on a Navajo reservation in New Mexico.

“I’ve always had a sense of wanting to help people,” says Parrish. “One Saturday of volunteering by me could change a family’s entire life. That’s unbelievable.”

On campus, the Rawlings Sport Business Management (RSBM)

toward a different college to continue playing football.

Jason Williams, EdD, director of the program, asked Parrish to attend an annual RSBM presentation on campus. Parrish agreed, but got lost after arriving at Maryville. He asked a few students nearby to point out the Auditorium, and to his surprise, they went out of their way to walk with him across campus to the building. During the short trip, the students offered glowing testimonials.

of students were accurate in their assessments that day, Parrish says.

“The people around Maryville care about me and invested in my life, and that’s how I have these amazing opportunities and jobs,” says Parrish. “I couldn’t do it without all of the support from people on campus.”

As president of the Rawlings Sport Business Management Leadership Council, Parrish is in charge of the mentoring initiative, which pairs freshman students with

sional development opportunities is second to none,” says Daniel Schmidt, RSBM program coordinator. “He has the respect from his peers and is willing to tackle any opportunity that is put in front of him. He’s a great asset to the program.”

“Maryville has given me a future and experiences I would have never gotten anywhere else,” says Parrish. “These people care, not just about me, but about every student here. They want us to be



“ONE SATURDAY OF VOLUNTEERING BY ME COULD CHANGE A FAMILY’S ENTIRE LIFE. THAT’S UNBELIEVABLE.”



LEADER IN ACTION: Josh Parrish is a natural leader both on campus and beyond. (Top) Parrish works on a Habitat for Humanity project. (Bottom) As a Maryville tour guide, Parrish answers many questions for interested students and their families.

SPRING BREAK: A BREAK FOR OTHERS

WHEN JOSH PARRISH GOES ON VACATION, HE GETS RIGHT TO WORK

BY JONG CAMBRON

straight year Parrish has participated in the service project.

“I’ve been put in a lot of fortunate situations so being able to give back to a family in need, that’s something I really wanted to do,” says Parrish, who expects to graduate next spring. “I love doing that. I look for those opportunities. I’ve been blessed to have been part of this one for three years.”

Giving back to those in need has always been an important part of Parrish’s life. In high school, he took mission trips through Next

major supports fellow students as a resident assistant in Saints Hall and leads campus tours for prospective students. He is also president of his academic program’s leadership council. But there’s more: Parrish also serves as a youth pastor at West Springs Church in Ballwin—that is, when he’s not busy with his internship at Ballpark Village in downtown St. Louis.

Long before all this student activity began, Parrish needed to explore more about Maryville before deciding to enroll. He had received an offer but was leaning

“They were telling me all these great things about Maryville, and I thought they were being fake,” says Parrish.

Following the RSBM presentation, Williams offered his pitch for the University’s program by expounding on the numerous prospects for real-job experiences.

“He said ‘Josh, we have all these jobs, internships and opportunities for you,’” says Parrish. “‘This is the place you need to be. This is the place where you’re going to make it happen.’”

Both Williams and the group

students who are further along in the program.

“I want to continue to put this program in a much better place,” says Parrish. “I’m so passionate about the students and the program. We continue to think of ways to improve it and the industry.”

Parrish created other networking opportunities when he launched a job-shadow platform with sports organizations, connecting students with their career interests.

“His willingness to help the student body grow through profes-

NOT MANY BIOLOGY STUDENTS WOULD EXPECT TO PLAY A GAME BORROWED FROM TV HOST ELLEN DEGENERES DURING CLASS. COME TO THINK OF IT, THERE PROBABLY AREN'T MANY PROFESSORS WHO WOULD ENCOURAGE IT, EITHER.

Thank goodness Stacy Donovan, PhD, isn't your typical associate professor of biology and forensic science.

"Biology can be terminology heavy, and I thought, 'How can we have a conversation if everybody doesn't even know what the terms are yet?'" Donovan explains. "I constantly try to think of creative ways—high-tech, low-tech, whatever—to get students engaged—that's the bottom line."

Employing DeGeneres's app Heads Up! certainly is one way to increase class engagement and excitement. On television, DeGeneres describes words, names and phrases that she reads on iPads held above celebrities' heads; the celebrities then frantically try to guess the secret words from DeGeneres' clues. In class, Donovan adapts the concept to biology vocabulary, watching as students use the app to find innovative ways of describing "mitosis" or "cytokinesis." Eliciting laughter and plenty of light-bulb moments, the exercise pushes students to connect more to the biology terms and to each other—and Donovan doesn't sit out.

"I'm always challenging students," Donovan says. "But they know that I'll put myself out there for these things, too. Recently, I showed them an interpretative dance as a way to learn movements that cells and tissues go through during early development to form body plans. It's important to model stepping outside of our comfort zone."

Immersing students in technology and interaction to foster learning is Donovan's passion. As an Apple Teacher who has been rec-

ognized for embracing Maryville's expansive Digital World program and helping students make the most of the iPads they receive as undergraduates, she facilitates an active learning environment through an arsenal of digital tools designed to help Maryville University students understand more about their coursework, their futures and themselves.

Donovan's unique mix of tech resources and empathy resonates

what she called 'mall shows'—setting up shop inside a mall and doing hands-on chemistry experiments for people of all ages," Donovan says. "Seeing her give back to the community and sharing her passion had a profound impact on me. It's important to inspire the next generation of scientists, especially girls. For me, this is a legacy I want to leave behind."


on campus to work in the labs, and she helped me get going with that," Hale says. "It's really changed the way I see my classes and has helped me build a good relationship with just about all of my professors."

STAYING CONNECTED

Donovan continues mentoring students after they've left Maryville. Aberer Butt, '15, who graduated with a degree in biomedical sciences, was recently invited to interview for a cancer biology program at a prestigious graduate school. Nervous about the experience, Butt texted Donovan and asked to meet as soon as possible.

"It was super late, but she still sat with me for two hours," Butt says. "She went through every person who was going to interview me, asked me questions, did a mock interview and gave me insight on how to talk. And she doesn't expect anything in return. She's happy to sit down with us even though we're not in her class anymore. Just completely selfless."

From encouraging community engagement to offering snacks during tests to working one-on-one with students, Donovan knows everything she does can help students develop confidence in their academics and in themselves.

"The things you do that you think are small? You never know how those might affect somebody," she says. "I just try to be real for the students and make each day count." 



CAREER MENTORING: Since her freshman year, Danelle Hale has worked with Stacy Donovan, PhD, associate professor, to map out her biochemistry studies and career goals.

with her students. She's particularly passionate about mentoring young women as they pursue careers in the STEM fields, and she serves as faculty adviser to the Maryville women's golf team and Empower, a student-led, feminist social justice group that aims to focus on issues across the gender spectrum. Donovan says her commitment to guiding students can be traced back to meaningful interactions with a number of educators over the years—especially a chemistry professor during college.

"She would do a lot of outreach at schools and be involved with

INSTILLING CONFIDENCE

Donovan's passion for inspiring women has meant the world for students like Danelle Hale, a senior biochemistry major who's been learning from Donovan since freshman year.

Hale says Donovan, who serves as her adviser, helped her participate in a summer research project and has walked her through how her future studies and career may take form.

"She definitely helped me become more involved in my classes. There's a work-study opportunity

POWER UP

Stacy Donovan, PhD, associate professor of biology and forensic science, helps students find their true paths

By Allison Babka

photos by Jerry Naunheim

GET FAB

MARYVILLE'S NEW FABRICATION CENTER AND 3D PRINTER BRING IDEAS TO LIFE

BY MAUREEN ZEGEL



photos by Jerry Naunheim

Big Rep One, the “Godzilla” of 3D printing, whirs softly back and forth as it creates a contemporary chair—life-size. The bright orange and steel German printer represents the newest technology in Maryville’s Design & Visual Art Program.

“The amazing thing about this machine is that where once artists created prototypes of their designs by making small models, they can now take an idea and print it to scale,” says Jonathan Fahnestock, MFA, associate professor of graphic and interactive design and director of design and visual art programs.

The Big Rep One printer is a generous gift from Mary E. Walker, RN, PhD, FAAN, a member of Maryville’s Board of Trustees.

The printer uses thermoplastic polyester derived from renewable biological sources such as corn starch and sugarcane, and layer by layer it creates the chair and other products.

NEW DIMENSIONS (left): Students in the design and visual art programs bring models to life in a big way with the help of Big Rep One, a state-of-the-art 3D printer. A recent project involved Jessica Senne, AIA, MCIDQ, assistant professor of interior design; student Laura Kreher; Jonathan Fahnestock, MFA, associate professor and director of design and visual art programs; student Megan Terry; and Brendan McFarland, manager of the new Fabrication Center (FAB).

Fahnestock and Brendan McFarland, manager of the new Fabrication Center, or FAB Center, spent last summer reconfiguring studios and learning the ins and outs of the monster of all 3D printers. Moving the painting studio to a larger space allowed the department to move Big Rep One, along with all the other fabrication and replication machinery, into one studio.

Jessica Senne, AIA, NCIDQ, assistant professor of interior design, jumped at the opportunity to incorporate the 3D printer into her classes. Senne won an Outstanding Faculty Award in 2016 for embracing technology as a teaching tool and connecting Maryville with other communities. She did just that with her pre-school chairs project.

“Last year my students identified a concept and worked on a form for an ergonomic chair for pre-school children,” says Senne. “Two

of those students came up with a conceptual derivation of an apple core with a slightly rounded bottom, sitting on its end. The benefits of the stool for children are similar to that of a large rubber ball for an adult. It works their core.”

Laura Kreher and Megan Terry, now juniors, twirled the stool around, testing its movement, perfecting their creation. A second printing of the stool is planned and there is even talk of creating a few more for a local preschool. They agree it needs sand in the bottom to better stabilize it. They talked about the research they conducted to create a small, backless stool for wiggly three- and four-year-olds.

“In addition to ergonomics, chairs and materials, we researched preschoolers—their height, energy levels and behavior—before we started creating prototypes,” says Kreher. “We also had to learn several new software

programs, including advanced 3D modeling software known as Rhinoceros, or Rhino.”

Terry considers herself “pretty lucky” to be able to work with the new printer.

“Model making is important in interior design and being able to print something life-size is definitely an advantage in visualizing information,” she says.

Senne, a registered architect, offers her students advice worth saving: “You can design anything you can dream. That’s the ubiquity of technology. It allows us to do that.”

“Given the tremendous amount of excitement this machine has created, we anticipate students in other disciplines such as sculpture, ceramics and other arts will also be using the printer,” says Fahnestock.



“The benefits of the stool for children are similar to that of a large rubber ball for an adult. It works their core.”





photos by Jerry Naunheim



MUSIC-MAKERS: For the past nine years, Maryville's music therapy program has worked with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra and St. Louis Arc to produce Creative Music Making, a collaborative project that showcases the power of music and community. After two days of workshops and rehearsals involving more than 20 students, nearly 40 St. Louis Arc clients and a dedicated group of symphony members, a concert is performed for friends and family. Students Claire Collingwood and Delaney Pinkley (bottom right) lead the group in song.

COLLABORATION BRINGS MUSIC THERAPY STUDENTS IN CONCERT WITH COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Get up everybody and SING!

BY MAUREEN ZEGEL

One love, one heart. Let's get together and feel alright.

Bob Marley's words and simple rhythm, performed by more than 50 musicians and vocalists, spoke to today's world in the ninth annual Creative Music Making concert at Maryville University in March. Dressed in matching green t-shirts, various groups sang, played music and read lyrics with a message.

We are family. I got all my sisters with me. We are family. Get up everybody and sing!

The concert is a unique partnership between Maryville's music therapy program, the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra and St. Louis Arc, a nonprofit serving adults and children with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The collaboration showcases the power of music and the strength of community, participants say.

Preparation for each concert involves two days of workshops led by 21 undergraduate music therapy students as a service-learning project. The students coordinate the collaborative work of 36 St. Louis Arc clients with six symphony members as Maryville faculty and Arc staff look on.

"We are still studying how music is processed in the brain," says Cynthia Briggs, PsyD, MT-BC, director of the music therapy program. "As adults we all need opportunities to be the center of attention, to be noticed. Performance is therapeutic, but for some of the participants in this concert, it's difficult. We usually look for music they recognize and many of them know all the words."

Maryville senior Hellen Njenga immersed herself in the two full days of rehearsals and the con-



STUDENT LEADERS: Jaime Wilhite, '17, MMT, MT-BC, (top, right) is a music therapist for St. Louis ARC and Maryville's Kids Rock Cancer program. Wilhite and Mariah Broeker, student, (middle photo, left) work alongside Maryville students, St. Louis symphony musicians and St. Louis Arc clients in the Creative Music Making program, a community collaboration. The program helps St. Louis Arc participants gain music-making skills and confidence, and it provides them with an opportunity to be recognized for their hard work. Students value the learning experience.

cert. It was her first experience working with St. Louis Arc.

"The freedom to create and the hands-on experience we get in just a few days is exciting," says Njenga. "The beauty of this experience is that these men and women help us as much as we help them."

Briggs reached out to St. Louis Arc in 2009 as a possible clinical experience for her students. At first, the organization was skeptical.

"I had no idea what music therapy could do for our participants, but once they started an ongoing music program, I was convinced," says Sharon Spurlock, director of family support at St. Louis Arc.

Music plays an important role in the lives of many of Spurlock's participants, who have varying skills and range in age from 18 to 81. One of the major benefits of the St. Louis Arc music therapy program is the professional, therapeutic approach taken by Maryville students, she says.

"Music therapy focuses on things they are interested in, not something they cannot do," says Spurlock. "Our participants develop skills like creating music, speaking in front of a group, learning to speak up for themselves. It's also an opportunity to recognize our participants with a special night and a printed program that features their photo and a bio."

Lean on me when you're not strong. And I'll be your friend. I'll help you carry on.

As one song ends, the group onstage looks to their animated director, guitar slung over her shoulder, finger pointing to the ceiling.

Jaime Wilhite, MMT, MT-BC '16, directs from the center aisle. Once a successful marketing executive, she "took the leap" and set out to get a master's degree in music therapy. She now runs her own practice, Music Therapy of St. Louis, and counts among her clients Maryville's Kids Rock Cancer program and St. Louis Arc, as well as Childgarden Early Child-

hood Center and Rainbow Village, both affiliates of St. Louis Arc. She has worked with Arc since 2015, when she first landed an internship there.

"This year's theme was togetherness, unity, feeling as one, and the songs reflected that. This is truly a community project," says Wilhite. "Our St. Louis Arc participants have different skills and strengths but are all quite comfortable with music. Maryville students lead the individuals and groups, and the symphony musicians add their expertise and professionalism. It's an incredible experience that brings tears to my eyes every time."

Imagine all the people sharing all the world.

Maureen Byrne, director of diversity and community affairs at the St. Louis Symphony, says the Creative Music Making concert is part of the Symphony Cares initiative where musicians share live music with those unable to attend concerts at Powell Hall.

She gives high praise to the Maryville students who take the lead in the three-day process—planning songs, assessing participants' skills and assigning roles, and adding the talents of six symphony musicians to the experience.

"Every partner brings their gift to this collaboration," says Byrne. "So many people are affected by this experience—musicians, students, participants, professors, administrators, the audience. I think about our musicians, especially those who started early and keep coming back, and the Maryville students who get to create this whole program in three days. And then to see the joy on the participants' faces, witness their confidence and how beautifully it's received by everyone...you can't help but smile."



GRAD STORIES

Across the next few pages, we introduce some of Maryville's newest alumni representing a spectrum of degree programs. From a teacher who wants students of color to see someone like themselves and feel empowered in her classroom, to a game designer who combines his problem-solving and graphic design skills in surprising and complex ways, to an actuary who already exceeds professional expectations, their unique stories are compelling and inspiring. To read more stories about Maryville's graduates and their future plans, visit maryville.edu/gradprofiles. ■ Maryville's 145th Commencement ceremony was held May 6. More than 1600 students comprise the Class of 2018. *photos by Jerry Naunheim*



DEISY AVELLANEDA, '18

BA – EARLY CHILDHOOD AND ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

BY JANET EDWARDS

Deisy Avellaneda, '18, was 24 years old when she transferred from a Houston college to Maryville's early childhood and elementary education program. Avellaneda arrived in St. Louis with her fiancé, her 2-year-old daughter, Isabella, and big dreams.

"There's a big learning gap for minority students in public education, and I want to help decrease that," she says. "I think they will be excited to see someone like them in their classroom."

Through student teaching, she has already seen how her presence as a Hispanic teacher can inspire diverse students.

"Seeing someone diverse in the classroom or in a place of authority validates their efforts and shows them they can become and be what they want," she says.

Having been raised in the Texas foster care system and lived in her car for two years as a

teenager, Avellaneda knows firsthand the difference a teacher can make in young lives. It was a high school language arts teacher who helped Avellaneda realize her potential, a lesson she hopes to impart to her own students.

"She taught me that I can't let my background be an obstacle—that I needed to be resilient," Avellaneda says.

In the past few months, Avellaneda completed her student teaching and certification tasks at the same time she and her now-husband, Steve Kirn, bought a house. The couple's second child, Maya, was born the week before graduation. Although the final approach to commencement was stressful, Avellaneda has a habit of turning difficult situations into positive ones.

"Juggling all that pushes me forward instead of pushing me back," she says. **"These are not obstacles, they're motivation; they're all blessings.**" I learned from my student teaching experience that when we focus on what we're doing and why—and who we're doing it for—it becomes easier." ■



YI RU, '18

MA – ACTUARIAL SCIENCE

BY JONG CAMBRON

In just four years, Yi Ru attained her bachelor's and master's in actuarial science. She also achieved the difficult goal of passing five national actuarial exams required for certification by the Society of Actuaries. That determination led to landing a full-time job even before graduation.

Ru began an internship at Reinsurance Group of America (RGA) just after her freshman year and became a full-time employee as the senior actuarial assistant in global valuation at RGA in January 2017.

Along with her academic and career success, Ru also achieved a personal goal when she tossed her name into the hat to become an officer of the Actuarial Science Club. Ru had wanted to become more involved with the club for some time but was too shy to join right away.

"I was not the person who likes to speak in front of a lot of people or present myself and

ask for votes, but I managed it and was elected as a graduate advisor," says Ru.

Serving as an officer of the club helped her improve her communication skills and gave her more confidence.

"I'm glad that I made that decision and finally became brave enough to do it," she says.

That wasn't the first time Ru made an adjustment. Ru came to St. Louis from China when she was 15 years old. She graduated from high school and then powered her way through Maryville.

"Coming to Maryville and starting college was definitely new for me, but the transition overall was very smooth," says Ru. "Maryville has great first-year support for student life and academics, so I wasn't having any trouble with this."

Ru views her job at RGA as a lifelong learning opportunity.

"I was very happy when I was given the offer after the interview," says Ru. "I feel that everything has paid off, and I need to work harder and learn more." ■

MICHAEL TREIS, '18

BFA – INTERACTIVE DESIGN / GAME DESIGN CONCENTRATION

BY JANET EDWARDS

Michael Treis, '18, has overcome a few challenges on his way to earning a BFA in interactive design—and he's looking for more.

After starting out in biomedical and computer sciences at another university, Treis switched career paths and earned an associate degree in graphic design.

"I've always loved art, design and technical challenges," he says. **"I enjoy working with design's limitations and its potential."**

Encouraged by a friend, Treis took a visitor's tour of Maryville University and was impressed by the interactive design program.

"The program is robust and in-depth, and merged my technical skills with my interest in design and software development," he says. An avid player of video games, he seized the opportunity to also study game design.

After his first year, Treis was offered an internship with Graphite Labs, a game devel-



opment company. Matt Raithel, game design instructor at Maryville, is Graphite's studio director and encouraged Treis to apply.

"It was daunting at first because I had to learn complex software and implement back-end programming," Treis says. He also created art assets for new games and explored other aspects of the industry.

"It was a good learning experience," Treis says. "Afterward, I felt much more prepared, confident and focused."

Treis hopes to work in game design, although he has his eye on mobile software development. "In game design you can do anything," he says. "What makes a game so interesting is the unexpected, so you can work on the visual style, sound, art, coding—you're always problem-solving."

Which is exactly what Treis enjoys most.

"There's nothing like being up all night and finding that one little bug, then having a game that runs," he says. ■



ALLISON FULLER

EDD – HIGHER EDUCATION LEADERSHIP
BY NANCY FOWLER

In May, Allison Fuller walked confidently across the Maryville stage to receive her doctorate in higher education leadership.

Only a decade before, doctors said she might never walk normally—or communicate fully—again.

Their dire predictions came after a routine tonsillectomy between her freshman and sophomore years of college turned into a medical emergency. Fuller was recovering in her parents’ home when she aspirated liquid into her lungs. Her father found her unconscious and called 911.

“At the hospital, they told my parents to prepare for me to die,” Fuller says. “And they put me into a medically induced coma.”

After several weeks, she was able to leave the hospital. But a lack of oxygen had caused significant brain damage.

“A neurosurgeon said the best I could hope for was a minimum-wage job,” Fuller recalls.

She entered an intensive rehab program, where she struggled to accomplish simple tasks and pay attention.

“I’d had a 4.0 in high school and college, and now I can’t watch TV and listen at the same time,” Fuller says. “It was a pretty big shakeup. I was so angry.”

But she persisted, and her young brain began to heal and form new pathways.

She went back to college. With help from a disabilities office, she graduated, then earned a master’s in secondary education. In 2015, she entered the doctoral program at Maryville. She recently joined the staff at Maryville.

As director of the Office of Disability Support and Success, Fuller’s job is helping students with disabilities. She draws on personal experience.


“I’m so glad that crazy, horrible situation happened,” Fuller says. “Without that, I wouldn’t be doing what I’m doing now.” 



photo by Dan Donovan

JASMINE SCOTT

BS – MUSIC THERAPY
BY JONG CAMBRON

Jasmine Scott’s path to graduation didn’t go according to some templated four-year plan. Rather, her journey to Commencement involved stops, delays and injury.

But she eventually discovered a career that allows Scott to use her talents to help others.

Scott first began her undergraduate studies in violin performance at a university in

Indiana. After she sustained an injury to her wrist, she returned home to Illinois to rehabilitate her torn tendon. During the break, a friend mentioned he was graduating from Maryville with a degree in music therapy, and Scott’s interest was piqued.


“I did some research, and **I fell in love with the idea that I could use music to help heal people,**” says Scott. “Music activates the brain in certain ways that words cannot.”

During her time at Maryville, Scott participated in practicums where she used music to help people with Alzheimer’s, cerebral palsy or autism.

“For someone with autism, it can be about increasing communication or social interaction,” says Scott. “It may be difficult for someone with autism to look others in the eye, or even say hello, so we can use music to assist in tackling these areas.”

Scott understood she didn’t have to follow prescribed steps in pursuing her college education.

“I realized that not everybody’s path is the same, and it’s OK if you’re going to be in school for two years longer,” says Scott. “Just don’t give up; go for what you really want to do.”

Beyond graduation, Scott—the College of Arts and Sciences Excellence in Music award winner and a nominee for induction into Alpha Eta National Honor Society—hopes to continue working in music therapy for an organization with which she interned this spring. 



MARK COHEN


BS – MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP
BY NANCY FOWLER

Maryville students learn much about the world and themselves in classrooms and labs. But Mark Cohen first realized his passion in another arena: serving on the Campus Activities Board (CAB).

As a member and then president of CAB, Cohen organized social and entertainment

The position, which he was offered after a year-long internship, involves planning concerts, movie nights, charity events and other gatherings at Ballpark Village. Cohen’s original ideas include leading a developing a team of interns which he calls the “Ballpark Village Street Team.” Cohen says, their goal is to bring awareness to Ballpark Village by using interactive and experiential tactics to connect with guests.

But Cohen’s interests extend far beyond amusement. He’s particularly drawn to the organization’s charity events. His work with Maryville’s Kids Rock Cancer, a music therapy program for children, inspires him to think of a future in the nonprofit sector.

“That’s the dream job, whether it’s working with an organization that addresses cancer or homelessness or poverty,” Cohen says. “I want to be able to raise awareness that there are more important things than our own day-to-day to struggles.” 

events for students, something he thoroughly enjoyed. The same skills he developed in these pursuits helped him land a job as marketing production coordinator with Ballpark Village of St. Louis, where he began working full time after completing his bachelor’s in management and leadership in May.

“There are a lot of moving parts to every event,” Cohen says. **“It’s rewarding to see all these people enjoying something that it took a lot of effort to put together.”**

BRANDON NAGY, '18

BA – APPLIED STATISTICS AND DATA ANALYTICS
BY NANCY FOWLER

Brandon Nagy has always liked the exacting nature of math.

“I’m a numbers guy,” Nagy said. “There’s something calming about it for me to see numbers and find mistakes and solve a problem.”

Nagy’s deep interests in finance and technology drove him to study applied statistics and data analytics. **Immediately after graduation, he began working full-time for Boeing, following a year-long internship there.**

“It’s a great company and a great opportunity,” Nagy says.

During his internship, Nagy worked as a pricing and estimating specialist, which involves coming up with prices for government customers of Boeing’s Phantom division of emerging technologies. His new pursuit is a four-and-a-half-year commitment that rotates

him through a series of different finance positions. It will take him into the familiar territory of pricing and estimating, as well as the more relationships-based realm of contracts.

“In contracts, you deal more with the customer and negotiations,” Nagy says. “You’re actually the one who does the final handshake.”

In this one-on-one position, Nagy will draw on his two years of tutoring other Maryville students.

“That experience taught me to approach different situations with a mindset of, ‘Is this high-level, or do I really need to slow down?’ I already understand it, but I want them to understand it,” Nagy says. “It gave me good judgment.”

When the Boeing rotation is completed, Nagy hopes to return to a role that makes use of his aptitude for numbers.

“My degree is more technical than financial, but I’ve always had an interest in the bigger picture: How does the business actually operate?” Nagy says. 



 Meet more Class of 2018 grads at maryville.edu/gradprofiles.



MARY ELLEN FINCH: A LIFETIME OF LEARNING

BY JANET EDWARDS



SHE'S OUTSPOKEN, YET MAINTAINS A REFRESHING LEMONADE-OUT-OF-LEMONS ATTITUDE.

FREE-SPIRITED AND GROUNDED, INTUITIVE AND VISIONARY, RADICALLY INCLUSIVE AND

A RELENTLESS VOICE FOR THE ACADEMIC SIDE OF THE INSTITUTION—THIS IS MARY ELLEN

FINCH, PHD, VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS.

.....

Mary Ellen has tried to retire three times over the past four decades but always found herself back in an academic role on account of her extraordinary leadership. She has announced her retirement at the end of this academic year and is determined to make this one stick.

It's well-deserved and not unexpected—but still.

Since 1974, she has touched the lives of thousands of students and helped prepare countless teachers to lead their own classrooms.

"Call me Mary Ellen," she says on first introductions, dismissing formalities. She is also known fondly as MEF, as the heartfelt tributes on the following pages attest.

But she's serious about the business of teaching and learning.

"I don't think there's anything more important in the world than being a teacher. Because you've got the future in your hands," she says. "When you're teaching, it's the next generation and the next generation—it's an old saw, but it's true."

I will always remember when she yelled at me to call her MARY ELLEN—NOT DR. FINCH! She has never been about titles, but about personal relationships.

Kelly Mock, EdD
Director, Academic Success
and Life Coaching

Maryville's Dr. Mary Ellen Finch Center for Teaching and Learning—providing resources and opportunities for faculty to study their own teaching more deeply—bears her visionary mark and her name.

"We needed a place where faculty could learn and could share teaching ideas. What's happened with the Center for Teaching and Learning is marvelous," she says.

Although she's retiring, Mary Ellen won't be completely untethered from her Maryville colleagues

Mary Ellen has a zest for learning that is awe-inspiring. Her photograph should be in the dictionary next to "Lifelong Learner."

Jesse Kavadlo, PhD
Professor of English/Center for Teaching
and Learning

—and she'll be in her element, serving as a part-time senior associate in the Center for Teaching and Learning.

Over the years, Mary Ellen has been recognized for her leadership in higher education, including Maryville's President's Award for Strategic Excellence in Teaching and Mentoring. She has also been named a Woman of Achievement, served as a Fellow in Leadership St. Louis, and she received the Edward C. Pomeroy Award for Outstanding Contributions to Teacher Education from the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education.

"The Faculty Are My Kids"

I'm a teacher, first and foremost. When you're a dean, the kids are still important but the faculty become your kids—they're the ones you nurture and take care of. If our faculty appreciate me, I hope they appreciate me from the standpoint that I believe in them. Their work is so hard and my role—whether as a dean or vice president of academic affairs—was to make it easier for them, to run intervention between those that

get in their way and to get them as many resources as possible.

Book Group Kismet

Mary Ellen is known for hosting small book groups for faculty and staff. She chooses the book and participants sign up to join the discussion on a first-come, first-served basis.

One thing I will be doing—and think I should be doing for the rest of my life—is leading book groups. *Tears We Cannot Stop* has been one of the most unusual experiences. The author, Michael Eric Dyson, takes out after we white liberals. There isn't a thing in the book I disagree with. It hits hard. The discussions erupted, in a positive sense. I've never seen a group so willing to share. When I announced the next book group, within 10 minutes the book was sold out, and I had a waiting list.

I will treasure the conversations we've had about leadership ... because her of genuineness, bold spirit and tell-it-like-it-is perspective.

Nina Caldwell, EdD
Vice President for Student Life

MARY ELLEN FINCH RETIRED IN 1998. SHE RETIRED IN 2000.
IN 2005 SHE TRIED TO RETIRE. IS THE FOURTH TIME THE CHARM?

Engaging Students

When I hire people, I point to Maryville’s strategic plan, which guides everything we do. And that very first theme, active learning ecosystem, that’s what it’s all about. It’s about working any way you can to engage students to think critically, to question, to dig deeper and to gather as much diverse information as possible. It’s not necessarily the use of technology, although that’s a great tool. But it’s using the best strategies you can think of, even if it’s to stand on your head—which it isn’t, obviously. Actively doesn’t mean physically active, necessarily, it means *thinking* actively. To really help students want to learn more, want to continue on—that is really hard work.

I have learned so much from MEF through her passions for teaching and learning, diversity, and her unwavering belief that we are doing the best work on behalf of our students.

Tammy Gocial, PhD
Associate Vice President
Academic Affairs



First Aha! Moment

I was teaching junior high school students and had just finished the Civil War and was going into a Reconstruction lesson. There was a fight between a black kid and a white kid in the boy’s bathroom, which was across the hall from my classroom, and good ol’ do-gooder, liberal, progressive Mary Ellen was convinced it was a race issue; it probably was not. So, I dropped everything and taught a civil rights unit, which actually turned out to be pretty

damn good. One afternoon after school, my door flew open and a father came in and chewed me up royally, called me a communist;

“WE’RE GOING TO MAKE YOU UNCOMFORTABLE.” I will miss MEF saying this at the convening of the class each year. It helps our students to understand what the college experience is all about.

Jess Bowers, PhD
Assistant Professor, English

he just eviscerated me verbally. The next day I went back to school and the principal asked me, “Why didn’t you tell me what you were doing? I could have helped you and protected you.” It never occurred to me, I just did it. I learned something about administrators—that you *can* communicate with them. And I hope I’ve helped the kids coming up through our program by telling them, “Don’t do things in isolation. It has broader implications.” And many of those students as adults tell me they remember

that unit. That’s what it’s all about. I can go to my deathbed thinking, “Well, maybe I helped those kids think more broadly about civil rights.” Those are things that make you think you’re in the right business. If you are a teacher, if you are fortunate, you have those experiences, and it just makes teaching so worthwhile.

Mary Ellen introduced me to the world of pedagogy, learning objectives, the scholarship of teaching and learning and curriculum development—she has been my mentor.

Charles J. Gulas, PT, PhD
Dean, Walker College of Health Professions

MEF and I were planning the first Tears We Cannot Stop book talk. She knew what the slang term “woke” means—not only that, but she used it in the appropriate context! At that moment, I realized MEF is pretty spectacular.

Destiny Reddick, EdD
Assistant Dean, School of Education

Sowing Seeds

When asked what accomplishment she is most proud of, MEF replied, “I have to choose one? I would prioritize and say the (Dr. Mary Ellen Finch) Center for Teaching and Learning.”

I wanted to create a Center for Teaching and Learning so badly when I was dean. We needed a place where faculty could learn and could share teaching ideas. I would like it to be five times larger. Number two would be the School of Education. I have Harriet Switzer and Claude Pritchard to thank for

that—past presidents who did not get in my way. They let me create and were supportive. They probably gritted their teeth a number of times, just like President Lombardi does.

Mary Ellen has a passion for teaching like no one else I know, and she has ensured faculty have the resources they need to further student learning and success.

Jennifer McCluskey, PhD
Vice President, Student Success

On Audacity

I had one of those special childhoods that creates confidence. I don’t remember—other than algebra—when I wasn’t encouraged or allowed to do my thing and encouraged to do it well. I was never really smacked down, except when I dated a guy my father really, really, really didn’t want me to and threatened not to send me to college if I didn’t end the relationship. But he had a convertible and I was smitten!

My favorite part of working with Mary Ellen is how she can get down to business and say exactly what needs to be said—as often as it needs to be said.

Mascheal Schappe, EdD
Dean, School of Education

Words to Etch in Stone

What would MEF tell current and future Maryville students? “Take a risk and go for the stars. Don’t be afraid, trust yourself but consult others. And always remember you are part of a larger community and your actions impact others.” Obviously, I’d love to use my platform to help students think about being civically engaged, etc., etc. but ... ah, well.



THE HEART OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS: Mary Ellen Finch, PhD, is retiring at the end of this academic year. Here, she gathers with her “posse” in the Office of Academic Affairs: (l to r) James Harf, PhD, professor of political science; Alden Craddock, PhD, associate vice president for institutional values and director of Civic Engagement and Democracy; Kimberly Allen, PhD, assistant academic vice president; Jesse Kavadlo, PhD, professor of English and director of the Finch Center for Teaching and Learning; Vicki Coppin, executive assistant and manager of special projects; Tammy Gocial, PhD, associate academic vice president; Laura Ross, associate director of the Finch Center for Teaching and Learning; and (center) Mary Ellen Finch, PhD.

A LONG LEGACY OF EDUCATION, EXCELLENCE AND UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP

1974 -1978

Assistant Professor of Education, School of Education; Area Coordinator, School of Education

1978 -1984

Associate Professor of Education



1980 -1982

Title III Administrator

1982 -1983

Acting Dean of Students

1984 -1993

Chair, Division of Education

Professor of Education

1993 -1998

Dean, School of Education

Professor of Education

RETIRED



1998 - 2000

Director, Graduate Studies

1999 - 2000

Interim Director, Physical Therapy Program

RETIRED



2004 - 2005

Interim Dean: School of Health Professions

TRIED TO RETIRE



2005 - 2006

Associate Academic Vice President

2006 - 2018

Vice President for Academic Affairs



Spirit of Maryville

AWARDS RECOGNIZE DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

Seven alumni and a local humanitarian
organization will be honored

Alumni and friends who give generously of their time and talents to

Maryville University as well as those whose work brings distinction to

their profession will be honored during the fifth annual

Spirit of Maryville Dinner on campus, Saturday, May 19.

The Spirit of Maryville awards also recognize people

or organizations that provide extraordinary service

to the community at large. Following are

the distinguished recipients of the 2018

Spirit of Maryville Awards. M

DEAN'S AWARDS recognize graduates who bring
distinction to their professions, to their communities and to Maryville.



College of Arts and Sciences
NICOLE M. SAHIN, '01

A self-proclaimed entrepreneur at heart, Nicole M. Sahin launched Globalization Partners in 2012, with a mission to break down barriers to global business by making it easy to hire employees in more than 150 countries without setting up branch offices overseas. Under her leadership as founder and CEO, Globalization Partners has achieved national recognition for growth and corporate culture. These recognitions include No. 33 on the 2017 Inc. 500 list of fastest-growing private companies in America, No. 6 on the 2016 Inc. 500 list and 2017 Inc. "Top Company to Work For." Nicole was named Entrepreneur Of The Year 2017–New England by Ernst & Young and was a 2017 Stevie Award recipient as Female Executive of the Year.

Nicole was previously a managing director at High Street Partners, an international business services firm. Prior to that, she co-founded Sweet Life School for Girls, a rural school in Cambodia designed to empower women and girls through education. She has an MBA in international management from the Monterey Institute of International Studies and a dual BA in humanities and environmental studies from Maryville.

John E. Simon School of Business
STEPHEN M. KITTS, '83

As an undergraduate student-athlete and captain of Maryville's soccer team, Stephen Kitts, '83, learned the powerful results of putting team before self. Today, his dedication to building outstanding teams, empowering individuals and sharing in others successes are the cornerstones of his 30-plus years as a successful banker and leader.

Stephen spent his early years on the trading desk followed by five years in sales and 17 years in management of the bond department. He joined UMB Bank in 2007 as executive vice president of investment banking. Stephen was an asset liability committee member and has been a part of the senior management team of a \$20 billion banking institution.



Stephen's mother, Nancy Dietrich Kitts, '58, was an active member of the alumni board. He carried on her tradition by serving as president of the Alumni Association, and he was instrumental in developing an Alumni Leadership Conference which led to new programming and the expansion of Alumni Weekend. Prior to joining the board, Stephen served on the President's Young Men's Advisory Committee.

He has also served as chairman of the endowment committee for the Lake Mary Center in Paola, Kansas. In addition to his BS in business administration from Maryville, Stephen has an MBA from Rockhurst University.

**Myrtle E. and Earl E. Walker
College of Health Professions**
SHANI JOHNSON, '05

Life strategist, coach, author and motivational speaker, Shani Johnson, '05, has enjoyed a career around helping and counseling those in need. Shani received her BA in psychology from St. Louis University and an MA in rehabilitation counseling from Maryville.



In her career, Shani has helped countless clients serving in a myriad of roles as an employment retention specialist, HIV/AIDS case manager and Youth & Family therapist at several non-profits. Subsequent opportunities included working for the State of Tennessee as a vocational rehabilitation counselor and as a case manager at Eckman Freeman & Associates. During the next six years, Johnson assisted longtime high school friend, Kimora Lee Simmons, as her vice president of operations. In this role, she was instrumental in building KLS Enterprise, a multimillion dollar brand empire and was prominently featured as a trusted confidant on *Kimora: Life in the Fab Lane*, an E! Network original hit reality show.

In 2013, Shani's career came full circle when she launched SCJ Enterprises, which serves as a vehicle for women of all ages to become empowered and inspired. As CEO and president, her mission is to challenge all individuals experiencing a setback to shift their mode of thinking, adjust, adapt and discover their purpose.



School of Education
RODNEY C. LEWIS, EdD, '11

Convinced that every child has the opportunity to attain their own "greatness," Rodney Lewis: EdD, '11, has positively contributed to the lives of thousands of elementary students in his career. As principal of Ballwin Elementary School in the Rockwood School District, he encourages students to maximize their intellectual potential.

Previously, Lewis served in principal, assistant principal and teaching roles within the Parkway, Valley Park, Ferguson-Florissant and Rockwood school districts. He has embraced the notion of "one person cannot do it alone" and is recognized for cultivating meaningful relationships with his students, staff and school community.

A first-generation college student, Rodney and his twin brother, Ron, founded The Lewis Influence, an organization designed to impart first generation college students with the psychological tools necessary to achieve success. They became authors in 2014 with their hard-hitting book, *Gritty*, about overcoming adversity and creating long-term success in college and life.

Rodney recently accepted a position as assistant superintendent of human resources in the City of St. Charles School District, starting fall 2018. He holds a master's in educational administration and an EdD in educational leadership and administration from Maryville.



Young Alumni Award
TYLER J. MATHEWS, '09, '12

The Young Alumni Award recognizes young alumni who bring distinction to their profession, their community and their alma mater.

Tyler Mathews—an entrepreneur, innovator, marketer and organizer—is executive director for Venture Café St. Louis, which enhances and accelerates the innovation process through spaces, programs and conversations for individuals and organizations to collaborate and build relationships.

As the former marketing director of Ranken Jordan Pediatric Bridge Hospital, Tyler launched their marketing department and led marketing, branding, fundraising and digital efforts to raise awareness for children facing the most complex medical challenges.

Tyler earned his undergraduate and MBA degrees from Maryville. Having chased his own business ideas, he has firsthand experience in what it takes to make dreams come true. He founded Yougy, a geolocation mobile startup; launched an experimental new media art event; and co-launched and organized the first Art Hack Day in St. Louis.

At Venture Café, Tyler leans on his collective entrepreneurial and business experience to bring the right people together to build on their business ideas and nurture their dreams, serving as a force in solidifying St. Louis's role in the national startup scene.

Heart of Maryville Award

JACQUE THAMAN NIEKAMP, '66
The Heart of Maryville Award recognizes a lifestyle best exemplifying the values of the Sacred Heart tradition.

Integral in linking Maryville's past with its present, Jacque Thaman Niekamp, '66, has always quietly gone about her work. Never seeking recognition, her steadfast purpose, strength of principles, loyalty, faith and integrity embody the values of the Society of the Sacred Heart. Jacque's living legacy is her civic, charitable and alumni causes.

Jacque knows Maryville's heart and history intimately having spent much of childhood on campus. She observed the deep commitment her mother, Mary Jane Stock Thaman, '41, had to Maryville and volunteerism.



As a vital member of Maryville's Sacred Heart Advisory Group, Jacque played a significant role in developing a historical overview of Maryville's founding and continued growth and success. She served on the 50-year reunion committee for the class of 1966 and was a longtime supporter of Maryville's Sports Celebrity Dinner.

Jacque has served on numerous notable non-profit boards, committees, and held officer positions in her philanthropic endeavors. Most prominent has been her unflagging duty to the Sacred Heart. Jacque is a former Trustee of Villa Duchesne and Oak Hill School. She has been Conference Treasurer and served extensively on committees for the Associated Alumnae of the Sacred Heart. Since 1968, she has been on the Board of Directors for Villa Duchesne-City House Alumnae Association, held several offices including President and was awarded the highly esteemed Très Bien award for her exemplary service.



Volunteer of the Year
BETTY C. HAYWARD, '82

Saying "yes" to a volunteer request isn't something Betty Hayward feels she should do; rather, it is something she is compelled to do.

Betty is one of Maryville's biggest advocates and her efforts are tireless. She served on the Board of Trustees, was president of the Alumni Association, and chaired the School of Health Professions Advisory Council. Betty currently serves on the Executive Committee of National Leadership Council and Duchesne Society.

Betty also has extensive involvement in her community. She has become a volunteer since 2009 at the Siteman Cancer Center's Infusion Center, Barnes-Jewish West County Hospital. Patients say she is the brightest spot in their week with her special ability to sit with them through treatment. Her delicious home baked treats also never fail to delight. Betty currently serves on the Accountable Care Organization (ACO) Board and its Patient Engagement Committee. As a volunteer for the local American Parkinson Disease Association, she edits the newsletter and previously edited the ALS Association's newsletter for eight years.

Retired in 2008 from BJC Health-Care after working almost 20 years in communications and marketing, Betty was selected BJC Employee of the Year in 1999. She graduated from Maryville University with a BA in English and secondary education.

Myrtle E. and Earl E. Walker Medal
WINGS OF HOPE

The Walker Medal recognizes outstanding contributions or achievement in the field of Health and Wellness.

An aviation nonprofit delivering humanitarian programs around the globe to lift people in need toward health and self-sufficiency, Wings of Hope provides medical air transport services—free of charge—to individuals who need access to specialized medical care. This is the only free medical air transport service in the U.S. with specially equipped aircraft that can accommodate stretchers, wheelchairs and medical equipment.

The organization also works in developing countries in Africa, Asia and Central and South America, partnering with communities to improve their health, education and food and economic security. Wings of Hope touches the lives of more than 40,000 individuals on an annual basis.



The small staff at Wings of Hope relies on a dedicated team of more than 250 volunteers—many of them performing in highly skilled positions as pilots and medics, and in key administrative roles within the organization. Wings of Hope was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2011 and 2012. Its fiscal efficiency and transparency has earned it a 4-Star rating on Charity Navigator and recognition as a GuideStar Gold Participant.

For students in Maryville's Communication program, keeping score is not just a competitive must—it's a career strategy. They track internships, certificates and networking events as part of Professional Gamification, a recent program designed to gamify academic and extracurricular activities—and increase student engagement in building career skills and experiential learning.

Professional Gamification was piloted last fall. The combination of work and play is proving successful—more than half of communication majors accept full-time industry positions prior to graduation.

GAMING THE CAREER PATH

And although it's optional, more than 50 percent of students choose to participate in the friendly competition. The game was developed by Dustin York, EdD, associate professor of communication.

"It's like leveling up your Xbox character, but instead of unlocking cool items, you unlock career preparedness," York says.

The game works like this: Market-relevant experiences are tallied for points, so an internship, for instance, earns 50 points. Informational interview and networking events earn 10 points. A student's GPA is not a factor—only efforts to network and build skills count. A public leaderboard shows individual student achievement, and students with the most points at each academic level receive prizes.

"The professional gamification program changed the way I saw networking," says Matthew Pratt, one of last fall's game winners. "I learned the worst answer you can get is 'no,' and more often than not you'll get a 'yes.'"

Throughout the program, students can earn certificates in Cision, Google and Facebook marketing and analytics. Thanks to Maryville's Digital World initiative—which provides iPads and free access to 135 apps along with the

Adobe Creative Cloud—students develop collaboration skills and become digitally proficient.

"Professional gamification was strong motivation to keep participating in activities to boost my professional experience," says Andrea Fandino-Briz, who won the senior level competition. "It was a fun and competitive way of keeping score of all the things I was doing towards my future career."

Many communication program courses require students to work on projects for real-world clients. Such experiences bring experts into the classroom—and can lead to internships, York says.

Communication Students Stack Up Points, Job Skills and Experience in a Competitive Portfolio Approach to Learning


by Janet Edwards

"We're listening to what employers are looking for, and we're adjusting our program accordingly," he says.

Fandino-Briz found the gamification model made her a more competitive job candidate.

"It made me realize how hard other people are working towards elevating their professional experience, and that pushed me to do more informational interviews, get certifications, go to networking events and even get another internship," she says.

That sense of focus along with the experiential learning helped her advance toward graduation with confidence.

"I have been able to use the fact that I won the gamification in job interviews to talk about my drive and passion to excel in the professional world," Fandino-Briz says. 



STUDENTS PLAY THE GAME OF STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS

Ready, Set...
START!

Maryville's undergraduate communication program has been gamified! Students compete with each other by earning points for each opportunity they pursue in the program. In doing so, students learn the latest technologies and gain practical experience with actual clients that leads to ... career success! Follow two students on a personal, academic and professional journey during their Maryville years by playing The Game of Strategic Communications.



MEET LIFE COACH
advance 2 spaces



LEARN PERSONAL STRENGTHS
A+

ENTER DIGITAL WORLD



JOIN STUDENT ORGANIZATION
Go Saints

FRESHMAN
TAKE A TOUR!
Proceed to Sophomore year



ALUMNI SHADOWING

JOIN STUDENT ORGANIZATION

WIN BIG with **STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS!**

SOPHOMORE

CHALLENGE! INTERVIEW SKILLS

JUNIOR

EARN A CERTIFICATE! CISION

WORK STUDY JOB ON CAMPUS



JOIN STUDENT ORGANIZATION

PAWPRINT
Join the staff!

Proceed to Junior year

INDUSTRY INTERNSHIP

REAL WORLD PARTNERSHIP

TAKE A TOUR!

REAL CLIENT EXPERIENCE

CAREER SERVICES

- On campus networking event
- Resume help
- Interview practice
- Job opportunities
- Faculty mentoring

Marketing Agency



Nonprofit Organization

Advertising Agency

PR Firm



MARYVILLE UNIVERSITY

EARN A CERTIFICATE! HubSpot

CHALLENGE! PORTFOLIO DEFENSE



INDUSTRY INTERNSHIP

CONGRATULATIONS, GRADS!

SUCCESS!

GEESSE XING
back 2 spaces

EARN A CERTIFICATE! Google

CHALLENGE! RESUME BUILDING



Proceed to Senior year

REAL CLIENT EXPERIENCE

TWITCH CHANNEL HOST

TAKE A TOUR!

SENIOR



BRIDGE TO GRADUATE PROGRAM
Strategic Communication And Leadership

A CONVERSATION WITH TOM ESCHEN

VP FOR INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

After 10 years at Maryville, Tom Eschen, vice president for institutional advancement (IA), is hanging up his address book and retiring. Or so he says. Rumor has it that Eschen will continue to raise funds and “friends” for the University as a part-time consultant.

When Eschen joined Maryville in 2008, annual fundraising averaged \$2.3 million, and Walker Hall was just a gleam in President Mark Lombardi’s eye. Following successful runs and key leadership roles at several colleges and universities throughout St. Louis,

Eschen settled in at Maryville quickly. In his first year, despite a challenging economy, annual fundraising rocketed to \$4.3 million. After year two, Maryville received the WealthEngine Award for Educational Fundraising in the category of “Overall Improve-

ment,” presented by the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE).

Eschen also introduced new, original ideas that soon became signature programs—notably the Kids Rock Cancer music therapy program and Maryville Talks Books, which made the campus a popular book tour stop for noted authors.

His creativity and connections helped set the stage for a major gift from the late philanthropist Earl Walker to build Myrtle E. and Earl E. Walker Hall, which included moving the Walker Scottish Rite Clinic for children with communication disorders to Maryville as a fully integrated program. The gift also led to the naming of the College of Health Professions in honor of the Walkers, and the creation of a new, accredited master’s program in Speech and Language Pathology.

Here, Eschen reflects on his long career as an “accidental fundraiser” with Mindy Schlansky, director of advancement communications.

So, when the kids on the playground wanted to become firemen and astronauts, you knew you’d be a fundraiser, right?

Well, actually as a kid I wanted to be a major league baseball player (St. Louis Cardinals, to be exact), but pretty early on I realized, “It ain’t gonna happen.” I got into fundraising the way many do—by pure accident and by people taking chances on me.

Although I have a journalism degree, I’ve spent my entire career in education, teaching the whole “grade school-high school-college” pipeline, then administrative jobs. I applied for a journalism teaching

job at my alma mater, De Smet Jesuit High School but ended up in my first development job, encouraged by the school’s president. I had no idea what “development” was—38 years later I guess it’s worked out. Having said that, should the Cardinals give me a call, I’m ready.

You’ve worked at several universities around St. Louis. How is Maryville different?

I’ve been fortunate to have worked at numerous St. Louis area universities, and Maryville is indeed different. I think the overarching difference is that we are absolutely committed to continuous improvement. Everything is on the table. There are no sacred cows.

Also, there is no question that students come first; we push innovation in everything we do, from our academic programs to our community partnerships. We’re fast and agile, we’re wired. Our business model creates surpluses that we plow back into strategic priorities.

During the past 10 years, how has Maryville fundraising changed?

When I arrived at Maryville in June 2008, our top priority was raising \$20 million for a health professions building, and we had very few prospects. Earl and Myrtle Walker completely changed the fundraising momentum with their support of the building project. Our fundraising now supports the strategic plan, which will guide us until 2022—Maryville’s 150th anniversary. Raising scholarship funds to promote our diversity and inclusion goals is one of our biggest priorities. We also have significant building projects to support our expanding enrollment, along with providing support for numerous academic programs.

Where do partnerships fit in?

Universities have always worked with businesses, but expectations are higher now. Corporations want to be active partners. At Maryville, we learn about their needs. We don’t say, “Give us money because we’re great.” We ask, “How can we work together to solve your problems as well as ours?”

Corporate donors become more than just funders, they become partners and everyone thrives. Over the years we’ve developed great partnerships with Rawlings, Mercy, PNC and many others.

started showing up. We were very proactive about getting out in the community and letting people know what we we’re about. Ten years ago, marketing was part of the institutional advancement office and significant enhancements were made. Many of the sponsorships and outreach initiatives still engaging our alumni, friends and the general public were started early then as a community outreach strategy.

Among numerous marketing successes under a newer agency-style marketing department led

Of your contributions to Maryville, which make you the most proud?

First of all, nobody does anything alone, especially me. Having said that, I’m especially proud of what the team has accomplished. I think we’ve raised the level of professionalism in fundraising. And it’s hard not to be especially proud of Kids Rock Cancer. Some parents say it has helped their kids talk for the first time about what they’re going through.

Mostly, it has been about developing relationships that will continue to be supportive. That’s the best



FAN APPRECIATION: Tom Eschen, retiring vice president for institutional advancement, conceived the idea of creating Kids Rock Cancer through Maryville’s Music Therapy program. Arianna “Ari” Dougan (2006–2017), shown here with Eschen, was one of Kids Rock Cancer’s most enthusiastic “rock stars,” recording more than a dozen original songs through the program.



WALKER LEGACY: Tom Eschen, retiring vice president for institutional advancement, was instrumental in securing a gift from the late philanthropist, Earl Walker, to build Myrtle E. and Earl E. Walker Hall on the Maryville campus. (l to r) Earl Walker and Tom Eschen shown in 2009, just before Walker received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree during Commencement.



In addition to fundraising, you’ve been successful at “friend-raising.” What’s your secret?

No secret. It’s about helping alumni and friends getting to know our faculty and students. And the beautiful campus. Donors get excited when they see everything we’re doing, then they hear about our business model and how we’re institutionally investing in our programs, and they want to be part of it. The totality of what we’re about is pretty unique.

Maryville is no longer the “best kept secret.” How did the secret get out?

Someone once said that 90 percent of life was just showing up. We


by Marci Sullivan, vice president for Integrated Marketing and Communications, is the flawless roll-out of an extensive new branding campaign that has helped to identify and differentiate Maryville. And the new nationwide advertising campaign has taken Maryville to a completely new level.

Our visibility couldn’t be higher—even outside St. Louis. I was recently on an escalator in the Atlanta airport, and a guy on the other side was wearing a Cardinals cap. I had my red “M” pin on. As we were passing, I said, “Go Cardinals!” He looked over, saw my pin and said, “Hey, that’s Maryville! Go Saints!” That’s impressive.

part of the job. You meet remarkable people, get to work with them and they become engaged. I’ve yet to hear someone say, “I wish I hadn’t made that gift.”

What does the word “retirement” mean to you?

“Semi-retirement” means more time to do other stuff. I can spend more time with my two-year-old grandson, Jack, Maryville Class of 2038.

I’ll keep my hand in Maryville’s world. It will be fun to stay involved but also to watch what happens to Maryville from a little distance and be able to say, “I helped do that.” That will be very fun. And rewarding. 



SAINTS ROLE MODEL RETURNS TO LEAD ATHLETICS



By Laura Derickson, '93

EXCEPTIONAL LEADERSHIP: Lonnie Folks, '82, '98, returns to Maryville University as director of athletics and recreation, having been a student-athlete, a member of the athletics department staff and an active alumnus. (next page) Folks is shown with a plaque that bears his name. The Lonnie Folks Award was created in 2009 to recognize former student-athletes, coaches or administrators who exemplify the spirit of Maryville University athletics.

Lonnie Folks, '82, '98, is Maryville's new director of athletics and recreation. As an ardent supporter, and a former Saints student-athlete and coach, Folks is a familiar figure on campus.

As Maryville's athletic teams continue to grow in number and reputation, a former Saint has been tapped to guide the program forward. Lonnie Folks, '82, '98, was recently named director of athletics and recreation.

"Maryville has remained important to me, and I feel fortunate to be coming home to rejoin the campus community," he says.

After graduating in 1982 with a BS in business management from the John E. Simon School of Business, Folks served Maryville and the Saints athletic community with distinction for nearly two decades.

"Lonnie Folks represents the best that Maryville alumni and employees have to offer—passion for education, professional integrity, a drive for excellence and winning and a devotion to their alma mater," says Maryville President Mark Lombardi, PhD.

In 2009, Folks was inducted into the Maryville University Athletics Hall of Fame. That same year, Maryville created the Lonnie Folks Award to honor former student athletes, coaches or administrators who exemplify good spirit, sportsmanship, stewardship and service.

QUITTING WAS NOT AN OPTION

The most important lesson Folks learned as a Maryville athlete was not to quit. His freshman year, he started every soccer game in goal and was named Freshman Player of the Year for soccer. His sophomore and junior years, he moved to backup goalie and then to third string because newly recruited players were extremely accomplished goalies.

"Quitting never crossed my mind because while I was competitive and wanted

to play, being part of a team meant something to me," says Folks. "I still felt important to the team if only as a practice player or driver of the vans."

Midway through his senior year he got a spot start and played well enough to become the regular goalie again. But staying on the team helped him achieve in other ways, too. "Had I quit, I probably wouldn't have ventured into coaching, which has defined every professional accomplishment that I've had. Quitting was not an option, and that has defined my life."



A LONG CAREER OF SUCCESS

Following graduation, Folks worked in Maryville's athletics department for nearly 20 years. He rose through the ranks to become assistant director of athletics and head coach for women's soccer and softball, securing four conference titles and two conference tournament titles. He also served as the head women's basketball coach and sports information director. He was a two-time SLIAC Coach of the Year in both women's soccer and softball.

Folks continued his successful career at Stockton University in New Jersey, where he worked for nearly 20 years as director

of athletic operations, director of athletics and recreation and director for student affairs operations.

Even during his time away, Folks remained an active alumnus, serving on the Athletics Hall of Fame Committee, joining the Dukesne Society, emceeding alumni trivia night, regularly attending Alumni Weekend activities and acting as an ambassador to encourage involvement of fellow alumni.

"I've stayed involved because I had the opportunity to get an excellent education at Maryville and wanted to give back," says Folks.

"If I'm any good at all today, it's because of the opportunities that I had at Maryville as a student and an employee."

As he returns to Maryville, Folks looks forward to meeting student-athletes and getting to know them beyond their uniforms.

"I want to know what motivates them and discover what I can do to encourage them to do their best," says Folks. "I also want to get to know our staff and take my appropriate role on our professional team as we seek to have Maryville be a program of significance, not only within the Great Lakes Valley Conference, but nationally."

Having the perspective of a former student-athlete and employee makes Folks uniquely qualified to be Maryville's new athletic director.

"Any decisions I make in my new position simply adds support to this precious cargo," says Folks.



BY JONG CAMBRON

INSPIRED BY THE HEART OF AN OLYMPIAN

**Jarred Silvia admires gold medalist Shaun White for his competitive grit—
and his courage triumphing over a shared rare heart condition**

Jarred Silvia has followed the career of legendary snowboarder Shaun White since 2006 when White competed in his first Olympics. At first, Silvia admired him because White has been considered one of the best snowboarders in the world as evidenced by his three Olympic gold medals. Once he realized White, like Silvia, was born with Tetralogy of Fallot, the connection intensified.

“His career in general hasn’t helped me, but seeing someone with Tetralogy of Fallot compete at that high of a standard, doing an extreme sport, has been very motivational in pushing myself to my limits and my not holding back or using my defect as an excuse for failure,” says Silvia.

Far from it. Silvia competes in the long jump, triple jump and hurdles for the Saints men’s track team.

Tetralogy of Fallot (TOF) is a congenital heart condition that causes a mixing of oxygen-poor blood with oxygen-rich blood. Approximately five of every 10,000 babies are born with TOF. Silvia was one of those statistical five.

“It went from White being a role model in sports and snowboarding to a mentality that there is nothing in this world that can stop you from what you are doing if you’re smart, safe and persistent about reaching your goals,” says Silvia.

Silvia, who is majoring in nursing, has had two open heart surgeries—the first when he was only eight months old and the second when he

was 15. He expects to face more surgeries in the future, but that reality does not deter him from competing at the collegiate level.


“Jarred never uses his medical condition to hold himself back,” says Micky Kaufman, head coach of the Saints men’s and women’s track and field teams. “Although there needs to be a certain level of attentiveness, and slight modifications may need to be made from time to time, ... my expectations for Jarred are not different than any other freshman student-athlete we have on the team.”

Silvia says his heart condition has toughened his resolve.

“Being a child with TOF doesn’t make you any different; it just means that you are a warrior who knows how to fight through the hard times,” he says. “Growing up, I was self-conscious about my scars and my chest, but over the years I have learned to embrace these imperfections because they make you, as a TOF kid, perfect.”

To other young people with TOF, Silvia says, “The scars tell our stories, so don’t be afraid to show yours off. Times will be hard, but you have made it through the hardest part already, so don’t give up down the road.”

He also advises parents of children with TOF not to be fearful or overly cautious.

“[I say] to parents, don’t be afraid to let your kids try new sports. Be safe and smart, and they can do anything in the world,” says Silvia. 



Saints First-Year Swimmer Headed to Swedish Nationals

By Jong Cambron

The next race for first-year student-athlete Karl Lindoff will be held over 4,500 miles away from Maryville University—in Landskrona, Sweden. A native of the country, Lindoff will return home to participate in the national swimming championships to be held this July.

The Maryville Saints swimmer will compete in the 100-meter backstroke and 100-meter freestyle, his two favorite strokes. The Swedish Swimming Championships are used as trials for international competition, including the Olympics and World Championship.



“I like the freedom in the water,” says Lindoff, who has been competing for over 11 years. “I don’t really set expectations for myself, I just try to enjoy the moment and make the best of it.”


Erica Rose, Maryville’s swimming and diving coach, believes the competition will greatly benefit Lindoff.

“First of all, he’ll come back in shape, which is huge,” says Rose. “Having that high-level racing experience will also enhance his skills.”

During his first season at Maryville, Lindoff won three individual races and finished first in a medley relay. In individual events, he won the 50-yard freestyle twice and the 100-yard backstroke.

“He swam wonderfully,” says Rose. “He’s been an awesome addition to the program.”

Although St. Louis is far from his home city of Eskilstuna, after seeing Maryville and learning about the academic and athletic opportunities, Lindoff accepted Rose’s recruiting offer.

“I chose Maryville because it had a really good educational program and fit my demands for swimming,” he says. Lindoff is a student in the Rawlings Sport Business Management program. 

Basketball’s Nolan Berry GLVC Player of the Year

By Chuck Yahng


Few student-athletes achieve the level of conference accolades received this year by senior Nolan Berry, a standout for the Saint’s Men’s Basketball team. He is Maryville’s first All-American since 2012-2013.

Berry, a 6-foot-10 center, was named third-team All American by the *Basketball Times* after being selected first-team All-District by the National Association of Basketball Coaches and to the D2 Conference Commissioner’s Association All-Regional.

In the Great Lakes Valley Conference, Berry was named Player of the Year. He was also a unanimous selection to the All-Conference first team and voted to the All-Defensive team. He finished the season averaging 18.5 points per game, good for second in the GLVC—and a league-leading 11.0 rebounds per game. He recorded 17 double-doubles while shooting 60.5 percent from the field, which ranked third in the league.

“These honors are well-deserved. Nolan was on a mission from day one this season. He competed every single day in practice and games, even when he wasn’t required to,” says Saints Head Coach Marc Stricker.

Berry hit 53.1 percent (27-of-52) of his shots from 3-point range and sank 77.6 percent at the free-throw line. He was second on the team with 72 assists and paced the team with 32 blocked shots. In conference-games only, Berry was even better than his season averages with 19.2 ppg and 11.5 rpg. In the last NCAA report, he was ninth in the nation in rebounds per game, seventh in double-doubles and was 17th in field goal percentage.

Berry is Maryville’s first All-American since Asa Toney was an All-American honorable mention selection by Division II Bulletin in 2012-13. 





NEW RECRUIT MAKES TEAM IMPACT

14-YEAR-OLD JOINS SAINTS
SWIMMING AND DIVING SQUAD

BY NANCY FOWLER

Maryville Swimming and Diving Coach Erica Rose is always excited to welcome new members, but she’s particularly thrilled over a recent talented recruit.

Fourteen-year-old Anna Rose (no relation to Coach Rose) came to Maryville Swimming and Diving late last year through Team IMPACT, a nonprofit program that connects children living with serious, ongoing medical conditions to college athletic organizations.

Rose, who has cerebral palsy, has swum with the Disabled Athlete Sports Association (DASA) for two years and is now an enthusiastic cheerleader for the Maryville Saints team.

“They really like having her come to the meets,” Coach Rose says. “I think it grounds them and reminds them the world is bigger than their classes and their swimming career.”

‘LIKE A CHAMP’

Rose is a “bundle of energy,” according to Maryville swimmer Rachel Myers. After a recent meet, Myers was touched by the teenager’s rousing congratulations.

“She went through the line and high-fived all of us and told us we did a great job,” Myers says. “I think people definitely swim a little bit harder because of her.”

Zac Suman is motivated by Rose’s ability to thrive in the face of difficulty. As Suman embarks upon his six-year Doctor of Physical Therapy program, he is inspired by Anna Rose’s tenacity.

“With cerebral palsy, some things don’t come easily to her, but she takes everything like a champ,” Suman says.

‘IT’S FUN TO HANG OUT’

Rose showed her steely resolve early on, says her mother, Stephanie Rose. Her daughter is a twin,

born two months’ premature after having a stroke in utero.

“The doctors didn’t even think she would walk or talk,” Stephanie Rose says. “It’s been a miracle.”

Maryville Swimming and Diving team members have “completely embraced her,” Stephanie Rose says, and her daughter is excited about the prospect of making long-term friends with Maryville athletes.

“It’s fun to hang out with them,” Anna Rose says. “They’re really outgoing, and I’m really outgoing.”

She officially became part of the Maryville team during a draft day celebration in January, marked by a news-conference atmosphere and a cake-cutting ceremony. Her participation includes attending meets and social events. Maryville athletes also cheer on Rose at her DASA competitions.

“I feel happy inside and joyful when they come to my swim meets,” she says.

TEAM IMPACT EXPANDS

Anna Rose is not Maryville’s first or only Team IMPACT participant. Ten-year-old Alec Ingram, who has a type of bone cancer called osteosarcoma, was among the early participants. He joined the Saints baseball team in 2015.

Maryville alumnus Troy Payton, ’17, still keeps up with Alec in a relationship that has always stretched beyond the baseball field. Payton remembers how his young friend progressed from shy kid to merry prankster.

“Several of us went to see him in the hospital,” Payton says. “We were about to high-five him when he surprised us by squirting water at us out of the syringes he’d filled and hidden under his pillow. We all got a good laugh out of that.”

HIGHLIGHTS

1 Men’s Soccer Gets Tourney Bid For the first time in program history, the men’s soccer team qualified for the NCAA Division II post-season tournament. The team finished the regular season with 10 conference wins, the most league victories for the Saints in the Division II era, which earned them a spot in the GLVC Soccer Championships for the second consecutive year. They finished 12-2-2 overall, the best record for the Saints since 1993, when the team finished with a 14-2-2 record. Five Saints earned 2017 post-season honors, including United Soccer Coaches Division II Men’s All-Midwest Regional second and third teams and GLVC Men’s Soccer Co-Freshman of the Year.

2 Chalupny Lawson to Coach Women’s Soccer Olympic gold medalist and World Cup soccer champion Lori Chalupny Lawson will take over the reins of the Saints women’s soccer program for the 2018 season. She has served Maryville for five years as an assistant coach under long-time head coach Eric Delabar, who will stay on as an assistant coach. Chalupny Lawson has also played professionally in the National Women’s Soccer League with the Chicago Red Stars. “I think my experiences as a player play a huge role in the way I coach,” says Lawson, a native St. Louisan who also won a national title at the University of North Carolina in 2003.

3 Lacrosse Crowdfunding Supports U.S. Troops Saints men’s lacrosse raised over \$5,000 in a fundraising campaign, Saints for Soldiers, held in November of 2017. Head Coach Mitch Shafer led the campaign, which aimed to raise funds for the program in its sophomore year and support American Troops. For every \$100 raised, the team sent a care package to U.S. soldiers in Afghanistan. The campaign closed with 52 care packages mailed. “Saints for Soldiers gave this team the ability to show their appreciation to those who give us the freedom to do the things we love,” said Assistant Coach Christopher Burke, who served in the Marine Corps and in Afghanistan in 2011.

4 New Men’s Ice Hockey Team to Compete in ACHA Maryville will field a competitive men’s club ice hockey in the upcoming academic year. The Saints will compete in the American Collegiate Hockey Association (ACHA) in Division II. St. Louis native John Hogan has been named inaugural head coach for the team. Prior to joining Maryville University, Hogan was an assistant coach for the University of Arizona’s ACHA Division I team. Hogan played three years for the program before joining the coaching staff.

5 Softball Earns Victory in Snowstorm In March, the Maryville softball team smacked 12 hits in the second game of a doubleheader to earn an 8-4 victory over No. 24 ranked Saginaw State University. The game stopped after six innings due to blizzard conditions. The Saints capped the win with an inter-squad snowball fight.





NO PLACE LIKE HOME(COMING)

HOMECOMING IS THE NEW ALUMNI WEEKEND

During earlier years, Maryville alumni enjoyed gathering for Homecoming reunions and celebrations. The tradition is back! A refreshed version of Homecoming will debut on campus this fall throughout the week of October 1-7, taking the place of Alumni Weekend and Fall Festival.

Attendees will recognize a lot of the same events from Alumni Weekend, with an even more robust schedule of activities.

"Homecoming is the culmination of yearlong effort to bring together Alumni Weekend and Fall Festival into one event," says James Page, director of alumni engagement. "Alumni Weekend has been a great experience for our alumni over the years, and now is the right time to expand our celebration to the entire community."

The goal is to retain what past participants have loved about the weekend but expand its reach to embrace a wider net of Maryville alumni, students, staff, faculty and friends, Page says.

Familiar activities will include class reunions, Golden Circle Luncheon, Fall Formal, student and alumni art show, President's Reception, Alumni Bash, Lip Sync

competition, LouieFest and the Saints Soccer Tailgate and games.

Special events this year include a 35th anniversary celebration for the physical therapy program and panel discussions throughout the week featuring alumni who will share their experiences and expertise.

"Students will also bring their energy and excitement throughout the week as they compete in our traditional Fall Festival events to pursue the honor of being crowned the champions of Homecoming," says Brian Gardner, assistant dean and director of student involvement. "This will give our students an unprecedented look into life as an alumnus of Maryville University—a life of personal and professional success we hope they aspire to achieve."

A wide range of events will take place during the week, but Page is

especially interested in watching the Saints Soccer Tailgate continue to grow in popularity.

"Over the past three years, we have seen this event grow into something very special for our student-athletes, their families and our alumni," he says. "To see our students out in the parking lot grilling burgers beside our alumni is fantastic, plus the food is always amazing."

Gardner looks forward to celebrating past traditions and creating new ones.

"I truly believe this will be transformative to our spirit, pride and tradition on campus because it will bring the entire community together in a celebration of everything that is Maryville and Saints Nation," he says. "The excitement and fanfare will be contagious."



THEN AND NOW (left): Homecoming is not a new idea to Maryville students, faculty, alumni and families. Over the years, traditions like pie-eating contests, celebrating Golden Circle classmates, enjoying music, balloons and kids, friendly competitions (even in the mud!)—and lots of smiles and hugs—have exemplified such reunions. This year's homecoming, to be held Oct. 1-7, will feature all the popular events from Alumni Weekend and Fall Festival plus new activities, all rolled into one week of fun and excitement.

FEATURED EVENTS

Maryville University welcomes all alumni, students, faculty and staff to join in the weeklong excitement of Homecoming 2018, to be held October 1-7. For a complete listing of events, visit: maryville.edu/homecoming.

MONDAY

Homecoming Kickoff
Gander Quad
Mr. Maryville
Auditorium

TUESDAY

Maryville Blood Drive
Donius University Center

WEDNESDAY

Student Lip Sync
Auditorium

THURSDAY

Athletics Hall of Fame
Auditorium

FRIDAY

Maryville Soccer Games
Soccer Field

President's Reception & Alumni Bash
Gander Hall / Commencement Lawn

Fall Formal
Off-Campus

Art and Design—Exhibit and Reception
University Library / Morton J. May
Foundation Gallery

SATURDAY

Reunion Events
Campus Locations

Walker College of Health Professions:
Continuing Education Courses
Walker Hall

Physical Therapy Anniversary Luncheon
Walker Hall

LouieFest
Commencement Lawn

Alumni Mass
Huttig Chapel

SUNDAY

Soccer Tailgate
Soccer Field Parking Lot

Maryville Soccer Games
Soccer Field



A Missouri state representative. Six weddings. And a published poet.

1950s

Barbara Lamy Cooney, '58, of Sedalia, Mo., wrote her first poetry book titled *Little Altars Here and There*. She hosted a book signing in November 2017 at the Daum Museum of Contemporary Art at State Fair Community College.



Amanda Van de Riet Jasper, '14 and Neal P. Jasper, '15

1970s

Sheila Moloney Logue, '72, of Hull, Mass., is a senior contract and grant officer at RAND Corporation.

Julia Duffy Batterberry, '73, of Cincinnati, Ohio, announces her retirement.

Edward R. Meyer, '76, is a group vice president at Schnucks Markets.

1980s

Ruth A. Stanley, '81, of Avon, Colo., is a real estate broker at Keller Williams Mountain Properties.

Lonnie Folks, '82, '98, of St. Louis, is the new director of athletics and recreation at Maryville University.

Don E. Price, '82, of Glen Allen, Va., announces his election to a two-year term on the Board of Directors of RX Partnership.

DeAnne Bradley, '84, of Charlotte, N.C., is a registered nurse at Carolinas Healthcare System.

Bruce G. Kintz, EdD, '85, president and CEO of Concordia Publishing House, received an honorary Litterarum Humanarum Doctor (LHD) degree from Concordia Theological Seminary Fort Wayne during the 2018 Commencement ceremony.

Mark Pavlovich, '86, of Round Rock, Texas, announces his retirement.

Cindy E. Rebbe, '86, of Manchester, Mo., is the associate executive director at Brookdale West County.

Jeff A. Bont, '88, of St. Louis, is the national sales manager of key accounts for Rocky Mountaineer.

Marcia Mueller Jungmeyer, '88, '90, of Springfield, Ill., announces her marriage to Mark Jungmeyer on June 17, 2017.

Donna Cunningham Baringer, '89, of St. Louis, was elected in November 2016 as a Democrat to the Missouri State House of Representatives for the 82nd District. Prior

to this election, she served nearly 14 years on the St. Louis Board of Aldermen in the 16th Ward.

1990s

Michelle Nesbit Lehman, '90, of Peoria, Ariz., is a project consultant at Arizona Public Service.

Timothy M. Meyer, '93, of St. Charles, Mo., is the senior vice president of People's Bank & Trust.

Todd J. Monnig, '95, of St. Louis, is the head of interior design at Nolan Office Interiors.

Daniel G. Gieseler, EdD, '97, '01, '10, of Pacific, Mo., is principal of Westridge Elementary School in the Rockwood School District.

Mary L. Parker, '97, of Eureka, Mo., is a financial analyst at Missouri Baptist Medical Center.

Mark F. Watts, '97, of St. Charles, Mo., is a senior director of field sales at Eastbay Team Sales.

2000s

Holly Fox Simmons, '01, of Ballwin, Mo., received an Emerson Excellence in Teaching award. She is a fourth-grade teacher at Claymont Elementary.

Rachelle Bollinger Kamper, '02, of Robertsville, Mo., announces that her 2017 was filled with much excitement. On August 14, 2017, Rachelle started her new job as a

human rights generalist in the Office of Law and Policy at Monsanto. She also married her best friend, Harry Kamper, Jr., on September 6, 2017. The couple completed construction of their new home in December 2017.

Ann T. Torrusio, '03, of St. Louis, is an assistant professor at University of Missouri-St. Louis.

Kenneth W. Lawrence, '06, of Cape Girardeau, Mo., completed the three-year Leadership and Development program of the Federal Justice Center in June 2015. He was recently promoted to senior United States probation officer and supervising United States probation officer.

Robert A. Kaestner, '07, '08, of St. Louis, and his wife, Marcella, welcomed their daughter, Stella Maria Kaestner, on January 24, 2018. Stella joins her big sister, Cecilia.

Jennifer C. Marecek, '08, of Fenton, Mo., is an accounting manager at PGAV Destinations.

Jess N. Cooper, '09, of Athens, Ga., is the executive director of Georgia Swimming.

Kara Korte McGarrahan, '09, of Edwardsville, Ill., and her husband, Andrew welcomed their third child, Enora Louise McGarrahan, on February 14, 2018.

Justin M. Langrehr, '10, Ballwin, Mo., announces his marriage to Blake Langrehr on January 13, 2018, in St. Louis.

Katie L. Hunsicker, '10, '13, of St. Louis, is a therapist at Kids in The Middle.

Jenna M. Bartek, '11, of Chesterfield, Mo., is a training specialist at Edward Jones.

Christine M. Graf, '11, '12, of Fenton, Mo., is a financial manager at World Wide Technology.

Rachel D. Ultsler, '11, of Cozad, Neb., is an agronomic research specialist at Monsanto.

Debra A. Bremer, '12, of St. Louis, was promoted to the Global Services support team at Boeing in November 2017.

Lauren Keppel Grosser, '12, and **Jacob P. Grosser, '11**, both of Chesterfield, Mo., welcomed their daughter, Lillian Teresa Grosser, on September 25, 2017.

Katie Warren Hinton, '12, of Smithville, Mo., and her husband, Charles, welcomed their daughter, Nora Kate Hinton, on January 26, 2018. Nora joins her big sister, Harper.

Whitney Dutton Morr, '14, and Brad C. Morr, '15, '17



Sarah L. Harty, '12, of Ozark, Mo., is a medical laboratory specialist at Mercy Hospital.

Brittany N. Mirth, '12, '14, of Foristell, Mo., is a senior financial analyst at Mercy Hospital.

Kristen Scherer Renaud, '13, '15, and **Matt A. Renaud, '11, '13**, both of St. Louis, announced their marriage on June 3, 2017. Each member of the wedding party is a Maryville graduate.

Gale Bridges Schogl, '13, of Wentzville, Mo., has joined Hannibal Regional Medical Group as a nurse practitioner, working in the Bowling Green, Mo., office.

Amanda Van de Riet Jasper, '14, and **Neal P. Jasper, '15**, both of Fenton, Mo., announce their marriage on August 12, 2017. The couple met at Maryville University in math class during their freshman year and have been together since.

Whitney Dutton Morr, '14, and **Brad C. Morr, DPT, '15, '17**, both of Valley Park, Mo., announce their marriage on February 10, 2018, at Silver Oaks Chateau.

Sheryl L. Mueller, '14, of Festus, Mo., is an office administrator at Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Real Estate.

Tre J. Jenkins, '14, of San Francisco, Calif., account executive of group sales of the Golden State Warriors, was involved in bringing STEM Night to the Warriors for youth in the Bay Area.

Rita B. Flynn, DPT, '15, '17, of Chesterfield, Mo., and **Cory W. Hermann, DPT, '15, '17**, of O'Fallon, Mo., announce their engagement. The couple plans to marry on November 3, 2018.

Maria Lesko Hogrefe, '15, and **Corey G. Hogrefe, '15**, both of St. Louis, announce their marriage on September 30, 2017, in Columbia, Ill.

Garrett D. Jones, DPT, '15, '17, of Chesterfield, Mo., is a physical therapist at Advanced Training and Rehab.

Kristen A. Kenney, '15, of St. Louis, is an actuarial assistant at RGA.

Brianna Gray Silvers, '15, of Massillon, Ohio, is an occupational therapist at Akron Children's Hospital.

Esra Uysal, '15, is the coordinator of international student success at Maryville University.

Valerie E. Burns, '16, of Creve Coeur, Mo., is a digital marketing specialist for ARCH Design, Artwork & Framing.

Tyson D. Baker, '17, of St. Louis, is an interior designer at PGAV Destinations.

In Memoriam

1930s

Constance "Connie" Murray Dorsey, '36
Madeleine "Sophie" Desloge, RSCJ, '37

1940s

Margaret Cleary Eagan, '40
Mary Urian Griesedieck, '43
Marjorie Magee Grosberg, '43
Genevieve Bodet Murphy, '44
Eugenie "Genie" Butterworth Hanagan, '46
Loretta Fagan Coghlan, '47
Sara "Sally" Folz Sterne, '48
Ann Hyatt Kenney, '49
Carroll Brady Waldner, '49

1950s

Jeanne Seghers Moorman, '50
Katherine "Kitty" Gotwals Yost, '50
Ruth Ann "Ann" Barrett Heinzler, '52
Joy Nalty Hodges, '52
Barbara "Bobbi" Couzens Brennan, '53
Patricia "Patty" Sullivan Heller, '53
Maria Pelican Kafalenos, '53
Mary Meyer Mehegan, '54
Joanne Danis Gormley, '55
Catherine "Katie" Jenkins Ryan, '56
Suzanne "Sue" Finch DeBlaze, '57
Roxanne Brennan Farkas, '57
Susan "Sue" Driscoll Schultz, '58
Sara Dodd Donahoe, '59
Anita "Tita" Lapeyre, RSCJ, '59
Margaret Bottini Wessling, '59

1960s

Mary Heinemann Civello, '60
Carole Coleman Rotter, '60
Mary "Betty" Vohsen Thiemann, '60
Anne Parkinson Douglass, '62
Cary Harwood Hailey, '62
Janet A. McMahon, '62
Margaret Mayeux Kinler, '66
Gail "Gay" Chartrand Vandover, '66

In Memoriam (cont.)

Elizabeth “Betsy” Kuntz Williams, ‘66
Catalina “Katy” Elek Jamieson, ‘68

1970s

Kathleen “Kathy” Gannon Lang, ‘70
Mary “Judy” Hollmeyer Parker, ‘71
Mercedes M. Ballman, ‘75
Kathleen “Kathy” Costello Garrity, ‘78
Grace “Gracie” Burghoff Reynolds, ‘78
David S. Beech, Sr., ‘79

1980s

Betsy Cloyd Sykes, ‘80
Susan Slawin Van Scoyk, ‘81
Gloria Kremer Crnko, ‘82
Michael D. Tweedie, ‘82
Louise I. Langbein, ‘83
Kenneth M. Young, ‘86
Eleanor A. Zipp, ‘87
Doris Witte Eschbach, ‘88
Kevin K. Kelly, ‘88
Nancy J. Harbaugh, ‘89

1990s

Glennon J. Oge, ‘90
Diane Carroll Hays, ‘94
Georgia Garner, ‘96
Elizabeth Wood Marshall, ‘96

2000s

Karrie K. Sims, ‘01
Phillip “Phil” J. Campbell, ‘03, ‘09, ‘10
Nicholas “Nick” W. Detering, ‘03
Kimberly “Kim” Kilburn Monroe, ‘04
JoAnn Reavis Maklebust, ‘15



Photo courtesy of Washington National Cathedral

Remembering Rodney Winfield

By Nancy Fowler

The first time Nancy Newman Rice, emerita professor of art at Maryville, saw colleague Rodney Winfield in the 1970s, he was strolling across the Maryville University campus wearing a smile and a silver necklace he’d made, but neither shoes nor shirt. Rice remembers Rodney, “as one of those unforgettable people who impacted the lives of everyone with whom he interacted.” Rice and Winfield crossed paths on campus for two decades, until he retired in 1994, after 26 years. “He was a good friend and treasured colleague,” she says. On Dec. 19, Winfield died at the age of 92, near his home in Carmel, California. He’s widely known for his work with stained glass and silver as well as his painting and sculpture. His spiritually-themed works can be found in St. Louis

and throughout the country. His “Space” window in the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. received public acclaim and was featured in many publications. Winfield was never without a sketchbook and also wore examples of his design work, including paint-embellished blue jeans, intricate repoussé silver jewelry, and once, shoes painted to look like Wedgewood. Winfield’s design classes were unique, Rice says. She remembers one lesson in particular. “Walking into his classroom studio, the smell of raw onions and assorted fruit was overwhelming, even in the hallway,” she says. “Rodney was demonstrating design derivation using cut up fruit and vegetables. I think those classes were part of the reason Art and Design was banished from

Reid Hall and got a new building.” Stuart Morse, ‘87, remembers Winfield for his keen attention to individuals in the classroom, including many probing questions. “He used to have these ‘Rodney Talks,’” Morse says. “He would take you out in the hallway for these heartfelt one-on-ones and try to access your inner child.” Winfield’s strategies are the bedrock of Morse’s own work: heading a leadership and team-building organization. Thirty years later, he still channels Winfield as he encourages people to unlock their own inner children and understand themselves. “Winfield was a visionary for others,” Morse says. “It wasn’t about his vision; he got you to see your own.”

T-SHIRT OLOGY

JASON BYRNE, ‘02, PRINTS HUNDREDS OF T-SHIRTS FOR CAMPUS EVENTS HE HELPED LAUNCH

by Maureen Zegel

Katie Strubberg’s favorite time of year is UWOW—Maryville University’s Week of Welcome—when hundreds of students parade around campus showcasing her talents. “That event stands out because everyone, especially freshman students, has a good time. And it’s fun to see my design all over campus for a week,” says Strubberg, a junior graphic design major who creates the “official” UWOW annual design. Strubberg is one of four students who design t-shirts for many student-run events. Her own work involves creating artwork for about 30 t-shirts throughout the academic year, she says. As it happens, a Maryville alumnus who once walked campus in various t-shirts of his own design, Jason Byrne, ‘02, now works with Strubberg and other student designers to create and distribute their wares. Working with Maryville students is like coming full circle, he says: “As a founding member of the Campus Activities Board (CAB), I truly enjoy printing shirts for events I helped start over 15 years ago.” As incoming president of CAB, Strubberg will oversee planning for many of those activities. Today, Byrne, a driven entrepreneur, heads up three companies

—Arch City Screenprinting, which produces the Maryville t-shirts; Swing Kong, a sports apparel company; and his newest venture, Blind Spot Marketing Solutions. More than 100 student clubs and organizations comprise the student experience on campus and many produce t-shirts to advertise their message. Byrne estimates he prints over 1,500 shirts a year for Maryville. The business connection between Byrne and Maryville student designers was first made by Brian Gardner, ‘03, ‘07, assistant dean and director of student involvement, who approves t-shirt design and moves it on to the next steps—printing and delivery. Gardner and Byrne were on campus together as students and have stayed in touch as close friends. Because of his early campus experiences and his business knowledge, Byrne goes the extra mile in sharing his expertise with students, Gardner says. “When Jason and I were students together in the early 2000s, we created the first-ever CAB member t-shirt,” Gardner says. “Who would have thought nearly two decades later we’d be working together on hundreds of shirts a year?”



DESIGNED TO A T: (above, left) Katie Strubberg, graphic design major, creates about 30 designs each year for student organizations which are then printed on t-shirts by Jason Byrne, ‘02. Byrne once produced the designs himself, as a student leader. (above, right) Brian Gardner, ‘03, ‘07, assistant dean and director of student involvement; Jason Byrne; and Katie Strubberg.



JOIN THE REVOLUTION

Are you inspired by a particular story in this issue of *Maryville Magazine*? Readers often tell us an article resonates because it brings back memories, or it showcases talented students who represent the future of their own profession, or they see a need they can help fill. If you're impressed by the people, spaces or programs of the Maryville community, consider taking action to support them. A gift to Maryville helps us continue to lead the revolution in higher education and provides a powerful legacy for future generations.



BUILD A FOUNDATION

Josh Parrish participated in Maryville's Alternative Spring Break to Florida to work with Habitat for Humanity. He reminds us: "One Saturday of volunteering ... could change a family's entire life." Inspired by his passion for helping people in need? Support other students who are also willing to volunteer their time and talents, but who are unable to fully afford the trip. Donate here: crowdfunding.maryville.edu/habitat.



HONOR LEADERSHIP

A longtime member of the Maryville family, Mary Ellen Finch, PhD, vice president for academic affairs, has announced her retirement. She has inspired many of us to pursue professional excellence and lifelong learning. If you've been inspired by Mary Ellen, too, and wish to honor her legacy, consider a contribution to the [Mary Ellen and Charles E. Finch Endowed Scholarship](#), which supports School of Education students who seek secondary certification.



RECOGNIZE SUCCESS

Tyler Mathews, '09, Maryville's 2018 Young Alumni of the Year, is a shining example of successful alumni who give back to their alma mater, their community and their profession in significant and meaningful ways. Do you know of other Maryville graduates who deserve recognition within the Maryville community? Please tell us about them! Contact James Page, director of alumni engagement: jpage@maryville.edu; 314.529.9344.



BACK TO CLASS

Like Jason Byrne, '02, many of our alumni return to campus and work with students both in and out of the classroom. Share your expertise! We'd love to see you and our students will appreciate the opportunity to learn from you. To get connected with a program on campus, contact AJ Fox: afox@maryville.edu; 314.529.9584



COMMENCEMENT 2018: Eurnekia Long, a happy BSN graduate, accepts congratulations and her diploma from President Mark Lombardi, PhD. She is one of approximately 850 graduates who crossed the stage during Maryville's Commencement held in May. Along with family and friends in attendance, a wider national and international audience viewed the ceremony online. People watched from Germany, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Australia, United Kingdom, France and other countries, and Texas, Florida and Oklahoma topped the many states with viewers. The Facebook livestream attracted over 14,000 people. ***Congratulations to the entire Class of 2018!***



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MARYVILLE. MANY CONNECTIONS. ONE U.



MARYVILLE UNIVERSITY WELCOMES YOU HOME

This fall join the entire Maryville community on campus to celebrate, connect and create new traditions. All alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends of Maryville are invited to attend this amazing celebration.

For more information, visit maryville.edu/homecoming

