

BELHAVEN

TARTAN

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**LIVING
THE MOTTO**

— **PLUS** —

GIFT OF A LIFETIME • HOME FIELD ADVANTAGE



FROM THE PRESIDENT



The structure of universities allows faculty members tremendous latitude in how they chose to invest their energy. I've found that the great ones never have enough hours in the week because they are working overtime preparing to make each classroom experience significant and connecting with students in meaningful ways outside the classroom.

So finding great faculty members begins with understanding their character as well as their calling to be an instrument of the Lord to help transform students.

Historically in higher education, the rule of thumb was that faculty should spend 1/3rd teaching, 1/3rd research/writing, and 1/3rd service to the university and public. But higher education has changed much through these years, and all universities have finally come to value teaching for the unique gift it is and assure that classroom time and preparation are most highly valued.

Our faculty at Belhaven are engaged in research, writing projects and serving our community through leadership roles. But above all, they are deeply committed to teaching – not just as a profession, but as an expression of their life's ministry calling.

Because we receive so many applications for every open faculty position, we can afford to be very picky about who we hire to the full-time faculty. We attract people with solid academic credentials and a track-record of teaching experience, but beyond that, we only hire faculty who are deeply committed to investing in students both inside and outside the classroom, coupled with having a proven effectiveness in integrating their Christian worldview into teaching their discipline.

I'm very proud that we don't have any "academic weak-links" in our Belhaven University faculty. And most importantly, our faculty speak with one voice when it comes to our Christ-centered mission. The harmony

they create in how each discipline and each faculty member works to achieve those God-honoring goals is the rich music that fills the campus.

Almost daily I hear or read stories across higher education about faculty members who, at a minimum, are dismissive or arrogant toward students, all the way to those faculty who are mean-spirited or abusive. So during times of focused prayer, I thank the Lord often for how blessed Belhaven is to have one of the strongest collection of faculty members of any campus – large or small.

While academically and spiritually our faculty are exceptional, the arena in which they especially have no equals is in their level of caring. I am amazed at the length our faculty members will go to in order to help a student. Whether it is the best student in their class or the one least prepared, our faculty treat all students with kindness, respect and patience.

As a University we believe God hand-picks each Belhaven student. So how our faculty treat every one of our students (as well as how our faculty use their time and talents) is an expression of their accountability to God, not just to a job. I'm thankful our faculty have the heart and passion to assure every interaction with students is worthy of this high calling.

The Belhaven University faculty is one-of-a-kind in their effectiveness, because at their core, they are committed to SERVICE. In caring so deeply for our students they live out each day our campus motto expressed in the words of Jesus: "To Serve, Not To Be Served."

Thinking about Higher Education

I wrote my Ph.D. dissertation about how faculty use their time.

I've always been thankful for that year of research because it allowed me to see into the complexity of faculty demands across a variety of disciplines. I learned what matters to faculty, because the allocation of their time is a good measure of what they most value. And through that study I also discovered first hand how needless administrative committees and tasks can dilute the time faculty spend with students, as well as drain priceless time for preparation study.



INSIDE CONTENT



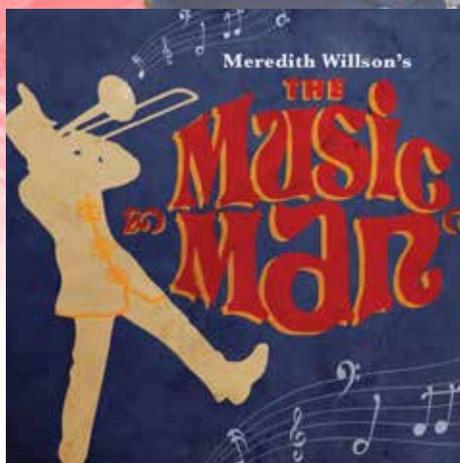
Biology students take samples of water at the City of Jackson Zoo.

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A CHEMISTRY student adjusts the focus on a microscope to analyze samples of water, not for a homework assignment but for a real-life research project that has a significant impact on Mississippi's conservation efforts.

Eleven FOOTBALL players stand poised on green turf, but instead of running a play, they walk the length of a neighbor's yard, picking up sticks and raking leaves.

A SOCIAL WORK major looks into the eyes of a homeless person, whom she had only previously read about in a textbook.

A half-dozen Belhaven LEADERSHIP COUNCIL officers rise early one morning to clean and paint the home of a senior citizen who resides in a neighborhood that is often overlooked.

A NURSING student takes a deep breath to calm her nerves, grabs her stethoscope and walks into a sick patient's room, ready to treat a heart condition for both body and soul.

Typical college life isn't so typical at Belhaven University. Distinctions of service permeate every part of life for students, faculty and staff. Although service at Belhaven takes hundreds of



GETTING TO



different forms, the focus is always fixed on glorifying Christ.

Serving others, rather than seeking to be served, is at the core of Belhaven University, and yet the behind-the-scenes stories of how our students and faculty foster this outlook of compassion often goes untold. In the following pages, we highlight five of the many activities that are integrated into the Belhaven learning experience in order to shed light on the tremendously important “service learning” that stays with our graduates long after they cross the stage on graduation day.

SERVICE THROUGH SCIENCE

“**H**ow can science not be a form of service?” exclaimed Dr. Elizabeth Brandon, Associate Professor of Biology. “Christian scientists’ duty is to study nature to glorify God and to improve the lives of our fellow women and men. The service of science is in sharing these discoveries with others and using these discoveries to develop technologies that improve life on earth.”

Belhaven’s School of Science and Mathematics applies key principles of science discovery and conservation in the classroom, giving students tools on how to impact the world. Associate Professor and Chair of Chemistry Dr. Reid Bishop believes that when used to benefit others, science has the ability to provide products, services and information that help solve societal and global challenges. He adds, “Science can feed the hungry, treat the sick or protect nature and the environment. It can be used to connect families, protect endangered species, clean up the environment, predict natural disasters, release the falsely accused and fight prejudice.” Students studying biology, physics and chemistry at Belhaven are a part of creating a culture that has global implications and applications.



Dr. Reid Bishop, Associate Professor of Chemistry, tests for contaminants in the water supply.

On a local level, Belhaven biology students share their passion for science with elementary students at Jackson's Bailey Power APAC School. The Belhaven students served as role models and honorary judges of the seventh grade science fair. Junior student, Hannah Bonner, a double major in psychology and biology saw the experience as an opportunity to encourage others, "I was excited to take part in the science fair and witness the wealth of talent in the young minds of the students at Bailey. I am certain our presence will encourage the students to consider science as a future career. Our community is underrepresented in the STEM fields, but these children could change the culture."

Belhaven science students also invited home school students from the Jackson area to take part in "hands-on" biology labs. For many home school students, this was their first time in a laboratory conducting experiments. The Belhaven science majors organized and taught the labs during their free time and once again passed-on their love of science to younger students who would not otherwise be able to experience laboratory science.

The Chemistry Department seeks to encourage its students to become leaders in conservation. Dr. Bishop noted, "All of our courses in the physical sciences are taught through a lens of civic responsibility which is known as green chemistry." Belhaven's conservation stewardship focus is the only one of its kind in Mississippi and makes us one of only a handful of universities across the country that makes this commitment.

"SCIENCE CAN FEED THE HUNGRY, TREAT THE SICK OR PROTECT NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT."

How does this play out globally? Chemists are indirectly responsible for the largest amounts of pollution in the world. Dr. Bishop proudly noted, "The chemical reactions we study use materials that are safer for the environment and can easily break down. Our experiments use small amounts of materials, conserve energy and cut the use of heavy metals, solvents and acids." Belhaven chemistry students are at the forefront of practicing

good stewardship in their experiments and are setting the standard for other universities to emulate.

Putting the practice of conservation and good stewardship to work locally, students from the School of Science and Mathematics partnered with the 100-year-old Jackson Zoo to help the beloved institution develop their conservation efforts to become more sustainable and environmentally friendly. The ongoing project provides an opportunity for students to gain practical experience in field research while enhancing their community. Biology and chemistry majors collected measurements on plant varieties, water quality and physical characteristics while students in mathematics worked to map the zoo. The new Belhaven Computer Science Department put their technical skills to the test by developing an application that takes collected species data and creates easy-to-use graphics.

Whether judging an elementary school science fair, assisting the local zoo or simply modeling conservation through classroom activities, the Belhaven Science and Mathematics Department clearly understands



Nursing students hold out their hands during a prayer for the annual Blessing of the Hands Ceremony.

their calling. “The challenge for our faculty is to help our students translate their classroom and laboratory experiences into meaningful service into the community,” explained Dr. Brandon. “I think students have a deep desire to serve, and when their education is manifested in serving their community, that gap between their daily lives and their college lives narrows. A harmony emerges from their God-centered approach to their education and lives.”

NURSING HANDS POISED TO HEAL

“The Belhaven School of Nursing’s mission is to transform health care through the uniqueness of Christ-inspired nursing,” asserted Dean of Nursing Dr. Barbara Johnson. “Service is at the heart of our vocation, and nursing can provide healing for both body and soul.”

As students enroll in the highly competitive Bachelor of Science in Nursing program during their junior year, they are placed in hospitals around the Jackson area for clinical

hours and experience. For many, this will be their first time caring for patients and taking an active role in healthcare.

To dedicate their entrance into the role of patient health care, the faculty and

“IT IS OUR HOPE AS NURSES THAT EVERYTHING WE DO WITH OUR HANDS WOULD BE TOUCHED WITH CARE AND COMPASSION.”

campus minister Rev. Seth Starkey initiated the “Blessing of the Hands Ceremony” as a symbolic gesture of the hands-on work of our nurses. Dr. Johnson noted, “It is our hope as nurses that everything we do with our hands would be touched with care and compassion. We see ourselves as being the eyes, ears and hands of Jesus. Our hands always need to be tender and a blessing to all we encounter.”

The ceremony has become an annual event that students, staff and faculty cherish. For students and families alike, this event serves as a visual reminder of the importance and impact of the work they will undertake. Rev. Starkey confirmed, “An occasion like this is memorable because it is an outward reminder that the Christian faith is supposed to intersect at every area of our lives. The Bible has something to say about how we approach our vocation. This is a reminder that every believer is fulfilling their calling when they are doing the will of God for the glory of God.”

Practically speaking, in the midst of learning and gaining valuable work experience, nursing students continually have the opportunity to serve. The Belhaven faculty helps our aspiring nurses to see the immense impact their vocation has on patients. “Nurses have the opportunity to care for patients in an intimate way,” said Debi Fatherree, assistant professor of nursing. “Nurses model Christ-like behavior by providing care and nurturing for the sick, the infirmed, the bereaved and all that seek care.”

According to Elise Turner, Associate Professor of Nursing, there is a link between

A close-up photograph of a woman with dark hair and brown eyes peering through a clapperboard. The clapperboard has black and white diagonal stripes. Her eyes are wide and looking directly at the camera. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

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the art of nursing and the science of the nursing practice. She teaches her students about the process of healing and how to evaluate every new patient for their specific needs. "First, the nurse assesses the patient's situation, strengths and weaknesses of response and adaptation. Then the nurse works with the patient to tailor the kind of care they need." Turner believes it is important to focus on the comprehensive healing of the mind, body and spirit. "Each affects the other. Holistic nursing looks at the person as a whole and considers the person's overall response to illness, injury, distress and wellness. We all know that we are dependent on God for the grace to provide care that serves others and glorifies Him."

HIS HANDS HIS FEET

Founded by a group of social work majors but open to all students, the His Hands His Feet club was created to help the Belhaven community find intentional ways to organize service projects throughout the semester. Inspired by the transformational leadership and instruction of Dr. Angela Gaddis and Anita Trigg, His Hands His Feet seeks to fulfill the students' desire to reach beyond the internships and projects that social work majors are required to complete and go deeper towards selfless service. Dr. Gaddis is not surprised, "When we are led by His Spirit on a daily basis and look for opportunities to serve, it becomes less about an event and more about being relational. To walk in an attitude of service with those around us demands humility. That doesn't come easy, but I hope when we do serve it impacts the recipient in a positive manner."

Each semester, His Hand His Feet teams up with organizations like Joni and Friends, the Mustard Seed and Methodist Rehabilitation Services, all ministries dedicated to helping the disabled, for a day of fun. Club members join busloads of children as they play, take hayrides, ride horseback and fish. The day culminates in a barnyard dance where students

grab the hands of kids and dance the night away to live music. At the end of the event, it is often difficult to tell who has been blessed more, the students or the children.

From regularly serving meals to Jackson's homeless at Smith Park to providing respite care for families with children, the club is involved with a variety of activities at a local level. "As a department chair, I stress to each student the importance of serving locally, but I want them to look for ways we can impact other countries," said Assistant Professor of Social Work Anita Trigg. A team from the club traveled to Haiti to support and minister to its people. They conducted a community needs assessment, provided social work services in local medical clinics and led backyard Bible clubs.

"... IT BECOMES LESS ABOUT AN EVENT AND MORE ABOUT BEING RELATIONAL ..."

His Hands His Feet members have even tested their culinary skills to raise money. This year they baked and sold treats with the proceeds going to purchase prepared food and canned goods. The prepared foods were served to over 100 individuals at We Will Go Ministries in Downtown Jackson, while the canned goods were donated to Grace House, a hospice ministry for homeless individuals with HIV.

Members are also involved in many important social issues facing Mississippi. This year, students assisted the Attorney General's office with training cadets at the Police Academy and Highway Patrol Academy to spot the signs and symptoms of domestic violence and human trafficking. Also, junior and senior students completed research projects that assessed community needs for the Spencer Perkins Center. No matter the need, His Hands His Feet members are willing to serve. And when they do, the light of Christ shines through to each recipient.

CREATING AWARENESS BY WALKING IN POVERTY'S SHOES

A significant social issue facing Mississippi is poverty. But how do you bring this to life for the University community to understand? The answer is developing a Poverty Simulation Project. "We can talk about poverty. We can teach it in the traditional way in the classroom. We can share statistics. But until students experience poverty...it doesn't really mean anything," Dr. Gaddis noted.

The Poverty Simulation Project helped students experience what it is like to walk a mile in another's shoes. Dr. Gaddis wanted her students to understand the people they would one day serve as well as the many challenges for individuals living in poverty. Participants were split into families, given identities and a low wage and then asked to act out a month in the lives of those on the cusp of poverty. The family was provided with a scenario involving a crisis, which could plunge them into immediate poverty. Each family had to determine how to survive under the dire circumstances. Professors and senior majors facilitated the experiment by acting as social service workers, employers, mortgage bankers and even police. The exercise held in Rugg Arena facilitated nearly 60 students to be evicted, 20 students sent to jail and even reduced a few students to steal for their survival. It only took a 40-minute segment for participants to become frustrated with the role-playing, aimed at illustrating what people in poverty endure in their everyday lives.

According to a 2014 study by the Center for American Progress there are a total of 695,915 people living in poverty in Mississippi. Over 20 percent of its residents know what it's like to live at or below the poverty line.





Groups of social work students look over scenarios they must act out while participating in the Poverty Simulation Project.

"... 695,915 PEOPLE LIVING IN POVERTY IN MISSISSIPPI."

"Mississippi has a serious poverty problem that for the most part is being ignored or brushed aside," added Dr. Gaddis. What started as a desire for understanding, quickly turned into an opportunity to equip Belhaven students and others with the knowledge and experience they need to help people who are struggling with poverty. After experiencing poverty for themselves, Belhaven students took the lead and started to teach others how to run the poverty simulation. Students have already facilitated the exercise for the Mississippi Department of Public Health as well as the social work

faculty and students at Delta State University. Dr. Gaddis plans to expand the project and step outside the University to lead and teach others how better to serve.

SERVING TO HONOR MARTIN LUTHER KING

Every year on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, hundreds of students, faculty and staff get up early to get their hands dirty raking leaves, painting houses and providing other community projects during the annual MLK Jr. Service Day. For nearly two decades, the University has not held classes to encourage community service as a way to honor the legacy of Dr. King.

Students and faculty team-up and work with community leaders like Spencer Perkins of the Perkins Center, Amy Wilkerson of We Will Go Ministries, Charlotte Wingard operator of the Wingard Home and other key influencers who are focused on local community service.

"Selfless service to others was at the core of all that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. did in his lifetime and is a significant part of the legacy he left us," said Director of Student Leadership JoBeth Murphree. "This day is set aside to honor him by helping others. We want to impact the community by reflecting Christ through serving. This day is one way for all of us to live out the University motto of 'to serve, not to be served' in a tangible way."

Graduating senior, Jonathan Dickson is a sports medicine and exercise science major who has participated in MLK Jr. Service Day all four years of his education at Belhaven. Through volunteering for the annual event, Dickson came to understand some important aspects of what service is and why it is important. "Because of MLK service day I realized there are many amazing ministries that are working around the city to help others live better lives. I also discovered that my handful of days spent serving each year pales in comparison to what some of these ministries do every day. We all need to ask ourselves how we can do more!"

Dickson points out that many college students approach their four years of college with the wrong focus and expectations. "The general mindset of college students across America is that they are here to be served by their university for four years while they become equipped to earn a living. It can be a very selfish time." Dickson continues, "A university with a mindset of service flips the script and gets students thinking not only from a Christian perspective, but from a perspective of kindness and giving in general. Rallying talented young adults with a heart for service can have an incredible impact in the world we live."

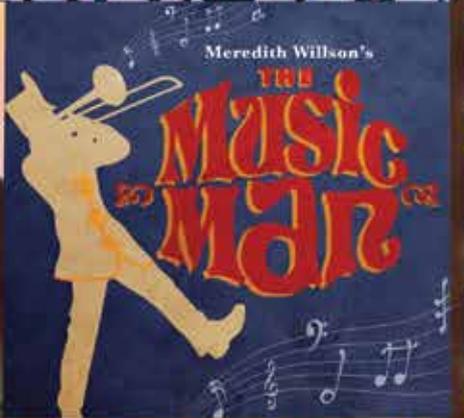
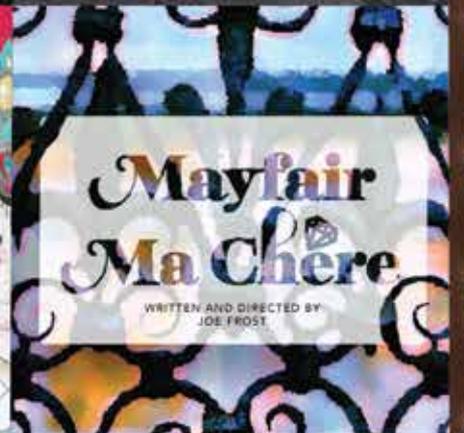
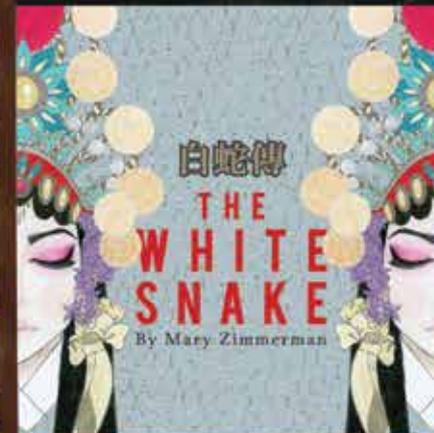
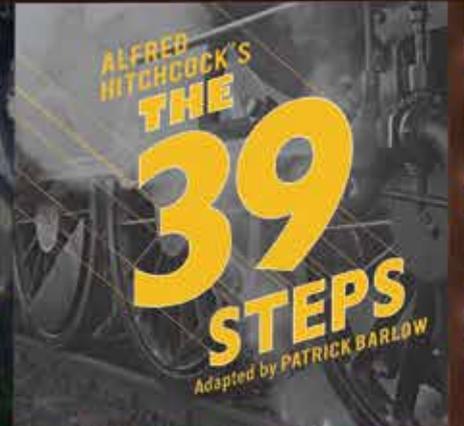
Many of the service lessons learned by Belhaven students are initially lived outwardly by staff and professors. Upon reflecting on his time at Belhaven, Dickson noted, "Every classroom was an open environment of communication and compassion. I could ask any professor for help and they would unselfishly give me the time and care I needed. You just don't find that everywhere."

At Belhaven University, living the motto "to serve, not to be served" is seen in a variety of ways, but with one over-arching goal—the glory of God. No matter the size or scope of the task, a heart of service can be found within the University culture. Looking back, a consistent out-pouring of service by the many students, faculty and staff have made the University what it is today. Moving forward, the people of Belhaven are given the challenge to continue the legacy of living the motto for future generations.

ANNOUNCING

2016
2017

BELHAVEN UNIVERSITY
THEATRE DEPARTMENT PRESENTS





HOME FIELD ADVANTAGE

breaking ground on new athletic fields



The long-term home field of Belhaven University soccer teams and the historic Singing Christmas Tree is being developed into a stadium that will also be the home field for football and soccer — an athletic facility that has already been labeled by designers as “one of the most attractive small college stadiums in America.”

Being built into the contour of the bowl will be 942 chair-back seats on the home side and 267 for visiting fans. The south end of the bowl will be terraced for grass seating in order to continue the long-held Belhaven tradition of watching games from the side of the hill. The stadium will accommodate about 1,500 fans in all.

After years of attempting to hold back the clay that forms the bowl, extensive groundwork will be done to install retaining walls, water retention and drainage systems and artificial turf for all-weather play.

Brick and iron railings will enhance the quality of the \$4 million facility. Directional lighting for night play was installed in 2014. A specialized grass platform will be added to accommodate the Singing Christmas Tree performance that has been offered free to neighbors and alumni for over 80 years.

Construction began in April, and the field will be ready for the opening games of soccer and football seasons in September. The Belhaven Blazers Football team will move from Jackson Public School’s Newell Field on Riverside Drive to play its five home games in the bowl on campus. Belhaven is a member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), the American Southwest Conference (ASC) and the National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA).

A synthetic eight-lane track will be added to the athletic complex for Belhaven’s Track and Field team. The track will surround a natural grass field that offers an additional venue for soccer practice and competition. Chair-back seating will be added for track events. And as part of this bowl renovation project, the University is also restructuring the campus lake, including increasing its water-holding capacity and installing more effective water control mechanisms.

A game-day support facility for the stadium will be built in the second phase of the project. The two-story brick building will provide media and coaching boxes, event suites, concessions and restrooms for the stadium.

Gifts from alumni, friends, foundations and businesses have provided all the funding for the stadium project.



FORBES: JACKSON TOP DESTINATION FOR GRADUATES

All roads lead South, and Jackson is the destination.

Forbes named Jackson one of 10 up-and-coming cities for recent college graduates. Jackson was the only southern city included in the list. Author Kathryn Dill referenced the city's music scene, cultural events and historic places as primary factors in her selection. Her rankings complement a 2014 study by Donkey Credit which selected Jackson as one of the top five cities for starting over. According to the study, Jackson's unemployment rate, percentage of single adults, population growth and income growth present opportunities for "innovation, growth and charm."

The spotlight on Jackson is not new. Other national organizations have recognized the city's growth. Metropool Network named Jackson the third most artistic town in America. That ranking said, "towns on this list have stood out on the American landscape for decades, and continue to inspire their communities each year."



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CHEMISTRY AND BIOLOGY LEAD VISUAL RESEARCH FOR JACKSON ZOO

Over the next year, 500 Belhaven students in the science program are collecting research-based data around the zoo grounds in a real-life science project. The data will then be used by the zoo to develop their conservation efforts and future improvements that call for doubling the facility's size and including new exhibits and parking.

"We are so excited to partner with a zoo for nearby neighbor Belhaven University," said Dr. Reid Poff, Director of the Biology Club. "The input of professors and students doing real projects at the zoo, in the field, is a support that can't be measured in dollars."

Poff believes the Jackson Zoo should be a shining example of conservation in the state and the data from Belhaven will give them the tools they need to remain good stewards of the environment. The Biology Club and American Chemical Society at Belhaven are designing the project to assess the environmental quality and functionality of the zoo and its surrounding area.

Students will conduct studies in areas of energy, water, mapping and waste management to help the zoo best manage and conserve its natural resources as they grow. The students will also conduct natural and wildlife surveys of the zoo grounds. This preliminary research project is a first for both institutions and could lead to future partnerships with Belhaven as well as other local colleges and the zoo.

Dr. Reid Bishop, Associate Professor of Chemistry and Division Chair of Natural Sciences, said, "Our research will assist the zoo in the development of a long term strategic plan that will make their operation and master plan more sustainable with a lower environmental footprint." The results will give the Jackson Zoo a developed project protocol and strategic plan, a series of electronic and hard copies of GIS maps, data tables, graphs and descriptions of the experimental methodology.

The science professors at Belhaven are adding their expertise to the zoo's development team and will assist in project planning, data analysis and student workers. The zoo will also have access to Belhaven's state-of-the-art scientific instrumentation that includes computing resources, sampling equipment and analytical instrumentation.

This partnership supports the University's mission to teach science through good stewardship and civic engagement opportunities.





(left to right) Caleb Reese, Josh Jones, Derrick French and Marjory Clement collect water samples to use for the research partnership between Belhaven and the Jackson Zoo.

SPORTS ADMINISTRATION IN LONDON STUDIES NFL WIMBLEDON, OLYMPICS

Students from the Sports Administration Department and School of Business traveled to London, England to study international sports culture and management.

Students met with professional sports leaders at Wimbledon, Wembley Stadium, London Olympic Training Facilities, Kingston University, Cambridge University and visited the NFL Europe offices.

Our students were able to gain insight into the sports industry that was just a lifetime," said Dr. Howard Barteo Jr., Chair and Assistant Professor of the Sports Administration Department. "With globalization of sports and business growing at a significant rate, we want our students to be prepared to work in the industry internationally."

The trip was the first of its kind through the International Site Observation course taught by Dr. Ed Garrett, Assistant Professor of Sports Administration. "This trip provided an opportunity for students to gain life-changing and life-impacting career contacts," said Dr. Garrett.

In addition to gaining international sports experience, the students served alongside churches in London. "Though this is not a mission trip, we felt that it was important that we lived out Belhaven's mission to serve, and not be served while in London," said Dr. Garrett.

The course will run every other year, allowing sports administration students the opportunity to take the International Site Observation course before they graduate.

PSYCHOLOGY WINS BEST RESEARCH AWARD

The Psychology of Moral Conviction

Students from Belhaven's Psychology Department won an award for best undergraduate psychology research at the Annual Convention of the Mississippi Psychological Association in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi.

The students conceived, designed and conducted their original study as part of the undergraduate Honors Research class, taught by Dr. Scott White, Professor of Psychology. "I'm proud of the success of our students," said Dr. White. "Their creativity and hard work really paid off. I hope this experience gives them confidence to pursue their professional dreams."

Danielle Holloway, Samantha Lunde, Kyle Morrow, Casey Nelms and Jordan Organ presented their study to psychologists and other participants at the annual convention who then voted for the best undergraduate poster at the convention. Lunde, who was the only junior of the class, presented the project at the conference.

The title of their study was "The Psychology of Moral Conviction: Disgust As a Function of Moral Judgment." The class researched nearly 100 subjects and explored the idea of how the emotion of disgust can lead to judging others more harshly.

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MUSIC MAJOR WINS FIRST PLACE IN VOICE COMPETITION



Music major Jessica Ziegelbauer won first place in the Student Artists Category of the Voice Competition at the Mississippi Competition. The competition featured the top vocal artists from across the state.

Ziegelbauer, originally from Houston, Texas, is 20 years old and has lived in the Metro-Jackson area for over ten years. She is a double major in music and arts management. She is currently recording her debut album, *Lovely*, which will include seven original songs.

Business and sports administration students traveled to London to learn from sports leaders at Wimbledon, London Olympic Training Facilities, Cambridge University, Wembley Stadium and NFL Europe offices.





Emily Fillman (left) and Alexia Valente (right) look through donations for sale during a visit from the Red Bus Project, a rolling thrift-store designed to raise awareness for orphans among college students.

STUDENTS REACH ORPHANS THROUGH RED BUS PROJECT

The British double-decker-bus-turned-rolling-thrift-store known as the Red Bus Project turned onto the Belhaven campus with opportunities to learn about the needs of orphans. Students could sign up to volunteer for the project and donate clothes for future stops on college campuses across the United States. Proceeds from sales go to help connect waiting orphans to families and other needs.

Genevieve Dunn, Community Outreach Coordinator, said, “We are so excited to be able to have the Red Bus Project on our campus once again! Last year, we had an overwhelming response from students and community members, who brought many contributions.”

Started by a nonprofit advocacy organization in 2012 called Show Hope, the Red Bus Project has reached out to more than 220,000 college students, sharing the message of advocating for orphans. Over six tours, thousands of students from nearly 80 colleges throughout the Southeast, Southwest and

Midwest have tangibly acted to care for orphans with Show Hope’s Red Bus Project. Belhaven is only one of 25 colleges and universities that the bus will be visiting for its fall tour.

The project’s simple philosophy of finding ways to involve students in their ministry has differentiated them from the many other causes and ministries that vie for students’ attention and support. “Students really care about making a difference in the world,” said Chris Wheeler, Show Hope’s Director of Student Initiatives. “Sometimes they just need someone to point them in the right direction. The Red Bus Project is a way to lead students toward truly making a huge impact in the global orphan crisis through simple steps of action.”



DR. SMITH PENS POETRY MARATHON

Creative Writing Chair
Dr. Randall Smith,

during the month of February wrote one new poem a day to benefit the Tupelo Press, a nonprofit literary press. Dr. Smith, along with eight

other poets, volunteered for the 30/30 Project and is considered the runners equivalent of a ‘poetry marathon.’

“I’ve written around 160 poems in the past two years, but never 30 poems in 30 days. The pressure was real, but the creative benefits and the feeling of belonging to a writing community was the best parts of the whole process.”

Inspiration for Dr. Smith’s poetry came from a variety of places, “I always look to my roots, family and current experiences for creative material. Growing up on a farm in southwest Georgia has provided inexhaustible imagery.”

During the month, readers of the Tupelo Press were encouraged to support and sponsor a poet in order to raise funds for the publication.

Dr. Smith adds, “I hope my students saw a writer modeling what it means to be a writer—going at it every day, whether you feel like it or not, whether people ‘like’ your poems or not. I wanted to put myself out on a poetic limb and let my students see that the risks and rewards never go away. But we have to be on the limb.”

DR. METZCAR APPOINTED DEAN OF ONLINE STUDIES

Belhaven University has selected Dr. Aaron Metzcar to lead its online studies program as dean. He brings a wealth of experience in education and is eager to add to the success of Belhaven's online programs.



“Having a background in curriculum development, technology and faculty development in both K-12 and university environments, Dr. Metzcar brings an abundance of experience and insight to Belhaven Online,” said Dr. Dennis Watts, Associate Provost. “Aaron will enable us to advance our personal and flexible degree programs to the benefit of our online students.”

Dr. Metzcar comes from Indiana Wesleyan University, where he served as the Director of Adjunct Faculty Development in College of Adult and Professional Studies. He received his Bachelor of Science in Education from Wright State University and his Master of Education and Doctor of Education from Indiana Wesleyan University. Dr. Rick Upchurch, Assistant Vice President for Adult Studies, said, “I have found Dr. Metzcar to be innovative and eager to work collaboratively to benefit students and advance the University. He exhibits a genuine Christian spirit and a passion for student learning.”

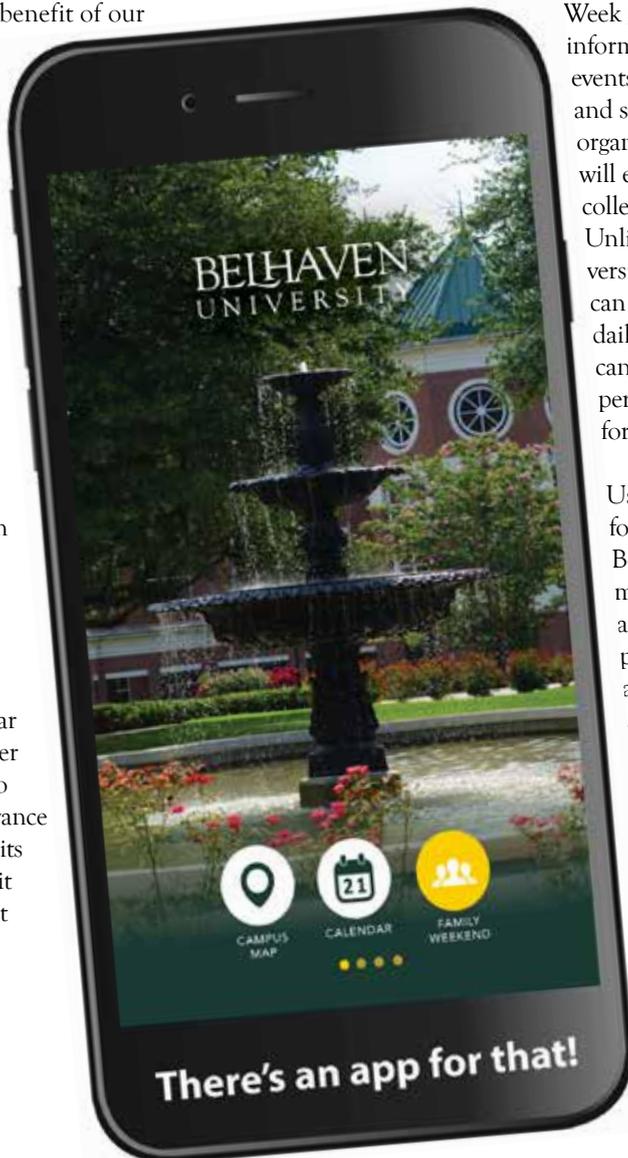
BELHAVEN LAUNCHES NEW SMARTPHONE APP

Getting details about campus, events, athletics and other information is even more convenient for those using Apple or Android devices. Belhaven University has launched a new smartphone app.

The app, which is available for free download on both the Apple iTunes and Google Play stores, features up-to-date information in a familiar format to smartphone users. Users can receive news from campus or about Blazer athletics from the app's front page. A campus directory allows users to contact campus offices conveniently.

Another feature of the app is a component for new students. The complete Welcome Week guide with information about events, people and student organizations that will enrich their college experience. Unlike the print version, this app can be updated daily and events can be added to personal calendars for reminders.

Users can also follow official Belhaven social media accounts and even upload pictures to the app. Users who submit photos through the “Share Photos” option may see their picture on Belhaven social media channels.



Dr. Roger Parrott and BUSF President Dr. Chung, along with members of the faculty and church dignitaries, lead the commencement procession on the BUSF campus.

DR. PARROTT HONORED WITH DOCTORATE

Busan University of Foreign Studies (BUSF) awarded Belhaven University President Dr. Roger Parrott an honorary Doctor of Philosophy in Business Administration.

Dr. Parrott traveled to Busan, South Korea at the invitation of BUSF President Dr. Hae Lin Chung. The trip highlighted the importance of global perspectives in higher education and celebrated the relationship Belhaven University has with South Korea.

Both presidents discussed ways their universities might work together and signed an agreement of partnership.

BUSF Mission Statement: Based on Christianity and democracy, the Busan University of Foreign Studies seeks to nurture experts with leadership so that they can contribute to the prosperity and welfare of its nation and human society. To this end, the university places a strong emphasis not only on fostering creativity and leader's characters but also on practical studies of foreign languages and cultures.







The Gift of a Lifetime

Evelyn Tackett '56 loved Belhaven University and had a deep desire to keep and record its history through the years. As a librarian for the University, she was constantly collecting historical articles, photos and more during her time.

After her passing, she made a significant gift to the University to share Belhaven's story. This gift of a lifetime is unlike anything Belhaven has ever had and chronicles the unfolding history of Belhaven in an interactive and meaningful way.

Belhaven's history comes to life in the Evelyn Tackett History of Belhaven Display. This hour-long presentation highlights photos and significant events in the life of the university in chronological order, while lighting changes to highlight memorabilia from the same time period.



An enormous 11x7 foot screen shows everything from scenic landscape photos and campus life to athletic events and old photos as far back as 1883, the year Belhaven was founded. Through the work of graphic designers, select pictures are animated and move across the screen.

The history and display was designed by alumna Elizabeth Crisler ('95), president of Liquid Creative, a full-service branding and advertising agency.



CLASSNOTES

JOHN AND CHERRY RAGLAND '69

are residing in Cedartown, Ga. They have four children and have been blessed with 14 grandchildren!

DEA IRBY '74 and husband Tom, have eight children, 12 grandchildren. Together, they have served PCA churches throughout the South. In 2003, Dea opened The Baron York Tea Room Café and Gift Shop in Clarksville, Ga. and in 2011 published a cookbook! In 2012, Dea and Tom moved to Durham, N.C. where they pastored an ARP church until Tom retired. Dea is now also a realtor in the Triangle area in N.C.

CHIP '75 AND SUSAN (PARKES) '79

Lind have lived in Nashville for 28 years where Chip is a radiologist. Susan is a homemaker. They have two daughters and a son. The Linds are part owners in a great NYC pizza joint (Two Boots) in Nashville and a kids drink company (started by their nephew), Hapi Water, which was launched throughout Texas in Sept. 2015. Susan keeps busy spoiling and helping out with the grandchildren.

KATHY STEWART '75 after graduation she moved to Atlanta taught at a small private school, worked for Southern Airways, taught school again and eventually worked for Delta Airlines. She was a charter member of Perimeter Church and met Jim Stewart there in '77. They were married in '80. She is presently an executive assistant for a sports agent of 10 years. She is a Life Coach and shares doTerra Essential oils.

JIMMY McCLANAHAN '75 completed his M.Div. in 1980, Th.M in 1981 and Ph.D. in 1988 (Church History) from Union Theological Seminary in Virginia. After serving as pastor of Southaven Presbyterian Church, New Bethel Presbyterian Church and Professor of Bible and Religion at King College, Jimmy pastors Providence Presbyterian Church now.



The classes of 1974–1978 captured “time in a bottle” during the 2015 Homecoming weekend. “It was excellent to get reacquainted at the college that helped make us who we are. God blessed us all through our time at Belhaven. We had such good life-long friends who prayed for the needs of others. I am grateful to each of you for your faithful use of your talents and gifts for the growth of the body of Christ,” said Skipper Hudson.



SAINT PE' DONATES FILM LIBRARY

There is no greater use of the films going forward than to put them to use as a learning tool for the young artists coming through the University, many of which I know will develop into the great artists whose work we will see on the screen in the future.”

Edward Saint Pe' '99 generously donated a 450-film library to Belhaven theatre students, giving the new Film Production and Theatre department a valuable teaching tool.

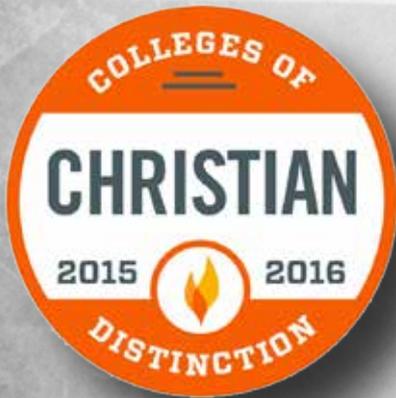
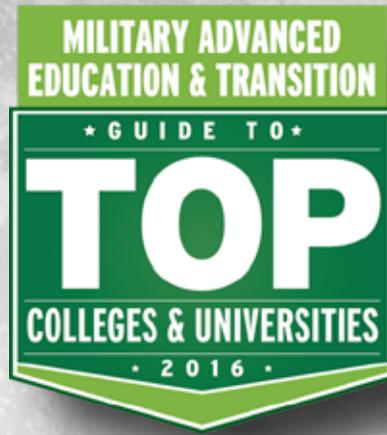
“I hope that the library will inspire a new generation of young artists coming through Belhaven University for many years to come,” said Saint Pe'. “I feel that there is no greater use of the films going forward than to put them to use as a learning tool for the young artists coming through the University, many of which I know will develop into the great artists whose work we will see on the screen in the future.”

Dr. Elissa Sartwell, Associate Professor of Theatre, expressed her excitement upon receiving the extensive collection of film. “This generous gift contains a number of truly important films, including *Birth of a Nation*, Charlie Chaplin’s *The Immigrant* and other movies like *Street Scene*. Our department faculty are looking forward to incorporating some of these motion pictures into our theatre and film classes.”

Saint Pe’s film collection has been digitized for ease of use. The diversity of the film library provides students with a valuable resource of study and is something that he is happy to be sharing with the aspiring artists of Belhaven. “Much collaboration, brainpower and raw talent went into the making of each film. Watching and studying it can help the students get a feel of what can be done and what they can do themselves in their own films.”

Edward Saint Pe' is the founder of WeatherVision, the nation’s first TV Weather-cast syndication service. He has worked as an on-air meteorologist for over two decades and is the broadcast meteorology professor at Jackson State University. He is the founder and director of the Mississippi International Film Festival, which hosts films from around the world and has hosted Danny Glover and Lance Bass at recent festivals. Saint Pe' is an actor, writer and director. His films have screened in Rio, Berlin and other festivals around the world.





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Recognition





MDHS

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

GOVERNOR APPOINTS JOHN DAVIS

Gov. Phil Bryant appointed Belhaven alum John Davis '12 executive director of the Mississippi Department of Human Services (MDHS) on Monday, January 4, 2016.

Davis earned a master of science in leadership through Belhaven's graduate program and later worked for the University as an adjunct professor, sharing his management expertise in the classroom.

He is a native Mississippian with 24 years of experience in human services, including work on the local, regional and state levels. He has been the deputy administrator for the last four years. Before that, Davis was the division director of economic assistance, state operations director as well as the director of the Lincoln County Department of Human Services.

"John understands the critical functions MDHS performs, and I appreciate him accepting this appointment," said Gov. Bryant. "His experience and qualifications will serve the people of Mississippi well in his new role."

"It is such an honor to serve the citizens of Mississippi in this role at the Mississippi Department of Human Services," said Davis. "I also understand the tremendous responsibility, and I will be fully committed to this assignment. My life has been dedicated to serving others, and I believe this is a great opportunity to continue that work."

Gov. Bryant believes in Davis's leadership and is showing his support by seeking additional funding of \$35 million to the state budget of \$148 million. Davis will be working in close conjunction with Supreme Court Justice David Chandler to improve the foster care system in Mississippi.

Davis believes that change starts with the family. "We are on a mission field helping families and children here in the state of Mississippi. We want to strengthen families so they can sustain themselves and become more self-sufficient. My plan is to look at all of the different divisions within MDHS and see how our agency as a whole, can better serve the people of this state."

Davis is a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi, where he earned a bachelor's degree in business administration. He is a resident of Brookhaven where he and his family attend Pleasant Grove United Methodist Church.

KATIE COOLEY '75 worked for seven years as the director of Christian education at two different churches, first in Alexandria, La., and then in Greensboro, N.C. In 1985 she moved back to Alexandria to teach at a Christian school for the next 20 years. During those years she was blessed to earn an M.Ed degree in educational leadership from Covenant College. She married her husband, Wayne, in 1997. Currently, Katie is a testing coordinator at LSU of Alexandria.

ANNA SEWELL LAWRENCE '75, and husband Larry, served together at several churches in their 41 years of marriage in Mississippi, Alabama, South Carolina, Florida and Georgia. While they have spent most of their time at First Baptist Church of Jonesboro, Ga., they are still doing student ministry, as well as marriage and family ministry.

NANCEE BURNETT SKIPPER '75 and husband, Dickson, live in Charlotte, N.C. and are extremely blessed to have all six of their children, daughters-in-law, and grandchildren within 15 minutes of the Skipper homestead—meaning Nancee (Mamaw) gets to babysit to her heart's content. Nancee and Dickson look forward to celebrating 38 years of marriage, the birth of fourth grandchild, and Dickson's second and (hopefully) final retirement in the upcoming year.

JO ANN VAN HYNING '75 and her husband, an avid outdoorsman, frequently travel these days. They go out west for hunting or fishing since having both retired. They divide time between Florida and North Carolina. They have two sons and three grand dogs.

JUDY VANDER PLOEG '75 taught school in Tampa, Fla. and at the Mississippi School for the Blind. She and her husband, Don, served 14 years in Papua New Guinea at various times, three years in Zaire/DR Congo, three years in Nairobi Kenya, and six years at the JAARS Center (technical support for Wycliffe In Waxhaw NC). They have two children: Charles and Kylie.

TRICIA WOOD '76 has worked for Campus Crusade for Christ and as an instructor and curriculum writer at the Defense Language Institute both at home and abroad. She currently lives in Arlington, Va. and is an instructor, career counselor, and liaison to federal agencies in the English for Heritage Language Speakers Certificate Program at Georgetown University.

JANA MARTIN '76 has been blessed with a marvelous career in psychology after getting her Ph.D. in 1982. She has worked in numerous settings around the country such as East Mississippi State Hospital where she helped to develop and ran the first inpatient psychiatric unit for adolescents in Miss. and in private practice. In 2010, she made a major career change and moved to the greater D.C. area to become CEO of The Trust and its companies, the largest provider of risk management education and financial security products for psychologists and allied health professionals.

CONNIE MUSSELMAN '76 has four grown children, nine grandchildren, and has taught children, teens, and women for 39 years—as a pastor's wife, in churches, in their own home school. She is now in her 15th year as director of children's ministry in a church in Atlanta, Ga.

ANN TOWNSEND BREEDLOVE '77 is the genealogy librarian at the Attala County Library where she has been for the last 19 years. Ann has four children, Julie, Jim, Amanda and Mary Ann and currently resides in Kosciusko, Miss.

LISA HULSEY '77 is living in Gainesville, Ga. and will soon begin her ninth year working at Westminster Church PCA as the director of women's ministry and assimilation. Her daughter, Kristen is recently engaged and they are now busy planning a wedding in the Blue Ridge Mountains.

CHRIS CAUGHMAN '93 was recently sworn in to serve as Mississippi Senator of District 35. This district represents Simpson County and parts of Rankin and Copiah

counties. Chris began his career in coaching, and moved to positions at Trustmark Bank and eventually became senior vice president at People's Bank. Chris served as president of the Mendenhall Chamber of Commerce, president of the Simpson County Economic Foundation, president of the Simpson Academy School Board, and president of the Magee Lion's Club. Chris and his wife Melissa have three children and he serves on the diaconate at Pleasant Valley Baptist Church.

MELINDA DALTON DOTSON '95 went back to school on a tennis scholarship at the age of 40. After graduation, Melinda went into real estate. She is a broker/owner of Realty Executives Central MS in Ridgeland, Miss. She has been a realtor of 13 years, specializes in residential sales and is now the managing broker.

JOSH DEAR '98 and his wife are expecting their third child (a son) this month. In addition to this great news, Josh helped edit a book "Happiness" by (best-selling author) Randy Alcorn, and it was released from Tyndale House publishers on October 1, 2015. It's receiving some wonderful reviews online.

PAUL HUSBAND '98, and wife Jane Kelly, welcomed son John Thomas to their family in February. Paul is employed by Belhaven University-Memphis as the Assistant Director of Admission. John Thomas is welcomed by brothers Paul and Joe.



MELANIE NORTH '99 was recently voted one of Mississippi's 50 Leading Business Women for 2015. Melanie serves as director of membership and communications

with Associate General Contractors of Mississippi. She joined the organization in March 2013 and exceeded membership goals established by the ABC Board of Directors by 66 percent within the first nine months of her employment.



MICHAEL R. MCPHERSON '00 has recently been named vice president of advancement at Union College. McPherson will oversee the institution's fundraising,

communications and community relations efforts. Prior to coming to Union, McPherson served as director of development for Lincoln Memorial University in Harrogate, Tenn., director of annual giving at Mississippi State University in Starkville, Miss. and as director of alumni relations and director of development services at Belhaven University in Jackson, Miss.

MICHELLE GRAVLEE ROLL '03 and husband Jacob, have a two year old girl, Sadie, and are expecting their second girl soon. They are now living in Summit County, Colorado where Jacob works. Michelle works from home in the fields of both missions and music.

GREG WILSON '05 served for several years after graduation ministering in Kenya,



East Africa and spent the last five years serving as the administrator and youth pastor at First Alliance Church of Orlando, Fla. His family, Cambie (wife), Micah and Tiffany (children) were called to serve with SIM in Kenya. They will work to train, equip and counsel Kenyan churches leaders to use sports ministry as a powerful evangelism, church planting and discipleship tool to expand God's kingdom.



JULIEN MARION '09 has garnered attention through his podcast The Path to Unlimited, which has been ranked a top podcast on iTunes in the business category.

He and his wife, alumna Mallorie Lewis '09, started Move Dance and Fitness, a studio built on Christian principles. He and Mallorie have three children, Liam, Adrianna and Oliver.

DARREN TERPSTRA '11 has chosen a unique challenge of living on \$7 a day for a full year to raise awareness of how much good the average Joe can do for the world! Each month he gives the money away to a different charity to highlight all the good that can be accomplished. Secondly, Darren is launching a social media app which he's hoping will go viral and allow him to donate even more to those in need.

CHRISTINA ATWOOD DAIGLE '12 has taken a middle school volleyball team to the South Mississippi conference championship and won. Mrs. Christina is currently doing



sales and marketing for a paramedical services company, ExamOne. She is also the coach for the Vancleave middle school volleyball team. This winning team not only went undefeated, but they never lost a set.

LISETTE OTERO-LEWIS '12 will be having an opening reception for her "Hopes, Dreams & Realities" photo exhibit which captures the spirit of the people of Canton, Mississippi. This body of work was taken during the time she had her photography studio/gallery business in Canton, Miss. in

2012–2013. During this time in Canton, she had the privilege of taking portraits of the people, children, families and local celebrities that lived there. Even though the intention was not to exhibit this body as a whole, it became evident as she processed each image, the personalities of these individual told a story – the story of what it meant to grow up in the South, to be white or black in a small town. Lisette Otero-Lewis moved to Punta Gorda from Mississippi with her husband and two girls, two years ago. She is currently a member of the Arts & Humanities of Charlotte County, and works out of her studio inside the Artisan Atelier in Punta Gorda.

WILBERT C. BRYANT, JR. '13 is a native of Hazlehurst, Mississippi and presently lives in Atlanta, Georgia. He is currently the director of student services at Belhaven University – Atlanta branch campus where he is responsible for overseeing all campus student services staff and activities. He is also a doctoral candidate of education (Ed.D.) in leadership and professional practice at Trevecca Nazarene University.

BRAD BLAKENEY '14 has recently accepted a position as a Securities Analyst at Southern Farm Bureau. In this role, he works with the company's investment portfolio



in limited partnerships consisting of a wide range of investments within private equity, mezzanine debt and real estate. Brad obtained his Series

7, 66 and insurance licenses and advised 401(k) plan participants on their individual financial situations at Security Ballew Wealth Management after graduation.

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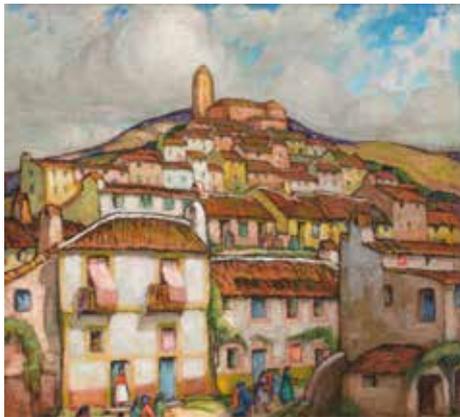
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(Top) Texas Wildflowers is one of the special paintings that will be on display for the first time (middle and bottom). This exhibit is one of the biggest showcases of her art and consists of over 85 paintings, drawings and personal memorabilia.

VISIONS OF COLOR AND LIGHT MARIE HULL'S ARTWORK RETURNS TO BELHAVEN

A lum and distinguished artist Marie Atkinson Hull (1890–1980) spent her days at the college and in the Belhaven area, learning and perfecting her craft. During her art career, now famous artist Walter Anderson would travel up from the coast to paint with her, and renowned writer Eudora Welty would even take painting lessons from Hull.

Her artwork, beloved and sought after by collectors, will return to where it all began, Belhaven University, for a major exhibition entitled, Marie Hull: Visions of Color and Light.

This is one of the biggest showcases of her art and consists of over 85 paintings, drawings, personal memorabilia and a rare three-panel screen. Many of the paintings in the exhibition have never been displayed publicly.

The artwork in the exhibition represents the full span of her artistic career with representations of realism, impressionism, abstract and expressionism.

“This show has been over two years in the making and will widen the appreciation of Marie Hull’s artistic abilities,” stated Jack Kyle, chair of arts administration at Belhaven University and organizer of the exhibition. “The lenders to the exhibition have been very generous in making these artworks available for the public to view, many for the first time.”

Over 40 lenders from public and private collections in Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee and New Hampshire have contributed original artwork for the show.

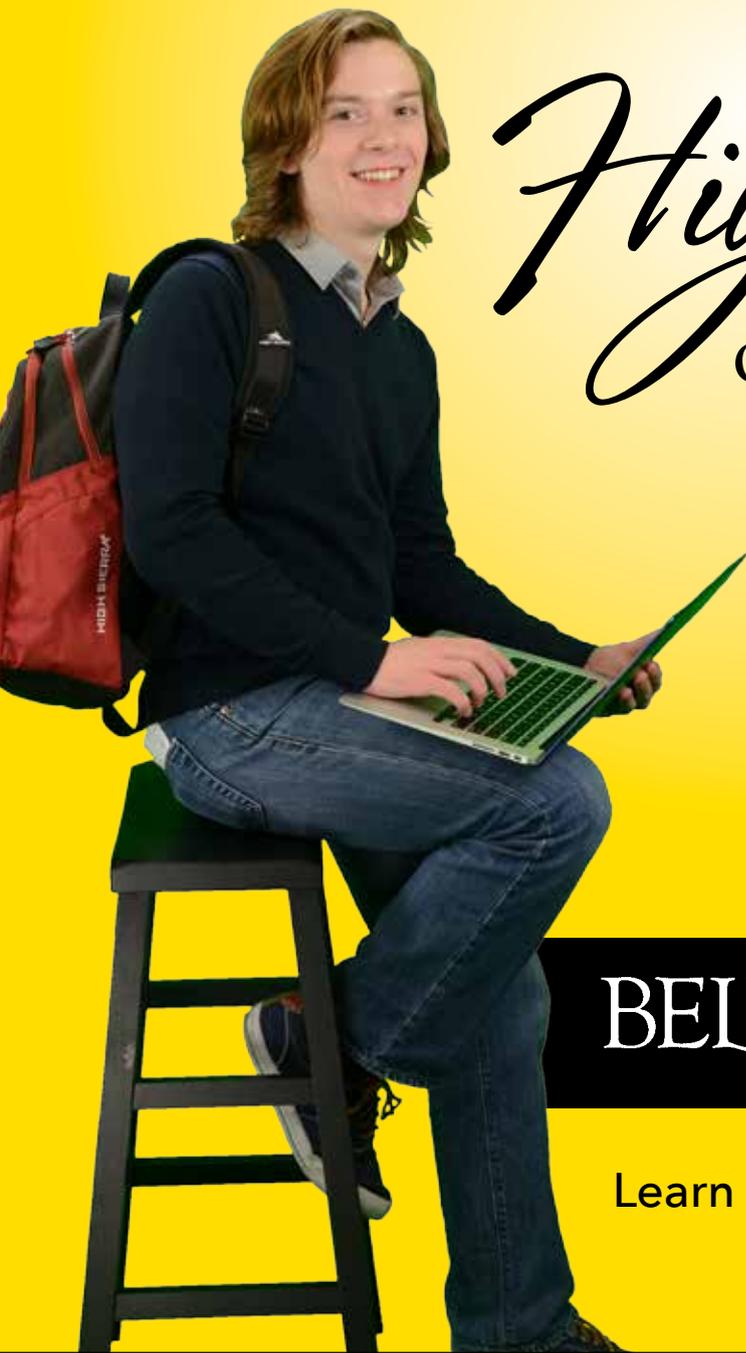
An important highlight of the exhibition is the painting entitled *Texas Field Flowers*, which has never been exhibited in Mississippi and earned Hull the second prize in the 1929 Texas Wildflower Competitive Exhibition. The cash award for this prize was pivotal in her journey as an artist, and it enabled her to join George Elmer Browne’s group of artists who traveled to Europe in May of 1929.

With the group of fellow artists, Hull visited Spain, Morocco and France touring the major museums such as The Prado in Madrid and The Louvre in Paris and participating in painting classes and lectures. This experience shaped much of her later artwork.

Hull was a 1909 graduate of Belhaven and spent most of her adult life living in her home on Belhaven Street, just two blocks from the university. In 1910, Hull began her initial art instruction in Jackson with Aileen Philipps. At the recommendation of Philipps, Hull enrolled at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, the first art school in the United States, in Philadelphia in 1912. Then in 1922, she went to New York to study at the Arts Students League. Additionally, she spent two summers studying at the Colorado Springs Art Center. In 1980, Belhaven awarded her an honorary doctorate of fine arts.

The show is the second in a series of art exhibitions organized by the Marie Hull Society for the Arts, an initiative at Belhaven to advance and support the arts.

The exhibition is free and open to the public, and it will run from May 20–September 3, 2016 in the Bitsy Irby Visual Arts and Dance Building Gallery. The gallery is open from Monday–Saturday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. and is closed on Sundays. A hardcover, full-color catalogue will accompany the exhibition and be available for purchase.



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TARTAN

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