

# University of Washington Magazine

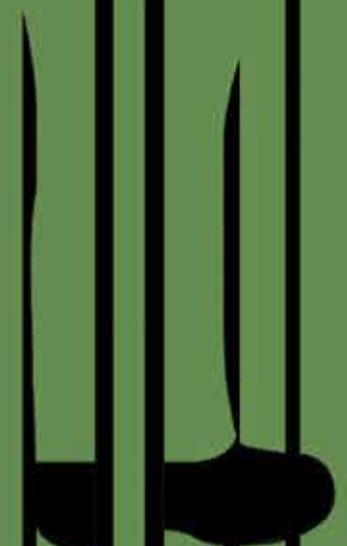
## **A Positive Life After Prison**

The barriers facing formerly incarcerated people in rebuilding their lives are unrelenting. But 10 alums tell the story of how they made it, thanks in part to their UW education

**Bill Gates Sr.** Honoring his care for community **p24**

**Still Serving** UW retirees help their communities **p38**

**Holistic Healing** A new approach to medicine **p42**





## Whitman Mission

The site of the Whitman Mission near Walla Walla is isolated and quiet, but in the 1840s it was alive with early settlers. Thousands poured through on their way across the Oregon Trail to find their fortunes in the West.

The story of the mission, which operated between 1836 and 1847, is fraught with misunderstandings and conflict and culminates in an attack on the settlement that left the two missionaries and 11 others dead. In “Unsettled Ground: The Whitman Massacre and Its Shifting Legacy in The American West,” historian Cassandra Tate, ’86, ’88, ’95, offers a deeper look into the actions and motivations of Marcus and Narcissa Whitman as well as their troubled relationship with the Native Americans that they had come to support. What was to be an outreach mission instead became a means for more settlers to

move into the territory. The white pioneers took land and resources and brought disease—measles wiped out nearly half of the Cayuse tribe. The massacre, which took place in 1847, was not unprovoked.

For more than a century, the Whitmans were cast as heroes. But starting in the 1960s, the story of the mission evolved to include the points of view of Indians. Tate reveals the missionaries as neither noble heroes nor full villains. They were “idealistic but culturally arrogant, courageous but inflexible,” she writes. The attack was a turning point for the West. It prompted the passage of a bill establishing the Territory of Oregon—which encompassed the lands that became Washington, Oregon, Idaho and portions of Montana and Wyoming. *Photograph by Danita Delimont/Getty*





Good tidings we bring to your doorstep

Shop for your pack this holiday season at the only retailer that gives back to the UW through scholarships, donations, discounts, and more. Get everything on your list plus free shipping on all orders of \$50+ at ubookstore.com.

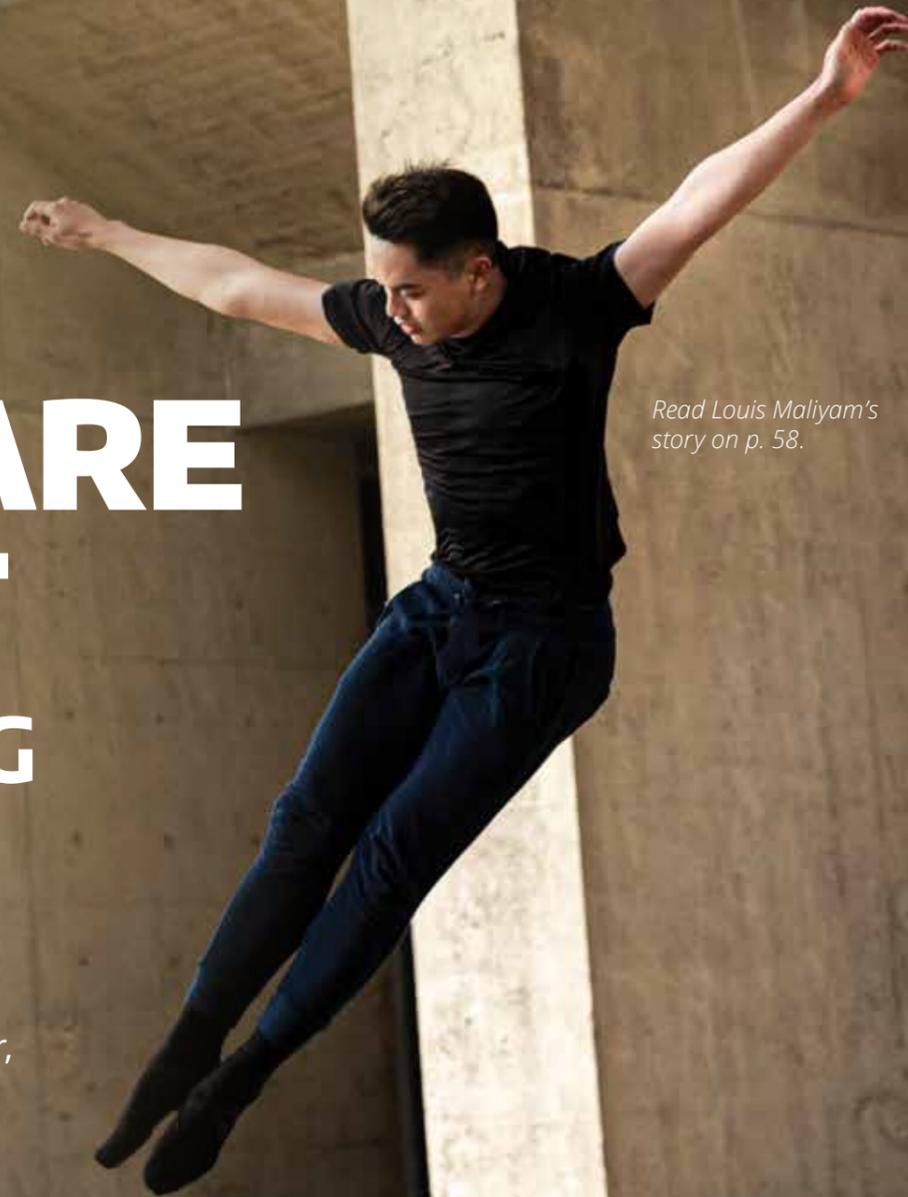


# WHAT YOU CARE ABOUT IS CHANGING THE WORLD

More than half a million donors supported the UW during our Be Boundless campaign. Together, we are just getting started.

Discover how your philanthropy is changing lives.

[uw.edu/boundless](http://uw.edu/boundless)



Read Louis Maliyam's story on p. 58.



# University of Washington Magazine

VOLUME 31  
NUMBER 4  
WINTER 2020



*Bill Gates Sr. started classes at the UW in 1943 but then joined the Army Reserve, knowing he would be called up to serve in World War II during his sophomore year. He returned home in 1946 just in time to start school again during fall quarter on the GI Bill.*

COURTESY GATES FAMILY

## 24 Bill Gates Sr.

The UW and Washington residents will forever be grateful for the immense impact Bill Gates Sr. had on our lives  
By **Hannelore Sudermann**

## 28 Second Chances

The UW is renowned for its ability to transform lives, including those that have served time in prison  
By **Omari Amili**

## 38 The Fulfillment Factor

When many faculty and staff end their UW careers, they turn their focus to their community service calling  
By **Erin Rowley**

## 42 Holistic View

The first Filipino-American to graduate from the UW School of Medicine is also a trailblazer in alternative medicine  
By **Shelia Farr**

### FORWARD

- 6 Finding the Light
- 8 Lessons from Bill Sr.
- 10 Roar of the Crowd

### THE HUB

- 13 State of the Art
- 14 Black Voices
- 18 Infographic
- 19 Research
- 22 Scorecard
- 23 Athletics

### COLUMNS

- 45 Sketches
- 47 Distinguished Veteran
- 49 Media
- 61 Tribute
- 62 In Memory

### UDUB

- 64 Americana Art

### ONLINE

[magazine.uw.edu](http://magazine.uw.edu)

Read more interviews with formerly incarcerated UW alums on our website.



#### KELLY OLSON

Despite the barriers she faced after prison, Kelly Olson earned an Executive Master's in Public Administration and found power in using her voice and taking ownership of her story.



#### MICHELLE BROWNLEE

"A mentor told me, 'You must keep going. You cannot stop. You've got to keep going to make change for others and yourself! I have always held myself back; always thinking I was not smart enough or good enough. So, once I found out that I can succeed with education. Sky became the limit!'"

UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

# A FUTURE WHERE YOUR PAYCHECK DOESN'T IMPACT YOUR PREGNANCY.

Women who can't afford or access prenatal care are more likely to suffer pregnancy-related complications.

Healthier communities make healthier people. The University of Washington is leading the way in addressing the interconnected factors that influence how long and how well we live, from poverty and health care to systemic inequities and climate change. In partnership with community organizations, the UW transforms research into concrete actions that improve and save lives across the country — and around the world.

[uw.edu/populationhealth](http://uw.edu/populationhealth)



# UW

# Forward

OPINION AND THOUGHT FROM **THE UW FAMILY**



BY PROFESSOR **ED TAYLOR** AND UWAA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR **PAUL RUCKER**

## Learning From Darkness

*I have learned things in the dark that I could never have learned in the light, things that have saved my life over and over again, so that there is really only one logical conclusion. I need darkness as much as I need light ... new life starts in the dark.*

—BARBARA BROWN TAYLOR

2020 will be a year that many would like to forget. But with all of its challenges, crises and complexities, it will long be remembered. The question is: what will we have learned in this dark year that can light our way forward?

The year—with COVID-19, an awakening to systemic racism, elections, environmental crises and an ailing economy—is worthy of a course unto itself. This fall, we created a special, one-time

class, 2020: The Course, in which faculty and alumni from all three of our campuses came together to reflect on bringing light to the year. They looked into their computer cameras and spoke of their work, lecturing from their kitchens and makeshift studios. Nearly 600 students in their own apartments, residence halls and family homes from Bellevue to Beijing joined in the work of finding light and meaning in a year when many of us have stumbled in the darkness.

We learned that a pandemic can force us to break from the security of habits and patterns and allow us to reenvision what constitutes safety, shelter and community as we seek a pathway between this year and the next.

We saw racial conflict in our midst. Now we are learning to decide what to carry in our search for light. Do we carry our prejudice and hatred? Do we pack bias in our pockets? Or do we search for ways to leave this baggage behind?

Now that the smoke has cleared from fires up and down the West Coast, what do we see? Can we envision clear skies, clean rivers and healthy ecosystems?

When COVID-19 darkened classrooms around the world, computer screens lit up for some, but not for everyone. Businesses, gyms and restaurants closed. Our streets grew silent. Our fear and determination delivered a sudden halt to our normal way of living. The unavoidable impact of colliding perspectives, values and lived experiences—our collective reckoning—has spared no one.

In these waning days of a year like no other, our university community is called to reexamine foundational questions of purpose and identity. Whether we are students or alumni, we are all on a continuum of learning, a lifelong process of thinking critically and engaging with ideas that might at first make us uncomfortable. It is our shared civic responsibility.

How should we—as a community connected to the University, and through it, connected to each other—respond to 2020? We should seek out and create signs of light. We must see how we are all connected to one another and how we are connected to the planet. We are a community that values truth; we are in need of reconciliation and repair. When we see and define the pathways that bridge our divides, let us now move toward those who can help us to see the truth of our humanity and can share the stories that enable us to learn from 2020 and imagine ourselves in a new community, one that begins with each of us belonging.

Those stories and other resources for us as lifelong learners can be found on the UW Alumni Association's Stronger Together website ([www.uwalum.com/strongertogether](http://www.uwalum.com/strongertogether)). The site also offers opportunities to engage directly with students and fellow alums. Take a look. See where it might lead.

*Ed Taylor, Ph.D. '93, is a professor of education, vice provost and dean of undergraduate academic affairs; Paul Rucker, MPA '02, is the UW Alumni Association's executive director. They met 20 years ago as teacher and student.*

ILLUSTRATION BY ANTHONY RUSSO



Our doctors **lead worldwide clinical trials.**  
will see you now.

UW Medicine is the only healthcare system in Washington that directly connects care to one of the nation's top medical schools and an internationally known research center. From routine to complex care, we're here for you. Learn more at [uwmedicine.org](http://uwmedicine.org).

**UW Medicine**

A higher degree of healthcare



MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

## He Taught Us How to Care

Throughout his 94 years, Bill Gates Sr., '49, '50, was driven to do the right thing: as a man, husband, father and someone who gave everything he had for the school he loved, the University of Washington. His impact is—and will continue to be—felt throughout Western Washington, and that is a tribute to his ambition to make this a better world.

The Bremerton native was renowned for his intellect, compassion and optimism. Early in his career as a lawyer, he took on pro bono cases and volunteered his time on the board of the YMCA. Service to our community became a lifelong pursuit, whether as president of the board for United Way King County, a UW Regent (for 15 years), a leader in two major University campaigns or co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. His decades of volunteering were imbued with his unwavering belief that the University was a cornerstone for our collective community success. At a holiday party several years ago, he led the room in "Bow Down to Washington," belting out the words (and a little astonished that not everyone knew

the song by heart). This was his university, and ours, and he wanted to make sure we all knew how important it was that we give back to this place and guide it in its public mission.

So much in this issue of our magazine connects to the person of Bill Gates Senior. He could have been the lead for our retirees-at-work story since his retirement in 1994 shifted even more of his efforts to service, whether welcoming Mary Gates Endowment scholars on campus or visiting Nelson Mandela in South Africa alongside President Jimmy Carter. Our cover story about former prisoners highlights issues of poverty, inequity and the role education has in changing lives—all important pieces of his advocacy.

Showing up, helping where you can, making an impact—those were the values he was raised with and values he shared with his family and with all who knew him. We can best honor this incredible man by carrying on his legacy and caring for one another and our communities.

As he once wrote: "We are all in this life together, and we all need each other."

### STAFF

*A publication of the UW Alumni Association and the University of Washington since 1908*

**PUBLISHER** Paul Rucker, '95, '02  
**ASST. VICE PRESIDENT, UWAA MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS** Terri Hiroshima  
**EDITOR** Jon Marmor, '94  
**MANAGING EDITOR** Hannelore Sudermann, '96  
**ART DIRECTOR** Ken Shafer  
**DIGITAL EDITOR** Quinn Russell Brown, '13  
**CONTRIBUTING STAFF** Ben Erickson, Karen Rippel Chilcote, Jane Higgins, Kerry MacDonald, '04

**UWAA BOARD OF TRUSTEES PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS**  
Chair, Nate Fulton, '99, B.A., Economics  
Vice Chair, Emily Anderson, '09, B.A., Interdisciplinary Studies, UW Bothell

[magazine.washington.edu](http://magazine.washington.edu)

**CONTRIBUTING WRITERS**  
Omari Amili, Jim Caple, Sheila Farr, Erin Rowley, Misty Shock Rule, David Volk

**CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS**  
Quinn Russell Brown, Lauren Crew, Anil Kapahi, Meron Menghistab, Mark Stone, Dennis Wise, Ron Wurzer

**CONTRIBUTING ILLUSTRATORS**  
Beppe Giacobbe, Olivier Kugler, David Plunkert, Anthony Russo

**EDITORIAL OFFICES**  
**Phone** 206-543-0540  
**Email** [magazine@uw.edu](mailto:magazine@uw.edu)  
**Fax** 206-685-0611  
4333 Brooklyn Ave. N.E.  
UW Tower 01, Box 359559  
Seattle, WA 98195-9559

**WRITE US!**  
**Email** [magazine@uw.edu](mailto:magazine@uw.edu)  
**Online** [magazine.washington.edu](http://magazine.washington.edu)  
Letters may be edited for length or clarity.

**WRONG ADDRESS?**  
Contact us at:  
University of Washington Magazine  
Box 359559, Seattle, WA 98195-9559  
Or: [updates@uw.edu](mailto:updates@uw.edu)

**TO PLACE AN AD**  
SagaCity Media, Inc.  
509 Olive Way, Suite 305, Seattle, WA 98101  
Jeff Adams, '83  
[jadams@sagacitymedia.com](mailto:jadams@sagacitymedia.com), 206-454-3007  
Carol Cummins  
[ccummins@sagacitymedia.com](mailto:ccummins@sagacitymedia.com), 206-454-3058

*University of Washington Magazine is published quarterly by the UW Alumni Association and UW for graduates and friends of the UW (ISSN 1047-8604; Canadian Publication Agreement #40845662). Opinions expressed are those of the signed contributors or the editors and do not necessarily represent the UW's official position. This magazine does not endorse, directly or by implication, any products or services advertised except those sponsored directly by the UWAA. Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to: Station A, PO Box 54, Windsor, ON N9A 6J5 CANADA.*

## Open the door to sky-high living.

Your urban oasis awaits. At Mirabella Seattle, we're proud to offer spacious, beautifully appointed apartments in the heart of Seattle's South Lake Union district, so that you can retire in style.

Call for a tour today.  
**206-254-1441**

[mirabellaliving.com/seattle](http://mirabellaliving.com/seattle)

**MIRABELLA**  
SEATTLE



**JOIN THE CONVERSATION** (Letters may be edited for length or clarity.)  
**Email:** magazine@uw.edu **Online:** magazine.washington.edu  
**U.S. mail:** University of Washington Magazine, Campus Box 359559,  
 Seattle, WA 98195-9559

## Jim Owens' Success

That was a fantastic article on the 100th anniversary of Husky Stadium ("Grand Stand," Fall 2020). However, it is missing a significant period of Husky football success led by coach Jim Owens from 1959 to 1961. Coach Owens led the West Coast football renaissance with Rose Bowl victories in 1960 and 1961. From 1947, when the Rose Bowl pact was signed with the Big Ten, the only West Coast victory was when USC beat Wisconsin in 1952. We were told we just couldn't compete with the Midwest teams. Coach Owens came to Seattle in 1957 from legendary coach Bear Bryant's coaching staff at Texas A&M and immediately changed the prevailing culture to one of hard-nosed football with intense training and a "take no prisoners" attitude. One of his drills was called the "Death March," with few players standing afterward. For both the 1960 and 1961 Rose Bowl games, we were big underdogs but badly beat Wisconsin in 1960, 44-8, and Minnesota, 17-7, in '61. For 1960, we were awarded the Helms Foundation National Championship trophy. These Rose Bowl victories clearly demonstrated to all that we could not only compete with the Big Ten but could win big! I was fortunate to be part of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity, where several football players resided. We saw firsthand the excitement of Husky football. One of the key players was wide receiver Pat Claridge, '61, who was my roommate. At that time, they played both offense and defense.

**Gary Keehner, '62, Spotsylvania, Virginia**

## Grade A Albacore

Fresh albacore ("Stuck at Home? Here's a Fine Way to Find Fish," Fall 2020) is indeed a tasty seafood option, as I learned while working on an albacore troller in the early 1970s. We cut the fillets into steaks and fried them with onions and green peppers. I'm happy to see this product show up in fish markets with a positive response from the public. Albacore caught off the West Coast is sustainably harvested, with virtually no bycatch. Canned albacore can also be quite good, however, and does not in any way taste like cat food. This comparison denigrates an affordable protein source which is available year-round and nationwide. At the end of each fishing season, we would buy canned tuna from Bumble Seafood in Astoria, Oregon, where we sold our fish. Bumblebee is now the source for

the Kirkland Signature canned albacore sold at Costco, which I consider the best widely available product. I use it in tuna fish casseroles and for tuna fish sandwiches. The cat, by the way, wouldn't touch the drained-off liquid or the fish. She preferred the Costco chicken.

**Karen Sjogren, '86, Salem, Oregon**

## A Truly Great Man

The article on Rod Stanley ("Remembering a Gentle Giant," Fall 2020) really hit home. Rod and I lived around the corner from each other as kids, the same age and grade and shared many adventures together. After my family moved, we were reunited in high school and both attended UW, but I took a detour through community college first and lost track of Rod in the succeeding years. At our 50th high school reunion last year, I fervently hoped to renew our contacts and was crushed to learn that he had passed away. I really appreciated the tribute to a truly great man and great friend.

**Tim Stickel, '73, Mercer Island**

## The Genius of Astra

Thank you for the article on Professor Astra Zarina ("Under the Spell of Astra in Rome," Fall 2020). She was teaching when I was a student in the Landscape Architecture Department at the UW. Many years later, I was encouraged by Professor David Streatfield to apply for one of the Civita Institute's fellowships. I was fortunate enough to receive a one-month fellowship and live in Civita. I have returned to Civita every year since. I was also able to become familiar with the Rome Center as an aide to Professor Streatfield in 2004 and 2006, teaching the drawing component of his Landscape Architecture in Rome program. Your article captured the genius of Astra, though nothing could compare with actually being in her presence. As we celebrate her, honor her achievements and her legacy, your article brought her, briefly, back to life.

**Thomas J. Allsopp, '73, Seattle**

## Proud of the UW

I am so proud of the UW for stepping up to battle the current pandemic as it "embraces the work of population health" ("For Our Health," Fall 2020). President Cauce's inspiring words on the task of building a "more equitable and prosperous new normal" remind me that we can all chip in and do our part. Beyond voting, we can contact our members of Congress, thank

them for their hard work and ask them to join the University in building a better world. The Heroes Act was on the right track, and with the awakening of America to our underlying racism, along with the challenges of hunger and affordable housing, there is much to be done. Our voices and follow-up can make this new normal a reality.

**Willie Dickerson, '73, '94, Snohomish**

## Sharing With My Dad

What a marvelous edition celebrating the Be Boundless Campaign! Every story was special and a delight to read, and now that I am done, I am sending it on to my 96-year-old dad, Lt. Col. (Ret.) Raymond Hensel, '48, a former UW student and fanatic Husky football fan (since he was 4 years old). A World War II vet, he will delight in the stories about Charles Sheaffer, Husky Stadium, Seattle landslides (he remembers some), and the touching story of finding the remains of missing veterans. As a journalism school grad and former reporter for the Seattle P-I, I appreciate the fine writing and look forward to your next edition. Many thanks.

**Dolores Hensel Eyster, '71, Rye, New York**

## A Sense of Humor

I just finished the article on Husky Stadium ("Grand Stand," Fall 2020), and it made me chuckle. I didn't know that the original UW football team that started in 1895 was called the "Sun Dodgers." I am happy to know that the "traditional," good-natured, or dare we say "dry" sense of humor has always existed at the UW, even since its inception. Go Huskies!

**Dan O'Connell**

## Yearning for Campus

I read (the Fall 2020 issue) from cover to cover. It is outstanding. I yearn for the campus and its stimulation. I am an elderly Husky, class of '47, proud to be an alum.

**Patricia Olmstead McFarlane, '47, '68, Vista, California**

## Absolutely Delighted

I am very impressed by UW Magazine. I have to admit, I don't refer to the UW Alumni website (but will start!). While I'm not big on paper editions of material, I was delighted with the content and quality of production of your latest issue.

**Eileen O'Grady, '19, Bainbridge Island**



**Clockwise from top left:** SIDELINE COACHES KNIT HAT WITH POM *fanatics.com*; SILICONE DEBOSSED APPLE WATCH BAND & AIRPODS PRO CASE COVER *affinitybands.com*; VERA BRADLEY HIPSTER CROSSBODY BAG *verabradley.com*; CHAMPION WOMEN'S SHERPA JACKET *ubookstore.com*; MOCCASIN SLIPPERS *kohls.com*; DOG JERSEY, LEASH & COLLAR *huskyteamstore.com*; PNW CERAMIC MUG & TRAVEL MUG *ubookstore.com*; SALTED CARAMEL GIFT BOX *frans.com*; YOGA MAT *victorytailgate.com*; THROW PILLOW & FROSTY FLEECE *logobrands.com*

📍 [realdawgswearpurple](#) 🐾 [DawgsReal](#) 🟪 [WearPurple](#)





## A Year to Remember

While we may want move on from 2020, historians and information experts encourage us to preserve our memories and mementos so future generations might understand this exceptional time.

By Hannelore Sudermann

We'd all like to forget the challenges of a pandemic-filled 2020—the empty store shelves, suddenly working from home or losing our jobs, the political unrest, not seeing our friends or family, the school closures, the smoke-filled weeks and the boarded-up buildings. But we shouldn't.

History and information experts say we might learn from 1918, when another devastating pandemic swept the world. The world forgot. The Spanish flu ultimately infected 500 million people and killed 50 million. There are haunting similarities between then and now—a national lack of preparedness, confusing propaganda, the disproportionate effect on people of color, and how different communities responded to the outbreak at different times. Then, as now, groups of citizens disagreed with social distancing and masking, but

those were and still are the best tools for slowing the spread of disease.

And at the end of it all, in spite of the lives affected and lives lost, the country just wanted to move on. So much of that 1918 pandemic has been forgotten, notes iSchool professor Joseph Janes, that we don't know what people were doing or feeling from day to day. "I think now we all understand that people in 1920 just didn't want to think about it anymore," he says.

There are no monuments, and very few memoirs or novels, according to Nancy Bristow, who discussed the two pandemics in a UW History Department lecture this past summer. Bristow, who teaches at the University of Puget Sound, is one of the leading experts on the social and cultural effects of the Spanish flu, having researched primary sources like letters and

## Our ways of responding to an outbreak are much the same as then.

journals for her book, "American Pandemic: The Lost Worlds of the 1918 Influenza Epidemic."

Though it's more than a century later, our ways of responding to an outbreak and the tools at our disposal are much the same as then, she says. The strategies to stem the spread in 1918—education, hygiene, social distancing, quarantining, closures and masking—are unchanged. The communities that took action early diminished their death tolls. Other communities fared worse.

Cities like Spokane and San Francisco struggled to contain the flu because of disagreements between health officials and local leaders. Seattle fared better thanks to a well-coordinated response, says Bristow. On Oct. 4, 1918, the Naval Training Station on the UW campus reported that one cadet had died and more than 700 people were ill. By the next day, the city health commissioner enacted the first round of restrictions, and just two days later, he shut down all public gatherings, church services and public amusements. People were urged to stay home. By November, masks were required.

History looks at that time as the end of World War I and the victorious role the U.S. played. But the pandemic essentially has been forgotten.

Janes has the same concern with this year. "My contention is when this is over, we're not going to talk about this," he says. Our instincts will be to get past this bizarre, difficult time in an effort to return to normal, he suggests. Also, today, far fewer people keep diaries or write letters detailing their experiences. Texts and emails will not likely endure, he says.

So now, when our memories of the past several months are fresh, we should make the effort to hang on to them, he says. "The future is going to want to know how we felt," says Janes. "Just like we want to know how they felt in 1918."

STATE OF THE ART JAPANESE GARDEN



## Strong Roots, Strong Branches

In celebration of the Seattle Japanese Garden's 60th birthday this summer, a number of local artists created works honoring the landscape and the people involved. Michelle Kumata's "Northwest Nikkei" series features the garden and the Nikkei community from the year the garden opened.

The traditional Japanese garden was designed in the late 1950s by master designers from Japan and sits on 3 1/2 acres in a larger park then known as the University of Washington Arboretum, now Washington Park. The project was supported with private funds and facilitated, in part, by the UW.

One of Kumata's subjects, Richard Yamasaki, grew up in Seattle and ran a landscape business. He was hired to assist the master designers from Japan in building the garden. Yamasaki honed his craft on the project, learning Japanese principles directly from designer Juki Iida. He stayed connected to the garden throughout his life and in 1993, Yamasaki donated a Japanese black pine that his family had tended since the 1920s.

Kumata studied graphic design at the UW before obtaining a degree in illustration from the School of Visual Arts in New York. "Yamasaki carries the black

pine tree and rises beyond the trials of his family's history," she writes in her description of the work. "The pine represents endurance, adaptability, and a bright future. The monarch butterfly represents rebirth and transformation."

## Sign of the Times

By changing the name of a campus road adjacent to the Intellectual House, the University honors Indigenous history

By Hannelore Sudermann

Before white settlement, the land where the University of Washington now sits was home to Coast Salish peoples. They included the ancestors of today's Northwest Native Americans. One of the closest villages to campus—about where University Village is now—was called *slu?wit*, a word in the Lushootseed language that loosely translates to “Little Canoe Channel.”

The name *slu?wit* has been returned to the landscape in the form of a street sign along a small road that runs alongside *wələbʔaltx*—Intellectual House, the long-house-style learning and gathering space for Native American students and the greater

territory of the Coast Salish,” says Braine. “It was good to say that on the record and have the Board of Regents agree.” This is an issue of erasure, he explains. Every place the UW touches has a traditional name and a traditional meaning, and many of the original names have been changed or forgotten.

With the support of the Native American Advisory Board to the UW and the Office of Minority Affairs & Diversity, Braine made the case for renaming the street to the Board of Regents in the spring of 2018. “The UW is occupying

territory of the Coast Salish,” says Braine. “It was good to say that on the record and have the Board of Regents agree.” This is an issue of erasure, he explains. Every place the UW touches has a traditional name and a traditional meaning, and many of the original names have been changed or forgotten.

The board wasted no time in unanimously voting to rename the road, noting that it intends to do more to recognize Native place-names of the region to enrich the historical context of the campus.

The new green street sign was created with the help of Tami Hohn, a member of the Puyallup tribe who teaches Southern Lushootseed at the UW. She provided guidance on the spelling, font and color of the sign, as she has done with projects for the City of Seattle and Washington state. It was installed in July, with little fanfare. “It kind of surprised us,” says Braine. But it was a good surprise. “It’s wonderful to see the language here on campus,” he says. It is another step toward making Indigenous students and the greater Native American community feel welcome at the UW. “This is not erasing U.S. history,” he explains. “It’s celebrating Indigenous history as well.”

Indigenous community. “This name change has been in the works for a very long time,” says Lisaaksiichaa Ross Braine, ’09, ’15, the University’s tribal liaison. He remembers as a student nearly 20 years ago taking part in discussions about renaming roads on campus, including Whitman Court—the street that runs from the main campus arterial of E. Stevens Way N.E. past McMahon and Haggett Halls.

The road was originally named for Marcus and Narcissa Whitman, missionaries who settled along the Walla Walla River and helped establish the Oregon Trail. Because of cultural differences and an outbreak of the measles that killed about half of the Cayuse tribe, the Whitman Mission is a painful chapter for Indigenous people. The connection ended with a massacre of the missionaries and the burning of their buildings.

“It was not a good relationship,” says Braine. Instead of ministering to the Indians through their mission, the Whitmans focused their efforts on white settlers traveling through on

### RESEARCH



#### ROLL ON, ENROLLMENT

In spite of the pandemic, the UW’s newest class of undergraduate students broke record levels of enrollment across all three campuses fall quarter. The incoming new class, including first-year students and transfer students, totals 11,775, of which 72.2% are Washington residents. Of the 8,520 new undergraduates admitted to the Seattle campus, 1,412 identify with at least one underrepresented group. Total enrollment across all three campuses rose from 59,381 to 60,418 (48,734 in Seattle, 6,326 at UW Bothell and 5,380 at UW Tacoma—22 students are enrolled at more than one UW campus), continuing a progressive trend spanning the past 13 years.



#### NOBEL PRIZE FOR HEP C DISCOVERY

Harvey J. Alter, a UW resident in internal medicine from 1964-65, has received the 2020 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for his contributions to the discovery of the hepatitis C virus. He shared the award with Michael Houghton and Charles M. Rice. The virus can cause liver cancer and failure and, like hepatitis B, is transmitted through blood and bodily fluid. If untreated, lead to long term complications and even death. After training at the UW, where he honed his interest in hepatology, and a fellowship at Georgetown University, Alter joined the NIH Clinical Center’s Department of Transfusion Medicine. In the 1970s, he identified a new type of hepatitis virus that was clearly not types A or B. A few decades later, Houghton isolated the virus and Rice studied its replication, which led to effective treatments. About 2.4 million people in the U.S. are estimated to be living with hepatitis C, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

DAVID PER

BLACK VOICES CLAIRE GWAYI-CHORE

## Black Voices

Viewpoint, the twice-yearly sister publication to this magazine, focuses on stories of diversity at the University of Washington. The most recent issue features Blackvoices from our campus and alumni community. We asked our contributors to talk about the reverberations brought by the recent deaths of Black men and women at the hands of police, the ensuing protests and the broadening national awareness of Black Lives Matter. Sociology Professor Alexes Harris, ’97, curated the issue and invited perspectives from people actively driving change at the UW and in our wider communities. One of our voices is graduate student Claire Gwayi-Chore, pictured here, who details the challenges of helping her department address and root out racism and inequity while fulfilling her responsibilities as a Ph.D. student in Global Health. You can find her essay, as well as those of Professor Harris, an undergraduate student, a UW staff member, an assistant professor and an alumnus. Their reflections are critical, powerful and personal. Read them at [magazine.uw.edu](http://magazine.uw.edu).  
*Photo by Quinn Russell Brown*



# Tackling the Other Pandemic: Racism

UW doctors, students join to fight “white supremacy as a lethal public health issue”

By Misty Shock Rule

In late May, Dr. Olivia Kates was riding the train to work at UW Medical Center Montlake. A passenger nearby approached and asked what she did for a living. George Floyd had just been killed, and activists across the country were protesting in support of Black Lives Matter. When Kates explained that she was a senior fellow in infectious diseases, the passenger unloaded her concerns about the novel coronavirus—not about immunity, transmission or vaccines, but criticism of the protests because of claims that they would lead to an increase in coronavirus infections.

“I really struggled to steer that interaction

and convey one message that is important to me, which is that masking, social distancing and following public health guidelines are really essential, while supporting another message that conscious efforts toward anti-racism are also completely essential,” Kates says.

When Kates arrived at the office, she talked to a colleague, Dr. Rachel Bender Ignacio, '08, '14, '15, who had heard similar concerns. They came up with a plan to pen a letter in support of the protests, using their authority as infectious disease physicians—along with the privilege they have because they are white—to help

change the narrative. The two doctors invited several colleagues from their time at the UW—Dr. Abir Hussein, Dr. Jade Pagkas-Bather, '19, and two others—to join them because they needed to add more voices to the project. Together, they crafted a letter calling for an anti-racist public health response to the protests. “White supremacy is a lethal public health issue that predates and contributes to COVID-19,” the letter reads. “... Protests against systemic racism, which fosters the disproportionate burden of COVID-19 on Black communities and also perpetuates police violence, must be supported.” It also opposed the use of tear gas, called on police to wear masks and maintain social distancing, and gave recommendations on how to conduct protests safely.

On May 30, the group sent the letter to a handful of colleagues and shared it on social media. By June 4, 1,288 infectious-disease experts, public health professionals and community stakeholders nationwide had signed it. Stories about the letter appeared in influential media like CNN, NPR, The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Atlantic and more. When they stopped taking signatures, 4,202 names were included.

The letter was part of a wider movement throughout the medical community supporting the protests. The pandemic had laid bare society’s racial inequities: If you are Black, you are more likely to be an essential worker who can’t work from home, lack health insurance, have pre-existing conditions—and become hospitalized for and die as a result of the coronavirus. You also are more likely to suffer disproportionately from disease, die in childbirth or have your infant die.

In every corner of the country, medical workers called for racial justice through protests, op-eds, appearances on cable news and more. On June 6, approximately 10,000 health-care workers converged on Seattle to be part of the Doctors for Justice March, organized by UW Medicine’s Dr. Estell Williams, '13, and Edwin Lindo, '12.

“We are going to find a vaccine for COVID-19. Racism has been here for centuries, and there is no vaccine,” says Ali Mokdad, a professor at the UW Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation. He says racism is a bigger threat to public health than the coronavirus. “You can see just from the pandemic examples of how racism over centuries has built up in people’s lives and made them more vulnerable and more likely to die. As public health professionals, it is our duty to look at the whole picture, not just the individual pieces.” In June, the influential institute, known for its coronavirus projections, announced it would study

the public health impacts of racism.

While the medical community is bringing another voice to the fight for racial justice, it’s also working to make up for a legacy of medicine used to enforce racism and white supremacy. Racial bias in medicine and medical education became apparent to Naomi Nkinsi, a student in the UW School of Medicine, during her first year of medical school. She was attending a class lecture about kidneys when the professor came to the last slide. It read that race is an important factor in determining kidney function.

Nkinsi was puzzled; she had never heard about a connection between kidneys and skin tone. Claims about physiological differences between different races had been disproven long ago. She learned that a widely used kidney test uses a race-based equation to report different results for Black and non-Black patients—based on the outdated belief that Black people have more muscle mass. The outcome is that Black patients score higher for kidney function, leading to delays in getting treatment. The New England Journal of Medicine has identified seven other

## Racism has been here for centuries and there is no vaccine.

medical algorithms that are similarly tainted by racial bias and affect the quality of care Black patients receive.

“I knew that there was racism in medicine, but I thought a lot of it was going to be interpersonal racism,” says Nkinsi, who said she has experienced her share of racism in medical school as one of five Black students in her class of around 100. “I learned that it’s built into algorithms that our bodies are different. It gave me a new sense of distrust in medical systems, because now I’m learning that every physician I’ve ever encountered is taught to see me as inferior.” Nkinsi challenged the use of race in the kidney test in class, initially facing resistance from classmates and instructors. She

went on to lead a two-year effort to fight the practice. On May 29, the UW School of Medicine announced it would stop using the race-based equation as part of the test.

For Nkinsi, fighting racism in medicine is about using the power and privilege of her position as a medical professional. It goes back to why she wanted to become a doctor in the first place: “The white coat is a signifier of my willingness to humbly serve other people and show them a radical sense of empathy.”

Empathy is at the heart of defeating both racism and the coronavirus.

“COVID is out of control for the same reasons that racism is out of control—an individualist orientation that comes off as a lack of compassion for your fellow man,” Kates says. “We see that people may not universally be willing to correct their behavior or attitudes to reduce transmission of COVID. But COVID will hopefully one day be corrected by science. Correcting your behavior and attitudes will be the only way to overcome white supremacy. Fighting racism intuitively must be bigger.”—Misty Shock Rule, '99, works in the UW Office of News & Information

era living Premier Residential Retirement Since 1987



Find connection and joy  
IN EXTRAORDINARY TIMES

Era Living retirement communities feature gardens ideal for outdoor gatherings, technology to help you connect, and a variety of stimulating virtual and distanced activities.

Visit [eraliving.com/joy](http://eraliving.com/joy) or call (206) 333-0290 to learn more.

University House at Wallingford and Issaquah are proud partners of UWR



**10 Things to feel good about**

**The good news is out there.**

In the spirit of Swedish doctor Hans Rosling, the world health visionary for whom the new Population Health Center is named, we've assembled a sampling of good news findings and events with connections to the UW. Rosling described himself as a "possibilist," "someone who neither hopes without reason, nor fears without reason, someone who constantly resists the overdramatic worldview." He saw great progress toward improving the health and conditions for humans worldwide and it filled him with conviction and hope that further progress is possible. Another piece of good news, we limited ourselves to 10 items from various disciplines, but this list could be a whole lot longer.



INFOGRAPHIC FEELING GOOD

**1. Infants are altruistic**

According to a recent study out of the UW's Institute for Learning & Brain Sciences, babies are happy to share their food, even with unfamiliar people, and even when they're hungry.

**2. Two baby orcas born**

In September, whale-watchers reported two new calves in the vulnerable J pod. UW researchers have been tracking the pod's health, which is affected by boat noise, pollution and availability of food. When food supplies allow, the pod spends part of the year in southern Puget Sound.

**3. Eelgrass has a halo**

One of nature's superheroes, eelgrass, has a slippery texture and is known for offering shade and camouflage for young fish. It also helps anchor shorelines and provides food and habitat for many marine species. A new UW study adds one more superpower: warding off toxin-producing algae—the kind that closes beaches.

**4. Full-fat dairy is OK**

Full-fat dairy, like whole milk, heavy cream and cheese, can be good for you. An international study in which the UW took part shows that those who eat full-fat options are less likely to suffer from obesity. Full-fat foods are more filling and can keep blood sugar stable between meals. Also, some acids in milk fat may crank up calorie burning.

**5. Mosquitoes 'n flowers**

Those tiny, bitey creatures are drawn to flowers as much as to people. New research from UW biologists has revealed the hows and whys of those chemical cues. The findings could help the development of less toxic and more effective repellants.

**6. Grads in pandemic**

Despite the challenges of taking classes remotely and wrapping up the school year in the middle of a global pandemic, about 18,000 UW students received their degrees in June.

**7. Nature knows best**

Going outside improves our mental well-being as well as our physical health. UW studies show it reduces anxiety, helps us sleep better, and offers benefits for health issues including Type 2 diabetes, depression and obesity.

**8. Expanding canvases**

A pandemic, then protests, then plywood-covered storefronts have provided opportunities for artistic expression across Seattle. Check out a few new sculptures on campus, including the Chinook Indian welcome outside the Burke Museum.

**9. More family time**

Millions of Americans are staying home these days. UW experts recommend structuring your days, blocking off time for work and homework and dedicating at least 20 minutes for fun, child-directed play and undivided attention.

**10. Bye, murder hornets**

Using technology and knowledge developed at the UW, the state Department of Agriculture attached tiny trackers to the invasive insects and followed them to their nest in a tree in Blaine. The interlopers were removed!

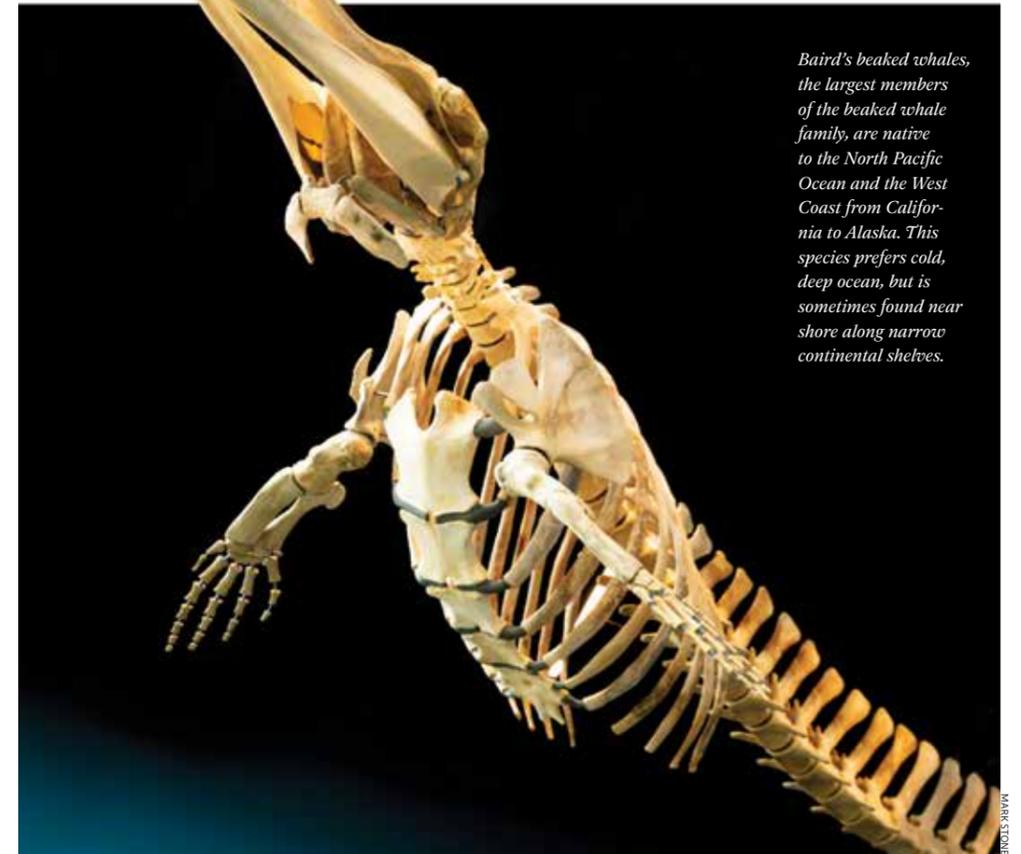
**A Whale of a Tale**

Looking positively prehistoric, the skeleton of a 39-foot-long Baird's beaked whale (*Berardius bairdii*) is now on permanent display in the Burke Museum lobby. But this is no fossil. The whale washed ashore on a Washington beach in 2015.

The Marine Mammal Stranding Network reached out to the Burke with news of the whale, and a team of students and curators was dispatched to the site. The UW team buried the carcass at the beach near where it was discovered and let nature do its work cleaning the bones. After about two years, the remains of whale were moved to the roof of the old Burke Museum, before being sent out to be articulated prior to installation at the new Burke Museum, which opened its doors to visitors last fall.

This skeleton, which can be seen from the street at 15th Ave. Northeast, is one of about 10 Baird's beaked whales in U.S. museum collections and offers insights into a species that is rarely seen or studied.

The whale is posed to look like it is swimming and hunting.



*Baird's beaked whales, the largest members of the beaked whale family, are native to the North Pacific Ocean and the West Coast from California to Alaska. This species prefers cold, deep ocean, but is sometimes found near shore along narrow continental shelves.*

**Researching Gun Carrying Among Rural Teens**

By Hannelore Sudermann

For the first time in nearly three decades, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is funding research into gun use. The UW is one of the first beneficiaries, with a \$1.5 million, three-year grant to research handgun carrying among rural adolescents.

Firearm injuries are the second-leading cause of death for American teens, after vehicle accidents. While young people carrying handguns and firearm violence are generally thought to be urban issues, a recently completed study of rural communities shows that's not the case. In communities from seven states across the country—Washington, Oregon, Colorado, Illinois, Utah, Kansas, and Maine—UW researchers found that about one in three young males and one in 10 young females had carried a handgun. Many of them carried a handgun

for the first time in the sixth grade.

Scientists and researchers are still developing an understanding of the environmental and cultural influences on firearm use, says Ali Rowhani-Rahbar, associate professor of epidemiology in the School of Public Health and co-director of the Firearm Injury & Policy Research Program. While rural communities have high levels of firearm access and mortality, especially due to suicide, their relationship with firearms, particularly handguns, is understudied and underserved, he adds.

If the new study can identify developmental patterns of handgun carrying through adolescence and into adulthood, it may inform ways to reduce firearm-related injury in this population. Understanding that youth as young as 12 report carrying a handgun suggests that firearm injury prevention and safety promotion programs may need to be introduced at such early ages.

The CDC stopped funding firearm research in 1996 because of the Dickey Amendment, which prohibited using federal funding to promote gun control. A 2018 House spending bill clarified that the prohibition did not include public health research. Now the CDC has directed \$7.8 million to 16 projects, including the UW's. The awards herald an era in which firearm violence researchers are resourced to work with stakeholders and communities to reduce the burden of this major population health challenge, says Rowhani-Rahbar. "This is a historic development and consequential milestone for the field of public health in general, and the science of violence and injury prevention in particular."

The new study will be conducted in collaboration with investigators from UW's Social Development Research Group, Washington State University, Arizona State University and Seattle Children's Research Institute.

## UW vs. COVID-19

### Taking Testing to At-Risk Communities

To overcome health inequities plaguing vulnerable communities, UW Medicine's COVID-19 mobile van testing program has reached out to South Seattle and South King County and served more than 15,000 people. "We are one of the first health-care teams that mobilized efforts to provide community testing for vulnerable populations in King County," says Dr. Lisa Chew, '96, '97, '02, '03, '09, associate professor of general internal medicine and associate medical director for ambulatory services at UW Medicine-Harborview. "It's important to go to areas where we find that there are high positivity rates so we can identify individuals who are infected with the virus and isolate them quickly." Using two vans, UW Medicine provides access to testing in South King County and South Seattle, as well as for people experiencing homelessness. Language interpreting services are on site and those who are deaf and blind are welcome, too. There is no need for health insurance and people do not need to be patients of UW Medicine. Says Chew: "People feel much more comfortable to get tested with the vans coming to their neighborhood."

### Hotel rooms for homeless slows COVID-19

King County's plan to move people out of homeless shelters and into hotel rooms helped slow the transmission of coronavirus, a University of Washington study has found. The intervention

also produced other benefits to those who were relocated: improved physical and mental health, and the ability to focus on long-term goals such as obtaining housing, employment and education. "We need to remove the crisis of homelessness to allow people to move forward," says Rachel Fyall, associate professor of public policy and one of the study's authors.

### Hold on: Hydroxychloroquine is Not a Panacea

Early in the pandemic, hydroxychloroquine was touted as a way to ward off COVID-19. But a UW Medicine study found that is not the case. UW researchers found that people who have had close contact with those with confirmed COVID-19 infections who took hydroxychloroquine were just as like to get COVID-19 as were those who received a placebo.

### Alum Named to Coronavirus Task Force

An alumna of the UW School of Medicine has been appointed to President-Elect Biden's coronavirus task force. Celine R. Gounder, '04, is a clinical assistant professor at New York University's Grossman School of Medicine and a practicing HIV/infectious disease specialist and internist, epidemiologist, journalist and filmmaker. She is the host and producer of "In Sickness and in Health," a podcast on health and social justice. She is best known for her print and TV coverage of the Ebola, Zika and opioid abuse epidemics.

*Sadly, we had to say goodbye to one of the most fabulous elm trees in the U District—the majestic 65-footer outside Elm Hall along Northeast Campus Parkway. A nasty case of Dutch elm disease did in the tree despite the best efforts of University arborists. A new tree will be planted, says UW Arborist Sara Shores, but it won't be an elm. The soil still carries the disease.*



## Blame it on the Beetles

Elm Hall has lost its namesake elm. Two years ago, the nearly century-old tree on the north side of Northeast Campus Parkway started showing signs of Dutch elm disease. The University's arborists tried to prolong its life by pruning the infected branches and inoculating it against the beetle-borne infection. Alas, as is the case with most American elm trees, it could not be saved. Late this summer, with much ado, they took the 65-footer down.

The student residence, Elm Hall, was built in 2012 and designed to accommodate the majestic tree. Another tree will go in to replace it, says UW Arborist Sara Shores, but definitely not another elm since the soil will still carry the disease. Not to worry: the campus still has plenty of trees—about 9,000—ranging from the Alaskan Yellow Cedar to the Zelkova (a member of the elm family with Dutch elm resistance).

# IT'S ALL ABOUT WHO YOU KNOW.

**Congratulations!** Your network grew a little larger. We're thrilled to connect with **University of Washington alums**, and support your success.



**GEICO**  
ALUMNI DISCOUNT

**W** Alumni  
ASSOCIATION  
UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

Some discounts, coverages, payment plans, and features are not available in all states, in all GEICO companies, or in all situations. GEICO is a registered service mark of Government Employees Insurance Company, Washington, DC 20076; a Berkshire Hathaway Inc. subsidiary. GEICO Gecko® image © 1999–2020. © 2020 GEICO 20\_548207534



ATHLETICS COMMUNICATIONS

SCORECARD LIBERTY BRACKEN

## Grade A Performer

Liberty Bracken (above right) has a critical job in the UW athletic department: she helps student-athletes keep on top of their academics. Last year, the Husky football team earned an NCAA-record APR score of 999 (out of 1,000). Interview by Jim Caple

### What is your job?

In my role, I oversee the academic team that works with our football program, as well as serve as academic adviser for football and men's soccer.

### How did you get into this field?

I've always been interested in education and athletics. When I came to the UW, I had a work-study scholarship and when I was looking for opportunities, I saw that there was a position in academic services in the athletic department. I applied, was interviewed and hired on the same day to work in the tutorial office as an office assistant. I got to see the support and resources that are available. I had no idea there was something that combined my love for education and athletics.

### What is the secret to getting student-athletes to succeed in the classroom?

The secret is meeting players where they're at. Every student is so different. Something that motivates one person is not going to be the same for somebody else. You have to build relationships and get student-athletes to understand that we're here to support them. You're a passenger on their journey to get them where they want to be academically, athletically, and looking at their career goals after sports.

### Do you set goals for each school year, such as achieving a certain APR score?

No, we don't. The 999 score last year was amazing—a huge testament to academic excellence and its part in their mission. You go into the team room and look at their goals, and you try to achieve academic

excellence. And we prove it year after year. The fact is we've been No. 1 in the Pac-12 three years in a row and have broken the NCAA APR record. Having the record-breaking score of 999 this past year has been a huge accomplishment and is a testament to the commitment Coach Petersen, and now Coach Lake, have to academic excellence.

### With so many student-athletes on a football roster, how do you stay on top of everyone?

It's a group effort. There are seven of us who meet weekly with student-athletes. Every freshman is assigned to meet with someone on a weekly basis for a year. After their freshman year, they will continue to meet with us on a weekly basis, or they're moved to a different schedule. We come up with a plan that everyone is comfortable with.

### The football team achieved a nation-best APR score last year. Can you repeat that?

I've asked myself that question. But, first, that's not our driving force, and second, it would be extremely challenging. Our plan is to continue supporting our student-athletes through collaboration with our coaches, teams and our staff.

### Does a team's performance on the field affect its academic performance?

It's a challenge to be a student-athlete. You have a lot of outside pressures. We want to make sure their focus is not just how they're doing athletically but on their mental health, too. Same thing when they feel confident and on top of the world.

## Whitcomb's Year

What an autumn it was for former Husky basketball star Sami Whitcomb, '10. Not only did she help the Seattle Storm capture its fourth WNBA championship, but she and her wife Kate welcomed their first child.

In her third season with the Storm, the California native was the team's backup sharpshooter. Averaging a career-high 8.1 points, 2.3 rebounds and 2.0 assists coming off the bench, she helped the Storm tie the Las Vegas Aces with a WNBA-best 18-4 record. She played in all three games of the 3-0 sweep of the Minnesota Lynx in the WNBA playoff semifinals but left the WNBA "wobble" in Bradenton, Florida, to return home to Australia for the birth of her first child.

Her on-court success is because "We get the more open threes. I enjoy shooting threes," she says. A UW standout, Whitcomb scored 1,205 points in her career from 2006-10. After graduating, she worked for the team as a video coordinator and intern. "The relationships I had with my teammates—they are still some of my best friends," she says. "Getting to compete in the Pac-10 was really special. And I just loved being in Seattle."

After originally being drafted by the WNBA's



PHOTOS: ATHLETICS

Chicago Sky, Whitcomb played overseas for teams in Germany, France and Australia before joining the Storm in 2017. She helped the Storm win its third WNBA championship in 2018 and reach the playoffs in 2019. "Getting to play with some of the best players in the world is really fun," Whitcomb says. "Knowing that I get a chance to come in and give these starters a break is really motivating."

After the Storm swept Minnesota to reach the championship series against Las Vegas, Whitcomb left for Australia. "We were sad to have her go because she's had an impact on this team," Storm All-Star Breanna Stewart says. "We love her energy. She is a competitor. She is loud and active whether she is in the game or on the bench."—Jim Caple

## He Helped Us Bond With the Band

Remembering legendary announcer Frazer Cook, '65, who spent nearly 60 years with the Husky Marching Band

By Jon Marmor

On a sunny summer afternoon in 2010, I was sitting in a University Village coffee shop. A few people were scattered here and there, quietly sipping their lattes, entranced by their phones and computers. Then, coming up the stairs, a giant of a man appeared. "You must be Jon," he said in a booming voice that caught everyone's attention. "Pleased to meet you."

That man was Husky royalty: Frazer Cook, the legendary announcer for the Husky Marching Band. For years, I had heard his voice fill up Husky Stadium on warm and cold Saturday afternoons, introducing everyone's favorite marching band and every song it would play, from "The Star Spangled Banner" to "Bow Down to Washington" to "That's the Way I Like It." Hearing his voice was as exciting and comforting as the view of Lake Washington.

Meeting him for the first time, I could tell that he had worked in radio (he was a former CBS Radio newsmen). His God-given authoritative voice was perfect for delivering the news and making us feel that we were OK—just like Walter Cronkite.

A 1965 graduate of the UW College of Arts & Sciences, he earned his degree in radio and television and went on to be the official voice for the Husky Marching Band for an astounding 57 years. The gig started when he was a 19-year-old UW sophomore. The Husky Marching Band was in the market for a new announcer, and Cook, who had little public speaking experience other than appearing in high school plays, was recruited from his dorm room to try out for the position at 9 a.m. one Saturday. (He learned then that a game was set to kick off three hours later.) Cook got the job.

The match couldn't have been better—between Cook and the Husky Marching Band and between Cook and Husky fans. Cook's love for the Huskies and his alma mater knew no bounds. Besides being a fixture inside Husky Stadium, he was a good friend to the UW Alumni Association.

A week after meeting Cook for coffee, I accompanied him to empty Husky Stadium for a photo shoot on a gorgeous

midweek day. As the photographer captured him posing in different parts of the stadium, Cook recalled the 650 halftime and pregame band performances, how he spent the first 33 years announcing from the field, and the friendships he made.

Cook's final performance came on Sept. 8, 2018, when the Huskies hosted North Dakota. On this day—declared Frazer Cook Day by King County Executive Dow Constantine, '85, '88, '92—a group of Husky

Marching Band alums created a "tunnel" for Cook to walk through. He didn't like the attention. "I'm not part of the show. No one should notice me," he told me in 2010. He called his time with the Husky Marching Band "an honor, a privilege and a pleasure." Husky fans everywhere felt the same way about him. Sadly, Cook died Sept. 23 at the age of 78. He may be gone but we will always be pleased that we had the chance to get to know him.

*The Husky Marching Band shows how it feels about its longtime announcer before a 2000 game in Husky Stadium. Frazer Cook started the gig when he was a 19-year-old UW sophomore.*



ATHLETICS COMMUNICATIONS



Proudly Serving the Husky Community since 2004



**Get a Complementary Home Care Assessment Today**

Our RN/MSW Care Managers begin by conducting either a free Home Care Assessment or Care Management Phone Consultation. Home Care Assessments can be provided in homes, hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, assisted living communities, etc. After the assessment, your dedicated Care Manager will develop a customized Home Care and/or Care Management plan.

Visit [FedeltaHomeCare.com/UW](http://FedeltaHomeCare.com/UW) or call (206) 237-7915

AS A LEADER IN PUBLIC SERVICE  
AND CHAMPION OF THE UW,  
BILL GATES SR.  
LEAVES A LEGACY FAR BEYOND  
HIS LEGAL CONTRIBUTIONS.

*By Hannelore Sudermann*

# An advocate for us all



*Clockwise from top left: Even at a young age, it was clear that Bill Gates Sr. was going places. | Gates became a leader in Washington's legal community. | During a 2002 visit to Africa, Gates (left), former South African president Nelson Mandela and former President Jimmy Carter hold infants born with HIV. | Gates and his first wife, Mary Maxwell Gates, with their three children, Bill, Libby (center) and Kristi (right). Far left, Gates and his second wife, Mimi Gardner Gates, visit Africa to inform his work as a co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Photos courtesy of the Gates family. | Far left, Gates and his second wife, Mimi Gardner Gates, visit the Mulendema village in Kafue, Zambia in 2007 on a Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation trip. Photos courtesy of the Gates family.*



**ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY**

15 years ago, Bill Gates Sr. didn't receive any traditional gifts. But to his utter delight, alongside an enormous cake, his family served up a better idea that recognized his distinguished career as an attorney: five public-service law scholarships in his name.

The donation to support UW law students every year for the next 80 years might have been the perfect present. It honored Gates' professional pursuits, his appetite for community service and his belief in the UW as a leader for positive change. The William H. Gates Public Service Law Program—funded with \$33.3 million by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation—has been a cornerstone in revolutionizing a new field of law.

Gates threw his considerable energy into helping the students become successful. "He was hands-on in the best way possible," says Michele Storms, the executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union in Washington. For 10 years, she directed the Gates Public Service Law Program. "He didn't try to run the program, but he was totally there to be present and engaged."

When the students delivered formal presentations or had weeknight get-togethers, Gates, whose 6-foot-7 height was hard to miss, showed up at the law school and joined in. "One night we were wrapping up a long week with takeout in a small conference room," says Colleen Melody, '04, '09, one of the first Gates scholars. "He dropped in, folded himself into a chair and took a paper plate of food, just making time to visit with us." He was interested in how the students were managing law school. Did they have any needs? Could they use any advice?

Gates offered students two key pieces of advice: First, they were there to learn the law. "He said, 'Don't be so busy trying to change the world that you don't get all the foundational material you need to know,'" says Storms. "He wanted them to learn to use the law to [in the words of John Lewis] 'make good trouble.'" He also told the students to not just think about the work they want to do, but to think about the profession and how to be a leader to make all lawyers better. "That was so important," adds Storms. "All lawyers should be concerned about how we practice and the connection between ethics and access to justice."

William Henry Gates II was born into what he once called "a distinctly middle-class family." He grew up in Bremerton, where his dad owned a furniture store. The UW was his sole choice for college, and just as he was starting classes in 1943, he joined the Army Reserve, knowing he would be called up to serve in World War II his sophomore year. He returned home in 1946 in time to start fall quarter on the GI Bill.

He met his future wife, Mary Maxwell, '50, at the UW, and they married in 1951. In 1964, Gates co-founded a Seattle law firm that later became Preston, Gates & Ellis (now K&L Gates). Known for his integrity and intellect, he was a force in Seattle's legal community.

When Gates became president of the Seattle-King County Bar Association in 1970, he had a mission. At the time, Washington had only white judges and hardly any lawyers who were people of color. Gates knew those deficiencies affected the trust clients

from minority communities placed in the legal system, as well as the quality of representation they received. He turned to the UW for help, first seeking to increase minority enrollment in the law school. Then he persuaded the bar association's board to create law-school scholarships for underrepresented students. The bar association now provides \$150,000 a year to support underrepresented minority law students at the UW and Seattle University.

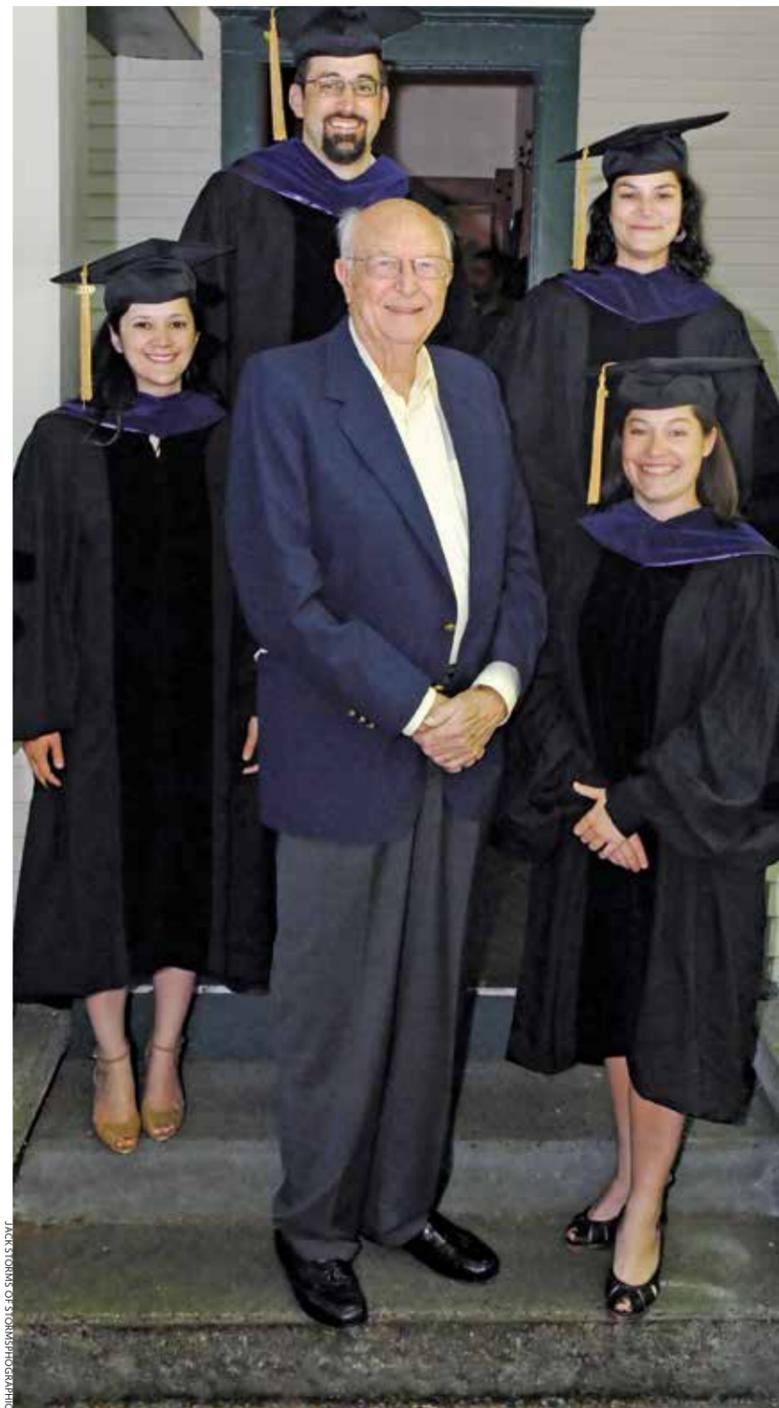
Gates' volunteer work included serving as president of the Washington State Bar Association as well as the United Way, Planned Parenthood and the Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce among many other organizations. In the 1990s, he became a co-founder and co-chair of the William H. Gates Foundation, which merged with the Gates Learning Foundation in 2000 to become the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the world's largest private philanthropic organization.

He also gave thousands of hours to his alma mater, chairing a capital campaign and serving three terms as a UW Regent. For good reason, his family has been described as "The First Family" of the University. Starting in 1975, Mary served three terms on the Board of Regents. Later, their daughter Kristianne Blake, '75, a Spokane-based business owner and civic activist, served 12 years on the board. Now their youngest, daughter Libby Gates MacPhee, who completed a master's in social work in 2018, is serving a six-year term. And the entire Gates family, including Bill and Melinda Gates, has given time and tremendous support to the UW. This includes scholarships, endowments and funding to complete capital projects such as Gates Hall, which houses the law school, the Bill and Melinda Gates Center for Computer Science & Engineering and the Hans Rosling Center for Population Health.

When Storms wanted to expand the Gates Scholars program to provide resources to all law students, Gates was a champion. With his support, she increased the number of speakers, mentors and advisers. "I said we need a stronger, broader program. And Bill believed in the vision and seeded \$500,000 [in 2010] to get it going," she says. "It allowed us to bring the public interest program to a greater swath of students." The initial grant was followed with another \$1 million in 2013.

Today, the Gates program has created a network of talented lawyers in the Northwest and throughout the country. Out of the very first class, Melody has become the founding director of the civil rights division in the state Attorney General's office. She investigates discrimination and enforces state and federal anti-discrimination laws. She knew she wanted to pursue public service law. Her scholarship convinced her to stay at the UW.

Last year, a fellow scholar, Vanessa Hernandez, '09, became the director of advocacy for the Northwest Justice Project, the state's largest publicly funded legal aid program. The Gates scholarship was the very reason Hernandez pursued law. "I knew I wanted to transition from teaching, but I wasn't interested in going to law school for law school's sake," she says. "I wanted to go as part of a community really moving toward social justice and public interest."



Bill Gates Sr. stands with the inaugural recipients of the Gates Public Interest Law Scholarship at their 2009 graduation. From left, their current roles, are Vanessa Hernandez (director of advocacy for the Northwest Justice Project), Michael Peters (CEO of Paralympics International), Emily Alvarado (director of the Office of Housing for the city of Seattle) and Colleen Melody (head of the state Attorney General's Wing Luke Civil Rights Unit).

Mary Maxwell Gates and William H. Gates Sr. proudly pose for the camera on their UW graduation day in 1950. Photo courtesy William H. Gates Sr.

Another from their group, Emily Alvarado, '09, followed her interest in public service law without having to worry about landing a high-salary job to pay back student loans. Working in housing justice since law school, Alvarado is now the director of the Office of Housing for the City of Seattle. She was also the first law alum to serve on the Gates scholarship board, where she worked alongside Gates in selecting future scholars. "I remember fondly his deep commitment to public service and how gracious he was," she says. "He really cared about leadership development and about having more young lawyers come up who could be part of the solution."

Their classmate, Michael Peters '09, a Paralympic athlete in soccer, came to law school from academia. After completing his degree, he landed a job as director of the City of Seattle's Office of Intergovernmental Relations before moving Germany in 2015 to work for the International Paralympic Committee, where he is now CEO.

None of the students had expected the level of personal investment that Gates Sr. supplied. "He was so well-known in the legal community and at the University," says Melody. "He cared a lot about the program and that we would succeed in public interest law. It was a connection that I don't think you'd get with anyone else who was as busy and important as he was."

Alvarado cherished Gates' vision of building a robust community of lawyers working in public service. "His vision is now a reality," she says. "Now more than 10 years after finishing law school, I am inspired and challenged by my Gates peers. They are incredible."

"We see Mr. Gates as part of a generation of public service heroes. He worked tirelessly," she adds. "I feel really honored to be part of a new generation of advocates for social justice that he helped to create. I hope to honor that legacy."



Bill Gates Sr.'s passion for higher education and the students attending the University of Washington will live on through gifts made in his honor to the Achievement Scholars Endowed Fund. The fund, initiated by Gates, covers tuition, internship support and mentoring for Washington state students. To contribute: giving.uw.edu/billgatesr

# Before I became a student at the University of Washington, I went to prison.

By **OMARI AMILI**

*At the age of 16, I was enticed by the idea of a life of luxury and began my involvement in bank fraud.*

I got money, fancy cars, and up until the age of 21, a taste of a life I never thought was possible while growing up in crack houses, foster homes and homeless shelters throughout the Pacific Northwest.

It was my first offense, but the prosecutor wanted to give me decades in prison, charging me with 30 felonies with no plea agreements. I ended up being incarcerated for nearly two years, but the collateral consequences of my felony convictions would stick with me a lot longer. People warned me there would be no opportunities waiting for me on the other side, that a criminal record is something you can't come back from. But when I got out of prison, I flipped my GED into a master's degree, earning four degrees in all, including three from UW Tacoma. I have since become an educator, a public speaker and an author with a passion for working with youth affected by the criminal justice system. To set an example for my six kids, I have become a role model and a productive citizen.

Despite the barriers that society has in place, and continues to reinforce, many of my friends and I are proof that there can be a positive life

after prison. My graduate research and life experiences have led me to believe that education can be a powerful path to it. I've shared my personal story at prisons, colleges, elementary schools, high schools, middle schools and other outlets. In this series of intimate interviews, I am sharing the stories of others like me who have survived the legal system in Washington state, and became Huskies on the other side.

You're going to meet a professor, a social worker and a painter. You'll meet mothers and fathers, sons and daughters. This is not a story about any one exception; This is a collection of stories that prove that everyone in prison deserves a second chance, and when they come back to society, they need to come back to a welcoming society. As these conversations show, the University of Washington has played—and will continue to play—a major role in constructing a prison-to-college pipeline.

Photography by **MERON MENGHISTAB**





■  
**GINNY  
BURTON**

A mother of three and a first-generation college student, Burton has her sights on becoming an attorney working in public policy. Despite a trauma-filled upbringing that led to her being incarcerated multiple times, she has become a 2020 Truman Scholar, a highly competitive \$30,000 graduate school scholarship.



■  
**LESHAWN  
GAMBLE**

As a deployed soldier in the U.S. military, Gamble was attacked by a group of fellow soldiers. After a drawn-out tribunal process, he returned home—only to be arrested and convicted on marijuana-related charges. Now a UW Tacoma student and a painter, he finds meaning by working with youth and his community.

## GINNY BURTON

**Omari Amili** You had parents who were addicted to drugs. When you were really young, they were doing robberies together, and this became a cycle for you later on. Can you speak a little bit about how these things are generational? Your child was incarcerated, as well.

**Ginny Burton** People function in patterns. If we don't have any kind of perspective to look at beyond our own, it's really easy to fall into the trap of teaching what we know. It's almost like having blinders on. I think my parents did the best they could with what they knew. There was definitely some mental illness there, and some addiction. I was taught the same thing that they knew, period. When my dad got out of prison, he never came back. But my mom and I, unfortunately, were using drugs together. We were in prison together two times. I think she taught me what she knew how to teach me. And so, I tried to do the exact opposite, and not impact my kids with my lifestyle. And their lives were still impacted.

My 28-year-old son served a prison sentence for something he did as a juvenile. They charged him as an adult. He doesn't have the same kind of issues, but stuff happened in foster care because that's where they ended up growing up. So they were impacted. It's definitely a cyclical problem, which I'm currently trying to break with him. His sister is in active addiction, not to the extent that I was, but she's destructive to herself. So my lifestyle, even though she wasn't directly exposed, still impacted her, and she's dealing with things the same exact way. It's scary. I'll continue to assess that process as the years go by.

**Omari Amili** We have a lot of similarities in our upbringings. I remember having drug busts at my house, police coming in there with guns drawn, and it's the scariest thing in the world for a little kid. In what ways do you think that impacted you, or the set the stage for things that would happen later?

**Ginny Burton** It started to prepare me to be comfortable in that kind of environment. I had a gun held to my head by my dad's crime partner who came in to threaten my mom's life. I think that I just started to become accustomed to what living in the underbelly was, you know, having your life threatened in a number of different ways. And I think that was the beginning of my desensitization.

**Omari Amili** You were a bright kid and you actually had a vision for your life despite all that, but obviously, there were some things that took place that led to using drugs. What happened?

**Ginny Burton** My mom was the first person to ever get high with me. There were seven kids in my family. She had this plan to smoke weed, her and my brothers. I really didn't want to because I knew my dad went to prison for drugs. I come from a family where people just aren't nice. And I was really sensitive as a kid and got picked on a lot, and I was pretty much harassed into it. They wanted to make sure that I wasn't going to tell, and so if I did it, too, the likelihood of me telling was a lot was a lot slimmer.

I thought I had destroyed my opportunities to practice law in any kind of way. I started training dogs when I was in prison, from 1997 to 2000. And I really liked that. When I got out of prison that time I started managing a doggy daycare and boarding kennel. I was clean for a little while. When I was in prison, I was training dogs for people with physical disabilities. I knew I liked to be of service. Helping other people was really important to me. After I got out, though, I was doing private training for average people, and the allure of working with dogs was lost for me because these were just people spending money. They didn't really care about what was going on with their dogs.

I worked in the trades for a while. I was good at it, but that wasn't really where my heart was. When I got out in 2012 or 2013, I started working in social services. I quickly moved up into supervising a number of programs. When I started school, I didn't necessarily think that there was a potential for me to

practice law. It wasn't until the last maybe nine months that I recognized that it was possible, and then I had people in my life that might be able to help make that happen.

**Omari Amili** You said that by seven or eight years old, you wanted to be an attorney. What inspired you to finally pursue law as an adult?

**Ginny Burton** I know Tarra Simmons, who was able to open a door that made me think that it might be possible for me (Editor's note: Simmons just became the first formerly incarcerated person elected to the Washington state Legislature). I have a bunch of friends that are attorneys and one in particular, Amanda Dubois, consistently encourages me to shoot for the stars. She says, "Don't worry about then, just worry about now. Take the steps to move forward."

## LESHAWN GAMBLE

**Omari Amili** Tell me something that you're proud of that has nothing to do with incarceration.

**LeShawn Gamble** I'm just glad I'm still alive, man. With everything that I've been through, I'm just happy to be alive because every day is a new adventure. And a lot of people don't think of that as an accomplishment. Remember: Getting up out of bed, sometimes that's harder than anything else. That's the biggest accomplishment I got.

The first month of being in my first duty station in the military, I got attacked by a bunch of soldiers in my unit. That was just one traumatic experience after another. It was people who I thought were friends of mine. Then I had to go through this whole military tribunal. It was a horrible experience to be isolated in a place away from everybody who could have been my support system. I had this whole experience with the system and saw how it really ain't for minoritized people. It was my first introduction to how the system not only places us against ourselves, but actually is built to grind us up.

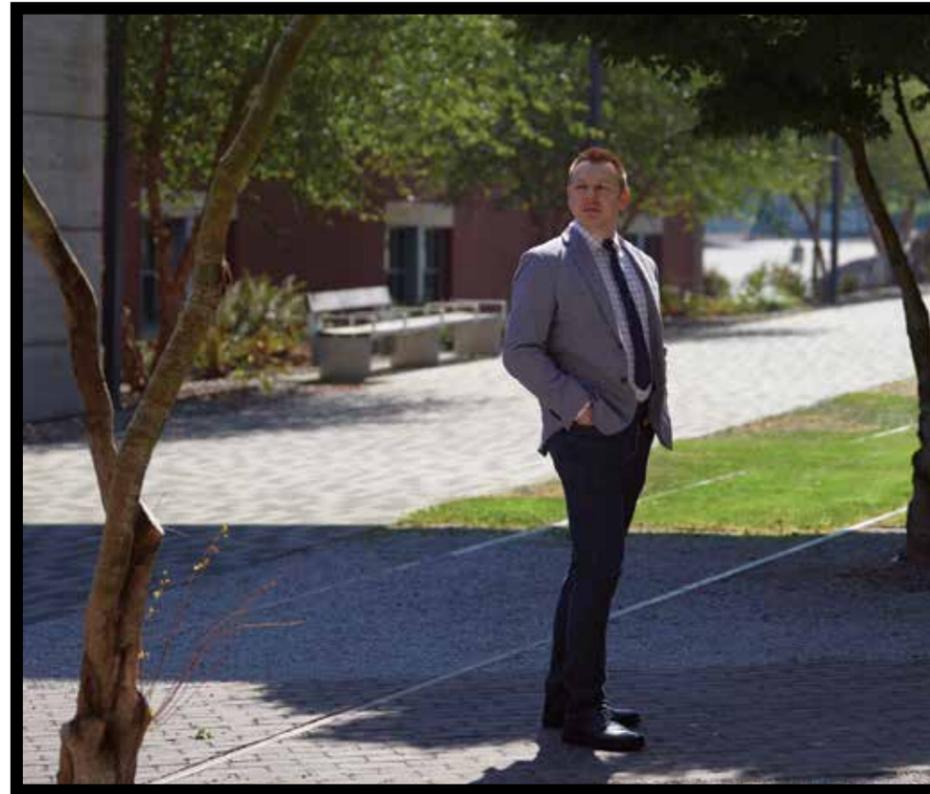
After I got out of the military and out of prison, I was still struggling to find work. I would go hang out at the bar and sit there moping. You know, just f—g miserable, man. I just didn't want to be in the house, but I didn't really want to be present in life. And so I'm sitting drinking a beer, waiting to get on a pool table, and this lady sits down next to me. She delivered it to me straight. She said, "If you wanted to be like this, you should just stay home. You should be happy to be alive and that you have the ability to be here." I never had nobody give it to me straight like that in a very long time.

**Omari Amili** With that intersection between you being a Black man and you also having a criminal history, how did those aspects of your identity impact your decisions?

**LeShawn Gamble** When I went to Tacoma Community College, I wanted to go into medicine. The Veterans Administration (VA) pays for my school. The VA adviser at the time was like, "That's noble, but we don't know how your licensure process is going to go." I stayed focused on the medical stuff for about four quarters, and developed a plan in my mind. I was like, "I'm going as far as I'm gonna go, and it ain't gonna be an AA. You're gonna pay for my doctorate." That was in my mindset the whole time. I transferred to UW. It's an opportunity to get an education through a system that had habitually disenfranchised me.

**Omari Amili** Life is a journey and our perspective of what our purpose is can change over time. Have you begun to identify what that is?

**LeShawn Gamble** Initially, my purpose was just to keep the lights on and keep my stomach from growling. Then once I had a kid, it was like, I gotta make sure he stays fed and the lights stay on for him. And that's survival, that's not purpose. That's not anything other than primal animal instinct. And that's all a lot of us have. Now, I'm at the point where I'm eating good, but I want to make sure that the people around me start eating. You



## CHRISTOPHER BEASLEY

Beasley, a UW Tacoma professor who grew up in rural Illinois, served time in prison for charges related to manufacturing methamphetamine. He is the founder of the Formerly Incarcerated College Graduates Network, which has a thousand members across 43 states.

## CHRISTOPHER BEASLEY

**Omari Amili** Tell us about the Husky Post-Prison Research Lab, which you started on the UW Tacoma campus.

**Christopher Beasley** I imagine the lab as a space where formerly incarcerated people can come in and help study transitions from prison to college and get paid to do that. The goal of the lab is to better understand transitions from prison to college, and to eventually be able to help develop programs to support people's transitions.

**Omari Amili** What are the gaps that you guys need to fill to really reach those goals?

**Christopher Beasley** Money. I want to make sure that it supports formerly incarcerated scholars. When I was I doing my doctorate, I was really fortunate to be in a big lab. Three of us were formerly incarcerated doctoral students, and a bunch of us were in recovery. They invested in us.

**Omari Amili** From your experience, what's the climate like for formerly incarcerated students, scholars and professors at the University of Washington? You said you were open about your background from the very first interview.

**Christopher Beasley** When I first came in, faculty, staff and students were all interested and supportive. Some are going to be more supportive than others, particularly those that are social researchers, but I've gotten a lot of support from STEM faculty. It's mostly vocal support, but that kind of keeps you going. People cheering you on and stuff is huge. I should say: While it's pretty supportive, to the students there might be different perspectives, but I think that's mostly because they don't see the structural changes happening. But they at least do have some faculty rallying behind them. Ana Mari Cauce supports it. She's actually mentored a couple formerly incarcerated students.

**Omari Amili** Talk about some of the things that you have brought to UW since your time here.

**Christopher Beasley** We had a leadership institute this summer, bringing together formerly incarcerated student leaders from across the state. We also had a hackathon where we brought in the tech community and people working on criminal justice reform, talking about using technology to help solve these problems. We want to bring together communities that sometimes aren't working together.

Last year we did a summit where I brought in some people from college initiatives in New York and California. That was to help us figure out what this thing is going to look like—not to tell us how it's done, but to tell us how they're doing what they do, and why they do it. I think in this work, we don't have to reinvent the wheel. It doesn't mean we can't do it in our own way. It is inspiration, it is wisdom. Because the wisdom's not there in the literature, but we know people, and they have the wisdom.

■  
**KURT MYERS**

An accidental shooting cost his friend his life and Myers his youth. Despite the tragic incident and the lengthy incarceration that followed, an educational journey that began inside of prison ultimately led him to the University of Washington Tacoma's Milgard School of Business.



■  
**THERON TAYLOR**

Taylor is a Tacoma native, but he never imagined attending a UW campus so close to home. He began his journey in education while serving a 20-year sentence. Upon his release, he started his bachelor's in psychology as a first-generation college student in his 50s.



## CYNTHIA BRADY

**Omari Amili** Do you think that getting into trouble and ending up in drug court was the catalyst for you wanting to study Human Services at Olympic College?

**Cynthia Brady** I believe so—getting into drug court and seeing counselors that look like me. My first counselor in drug court was Black. My counselor when I was sent to Seadrunar Recovery Center was also Black. It was good to see some familiarity in that field. But I also prayed to God about it, and I knew all of my life that I wanted to help people. I have been that type of person even in my addiction and selling drugs. On one hand, I was selling drugs, but in the same breath, I was turning around and taking the money and doing something for somebody else with it. I told my clients—and they always laugh when I say this—I said: “At one point in my life I was sitting at the round table, pushing dope. Now today, I am sitting at a different type of round table, pushing hope.”

**Omari Amili** After learning your story and where you have been, some of them, I know they are like, “Man, if she can do this after what she’s been through, I can too.”

**Cynthia Brady** Yes, and that is exactly what I try to encourage them with. It is not as much about just talking about abstinence. That is the focus people keep talking about. But no, you want to really teach them about how to live, how to learn, how to love, how to have compassion—and not just for other people, but for themselves.

**Omari Amili** If there’s a young girl and she’s going to go through some things like what you went through, what is one lesson that you’ve learned that you would want to share?

**Cynthia Brady** That change is inevitable. We change whether we want to grow or not. And we’re going to keep changing, but stay resilient enough to come through it and keep going. No matter what, on the other side, there’s always something more promising. I had to let go of a lot of hatred and a lot of pain that was going on inside me. I had to let go of them because they weren’t serving me. I had a lot of anger with the judicial system, with police officers, with prejudiced people. But it wasn’t benefiting me to be angry about it. The only thing you can do to change that is to be the change you want to see.

## KURT MYERS

**Omari Amili** You were a project coordinator at the UW Tacoma Post-Prison Education Research Lab. How did that go?

**Kurt Myers** It was the first strategic planning I had ever done. The term gets tossed around pretty frequently in our community, but I definitely did have imposter syndrome. You feel like you’re acting like somebody that you’re not. I’m at the very back of the hierarchy, and now I have a suit and tie on, and I’m telling folks to sit down, and telling people to stay on task, and stopping people in the middle of what they’re saying, and saying, “That’s a great idea, but can we save it for later?”

It was helpful for me to start reimagining myself, not as a prisoner who’s trying to act like a free person or a working professional, but as person who has this past who is a free, working professional out here in the world, and who really has some authority on what’s being talked about because I know this so intimately. I’m probably the most well-versed person in this room when talking about what prison is like.

**Omari Amili** I never knew at the time I graduated that there might have been multiple students at UWT with a similar path. We are at a point where it’s comfortable for us to be able to admit this past and to come sit in a room and talk about it.

**Kurt Myers** There’s a ripple effect that has on the community: Now all these people are coming out and able to share their story. I’m glad that a spotlight is being shone on the success stories because Lord knows that as soon as I fail—or if someone slips

through the cracks and ends up reoffending or whatever—they’re going to have news crews and everybody’s going to be trying to get the scoop. And then that just means that next time there’s a law being passed in Olympia, it’s gonna get shot down because so and so reoffended after he got out, and everyone gave him a bunch of shots.

**Omari Amili** That’s something that’s been heavy on my mind since I started doing public speaking and wrote a book. If I was to get in trouble again, all of a sudden you see Omari Amili on the news. I know there are people just waiting for us to fail so that they could point to us and say, “See, I told you so. Don’t spend money on their education. Don’t let them into these colleges.” There’s a lot of pressure, but at the same time, there’s not a lot of pressure because we’re good, decent human beings and the crimes we committed were not who we are.

**Kurt Myers** It’s not to say somebody is not going to make a mistake again in life. We’re not static beings. We’re constantly dynamic and constantly changing and growing. Some of the folks that I’ve seen have done really good, and then made a mistake. It’s not necessarily like they went out and committed some heinous crime. But they made a mistake, right? You can easily shine the light on him and say, “See, he’s a failure.” But that just means there’s an opportunity for growth. That’s just an opportunity to learn a new lesson and move on. We all do that in our own time. Fostering more of a sense of understanding and forgiveness as a society is going to be one of the primary things we need to do in order to make an impact on the mass incarceration problem.

## THERON TAYLOR

**Omari Amili** What led you to continue your education following your release from prison?

**Theron Taylor** Before I got out, one of my counselors told me that she saw my file and that I might be a candidate for a post-prison education program. I wanted to pursue more than just an A.A. degree, I just knew it wasn’t gonna be enough. She said, “Call these people and they’ll help you.”

I did two quarters at Central Washington University. And while I was doing that, Ari Kohn, the director of the Post-Prison Education Program, gave me a call and said, “Hey, I want you to graduate from UW.” I’m like, “What? UW? That’s one of the most prestigious colleges in the world, right?” And he’s like, “I graduated from there, don’t worry about it. I got somebody for you to talk to.” Dr. Chris Beasley was my contact. And he’s actually my best friend right now. A great friend and mentor.

**Omari Amili** Did you ever imagine before your release that you’d be able to attend the University of Washington?

**Theron Taylor** I would have never thought I would be here, or even have opportunities in my life to do better. Growing up in Tacoma, watching the Huskies play football, I had a friend and a neighbor who played football for the Huskies back in the ’80s, so just to know that I am a Husky now—the joy and greatness that comes along with it, these things are forever.

**Omari Amili** What has kept you going along the way?

**Theron Taylor** It’s not about me, it’s about other people. Earning my degree was a big accomplishment, but it was only because of what I wanted to do with it. And when I took my first quarter at UW, it was a disaster. I couldn’t understand it. I could have fallen in pieces right then, but they had support for me. They had psychologists that I could talk with, people I could sit with and let them know what was going on with me. They supported me and got me through. And I just never knew that there were so many people out there who wanted me to prosper. You can get in that prison mentality: “You’re not gonna be able to do that. You’re not gonna get no job. How are you gonna be able to go to school? You ain’t got no money.” I didn’t let that get to me.

I know there’s something that I have to do. I’m not just here



### CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON

Being in the wrong place at the wrong time led to felony convictions and prison time for crimes he didn’t commit. But despite losing years behind bars, Christopher Johnson’s incarceration was a catalyst for a new life.



### AMANDA HENRITZE

After her release from prison, Henritze began working for Mod Pizza, an employer that is known for people second chances. She is studying Urban Design with the intention of making an impact on local communities.

to do nothing. And for all the things that I’ve done, up to this point, I pray that people have prospered because of me. That those who may come after me will see that it’s possible to be at a place where you never thought you would be. This is for our brothers and sisters that are locked away. For those who do not believe it is possible.

## CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON

**Omari Amili** You chose to do your photo shoot at a particular park in Spanaway, Washington. Why?

**Christopher Johnson** I spent a lot of time with my friends at this park. And it’s also the place where I was arrested, the last time I was arrested. The people in the picture with me are my friends Demetrius Rainey and Nikee Green.

**Omari Amili** You studied a lot of music theory at UW. How did you become interested in that?

**Christopher Johnson** Back in 2009, when I got arrested for a robbery case, I got into it with the correctional officers and they put me in the hole for 30 days. I started singing and I heard the echo off the cell walls. It sounded beautiful. I was like, “This is bringing me some joy right now. I’m listening to music.” I’m on 23-hour lockdown and 99% of the time you’re by yourself. And so, all of a sudden, I started to imagine life differently. I started to imagine, What would it be like to be an author? What would it be like to be a fireman? To do things that nobody I knew did? I started to imagine what it would be like to be a singer, you know, an artist, a musician. And then I had this vision that I went to UW and graduated with a music degree.

## AMANDA HENRITZE

**Omari Amili** Once you got enrolled at Tacoma Community College and started pursuing an education, what was the impact on your lifestyle? How did it impact your vision for your life?

**Amanda Henritze** The impact on my lifestyle was, I was tired. But for my vision, I think it just made me hungry to understand more, especially being in class with a bunch of high school students and seeing how much they know in comparison to how much I don’t. I really needed to take this opportunity to try to learn as much as I can. To not only catch up, but just to be able to have intelligent conversations. To be able to have a conversation with my grandma about politics and understand it.

It also started to make me see different things in the world. This has been my life for so long: crime, drugs and money. And now prison. I felt defined by that. But then after going to TCC, I met a lot of good professors that I spent a lot of time with. There was one the first quarter who said, “Don’t ever sell yourself short. Who cares if you have a felony? Be the first person that gets hired at some place. Be the exception.” It just makes me want to go to school more.

**Omari Amili** Before I enrolled in college, I’d probably call myself a felon. But after that, I was a college student, and I was working toward something positive. Did you see any impacts on your identity?

**Amanda Henritze** Yeah, at barbecues with my girlfriend’s family, people ask, ‘How’s it going?’ Now I can actually be proud of something. It gave me a sense of accomplishment almost, even though I hadn’t finished. I’m going to school to do something that is in a better direction. It made me start to think about what I want to do with my life, and exposed me to concepts I never knew. It has definitely shaped who I am and my identity.

**Omari Amili** What are you hoping to achieve in the future?

**Amanda Henritze** My endgame will probably be something like a project manager for an architecture company. But, you know, I’m still not sure yet how to get there. I just know, eventually, I will make my way.

# THE FULFILLMENT FACTOR

Retiring from the UW doesn't end the story for faculty and staff.

They are driven to serve their communities on a local or global scale

BY ERIN ROWLEY

Four years after retiring from the faculty of the UW School of Nursing, Sandra Motzer attended a class on emergency preparedness at the Lake City Library.

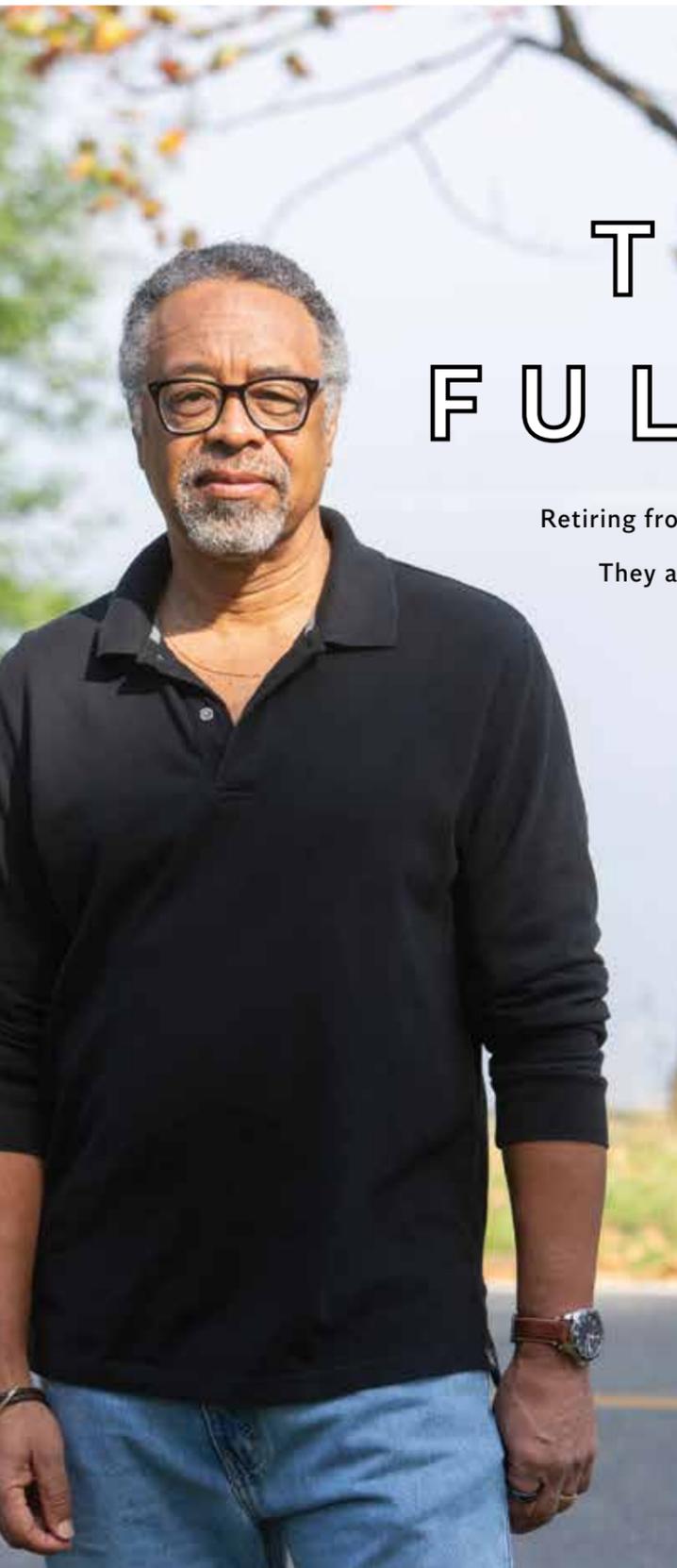
There she learned her neighborhood lacked one of Seattle's new emergency communication hubs that were available elsewhere across the city. It didn't take long for Motzer, '75, '76, to realize that was a problem she wanted to solve.

After attending meetings at the emergency operations center downtown and collaborating with a colleague to secure a Seattle Department of Neighborhoods matching fund grant, Motzer helped establish Lake City's own emergency communications hub in 2013.

There she was, back to "work" ... in retirement.

Motzer's story is not uncommon. Whether finding new inspiration after their full-time University careers are over, or expanding their previous service and work, UW retirees are making incredible contributions to our communities on local, national and global scales.

PHOTOS BY RON WURZER



Robert Crutchfield

## Equity & Justice Adviser

When Robert Crutchfield, who retired as a professor emeritus in 2016 after almost four decades in the Department of Sociology, was invited to join the Board of Commissioners for the Seattle Housing Authority (SHA), he couldn't say no. It was a full-circle moment.

"For me, it was pretty special because I grew up in housing projects in Pittsburgh," he says. "I was honored to be asked and happy to serve in the role. It was also a chance for me to bring what I knew from an academic setting in service to the community."

The board's work is focused on supporting the SHA's executive staff and making decisions around budgets and investments. Its ultimate goal is to do everything it can to expand the amount of housing that is available for low-income people in Seattle.

In addition to serving the local community, Crutchfield is the chair of the Committee on Law & Justice (CLAJ) for the National Academies of Science, Engineering & Medicine. CLAJ is an all-volunteer group of academic experts from across the country responsible for bringing scientific input to important government, federal and local policies on crime, law and justice. A longtime priority for the group is getting a study conducted on racial and ethnic disparities in the criminal justice system and what can be done about it.

"Our job is to find the people who are most knowledgeable in that area,

who have the best thinking about what we should be doing, and get that information to practitioners, policy makers and scholars," he says.

Crutchfield is also on the steering committee for the Racial Democracy Crime & Justice Network, which provides mentorship to young faculty members of color from across the country who are studying issues of race, crime and justice. It's a National Science Foundation-funded effort to continue to diversify the professoriate nationwide.

"I think staying involved and keeping a scholarly life alive and going gives me value, gives me something," Crutchfield says. "I get as much as I give for a lot of these things."

## Community Connector

The inspiration to give back was instilled in Sandra Madrid at an early age. So it's no surprise that commitment continues in retirement.

"My mom's inspiration and the way she lived her life ingrained in me at an early age the value of serving and giving back to the community," she says. "I've never let go of that."

Madrid, '80, '82, '85, spent the majority of her 28-year UW tenure as the assistant dean for students and community development in the School of Law. Throughout that career, she served on more than 30 nonprofit community boards.

Madrid continues that service today as a member of the board of directors



Sandra Madrid



Sandra Motzer

“ My mom’s inspiration and the way she lived her life ingrained in me at an early age the value of serving and giving back to the community. I’ve never let go of that.

—SANDRA MADRID

for the United Way of King County, the board of directors for the YWCA of Seattle/King/Snohomish Counties, the board of trustees for the Woodland Park Zoo, the Seattle Art Museum Education & Community Engagement Committee and the Seattle Colleges Chancellor’s Advisory Council.

Also near to her heart is the service she does to create networking and community connections for Latinx professionals and women of color. For 30 years, she’s coordinated the annual Cinco de Mayo Reception, which convenes Latinx professionals and community leaders for an evening of networking at the Columbia Tower.

“It’s an opportunity for people to partner with someone or engage with a nonprofit Latinx organization that they wouldn’t otherwise have been affiliated with,” Madrid says. “There are so many stories about how that one event can bring connections and make so many positive things happen in the community.”

For the past 15 years, she has facilitated the Nordstrom Latina Summit, which brings together college-level and professional Latinas to network and build connections around the theme of empowerment. Last fall, she helped the Woodland Park Zoo hold its inaugural reception for Professional Women of Color.

“The connection to the community with your heart and soul brings immense satisfaction to a life fulfilled,” she says. “Wherever you are in your life, there is always a need to help and assist, no matter what your field happens to be.”

### Lake City Advocate

Motzer retired as an associate professor emerita in 2008 after a 30-year career in BioBehavioral Nursing and Health Systems. Her work to establish the emergency communications hub was just the beginning of her community advocacy.

“The bottom line is we want to improve the quality of life for everyone who is living and working in Lake City,” she says.

Motzer collaborated with UW Nursing colleague Susanna Cunningham to bring the national “Stop the Bleed” program to Lake City as well.

Cunningham, ’69, ’78, and Motzer were trained at Harborview Medical Center and then certified as “Stop the Bleed” instructors, and Cunningham secured the grant to create “Lake City Stops the Bleed.” Since 2018, they’ve taught hundreds of Lake City residents how to stop life-threatening bleeding through free classes at community centers, churches and other community locations. “Stop the Bleed” kits are now available at the Lake City and Meadowbrook community centers.

Through her work with the emergency communications hub, Motzer is also a member of the Lake City Neighborhood Alliance (LCNA). She chaired the board for four years and currently serves as its treasurer. LCNA is an advocacy group for funding a new Lake City community center and—among many other things—partnered

with the Children’s Home Society of Washington to secure a grant called “Build Lake City Together.” The grant focuses on improving equity issues for residents such as housing, traffic and pedestrian safety, crime and the environment.

“The continued inspiration [to do this work] comes from all these people that I’ve met,” says Motzer. “Not just in Lake City, but across the city. There are wonderful people out there who have been engaged in doing community activism for decades. I’m just a newcomer to all of this.”

### Global Health Champion

When he started to think about retirement, Jim LoGerfo, professor emeritus in global health and medicine, wanted to do global health work in a way he wasn’t able to as a full-time faculty member.

His 40-year UW career included stints as the medical director at Harborview Medical Center and associate dean of medicine.

After traveling to Cambodia to learn what the country’s needs were in the areas of public health care and health-care training, LoGerfo, ’72, ’74, decided that was where he wanted to focus his efforts. As with many lower-resourced countries, Cambodia had virtually no funding or emphasis on caring for chronic diseases such as diabetes, high blood pressure and obesity.

“The compelling thing in Cambodia is they know the direction they need

to go, but they don’t have a lot of resources,” says LoGerfo, who travels there three to five times a year. “If you can figure out a good way to get some extra resources and get the right people together in the room, good things happen.”

LoGerfo worked with the Cambodian Ministry of Health and an NGO doing work in slums and rural areas to help them organize chronic disease treatment programs and secure funding.

Improving Cambodia’s medical teaching institutions is also a high priority for LoGerfo. He has been connecting with experts from France, as well as a group from Boston University, to expand clinical training efforts at the medical school and major teaching hospitals.

“You can’t teach what you don’t do very well, so it’s been important to me to find people who are focused on improving care, whether they are involved in teaching students or not, to make the training institutions better clinical institutions,” he says.

He’s also collaborating with Tracy Harachi, associate professor in the UW School of Social Work, to expand the role of social workers in the medical system, as well as to address the enormous burden of mental health problems among Cambodia’s population.

Despite knowing it may take many years to see the impact of this work, LoGerfo’s inspiration is unwavering.

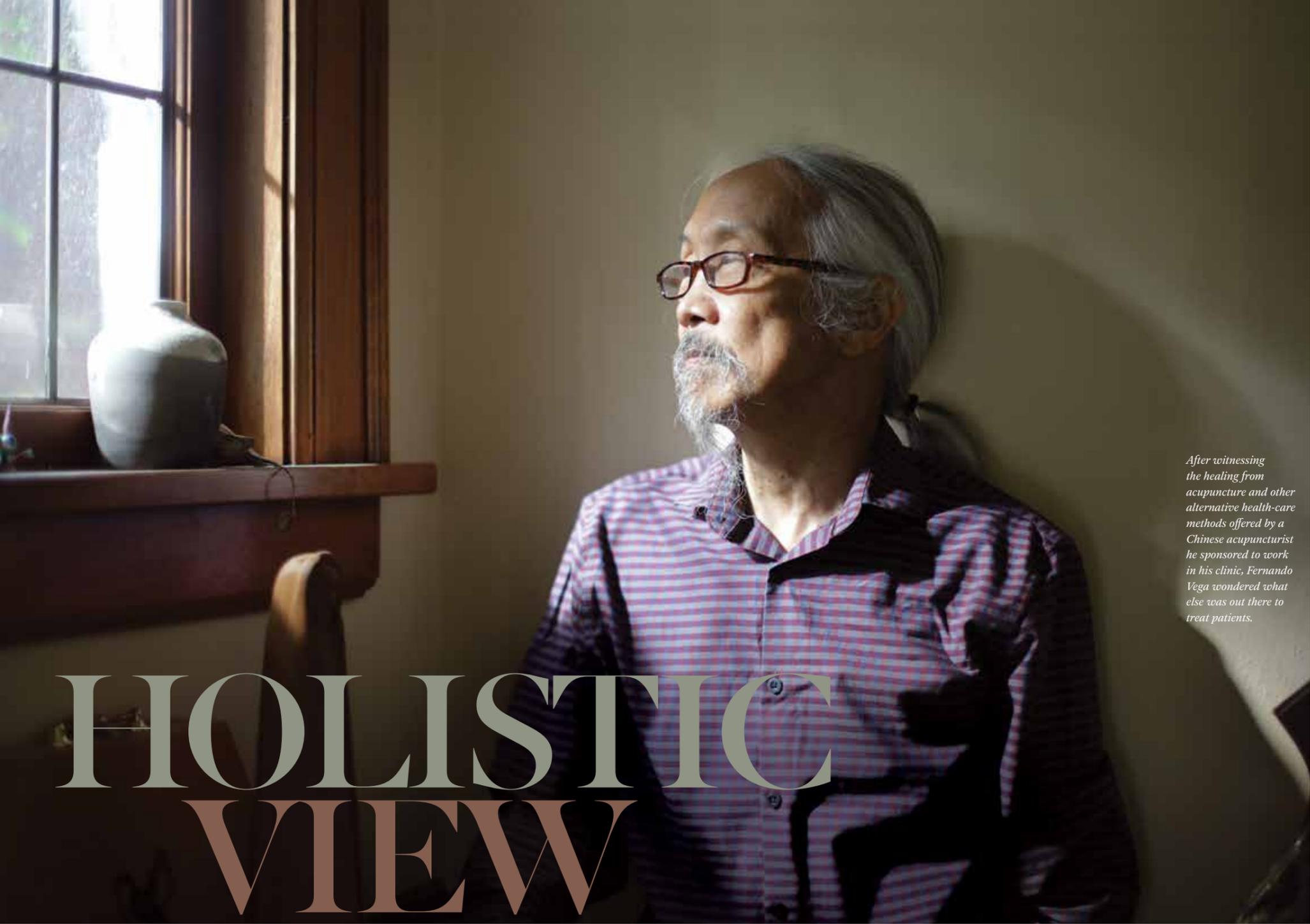
“It’s building relationships and seeing programs take on a life of their own and doing good things for people,” he says. “That’s why we become doctors. That’s why we do public health.”

“ The connection to the community with your heart and soul brings immense satisfaction to a life fulfilled.

—SANDRA MOTZER



Jim LoGerfo



*After witnessing the healing from acupuncture and other alternative health-care methods offered by a Chinese acupuncturist he sponsored to work in his clinic, Fernando Vega wondered what else was out there to treat patients.*

# HOLISTIC VIEW

The first Filipino-American to graduate from UW medical school, Fernando Vega helped open the path to alternative medicine in the U.S.

By Sheila Farr Photo by Anil Kapahi

It wasn't easy for a young Filipino-American man with a love of science and a passion for community service to dream big in the 1970s. As an undergraduate at the UW, Fernando Vega once brought home a glossy brochure about becoming a medical technician and showed it to his father. His dad was blunt: "If you're going to do that, you might as well be a doctor."

Vega, in his early 20s, began volunteering as a patient advocate and observed doctors as they gave their time to treat any ailment that came through the doors, from sexually transmitted diseases and drug problems to the flu and mental health issues. Vega thought, "I could do that—I'd like to do that, become someone like that."

Even as a kid, Vega was fascinated by the way the physical world works and spent hours poring over the Time Life Science book series, intrigued by polymers. He loved going on field trips with his father, who worked in quality control for various Alaska canneries. Born in Seattle, Vega spent most of his first six years in the Philippines, where he spoke Tagalog and studied English from his father. Vega's school years were all in Seattle, where his mother taught in the public school system. But with roots in two cultures, Vega struggled to find his identity. During his years at Garfield High School, Vega's community was mostly other kids of color.

In those days, medical school was mostly the purview of white males, but the UW's Educational Opportunity Program offered Vega a way in. During his senior year at the UW, Vega was named "Asian Scholar of the Year" at the EOP Banquet. He majored in cell and molecular biology, his grades were good, not great, but his science scores on the Medical College Admission Test were higher than the class average. And, perhaps most important, his motivation was off the charts. Having grown up with community service values of the First Baptist Church, Vega was a firm believer in health care as a right.

Vega attended medical school at the UW, where he was the only Filipino-American in the class. "It was tough," he says. "I had to learn to study, develop habits and discipline. I was nervous as hell. Here was this minority student who had the weight of expectations: I could not fail."

He persevered and became the first Filipino-American to graduate from the UW School of Medicine in 1978. One of the lifelong habits he developed there was working long hours, first as a phlebotomist at UW Medical Center-Montlake,

to help pay his medical school expenses; then, during his three-year residency in Altoona, Pennsylvania, where he also worked after hours as an emergency room physician.

Much as he loved ER work, Vega's goal was family practice. After returning to Seattle in 1981, he opened a private practice. During that time, a pivotal event in Vega's career occurred. An old church friend asked him if he would be willing to sponsor a traditional Chinese medical doctor at his clinic. At the time, acupuncturists were not licensed in Washington state, so Dr. Amy Chen, recently arrived in Seattle from China, was not able to practice independently. Having her at the office drew a different type of patient to Vega's clinic, ones who were unsatisfied with the results of Western medicine or sought alternatives.

As Vega witnessed the healing power of acupuncture and

herbal remedies, his mind opened to other medical skills and philosophies. Vega had come out of medical school feeling like he knew everything. Now he wondered: "What else is there?"

Soon other like-minded physicians joined the clinic, along with a naturopath and a physical therapist, and Seattle Healing Arts was born.

Among Vega's patients in the early days was pioneering Seattle naturopath John Bastyr. A burgeoning alternative medicine university, with campuses now in Kenmore and San Diego, would later be named for him.

Known for his practical approach to healing, Bastyr graduated from a chiropractic college and completed a residency at a Seattle hospital before beginning his practice in the mid-1930s, during the Great Depression. His skillful touch and keen observation helped him diagnose illness as a chiropractor. "He saw things no one else did," Vega says. Bastyr grew up in North Dakota with a mother who was an herbalist and a father who was a pharmacist. He learned to work with whatever tools he had at hand—physical manipulation, herbs, homeopathy. In the 1950s, Bastyr helped establish the National College of Naturopathic Medicine in Seattle. The school later moved to Portland.

In the 1980s, the American Holistic Medical Association met in Seattle and brought innovative physicians such as Bernie Siegel and Christiane Northrup to town before they became well known. Deepak Chopra and Andrew Weil, then relatively new authors, were also featured. Learning about new ideas in medicine inspired Vega: Chopra for his spirituality, Weil for his practicality, Northrup and Siegel for thinking outside the box. Vega also videotaped long interviews with a dozen prominent physicians working outside the mainstream, beginning with John Bastyr in 1994. Still, Vega resists the arcane classifications—Alternative, Holistic, Integrative, Complementary—each with different nuances of meaning. He is content to be considered a family doctor.

"Physicians ultimately learn the most from their practice with patients," Vega says. Each time a patient would tell him about a technique or method that got results—osteopathy, visceral manipulation, vitamin infusions—he would study it or consider training in it. And, he points out, many ideas considered far-fetched in the '80s are now widely acknowledged: the importance of gut flora, the effect of diet on inflammation, the use of Neti pots for sinus irrigation. "Half of what we did 20 years ago was wrong," Vega says. "Half of what I do today is wrong; I just don't know which half."

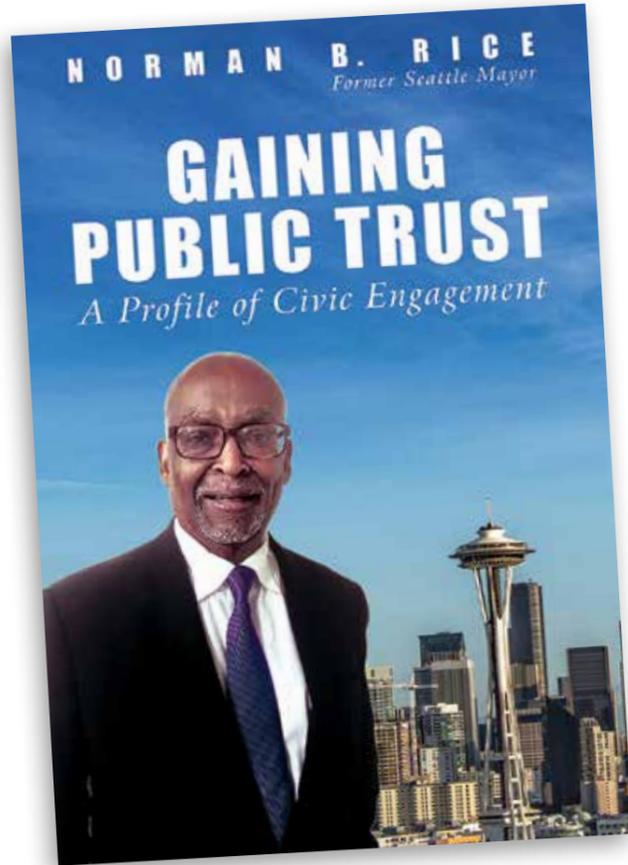
Over the years, Vega has taught at the UW's School of Medicine and the School of Public Health. Medical students and residents still do rotations with him at Seattle Healing Arts. He and his second wife, Dr. Martina Koller, spend most of their time together, caring for patients. Even on weekends, they often make house calls to longtime patients or family members who need assistance. Particularly this year, during the COVID-19 pandemic, they have donned protective gear to check in on patients who are housebound, sometimes delivering oxygen or taking nose swabs for testing, listening to lungs, doing whatever they can to keep people out of the hospital.

In the decades since medical school, Vega has learned so much that now, at 69, he says it would be a waste of all that experience to simply retire. About five years ago, he began thinking about how to transition from the responsibilities of running a clinic to seeing patients part time. As always, he wants to continue advocating for greater exploration of healing and medicine.

"That's the value of Seattle Healing Arts," Vega says. "There are always rifts and arguments between different disciplines, but if you can get through the language barrier in the context of mutual intentions, real discoveries can happen."—Sheila Farr is a Seattle freelance writer and frequent contributor to *University of Washington Magazine*.

# Columns

NEWS FROM THE UW COMMUNITY



## Civic and Civil Engagement

A new book by former Mayor Norman Rice shows the way to ending divisiveness

By Jon Marmor

*Former Seattle Mayor Norman Rice says an intelligent, respectful conversation about the issues plaguing Seattle can't occur because people are responding with a lot of anger. "We need a big timeout."*

Norman B. Rice's timing couldn't have been better. His new book, "Gaining Public Trust: A Profile of Civic Engagement," came out just when our already turned-upside-down world was getting even worse.

For months now, Seattle has been an epicenter of pain and protest due to a rash of societal problems coalescing all at once: We saw the aftermath of the killings of Black citizens like Breonna Taylor, George Floyd and Ahmaud Arbery, not to mention the many other senseless violent acts against people of color. Downtown Seattle and Capitol Hill in particular became the scenes of ongoing violent protests, shootings, and vandalism. Add to that the contentious relationship between the City Council

and Mayor Jenny Durkan, '85, angry calls for defunding the police, the sudden retirement of Seattle Police Chief Carmen Best, and the economic crisis in the wake of COVID-19. Add it up, and you have a city in desperate need of some help.

Thus, the autumn arrival of the book by Rice, '72, '74, the former two-term Seattle mayor and nationally known community builder, could not have been better.

"We need both civic and civil engagement," says Rice, who lectures at the UW Evans School of Public Policy & Governance. "We [didn't] have a healer in chief, and there are a lot of people with pent-up feelings, and that has resulted in riots and no solutions."

His book details what he experienced as mayor during particularly trying times for the Emerald City. "I was inspired to write about civic engagement because I believe that even under the most divisive and trying circumstances, people can be engaged to find the common denominator that brings them together," he says. When Rice, a journalist before he went into politics, was elected to office, Seattle was consumed with the most controversial issue in the city's history: using busing to achieve school desegregation. Walking into that highly charged atmosphere, Rice explains, "We learned to engage citizens in a manner that respects diversity of opinion and we learned to bring them together in a way that was goal-oriented, not grievance-oriented. The process and how we developed solutions became a model for us in going forward to deal with many other issues facing the city."

Given the teeth-gnashing issues the city—and society—is dealing with today, Rice identifies healing as the action that needs to take place first. "Leaders like the members of the City Council are taking the side of the protesters when their job is to heal," says Rice, the first Seattle mayor ever to become president of the United States Conference of Mayors. "We don't know yet what the solution will be, but there has to be a better way than just letting anger out. I think we need a pause. How do you have an intelligent, respectful conversation? When you have less anger. Right now, nothing is moving forward because people are responding to anger instead of coming up with a plan. We need a big timeout."

What Rice finds particularly disturbing is what is happening to downtown Seattle, where he and his wife, UW Regent Constance W. Rice, Ph.D., '70, '74 live. COVID-19 has caused many downtown stores to close, and downtown has become a focal point of angry, violent protests. "It hurts my heart to see what is happening in downtown Seattle," Rice says. The former mayor remains justifiably proud of his work rebuilding Seattle's decaying downtown when he was mayor from 1990 until 1998. And now it appears the same level of trouble has returned. "I worry that downtown may not come back," he admits. "Stores may be obsolete by the time the economy recovers. There may be too many changes."

Rice, who in 2017 received the University of Washington's highest alumni honor, the Alumnus Summa Laude Dignatus, may not be in politics anymore. But his passion for his city and the lessons he learned during one of the city's most contentious times 30 years ago are just as relevant today. And we need to heed them.

Proceeds from sales of the book, which is available at Amazon and Barnes and Noble, benefit the Northwest African American Museum.

SKETCHES PRIYA FRANK

## PRIYA FRANK

**A**FTER SIX YEARS AT THE SEATTLE ART MUSEUM, PRIYA HAS A BRAND-NEW JOB—DIRECTOR OF EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION. ONLY A FEW MUSEUMS AROUND THE COUNTRY HAVE THIS POSITION, BUT THE NUMBER IS GROWING.

**I** GREW UP IN LAKE CITY AND ATTENDED A SMALL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL NEAR NORTHGATE. A LOT OF THE TIME I WAS THE ONLY KID OF COLOR IN MY CLASS.

**H**IGH SCHOOL AT NATHAN HALE WAS PROFOUNDLY DIFFERENT. I GOT TO BE AROUND SO MUCH DIVERSITY AND SO MANY CLASSMATES FROM DIFFERENT AREAS OF THE CITY. LAST YEAR, WHEN THE NEW BURKE MUSEUM OPENED, I RAN INTO THE TEACHER WHO TAUGHT US ABOUT THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT. I GOT TO TELL HER HOW MUCH SHE IMPACTED MY LIFE AND TELL HER ABOUT THE WORK I'M DOING NOW. IT WAS A BEAUTIFUL MOMENT.

**I'M** THE FIRST IN MY FAMILY TO GET A FOUR-YEAR DEGREE. I GOT TWO. THE COMMUNICATIONS DEGREE WAS PRACTICAL, AMERICAN ETHNIC STUDIES WAS MY PASSION. AND WHERE THE TWO OVERLAPPED, THAT WAS REALLY INTERESTING.

**G**OING AFTER A MASTER OF ARTS IN CULTURAL STUDIES AT UW BOTHELL WAS ONE OF THE BEST DECISIONS I EVER MADE. IT WAS TOUGH. I WAS WORKING FULL TIME AND GOING TO SCHOOL FULL TIME. I WOULD BUS HOME, GET A SNACK, GET IN THE CAR AND DRIVE TO BOTHELL TO TAKE CLASSES UNTIL 10 O'CLOCK.

**I** THINK WE HAVE AN AMAZING ARTS SCENE HERE IN THE NORTHWEST.

**"IN** THE LAST SIX OR SEVEN MONTHS, OUR FIELD HAS BEEN HIT HARD WITH MUSEUMS, PERFORMANCES AND GALLERIES ALL CLOSING. WE'RE RETHINKING AND REIMAGINING WHAT THIS IS. WHILE ARTS AND CULTURE WERE THE FIRST TO BE HIT DURING THE PANDEMIC, THEY HAVE ALSO CARRIED US THROUGH THIS TIME."



**ONE** OF MY FAVORITE GRADUATE CLASSES WAS PERFORMANCE THEORY.

**"E**SSENTIALLY, WE WERE DANCING FOR THE WHOLE CLASS. IT WAS SO EMBARRASSING AT FIRST. BUT EVENTUALLY, IT HELPED ME BE MORE COMFORTABLE IN FRONT OF A CROWD OF PEOPLE, AND REALLY NOT BE AFRAID TO TRY NEW THINGS. TEN YEARS LATER, I DO ZUMBA. I BECAME AN INSTRUCTOR THIS YEAR."

**"LES DEMOISELLES D'ALABAMA: VESTIDES"** BY ROBERT COLESCOTT, ONE OF PRIYA'S FAVORITES IN THE MUSEUM'S COLLECTION

THREE UW DEGREES: COMMUNICATIONS, '04, AMERICAN ETHNIC STUDIES, '04, AND A MASTER OF ARTS IN CULTURAL STUDIES, '11.

## Where Hope Grows Out of a Painful Past

**Britt East's book "A Gay Man's Guide to Life" provides realistic ways for gay men to deal with homophobia and live a good life**

By Jon Marmor

*After overcoming a challenging upbringing, Foster School alum Britt East is leading an effort for gay men to overcome the lifelong discrimination they have experienced.*

Growing up in the South during the 1980s, Britt East's family "made it clear that everything about me was wrong." He goes on: "My family...suffered without wisdom, steeped in denial and immersed in cycles of intergenerational trauma. Addiction, Abuse, Suicide. It's a myth that all parents love their children, just something we like to tell ourselves." The struggles he faced left an indelible imprint on his psyche and serve as the impetus for his helpful and hopeful book, "A Gay Man's Guide to Life," (Houndstooth Press).

East, '14, who earned his EMBA from the Foster School of Business, is a Seattle-area author and public speaker who was inspired to present realistic ways for gay men to deal with homophobia and strive

to improve and enjoy their lives. To get to this station in life, he has devoted more than two decades to personal growth and development experience using such methods as yoga, meditation, therapy, the 12 Steps, Nonviolent Communication and the Hoffman Process, a way of identifying negative behaviors, moods and ways of thinking that were developed during childhood.

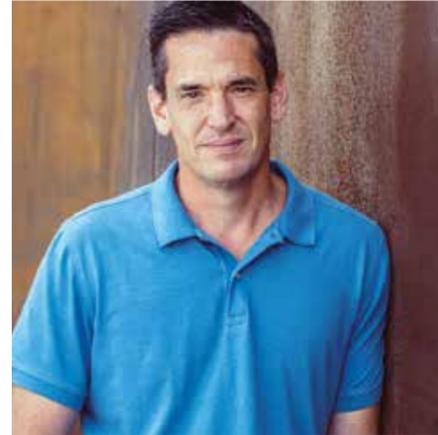
The book—part memoir, part development manual—offers stories of empathy as well as no-nonsense approaches to living your best life: creating a family without merely mimicking the norms of a straight society, cultivating sustainable gay friendships, and finding lasting love in a world absorbed by hookup culture.

"Trying to expunge those parts of you resulting from years of sorrow and anguish is a losing game," East writes. "But you can learn to trade your weapons for wisdom and alchemize your pain into loving kindness."

"Sometimes," East adds, "it can seem like the cards are so stacked against us as gay men that the best we can hope for is just to make it through another day. We all have

the capacity to take the world by storm. But for this to happen, most of us need a plan, a clear sense of mission, vision and values."

East continues to maintain strong connections to the University. He has been a longtime member of The President's Circle as well as a strong supporter of the Meany Center for the Performing Arts. It's clear the UW has been—and remains—a big part of his life.

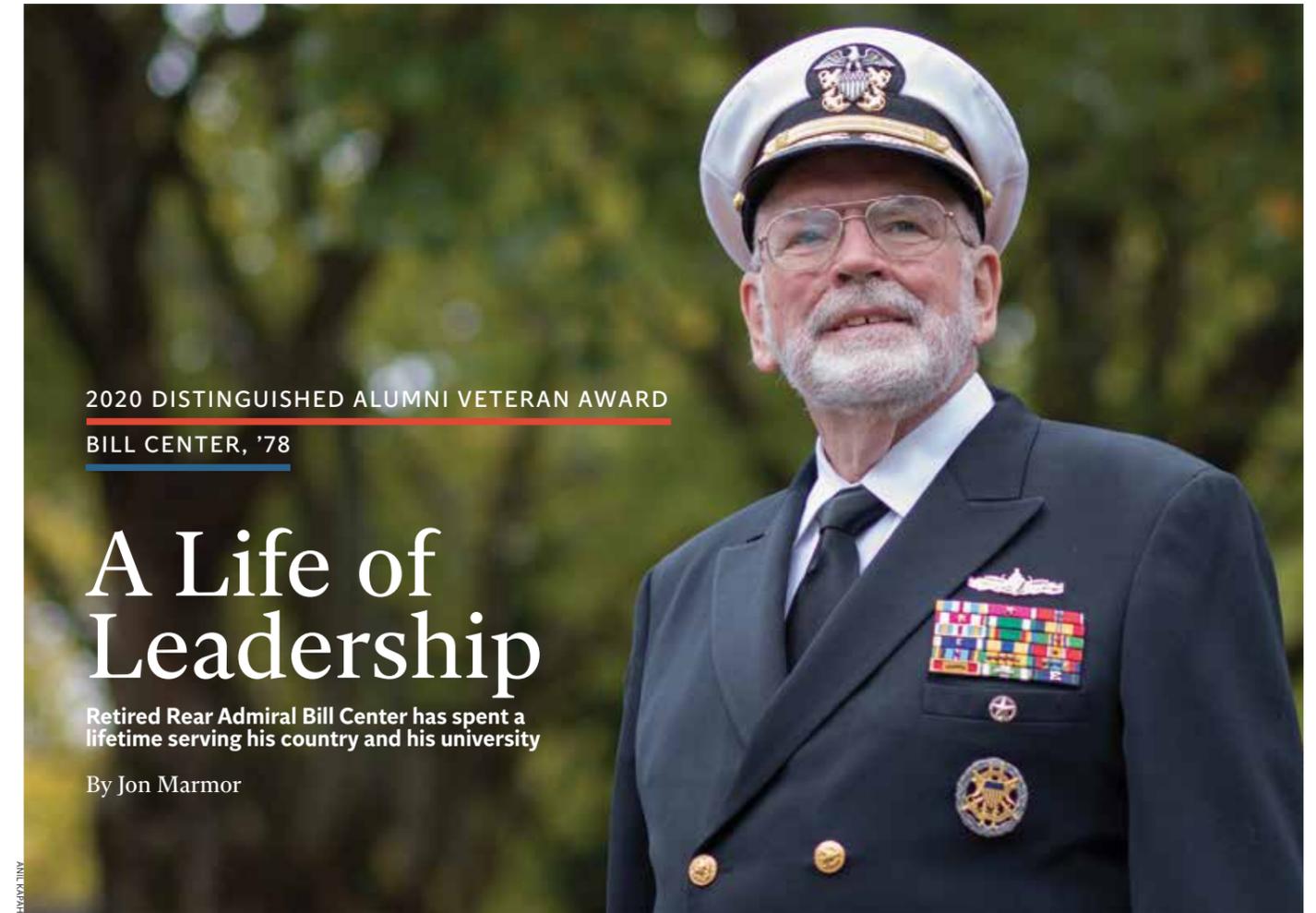


IF YOU HAVE A PASSION FOR THE PURPLE AND GOLD, YOU BELONG WITH US.

# Join the Pack!

UWALUM.COM/JOINUWAA

W Alumni ASSOCIATION



2020 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI VETERAN AWARD

BILL CENTER, '78

## A Life of Leadership

Retired Rear Admiral Bill Center has spent a lifetime serving his country and his university

By Jon Marmor

*Bill Center, '78, credits his UW education with playing a key role in his long and successful Navy career.*

He served in Operation Desert Storm, worked as an arms-control negotiator with the Joint Chiefs of Staff, closed naval bases in California, helped search for the wreckage of Korean Air Lines Flight #007, which was shot down by Russia, and commanded all naval activities in the Pacific Northwest. And that just scratches the surface of Bill Center's 35 years in the Navy. But his relationship with the University of Washington runs even longer—45 years, to be exact.

The Dayton, Ohio, native came to the UW for graduate school in 1976 after he graduated from the United States Naval Academy and had served eight years at sea. The Navy gave him the opportunity to go—all expenses paid—to any university he wanted. Much to his colleagues' surprise, he bypassed Harvard and Stanford and chose the Evans School of Public Policy & Governance at UW. He was intent on coming to Seattle so he could learn from

Brewster Denny, '45, the legendary founding dean of the Evans School. Center spent nearly two years at the UW, studying public policy and administration, with an emphasis on national security policy planning and organization development. His two-year program ended a bit early because he was such a voracious student that he took too many classes in other areas such as law, physics and anything else. He ended up with many more credits than he needed.

"I had a fantastic time with Brewster Denny and became good friends with Marc Lindenberg [another dean of the Evans School]. I learned so much and built great relationships with my classmates and professors. My UW education served me extremely well throughout my career in the Navy." For his service to our nation, the veteran community and the UW community, the UW is honoring Center with the 2020 Distinguished Alumni Veteran Award.

His dream was to command at sea and

he made good on it quickly. He was the youngest commanding officer in the US Atlantic Fleet when he assumed command of the USS Exploit, a minesweeper. He later commanded USS Meyerkord, an anti-submarine frigate, and USS Reeves, a Japan-based guided missile cruiser that made three deployments to the Persian Gulf during the Iran-Iraq War. During Operation Desert Storm, though stationed in the Pentagon, Center was "in the thick of things" as the director of strike and amphibious warfare. That meant "our shop played a role in all the naval bombs and missiles fired at Iraq." Not long after the war, President Clinton nominated him for promotion to rear admiral. His sterling reputation earned him assignment as deputy director for international negotiations for the Joint Chiefs of Staff with special responsibilities for nuclear arms control,

*Continued on page 52*



## Feelings on Film

Bringing heartfelt tales to the big screen, writer-director La'Chris Jordan explores the Black experience

By Jon Marmor

In her film “January 14th,” La’Chris Jordan intended to tell a story honoring her parents’ 35-year-long marriage. Made in 2019, the movie, which chronicles the death of a married Black man, is reaping honors at film festivals from coast to coast because of the way it has touched a nerve.

Jordan, ’01, an award-winning screenwriter, playwright and novelist, has been moved by the reception her film is receiving. “I didn’t know the timeliness of this piece when I made it,” Jordan says of her first film. “I was trying to write a film about my parents’ marriage. As we began to get into the story, I started going deeper

into who this woman was, and how she navigates the new world she finds herself in. We had no idea that the film was going to be so timely as it is right now. When you’re African American, living in this space, you’re constantly thinking of issues and social issues at a time when it’s not in the headlines.”

Jordan, who holds a bachelor’s degree in communication from the College of Arts & Sciences, took on double duty by writing and directing her film. Her work has long been recognized for focusing on social justice, especially as women struggle for equality in a patriarchal society. With the high-profile killings of Black

*Writer-director La’Chris Jordan is gifted at telling stories with a social-justice theme, especially as women struggle for equality in a patriarchal society.*

men and women, and violent acts carried out against other people of color, “January 14th” is resonating in a way few could have seen when Jordan made the film.

Made with a small cast and crew in just two days, “January 14th” started as Jordan’s desire to tell a story about the loss of her mother in 2008. The film’s title is her parents’ wedding anniversary.

Released shortly before the videotaped killing of George Floyd, the film has aired in festivals across the country and stirred everyone who has seen it. “This film doesn’t belong to me anymore,” Jordan says. That’s for sure.

The Los Angeles-based Jordan took a winding path to her station in life as writer and director to watch. Born in Oakland and raised in San Diego, she attended high school in New Orleans, then came to the UW for college. No matter where she has been, one constant remained. “I’ve always loved words and was a writer. Plus, I read everything,” she says.

She wrote her first play in junior high, and envisioned herself as a novelist. Wondering if she could make a living as a writer, she thought that that journalism might be the way to go. “I wanted to be a Christiane Amanpour of CNN, a war reporter,” she says. “Carrying forward important stories. That was my goal.” At the UW, she covered sports for The Daily, writing about swimming, football, and track and field. Then she decided to switch to writing news.

After graduating, she wrote for a magazine in Dubai, where she encountered some cultural challenges when she wrote a four-part series on divorce in the United Arab Emirates. “It was a very sensitive topic, and I was told to stop talking to the locals. It was really scary,” she recalls. She made her way back to the States, worked in public relations for a while, returned to Seattle, then headed down to Los Angeles for a job as an assistant at a major production studio.

She has written TV pilots that deal with social justice in historical dramas. Then 2019 came along, and her drive to make “January 14th.” “It was just something I needed to do to explore grief and loss,” she says. Having gained experience as a theater director during her time in Seattle, she took on both writing and directing efforts. “I go back to basics about storytelling,” she explains. Watching “January 14th,” you see how quietly the picture unfolds, how the actors have the stage to tell their stories—poignantly, intelligently, and powerfully.

Jordan, who has spent the past six months Zooming into film festivals nationwide, is looking forward to making another film in 2021. Her new story features only two characters—a woman and her birth mother, who is a survivor of a World War II concentration camp. “What happens in a tragic moment?” Jordan asks. “From a woman’s perspective, what is it like to experience those feelings?”

### Finally, Black films for the masses

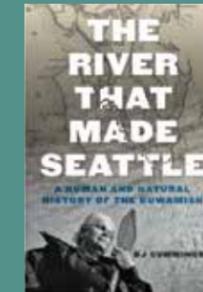
As she got deeper into the cinematic world, La’Chris Jordan was eager to connect with Black writers in Los Angeles. But despite living in the capital of the entertainment world, she had a real problem finding organizations or databases that listed Black writers or movies. So she decided to create her own.

The result: Blackcinemadb.com. A labor of love, her database contains 700 Black films. “We need to celebrate this body of work. This is my way of celebrating that,” she says.

But Jordan is not to one to rest on her laurels. She has already identified a next step: creating a film competition for young filmmakers. “This is a tough business,” she says. “I want to support filmmakers and give them a chance.”

**Learn more at:** [Lachrisjordan.com](http://Lachrisjordan.com) [Blackcinemadb.com](http://Blackcinemadb.com)

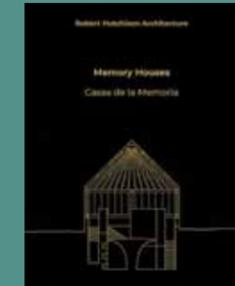
## MEDIA



**The River That Made Seattle: A Human and Natural History of the Duwamish**  
BJ Cummings  
University of Washington Press, 2020

The city of Seattle grew up along the banks and tidal flats of the Duwamish River. Author Cummings, the founder of the Duwamish River Cleanup

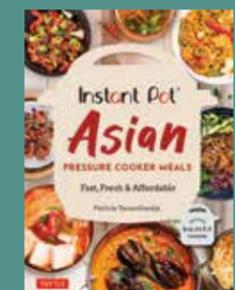
Coalition and manager of community engagement for the UW Superfund Research Program, captures the river’s history starting with the Duwamish people and the early settlers. She winds her narrative through the impact of industry to current efforts to celebrate and restore the waterway and all its cultural and environmental value.



**Memory Houses**  
Robert Hutchison, ’96, and others  
Arquine, 2020

This small, elegant book captures the projects of architecture alum Hutchison in the theme of memory and loss. An exhibit bound in a book jacket, the project interlaces renderings and

black-and-white and subtly hued photographs of projects and memories. The descriptions from him and his co-authors’ (all architects and teachers) are in English and Spanish. Hutchison, who bases his practice in Seattle, is an affiliate associate professor in the College of Built Environments.



**Instant Pot: Asian Pressure Cooker Meals**  
Patricia Tanumihardja, ’95 Tuttle, 2020

Tanumihardja, who was born to Indonesian-Chinese parents and raised in Singapore, writes about food and travel for magazines including Saveur and Sunset. She also writes the Pickles

and Tea blog in collaboration with the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center. In her latest cookbook, the communication alum offers fast and user-friendly recipes of global classics like Thai basil chicken and green curry mussels and pairs them with mouth-watering photographs. All the recipes can be made in the popular multi-cooker (a combined pressure cooker and slow cooker).

## Taking on Turkey

**A UW-trained human rights lawyer sues Turkey's government after a violent attack on a peaceful protest in the US**

By David Volk

*Attorney Joshua Colangelo-Bryan didn't take it sitting down when an attack on protesters in Washington, D.C., injured 20 people. He filed a civil suit against the Republic of Turkey for its involvement.*



For as long as he can remember, Josh Colangelo-Bryan has been fighting for the weak and downtrodden. As a UW law student, he loved working in law clinics where he could represent someone in a small matter and help them win a case. He represented a number of undocumented people who were in the middle of an unconstitutional racial profiling suit against the New Haven, Connecticut, police force. And he helped six Bahrainis who were wrongly detained at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba gain their freedom.

So it should not come as a big surprise that Colangelo-Bryan decided to sue Turkey. Yes, Turkey.

As audacious as it sounds, the New York City attorney filed a personal injury suit against the Republic of Turkey for its involvement in an attack on a peaceful protest in a Washington, D.C., park in 2017 that left 20 people with injuries ranging from concussions and emotional distress to head wounds and seizures.

The incident occurred when protesters used a visit of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan to speak out against the country's treatment of its Kurdish minority. According to the suit, the group of 15 were demonstrating in Sheridan Square, across the street from the Turkish Mission Chief's home, when employees of the Turkish Embassy and others twice broke through a police cordon and attacked the protesters, punching them, pushing them and kicking them after they fell.

Video of the attack quickly went viral, showing up on national and international news broadcasts. The jerky footage shows a group of plainclothes security personnel rushing the small group and repeatedly hitting the unarmed civilians, many of them American. Instead of retreating when police pull the attackers away from individual victims, they can be seen moving on to others and resuming their brutal attacks.

"It was just emotionally and visually horrifying," Colangelo-Bryan recalls.

Although he was disgusted by the video, he didn't seek involvement in the case. But a year later, human-rights advocates came calling, looking for someone to take the case.

"I remembered seeing the arrogance with which the attackers not only assaulted people, but utterly disregarded US law-enforcement officers. I thought this is exactly the kind of thing there needs to be a

lawsuit about," he recalls.

Colangelo-Bryan wasn't always so focused on human rights. He might have been interested in righting wrongs when he attended the UW, but he thought employment law was the way to go. All that changed when he volunteered for a humanitarian aid group in Kosovo between the time he took the bar exam and started working at Preston Gates & Ellis. He found the situation in the Balkan Peninsula country as it emerged from war so compelling that he returned to Europe a year later to work with the United Nations on criminal-justice issues ranging from prisoner transfers and cross-boundary concerns to war crimes and human trafficking. "It sparked a passion for international human rights law," he says.

In 2002, he joined Dorsey & Whitney LLP in New York City, and he has been focusing on white-collar criminal defense cases. He added a wrinkle to his practice in 2004, when he proposed having the firm represent six Bahrainis who had been sent to Guantanamo on the basis of what he believed was weak evidence. He eventually secured their release in 2007, but it required so much effort on his part that the firm gave him the freedom to spend as much time as he needed on the case.

The arrangement stuck and has allowed him to create an ongoing pro bono practice focusing on human rights and civil rights matters. He still handles commercial litigation, but has the leeway to handle more pro bono cases than most typical attorneys.

In the years since, he went up against the New York City Police Department for using excessive force on schoolchildren and represented a Sing Sing Prison inmate who was assaulted by a guard who wouldn't let the prisoner into the facility's law library. "There's nothing better than taking a case for the sole reason that it's the right thing to do," he says.

Colangelo-Bryan often uses what he calls his "anger test" to determine which cases he'll take on. If the way a powerless person is being treated makes him angry, it's a good fit.

The Turkey suit lists 25 defendants including three Canadians, two US citizens and 20 unnamed employees of the Turkish Embassy, most of whom have since left the country. Even if he doesn't win, he knows there will be another human-rights case waiting. There always is.

"The victims have such incredible wrong that's been done to them, and to be able to move the needle back in the right direction feels like one of the best things you can do with your life."

## Good Books. Great Conversations.

**UW ALUMNI BOOK CLUB CREATES AN ONLINE HOME FOR READERS**

The idea was simple: create a digital learning space where Huskies could connect over a good book, no matter where they lived. It was also easy: Alumni could sign up at any time; read everything or skip a selection; follow or not follow reading timelines and questions to consider for the forum.

In fall 2019, UWAA launched an online book club in partnership with UW Libraries. Curated titles would reflect timely topics and explore multiple genres—fiction and non-fiction, memoir and history, emerging writers and established authors. Intermittently, the club could vote on what they wanted to read next.

To date, more than 1,600 readers have joined, representing alumni from every college and school across all three campuses. Grad years range from 1947 to 2020, and more than one-third live outside of the Puget Sound.

What drew them to the program? Marilyn Conover Watt, '76, '81: "My husband and I joined for the opportunity to read, review and discuss interesting books with each other and our fellow Huskies... so often we think of reading as a solo activity, but with discussion it improves and elevates the experience."

Three books and six months into the burgeoning Book Club and the pandemic changed the world. Suddenly, everyone was looking for ways to connect virtually and the Book Club expanded its conversations. University Book Store was brought into the editorial planning mix. Zoom conversations with fellow readers, as well as deep dives with UW faculty and alumni on book themes, strengthened the readings while forging a stronger sense of community.

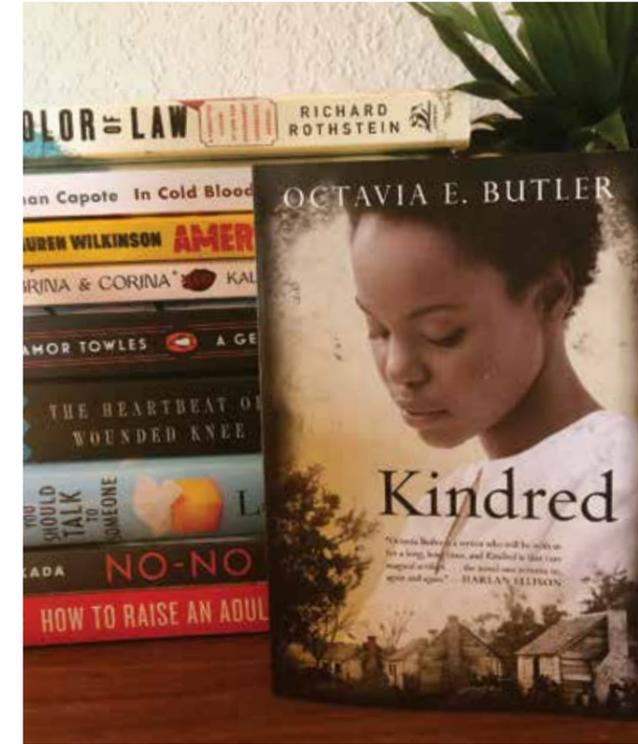
Danielle Higa '07 echoed that sentiment. "It connects people through important topics and stories. The discussion forums are extremely valuable and I appreciate the opportunity to vote for the next book, plus it was fun seeing what others like too."

Over the past six months, topics explored have included an architect's reflection on the power of space and home ("A Gentleman

**It adds so much to the reading experience. The book club fits perfectly with our desire for lifetime learning.**

in Moscow"), a historian's view on the Cold War front in Africa ("American Spy"), and a realtor's insight on redlining in Seattle ("The Color of Law"). Next up? UW experts tackle the science behind time travel and examine the effects of generational trauma in conjunction with our reading of "Kindred."

To quote Marilyn again, "We've been surprised about how fun it is to read a book at the same time and discuss it at home with just each other, and even more so with sharing with the group. It adds so much to the reading experience. The book club fits perfectly with our desire for lifetime learning." There's always room for more readers.

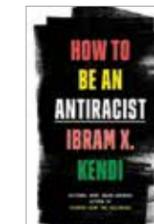


### 2021 READING LIST

Read with us, then hear from the author! Introducing the next three UW Alumni Book Club selections. UWAA members and registered book club participants have access to discounts for these three Seattle Arts & Lectures authors. All titles are available at University Book Store; UWAA member discount applies.



**CIRCE**  
MADELINE MILLER



**HOW TO BE AN ANTIRACIST**  
IBRAM X. KENDI



**ON EARTH WE'RE BRIEFLY GORGEOUS**  
OCEAN VUONG



*Find out more about the UW Alumni Book Club, including current programs and past selections at [UWalum.com/bookclub](http://UWalum.com/bookclub)*

## Regent Constance Rice Honored



University of Washington Regent Constance W. Rice, Ph.D., '70, '74, has been named to the Puget Sound Business Journal's Power 100 for 2020. She is the president of the Very Strategic Group, a consulting firm for executive coaching and educational policies. In addition to working on educational projects in the Mississippi Delta and Seattle, Rice was appointed by Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan, '85, to the City's Families, Education, Pre-School and Promise Levy Oversight Committee.

Rice has a long and distinguished career working in education and community service in a variety of fields. The wife of former Seattle Mayor Norman B. Rice, '72, '74, Constance holds an M.P.A. from the Evans School of Public Policy & Governance and a Ph.D. from the UW College of Education.

## Distinguished Alumni Veteran

*Continued from page 47*

non-proliferation and all aspects of political-military relations with Russia and the newly independent states of the former Soviet Union.

Working with the Joint Chiefs "was a dream job," he recalls. He served America's top military leaders—Generals Barry McCaffrey, Wes Clark, Colin Powell and John Shalikashvili, and traveled all over the world on diplomatic missions. "I had a front-row seat to history," says Center.

Center retired in 1999 after commanding the naval activities of the Pacific Northwest. He stayed in Seattle, and turned his considerable skills and passions to serving his alma mater. While he did take on a post-Navy position as president of the Washington Council on International Trade, he was a beloved and frequent guest lecturer in the Evans School, served as the senior adviser for the school's Humphrey Fellows program and lectured at the Foster School. Center received the Evans School's Distinguished Alumni Award in 2011, and his voracious appetite for community service also led him to

serve as president of the Seattle Rotary and volunteer to teach leadership at the Lighthouse for the Blind.

"Admiral Bill Center adores the UW, where he regularly volunteers as a speaker and a mentor to students and recent graduates," says Dorothy Bullitt, '76, '88, who lectures in the Evans School. "He assists veterans and active-duty members of all of the service branches, both young and old. I know of no one more willing to mentor the young, nor more ready to encourage his fellow leaders." And, she adds, "He stood out for his moral courage and kindness."

"I always felt at home on a ship," Center says. "It was the adventure of a lifetime. It was a privilege to serve my country, and I would do it again. And my UW education has been with me every step of the way."

Center believes it is possible to eliminate extreme global poverty and says he has no plans to fully retire. "When you look at the problems in the world, they all come down to extreme global poverty. If you want to make the world a better place, global poverty must be solved. It can be done. We are making great progress. We have to keep going."

The professional network and mentoring platform for the UW community.

**UW HUSKY LANDING**

[UWALUM.COM/HUSKYLANDING](http://UWALUM.COM/HUSKYLANDING)

**W Alumni ASSOCIATION**

**UW IMPACT**  
A program of the UW Alumni Association

**ADVOCATE**

**Higher Education Needs Your Voice**  
Become an advocate today

[UWimpact.org](http://UWimpact.org)

SWITCH. UPGRADE. ADD A LINE.



Our most  
*Wonderful*  
deals of the year!



New and existing customers get the same great deals on smartphones.

Visit your local AT&T store for details.  
[att.com/stores](http://att.com/stores)

# Impact

GENEROSITY AND OPPORTUNITY AT THE UW

**Create opportunities.** When you support scholarships for Huskies from underrepresented communities, you open doors for students like Danyelle Thomas—and help foster diversity on campus and in their careers. [giving.uw.edu/diversity-scholars](https://giving.uw.edu/diversity-scholars)

**BE BOUNDLESS**  
FOR WASHINGTON | FOR THE WORLD



## Bringing Health Care Home

Danyelle Thomas, '07, became a doctor to help improve the health outcomes of underserved communities—starting with her own

By Malavika Jagannathan  
Photos by Mark Stone

The name rang a bell. At the bustling admit desk of Seattle's Carolyn Downs Family Medical Center, Dr. Danyelle Thomas, '07, picked up a patient's chart and was transported back to middle school. The chart was for a classmate she hadn't seen in years.

It was a scene that would replay in various forms at this Central District clinic over Thomas' three-year residency. Sometimes it was the familiar face of a childhood friend in the hallway, or an aunt who stopped to say hello before an annual checkup.

For Thomas, a University of Washington alumna whose family roots run deep in Seattle's historic African American neighborhood, the residency was more than just an opportunity to hone her skills as a physician—it was a chance to improve the well-being of the community that made her who she is.

"There are so many communities that are marginalized to the point where people write them and their experiences off," says Thomas, who finished her residency in June and now practices at Pacific Medical Center

on Beacon Hill. "I was kind of an underdog in becoming a doctor, so I want to help people who need the help."

Thomas didn't have to look far to see that African Americans are more likely than other Americans to suffer heart attacks, die from cancer and have chronic diseases that go unchecked. These disparities are the result of many factors, including systemic racism in and beyond health care.

Studies show that Black patients benefit from having Black doctors like Thomas—with higher levels of trust, shared decision-making and more. But Thomas is an outlier in her profession: Fewer than 5% of working physicians are African American, and even fewer are Black women.

### TO DO MORE AND BE MORE

Thomas was the first in her family to attend a four-year college and medical school, but she's not the first to chart a pioneering course in health care. Her grandmother—"a 5-foot, 6-inch force of nature"—moved to Seattle in the 1940s to become one of the area's few Black nurses. Her mother, too, is a retired nurse who worked at the same Beacon Hill clinic where Thomas now practices.



But Thomas didn't consider medicine until after she graduated from the UW, where she earned a degree in biochemistry and a math minor, with the support of the Costco Diversity Scholarship. Given to high-achieving students from underrepresented communities, the scholarship was a vote of confidence that made Thomas "want to do more and be more."

While working for a Seattle pharmaceutical company testing a prostate cancer treatment, Thomas saw that African Americans made up a shockingly low percentage of the clinical-trial participants, despite being more likely than others to get and die from the cancer. It was a glaring

inequity that frustrated and disappointed her—but ultimately motivated her.

"If we know there's a huge population that can be helped, why aren't we doing more?" she remembers wondering at the time. "That's when I thought maybe I should be a doctor."

Inspired to help both individuals and whole populations, she applied and was accepted to a four-year combined medicine and master's of public health program at the University of Miami. Even that process illuminated some of the barriers to diversifying the physician workforce.

"I didn't have a lot of the opportunities afforded to my peers," says Thomas, who worked full time while studying for the MCATs, while some of her peers had taken the summer off to prepare. "There are many things that come with money and opportunities that the people we need to be doctors can't access."

Throughout the grueling, often isolating years of medical school, Thomas' family and friends cheered her on from 3,000 miles away. She was overjoyed when she matched to the Swedish Family Medicine Residency Program at Carolyn Downs—about a mile from the house in which both she and her father had grown up.

It meant being closer to her support group and back in the community she wanted to serve: her own.

### COMING HOME

From the moment Thomas walked through the doors of the Carolyn Downs Family Medical Center, she felt at home. Founded by the Seattle chapter of the Black Panther Party, the clinic sits on the same Central District sidewalks she had walked in her youth on the way to church and to school at Garfield High. And the clinic's mission aligned with her own: to improve the whole community's health. On any given day, Thomas saw a broad spectrum of that community, from newborns to octogenarians.

One of her goals is to help patients understand their own health. She knows how vital it is that people have access to medical information in plain language.

"People should know what's going on," Thomas says. "When somebody has high blood pressure, I get animated. I explain there's a medication to help lower your blood pressure, and that's important because you're more likely to have this other problem if you don't [take it]."

Those messages are easier to deliver when patients can see themselves in their doctors. At her practice on Beacon Hill, Thomas is the only Black primary-care physician. When she walks into the exam room, her patients are excited and grateful to see her.



"We need physicians that look like the patients, so there's an inherent trust and bond there," says Thomas. "We are the same, but I just happen to be the doctor. I think that's really important in the way I talk, explain and relate to patients."

That's why representation matters to her. It's also why she spends a little extra time with her youngest patients, encouraging them to try out her stethoscope or look in her ear before she looks in theirs.

"We have to start nurturing it early, before they even go to school, because high school is almost too late," Thomas says. Her goal is for Black doctors to be commonplace. "My success would be in me not being that special."

*Opposite: Dr. Danyelle Thomas, pictured here with her parents at her family home, returned to Seattle's Central District for her medical residency.*

*Left: Thomas points to an image of her grandmother, a founding member of a professional organization for Seattle Black nurses in the 1940s.*

*Watch a video about Thomas' journey to the UW and beyond at [uw.edu/danyelle-thomas](https://uw.edu/danyelle-thomas).*

**Support language study.** When you support scholarships like the Jonathan & Helen Louise Noyes Language Scholarship, you help prepare the next generation of global leaders. [giving.uw.edu/language-gift](http://giving.uw.edu/language-gift)

## Inspiring Intelligence

For Helen Noyes, '69, a love of languages translated into a lifelong career with the CIA

By Nancy Joseph and Jamie Swenson

As a Far Eastern and Slavic studies major in the late 1960s, Helen Louise Noyes was about to become the first in her family to graduate from college. Her family was thrilled. But her next step was far from clear.

Noyes, '69, had interviewed without success for numerous corporate management training programs. Most were resistant to hiring a woman. A recruiter from a European shipping company was completely frank: A woman would not be a good fit, he told her, in the German business community.



Helen Noyes, who studied German and Russian at the UW, found an unexpected career in the CIA.

Rather than accept defeat, Noyes says, she began to “think more broadly about what I might be able to tackle.” A CIA recruiter was coming to campus, and Noyes signed up for an interview—but she still had high expectations.

Not only would Noyes land a job at the CIA, she would go on to climb the ranks in an unexpected career that brought the world to her. From her early days as an imagery analyst for foreign intelligence (and one of two women in a department of 150 people) to the culmination of her career as an agency executive, Noyes never

wavered in using her sharp mind and natural curiosity to move ahead in her career and encourage others along the way.

### CLIMBING THE RANKS

The Seattle-born Noyes studied both German and Russian at the UW. But it wasn't just her language skills that caught the CIA recruiter's attention. That fateful morning, in a cramped office barely large enough for its desk and two chairs, Noyes impressed the recruiter with her analysis of the aerial photos in the CIA brochure—and, she later learned, with how she turned the tables by interviewing him.

“I asked the recruiter if the photos were from the Cuban Missile Crisis, and he asked why I thought that,” Noyes recalls. “I proceeded to point out military vehicles, missiles and launch pads. He immediately wrote down that the imagery analysis component at the CIA should hire me.”

Imagery analysis involves extracting useful information from photos—at that time, taken from satellites and reconnaissance aircraft. After a follow-up interview in Washington, D.C., months of waiting for clearances, and a cross-country move to the nation's capital, Noyes took a step neither she nor her family had predicted by launching her career with the CIA.

For her first assignment, Noyes used satellite images to study the economic capabilities of countries closed to the U.S., assessing their ability to manufacture various products. A few years later, she was drawing from a wider variety of sources from across the intelligence, military and diplomatic communities to assess foreign economies and help inform trade negotiations.

As a woman in an overwhelmingly male environment, Noyes faced an uphill battle. “Some of the men were clearly less than enthused about having women in the office,” she recalls. “I was asked lovely questions like, ‘When are you going to quit and have kids?’”

But her work spoke for itself. Noyes' next promotion was to branch chief, overseeing a dozen people focused on China's economy. She then became a deputy division chief and continued to climb the management ladder, finding even greater opportunities when imagery analysis and mapping merged, in the 1990s, as the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency. By the time Noyes retired in 2006, she was a senior intelligence service officer.

Over time, the CIA became much more diverse. Noyes notes, “There are many, many, many capable female professionals at the CIA and elsewhere.”

While she was making strides in her own career, she was committed to supporting others as well. “I love to mentor,” Noyes says. “A lot of people came into the agency who had never worked on intelligence issues, and the opportunity to teach them was exciting.”

That drive to encourage others led Noyes to contact the UW last year about creating the Jonathan & Helen Louise Noyes Language Scholarship in the Jackson School of International Studies. Through a generous blended gift of annual contributions and a bequest, the fund provides support for UW students studying challenging languages.

**“I proceeded to point out military vehicles, missiles and launch pads. He immediately wrote down that the imagery analysis component at the CIA should hire me.”**

### GIVING BACK

Two factors convinced Noyes to support language study at the UW. The first was her own missed opportunity to study Russian in Moscow, travel that she couldn't afford as an undergrad. “It ate at me for decades,” she says.

The other factor was the paucity of job candidates in the intelligence community



PHOTOS COURTESY OF HELEN NOYES

with language skills or an interest in pursuing language study.

Her own work in imagery analysis did not require foreign-language fluency, but Noyes' knowledge of Russian helped when she was stumped by an image. She was able to consult Russian-language newspapers and books for a better understanding of the industrial processes she was seeing. “No one else there could do that,” she recalls. “It became clear that too few people knew the languages of the regions they were focused on. It didn't make sense to me.”

Noyes directed her gift to students studying languages categorized by the State Department as Level 3 or higher—the ones most difficult for native English speakers to learn. But an interest in the CIA or State Department is not required. Language proficiency, Noyes believes, is vital in any field involving communication across countries and cultures.

“Whether the speaker is employed by the U.S. government, an international business or a nongovernmental organization doing charitable work abroad, our nation will benefit. I think better cross-cultural understanding would help foster world peace. We can't get along if we can't communicate with one another.”

*Noyes spent decades climbing the ranks—and mentoring others—in the CIA. Here, she pauses at the CIA Memorial Wall on the day of her retirement in 2006.*

## Building a Better Future—Together

By Korynne Wright *Chair, UW Foundation Board*

The incredible impact of our Be Boundless campaign will be felt far into the future—on our campuses; by our faculty, students and staff; and in the lives of those we serve. You can see this impact in students who can attend the UW because of scholarships, in the programs and hands-on learning that deepen their education, in endowed professors who tackle today's most significant problems and educate the leaders of tomorrow, and, most visibly, in the new and upgraded facilities where it all takes place.

Over our decade-long campaign, your generosity enabled several new UW facilities where faculty and students can engage in teaching, learning and research at the highest level—from the new Burke Museum, to the Bill & Melinda Gates Center for Computer Science & Engineering, to wətəb?altx™—Intellectual House.

While our campaign closed in June, the impact of your philanthropy during the Be Boundless campaign continues to build.

Most recently, we completed construction of the Hans Rosling Center for Population Health, a hub for faculty, students and community partners working across disciplines to solve some of the most pressing issues of our time—including poverty, equity, health-care access and climate change.

Founders Hall, a new expansion underway at the Foster School of Business, will house state-of-the-art classrooms, student programs, career services and experiential learning centers. At historic Parrington Hall, home of the Evans School of Public Policy & Governance, much-needed renovations will provide modern, sustainable spaces for collaboration and active learning.

As we move beyond our campaign, we continue to rely on both public and private support to create and upgrade the places where teaching, learning, research and healing will happen—including at our campuses in Bothell and Tacoma, our UW Medicine campus in South Lake Union, our health-sciences center in Spokane, and the many clinics and programs throughout our state.

When you give to support new and improved educational facilities, research laboratories or medical clinics, you equip current and future leaders with the tools to do their very best. That matters now, and it will continue to matter as we foster curiosity, leadership and solutions for tomorrow.

We look forward to when we can gather on campus again and see these beautiful, inspiring new spaces. Until then, our work may largely continue remotely. We will keep moving forward into a better future—together.

 **Encourage exploration.** When you provide scholarship and program support, you can give students like Louis Maliyam greater opportunities to pursue their passions—or discover new ones. [giving.uw.edu/cse-and-dance](https://giving.uw.edu/cse-and-dance)



# A Body in Motion

When Louis Maliyam, '21, came to the U.S. to study computer science, he never expected that he'd find a second passion—dance. He now brings its lessons of vulnerability and freedom into his work teaching others.

By Lisa Walls

Photo by Mark Stone

The software-design class ends, and Louis Maliyam pops out of his seat, grabs his bag and hurries through the crowded hallway. With just 10 minutes to get to the dance studios in Meany Hall, he has to walk fast, or he'll be late. Sometimes he runs.

It's early 2020, before the pandemic will hit the U.S. Maliyam heads through Red Square, passing Suzzallo Library. The building's imposing Gothic architecture made an impression when he first visited campus. "I felt like the place had a history, like something was waiting for me," he recalls. "It was exciting to know I was going to spend four years at this place."

He doesn't mind the rainy sprint to dance class; Seattle's drizzle is nothing compared to the heavy downpours of Samut Prakarn, Thailand, where he grew up.

Maliyam would listen to the rain hammering on the roof of his parents' internet café, where he helped customers and assembled computers after school. "I think it's fun to solve problems," he says.

He took a programming class as a teen, and his talent for computers won him a full scholarship to study abroad. He finished high school in New Hampshire, where he took higher math classes to prepare for computer science—and discovered musical theater.

Maliyam continued both pursuits at the UW, entering as a computer science major and adding an acting class to his fall schedule. He continued to be recognized for his talents: in computer science, by earning the merit-based Eileen Bjorkman Endowed Scholarship in Computer Science & Engineering, and in performance, landing a role in the School of Drama's production of "Anything Goes."

And when a dance instructor came to work with the cast, Maliyam discovered a department he hadn't known about—and a new passion.

## HUGS IN THE HALLWAYS

In the UW dance studios, Maliyam felt instantly at home. Still, before he got to know the other dancers, he recalls, "it could feel strange to look into their eyes or dance in front of them."

Eventually his reluctance evaporated: "The teacher helped us bring our own movement into the room. It made us more comfortable because it created space for failure." That safety, Maliyam says, helps the students be brave. "We have sweat and tears, happiness and joy at the same time. We're vulnerable when we fail."

The dancers' willingness to publicly stretch and challenge themselves fosters a culture he didn't know he was looking for. "It's a strong connection we build from dance," he says. "We say hi and hug."

As Maliyam tackled more intricate computer science challenges, he pushed himself to open up in dance as well. Modern dance helps him level language barriers and communicate on a deeper level. It's "a tool to tell a story," he notes. "We can express what we feel in the moment."

He had that opportunity last January in UW Dance Presents, a Department of Dance showcase for faculty choreographers. Maliyam and his fellow dancers, all in shades of pink, came together and drew apart as they moved to an R&B song, voicelessly communicating about love, desire and relationships. "There's this feeling that's unexpected, where you don't know what's going to happen next," Maliyam says.

Last spring's dance majors concert was ultimately canceled amid rising coronavirus concerns—but even in the preparation, Maliyam found confidence and community. "Success is not in the outcome or the things we create," he says, "but in the rehearsal process, along the way."

## THE POWER OF VULNERABILITY

Maliyam brings the inclusive spirit of dance into his work as a teaching assistant in the Paul G. Allen School of Computer Science & Engineering (CSE). "The hard work is to make them feel that their worth is important," Maliyam says of his students, "so they're not afraid to speak in front of their peers and create a community in which it's OK to fail."

**“Success is not in the outcome or the things we create, but in the rehearsal process, along the way.”**

He makes himself approachable by sharing about his own life. "I've seen students who need help, but they don't feel like they can talk to us," he says. "Vulnerability closes the gap between teacher and student."

No matter where he ends up after graduation, there's little doubt Maliyam's professional career will mirror his academic one. As a sophomore, Maliyam received the UW President's Medalist Award—a recognition given to only one student in each undergraduate class. The medal reflects his excellence in CSE classrooms and onstage.

And when he received the Bjorkman scholarship, offering tuition support for a high-performing computer science student, Maliyam said, "I felt that someone had seen my hard work. I feel really grateful—it's allowed me to focus on the goals I've set for myself." Goals such as his summer internship at DocuSign. Computer science, Maliyam says, "expands my horizons, while dance fulfills my soul."

*Maliyam received the UW President's Medalist Award in recognition of his excellence in computer science and on the stage.*



# EVERY SIP SUPPORTS SUSTAINABILITY



In collaboration with Conservation International, we are on a mission to make coffee the world's first sustainable agricultural product and improve the lives of at least one million people in coffee communities around the world.

**FIND OUT MORE**  
[sbux.co/sustainability](https://sbux.co/sustainability)



© 2020 Starbucks Coffee Company.

TRIBUTE JEROME FARRIS, 1930-2020



## An Extraordinary Inspiration

Trailblazing judge Joseph Jerome Farris inspired people of color to follow him into the law

A titan of the law and a trailblazer on the bench, Judge Joseph Jerome Farris sat on the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit for 41 years, the first African American to reach that position. Earlier in his career, Farris took pride in having only one decision reversed by the Supreme Court, but over time his court became the most reversed in the country. He dismissed critics who said that meant he was too liberal, offering instead that "courts cannot determine right and wrong in an absolute sense, because the law is not absolute."

Farris, who died July 23 at the age of 90, was born in Birmingham, Alabama, in 1930. He earned a degree in math from Morehouse College, then served two years in the Army Signal Corps. He added a master's in social work from Atlanta University before journeying to the Pacific Northwest to earn his law degree at the UW in 1958, working as a juvenile probation officer while in school. A decade of

private practice followed, and in 1969, Farris landed on the Washington State Court of Appeals. His star rising, he was nominated to the Ninth Circuit by President Jimmy Carter in 1979.

Farris' service to the UW was varied and lifelong. A past president of the Board of Regents, he also led the Law School Student Body and later sat on the UW Law School Foundation. In an interview with the Seattle Times, Chief US District Judge Ricardo Martinez called Farris "a true pioneer and an extraordinary inspiration to young lawyers of color everywhere." Martinez, '77, '80, says Farris was one of the reasons he pursued law school.

Asked by a UWTV interviewer in 1989 if he ever agonizes over his rulings, Farris responded swiftly: "Never. You can't. And by 'never' I mean absolutely never." With five trials in a day and 25 in a week, "you don't have time to agonize. We don't have to know, we have to listen."

# Columns

### RECOGNITION



**SANDRA J. EYRES** wanted people to call her Sandy, not "Dr. Eyres," during her 25 years at the UW School of Nursing. A Distinguished Teaching Award recipient, she created the school's doctoral program and nursing programs at UW Bothell and UW Tacoma. Sandy, 85, died at her home in LaQuinta, California, on Sept. 6. For many years, the School of Nursing has honored graduate students with the Sandra Eyres Excellence in Graduate Teaching Award.



**CONSTANTINE CHRISTOFIDES** possessed a "larger-than-life presence in this world," says Professor Emerita Anna Kartsonis, a close colleague in the School of Art + Art History + Design. Christofides taught Romance languages and Romanesque art history, helped launch the study abroad program and served as director of the School of Art. He died in New York City on June 24 at the age of 92.

## In Memory

### ALUMNI

## 1940

**BETTY JO BASKERVILLE**  
'42, '66, Seattle, age 102, June 21

**IRVING KANAREK**  
'42, Garden Grove, California, age 100, Sept. 2

**MARTHA SHANNON EGLY**  
'43, Tacoma, age 99, June 24

**HELEN LOUISE GREEAR**  
'47, Demorest, Georgia, age 99, Aug. 14

**ARVADA ELVIRA MCFARLAND**  
'47, Seattle, age 99, June 20

**LILLIAN H. YOUNG**  
'47, '50, Bellingham, Sept. 9

**LYLE M. CLARK**  
'48, Seattle, age 98, Sept. 3

**NELLIE JO HARRYLOCK**  
'48, Normandy Park, age 93, June 3

**MARJORIE WALSKE**  
'48, Silverdale, age 93, July 6

**ROBERT H. BOATSMAN**  
'49, Seattle, age 91, Aug. 1

**THOMAS GLEN REYNOLDS**  
'49, '53, Seattle, age 93, Sept. 19, 2019

## 1950

**WILLIAM CHIN**  
'50, '53, Mercer Island, age 95, July 1

**ALBERT MUINKAY MARK**  
'50, Seattle, age 91, Aug. 7

**WILLIAM H. REAMS**  
'55, Bellevue, age 87, June 6

**GERALD WINFIELD WEST**  
'55, Seattle, age 96, July 20

**DONALD W. EASTMAN**  
'56, '61, Renton, age 85, Sept. 2

**MARLENE “MIDGE” HALBERG**  
'56, Bellevue, age 86, July 22

**WALTER CHARLES HOWE JR.**  
'56, '62, Redmond, age 86, Aug. 10

**PAUL JACOBSON**  
'56, Bellevue, age 89, Dec. 24, 2019

**DAVID HUNTER JONES**  
'56, Bellingham, age 89, Aug. 9

**BARBARA JEAN ROBB KABEL**  
'56, Port Townsend, age 84, Oct. 24

**DONALD ANDREW GWILYM**  
'57, Seattle, age 85, Sept. 16

**DIANE MAY MORGAN**  
'57, Spokane, age 84, Aug. 31

**WILLIAM BYERS CAMPBELL**  
'58, Oak Harbor, age 83, Aug. 19

**JAMES W. DAHLEN**  
'59, Seattle, age 89, June 23

**MICHAEL BRADLEY DELL**  
'59, Seattle, age 83, July 9

**HENRY AKIO KUMASAKA**  
'59, Seattle, age 86, July 29

**WALTER J. TIANEN**  
'59, '71, Seattle, age 91, Jan. 4

**RUSSELL EARL PARTHEMER**  
'51, Sammamish, age 93, June 28

**RODERICK DIMOFF**  
'52, '55, Seattle, age 88, June 29

**RAYMOND EARL LUNDY**  
'52, Poulsbo, age 93, Sept. 2

**JESSIE MARIE ISOM PETERSON**  
'52, Lynden, age 89, Sept. 6

**JOHN “JACK” CHRISTIANSON**  
'53, Seattle, age 88, Aug. 31

**CHADWICK “TAD” MANNING**  
'53, Seattle, age 93, Aug. 14

**ANN S. O'NEIL**  
'54, Seattle, age 88, Aug. 9

**JOHN LEWIS SWAFFORD**  
'54, Seattle, age 96, Aug. 1

**DOROTHY E. BYERS**  
'55, '56, Seattle, age 87, Sept. 6

**KENNETH ERICKSON**  
'55, Seattle, age 87, Sept. 27

**GENEANNE MARY MENDEL**  
'55, Seattle, age 86, Sept. 3

**DUDLEY PANCHOT**  
'55, Shelton, age 90, Aug. 24

**JULIE ANN LAWSON**  
'62, Kenmore, age 80, Aug. 8

**DONALD L. VEITH**  
'62, Mercer Island, age 90, July 20

**ARTHUR A. DUGONI**  
'63, Atherton, California, age 95, Sept. 23

**MICHAEL J. GALBREATH**  
'63, Dillard, Georgia, age 78, June 7

**VENTRIS MAURICE INGRAM**  
'63, Renton, age 83, July 16

**DAVID ARNOLD BADER**  
'64, Mukilteo, age 78, June 29

**ANNE BRADLEY COUNTS**  
'64, '76, Seattle, age 78, Sept. 11

**SHARON SMITH LADD**  
'64, Bellevue, age 77, July 30

**RICHARD JOHN MALLOY**  
'64, Seattle, age 84, July 26

**PETER DOWNING SWINDLEY**  
'64, Bellevue, age 79, Sept. 13

**JOSEPH GRANT BURGHER**  
'65, Vancouver, age 76, June 15

**ROCK EMERSON CALEY**  
'65, South Colby

**ROGER TRUMAN CHESS**  
'65, Mountlake Terrace, age 77, May 15

**MARJORIE ANN MUELLER**  
'66, '72, Burien, age 84, Sept. 17

**MARK GREGORY BUCKINGHAM**  
'68, Enumclaw, age 75, Sept. 11

**JOHN E. FURMAN JR.**  
'69, '74, Seattle, age 73, June 21

**VIRGINIA GALLE**  
'69, Seattle, age 94, Sept. 13

**RONALD LINEBARGER**  
'69, Kent, age 72, Aug. 7

**ERIC JOHN LUNDBERG**  
'70, Seattle, age 76, July 14

**BRUCE E. MICHELS**  
'70, Seattle, age 83, Aug. 10

**BRIAN HOLLIDAY SPEAKES**  
'70, Woodinville, age 71, July 18

**KRISTI KNOWLES BUTLER**  
'71, Vallejo, California, age 71, June 30

**JAMES MARTIN NIBLACK**  
'72, Seattle, age 74, Sept. 10

**JAMES MARTIN NIBLACK**  
'72, Seattle, age 74, Sept. 10

**LEONARD G. BATES**  
'73, Seattle, age 83, Aug. 28

**NANCY LOCK HOWES**  
'73, Seattle, age 70, Aug. 17

**JEANNE DOFFING COATS**  
'75, Bellingham, age 83, May 30

**RUTH ANNE HILLINGER**  
'75, Seattle, age 71, July 30

**JAY WILLIAM WALEN**  
'75, Bellevue, age 70, Dec. 28, 2019

**GLENN M. KATAYAMA**  
'77, '88, age 63, Nov. 6, 2019

**JOHN C. NAAB**  
'77, Sonoma, California, age 71, Sept. 7

**JAMES C. POWERS**  
'77, Everett, age 66, May 25

**RUSH N. RIESE**  
'77, Medina, age 68, Aug. 18

**DOMINIC SANTIAGO**  
'77, SeaTac, age 78, June 13

**MICHAEL GUY SESSIONS**  
'77, Fayetteville, N.C., age 65, Aug. 17

## 1980

**CAROL MCMULLEN SWAN**  
'80, San Diego, age 73, Aug. 29

**JULIE STEWART BURKE**  
'81, Bothell, age 61, May 20

**JARED REX PETERSEN**  
'82, Vancouver, age 68, Feb. 2

**ALAN C. ROHAY**  
'82, Richland, age 68, Sept. 20

**THOMAS N. HAGEN**  
'83, Quilcene, age 69, Aug. 29

**RICHARD W. HIVELY JR.**  
'84, Kirkland, age 61, Sept. 11

**JAMES L. SCHAAD**  
'87, Newberg, Ore., age 61, Oct. 3

**JEFFREY J. WOLFSON**  
'87, Seattle, age 58, Sept. 10

**DEBRA LEANNE PHILLIPS**  
'88, Edmonds, age 65, Aug. 6

## 1990

**AARON STUART BURBY**  
'97, Seattle, age 46, Aug. 9

## 2000

**JONATHAN SHOOP**  
'11, Bothell, age 32, July 13

### FACULTY AND FRIENDS

**EDWARD ALEXANDER** spent 44 years as a professor of English literature at the UW. He joined the UW faculty in 1960. In 1974, he co-founded the UW's Jewish Studies Department. A mentor of numerous young scholars, he published books about Victorian literature, Jewish history and culture, and the state of Israel. He was known for his tenacious sense of justice and his willingness to take stands that were not popular. He died Aug. 22 at the age of 83.

**TREVOR L. CHANDLER** served the University for 20 years as a faculty member in political science and associate dean of graduate student services and minority education. In 1990, he left the UW for a similar position at UC Davis and did such a great job that the University of California Office of the President recruited him to work with campus leaders across the UC system to ensure that all campuses were supported in their recruitment efforts and to foster a climate that nurtured all aspects of diversity. He died May 16 at the age of 89.

**RHODA CHRISTIAN** worked in the UW Medical Center-Montlake's eye clinic for many years until her retirement in 2006. An avid Husky sports fan, she was also a charter member of the Sons of Norway of Bothell since 1973. She died Sept. 10 at the age of 73.

**CHARLES WYLIE BERGQUIST**, '67, a member of the UW faculty since 1989, was a distinguished expert in Latin American history and global labor history. A world-renowned scholar, he was also co-founder of the UW's Harry Bridges Center for Labor Studies and served as chair and director from 1994 to 1996. He died July 30 at the age of 78.

**EVELYN JANIS ANDERSON BOHRER**, '54, followed her mother into nursing and served with the Army Nurse Corps in England during World War II. She later was assistant director of nursing service at the UW Medical Center-Montlake and was the night supervisor there for 25 years. She died July 26 at the age of 99.

**MARIE L. BORGATTA** started her career as a trailblazing biochemist with Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center but switched fields to sociology and became an instructor at the UW. She and her late husband, Ed, a UW professor, loved collecting semi-precious stones and donated the American Golden Topaz, the world's largest cut topaz, to the Smithsonian. She died Sept. 18 at the age of 95.

**LANCE NATALE BRIGHAM**, '69, '72, played basketball at the UW and went on to join the faculty of the UW School of Medicine's Department of Orthopedic Surgery. He served as an orthopedic consultant with the Seattle Mariners and Seattle Pacific University athletics and was vice president of the Washington State Governor's Council for Athletic Injuries. He died July 6 at the age of 73.

**CLIFFORD E. HURN**, '73, walked on to the Husky crew and helped lead the UW to two national championships and three National Association of Amateur Oarsmen titles. He represented the U.S. in prestigious international competitions including the 1971 World Championships in Moscow. He and his 1970-71 Husky crew mates were inducted into the Husky Hall of Fame in 2004. He died July 27 at the age of 70.

**CLYDE JUSSILA**, '49, served in the Army during World War II and fought in Africa, Sicily and Anzio Beach in Italy. He went on to play in the U.S. Army Band, and after the war, he joined the faculty of the UW School of Music. A member of the Washington Music Educators Hall of Fame, he taught many of the Seattle area's music teachers over his long career. He played violin, viola, trombone and bassoon for many orchestras in the area, including the UW Symphony Orchestra, the Seattle Symphony and Cascade Symphony Orchestra. He died July 9 at the age of 100.

**MICHAEL KIRKLAND**, '60, joined three friends from Phi Gamma Delta fraternity at the UW to create the famous band the Brothers Four. They went on to meet President John F. Kennedy at his inauguration celebration, play for soldiers during the Vietnam War and create theme songs for movies and TV shows. Kirkland developed alcoholism and left the band to change careers and become an addiction and substance abuse counselor. He died Aug. 20 at the age of 82.

**WALTER A. KUCIEJ** served with the Army's 1/12 Infantry Rifle Platoon during the Vietnam War. He moved to Seattle after the war and worked as a psychiatric RN at UW Medicine-Harborview for 32 years. After retirement, he volunteered at UW Medical Center-Montlake and at the Seattle Animal Shelter. He died Sept. 18 at the age of 73.

where he served as interim director in the 1990s, and he helped recruit Husky football players. He died May 15, 2019, at the age of 94.

**DAVID LAGUNOFF** spent more than 20 years as a professor of pathology at the UW School of Medicine. An award-winning lecturer known for injecting humor into his lectures with a collection of science-related cartoons, he was a renowned pathologist and cell biologist who studied mast cells and the allergic response. He died Aug. 3 in Lund, Sweden, at the age of 88.

**DENNIS MIYA**, '71, served in Vietnam as an army dentist and later ran a private dental practice in Burien for 40 years. He also taught at the UW School of Dentistry. He died Sept. 24 at the age of 75.

**WALTER LESTER PETERSON** worked for 23 years in the UW Physical Plant department, retiring as shop foreman. He served in the Navy in the Pacific during World War II and his skills as a plumber were put to good use on floating drydock. He loved spending time with his family at their Whidbey Island cabin. He died Aug. 15 at the age of 101.

**MARGARET ALANNA RUDELL** was an internationally recognized cancer researcher in the UW Department of Comparative Medicine and at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. Her lab studied the architecture of lymph nodes and made seminal contributions to the understanding of the roles of immune cells, lymph nodes and lymphatics in cancer metastasis. A standing member of NIH Study Sections that reviewed grant applications on cancer metastasis, she was a renowned mentor of undergraduate students, graduate students and postdoctoral fellows. She died Aug. 11 at the age of 64.

**THOMAS B. SANFORD** spent more than 40 years as a professor in the UW School of Oceanography and as a senior principal oceanographer at the Applied Physics Laboratory. A professor emeritus in the UW College of the Environment, he conducted research on motional induction theory, the motion of seawater through the Earth's magnetic field that produces electric currents and magnetic fields. He died July 12 at the age of 80.

**DAVID REESE SCHMITT** served the University for more than 30 years as a professor of sociology. He published scholarly articles in the areas of social

psychology, mainly cooperation and competition. An avid cyclist, he also enjoyed wood carving and spending time on Lopez Island with his family. He died July 3 at the age of 81.

**CHRISTINE D. SEYL**, '86, was a nurse who, during the Vietnam War, cared for soldiers with serious brain and spinal-cord injuries. She later worked at UW Medicine-Harborview and as the manager of the School Nurse program for Seattle Public Schools. She died June 18 at the age of 71.

**MARGARET Z. SHEPHERD**, '65, served on the faculty of the UW School of Nursing and was a pioneer, policymaker and driving force in the burgeoning field of home health. She co-founded and was CEO of Community Home Health Care, which became the model for home-health agencies nationwide. She died Aug. 5 at the age of 79.

**IRENE MARIE SWANSON** grew up on a ranch in Selah just outside of Yakima. After she married, Irene and her husband Raymond moved to Seattle, where Swanson worked in the office of the UW President while her husband attended law school. She died Sept. 16 at the age of 91.

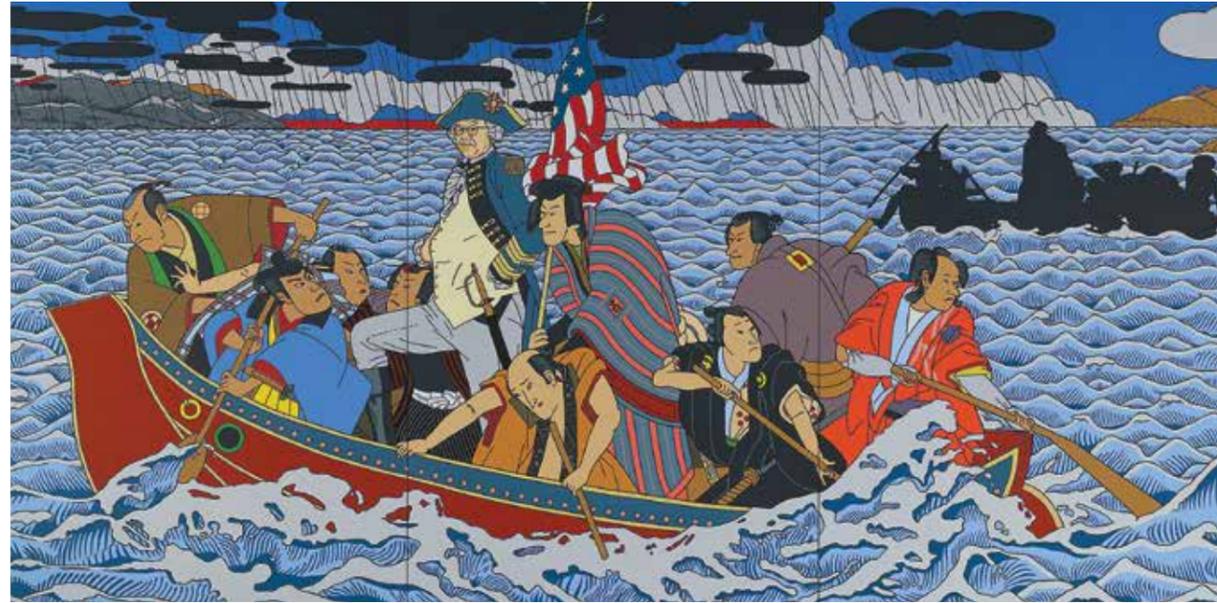
**COLLIER ROBERT WOODS JR.**, '86, dazzled arts connoisseurs with his lighting design and production design during a tremendously successful career in ballet, opera, modern dance, music and theater. He designed productions for Gil Scott-Heron, Branford Marsalis and Albert King, Dance Theatre of Harlem, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre and Broadway tours of "Phantom of the Opera," "West Side Story" among many, many others. He died Aug. 1 at the age of 64.

## A New Face Teaches American Portraiture

“I care about how contemporary artists are remaking history and interrogating it”

By Quinn Russell Brown

Artist Roger Shimomura, '61, plays the role of George Washington in his 2010 acrylic painting, “Shimomura Crossing the Delaware.” The canvas stretches 12 feet long and can be seen at the National Portrait Gallery.



Assistant Professor Juliet Sperling chose to be depicted in this particular style, which was popular among traveling painters in America in the early to mid-1800s. This portrait was done by Miha Sarani, '15, '19, who earned his B.F.A. in painting and drawing and his M.A. in art history from the University of Washington.

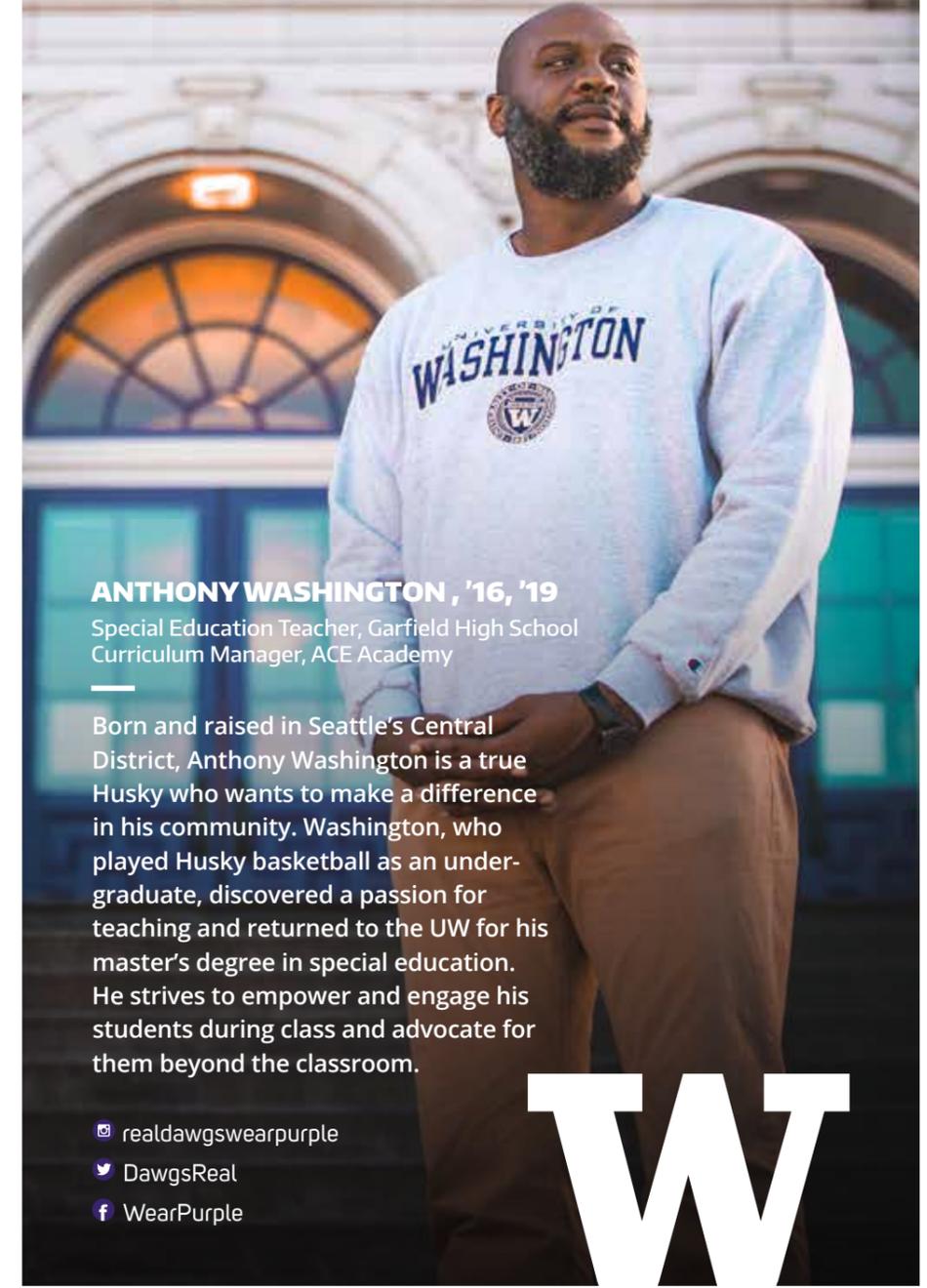
The first picture that students see in Juliet Sperling’s survey of American art is a familiar one: George Washington stands aboard a small boat as a group of colonists paddle him across the Delaware River. But this isn’t the version from your high school history book: Samurai have tagged in for the colonists, and a new face has found its way atop the pyramid of patriots: Roger Shimomura, a third-generation Japanese American, stands in for the first president. He may not have beaten the British, but Shimomura has had more than 150 solo exhibitions since graduating from the University of Washington in 1961. “Shimomura Crossing the Delaware” was painted in 2010. The original, made by Emanuel Leutze nearly 70 years after the Revolutionary War, has also been remixed by artists like Jacob Lawrence (who taught at the UW for 16 years) and Robert Colescott (whose version is held by the Seattle Art Museum). It says a lot that Sperling would start a lower-level survey class by exposing her students to a picture like this, one in

which art is in conversation with art, racial and ethnic identity is foregrounded, and history is a moving target. Shimomura’s picture is quintessentially U.S.A. without chanting “U-S-A!,” and while it may delight the viewer at first, more than anything it sparks questions.

“I really care about how contemporary artists are remaking history and interrogating it,” says Sperling. “Shimomura is riffing on one of the most popular American paintings: As someone who doesn’t look like George Washington, and who hasn’t been represented the way George Washington has been throughout art history, he is inserting himself into one of the most ultra-nationalistic, ultra-patriotic artworks from American history.” Shimomura, who joined the Army after earning his degree at the UW, was interned in the Minidoka camp during World War II. His self-portrait as Washington inherits the paneled composition of a Japanese wood-block print.

Sperling joined the faculty of the School of Art + Art History + Design this fall as Assistant Professor and Allan and Mary Kollar Endowed Chair in American Art History. “Shimomura Crossing the Delaware” is one of 18 portraits she chose for a tour of American art history on the UW Magazine website. Experience it by heading to [magazine.uw.edu](http://magazine.uw.edu).

## REAL DAWGS WEAR PURPLE



### ANTHONY WASHINGTON, '16, '19

Special Education Teacher, Garfield High School  
Curriculum Manager, ACE Academy

Born and raised in Seattle’s Central District, Anthony Washington is a true Husky who wants to make a difference in his community. Washington, who played Husky basketball as an undergraduate, discovered a passion for teaching and returned to the UW for his master’s degree in special education. He strives to empower and engage his students during class and advocate for them beyond the classroom.

Instagram: [realdawgswearpurple](https://www.instagram.com/realdawgswearpurple)

Twitter: [DawgsReal](https://twitter.com/DawgsReal)

Facebook: [WearPurple](https://www.facebook.com/WearPurple)



4333 Brooklyn Ave NE  
Campus Box 359508  
Seattle, WA 98195

PROFESSIONAL & CONTINUING EDUCATION  
UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

# POWER UP

Certificates, degrees and courses  
for busy adults, with flexible  
options in the evening and online.

[KEEPLEARNING.UW.EDU](http://KEEPLEARNING.UW.EDU)

