

FALL 2020

ST. OLAF

M A G A Z I N E



ON THE COVER

Art by Julie Van Grohl '08 ,
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Campaign for St. Olaf.

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UNDER THE GATE OF HUMAYUN'S TOMB Solveig Gordon '21 Delhi, India · Global Semester

*My beautiful friend Aml
Mohamad '21 spins under the
entrance gate to Humayun's
Tomb, the first substantial
example of Mughal architec-
ture in India. The size of the
gate alone indicates the
sheer size of this beautiful
garden and tomb.*

ST. OLAF

M A G A Z I N E

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The current outbreak of COVID-19 is not the first time St. Olaf has responded to a severe pandemic. We look back at the 1918 pandemic and its impact on the Hill. BY JEFF SAUVE



FROM THE DESK OF
PRESIDENT DAVID R. ANDERSON '74



Greetings, Oles:

Welcome to the Fall issue of St. Olaf Magazine. Its message is straightforward: in trying times we have good news to report, but there's work to be done.

The results of the campaign *For the Hill and Beyond* should lift all of our spirits. Oles and friends of the college responded to the campaign with enthusiasm and generosity, raising more than \$252 million dollars to make the college stronger, to help secure its future, and to meet the needs and aspirations of our students. It's a cause for celebration.

More good news: everywhere you look Oles are leaders serving their communities, their states, our nation, and the world. This issue profiles Minnesota State Demographer Susan Brower '93, who is providing critical data and insights that help public, private, and nonprofit leaders make decisions based on the trends that are shaping the state. Better data, better decisions!

More good news: even though the global pandemic will prevent us from gathering on campus for Christmas Fest, the college is hosting a virtual concert and music program, *All Earth is Hopeful*, on Sunday, December 6, to offer healing and hope to viewers, both close to home and abroad. Check the story in this issue for details about how to access the program.

More good news: even though the global pandemic has shut down our international and off-campus study programs, photos in this issue from the 37th annual Gimse International and Off-Campus Photo Contest offer compelling images from around the world.

There's work to be done: Dr. Deanna Thompson '89, the Martin E. Marty Regents Chair in Religion and the Academy and director of the Lutheran Center for Faith, Values, and Community at St. Olaf, offers a searching analysis of how our college's Lutheran identity can help us in identifying and eradicating systemic racism in our nation, our cities and towns, and our college.

2020 has been a challenging year in many ways for all of us. In its closing weeks, may we lean into the theme of this year's Christmas Festival — *All Earth is Hopeful* — and bring our spirit and energies to the work before us to create a brighter 2021.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David R. Anderson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.



UM! YAH! YAH!

ALL EARTH IS *Hopeful*

Reimagining the St. Olaf Christmas Festival for the global pandemic

By Connor Boritzke Smith

WITH THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC continuing to escalate, so many traditions have been necessarily modified or canceled. In early December, that included the annual in-person St. Olaf Christmas Festival, a cherished event in which countless people gather on campus to celebrate the beginning of the Advent-Christmas-Ephiphany season.

“The loss of Christmas Festival this year is felt in many ways,” says Tosdal Professor of Music Anton Armstong ’78, artistic director of the Christmas Festival and conductor of the St. Olaf Choir. “This event is a shared endeavor that brings our campus and the wider community together in such a special way. I certainly know the students [have missed] the festival, although maybe not the extra rehearsals. And I know they miss the time spent bonding and collaborating with one another.”

The Christmas Festival, first held in 1912, has carried on throughout multiple wars, the Great Depression, and numerous incidents of national and worldwide turbulence. This is not the first time the Christmas Festival has been canceled; it isn’t even the first time it’s been canceled due to a global pandemic. The 1918 pandemic impacted countless colleges and universities, St. Olaf among them, and the Christmas Festival, still in its fledgling form, was canceled after classes were halted and students sent home early for their own safety.

One hundred years later, technological advancements have made it possible for St. Olaf to offer a unique holiday musical celebration through streaming/broadcasting, the Internet, and digital audio and video recordings. On Sunday, December 6, on what would have been the final day of the 2020 St. Olaf Christmas Festival, *All Earth is Hopeful*, a virtual concert and music program, offered healing and hope to countless viewers, both close to home and abroad.

Initial planning for the 2020 Christmas Festival began in January, before the pandemic reached the United States. But when it was clear that COVID-19 would affect everyone’s life for the foreseeable future and St. Olaf prepared for an academic year that would be unlike any other, the festival’s Artistic Committee knew a traditional Christmas Festival would not be possible.

To watch *All Earth is Hopeful*, please visit christmas.stolaf.edu. St. Olaf College will distribute, in cooperation with Twin Cities Public Television, a new one-hour holiday program featuring material from the 2019 Christmas Festival, *A New Song of Grace and Truth*. The program premieres December 17, 2020, on PBS television stations nationwide. Check your local public television listings for program information in your area. Updates can be found at christmas.stolaf.edu.

“We discussed how we could create a program that would reflect the ethos of Christmas at St. Olaf, while honoring the despair that COVID-19 has created, not only in our separation from each other and our loved ones but the loss people have experienced — the hundreds of thousands of lives lost to this virus,” says Armstong.

As the committee continued to discuss a reimagined program, they kept returning to a phrase from a Latin American carol, *Todo la Tierra*, which ultimately led to the theme *All Earth is Hopeful*.

“We felt this was a strong statement and an aspiration for not only the St. Olaf community but for our country and the world as well,” says Armstong. “I want people to feel a sense of hope, that we can have a life beyond COVID-19. The virus has taken so much from people around the world, and in our own community. This holiday season, many of us won’t have the opportunity to be together with family, friends, and those we love most. I hope this music can provide people with healing, and some of that lost hope and joy.”

All Earth is Hopeful showcases music from recent Christmas Festival programs as well as additional material from festival concerts not seen in many years. Nothing can substitute for the communal and elevating exchange that happens between musicians and in-person attendees of the St. Olaf Christmas Festival. However, this opportunity provided the Artistic Committee with a chance to reflect on and revisit old favorites, to highlight particular themes and messages, and to recognize the current climate of the nation and the campus.

“Along with the pandemic, we’ve contended with civil and racial unrest in this country and on campus, sparked by the murder of George Floyd in our own backyard. There is a great deal of work that needs to be done, yet I remain hopeful we can turn a page that leads us to more racial harmony,” says Armstong. “I think *All Earth is Hopeful* also represents a recognition of the musical contributions of black and brown people from the U.S. and abroad. It’s not limited to this scope, but it’s been an intentional choice to share a message of love and unity, from voices of populations often marginalized in our society.”

While no one knows what 2021 will bring, the St. Olaf community is looking forward to welcoming old friends and newcomers back to campus, when everyone can once again experience the uplifting, healing power of music in person. For that, all earth is hopeful. 🦄

CONNOR BORITZKE SMITH is the assistant director of Music Organizations for Audience Development at St. Olaf College.

The St. Olaf Theater Department gets creative with *Mamma Mia!*

By Anna Barnard '21 | PHOTOGRAPHED BY FERNANDO SEVILLA

ON A WARM SEPTEMBER AFTERNOON, Oles gathered on the quad in front of Boe Memorial Chapel for the Theater Department's physically distanced production of *Mamma Mia!*, in what would be the first live, in-person production in months.

The production originally was scheduled to be performed in April as part of the 2019-20 theater season, but it was postponed due to COVID-19. When students were sent home in March, the cast had already completed four weeks of rehearsals, and guest designer Kurt Gough '88 had built much of the set. Despite all this hard work, the many new restrictions of the pandemic made it difficult to imagine how the production could still move forward.

Dedicated to bringing the efforts of the cast and crew to fruition, Professor of Theater Karen Peterson Wilson '77, who directed *Mamma Mia!*, considered how an in-person fall performance might work.

"When we learned that St. Olaf would be back in session early, I asked students if they were interested in completing the production, and they responded enthusiastically," Wilson says. "I ultimately had to recast a few roles, as some seniors had graduated and other students would not be returning to campus due to COVID or personal reasons. I did this by using actors from within the ensemble who were already familiar with what we had been working on. So a few students returned to campus with an extra challenge of learning a new role."

The themes of *Mamma Mia!* also took on a new meaning for the cast and crew in the midst of a global pandemic.

"With our diverse cast, we had many discussions about what it means to be a family — about how family units can look very different from each other — and we talked about how coming to St. Olaf also allows us opportunities to make unique family units, particularly now in this COVID world," Wilson says. "The production demonstrated how we need theater, how being together is essential to humans, and how *Mamma Mia!* is a celebration of this. The students were an absolute joy to work with. They were flexible and reacted to last-minute changes with grace, energy, and imagination. They learned new choreography, they brought extra jackets to rehearsals outside, and they brought absolute joy to the process."

As the overture faded out and the show's opening number, "I Have a Dream," started to play, Tamsin Olson '21 took center stage on Boe Plaza. Olson, who is studying music and pursuing an individually designed musical theater major at St. Olaf, played the role of Sophie. Looking out at the audience, she began to sing, and amid the uncertainty of what lies ahead, the song's lyrics took on unique importance: "I have a dream, a song to sing, to help me cope with anything. If you see the wonder of a fairy tale, you can take the future, even if you fail."

For Mary Maker '23, who played the role of Donna and who is majoring in theater, the production shed light on the value of theater during the pandemic era. "Theater is about seeing," she says. "It's about being seen; it's about community; it's about being able to see the other person giggle or laugh. It's spiritual, it is healing." 🍷

Mary Maker '23 (left) as Donna and Tamsin Olson '21 as Sophie in St. Olaf's *Mamma Mia!*

"The most rewarding part of this process was being able to see all the cast members put in the effort despite all the COVID-19 rules and measures, and to actually put up a show, despite the fact that we literally had to relearn so much... It gave us a new process to be able to jog our minds and come up with something different and something beautiful." — MARY MAKER '23



Adhering to campus COVID-19 guidelines, dozens of Oles enjoyed the first live theater production they had seen in months. Arriving early with blankets to secure prime spots on the lawn, they fell silent as the music of the Swedish pop group ABBA resounded across the quad and the performance got underway on the plaza outside Boe Memorial Chapel.



GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT





THE 37TH ANNUAL GIMSE
INTERNATIONAL AND
OFF-CAMPUS STUDIES
PHOTO CONTEST

REFLEKS | Kari Garnett '21

Akroaten Pedestrian Bridge, Oslo, Norway · Oslo Internship Reflection Seminar Interim

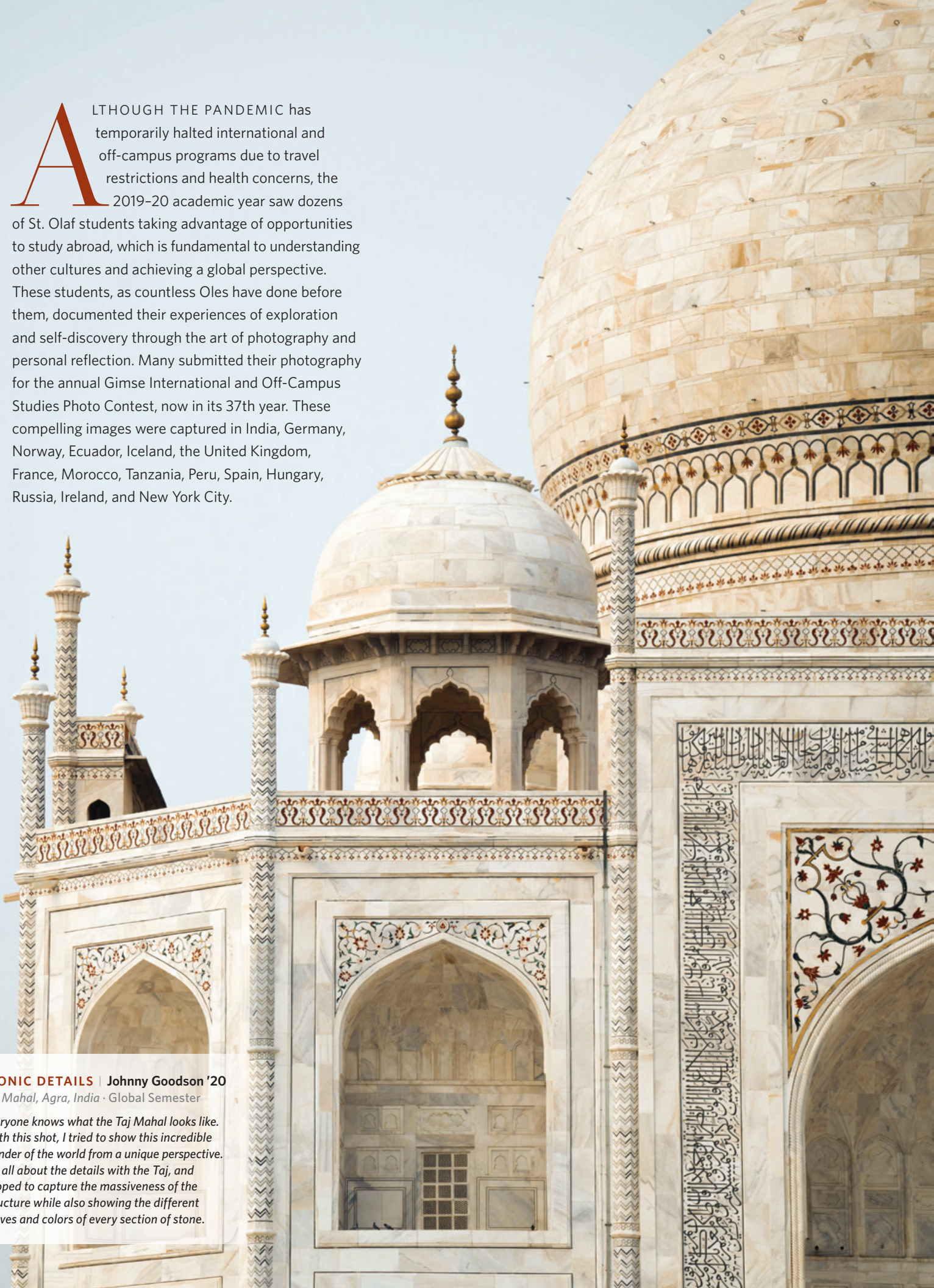
My time in Oslo was an opportunity to be personally reflective. It's appropriate that the most beautiful photo I took while on the trip gives a visual representation of reflection. The day I took this photo, it had been raining — I was quite literally under the weather. Right before sunset, the rain clouds parted and the sky lit up. Without the rain earlier that day, the small puddle wouldn't have been there to reflect the sunset's beauty. This image is actually upside down. It's a statement of how I felt while I was in Oslo.

ALTHOUGH THE PANDEMIC has temporarily halted international and off-campus programs due to travel restrictions and health concerns, the 2019-20 academic year saw dozens of St. Olaf students taking advantage of opportunities to study abroad, which is fundamental to understanding other cultures and achieving a global perspective. These students, as countless Oles have done before them, documented their experiences of exploration and self-discovery through the art of photography and personal reflection. Many submitted their photography for the annual Gimse International and Off-Campus Studies Photo Contest, now in its 37th year. These compelling images were captured in India, Germany, Norway, Ecuador, Iceland, the United Kingdom, France, Morocco, Tanzania, Peru, Spain, Hungary, Russia, Ireland, and New York City.

ICONIC DETAILS | Johnny Goodson '20

Taj Mahal, Agra, India · Global Semester

Everyone knows what the Taj Mahal looks like. With this shot, I tried to show this incredible wonder of the world from a unique perspective. It's all about the details with the Taj, and I hoped to capture the massiveness of the structure while also showing the different curves and colors of every section of stone.



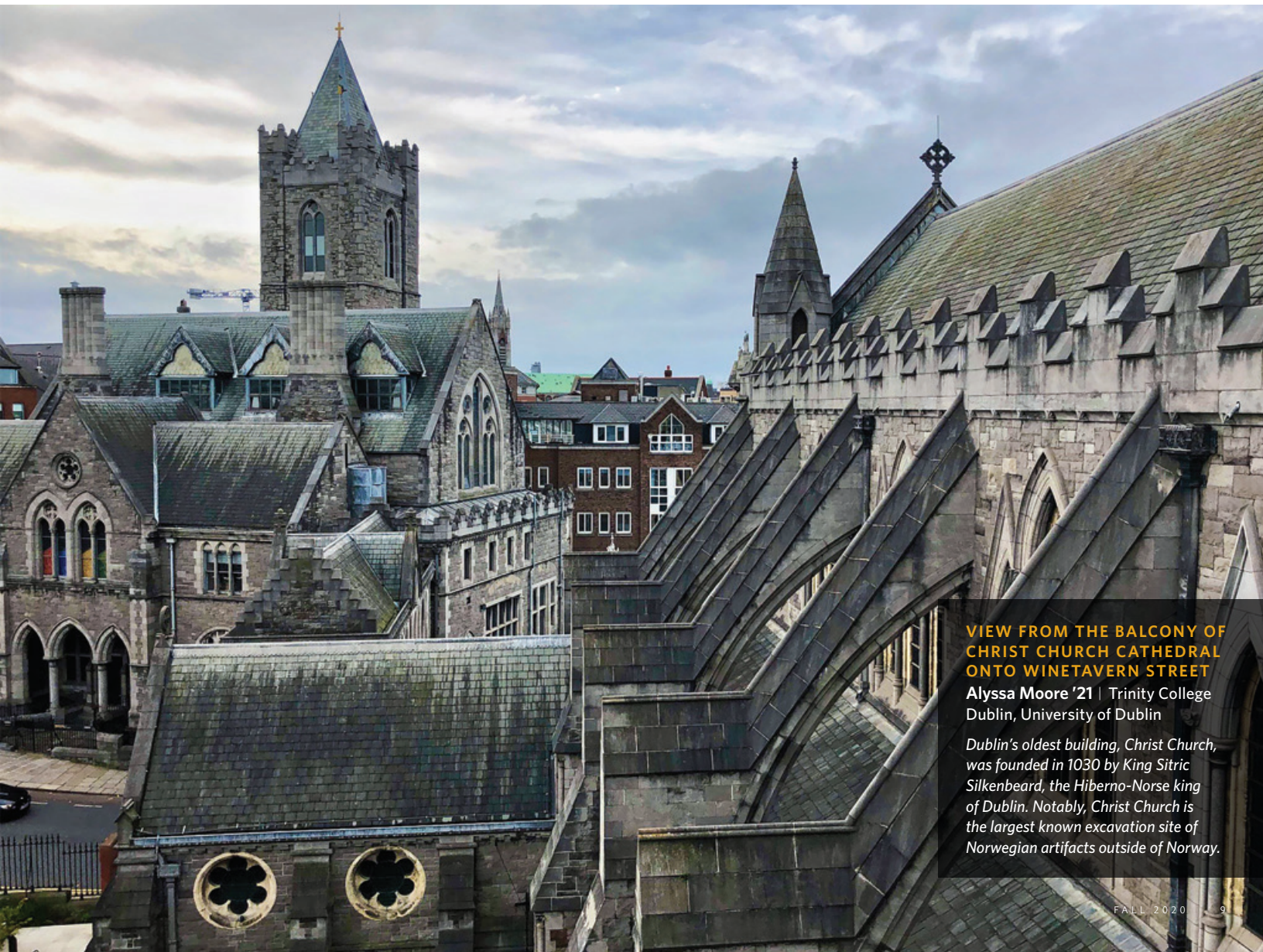


**ANTICIPATION
OF FLIGHT**

Alex Oberg '21

*Las Termas de
Papallacta, Ecuador
Equatorial Biology
Interim*

*Ecuador is rich
in its number of
hummingbird
species, with 133
total species.
Hummingbirds
don't sit for long,
so the posing of this
bird was very rare
to see, let alone
capture. They can
flap their wings
an average of 60
times every second,
so capturing their
wings mid-flight, or
mid-takeoff in this
picture, was a great
challenge to me as
a photographer.*



**VIEW FROM THE BALCONY OF
CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL
ONTO WINETAVERN STREET**

Alyssa Moore '21 | Trinity College
Dublin, University of Dublin

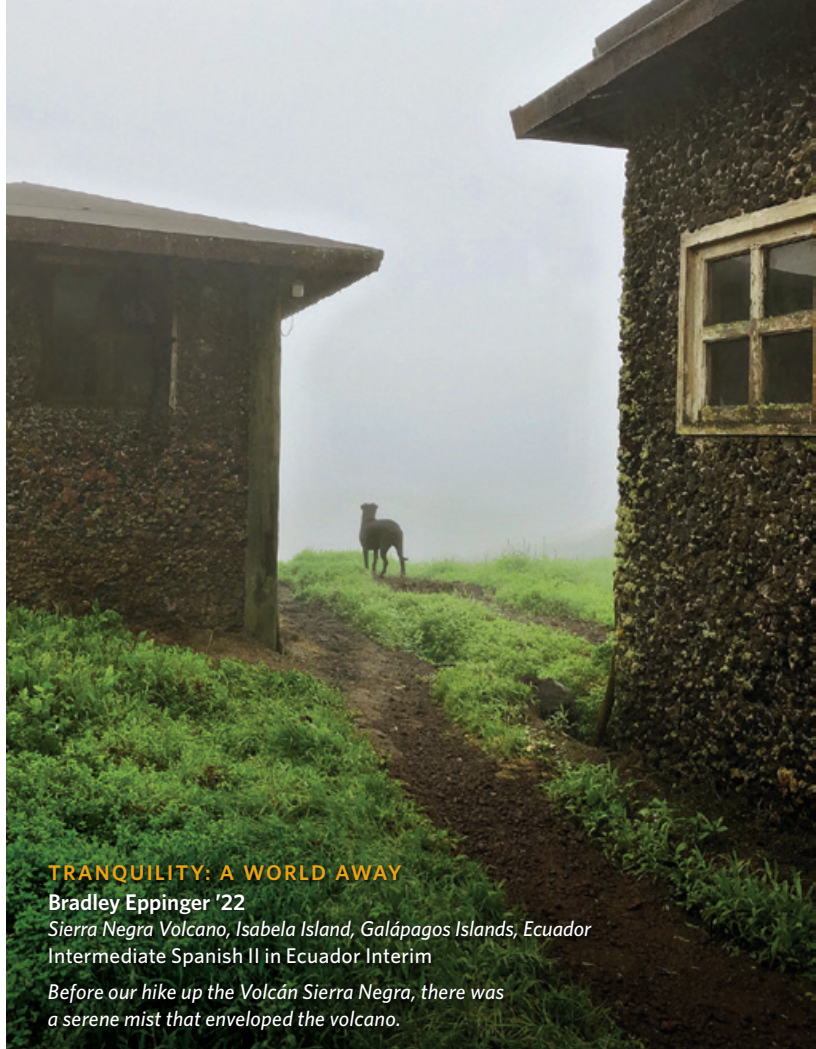
*Dublin's oldest building, Christ Church,
was founded in 1030 by King Sitric
Silkenbeard, the Hiberno-Norse king
of Dublin. Notably, Christ Church is
the largest known excavation site of
Norwegian artifacts outside of Norway.*



GALÁPAGOS SEA LION RESTING AFTER A LONG DAY OF HUNTING
Gunnar Bodvarsson '22 · Galápagos Islands, Ecuador · Equatorial Biology Interim



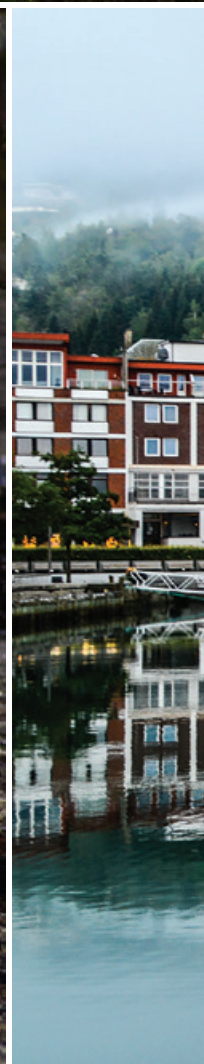
SALLY LIGHTFOOT CRAB | Anna Mulhern '22
Genovesa Island, Galápagos Islands, Ecuador · Equatorial Biology Interim
When approached by predators, Sally Lightfoot crabs can literally shed a leg to get away. This Sally Lightfoot on Genovesa Island in the Galápagos peered out at me from a crack in the rock, assessing the threat I posed, then scurried away.*
**No crab appendages were lost in the taking of this photograph.*



TRANQUILITY: A WORLD AWAY
Bradley Eppinger '22
Sierra Negra Volcano, Isabela Island, Galápagos Islands, Ecuador
Intermediate Spanish II in Ecuador Interim
Before our hike up the Volcán Sierra Negra, there was a serene mist that enveloped the volcano.



NAZCA BOOBY CARING FOR ITS YOUNG
Gunnar Bodvarsson '22 | Near Prince Philip's Steps, Genovesa Island, Galápagos Islands, Ecuador
Equatorial Biology Interim





RIPPLES OF STONE | Sophia Rice '22
Santiago Island, Galápagos Islands, Ecuador
Equatorial Biology Interim

This photo shows some of the mesmerizing natural patterns formed by lava as it cools and hardens. Although it looks like it would be malleable or even still liquid, this pahoehoe lava is totally solidified into its rope-like formation.



ODDA REFLECTIONS
Jacob Schimetz '21 | University of Konstanz

Odda, Norway, is a small town on the southern end of the Hardangerfjord, known for being the launching point of the famous Trolltunga hike.



CAMEL CRUISE | Liv Gossard '21 · Erg Chebbi, Morocco · Water in Morocco Interim



REFLECTING ON COVENT GARDEN

Annika Hustad '22 | London, United Kingdom · Theater in London Interim

THE PIGEONS OF TSARSKOYE SELO

Emily Ziegler '22 | St. Petersburg, Russia
Novgorod State University

*Pigeons flying above the palace at
Tsarskoye Selo on an autumn day*

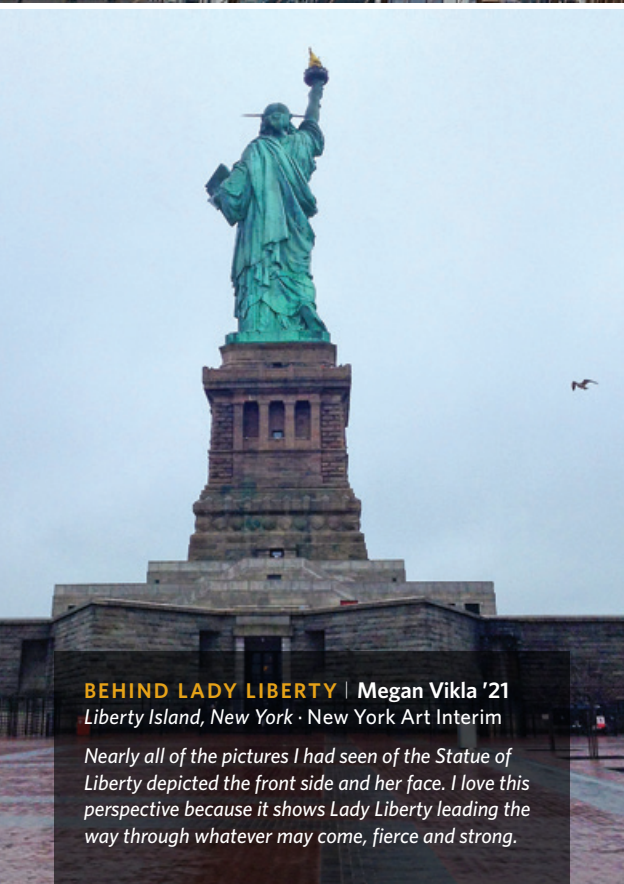




BROOKLYN BRIDGE

Rida Ali '21
New York Art Interim

We traveled from Manhattan to Brooklyn almost every day. One day, I decided to walk across the Brooklyn Bridge rather than taking a subway, and I captured this picture.



BEHIND LADY LIBERTY | Megan Vikla '21

Liberty Island, New York · New York Art Interim

Nearly all of the pictures I had seen of the Statue of Liberty depicted the front side and her face. I love this perspective because it shows Lady Liberty leading the way through whatever may come, fierce and strong.



SUN BASKING

Morghan Park '21 | Chefchaouen, Morocco
CIEE Liberal Arts in Seville, Spain

In just about every narrow, winding street in Chefchaouen, you can find kittens roaming. They often come up to greet tourists and have gotten pretty accustomed to posing for pictures! The cats are just one of the many beautiful things the city has to offer.

MIDDAY BLUES

Patricia Davila '20

Jökulsárlón Glacier Lagoon, Iceland

DIS Copenhagen

*A single iceberg sits atop the surface at
Jökulsárlón Glacier Lagoon in Iceland.*





SUNSET IN ESZTERGOM | Josh Kugel '22

*Basilica of Esztergom, Esztergom, Hungary
Number Theory in Budapest Interim*

*This was taken in a city slightly north of Budapest,
right next to the third largest church in Europe.*

A SEA OF BLUE

Mei Yi Chen '20

Nungwi Beach, Nungwi, Zanzibar,
Tanzania · Global Semester

*Fishing boats anchored in the
Indian Ocean after a morning
rain shower in Zanzibar*



WE LIVE IN A SOCIETY | Johnny Goodson '20

Louvre Museum, Paris, France · Global Semester

We waited in line for over an hour to get a glimpse of one of the most famous paintings in the world, only to get a glimpse of her for 15 seconds before being rushed on by security. Most spent this short time taking photos of the painting, myself included. What is the line between living in the moment and taking a picture that will help us savor that moment forever? We really do live in a society.





KONSTANZER FASTNACHT

Jacob Schimetz '21

Altstadt, Konstanz, Germany

University of Konstanz

Fastnacht is a celebration in southern Germany and Switzerland in which people put on costumes and use noisemakers to "scare" off the spirits of winter.



THE GUINEA PIGS HAVE TO EAT | **Eliana R. Reichoff '21**

Otavaio, Ecuador · IFSA Butler: Universidad Nacional Partnership

At a home stay with members of the Runa Tupari indigenous community in Ecuador, we assisted with the everyday chores and tasks of the Quichua people who live there. One memorable and frequent task was the harvest of alfalfa and grasses to feed the guinea pigs. Despite their small size, about 30 or so guinea pigs require a bushel of grasses, as big as this woman is carrying on her back, twice a day.



THE EYE OF LONDON | **Maggie Wilson '21**

London, United Kingdom · Theater in London Interim



SALINERAS DE MARAS | **Amy Lao' 20** · Maras, Peru · Peruvian Medical Experience

The Salt Mines of Maras are composed of thousands of frosty-white salt ponds on multi-level terraces with a maze of tiny walls separating them. At 11,000 feet above sea level, there is a natural salt spring that bubbles up in the valley from deep beneath the Andes mountains.

Minnesota state demographer Susan Brower '93 is making sure everyone counts.

By Anna Barnard '21

PHOTOGRAPHED BY TOM ROSTER

Data permeates many aspects of our digitally connected world. But while many people associate data analysis with career fields such as mathematics, computer science, and the natural sciences, data and statistics play an increasingly important role in the humanities and other areas — and Oles are some of the pioneers in these interdisciplinary fields.

Susan Brower is one of these Oles, combining her studies in social sciences with data analysis to help community leaders make decisions. As the Minnesota state demographer, she uses data to influence policy and communicate findings on population changes. With a Minnesota congressional seat at stake in this year's census, her role is crucial in making sure that population data is collected and distributed accurately.

A Minnesota native, Brower became state demographer in 2012, only the third person to hold that position.

Can you describe your current role?

As the state demographer, I provide data and insights that help public, private, and nonprofit leaders make decisions based on the trends that are shaping the state. Demographics move very slowly. We can see trends coming for decades and we can also see where they are headed for decades into the future. It's my job to help community leaders understand how these trends will shape policies, institutions, economics, and social life in the years to come.

What experiences led you to this position?

This role is pretty specialized, so I suppose my formal schooling did the most to bring me to this role. I studied social work at St. Olaf, and while no one would say that social work is heavily geared toward math



or statistics, it definitely prepped me to understand how complex systems operate and how they impact individuals. More broadly, my education at St. Olaf also taught me to trust my instincts and insights. When I moved on to study public policy at the University of Minnesota Humphrey School of Public Affairs, I began to appreciate that I had quantitative tools at my disposal. Being able to see and interpret data was another way that I could contribute to ongoing policy discussions, and this ability helped me uncover the interesting views that demographics bring. Studying population studies at the University of Michigan elevated and enhanced the analytic skills that I would need to do my job well.

What is at stake in this year's census and what changes do you anticipate?

It is really hard to overstate just how much is at stake with the census count. The 2020 Census will help determine Minnesota's political representation for the next decade — not only in Washington, D.C., but at the state, county, and city levels too. In addition to political representation, the census guides the distribution of more than \$24.7 billion in federal funds to Minnesota residents each year in programs that support housing, health care, public safety, education, and on and on and on. That's about \$4,400 per person per year. While Minnesota tends to have high levels of civic participation that carry over to high census participation, there are some demographic groups and geographic areas that are more likely to be undercounted. My office has been working hard to make sure that everyone — especially those who tend to be missed by censuses and surveys — understands what's at stake.

Once the 2020 Census data are published, I expect to see that the state has continued to grow between 2010 and 2020, that we have become older, on average, and more racially and ethnically diverse. I know that we will see these general trends, but we will also be given more details about just exactly how and where these trends are unfolding across the state. This is especially important for rural areas of our state that don't have the population numbers to get a clear picture of their communities from other surveys that happen between censuses.

How do you use data when working on the census and other projects relating to population statistics?

We use data to understand changes that are occurring and to try to communicate those changes to our stakeholders. We

use data collected by the U.S. Census Bureau as part of the decennial census, but we also use data from the Census Bureau and other sources that are collected through ongoing surveys. We analyze whatever is at our disposal that will give us the most complete picture that we can produce. That means that we end up evaluating a lot of different data sets. Sometimes when we don't have one best source of data, we end up combining data sources into new, modeled estimates. We also use data sources including administrative records — like data on births and deaths — to create population projections. Again, this requires that we evaluate the quality of the data source, and choose the best data source and method to employ for the current purpose.

What is the most rewarding part of your job? The most challenging?

When I provide information that helps guide a policy decision, it's very rewarding. Sometimes we provide data for U.S. senators or representatives, for a state legislative committee, or for a city council member. It feels really good to be contributing to policy in this way. But I think it's equally rewarding to be able to provide data and insights for regular people who are working to make their communities better places to live. Community members will often come to us knowing their own experience very well, but not knowing how representative that experience is. Oftentimes we are able to help "arm" them with the data they need to make a case for the changes they want to see in their communities.

I don't like politics much, so being in the same orbit of state politics isn't something I would have sought out. Fortunately, most of the politicians I come into contact with are genuinely trying to do good work for their districts, and they know that my job is to provide good information, not to take sides.

Can you describe your experience at St. Olaf and how it influenced your career path? Who were your faculty mentors?

I definitely felt a very strong connection to my home department, Social Work. Professor of Social Work and Family Studies Mary Carlsen '79 was my faculty mentor, and she also taught most of our classes. Our classes were often the same five to seven people, especially in my junior and senior years. To me, it felt kind of like we were a quirky family. We were fond of each other *and* stuck with each other. I guess there was a comfort and safety there, which is a great place

to launch from. Social work gave me a framework to be able to think about complex, interconnected systems.

I also had another mentor, Pete Cattrell, who was an adjunct professor of sociology. He was the person who taught me to trust my instincts in interpreting what I thought I was seeing out in the world. I still keep in regular contact with Pete, and we've had some opportunities to collaborate on projects.

Can you tell us about some of these collaborative projects?

For example, we've worked on a project recently to anticipate the impacts of climate change on Minnesota and its economy. Climate change is poised to alter the economy in a number of ways and to create new, sizable migration flows to Minnesota. The state has an opportunity to resettle people who will be displaced as water levels rise and agricultural patterns force people to live in new parts of the U.S. and the world. We can either prepare for the changes that are headed our way or we can react to them as they are imposed upon us. Our hope is that people in Minnesota will choose to do the former.

You have extensively researched the impact of immigration on Minnesota. Can you share some of your key findings and why they're important, particularly as the baby boomers age?

Yes, my office makes labor force projections that help state leaders plan for the future and understand the role of international immigration as a vital component of our state's economic growth. Federal public policies haven't often aligned with the reality on the ground in Minnesota, but in the past 5 to 10 years, labor force growth has slowed considerably as baby boomers have begun to retire. We've seen worrisome gaps open up between what employers need to maintain and grow their businesses, and the availability of workers to meet those needs. Immigration is an important way we can fill those gaps, but so far, the level of immigration in Minnesota has not been enough to fully meet the needs of employers. In fact, federal policies have served to exacerbate the shortages here. We'll keep providing the data as the state and the country grapples with immigration policy, and hopefully we'll be able to inform that discussion with the realities here in our state. 🙌

ANNA BARNARD '21 is an English and religion major at St. Olaf.



JANUS JORDAS

AMPHICHRISTUS

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THE DIET OF WORMS 1521

LUTHER BIBLE

The Reformation Window in Boe Memorial Chapel

UNCOMFORTABLE GRACE

Drawing on St. Olaf's Lutheran Identity
to Guide Our Path to Anti-Racism

By Deanna A. Thompson '89

THE TRUTH IS CENTURIES OLD: racism is embedded deep within institutions across the United States, including St. Olaf College. The awful killing in May of George Floyd has been a catalyst to name, confront, and work to finally and belatedly overcome the many legacies of harm against Black and Brown children of God. St. Olaf is joining in these efforts, embarking on a new time of reckoning with the structures of racism in our culture, policies, and practices.

The summer brought with it the creation of several new groups of faculty, staff, and students dedicated to the work of anti-racism, along with a commitment by the administration to implement ongoing anti-racism training at all levels of the college. Amid the work of identifying racist structures and building anti-racist ones in their place, it is important to consider how St. Olaf's commitment to be "nourished by Lutheran tradition" factors into both the structures we have and the structures we have yet to create.

During his visit to St. Olaf in February, Black Lutheran pastor Rev. Lenny Duncan challenged us to embrace a vision of Lutheran identity that actively counters our broken structures. Standing in the tradition of Martin Luther's radical challenge to the corrupt systems of his own day, Rev. Duncan called on St. Olaf, in good Lutheran fashion, to name the evil in our midst and to confess and repent for the harm that's been perpetuated through the systemic racism that exists on our campus. While many of us who are White may not see ourselves as agents of racism that harms people of color within and beyond the St. Olaf community, Rev. Duncan helps us understand that "white supremacy doesn't need active racists to function."¹

These words should push all of us, but especially those of us who are White, to become more aware of the systems that have benefited us but harmed those in our community who are Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC). It also means that those of us in leadership positions at the college need to listen with renewed receptivity to the voices of students, faculty, and staff of color as they name the harmful aspects of our structures. We must also find ways, with the support of our Lutheran heritage, to publicly confess and repent of the harms that have been caused to members of our own community.

"Grace is free. But loving the neighbor has a high cost," writes Duncan. At its best, Lutheran tradition helps St. Olaf envision a way forward, a path through a period of uncomfortable reckoning. This year begins a new season of uncomfortable grace for this community.

Relying on St. Olaf's Lutheran identity to bring us through a time of uncomfortable grace as we work against structural racism may sound like a stream of Lutheranism disconnected to the college's Scandinavian Lutheran heritage. But Lutheran

1. See Lenny Duncan, *Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the U.S.* (Fortress Press, 2019).





Rev. Lenny Duncan speaks in Boe Memorial Chapel at an event hosted by the Lutheran Center for Faith, Values, and Community in February 2020. PHOTO BY STEVEN GARCIA '20

Christianity, like all streams of living religious tradition, has always been undergoing revision, reform, and adaptation. In 19th-century Norwegian American congregations, for instance, lively debates were being had not only about whether worship services should be in Norwegian or English but also about whether slavery was a sin, or whether the church should adhere to Norwegian religious practices or secular American ones. Cultural and societal realities of any age often become sites for reflection and action for religious individuals and communities — that’s what it means to be part of living religious traditions.

The 26 colleges and universities that are affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America recently collaborated on a joint statement of what it means to be a college of the church in the 21st century. “Rooted and Open” names a “common calling that is deeply rooted in the Lutheran intellectual tradition and boldly open to insights from other religious and secular traditions.”² For these colleges and universities — St. Olaf included — Lutheran identity continues to play out in its vision for education, a vision grounded in particular theological themes and embodied practices.

One prominent Lutheran theological affirmation is that of giftedness. Martin Luther believed in a generous, gracious God who created a good and diverse creation. That humans are created in God’s image means for Lutherans and other Christians that we are meant to be in relation to one another and the rest of creation in all its diversity. Another key affirmation of Lutheran theology is that God bestows good gifts on all of us regardless of belief, and these gifts are meant to be the stuff that binds our connections to one another and creates our common life together.

But these affirmations about the goodness and potentiality of human beings are always tempered by the recognition of the fallenness of individuals and the systems in which we live. Even though Lutherans affirm that God in Christ offers gifts of healing and reconciliation, our fallenness continues to manifest itself in this world. While education is not salvation, the experiences institutions like St. Olaf offer form people in mind, heart, spirit, and body in ways that orient us toward the good of the neighbor.

The Lutheran Center for Faith, Values, and Community was formed in 2019 to advance this vision for Lutheran higher education at St. Olaf. As its inaugural director, part

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of my charge is to help the college articulate and live into what being “nourished by Lutheran tradition” looks like in our 21st-century context. A rootedness in Lutheran tradition shapes the college’s commitment to engaging all traditions in order to bring together people of different faiths and worldviews so that we might enrich spiritual inquiry, foster love of neighbor, and deepen a sense of vocation in all, as stated in the Center’s mission statement.

At the same time, when we’re nourished by something, some of what gets taken in must go out as waste. It is important in any 21st-century articulation about the enduring gifts of Lutheran tradition that we also are clear that there are aspects of Lutheran tradition that must be discarded. Luther’s writings against the Jews, most especially his awful treatise “On the Jews and Their Lies,” must be condemned. At St. Olaf, we echo the ELCA’s repudiation of those views³ and insist that the college’s nourishment from Lutheran tradition includes critical engagement with the legacies of harm as well as legacies of gift and grace that come from 500-plus years of Lutheran tradition.

The Lutheran Center and the college also must address the reality that the contemporary landscape and college demographics continue to evolve: Among all St. Olaf students in Fall 2020, 21 percent indicate a Lutheran religious affiliation, while 25 percent claim no religious affiliation, and 6 percent claim affiliation with other religious traditions such as Islam, Judaism,

Buddhism, and Hinduism. While the number of Lutherans continues to grow globally, especially in Asia and Africa, that Lutheranism is declining in the United States means fewer Lutherans are enrolled at U.S. Lutheran colleges like St. Olaf. Being a Lutheran-affiliated institution no longer means, as it did when my grandparents attended St. Olaf in the 1930s, that the college is a college primarily for Lutherans.

Dr. Darrell Jodock, a 1962 St. Olaf alumnus and previous holder of the Martin E. Marty Regents Chair in Religion and the Academy, calls 21st-century Lutheran institutions of higher education “third path institutions.” They offer a path between “sectarian” institutions that strive to nurture students in only one religious tradition and “non-sectarian” institutions that do not prioritize religious life as part of the communal life of the college. In contrast, Jodock suggests, third path institutions like St. Olaf are rooted in Lutheran

2. “Rooted and Open,” [download.elca.org/ELCA Resource Repository/Rooted_and_Open.pdf](https://download.elca.org/ELCA_Resource_Repository/Rooted_and_Open.pdf).

3. “Declaration of the ELCA to the Jewish Community,” [download.elca.org/ELCA Resource Repository/Declaration_Of_The_ELCA_To_The_Jewish_Community.pdf](https://download.elca.org/ELCA_Resource_Repository/Declaration_Of_The_ELCA_To_The_Jewish_Community.pdf)

tradition and take it seriously, and also are inclusive in at least two senses: they are made up of students, faculty, and staff from diverse religious backgrounds, and they seek to serve the larger community beyond the denomination.⁴

INFORMED BY A LUTHERAN VISION of reform and religious inclusivity on campus and beyond, this fall the Lutheran Center joined many other parts of St. Olaf's campus in focusing on anti-racism work. About 50 faculty and staff were part of a fall book discussion group co-led by Vice President for Equity and Inclusion Bruce King and me. Together we explored *Dialogues On: Race* (Sparkhouse, 2018), a collection of essays by BIPOC clergy and theologians who name the structural racism in Christian history, theology, and practice and envision ways forward toward an anti-racist future. In addition, the Lutheran Center's Symposium this fall featured Cambodian American biblical scholar and 2013 St. Olaf alumnus Kristofer Coffman, who led students, faculty, and staff in a discussion about the use and abuse of the Bible in U.S. race relations.

These events are attempts at embodying this third path institutional identity, where members of the St. Olaf community are "nourished by Lutheran tradition" and engage in critical reflection on the legacies of harm and gift of this tradition and what it means to members of the community, individually and as a college.

The Lutheran Center's main event this fall featured a day with national interfaith leader Eboo Patel, author of the memoir *Acts of Faith* and director of the Interfaith Youth Core. Patel's book was the Common and All-Community Read this summer and fall, where close to 1,000 students, faculty, staff, and alumni read and discussed his book and its vision for a religiously inclusive society. Patel's day-long

virtual visit to the campus included workshops for faculty and staff about the role of religion in 21st-century liberal arts education, along with an opportunity for administrators, faculty, staff, and students to be in conversation about the intersections of race and religion, not just in our national landscape but in how they are embodied at St. Olaf and how we might become better at honoring them in our life together.

Patel's inspiring keynote address focused on "Racial Justice, Interfaith Cooperation, and the Common Good on Campus and Beyond." Patel called on all of us to draw from the deep wells of our religious and spiritual traditions to nourish us in the work ahead of building bridges across those issues, like religion and race, that divide us deeply.



The author of five books, Deanna Thompson's work at St. Olaf focuses on advancing the mission and programming of the Lutheran Center and promoting interfaith dialogue both within and beyond St. Olaf.

EVAN PAK '19

The Lutheran Center plans to build on the broad engagement with Patel, his memoir, and his vision for 21st-century life on campus that honors religious commitment and supports the development of community, encouraging people to bring all of who they are to their lives and roles at St. Olaf and beyond.

To become a more racially and religiously inclusive campus, St. Olaf will need to summon all the resources possible to carry out necessary self-reflection and reform. May we also embrace the uncomfortable grace witnessed to in Lutheran tradition to forge a path forward. 🙏

DR. DEANNA A. THOMPSON '89, the Martin E. Marty Regents Chair in Religion and the Academy, is director of the Lutheran Center for Faith, Values, and Community at St. Olaf College.

4. See Jodock's essay "The Third Path, Religious Diversity, and Civil Discourse" in *The Vocation of Lutheran Higher Education*, ed. Jason Mahn (Lutheran University Press, 2016), 82-99.

THE CAMPAIGN FOR ST. OLAF HAS COME TO AN EXTRAORDINARY END, WITH UNDERGIRDS EVERY OPPORTUNITY A ST. OLAF EDUCATION PROVIDES, AND

FOR THE HILL



THOUSANDS OF GENEROUS INDIVIDUALS PROVIDING VITAL SUPPORT THAT SUPPORTS EVERY STUDENT WHO COMES TO THE HILL, NOW AND BEYOND.

AND BEYOND



ST. OLAF COLLEGE has held a special place in the hearts, minds, and spirits of Oles for nearly 150 years. Today, thanks to everyone who gave through the *For the Hill and Beyond* campaign, with its focus on students and core aspects of a St. Olaf education, the college will thrive well into the future.

On May 31, 2020, St. Olaf brought the campaign to a close. Over the course of the campaign, 25,485 donors responded generously, giving an incredible \$252,242,402 to create transformative impact for current and future Oles. This was far beyond the \$200 million goal, with 9,578 donors making their first gifts to the college.

The campaign sought to establish enduring support for key priorities that reflect the promises St. Olaf has long made to students: to challenge them academically, to meet their financial need, to strengthen their community, to help them find their purpose, and to prepare them for lives that are meaningful, productive, and fulfilling.

St. Olaf is deeply committed to making the college equitable, inclusive, and responsive to the needs of every Ole seeking a St. Olaf education, and to supporting the hopes, passions, identities, and experiences that each student brings to the Hill.

Gifts made through *For the Hill and Beyond* have increased financial aid and access, and added more more high-impact learning opportunities. Three vital new centers for engagement have been established, strengthening the campus community through student support and engagement.

St. Olaf students are seekers, solvers, uniters, and the creators of tomorrow. Today, because of every gift given, students have even more opportunities to discover who they are and how they can make a difference — on the Hill, in their communities, in their countries, and in the world.

T H A N K Y O U !



STUART GORDON '18



St. Olaf Orchestra bassist Grayson Broesch '22

FERNANDO SEVILLA



A dance party in the Pause AARON C. LAUBY '19



ADVANCING HIGH-IMPACT LEARNING

St. Olaf has long excelled in experiential learning practices. Through their support, donors have helped expand the impact that these opportunities provide, both on and off campus. Students with diverse interests and backgrounds benefit from academic and professional internships, faculty-mentored research, interdisciplinary learning communities, and academic innovation, all of which increase the depth and breadth of their St. Olaf education.

Faculty-Mentored Research

Faculty-mentored research helps Oles gain the skills needed to excel as graduate students and professionals working at the leading edge of discovery. Gifts to the campaign increased student research supported by endowed funding by 138 percent and added more funding with annual gifts.



International and Off-Campus Study

Gifts in support of off-campus study ensure that it remains a strong cornerstone of a St. Olaf education by lowering costs that students pay and creating new program models. Financial aid for international and off-campus study has increased 239.5 percent; nearly five times as many students now receive support, and 73.1 percent study off-campus before graduation.



Oles studying Environmental Science in Australia and New Zealand ventured to the top of Mount Ben Lomond, which towers above Queenstown, New Zealand. Noah Cao '20, DeeDee Vargas '19, Hannah Chapman-Dutton '20, Dillon Kelly '20, Henry Henson '20, Mitchell Taylor '19, Ella Doud '20, and Sergius Hannan '20 enjoyed the spectacular view.

Piper Center for Vocation and Career

The Piper Center for Vocation and Career was launched during the campaign; additional gifts have enhanced the programming it provides. The Piper Center provides one-on-one career advising and coaching, internship funding, cohort programs, entrepreneurial programs, venture support, and industry-centered networking opportunities. Awards now total \$670,000 annually for internships, and \$69,662 for ventures.

Academic Support Services

Campaign gifts helped launch an integrated suite of academic support services for all students. Greater support is given to those who need it, while more Oles benefit from programs across academic subjects, abilities, and learning modes, with 89 percent of students using these services at least once during their time on the Hill.



Oles traveled to Washington, D.C., for a 2019 Connections program hosted by the Piper Center for Vocation and Career.

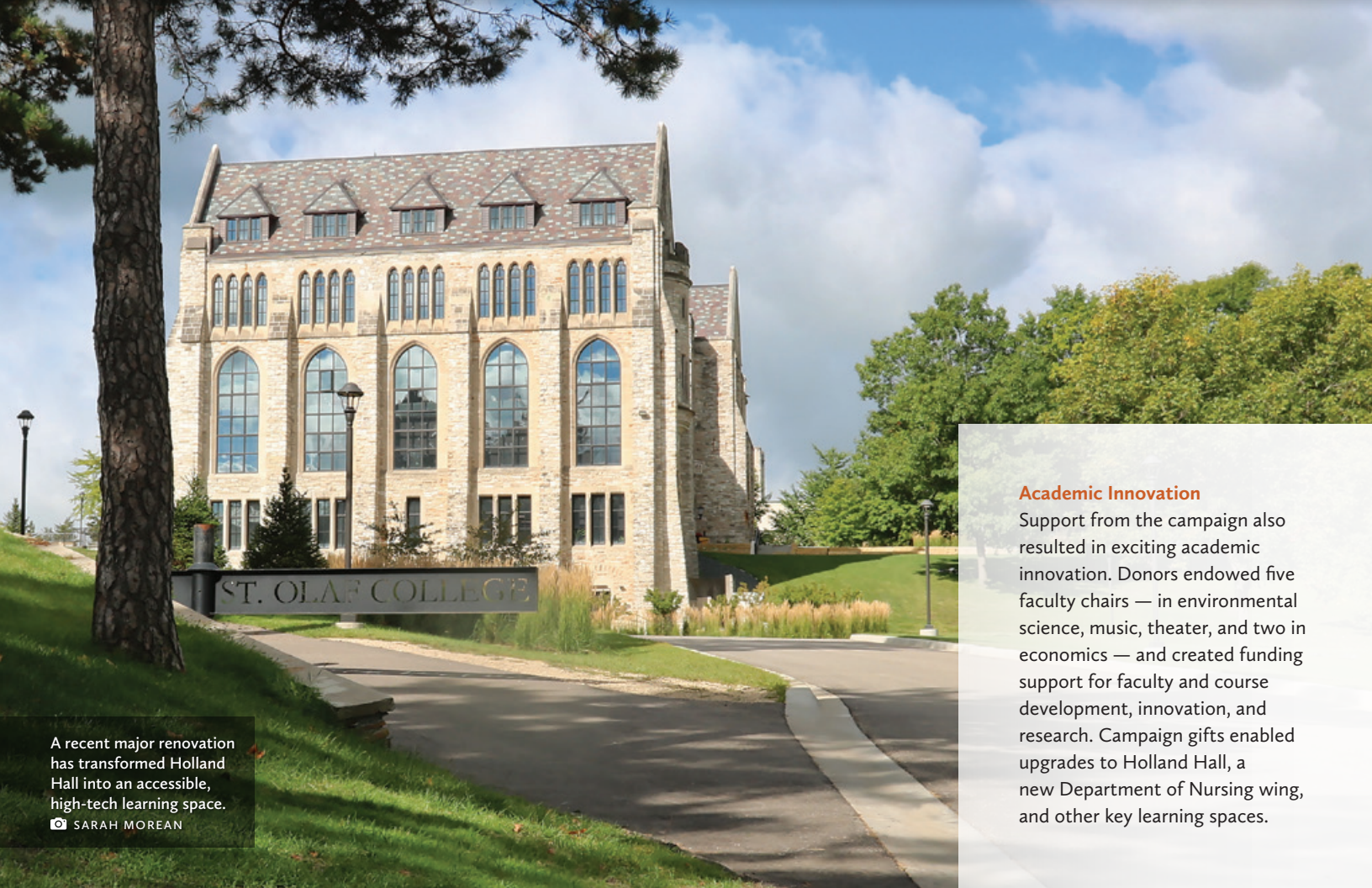
ERIN SCOTT/POLARIS



A 2019 political science class in Holland Hall, led by Assistant Professor of Political Science Menevis Cilizoglu
© STEVEN GARCIA '20

Conversation Programs

St. Olaf's Conversation programs take students on intellectual journeys through influential texts and ideas that shape our past and guide our future. The college's signature Great Conversation program was given additional support, and the new Public Affairs Conversation was launched.



Academic Innovation

Support from the campaign also resulted in exciting academic innovation. Donors endowed five faculty chairs — in environmental science, music, theater, and two in economics — and created funding support for faculty and course development, innovation, and research. Campaign gifts enabled upgrades to Holland Hall, a new Department of Nursing wing, and other key learning spaces.

A recent major renovation has transformed Holland Hall into an accessible, high-tech learning space.
© SARAH MOREAN



ENHANCING ACCESS AND AFFORDABILITY

St. Olaf has deepened its commitment to meet the demonstrated financial need of every admitted student, even as those needs change. Campaign gifts greatly increased aid and access for every student who desires a St. Olaf education. Aid funded by endowed funds and annual gifts has increased by 103.7 percent. Currently, the COVID-19 outbreak and resulting financial environment continues to greatly impact a number of Ole families. Industries employing students and young alumni are among those hit the hardest during the pandemic. The financial and programmatic resources added by campaign gifts are helping Oles and their families.

Endowed Scholarships

Year after year, endowed scholarships enable students to better afford a St. Olaf education. Campaign gifts have resulted in 599 new or enhanced endowed scholarship funds. Opportunity funds increase equitable access to experiential learning opportunities for under-resourced students. Currently 12 new opportunity funds award \$276,659 to Oles annually.

📷 TOM ROSTER



STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY

Campaign funds have provided new resources for student life, equity, inclusion, advocacy, ministry, service groups, student organizations, and enhanced break programming for Oles on campus. This includes support and programming for students disadvantaged by income, access, and/or opportunity, including the St. Olaf Emergency Fund, which helps Oles facing unexpected hardships.

Engagement Centers

The Glenn and Myretta Taylor Center for Equity and Inclusion fosters an inclusive environment across the intersections of race and identity and includes campus-wide initiatives and programs for LGBTQIA+, international, and BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, Person of Color) students.

The Institute for Freedom and Community offers guest speakers, panels, and workshops that foster constructive dialogue among those with differing values and contending points of view on important social and political issues.


The Lutheran Center for Faith, Values, and Community engages people of all backgrounds and beliefs in a deep exploration of core commitments and life choices in ways that foster an inclusive community.

Jennifer Salazar '21 and Noel Patterson '21 share a laugh on the way to class.

📷 FERNANDO SEVILLA

Music Organizations

Student-musicians in St. Olaf's ambassador ensembles — the St. Olaf Band, St. Olaf Choir, and St. Olaf Orchestra — bring their gifts of music to appreciative audiences around the world. For many of these students, these international tours may be their first — and only — opportunity to travel abroad. Oles now can participate in international tours at no additional cost thanks to campaign giving. Domestic travel expenses, other music ensembles, and music lessons for under-resourced students also are supported by campaign giving.

The St. Olaf Band poses at the Sydney Opera house during its 2018 tour to Australia and New Zealand.  NATHAN HAUSTEIN '10



Oles practice on new synthetic turf at Rolf Mellby Field.  FERNANDO SEVILLA



Ole Athletics

Athletic competition and physical fitness are integral to a well-rounded St. Olaf education. Campaign funds now strengthen coaching, staffing, and team travel, and students benefit from enhancements to six athletic facilities. The St. Olaf Ice Arena provides home ice. Synthetic turf was added to Rolf Mellby Field (soccer) and Klein Field (football). Team and training spaces were updated inside Tom Porter Hall, Tostrud Center, and Skoglund Athletic Center.



Campaign gifts ensure that students now have more opportunities to practice conservation, ongoing land management, and sustainable agriculture, as well as conduct research and maintain wildlife habitats in the St. Olaf Natural Lands.

📷 CRISTIANA HAWTHORNE '20



SUSTAINING THE MISSION

St. Olaf College challenges students to excel in the liberal arts, examine faith and values, and explore meaningful vocation in an inclusive, globally engaged community nourished by Lutheran tradition.

— THE ST. OLAF MISSION, MAY 2016

St. Olaf College's tradition of excellence and its mission — the promise made to every student and, by extension, to every life each student will touch after graduation — has been sustained well into the future. Each gift through *For the Hill and Beyond* has deepened core educational commitments and added to every opportunity a St. Olaf education provides.

Donors gave \$34.7 million through the St. Olaf Fund to support Oles and college operations across financial aid, academic and experiential learning, and the community. This open support provides the flexibility and resilience needed to respond to emerging needs, and ensures that a St. Olaf education remains meaningful and achievable.

More than \$53.35 million was invested in the St. Olaf Endowment to support the college's general operations. Over time, these investments provide increasing returns and revenue that supports teaching and learning on the Hill. There has been a 60.6 percent increase in revenue from endowed funds in St. Olaf's operating budget, and a 34 percent increase in endowment value (2013: \$379,501,188; 2020: \$508,000,417).



ST. OLAF STUDENTS have the potential to shape the world.

Your gifts have helped shape the future of St. Olaf College.

And was there ever a time when the world needed Oles more? 🦁

A student sports St. Olaf-themed shoes, customized by Renata Erickson '19.

📷 AARON C. LAUBY '19

Oles, submit your class news online! stolaf.edu/alumni/share-your-news

It's easier than ever to share your latest news, photos, and updated contact information! Questions? Email alum-office@stolaf.edu or call 507-786-3028 or 888-865-6537.

1930s

Violet Carlson Jacobson '37 (who turned 105 in January) writes, "As far as I know, I am the only member of my class still alive in this world. [While a student at St. Olaf], we thought the campus was very beautiful, even though the buildings were constructed with five different colors of brick. It became much more beautiful when stone took over from brick. During my junior year, we celebrated reaching 1,000 students. [Fun facts]: I was paid \$0.25 an hour for ironing white shirts for three professors. When the National Education Act came into force, I earned \$0.55 an hour as a lab assistant to Dr. Holmquist. I majored in biology and English with a minor in history. In 1939, the Reverend J. Woodrow Jacobson and I were married. All four of our children are Oles. I am grateful for what St. Olaf has done for us all, and am often quite overwhelmed, entertained, and inspired by vivid memories of my four years at St. Olaf."

1940s

Elsie Johnson '49 visited St. Olaf for her 70th reunion last year. She writes, "I checked out Agnes Mellby Hall, where I spent two years. I am doing well. I play the piano every day and also play for sing-alongs at our local museum and Legion Club. I have two cats (Sam and Katie) and when I play the piano, Sam sits beside me (he must be a music lover). I worked at our local Carnegie Library for 30 years and am now retired. Life is good."

1950s

Grace Mittermaier Allen '57 passed away on April 7, 2020, in Syosset, New York. Grace, who exemplified the ideals and values of St. Olaf College, received a Distinguished Alumni Award from the college in 2002 and was recognized for her longtime community service and outreach, and her love of and commitment to St. Olaf.

1960s

NEW BOOKS BY 1960s OLES

Dearest Anna: A Love Story (FuzionPress, 2019), by **Carol Allis '68**

A Grain of Wheat (Harper Collins Christian Publishing, 2020), by Fr. **Joseph Jacobson '62**

1970s

Karen Soli '70 recently received the 2018 Witness to the World Distinguished Alumni Award from the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. After retiring from 31 years serving as a parish pastor in Minnesota and South Dakota, Karen was elected to the South Dakota House of Representatives, representing the north Sioux Falls district and completing her third term in 2019. There she gave

Remembering Duane N. Olson '53

Professor Emeritus of Physics Duane Olson died unexpectedly on June 13, 2020, while out enjoying his daily walk on a fine early summer day. He was 89. A 1953 graduate of St. Olaf, he went on to Cornell University, where he earned a Ph.D. in high-energy physics in 1960 while also working at Los Alamos National Laboratory. He met his wife, Joan Rafaj, at Cornell; their loving partnership lasted 59 years, only ending with Joan's passing in 2015. The couple welcomed their first two children, Ruth and Eric, in Ithaca, N.Y. After postdoctoral work at Cornell, Olson accepted a teaching and research position at the University of Liverpool in England in 1961.



In the fall of 1962, Olson joined the faculty at St. Olaf, where he taught physics for 34 years. A second daughter, Susanne, became the final electron of the Olson nuclear family, shortly after the return to Northfield, a community they valued for its richness of faith, arts, and learning. Olson's professional career included opportunities for further research in physics that took the family to new places. Olson spent 1967-68 at Argonne National Laboratory doing Mossbauer Spectroscopy while living in Naperville, Ill. Additional sabbatical leaves were spent at Oxford University in England (1970-71) and Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee (1978-79). The Olson family

cherished these opportunities to travel, forming many lifelong friendships and hosting visitors. Olson and Joan took a final joint-sabbatical in Durham, England (1990-91), where Olson joined a research team at nearby Newcastle University, and Joan, the St. Olaf College archivist for many years, was at Durham University. For five months beginning in the fall of 1984, they also served as field supervisors for St. Olaf's Global Semester, leading 27 students, including their youngest daughter, on a round-the-world journey exploring cultures, history, and the development of technology.

Olson retired from St. Olaf in 1996, yet he remained engaged in the Northfield community through his active membership at St. John's Lutheran Church, delivery work for Meals on Wheels, and tax preparation assistance at the Senior Center.

He and Joan enjoyed traveling and made frequent visits to their children, grandchildren, and ever-increasing circle of extended family and friends. As Joan's health diminished, Olson devoted himself to caring for her, taking her for drives in the countryside around Northfield and spending hours reading to her in the sunroom at the Northfield Retirement Community. A notoriously brisk walker, Duane dodged more than a few high-energy particles in his last decade — focused at him in the form of Minnesota ice or uneven pavement — and was grateful for the care and love he received from everyone while recovering from falls. His final walk was no exception.

Olson is survived by his children, Ruth Olson '81, Eric (Diana) Olson '82, and Susanne (James O'Connor) Olson '86; and eight grandchildren, Adam and Sara Khan, Nathan Olson, Anders Olson, and Ingrid Olson '12, Heidi (Eric) Blanchet, Otto (Jieun Park) Aletter, and Caitlyn O'Connor.

Remembering Gloria Kiester '55



Associate Professor Emerita of Music Gloria Kiester left her earthly home on Oct. 5, 2020, for her next adventure. Kiester loved that she was born on March 4, a day that was a command: "March FORTH!" She took that command to heart and lived with a great sense of adventure as she explored life's opportunities and the world. As a child and young woman, she excelled throughout her school years, playing piano and singing at an early age. She graduated *summa cum laude* from St. Olaf, majoring in music education, and then began her teaching career.

Kiester's first teaching jobs were in Red Wing, Minn., and Albert Lea, Minn., and summers found her exploring the world, traveling by plane and ship to discover castles in Germany, bullfights in Spain, opera in Rome, and The Royal Ballet in London. Later, after teaching in Minneapolis for several years and finishing her master's degree in music education at the University of Colorado, she packed her trunk and felt it was time to see the world again. She taught on air force bases in Japan and Puerto Rico, and at Schiller College in Germany. Summers she climbed Gibraltar and toured the Holy Land and the Caribbean.

Kiester joined the St. Olaf music faculty in 1967, where she taught music education for 33 years, retiring in 1998. While at St. Olaf, Kiester championed many causes. She wrote a book on teaching music for high school students, supported scholarships for female international students, and petitioned to save a section of woods on the St. Olaf campus. In her retirement, she continued to travel and write, and became a published author of many articles, plus music pieces for children. She also helped write the Minnesota Music Standards and is honored in the Music Educators Hall of Fame.

Kiester is survived by her nieces, Janine (Steve) Schendel Aaker '69, Rose (Bill) Voigt, and Wanda MacFarlane; nephews, Joel (Gay) Schendel '71, Douglas (Charlene) Johnson, Jim Johnson, and Dale Johnson; and grandnieces and nephews as well as great-grandnieces and nephews.

ALUMNI & FAMILY TRAVEL

During these challenging times, Alumni & Family Travel remains here for you. We continue to plan for the future, for the time when we can get back to actively exploring our world together, as so many Oles and honorary Oles have before us. Before long, we'll once again carry on the tradition of experiencing and learning about other cultures — and our own — in order to be more understanding and compassionate. In the meantime, you can travel virtually and get ready for future post-pandemic travels by visiting stolaf.edu/travel. Here's a sampling of what's coming up.

OLE GOLF AT PEBBLE BEACH

June 8–13, 2021 | Led by Ryan Bowles, Athletic Director, and Sarah Bowles

WILDERNESS ADVENTURE IN THE BOUNDARY WATERS

June 13–19, 2021 | Led by Judy Tegtmeyer, Director of Recreation, and Wes Braker '18

EXPLORING VIETNAM: History, Religions, Contemporary Culture, and More

October 9–19, 2021

EXCITING MADAGASCAR: Wildlife and Culture of the Red Island

November 5–21, 2021

MONARCHS IN MEXICO | February 13–19, 2022

In the works for Spring 2022: Argentina · Civil Rights in the American South · Galápagos

a voice to those who typically don't have one in the halls of power. She served on standing committees that dealt with Health and Human Services and local government, as well as other legislative committees dealing with domestic violence, nursing homes, school boundaries, and government accountability. Prior to serving in the legislature, Karen led the establishment of a mobile food pantry and other relief ministries for a nonprofit formed by a dozen ELCA congregations in the Sioux Falls area. ❶ She is pictured with her husband, Rev. Dr. Joseph Holt, at the awards ceremony in Oct. 2019. ■ **Brenda Berkman '73** was among those working on a special project to place a sculpture of several women's rights pioneers in New York City's Central Park (monumentalwomen.org). Previously, there had been 23 sculptures of historical figures in Central Park, but none of them had featured women! ■ **Cheryl Johnson Nelson '73** was honored by the Minnesota Planned Giving Council with the 2019 Clinton A. Schroeder Distinguished Service Award, given in recognition of outstanding service and leadership in the field of charitable gift planning. During her 35-year career, Cheryl worked for leading organizations such as Minnesota Public Radio, US Bank Charitable Services team, and Mitchell Hamline School of Law. Cheryl is now retired and living in Columbus with her husband, Philip. ■ **David Fink '73** and his longtime Ole friend **Jeff Schneider '73** (who played together in the St. Olaf Band) both completed bucket-list adventures in late 2019. ❷ David writes, "My youngest daughter, Kaia, and I hiked the Pacific Crest Trail: six months and 2,650 miles from the Mexican border through California, Oregon, and Washington to Canada." Jeff writes,

"I realized a 27-year dream of returning to Nepal to hike the Annapurna circuit, a mountain range in western Nepal. ❸ The High Point of the three-week trek, literally and figuratively, was going over the Thorung La pass: 5,416 meters, or a height of 17,750 feet." ■ **Roger Davidson '74** writes, "My wife, Nilcelia Davidson, and I were married in 2014. A year later, after a two-year seminary program, we were ordained as interfaith ministers. ❹ In addition, I have been studying Druidry as a member

of the Order of Bards, Ovates, and Druids, which has been a further source of inspiration in universal spirituality. My long musical career continues, as both a composer and pianist. I am working on my publishing website, which will serve as a catalogue of my compositions and links to purchases of scores and lead sheets." ■ **Jeff Williamson '74** writes, "I am looking forward to new professional and personal opportunities after I complete my seven-year tenure as editor-in-chief of the journal *Medical Physics* in 2020. ❺ After a long career in medical physics, I currently am a part-time professor of radiation oncology at Washington University in St. Louis, where I enjoy mentoring junior faculty and helping young research scientists build their careers. My wife, artist and retired psychotherapist Susan Wynne, and I divide our time between St. Louis, Western Maine, Mexico, and our home in Richmond, Va." ■ **John D.L. Johnson '76** grew up with the belief that people are basically good, if you give them a chance. When he moved to Florida from Chico, Calif., in 2002 to take the job as manager of Palm Beach County's Graphics Division, he brought with him that sense of fairness and trust. So when he learned the county was outsourcing some of its printing to Prison Rehabilitative Industries and Diversified Enterprises (PRIDE), John contacted PRIDE's manager of the vocational training program to tell them about an opening for a press operator. Talmadge Hayes landed the job, and his journey from prison inmate to professional printer inspired coworkers, customers, Johnson, and journalist Bob Neubauer, who tells their story in the August 2020 issue of *In-plant Impressions* (inplantimpressions.com/article/second-chance-pays-off-in-palm-beach/).

NEW BOOKS BY 1970s OLES

Invention: The Art of Liberal Arts (Respondeo Books, 2020), by **J. Scott Lee '71**

The Distance Between Stars (Water's Edge Press, 2020), by **Jeff Elzinga '73**



■ **Brad Jensen '78** wrote an article, "Christology through the Fires of Feuerbach," that has been published in *Lutheran Quarterly*, vol. 34. ■ **Karen Wicklund '78** has passed away. ❶ Karen's long-time friend **Betsey Dimick Hofeldt '78** writes, "Making music with friends, intellectual curiosity, and a shared dedication to helping others all are trademarks of the St. Olaf experience that were formative in Karen's life. She had the unique distinction of attaining membership in both the St. Olaf Choir and St. Olaf Band. Graduate work at the University of Michigan, prestigious opera apprenticeships in San Francisco and Santa Fe, and a D.M.A. at Northwestern University led her to a position at Western Michigan University teaching voice. Her insatiable quest for knowledge in her field motivated her to become a speech-language pathologist as well. She was such a champion for healthy vocal usage that she wrote an exhaustive textbook for fellow colleagues, titled *Singing Voice Rehabilitation*. Karen's spirit of professionalism, compassion, and empathy lives on in her students and colleagues." ■ **Carrie Warder Bartlett '79** enjoyed "a fabulous St. Olaf-sponsored trip to Morocco. ❷ Great adventure, group, and leader! We spanned graduates from 1970 to 2003. Participants included: fearless leaders Bob and Kate McClure; Christine and **Bruce Baldwin '79**; Bob and **Carrie Bartlett '79**; Cristin Capron White and Mark White; **John '78** and **Vicky '79 Childs**; **Eric Forsberg '70** and Gloria Peck; Jane and **Joe Goldstein '71**; Dan and **Deb Hagman-Shannon '72**; **Don Johnson '71**; **Marlin '73** and **Connie '74 Osthus**; **Anne Scheidecker '71**; **Barb Sletten '71**; Barb and **Erick Stone '76**; **Dawn Strief '03**; and Deb and **John Wilkinson '73**." ■ **Don Garvey '79** writes, "I completed the Camino Santiago de Compostela Pilgrimage in Spain, walking the Camino Primitivo route of 331 km pioneered in 820 by the first pilgrim, King Alphonso II. In many places along the route, pilgrims are entirely alone for hours, allowing for meditation and reflection, with the 950-year-old cathedral as the final reward. ❸ The route also allowed for flexing of 45-year-old high school Spanish (*Cerveza fria por favor!*)."

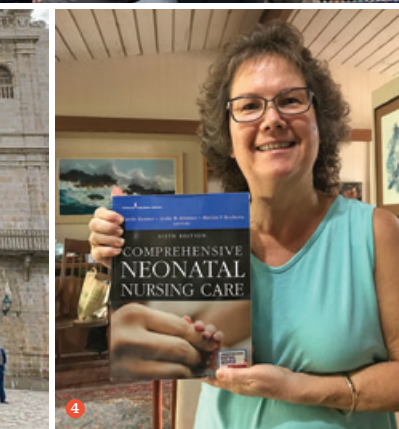
■ **Glen Jacobsen '79**, assistant county attorney for Renville County, Minn., received the 2019 Multi-Jurisdictional Investigative Excellence Award from the Minnesota Chapter of the International Association of Special Investigative Units, for work and perseverance in investigating, resolving, and obtaining a conviction in a Bird Island arson case.

1980s

Mark Bipes '80 retired from the Navy Reserve as a Rear Admiral on October 1, 2019, after 37 years of military service. Mark plans to continue working as a civilian industrial hygienist for the Naval Medical Center, San Diego, for the near future. ■

Christopher E. Hoyme '81 was recently featured in the *Chambers USA 2020 Guide*, a publication ranking the leading lawyers and law firms across the United States. Christopher is a principal in the Omaha, Neb., office of Jackson Lewis P.C.

■ **Stephanie Hoe '82** co-edited two chapters of a new 6th edition of the *Comprehensive Neonatal Nursing Care* textbook, Springer Publishing Company. ❹ She is beginning her 37th year of Neonatal ICU nursing and has been a longtime



board member of the Neonatal Nurses Association in Honolulu. ■ **Pauline Fiene '84** did her 10,000th logged scuba dive in Maui in November 2019, accompanied by her longtime dive partner, **Susan O'Shaughnessy '87**. ❺ Pauline has studied marine life in Hawaii for over 32 years, discovering many new species of marine animals and publishing a paper on the spawning of Hawaii's most abundant species of coral, the first time spawning had been recorded for this species worldwide. Annually she offers dives to see this species spawn. In 2009, Pauline was inducted into the Women Divers Hall of Fame, one of only two women from Hawaii to have been given this honor. Susan, a professor emeritus of philosophy at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minn., lives on Maui with her husband, Bryan Luther, a retired nuclear physicist. A lover of marine biology, Susan considers diving with Pauline and their mutual friends to be among the sweetest of life's pleasures, especially during coral spawning. Susan has found contentment on Maui with her true love, scuba diving with

friends, studying marine life, collecting art, and learning about Hawaiian wayfaring and culture. ■ **Amy Becker '85** says it was "Not quite what they had in mind pre-pandemic." She and **Jennifer Leahy Madden '85** downscaled their recent retirement celebration with a rousing round of mini golf. (COVID precautions followed.) ❻ Jen concluded a long career teaching in the St. Paul, Minn., school system, while Amy finished her Fed career in San Diego. Post-pandemic plans for both are travel, travel, and more travel.

NEW BOOKS BY 1980s OLES

Optics: A Novel About Women and Work and Midlife Muddles (Moonsong Press, 2020), by **Gail Reitenbach '81**

X-ray Microscopy (Cambridge University Press, 2020), by **Chris Jacobsen '83**

Spirit Son: A Mother's Journey to Reconnect with Her Son After His Death From Heroin Overdose (Orange Hat, 2020), by **Robin Monson-Dupuis '83**

Geometry: The Line and the Circle (American Mathematical Society, 2018), by **Elyn Rykken '88**

■ **Danel Olson '87** has returned to Texas from a year of teaching cultural studies and 19th-century British novels at China's Qufu Normal University. He notes that the friendly undergrad and graduate students he taught love American culture. ❶ "This is the poppy courtyard in front of the 'Foreign Experts' Residence' where I lived. I would take my breakfast down there every morning, and sometimes my students would drop by and we would have an impromptu discussion." Danel also wrote a chapter for the 2019 book *Patrick McGrath and His Worlds: Madness and the Transnational Gothic*, "The Liar, the Bitch, and the Wardrobe: Resisting Political Terror, Anti-Semitism, and Revenants in Patrick McGrath's *The Wardrobe Mistress*." ■ **David Schooler '87** and **Ellen Brinkman '01** have joined the business litigation and labor and employment practice groups at the Minnesota law firm Nilan Johnson Lewis. ■ **James Mossman '88** has been called to be director of Evangelical Mission and assistant to Bishop Lorna Halaas for the ELCA Western Iowa Synod. ■ **Sylvia Strobel '88** is the new president and CEO of Twin Cities Public Television (TPT) in St. Paul, Minn. ❷ She previously served as the COO of Ideastream, the Cleveland, Ohio, Public Television and Radio enterprise. ■ **Thomas Christenson '89** continues his lifelong vocation of writing, recording, and releasing music, most recently under the moniker of Archer Monk. ❸ A new EP, *Man With No Plan* — featuring some crunchy psychedelic rock along with his signature laid-back storytelling vibe — just emerged in late October from the redwoods outside San Francisco. Visit archermonk.com for more info, and dig deeper into Thomas's music at archermonk.bandcamp.com.

■ **Rick Sutherland '89** and three Oles working for Travelers Insurance developed a "Predictive Modeling Cooking Show" to educate industry professionals and aspiring modelers, using an entertaining, interactive format. After presenting the cooking show to over 2,000 people at 12 events across the country and getting rave reviews, the team brought it to the St. Olaf Mathematics Department colloquium series in March 2020.

1990s

NEW BOOKS BY 1990s OLES

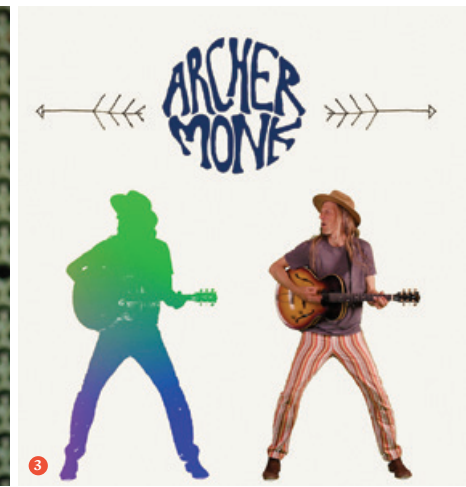
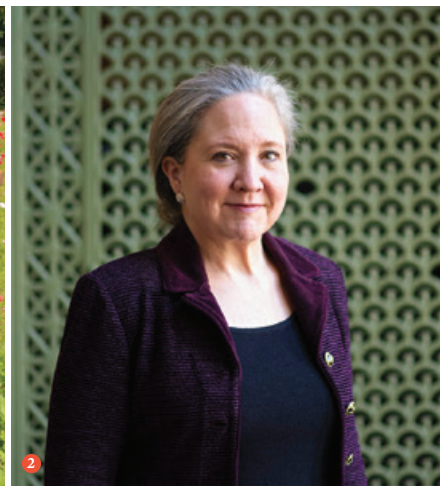
Organization Design Made Easy: Structure, Process and People (Independently Published, 2020), by **Jocelyn Stenberg '92**

Return on Investment for Healthcare Quality Improvement (Springer, 2020), by **Craig Solid '97**

Evolution of an Educator: There is Room for Love in Teaching (Amazon, 2020), by **Ted Hamilton '98**

Mark Jansen '90 was named the 2020 chair of the California Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. ■ **Becky DeBus '92**, a statistical programmer at Medtronic in Minneapolis, has been appointed a Technical Fellow in recognition of significant and consistent contributions to the technical and scientific goals of Medtronic. ■ **Meagan McLaughlin '92** writes, "I am delighted to share that I was ordained to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament in the ELCA on January 18, 2020! I have been called to serve Christ Lutheran Church in St. Louis, Mo." ■ **Lisa Biehn Seguin '93** writes, "On October 26, 2019, six alumni from the Class of '93 set off on an adventure of a lifetime!

Heidi Johnson Bringman, Lana Peterson Huetten, Andrea Johnson Donnan, Heidi Bloedel Moon, Lisa Biehn Seguin, and Deepa Upadhyaya hiked the Grand Canyon rim to rim. ❹ It was an amazing way for us to reconnect, take on a physical challenge, AND visit one of the seven natural wonders of the world! It was everything we hoped it would be. The logistics of our trip were made easy thanks to the help of **Anne Otte '94**, who was gracious enough to be our group's driver! We're all so thankful for our St. Olaf friendships, and we're already planning our next big adventure!" ■ **Krista Dreyer River '93** won a 2020 Grammy award for Best Opera Recording, *The Fantastic Mr. Fox*. ❺ She played Mrs. Fox. ■ **Sarah Solum '95** has joined the global law firm of Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer as one of seven founding partners of the firm's new Silicon Valley office, where she will be the managing partner and head of U.S. capital markets. ■ **Jake Chizzo '97** is the instructional coordinator for Clinical Communication Skills at Koç University School of Medicine, Istanbul, Turkey. Jake designs and conducts experiential learning opportunities to improve the interpersonal communication skills of medical students for better doctor-patient relationships in health care settings. In addition to developing a new communication skills curriculum, he oversees simulated clinical examinations in a state-of-the-art simulation education center. Jake also continues writing, editing, and translating for various educational publishers, scholarly journals, and exhibitions and publications of local museums and research centers, including the Pera Museum, Istanbul Research Institute, and Research Center for Anatolian Studies. ■



Abby Lindesmith Rombalski '98 co-wrote with Carleton professor Anita Chikkatur an opinion piece for *MinnPost* titled "Stay in public schools: The anti-racism we need from white families during the pandemic" (online at minnpost.com/community-voices/2020/08/stay-in-public-schools-the-anti-racism-we-need-from-white-families-during-the-pandemic).

2000s

NEW BOOKS BY 2000s OLES

Ordinary Blessings (Fortress Press, 2020),
by **Meta Herrick Carlson '04**

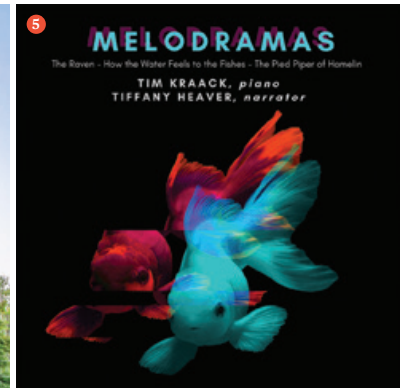
Imogen, a new opera by **Elizabeth Rudolph '00** based on Shakespeare's *Cymbeline*, premiered in a Chicago workshop performance in Nov. 2019. The opera was produced by newmoonopera.org.

■ **Katherine Tanner '00**, a professional actress best known for her award-winning performance in *The Amish Project*, has written and composed a new musical, *Nineteen*, highlighting the struggles, strengths, and success of the American Suffragist Movement and the 100th anniversary of the passing of the Nineteenth Amendment. ■ **Benjamin French '01** has joined the Department of Biostatistics at Vanderbilt University in Nashville as an associate professor. His research will focus on the development of models to predict avoidable in-hospital complications and adverse events. ■ **Shaun Murphy '01** is the new principal at Lakeville (Minn.) South High School. Shaun had been dean of students at Lakeville South High School after serving as a special education lead at Lakeville South from 2009 to 2010 and a special education teacher at Lakeville North from 2003 to 2009. Prior to that, he taught autistic students for the South St. Paul school district. ■ **Sarah Rasmussen '01**, the Jungle Theater's artistic director for the last five years, has left Minneapolis to become artistic director of the McCarter Theatre Center in Princeton, N.J., one of the country's largest and most respected theaters. ■ **Adam Luebke '02**, music director for the Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus, worked closely with composer Richard Danielpour to prepare the chorus for a world premiere recording of *The Passion of Yeshua*, performed with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra and the UCLA Chamber Singers, and conducted by JoAnn Falletta. The recording has been released by Naxos. ■ **Abigail Betts Williams '02** writes, "In September 2019, **Alissa Kovala-Heine '02**, **Sarah Onnen Ash '02**, and I met in Healdsburg, Calif., traveling from Minnesota, Arizona, and Maryland, respectively, to celebrate half of our lives as friends and our 40th birthdays!" ■ **Jessica Knutson '02** ① represented her Edward Jones firm for the second year in a row at the Barron's Women Summit conference in Palm Beach, Fla. This summit brings



together the wealth-management industry's most accomplished women advisors. ■ **Whitney Hedren '03**, who has been teaching elementary special education to students identified with autism for Roseville (Minn.) Area Schools, has moved "to spread more love and learning to special education students at the high school level for Spring Lake Park (Minn.) Schools. I also have enjoyed working for MNTrades.org during the summer, helping students explore career paths within the major trades around the Twin Cities." ■ **Jayne Andrews Shuda '03**, leader of General Business Services and Client Advisory Services Teams at Mahoney Ulbrich Christiansen & Russ PA, has been promoted to the role of shareholder. ■ **Reid Wixson '03**, director of Instrumental Music at Minneapolis Southwest High School, was named the 2019-20 Minnesota Music Educator of the Year by the Minnesota Music Educators Association. ■ **Andrea Cianflone '04** has been actively involved in launching and promoting Be Delighted's Sing4wellness programming, a music program designed to inspire wellness through the craft of singing. ② Since her Carnegie Hall debuts in 2018 at both the Weill Recital Hall and Stern Auditorium singing two world premieres as guest soloist, Andrea has had opportunities to share the work of Be Delighted on ABC, CBS, iHeart Radio, and other media news outlets. ■ **Sarah Stromberg Flier '04** was named the 2020 Wisconsin School Counselor of the Year. ■ **Annie Rzepecki Connors '05** is leading the Talent Line of Business for the Minnesota, Kansas, and Missouri markets of the global consulting firm Willis Towers Watson. ■ **Matthew Peterson '06** and **Jason Zencka '06** were students at St. Olaf when they composed

featured future opera stars **Laura Wilde '08** and **Eric Neuville '06**. Matthew writes, "Now, our second opera, *Voir Dire*, inspired by stories Jason witnessed as a courtroom beat reporter for the *Stevens Point (Wis.) Journal*, is being released as an original-cast album. It was premiered at Fort Worth Opera and Opera America Conference in 2017 to national critical acclaim." The album is the debut release for the independent music label RedHouse Music. ■ **James McKone '08** was selected as one of ten Beckman Young Investigators (BYI) for a project that recycles carbon dioxide back into useful fuels and chemicals. An assistant professor of chemical engineering at the University of Pittsburgh's Swanson School of Engineering, James is only the second Pitt professor selected for this award in the history of the BYI program. His ultimate goal is to build a circular chemical economy. ■ **Molly Nelson Sanford '08** ③ was promoted to the role of director of fabrication in the University of Minnesota College of Design. ■ **Beth Koralia '09** writes, "In addition to being a corporate jet pilot, I have recently purchased a bed and breakfast in Duluth, Minn. I am the youngest bed and breakfast owner in Minnesota. The historic 1904 Georgian Colonial Revival Mansion, the Merryweather Inn, has more than 40 rooms, six spacious guest suites, and even a ballroom. ④ Rockefeller and his family stayed here in 1928. We give discounts for Oles!" ■ **Tim Kraack '09** is excited to announce the release of his new classical album, *Melodramas*, featuring the world premiere of his new composition, "How the Water Feels to the Fishes," a collection of short pieces for piano and narrator with text by Dave Eggers. ⑤ This is Tim's sixth album of classical piano music.



their first opera, *The Binding of Isaac*, which premiered their senior year at the St. Olaf Lyric Theater and

2010s

NEW BOOKS BY 2010s OLES

Geometric Control of Fracture and Topological Metamaterials (Springer Nature, 2020), by **Noah Mitchell '12**

Rev. **Jeff Challberg '10** serves as chaplain for MN Health Fairview Bethesda Hospital in St. Paul, where he sees to the spiritual and mental needs of COVID-19 patients, providing pastoral care that the families of say is a blessing and such a comfort to every family member. In March, as the pandemic took hold, Bethesda was converted to a specialty-care facility for COVID-19 patients. Jeff volunteered to work there, wanting to “be among people who go towards other people’s suffering and help and care and heal wherever possible,” he said in a recent St. Paul Pioneer Press story. Read more at twincities.com/2020/09/06/bethesda-chaplain-is-a-spiritual-bridge-between-covid-patients-and-families. ■ **Noah Mitchell '12** received the prestigious Helen Hay Whitney Foundation Fellowship, which will fund the next few years of his postdoctoral research on the physics of morphogenesis. He also recently received the Springer Thesis award from Springer Publishing. ■ **Kristopher Coffman '13** was featured in the University of Minnesota’s *Classical and Near Eastern Studies* journal. As a Ph.D. candidate in classical and Near Eastern studies, Kristopher has been studying ancient texts through a cross-cultural lens. This includes parables and oral traditions, where he considers their context and how they translate into the modern world. Kristopher also was a guest speaker at the St. Olaf Lutheran Center’s fall symposium, where he led a discussion about the use of the Bible in U.S. race relations. Kristopher, whose mother immigrated from Cambodia and paternal grandmother immigrated from Norway, aims to increase cross-cultural understanding of the classics and of the New Testament in particular. ■ **Karla Krumenau Wetley '13** first authored a paper in abdominal radiology titled “CT and MR Imaging Surveillance of Stage I Renal Cell Carcinoma After Microwave Ablation.” The same research earned her the Society of Abdominal Radiology’s Trainee Research Award during its annual conference in Maui. ■ **Robbie Menge '13** graduated from the University of Minnesota with a dual master’s degree in public policy from the Humphrey School of Public Affairs and in social work from the University of Minnesota’s School of Social Work.



He plans to work in mental health policy and outreach. ■ **Helen Irene Muller '14** was on the stage management team for the Roundabout Theatre Company’s Broadway premiere of *A Soldier’s Play*, written by Charles Fuller and directed by Kenny Leon. She served as the production assistant and substitute assistant stage manager until Broadway shut down five performances before the production’s scheduled closing date, due to COVID-19. ■ **Brandon Rohnke '14** graduated from Michigan State University with a Ph.D. in biochemistry & molecular biology and is pursuing an AAAS Science Policy Fellowship. ■ The alt-pop band Maria and the Coins (**Maria Coyne '15**, **Nick Baker '15**, **Zaq Baker '15**, **Sheldon Way '14**, and **Adam Maurer**) have released their debut album, *Forward*. ❶ The band began playing together during their time at St. Olaf and have since opened for touring artists such as Delacey and Jeremy Messersmith. Their music has been featured on The Current, Cities97, and other Midwest stations. ■ **Sonja Helgeson '15** received her doctor of veterinary medicine degree from the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine and was inducted into the Phi Zeta Honor Society. She is practicing at Companion Animal Hospital in Eagan, Minn. ■ **Emily K. Stelling '15** was ordained to the ELCA in March 2020. ❷ Many Oles were in attendance, including former St. Olaf President Christopher Thomforde and his wife, Dr. Kathy Thomforde; Rev. **Dr. Patrick Shebeck '99**, pastor of St. Paul-Reformation; Rev. **Charles Anderson '56** and **Shirley Anderson '56**; Rev. Dr. Andres Albertson;

St. Olaf Professor of Religion Dr. L. DeAnne Lagerquist; and several other fellow pastors and classmates. Emily has wanted to serve as a pastor since she was 12 years old, and St. Olaf was her dream school. A month after graduation, Emily moved from St. Olaf to Luther Seminary in St. Paul. Her eight years at these sister schools prepared her for her ministry experiences in Bratislava, Slovakia, Chicago, and now, Bethany & Pilgrim Lutheran Parish in Siren, Wis. ■ **Henry Burt '16** began a Ph.D. program in pastoral theology at Princeton Theological Seminary. He graduated with a master of divinity (M.Div.) from the seminary in the spring of 2019, and he has spent the year in between doing church ministry in Baltimore. Henry is nearing his completion of the candidacy process for ordination as an ELCA pastor. ■ **Emma Downey '16** ❸ is now associate producer and health and safety director of NETworks Presentations, following the opening of the *Waitress* Tour in Vancouver, B.C., Canada, as a production manager. ■ **Megan Jekot '16** managed Rebecca Noecker’s campaign for St. Paul (Minn.) City Council, Ward 2, and then transitioned into a new role as the program director of the Land Stewardship Action Fund (LSAF). ❹ She is excited to lead the work of LSAF, a sister organization of the Land Stewardship Project, and start building a permanent progressive base in rural and small-town communities across Minnesota to elect champions and change the electoral map in those districts. ■ **April Will '16** has joined Moss & Barnett in its Family Law Department. 🐾





Future Oles

Ria Newhouse '00 and Melody Scott, a son, Elon
 Jason Hage '02 and April Baker Hage, a daughter, Olive ¹⁰
 Kristina Anderson Sakaria '02 and Aaron Sakaria, a son, Mekhi ⁶
 Anne Kent Chow '03 and Ricky Chow, a son, Fredrik ¹¹
 Allison Warren '03, a daughter, Esther
 Sarah Billington Norman '05 and Matthew Norman '08, a son, Cole ⁸
 Christine Hanson Cecil '06 and Robby Cecil, a son, Charlie ¹
 Jessica Edge Kremer '06 and Dustin Kremer, a son, Thorsten
 Cara Ilioff Lemmage '07 and Michael Lemmage '07, a daughter, Eva Jones ⁷
 Jennie Hedberg Fleurant '08 and William Fleurant, a son, Alexander ¹³
 Lindsey French Stewart '08 and Joshua Stewart, a son, Soren
 Kathryn Staver Samuelson '10 and Olaf Samuelson '10, a daughter, Silje ⁹
 Madeline Schaefer '10 and Daniel Mandel, a son, Arlo
 Rachael Price Seddighzadeh '10 and Kevin Seddighzadeh, a son, Oliver ²
 Katherine Horvat Teiken '10 and Jason Teiken '10, a daughter, Margaret ⁴
 Amy Click '11 and Mickey McCauley, a son, Heyden
 Erin Beaton '12 and Benoît Chéné, a daughter, Joanne ¹²
 Gwen Hoover Doran '12 and Crawford Doran, a daughter, Mattihanna
 Vanessa Kleckner Kronzer '12 and Alexander Kronzer '12, a son, Graham
 Katie Seltz Moher '12 and Alex Moher, a son, Matthew ³
 Hannah Rosenthal Danielson '12 and Bryce Danielson '11, a son, Henry
 Kristina Haugen Milne '13 and Steven Milne '11, a son, Jackson
 Karla Krumenauer Wetley '13 and Ryan Wetley, a son, Rambo ⁵
 Kristin Lange Straeuli '14 and Christian Straeuli, a son, Peter

Weddings

Randall Piper '95 and Bruce Fruchtl, Oct. 12, 2019
 Terra Widdifield '95 and Mark Gitch '88, March 31, 2020
 Erin Anderson-Kipp '99 and Benjamin Kipp '99, July 18, 2020
 Kate Bennett Farnum '04 and TJ Farnum, Aug. 29, 2020
 Sarah Oden-Tanner '09 and Ryan Oden-Tanner, June 20, 2020
 Kristin Lange Straeuli '14 and Christian Straeuli, June 2018
 Sonja Helgeson '15 and Eric Topel '15, July 25, 2020
 Karen Van Acker Meyer '15 and Phillip Meyer '15, Feb. 29, 2020
 Katie Reed Rydberg '15 and Ben Rydberg, July 11, 2020
 Emily Een Varley '16 and Eric Varley '15, Aug. 30, 2020
 Chloe Chambers '17 and Mazen Abusharkh '18, July 26, 2020
 Erin Engelhardt Flicek '17 and Chris Flicek '17, Aug. 7, 2020

Deaths

Evelyn Thorvig Conlin '39, Jacksonville, Fla., Aug. 31, 2020
 *Carlyle "Collie" Lageson '39, Albert Lea, Minn., May 15, 2020
 *Harold Berg '42, Faribault, Minn., May 13, 2020
 Marjorie Kruegel Quiggle '42, Crystal, Minn., Aug. 25, 2020
 *Arthur "Art" Nesse '43, Stillwater, Minn., July 18, 2020
 Doris "Dorie" Grimstvedt Larsen '45, Oakland, Calif., April 12, 2020
 Eleanor Stevens Tyler '45, Winona, Minn., Sept. 18, 2020
 Joan Lillejord Raugland '46, Minneapolis, May 23, 2020
 Marjorie Hillman '47, Minneapolis, May 21, 2020

[CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE]

Eva "Alice" Unseth Johnson '47, La Crescent, Minn., Oct. 7, 2019
 *Oliver Carlson '48, St. Paul, Minn., July 15, 2020
 Virgil Holstad '48, Lake Mills, Minn., Aug. 11, 2020
 Lily Nielsen Uhren '48, Brookfield, Wis., Aug. 28, 2020
 *Arthur Aarstad '49, Evansville, Ind., Sept. 11, 2020
 *Donald Brye '49, Milwaukee, Aug. 9, 2020
 Edward Hatlem '49, Maple Grove, Minn., June 30, 2020
 Betty Peterson Jorgensen '49, St. Paul, Minn., Aug. 26, 2020
 Martha "Marty" Row Roberts '49, Warroad, Minn., May 15, 2020
 Celia Flatberg Walther '49, Pleasant Prairie, Wis., Aug. 18, 2020
 Adelaide Taft Axelson '50, Minnetonka, Minn., July 1, 2020
 Carol Livingston Kindem '50, Faribault, Minn., July 20, 2020
 *Eugene Nelson '50, Gig Harbor, Wash., May 30, 2019
 *William "Billy" Thompson '50, Milan, Minn., April 17, 2020
 *James "Jim" Anderson '51, Minneapolis, April 22, 2020
 *David Christianson '51, Scottsdale, Ariz., Sept. 15, 2020
 Vernon "Vern" Dahlke '51, Mesa, Ariz., May 5, 2020
 *Jual "Bud" DeLaitsch '51, Owatonna, Minn., April 25, 2020
 Joyce Larsen Gohlke '51, Alpena, Mich., June 2, 2020
 Bergetta Dahl Gunderson '51, Winona, Minn., Sept. 17, 2020
 *Leonard Larsen '51, Des Moines, Iowa, April 20, 2020
 Harriet Olson Long '51, Neenah, Wis., Aug. 8, 2020
 *Paul Martinson '51, Hudson, Wis., Sept. 26, 2020
 Grace Mittermaier Allen '52, Syosset, N.Y., April 7, 2020
 Geraldine Heggerston Florence '52, Velva, N.D., Sept. 8, 2020
 *John "J.D." Hanson '52, Minneapolis, May 13, 2020
 *Donald Hedding '52, Wayzata, Minn., May 20, 2020
 Marvin Larsen '52, Minneapolis, Dec. 19, 2019
 Delia "Vicki" Vick Larson '52, Evansville, Ill., Aug. 19, 2020
 Barbara Mattill '52, Minnetonka, Minn., Aug. 9, 2020
 Beverley Peterson Meyer '52, Modesto, Calif., May 12, 2020
 *Luther "Lu" Paine '52, Chandler, Ariz., July 7, 2020
 Carl "Roy" Peterson '52, Edina, Minn., July 27, 2020
 *William "Bill" Smerika '52, International Falls, Minn., July 31, 2020
 June Halsor Tanner '52, Granite Bay, Calif., June 23, 2020
 Betty Nelson Ammentorp '53, Hamel, Minn., Aug. 22, 2020
 Ruth "Biddie" Ellingboe Christenson '53, Laporte, Minn., Aug. 17, 2018
 Wanda Lenbom Dahlberg '53, Blaine, Minn., Sept. 8, 2020
 Ruth Duea Lillo '53, Hillsborough, Calif., June 7, 2020
 David Olson '53, Redlands, Calif., Aug. 22, 2020
 Duane Olson '53, Northfield, Minn., June 13, 2020
 Joan Larson Vilven '53, Farmington, N.M., July 7, 2020
 Dorothy Loew Cameron '54, Columbus, Ohio, March 2, 2020
 Carol Berkedal Carlson '54, Northfield, Minn., May 9, 2020
 John Deno '54, Dawson, Minn., June 21, 2020
 Shirley Hagen Herrick '54, Blaine, Minn., May 4, 2020
 *John Sletten '54, Ames, Iowa, Sept. 8, 2020
 Eleanor Yackel '54, Circle Pines, Minn., May 31, 2020
 Myron Fogde '55, Moline, Ill., Aug. 9, 2020
 Gloria Kiester '55, Northfield, Minn., Oct. 5, 2020
 Jane Iverson Moriarty '55, Shakopee, Minn., Sept. 18, 2020
 *Robert Odden '55, Corona, Calif., Nov. 29, 2019
 Janet Myhre Row '55, Minneapolis, May 20, 2020
 Paul Scheie '55, Oklahoma City, May 27, 2020
 Edwin Swenson '55, Omaha, Neb., Sept. 12, 2020
 *Marvin Bohm '56, Aurora, Ill., July 29, 2019
 *Bertrand "Bert" Goderstad '56, Hastings, Minn., April 26, 2020
 Florine Rittenour Iverslie '56, New London, Minn., June 29, 2020
 Norrine Thompson Jensen '56, Ellendale, Minn., June 15, 2020
 Sonya "Sunny" Benna Larsen '56, Iowa City, Iowa, Sept. 2, 2020
 Marjorie "Marge" Rundquist Rahn '56, Evans, Ga., Aug. 1, 2020
 Mary Kyvig Allen '57, Oakdale, Minn., Jan. 16, 2020
 John Danz '57, Cape Coral, Fla., Sept. 20, 2020
 Bruce Johnson '57, Manchester, Conn., June 14, 2020
 *Milford Knutson '57, Cedaredge, Colo., May 9, 2020
 Patricia "Patti" Norby-Steenbock '57, Fergus Falls, Minn., Sept. 4, 2020

Christine Rimpila-Lund '57, Park Ridge, Ill., April 20, 2020
 Joyce Larson Stephenson '57, Northfield, Minn., June 12, 2020
 *James "Jim" Swenson '57, Minneapolis, Aug. 3, 2020
 Solveig Skramstad Turpin '57, San Antonio, July 17, 2020
 David Boe '58, Chicago, April 28, 2020
 *Roger Jones '58, Sperryville, Va., June 6, 2020
 Ellen Clark Olson '58, Savannah, Ga., Sept. 7, 2020
 Ethel Haakenson Thompson '58, Bismarck, N.D., Aug. 21, 2020
 *Peter Christenson '59, Scituate, Mass., Aug. 21, 2020
 *John Cronholm '59, Helena, Mont., Aug. 30, 2020
 Julie Sorenson Merklin '59, Manhattan, Kan., June 12, 2020
 Sarah "Jeannette" Nelson Mintun '59, Rural Hall, N.C., July 24, 2020
 Beverly "Jeanne" Weberg Schwarze '59, White Bear Lake, Minn., May 17, 2020
 William "Bill" Stai '59, Northfield, Minn., July 22, 2020
 Curtis Stensrud '59, Chicago, May 10, 2020
 David Goulette '60, Bayport, Minn., April 19, 2020
 Thea Holtan '60, St. Paul, Minn., June 2, 2020
 Lois Ostermann Lapham '60, Olathe, Kan., June 17, 2020
 Karen Yock Bigalk '61, Annandale, Minn., Sept. 5, 2020
 Cecil Maureen Flugum Johnson '62, Stillwater, Minn., Sept. 12, 2020
 *Richard "Rick" May '62, Kirkland, Wash., April 5, 2020
 Bonny Berger Sherratt '62, Colon, Mich., May 2, 2020
 *Paul Skalet '62, Black Earth, Wis., June 8, 2020
 Sharon Johnson Anderson '63, Cass Lake, Minn., June 14, 2020
 James Bowles '63, Naples, Fla., May 10, 2020
 Kay Nelson Hoppe '63, Gambier, Ohio, Aug. 3, 2020
 David "Dave" Johnson '63, Eastport, Mich., Aug. 7, 2020
 *Russell Anderson '64, Hopkins, Minn., Sept. 15, 2020
 Sara "Sally" Ellingson Bowe '64, Apple Valley, Minn., June 7, 2020
 Barbara "Barb" Nelson Holt '66, Hudson, Wis., Oct. 1, 2020
 Gordon Rockswold '66, Henning, Minn., Aug. 13, 2020
 Paula Enockson Sippel '66, New York, Aug. 12, 2019
 *James "Jim" Finbraaten '67, Sun Lakes, Ariz., June 27, 2020
 *Carl Rundquist '67, Arden Hills, Minn., April 22, 2020
 Kay Stromberg Thompson '68, San Antonio, May 25, 2020
 Kristine Haas Eastwold '69, Rice Lake, Wis., May 8, 2020
 Marla Jacobson '69, Dayton, Iowa, July 15, 2020
 Michael McPherson '69, Great Falls, Mont., April 25, 2020
 Mark Anderson '70, Cresco, Iowa, July 7, 2020
 Joanne Valentine Clark '70, Eugene, Ore., June 1, 2020
 Nancy Moeller Klein '70, Kanawha, Iowa, June 28, 2020
 John Ostenson '70, Peoria, Ariz., May 16, 2020
 Darrell Sackl '70, Marina Del Rey, Calif., April 5, 2020
 Robyn Twito '70, Albuquerque, N.M., Aug. 29, 2020
 Mark Romness '71, Charleston, S.C., Sept. 9, 2020
 Janet "Jan" Holmgren Langland '72, Carmel Valley, Calif., April 11, 2020
 Deborah "Debbie" Klein Fritts '73, Shoreview, Minn., June 21, 2020
 Nancy Palmer '73, Eagan, Minn., May 7, 2020
 Geoffrey Penman '73, Alpharetta, Ga., April 25, 2020
 Mark Bauer '76, St. Paul, Minn., Nov. 3, 2019
 Reed Byers '77, Duluth, Minn., April 18, 2020
 Sally Rudrud '78, Westby, Wis., May 19, 2020
 Karen Wicklund '78, Lakewood Ranch, Fla., July 25, 2020
 Karl Gaardsmoe '79, Fountain Hills, Ariz., Aug. 20, 2020
 Steven Gilbertson '79, San Juan Capistrano, Calif., Sept. 11, 2020
 Jane Murakami '80, Northfield, Minn., July 13, 2020
 Kathryn "Kate" Sievert Winne '83, Atlanta, June 7, 2020
 Mark Veldey '85, Verona, Wis., June 14, 2020
 Karen Schoeld '88, Seattle, Sept. 3, 2020
 Scott Lindberg '92, Edmonds, Wash., April 27, 2020
 Carlo Castillejos '98, Minneapolis, Aug. 8, 2020
 Jonathan "Jon" McGrath '01, Charlotte, N.C., Sept. 27, 2018
 Erin Weier Remme '07, Albertville, Minn., June 15, 2020
 Ethan Thorpe '08, Bozeman, Mont., Aug. 23, 2020
 Sebastian "Seb" Surom '17, Iowa City, Iowa, May 5, 2020
 *VETERAN

Remembering Russell A. Anderson '64

Russell A. Anderson '64, retired Chief Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court and a 2010 St. Olaf Distinguished Alumni Award recipient, passed away on Sept. 15, 2020, from brain cancer. Anderson majored in history and economics at St. Olaf, where he was active in student government and served as student body president his senior year. After graduating, he enrolled in law school at the University of Minnesota, completing his J.D. in 1968. He was commissioned as an



officer into the U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAG) during the Vietnam War, rising to the position of base legal officer in Sasebo, Japan, during a three-year tour of duty. After returning to Washington, D.C., Anderson completed his master of laws degree in international law at George Washington University.

Anderson returned to Minnesota in 1976 and entered private practice at the Bemidji law firm of Romaine Powell before

launching his own practice. He also served as Beltrami county attorney from 1978 to 1982. Governor Al Quie appointed Anderson to the district court, where he served 16 years as the 9th District judge in Crookston, Minnesota. On Sept. 1, 1998, Governor Arnie Carlson appointed Anderson Associate Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court, and in 2006, Governor Tim Pawlenty appointed him Chief Justice. Anderson retired from the Court on June 1, 2008.

In remembering Chief Justice Anderson, Minneapolis *Star Tribune* journalist Rochelle Olson wrote, "Former Minnesota Governor Arne Carlson said that in 1998 he needed a Supreme Court appointee who was 'the best voice we could get for rural Minnesota — and we got the best voice for all of Minnesota.'" Carlson said he made no better judicial appointment than Anderson, who had the "intellect, empathy, and integrity for the job."

Minnesota's current Supreme Court Chief Justice Lorie Gildea said Anderson will be remembered for his "compassion, dedication, and commitment to ensure that every Minnesotan has equal access to justice. He led efforts to combat domestic violence, promote problem-solving courts that focus on rehabilitation, and enhance public access to court information."

After he retired from the bench, Anderson taught evidence at the University of Minnesota Law School.

St. Olaf Magazine featured Anderson in its Winter 2009 issue (stolaf.edu/magazine/archives/), in which Anderson quoted the September 1963 inaugural address of St. Olaf President Sidney Rand, whose inspiring words struck a chord with Anderson and stayed with him always. Reflecting on his experiences at St. Olaf and the University of Minnesota Law School, Anderson said, "Studying law is much different than the liberal arts. I have great affection for both places, but I love St. Olaf. What I learned at St. Olaf was almost a ritual for living — making time for family, putting the work aside, having time for silence and reflection, time for worship and service to others. I do not pretend to be a role model for any of this, but its emphasis has been a constant in my life."

Anderson is survived by his wife of 53 years, Kristin Ostby Anderson '66; their children, Rebecca Schmitz '90, John Anderson '91, and Sarah Harriss '98; granddaughters, Eva and Vivian Harriss; and grandsons, Michael and Thomas Schmitz.

Remembering Robert Phelps

Robert "Bob" Phelps, who served St. Olaf for 25 years, died peacefully on June 6, 2020, with his daughters by his side. He was 88.

A Sioux City, Iowa, native, Phelps graduated from Morningside College in 1953 and earned his master's degree in journalism at Syracuse University, where he met his wife, Thora Anderson, another transplanted Iowan studying college student personnel administration. They married in 1955 and returned to Sioux City, where Phelps worked as a writer and editor for the *Sioux City Journal* and then taught English at Morningside College before moving to Menomonie, Wis., where he taught English and journalism at UW Stout. The Phelps family relocated to Northfield in 1969, and Phelps joined the St. Olaf staff, first as director of the News Bureau (now the Office of Marketing and Communications) and then as director of Sports Information.



During the 1970s and early 1980s, Phelps served as manager of the St. Olaf Band before joining the St. Olaf development staff in 1983 as director of Government and Foundation Relations. Phelps was very active in the Northfield community, where he was a member of Rotary, the Northfield Arts Guild, the Northfield Historical Society, and Bethel Lutheran Church. In his retirement years, he continued to write professionally and for personal enjoyment, and had many travel adventures with his beloved Thora, who preceded him in death. Survivors include their two daughters, Margaret (Victor) Hahn '79 and Ruth Phelps; two grandsons, Andrew (Heather) Hahn and David (Amy) Hahn '14; great-grandchildren, Jovie Thora and John Paxton Hahn; sisters-in-law, Mary Herrlinger and Eileen Anderson; and several nieces and nephews.

Remembering Arthur Campbell

Professor Emeritus of Music Arthur "Art" Campbell, age 98, died June 1, 2020 in Northfield, Minn. Campbell taught many of St. Olaf's current music faculty, who remember this "ferocious perfectionist" with great affection. Music was an integral part of Campbell's life. As a child, he read that the famous violinist and composer Fritz Kreisler said professional musicians ought to be in possession of their technique by the time they are 14, so Campbell spent the hot Kansas City summer of his 14th year practicing piano eight hours a day.

He studied at Park College until 1942, when he was drafted into the Army. While in the Army, he attended Fordham University to study French, and served as a translator in France following the D-Day invasion. After earning degrees from the Kansas Conservatory, the University of Missouri, and the University of Rochester's Eastman School of Music, he came to St. Olaf College, where he served on the music faculty for 40 years. During this time, he started both the Electronic Music Studio and the composition program. The carefully supervised visits by his young children to the studio (which was located in the old Science Building) left them with new vocabulary words ("synthesizer," "MIDI," and "patch cord") and memories of cables, electronics, keyboards, and excitingly unfamiliar sounds. In his retirement, Campbell continued to play the piano every day and gave short recitals to his neighbors at Millstream Commons on Saturday mornings.



HIGH MARKS During Difficult Times

BY JEFF SAUVE

Photographs courtesy of the Shaw-Olson Center for College History (procured by Brigid Miller '21), the Library of Congress, and the Northfield Historical Society

THE CURRENT OUTBREAK OF COVID-19 is not the first time St. Olaf College has responded to a severe pandemic, and the way that St. Olaf dealt with the 1918–19 outbreak is similar to measures being taken at the college today.

In the waning days of World War I, St. Olaf was faced with a new influenza virus that was ravaging the world. Called the Spanish flu because Spain was the first country to publicly report cases, the ensuing pandemic killed approximately 50 million people worldwide.

Understanding the severity of the influenza gripping the nation and the world at the outset of his new presidency, St. Olaf President Lars W. Boe, installed as the college's fourth president shortly before the academic year began in September 1918, spearheaded efforts to curtail the deadly outbreak before it could reach the St. Olaf community. The college enacted a campus-wide quarantine in the first week of October 1918. Everyone on campus was issued a face mask and expected to wear it when gathering in groups. Fresh air and sunshine were strongly recommended, plus gargling with a mild antiseptic two times a day. By the end of October, 42-year-old Boe felt the college had escaped the flu and, writing to one of St. Olaf's founders, Harald Thorson, noted they had "a great deal to be thankful for."

Boe's optimism was short-lived. Following the rousing campus celebrations that marked the November 11th armistice declaration, ending four years of war with Germany, the first cases of the Spanish flu appeared on the Hill.

The St. Olaf student body of 550 included 228 male cadets who had enlisted in the Student Army Training Corp (S.A.T.C.), a military program held on campus to train officers for the war effort. Within days, more than 90 S.A.T.C. cadets and

several women students were infected. The disparity in numbers was because the S.A.T.C. used different classrooms and, of course, lived in separate residences.

In her book, *Manitou Analecta*, longtime dean of women Gertrude M. Hilleboe noted that most of the women students in the fall of 1918 kept busy in their spare time sewing masks and "pneumonia jackets." In late November, Boe wrote to former President John N. Kildahl, noting that "... the students have shown a wonderful spirit of self-control and willingness to help during [these] times." Home economics students helped the overworked kitchen staff to prepare soups and hot drinks for the patients



Red Cross nurses demonstrate treatment practices during the 1918 influenza pandemic.



1918-19 St. Olaf memories from the scrapbook of Ada Mansager Larsen

housed in old Ytterboe Hall, which had been converted into a hospital. For the students who had completed the course in home nursing, their training was immediately put to use alongside a few professional nurses. They fed the suffering students soup and treated them with aspirin, cough syrup, and camphor oil. Three of the nursing students soon became infected with the virus, but thankfully recovered.

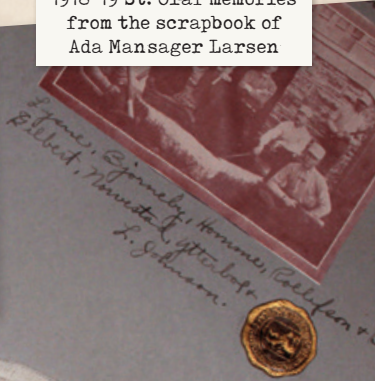
The college mobilized an all-out quarantine effort to stop the virus from spreading further throughout the campus. In early December, six new cases had appeared, all young women. Boe promptly canceled all classes and the Christmas Festival. A week later, he closed the college and sent the students home for an early holiday break.



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his opinion
and Mrs. Hs
and service.



"Flu days! Will we ever forget them."



Masks worn during influenza 1918-19.

In a December 10, 1918, letter to students that appeared in the *Manitou Messenger*, Boe wrote:

“The changes and the attendant difficulties have been accepted by both teachers and students in a cheerful spirit. The patriotism of the student body has manifested itself in a willingness to put up with many discomforts and a readiness to make sacrifices.... The student body as a whole have been under rather strict quarantine regulations. For a while we considered ourselves exceedingly fortunate in comparison to many other schools and communities in not having a single case of influenza. But our turn came all of a sudden. All in all we have had about one hundred cases and four deaths.”

Working together, the St. Olaf community held fast through the pandemic, supporting and caring for one another during those unforgettable, difficult months. Classes resumed on January 3, 1919. The flu, vanquished for a time, returned briefly to the Hill, although the outbreak was small. Life on the Hill returned to normal in 1919.

But the Spanish influenza did not entirely disappear. The virus continued to mutate throughout the 20th and early 21st centuries, becoming a seasonal flu that continues to reappear every fall. 🦠

JEFF SAUVE is a local historian and a regular contributor to *St. Olaf Magazine*.

**ST. OLAF STUDENTS UNDER
TEMPORARY QUARANTINE**

All possible measures are being taken to prevent Spanish Influenza from entering into our midst.

All the students are under temporary quarantine, and are urged to take great care in preserving their own health. Every student should obey the following rules:

1. Take plenty exercise; be out in the fresh air as much as possible.
2. Avoid crowds and public gatherings.
3. Make use of your handkerchief when you cough or sneeze.
4. Always report the slightest illness to the nurse.
5. Keep regular hours for sleeping and eating.
6. Keep cool!

Influenza news from the Oct. 15, 1918 *Manitou Messenger* (above), and the Nov. 29, 1918 *Northfield News* (right)

**“FLU” SITUATION
NOW IMPROVING**

EPIDEMIC WAVE RECEDING—FEW NEW CASES—COLLEGES TO RESUME THEIR WORK.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS MAY REOPEN

Four Deaths at St. Olaf—Staff of Physicians and Ten Nurses Provide Excellent Care.

The influenza wave which struck Northfield about three weeks ago appears to be receding. A survey of the city and both colleges indicates that the situation is improving.

In the city proper very few new cases developed the past week. Of a total of fifty-two cases previously reported in *The News*, almost all are over the attack. Of thirteen new cases only two of which are adults, all are in three families.

The board of health, together with members of the advisory committee, are to meet sometime today to consider the situation and discuss the advisability of making any change in the regulations effective Nov. 12 to prevent the spread of the epidemic. With quarantine restrictions relaxed at both colleges due to an improvement in the situation there is a possibility that the public schools will be reopened Monday. If a decision to this effect is reached the blowing of the condenser whistle at 4 p. m. Saturday will give notice to the public.



Setting up S.A.T.C. living quarters at St. Olaf in 1918



WHILE MORE THAN 100 ST. OLAF STUDENTS were stricken with the flu in 1918, 140 healthy Student Army Training Corp (S.A.T.C.) cadets, including 17-year-old Ernest O. Lawrence of Canton, South Dakota, were temporarily quartered in Old Main. The men set up their cots in vacated classrooms and even in the office of St. Olaf President Lars W. Boe, which the S.A.T.C. lieutenant soon made off limits. Lawrence, peeved that he had to stop sleeping in Boe's office, where he had been making himself useful by answering the phone, abruptly went home without permission, deciding to prepare for U.S. Naval Academy entrance examinations rather than attend St. Olaf.

In his trademark forthright manner, Boe reached out to young Lawrence, telling him that he had the makings of an excellent student and that the college doors remained open to him. Lawrence returned to St. Olaf in January 1919 and then transferred to South Dakota State University the following year.

In a letter of appreciation to Paul M. Glasoe, his former St. Olaf chemistry instructor, Lawrence wrote that he and two other S.A.T.C. students received the highest marks in their chemistry class, adding, “This attests to the excellent foundation in chemistry we received under you last year.” It was a foundation that led to Lawrence becoming a renowned pioneer in nuclear science, eventually receiving the 1939 Nobel Prize in physics for his invention of the cyclotron, a circular particle accelerator.

Oles ran through campus in the spring of 2018 as part of a festive color run organized by two student service clubs.



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- Name St. Olaf as a beneficiary of your retirement plan or insurance policy
- Give today and gain guaranteed income for life with a charitable gift annuity

To learn more, contact Eric Tvedt '08
in the St. Olaf Development Office
at 800-776-6523 or tvedt@stolaf.edu

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

PARTING SHOT



AUTUMN ON THE HILL | There are so many treasured traditions at St. Olaf, from giving and receiving Friday flowers to sledding down Old Main Hill. But one tradition has endured for nearly 150 years on this wooded hilltop: Oles like Leah Berdahl '23, Maddy Nichols '21, and Rachel Wyffels '21 enjoying a beautiful fall day in a big pile of leaves. PHOTO BY LUCY GRUIDL '24