IDENTITY & KINSHIP

RADICALLY SINCE 1855

Rev. Howard Crosby, D.D.
Rev. Wm. M. Taylor, D.D.
Rev. A. P. Peabody, D.D.
Ex-Pres. Theo. D. Wallace
Pres. Noah Porter, D.D.
Pres. J. H. Seelye, D.D.
Rev. W. J. Tucker, D.D.
Prof. Austin Phelps, D.D.
Prof. Edwards A. Park, D.D.
AND MANY OTHERS

My Dear Sir,

check on New Year's Day for Berea College.

Although an unexpected of his parents, which opens its sex.

It gives us pleasure to wish. Be kind and

An interesting College will be

different

R E V. E. H. FAIRBAIRN

TEN DOLLAR PLAN.

YEARS Expenditures above

Expenses . . . . $6,000

per month people

Yearly Expenditures above

Expenses . . . . $75,000

Endowment . . . . . $45,000

Colored — Two-fifths Whites.

Attendance for 12 years, 290.

The officers of William E. Fairbairn from his son was
had not much money learned. Be
thus remembered.

Rev. E. H. Fairbairn

WINTER 2020
Volume 90 Number 3

Berea College
Kentucky
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www.berea.college/affrilachian-roots

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On March 7, 1965 around 600 people crossed the Edmund Pettus Bridge in an attempt to begin the Selma to Montgomery march for black voting rights. State troopers violently attacked the peaceful demonstrators in an attempt to stop the march. Two more marches occurred, and 58 Berea College students were arrested. On March 7, 1965 around 600 people crossed the Edmund Pettus Bridge in an attempt to begin the Selma to Montgomery march for black voting rights. State troopers violently attacked the peaceful demonstrators in an attempt to stop the march. Two more marches occurred, and 58 Berea College students were arrested. On March 7, 1965 around 600 people crossed the Edmund Pettus Bridge in an attempt to begin the Selma to Montgomery march for black voting rights. State troopers violently attacked the peaceful demonstrators in an attempt to stop the march. Two more marches occurred, and 58 Berea College students were arrested.
Dear Berea

Alumni and Friends,

What does it mean to be radical? One definition I was drawn to is: (especially of change or action) relating to or affecting the fundamental nature of something; far-reaching or thorough.

I think about the origins of Berea College, of our founders whose lives were threatened because the application of their Christian faith meant fostering an institution where everyone was accepted and treated equally in an interracial and coeducational environment. In the 1850s, when slavery was still supporting much of the country’s economy and women’s rights were next to non-existent, what Berea’s founders strove for was radical—a far-reaching change in the fundamental nature of how society viewed those who deserved the right to an education. In 1892, when Berea decided not to charge students tuition, it didn’t necessarily stand alone. But as time has passed, Berea’s commitment to a no-tuition education for Appalachia’s underprivileged yet standout students has proved to be a radically different concept—especially in today’s world, where student-loan debt tops more than $1.4 trillion.

From “going green” before going green was a thing to its inclusive Christian values that respect all religious beliefs—or none at all. From being one of only nine federally recognized work colleges to its commitment to equal treatment of and opportunity for LGBTQ+ students, faculty and staff. Berea doesn’t shy away from the tension that exists in the world around it, but forges a path through the center, trying to seek what is right and fair, promoting love over hate, human dignity and equality, and peace with justice.

To me, though Berea has not always been perfect, its choice to stand in the tension, to not rest on its laurels, but to always be looking for ways to make the society into which it sends students better, is its far-reaching and thorough attempt to affect the fundamental nature of the world in which it has existed for 165 years—it is radically different.

In the 2020 issues of the Berea College magazine, you will get a taste of the pieces of Berea’s past and present that demonstrate what makes Berea a college like no other. You’ll read stories of faculty crossing boundaries, to make a difference in the greater community. You’ll read about students and thorough attempt to affect the fundamental nature of the world in which it exists for 165 years—it is radically different.

Abbie Tanyhill Darst ’03
Editor
Too Christian, not Christian enough

It’s not rare in America that a liberal arts college is church-affiliated. It’s also not rare that a liberal arts college used to be church-affiliated.

What do we make of a school, then, that is both “distinctly Christian” and explicitly, intentionally not church-affiliated?

For the uninitiated student, answering this question can be difficult. To a non-Christian student, Berea can seem “too Christian” for one’s taste. To the Evangelical, it can seem “not Christian enough.”

It may be surprising to students, too, that the College is perfectly comfortable with leaving this question up for debate. What matters more to the folks at the Willis D. Weatherford, Jr. Campus Christian Center is that students are accepted for who they are, that they are supported in their respective spiritual and academic journeys and that they learn from each other.

The principles of acceptance, support and learning have their roots in the College’s Christian founding by the Reverend John G. Fee, who was raised and ordained in the same Presbyterian tradition that spawned a long list of liberal arts schools such as Lake Forest, Monmouth and St. Andrews.

By the time John and Matilda Fee arrived on a ridge that would become Berea in 1853, they were no longer affiliated with the church due to a schism brought about by their stance against slavery. The disagreement would move the Fees to be critical of “sectarianism” as they built a new life, a new town, a new church and a new college they believed should be open to poor students regardless of race or gender.

This radical new stance came to be called “the cause of Christ,” rooted in the gospel of impartial love. Today, this gospel serves as the foundation for Berea’s endeavors.

The Gospel of impartial love

In the beginning, John and Matilda Fee were working in an environment that was hostile to their views, even to the point of physical danger. They leaned on scripture for guidance, specifically the egalitarian passages of the New Testament. Christ’s command that they love their neighbors as themselves both inspired their abolitionist advocacy and pulled them through a time of violence and crisis. Another verse, Acts 17:26, which in modern translation reads, “God has made of one blood all peoples of the earth,” reaffirmed faith in their mission to educate blacks and whites, women and men, together as equals. That verse became the Berea College motto.

The Fees’ situation was one of a lone voice in the wilderness, not only opposed by many churches, but sometimes by other abolitionists, who opposed slavery but did not go so far as to advocate for the equality of the races.

“It’s hard for us to get our brains around that,” said Rev. Dr. Loretta Reynolds, dean of the chapel at the Campus Christian Center, who has served the College for the past 21 years. “For them to say blacks and whites, men and women should be in the classroom together, should sit at the table and eat together—he was going farther than most. He was radical.”

In forming the school, Fee was careful to impose a sort of separation of church and college by explaining Berea College was a liberal arts institution, not a bible college with the explicit aim of training pastors for ministry, though certainly some graduates might pursue that vocation. He was adamant, too, that the College not be associated with a particular denomination.

“I think Fee was concerned,” Reynolds said, “that if you are connected to a larger entity like a denomination, then survival and being true to that particular organization becomes your...
The Great Commitments and the great American experiment

Rev. Dr. LeSette Wright, Berea College chaplain, ministered from her office in Draper Hall, which was built to evoke Independence Hall in Philadelphia, her hometown. She’s new to the College and the campus community, coming to her current position from Boston, where she led the chaplaincy coalition that responded to the Boston Marathon bombing in 2013. Today, in her quiet Berea office, she tends to a small plant in the corner, musing about how Berea’s story is America’s story.

“The United States has said, ‘Give me your poor, your tired, yearning to breathe free,’” she recites, roughly, from the Statue of Liberty’s poetic inscription. “Berea has that same proclamation. Fee saw that our freedom is in God’s love for us. It’s the freedom we all yearn for, and Berea is radical because it commits to walking alongside these populations. That’s the beauty of who we are.”

Like the U.S., Berea College has a constitution of sorts, adopted by the campus community in the 1960s and periodically amended, known as the Great Commitments. The preamble of this document reiterates the founding charter—the purpose of founding a liberal arts education to disadvantaged students is “to promote the cause of Christ.” The vision is predicated on inclusive Christian values advocating “the power of love over hate, human dignity and equality, and peace with justice.”

There are eight commitments, and each grows out of these values and serves as an articulation of them. If one were to summarize them in one sentence, it might go like this: A liberal arts education, commonly available only to the elite, is made available to students regardless of social status; working alongside one another in the labor program promotes equality and dignity; that dignity, because of our Christian understanding, is extended to everyone, regardless of race or gender; living together in that shared dignity means caring for oneself, each other, and the earth; and these values extend to every person in the region beyond campus to Appalachian families as well.

“All the commitments are one package,” Reynolds adds. “If you look at them, the preamble lays the Christian foundation for all the other things. The concept of it being a Christian foundation permeating everything else can really be seen in all our documents.”

Reynolds notices the same pattern in the Wellness Wheel, a tool introduced to first-year students to help them adjust to young adulthood and college life in healthy ways. “Radical hospitality.”

At the Campus Christian Center, there is another name for the gospel of impartial love. “It’s in God’s love for us. It’s the freedom we all yearn for, and Berea is radical because it commits to walking alongside these populations. That’s the beauty of who we are.”

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Berea students come from various backgrounds and have varied faith experiences in college. For some, more exposure to other ideas causes them to struggle to come to terms with their own faith backgrounds. For others, they step onto a campus with little or no representation of their faith background at all.

Each situation can be troubling for them. Without support, spiritual struggles can lead to academic and social struggles. “In the classroom, students who have a particular religious identity, or an absolute truth claim, whether they’re Evangelical, Muslim or agnostic, can have a hard time because liberal arts education challenges those absolute truth claims and asks the student to wrestle with them,” Hofmeister said. “We want everybody to be fully themselves—even if they have a particular view that excludes other truth ideas.”

Mohlatlego Makgoba ‘19, who goes by Mo, served three years as a student chaplain. She came to Berea via South Africa with a faith background she
describes as Christian with traditional African influences. Mo joined the student chaplain’s sophomore year while pursuing an economics degree. She hosted small interfaith events in her residence hall, led mindfulness activities and tried to find ways to connect her studies to her faith. She also took it as her personal mission to assist students who, like her, were far from home.

“Berea doesn’t have any mosques or temples or orthodox churches that students might need to be okay when they are away from home,” she said. “We would provide transportation to Lexington, Louisville or Cincinnati where they could find a community for their faith.”

Providing what students need to be okay is a primary motivation for interfaith programming at the Campus Christian Center, along with supplementing their education. While some may fear such interactions would be detrimental to faith, Mo describes the experience another way.

“The more you talk with different faith groups, the more you learn to appreciate your own faith,” she said. “That was integral to my growth. You have to love other people. Because of that you become closer to God.”

“Sometimes people have a hard time understanding how we can do all of that and still be the Campus Christian Center,” Reynolds said. “For us, we do that because we are the Campus Christian Center. We are called to this radical hospitality. We expect people to be their best selves, to support the commitments of the College, but our doors are open to everybody. The verse about accepting all people—it’s not just a suggestion.”

Hofmeister believes this openness—this radical hospitality—is a fundamental part of being a Christian modeled after Jesus’s own ministry. One example of this is the story of the Samaritan woman, who was of a different faith.

“It’s highlighting the fundamental posture Jesus had was this radical hospitality,” Hofmeister said. “Jesus said, ‘I see that you’re from a different faith. Now go off and tell the world how I accepted you.’ His presence, his love, his ministry extended to anyone no matter what. And that’s how the woman evangelized. This person saw me for who I was, saw value in me, loved me even though I’m thin, this, and this. Wow, that’s powerful.”

Music has always captivated Wilkensley Thervil, a junior double major in Technology and Applied Design (TAD) and Computer Science. Born in Haiti without access to musical instruments, his first introduction to them came after he immigrated to the United States in the fourth grade. He tried orchestras but found he was more suited for band, where he developed his talent and honed his musical style.

During Thervil’s junior year of high school, he split his time between regular classes and trade school. One of his professors provided a list of colleges ranked by cost. Curious, Thervil glanced at the bottom of the list and saw Berea, followed by the words “tuition free.” He didn’t believe it at first but decided to apply.

Thervil joined the Black Music Ensemble (BME) his first semester at Berea, and credits it for helping him grow both musically and socially. Known on campus as Willy, Thervil is an essential addition to the BME as a percussionist, and he is a dependable and compassionate friend and student. He is also the 2019 recipient of the Red Foley Music Award, which recognizes students for their exemplary musical contributions to the campus community and assists with their personal advancement in music.

“Music is a passion, but at heart, I am a businessman,” he said, explaining how he loves the hands-on nature of TAD and working with technology and machines.

As for the BME, “It’s a family,” Thervil said. “It’s been a great experience. I go there to de-stress. I listen to what the musicians are doing—just observing and having a good time.”

That sense of community and playing for other people is important to Thervil.

“Music can be processed and integrated in many ways,” he said. “Some people use music as therapy, some as a part-time hobby, for fun or to make a living. If you and I listened to the same song, the way I feel about the song will be different from the way you feel about it.”

Thervil’s goals for his time at Berea and for his life seem to go hand-in-hand, as he seeks to learn as much as possible and make a difference in the lives of others.

“You never know how music can impact somebody. It does make a difference in some way, whether it is big or small,” he said.

Thervil continues to serve his community at Berea through his personal music ventures and time dedicated to individual lessons and student performances at events like the Black Student Union Homecoming Pageant and Unity Banquet. His fun-loving attitude and vivacious spirit allow for an ever-evolving and comfortable musical environment for Berea students.

For the past four decades, Berea has selected a recipient for the Red Foley Memorial Music Award. The prize is named after Red Foley, a distinguished musician who was born in Blue Lick, Ky., and grew up near Berea. As a young child, Foley played a variety of instruments with ease and performed regularly at his father’s general store. He attended the Berea Academy School and pursued his career as a musician, becoming a star and earning induction into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 1967.

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By Jenny Poole

Berea is the true work of Berea’s Campus Christian Center (CCC). Serving people of various backgrounds, faiths and life experiences fosters the ability to live out this “gospel” in a practical way through lives of service, especially in the student chaplains it cultivates. Former CCC chaplains Philip Sutherland, M.D. ’05 and the Reverend Christina Cataldo ’02 found their way into the CCC in unique ways. Both were empowered by this “gospel” and continue to practice this spirit of service in their professional and personal lives today.

Dr. Sutherland was raised as a Mennonite. He grew up with electricity; he had access to a phone and a car, but he did not have TV or radio, much less internet in his home. After high school, he worked at a storage company and as an internet in his home. After high school, he worked in a warehouse and assisted a doctor in the mountains treating patients without electricity.

"That was a learning and growing experience for me as well—to be able to serve and be a blessing to them," Sutherland said. "I got a lot out of it. It really planted a seed for what I wanted to do in the future."

After earning a bachelor’s degree in biology at Berea, he graduated from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Medicine in 2011. In 2014, Sutherland pursued fellowship training in advanced obstetrics at Médico para la Familia in Memphis. Currently, he is the assistant director at Clinica Médicos in Chattanooga, Tenn., which is among the city’s most underserved and vulnerable populations.

The clinic is bilingual, open seven days a week and treats patients with or without private insurance or Medicaid. No appointment is necessary. Offering “cradle-to-grave” care including obstetrics, contraceptives and diagnostic testing, Sutherland says the clinic tries to serve the community by offering 90 percent of medical services under one roof. The clinic receives 1,400 patient visits a month and delivers 200 babies per year while operating with a strong undercurrent of Christian values.

While Sutherland’s experiences in residential life and Berea’s Campus Christian Center helped pave the way to medical service work for him that embodies the true spirit of inclusive Christianity, Reverend Christina Cataldo found her own path into a career that she continues to cultivate. She says they were just immediately aware of the Campus Christian Center and wanted to be involved.

“IT was about matters of faith, and sometimes they wanted to discuss personal problems,” he said. “It was a time of significant growth in my acceptance of other people, even if I didn’t share their beliefs. The grace of God is bigger than other people, even if I didn’t share their beliefs.

During his time working with campus ministries, Sutherland considered attending medical school and had the opportunity to do a short-term service project in Haiti through a fellowship grant with the Campus Christian Center. He was in Haiti for a little more than two months, where he worked in a warehouse and assisted a doctor in the mountains treating patients without electricity.

“Cataldo received an email invitation (as an assistant) because of the great care I received when my great friend died,” Cataldo recalled. “They gave me overwhelming support. I didn’t expect all of what the school did to make sure I was OK. That’s why I wanted to become an RA. I wanted to give the care I had received.”

By working with fellow students, Cataldo got involved with the Campus Christian Center. She says they were just overwhelmed with support. She thought she had received the invitation by mistake and decided to talk with Rev. Dr. Loreeta Reynolds, dean of the chapel, about it. She learned that there had been no mistake. Reynolds explained she had seen something in Cataldo that the student hadn’t seen in herself. That along with working two summers in Washington, D.C., with a summer camp for poor youth, paved the way to divinity school.

Cataldo credits Berea with helping her earn a scholarship to Wake Forest University Divinity School in North Carolina. “Wake Forest saw Berea backing me up, and they respected the investment Berea had in me,” she said.

After her time at Berea, Cataldo came out as gay and met her wife, Dr. Tasha Dunn, in 2007 before same-sex marriage was legal in most places. She became the pastor at Winthrop Congregational Church, United Church of Christ in Maine in 2014, and continues her work in ministry and service there. She and her church serve the community by supporting the food pantry and working with a group that provides toiletries and other basic essentials to new immigrants and refugees.

Winthrop Congregational is Open and Affirming, a denomination intended to demonstrate the Christian faith by welcoming individuals of every race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, family structure, marital standing, socio-economic status, age and physical and mental ability to join in the ministry of the church. All are invited to participate in worship, fellowship and leadership.

Cataldo is very proud of her work with the Anti-Racism Resource Team committed to dismantling racism in all its forms as part of Christian practice. “As a Christian and a pastor, I am committed to loving my neighbors,” she said. “We are all made of one blood, but our experiences vary greatly. I try to pay attention to the lived experiences of people whose lives are very different from mine, particularly in terms of their experiences with racism, to amplify their voices, and use my white privilege in service to my neighbors. My experience at Berea has been part of my foundation in this work.”
When Reverend Steve Peake '74 was a boy, he sat in a one-room segregated schoolhouse in tiny Fleming-Neon, Ky., listening to women from a nearby Christian organization tell the story of John the Baptist. They brought with them an easel and Bible characters cut from felt that they placed upon a board to tell the children the "good news" of the Gospel.

“That interested me early in life, to hear them tell those stories,” Rev. Peake said, noting that his ministry today focuses on these same stories with hopes of inspiring people to want to know more about Christ.

Peake attended that little segregated school through the sixth grade. In the seventh grade, the schools were finally integrated, which Peake describes as a smooth transition because he had been playing with the local white children all his young life anyway. They were already friends. Next door lived foster children of multiple races raised by black parents. “I wanted to be a social worker, a child adoption agent. That was my dream. I thought my purpose in life must be to work with children and get them adopted into good homes.”

Making good on these plans began with attending Alice Lloyd College in Pippa Passes, Ky., for two years. When the two years were up, a dean at the college took Peake and three other students to Berea College, a place they could continue their education. Peake chose to attend and majored in sociology.

At Berea, Peake discovered an environment much more diverse than the community he was used to back in Fleming-Neon, which he says had perhaps only 25 black children in it. “At Berea,” he said, “I met all these different colors of people. I learned that people might be different, but they’re similar in so many ways.”

He found, too, a campus community interested in his success. “It was like they understood poor people. The counselors didn’t seem like they were above the students. They treated you well, like they cared. I think they had a commitment to showing students who were far from home, or just down the road from home, that they cared about them. That was the thing that stuck out to me.”

Though he graduated with a sociology degree, finding work in adoption services back home proved elusive. Instead, Peake took up employment at Appalachian Regional Healthcare, (ARH) first as an operating room technician and then as a billing clerk. He retired from ARH in 2015, after 59 years. He did, however, live out his dream of getting children adopted in another, more spiritual than literal way: by joining the clergy.

His call to minister to the children of God came through his stomach. Women at the church, he discovered, were cooking dinner every Sunday, which was motivation to attend. When he got there, the men in the church invited him to sing in the choir. Because he was a college graduate, the church later asked him to teach Sunday school. Soon, Peake was ordained as a deacon and was reading scripture on a local minister’s radio show.

“My mentor was a gray-headed white gentleman who was a diesel mechanic by trade, but also a minister.” One day, that radio minister handed Peake the reins.

“He said, ‘Son, I’m going to open these programs to everybody, take about 15 minutes, and then I’m going to turn it over to you. You talk to people on the air, and whatever you got to tell them, you tell them.’”

In 1991, Peake formally accepted the call to ministry. Once ordained, he took over preaching duties at two small churches that met on alternating Sundays, Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist in Pikeville and his home church, Corinth Missionary Baptist.

“I focus on telling the stories to inspire people to want to know more about Christ,” Peake said. “A lot of people are drawn in through the stories. I always wanted to be a child adoption agent, and this minister said to me, you are an adoption agent because you’re getting people adopted into the family of God.”

This spiritual adoption business is soon to grow. Though Peake has pastored only black churches in his 28 years of ministry, a woman from a nearby church with a predominantly white congregation recently invited him to come preach to them. Peake feels ready for this new branch of ministry, in part, because of what he learned at Berea.

“The mix of people at Berea,” Peake said, “helped me learn you can be friends with people who don’t have to be your race. We all have a purpose. Everybody wants to be loved and accepted.”

By Jason Lee Miller

Adopting a Spirit of Service

Reverend Steve Peake ’74 stands in the pulpit at Corinth Missionary Baptist Church, Fleming-Neon, Ky.
The Campus Christian Center (CCC) is a special place. An essential component of campus life, the CCC is committed to cultivating an atmosphere of radical hospitality and nurturing the spiritual wellness of the Berea College community. Using Berea College founder Rev. John G. Fee and his wife, Matilda, as inspiration, the center promotes the Christian faith in many contexts, including pastoral counseling and interfaith dialogue.

The staff at the CCC is dedicated to living mindful lives and encourages the Berea College community to do the same. Coming from a variety of backgrounds and specialized in many areas, each member of the CCC has one’s own story to tell.

“I love Berea’s mission, what it’s about, and if a college could be my personal faith, Berea would be it,” said Rev. Dr. Jake Hofmeister, one of three College chaplains.

A Presbyterian pastor who promotes engagement with different religions, Hofmeister’s focus is interfaith dialogue. He hopes the CCC is a place for all students to come and learn from one another.

The CCC dedicates itself to serving the campus community, an area in which Rev. Dr. LeSette Wright, one of the College’s chaplains, is an expert. In her career, Wright has navigated multiple difficult experiences, including the 9/11 attacks, the bombing at the Boston Marathon and working with survivors of the mass shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School. A counselor at heart, Wright created disaster response chaplaincy ministry to help people deal with extensive trauma.

“God said to me, ‘This is your journey; this is what I’ve called you to do,’” Wright explained. “I’ve called you to be my hands and feet on earth, wherever that is. Wherever that takes you.”

The College’s dean of the chapel, Rev. Dr. Loretta Reynolds, was told she would “get over” the phase of wanting to be a minister more times than she can count. Nevertheless, Reynolds pursued higher education where she faced challenges: being one of two women in a class, having never heard a woman preaching before doing so herself, and having people put their legs up and read the newspaper while she preached her sermons.

“With my denomination, I would have been limited,” she recalled. “One of the many wonderful things about Berea is that, because it is nonsectarian, I am welcome and accepted here. The beauty of Berea is that it welcomes everybody.”

The stand John G. and Matilda Fee took on women and education is one of the reasons Reynolds fell in love with Berea and its commitments. She and the

Welcome to Worship

The Campus Christian Center mentors students to focus on diversity, inclusion and love

By Daniela Pirela-Manares ’20

The CCC provides its student chaplains with opportunities for growth in areas of religious and spiritual leadership. This includes learning and developing skills in peer counseling, programming, leadership, interfaith dialogue and religious education.
Promoting student service

Student chaplains are essential to the CCC. They go through multiple trainings and workshops, and they serve as a liaison between the Berea student body, the CCC and other student organizations on campus. Any student can apply to become a chaplain, which encourages interfath relationships and creates an inviting atmosphere for everybody on campus. Chaplains come from a wide variety of backgrounds, areas of study and religious identities.

“When I applied, I thought to myself, ‘This isn’t even a job,’” said Mohlatlego “Mo” Makgoba ’19, an international student from South Africa who worked as a student chaplain for three years while at Berea. Makgoba decided to apply as a student chaplain because of the example set by the chaplain in her first-year residence hall.

“She seemed like she had her life together and a spiritual relationship with God,” Makgoba recalled. “It went along with my high school to college. Their job is to help students transition from high school to college. ‘This isn’t even a job,’” said Moé Guevara ’21, another Fresh Start chaplain, agreed.

“Your reaction won’t be the same if a student chaplain knocks on your door than if a college chaplain comes knocking,” he explained, laughing.

“Sometimes students aren’t comfortable going to the College chaplains,” Martie Jenkins ’22, a Fresh Start chaplain said. “Because this is my job, I have the time, the space and the means to build relationships with them, which hopefully will make it easier for them to come to me with things that they are struggling with.”

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“Your reaction won’t be the same if a student chaplain knocks on your door than if a college chaplain comes knocking,” he explained, laughing.

“His way of reaching out to students was more than if a college chaplain would have helped me.”

“Being a chaplain contributes to learning time management, flexibility and how to talk to people of different faiths,” Guevara said. As a future teacher, these skills are essential for his career path.

“As a teacher, you will be exposed to different beliefs, peoples and backgrounds, so being a chaplain has created a good exposure beforehand,” he said.

“This job has been a big blessing because I talk to everybody,” Guevara added. “It can be hard at times, but that’s what I’m here for.”

Likewise, Jenkins looks for ways to encourage students to grow in their religion. She invites students to open up and interact through a prayer request bag on her door, or sitting in the lobby offering jelly beans to students in exchange for questions about spirituality.

“As a chaplain, I am an advocate for spiritual life,” Jenkins said. “In turn, being a chaplain has helped me grow in leadership and intentionality.”

Student chaplains also are considered servant leaders. For Guevara, being a chaplain was not an option at the beginning. But after getting the job, he fell in love with the idea of serving others.

“When I was a first-year student, I didn’t know anything,” he explained, “I want to be there for my students the same way I wish a chaplain would have helped me.”

“People tend to confuse labyrinths with mazes,” she said. Reynolds explained that unlike labyrinths, the purpose of mazes is to get lost. With a labyrinth, however, people are supposed to walk the circular path with a mantra, meditation or a question in hopes to self-reflect or relieve stress.

A gift from the Campus Christian Center, the labyrinth will have a dedication service during the spring semester of 2020 once the space surrounding it is complete. Reynolds has taken students there, and her hope is to continue educating the community on what it is and how it can be helpful.

“One thing we hear about students all the time is how stressed they are, and we hope the labyrinth can help,” Reynolds said. “The beauty of it is that it is available to everybody.”

WHY A Labyrinth?

By Daniela Pirela-Manares ’20

When you visit Berea College, you might ask: “Why is there a labyrinth next to the Hutchins Library?”

The answer to that question dates back to before the College even opened its doors, according to Rev. Dr. Loretta Reynolds.

“About 15 years ago, labyrinths became popular as a tool for spiritual meditation and prayer, but the idea of a labyrinth as a mediation and spiritual-growth space goes back about 4,000 years,” she said. One of the best examples may be in Chartres Cathedral in France.

Because she is a part of the National Association of College and University Chaplains, Reynolds had the opportunity to visit multiple campuses where she saw various labyrinths. She thought having one at Berea College would be very appropriate and worked on creating one for 10 years.

Berea College’s commitment to inclusivity and its welcoming of different values and beliefs ensures there are safe spaces on campus, including Danforth Chapel in the Draper building and the All People’s Prayer Chapel in the Alumni building. Reynolds hopes the labyrinth becomes one of these spaces.

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The Campus Christian Center provides opportunities for worship, prayer/meditation, devotional study of Christian scripture and interfaith conversation. Its professional chaplains offer pastoral counseling for all members of the College community, and a trained student team provides peer counseling and spiritual support to fellow students.
This fall, Berea students performed the play, "Playing with Fire: After Frankenstein," written by Barbara Field and directed by Natalie Romeo. In this scene, student Josiah Cook '23 (left) reacts to being struck by lightning as Jacob Romeo '22 turns away. Lights/projections and scenery designed by Lexi Bass; costumes designed by Ami Shupe. Make-up and hair designed by Joy DeTore '20, Sam Jones '22 and Lea Beckmann '24.
Diversity tension across America was on the rise. charged and then acquitted in the deaths incidents of white police officers being Fla., were followed by Fla., and Jordan Lives Matter move- become the Black 22  WINTER 2020           23 From Our World  to Theirs partnershi... those who are striving to make positive and Berea College trustee Mim Pride said human rights in Berea. BHRC chairwoman that has made a significant contribution to Rights Commission (BHRC) with the John Berea College professor Dr. Kennaria Brown Berea city administrator David Gregory and Berea City Council member Virgil Brown said. “If a section of the commu- the race of officers; it’s not that simple,” Brown said. “But what Berea was. We were human and good people.” Gregory pursued two avenues to build positive relationships between law enforcement and Berea College’s diverse student population. He went to forums and listened as students said they wanted more dialogue with the police and a space to talk about ideas like implicit bias. In addition, Gregory sought out diversity training for his officers. He turned to Berea City Council member Virgil Bums 74, who also served as Berea’s vice president for Student Life, who suggested he work with Dr. Kennaria Brown. A communication professor, Brown was teaching a class on intercultural communication and had provided corporate-level diversity training. Over the course of more than six months, Brown created a diversity training curriculum for the Berea Police Department (BPD) based on components from her intercultural communica- tion course, research in law enforcement and input from Gregory on his training goals. “I wanted officers to have cultural awareness,” Gregory said about the training development process. “There is a lot of international students on campus and many other dynamics and cultures they could be facing. I wanted to build relationships, be transparent and humanize ourselves with the public.” In 2013, Brown kicked off the mandatory training with BPD officers. “I want to be empathetic and recognize the challenges of the work they do,” Brown said, “But I challenge them. It is not an easy or comfortable training, but they rise to the occasion.” “When we first did it, I didn’t really believe the officers were receptive to it,” Gregory said. “But once Dr. Brown finished, she received feedback thanking her for the training, saying it was eye-opening and helped them see into themselves and the ways they were raised. Many said it was the best training they had had and thanked me for making it mandatory.” This positive response prompted Brown and Gregory to revisit the idea of more collaboration and additional training. In 2016, Brown requested funding from the Undergraduate Research and Creative Projects Program (URCP), a College-funded program to enhance student learning by providing opportunities for the engagement of challenging, collaborative and directed projects in an apprentice-mentor relationship with faculty. “In 2013 [the police] came to my world and in 2016, I went to their world,” Brown explained about the drastic difference in this summer-long program and training. The two students participating in the program spent the summer riding along with police officers and conduct- ing community surveys. One of the students was from a community in Alabama where there was intense animosity between the African American community and the police depart- ment—and the police department there is primarily African American, as well, Brown explained. “Racial disparity is not just about the race of officers; it’s not that simple,” Brown said. “If a section of the commu- nity is criminalized, the race of the officers doesn’t matter; and this young man saw that first-hand. He came in willing to work with me, but it was more about our relationship than any commitment to the police. But doing the ride-alongs, doing the policing research, getting to know officers and developing relationships—that was really powerful for him and something he carries with him to this day.” The two students spent significant time with Berea’s officers, eating with them, seeing them deal with tragic accidents and personally experiencing what officers see and experience each day in their jobs. “They saw the human side and how it affects us,” Gregory said. “From what the students told me in our debriefings, one thing that really touched me was they discovered these weren’t just police officers. They knew this is Officer Smith, and he has two kids and something going on in his life besides just policing.” These students and Brown then took their experiences back to campus and helped open lines of communication and connection between the police and students. “When we have conversations or have an issue with a crime, [students] are not afraid to talk or say, ‘This is a good community.’”

Just as Brown’s classroom instruc- tion influenced her police training, over time her police training has impacted her teaching. She brings law enforce- ment material into her classes and uses stories of interaction in the classroom, as well. “We talk about the police, and we don’t gloss over the problem,” Brown said. “But we talk about the problems, what’s being done to combat them, and those who are doing it right and being proactive in their communities, like our agency that is interested in building constructive relationships.”

This past summer, Brown conducted her third round of training with BPD officers focused on recognizing, under- standing, and mitigating implicit bias. She said she truly gravitated from her world to theirs. She used few resources from her interracial communication class this time, but instead used new research and her experience with officers to craft implicit-bias training specific to policing. “I’ve grown over the years in knowing how to bring what’s effective and what they can use,” she said. Conducted in groups of about five officers, the training allowed for deep dialog, the ability to ask and answer uncomfortable questions and the capacity for officers to reflect on atti- tudes and behaviors in ways they might not have been able to do before. Brown also participated in officer ride-alongs prior to these trainings, which allowed her to immerse herself in their world and build trust and understanding among the police and the officers. “So I stay a work-in-progress as I learn and grow,” Brown said, “and I pass that along to my students.”

From Our World to Theirs Berea professor conducts diversity training to build relationships between police and campus community

I wanted to build relationships, be transparent and humanize ourselves with the public. – David Gregory

I was happy to build relationships, be transparent and humanize ourselves with the public. – David Gregory

By Abbie Tanyhill Darst ’03

Setting the standard Berea city administrator David Gregory and Berea College professor Dr. Kennaria Brown were recently honored by the Berea Human Rights Commission (BHRC) with the John G. Fee Award for 2019. The Fee award is bestowed every year on a resident or group that has made a significant contribution to maintaining, improving or expanding human rights in Berea. BHRC chairman and Berea College trustee Mim Pride said the award is important because it recognizes those who are striving to make positive change in the community and sees the partnership as a national model.

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Finding Their Place

How two sisters navigated a conservative perspective in an inclusive space

By Chad Berry

Berea’s founding motto that “God has made of one blood all peoples of the earth” has always set a high bar in terms of inclusion and belonging. Its inclusive Christian values and its approach to the spiritual dimension of life are radically different. On the one hand, secular institutions often devalue spiritual dimensions of lives well lived. On the other, church-related schools often focus on just one particular version of Christianity, sometimes devaluing other versions as well as other faith traditions.

While this spiritual inclusivity brings great value in offering learning opportunities to everyone, few new arrivals to the Berea campus have experienced a community that values the spiritual dimension of life without elevating a specific version. In particular, students who come to Berea from conservative faith backgrounds, and even some from mainline backgrounds may find it challenging to be open minded about passages from Deuteronomy 14:2 (King James Version): “For thou art a holy people unto the Lord thy God, and the Lord hath chosen thee to be a peculiar people unto himself.” In particular, students who come to Berea from conservative faith backgrounds may have difficulty being open minded about other religious traditions; hence, such students can face significant challenges in feeling welcome in a community of faith. Where else but Berea College?

Life in Rose Hill, Va., compared to Berea, Ky., was different. “My initial impression was a whirlwind,” Sizemore said. “I had only had my driver’s license less than a year. I had made very few decisions on my own.”

Still, she said, “I never remember a time when I felt like I didn’t have someone I could go to, or somewhere I could get assistance with whatever I needed. I think that was my first impression,” she explained. “I felt at home in a place where I knew practically no one.”

“Surely, the sound of your sweet Mama’s voice even more.”
When I met them, I didn’t know if they would live to tell their story,” recalled journalist Alice Driver ’93. “At that point they had both already experienced assassination attempts.”

Two transgender women from El Salvador were seeking asylum in the United States, and their struggle piqued the interest and concern of Driver, a Berea alumna working as an investigative reporter at the U.S.–Mexico border.

The road leading to the discovery of these women’s travails was not paved by serendipity, but hard work and determination. While Driver was working on her book, “Mote or Less Dead,” and studying violence against women at the U.S.–Mexico border, she noticed almost all of the trans women she met were from El Salvador. She began to wonder what the catalyst was for this specific migration, human rights and gender equality.

Driver knew if Estrella stayed in El Salvador, she may not live. She gently requested, “Can I go with you?” Estrella agreed despite the fact the two had just met, and they were on their way to Mexico by bus, anticipating the dangerous challenges ahead. Upon arriving in Mexico after crossing the Suchiate River on a raft, Estrella requested a humanitarian visa: a process that takes months. In Tapachula, Mexico, Driver and Estrella went their separate ways with promises to keep in touch.

In October 2017, Estrella requested asylum in the U.S. and was held in a male detention center for seven months—a potentially dangerous placement.

With support from Revel, a publication network from the Center for Investigative Reporting, Driver was able to find out the name of the detention center where Estrella was held. She sent her a letter with her phone number because the detention center would only allow those detained to make calls, not receive them. At her asylum hearing, Estrella provided evidence of the violence she had experienced, and the judge granted her asylum. She is now living in San Diego and has legally changed her name to Michelle—something that was illegal for her to do in El Salvador. She is working to support herself and attending community college, where she is studying English.

Following Estrella’s story felt necessary for Driver. “This is why asylum exists,” she said.

According to Driver, writing is how she seeks justice and equality in a world she views as far from achieving either. “If I went to a college where I had $100,000 in debt, I wouldn’t be writing,” she said. “That, to me, is a gift because we should want students to be doing things that are meaningful and that they love.”

Driver’s humble beginnings allowed her to find Berea College in the late 1990s, which placed an affordable college education within her reach. She grew up in Oark, Ark., on the family homestead her parents built during the back-to-the-land movement in the 1970s. Both of her parents are life-altering injuries that limit their capacity to work.

“Both of my Spanish professors were part of that; they’re still like family.”

As a student, she pursued her love of Spanish in the classroom and worked both as a server at Boone Tavern Hotel and Restaurant and as a teaching assistant. She graduated from Berea with no student-loan debt and a degree in Spanish and English.

“I’m not married, I don’t have kids, I travel like a maniac, I’m my own boss and I do whatever I want,” she said. Shortly after Driver completed her doctoral program in Hispanic studies at the University of Kentucky with a focus on Latin American literature, she realized she was not interested in writing academic articles on pre-existing works. “I never wanted to be the person writing on what other people wrote; I wanted to be the one writing,” Driver said.

After completing her program, she was unsure of her next steps but was confident in two things: she wanted to live in Mexico and work for herself. Driver received a postdoctoral fellowship from Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM) that allowed her to support herself as a journalist and finish her book.

She continues to report on migration in Central America. She has been published in Time magazine and National Geographic, and she has been featured on CNN. Driver is currently working alongside National Geographic photographer John Stanmeyer to document a global migration project.

Find links to Alice Driver’s writing in publications like National Geographic and Longreads at www.berea.college/writing-for-justice.
Spring 2020 Athletic Schedules*

**Women's Softball**

- Feb. 29 noon Methodist University (DH) Berea, KY
- March 2 10:15 am at Widner University Clermont, FL
- March 2 12:30 pm at Adrian College Clermont, FL
- March 3 10 am at St. Vincent College Clermont, FL
- March 3 12:15 pm at Rosemont College Clermont, FL
- March 5 10 am at Northland College Clermont, FL
- March 5 12:15 pm at Roanoke College Clermont, FL
- March 6 10 am at Illinois College Clermont, FL
- March 6 2:30 pm at York College Clermont, FL
- March 12 5:30 pm Spalding University Berea, KY
- March 14 noon at Mary Baldwin University Staunton, VA
- March 15 11 am at Avevet University Danville, VA
- March 17 2 pm Maryville College Berea, KY
- March 21 1 pm at Wesleyan College Macon, GA
- March 22 noon at Agnes Scott College Decatur, GA
- March 26 3 pm at Wilmington College Wilmington, OH
- March 28 noon Huntington College Berea, KY
- March 30 3 pm Franklin College Berea, KY
- April 4 1 pm at LaGrange College LaGrange, GA
- April 5 noon at Piedmont College Demorest, GA
- April 8 2 pm Covenant College Berea, KY
- April 9 2 pm at Alice Lloyd College Pippa Passes, KY
- April 11 1 pm Brevard College Berea, KY
- April 18 TBD USA South Conference Tournament TBD
- April 19 TBD USA South Conference Tournament TBD

**Men's and Women's Track and Field**

- Feb. 19 TBA at Transylvania University Lexington, KY
- March 7 11 am at Brevard College Brevard, NC
- March 21 TBA Piedmont College Berea, KY
- March 28 TBA Covenant College Berea, KY
- March 29 11 am at Agnes Scott College Berea, KY
- March 31 TBA Maryville College Maryville, GA
- April 4 TBD at LaGrange College LaGrange, GA
- April 5 TBA at Huntingdon College Montgomery, AL
- April 11 TBA Wesleyan College Berea, KY
- April 18 TBD at Maryville College Maryville, TN

**Women's Tennis**

- March 7 11 am Brevard College Berea, KY
- March 21 TBA Piedmont College Berea, KY
- March 28 TBA Covenant College Berea, KY
- March 31 TBA Maryville College Berea, KY
- April 4 TBA at LaGrange College LaGrange, GA
- April 5 2 pm at Huntingdon College Montgomery, AL
- April 18 TBA at Maryville College Maryville, TN

**Men's Tennis**

- Feb. 19 TBA at Transylvania University Lexington, KY
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- March 21 TBA Piedmont College Berea, KY
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*All schedules subject to change. Visit www.bereaathletics.com for the most up-to-date information and to view team rosters.
These words are prominently featured on Berea College’s new donor recognition wall, located in the Alumni Building across from Baird Lounge. This beautiful new piece, installed in November 2019, is a thank you to the incredible supporters who make the Berea mission possible. The wall features the names of lifetime giving society donors, including those in the John G. Fee, Carter G. Woodson, Matilda Fee, Loyal Jones and Julia Britton Hooks societies, as well as those donors recognized as part of our annual giving clubs: the 1855 Club, Second Century Club and Mountaineer Club. Also featured are the special individuals who have hit milestone anniversary years as members of the Elizabeth Culbreth Society, Berea’s recognition society for loyal donors of five consecutive years or more. We hope you will stop by if you are on campus and reflect on this new way of showing appreciation for the alumni and friends who invest in lives of great promise.

A Display of Gratitude
Professor Birner Receives Faculty Enhancement Award from Oak Ridge Associated Universities

Dr. Suzanne Birner, assistant professor at Berea College, was awarded the Ralph Powe Junior Faculty Enhancement award from Oak Ridge Associated Universities. Birner competed with 167 applicants, many from R1 institutions (doctoral universities with the highest level of research activity). The $5,000 grant award is matched by each applicant’s institution.

Birner, who teaches geology, earth science and chemistry, plans to further her research with the grant, as well as recruit one to three students to accompany her in research this summer. She intends to use the grant to purchase equipment and technology to better develop analyses completed at Berea.

NAACP Honors Berea College

The Richmond–Madison County (Ky.) branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) honored Berea College at the recent Freedom Fund Banquet. The NAACP recognized the College because it was the first interracial and co-educational college in the South and for its inclusive Christian character expressed in its motto, “God has made of one blood all peoples of the earth.”

The 2019 honorees included six individuals or couples, one organization and one institution. Among them were Otta and Pauline Chenault; Frank Parks; Leora Hocker; Amanda Britton Hooks, was an early Berea College graduate; the grandmother of Benjamin Hooks, a Civil Rights leader who served as the NAACP executive director from 1977 to 1992; Joretta Hill; Elizabeth Denny and Donald Fields; Open Concern, an outreach ministry.

Berea College Recognized for Outstanding Service to Environmental Education

Berea College has sustainably managed 9,000 acres of forestland for more than 100 years and started the Berea College Forestry Outreach Center to bring the community together to learn about the natural world. The College also operates the Berea College Farm Store, which uses produce from Berea’s farm and local farmers to feed the community and stock its dining hall.

Berea College Recognized for No. 1 “Best Value College” by The Wall Street Journal/THE Journal

Berea College tops the list of “Best Value Colleges” in the nation in The Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education (THE) 2020 College Rankings. Looking at the top 250 schools overall, the rankings calculated which schools provide the best value by dividing each school’s overall score by its average net price according to data from the U.S. Department of Education. The average net price is the total cost of attending a school—including tuition, fees, room and board, books and supplies, and other costs—minus federal or institutional financial aid that doesn’t have to be repaid. Students who don’t receive any aid aren’t included in the calculation.

Berea’s no-tuition model contributed to its No. 1 best-value ranking. The College ranked No. 155 overall.

“We are thrilled to be ranked at the top of this impressive list of colleges and universities and are proud to be leading a cohort of schools that are committed to the important American ideal of social mobility through educational opportunity,” said Berea College President Lyle Roelofs. “Our no-tuition policy allows us to provide talented students, who might not otherwise be able to afford access, a high-quality liberal arts education and transformative experiences, and it enables them to graduate with little or no debt.”

Berea College Science Building Awarded LEED Gold and FSC Certifications

The Margaret A. Cargill Natural Sciences and Health Building (MAC) has been awarded Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) gold certification and full project certification by the Forest Stewardship Council.

The LEED rating system was developed by the U.S. Green Building Council to assess and recognize buildings, homes and communities that are designed, constructed, maintained and operated for improved environmental and human health performance. The Forest Stewardship Council, which promotes environmentally sound, socially beneficial and economically prosperous management of forests worldwide, certified the full project.

Berea College achieved LEED certification for implementing practical and measurable strategies and solutions aimed at achieving high performance in sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality.

The College also received the Forest Stewardship Council’s Full Project Certification for the MAC building, which requires a full audit of all wood products used in construction and verified that they have been sourced with ecological responsibility.
Dr. Jim Gaines ’56: A Picture-Perfect Career

By Jason Lee Miller

In a laboratory at Washington University in St. Louis, graduate student Jim Gaines ’56 needed a way to observe a quantum liquid—helium 3—beneath seven layers of stainless steel. He was able to do so through magnetic resonance, and thus Gaines produced the first image ever recorded through magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), now a standard process in the healthcare industry.

Dr. Gaines didn’t think much of the three-inch image at the time. “I thought it was cute,” he said of the picture that was produced. “My advisor did, too. Neither of us could imagine it had any practical importance.”

To take a magnetic field from three inches to human size, said Gaines, would take technology far more advanced than what he was using. “The amount of computing power it didn’t exist, and I couldn’t imagine it would ever get that much better.”

Gaines is this year’s recipient of the Berea College Distinguished Alumnus award that celebrates a lifetime of scientific advancement and achievement that began with what turned out to be an historic scientific milestone in nuclear magnetic resonance. Gaines continued his research via the Ohio State University (OSU), where he received the coveted Sloan Research Fellowship that enabled him to study under world-renowned nuclear physicist Anatole Abragam at Saday in Paris, a hub for nuclear research.

Gaines has a storied history in Berea, dating back to boyhood before World War II. His father, Roland Gaines, had made a name for himself in the “hillbilly music business” and around Berea, including nearby country-music hot spot Renfo Valley. Though he lived in Cincinnati and later St. Louis, Jim sang with his father on stage as a boy and spent his summers with his grandparents and relatives at homes near campus. He picked blackberries off Forest Street, frequented nearby shops and worked for his uncle, Jim at Jim’s Place, a campus restaurant.

“The townspeople at the shops and stores knew me,” Gaines said. “They could report my activities to my grandfather, who was sort of the mayor of the family.”

At 16, Gaines came to Berea College and majored in physics. He worked in the Boone Tavern garage, scraped traps in dining services, provided janitorial services in the chemistry lab and served as a teaching assistant for physics professor Tom Strickler, who set Gaines on a path toward graduate school.

“It was something I didn’t really want to hear,” Gaines said, “but Professor Strickler convinced me.” The most persuasive argument for continuing his education was the prospect of being his own boss. “I had enough of an independent streak that those were the words I needed to hear.”

Thus began a long and illustrious career in physics. During his tenure at Ohio State, Gaines also served as a visiting professor at the University of Pennsylvania, Linking Universities in Sweden, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Harvard and the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California. Before accepting a professorship at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, he was chair of the User Committee at MIT’s National Magnet Lab and director of the National Science Foundation Materials Science Lab at OSU.

In Hawaii, he focused on materials science and the hydrogen isotope tritium, securing funding from the National Science Foundation, the Air Force Office of Scientific Research, and NASA. He retired from the University of Hawaii as the vice president for research. Currently, Gaines serves as emeritus professor of Physics at both OSU and the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

Over the course of his career, Dr. Gaines has published more than 170 refereed journal articles on physics and materials science and has held several pioneering leadership positions. He was the first director of the National Science Foundation Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR), director of materials science at KMS Fusion; the first director of the Applied Physics Lab, the Navy’s University Affiliated Research Center in Hawaii; and the first director of the Department of Homeland Security Center for Maritime Awareness. In addition, he is one of the three founders of Lake Shore Cryogenics.

Dr. Gaines met his wife, Jo An Howard ’57, at Berea. They dated for a time and went their separate ways for 40 years. They married in 1995 and make their home in Los Angeles.

Through her natural curiosity, love of research and making connections, Sharyn Mitchell has helped innumerable people, campus department members track down fascinating information that they could not have gotten anywhere else. Mitchell has served as a research services specialist in Hutches Library Special Collections and Archives for eight years. In that time, she has become intimately familiar with Berea’s deep roots in the rich story of the community’s founders and their families, and the unique history of the people and places of Madison County.

Mitchell is this year’s recipient of the Rodney C. Bussey Award of Special merit, given to alumni who have been employed by the College, recognizing them for their outstanding service, demonstrated loyal interest and extraordinary quality of work to the Berea College family.

Mitchell spends most of her days digging through tangible pieces of history to tell the story of Berea College and its students from years gone by and making historical connections for often little-known events that surround Berea’s unique history and the people who contributed to it. Her research journeys usually start with someone who says, “I have some old history, and I need to do something about it.”

“Maybe it’s a stranger walking into the library looking for information on her great grand- mother who she believes attended Berea College in the late 1800s, or an entrepreneur trying to connect his lost family history to a Berea College alumnus in order to obtain funding to refurbish dilapidated housing in Lou- isville’s west end. There is no limit to the interesting leads Mitchell receives that drive the research in which she engages each day.”

“Let them talk,” Mitchell said about the initial process of gathering information to start a new research path. “Basically if someone says where they are from, I just start asking questions like I was interviewing someone. Most of the time, you can take off from what they tell you if they say, “My grandmother was a teacher,” there’s a good chance she went to the Normal School. “I tell the students here, when we are interviewing, I could have been a private investigator.” Mitchell continued, laughing. “You take one lead and you follow it back.”

In 2011, Mitchell took her love of investigating a step further and started a research group called the African American Genealogy Group of Kentucky (AAAGKY). After spending years in libraries across central Kentucky researching African American history and genealogy, she connected with others who wanted to conduct their own research in Berea.

On the third Saturday of each month, the AAAGKY meets at various places around Kentucky to share findings, make research connections and enjoy fellowship with like-minded individuals.

According to Mitchell, African American research is different. “Where you find the records is dicey,” Mitchell explained. “A lot of times white people will say, ‘I am ashamed that my family had slaves.’ I reply, ‘But our history is found in your books. It’s in your diaries and your wills. I think it’s shame is if you don’t give it back and let us know where it is.’”

Recently, Mitchell began working with a group in Boonesborough, Ky., to add the names of African Americans to a large monument the town had constructed listing the names of early settlers to the area. “The names read just like our families, yet they said, ‘We don’t know the names of any black families,’” Mitchell said of her conversation about the monument’s missing history.

“It takes a lot to learn what we have here and I learn every day,” Mitchell added. “You need to learn something new every day—even if it is not related to your job, I have a love of learning, and I’m naturally nosy. But you have to listen. I can make connections, just by asking the right questions.”

For more on Sharyn Mitchell and her journey to and from Berea, and back again, read her profile, “Putting Meat on the Bones,” at https://bit.ly/2OBw5vo.
Homecoming 2019 brought more alumni back to Berea than ever before. The campus community welcomed home nearly 1,000 alumni and guests with more than 60 receptions, performances and activities. Mark your calendars for Homecoming 2020, scheduled November 20-22.


The Alumni Executive Council hosted its first Dialogue on Race and Education about what “authentic inclusion” looks like at Berea. Dr. Linda Strong-Leek, provost and vice president for diversity and inclusion, facilitated the discussion with panelists Dr. Jakaya Caroliers, assistant professor and department chair of African and African American Studies, and Dr. Jessica Knudsen, director of the Carter G. Woodson Center and assistant professor of African and African American History.

Women’s basketball head coach Trent Milby huddles up with his team during their game against Campbellsville-Harrodsburg. The Lady Mountaineers won 96-59.

Sam San ‘94 plays “Berea Beloved” on the “hand flute” for his class reception in Boone Tavern’s Lincoln Lounge. Watch the video of his performance on the Berea College Alumni Facebook page: http://ow.ly/lyotI30pYJDf

Rodney Kimbangu ’20 chats with Daryl Mangosing ’14 at the Center for International Education Homecoming Reception in Woods-Penn Commons.

Rodney Kimbangu ’20 chats with Daryl Mangosing ’14 at the Center for International Education Homecoming Reception in Woods-Penn Commons.

DJ Jadyn Sol (Jordan Sims ’15) kept Bereans dancing under the stars during the annual Block Party on the Square behind Boone Tavern to kick-off the weekend.

Contestants line the stage at the 49th annual Black Student Union Pageant in Phelps Stokes Chapel. LEFT TO RIGHT: Godwin Emeeka-Be’23, prince; Sabrina Acheampong ’23, princes; A’ja Armstrong ’23, Jaina Garner ’23, queen; Isaiah Oguge ’22, king, and Erika Arvizu ’23.

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Women’s basketball head coach Trent Milby huddles up with his team during their game against Campbellsville-Harrodsburg. The Lady Mountaineers won 96-59.

FIRST ROW L-R: Reneen Mincy, Amber Richardson Ditty, Angela Newton Hunt, Gregory “Greg” Begin, Naomi Carrick Sellards and Sarah Shannon Kindler. SECOND ROW L-R: Angel Todd, Johanna Startman Way, Adigail Ridge Derringer, Elizabeth Marie Bakkar Yount, Janelle MacLeod, Jennifer Rodrian Greer and Nyotta Williams Hill. THIRD ROW L-R: Leah Johnson Thompson, Jennifer Shell Shepherd, Angela Utley McNair, Lowell Sellards, Heather Barton Evans and Huy Nguyen. FOURTH ROW L-R: Lara Vallely, Caralise Richardson Blair, Leslie Kovach Buchanan, Julie Stewart, Nathaniel Green (on phone) and Amanda Riche. FIFTH ROW L-R: Crystal Wylie, Dwight Overstreet, Kara Russell Crispin, Karis Sophia Russell and Grace Brutto. SIXTH ROW L-R: James “J.D.” Heffernan, Rebecca Wheat, Baron Wolf, Roice Dandy Sparks and Curtis Hance.


Photos by Jalen Prater ’20
2020 Summer Reunion Registration


Date:____________________ Full Name:_________________________________________________________________________
Class Year(s):_______________________ Email:____________________________________________________________________
Spouse/Guest Name:_________________________________________ (first, birth and last as you would like for it to appear on your name tag)
Class Year(s):_______________________ Phone #:_______________________________
Spouse/Guest Email:_________________________________________ Address:___________________________________________ City:_________________________ State:_______ Zip:____________

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Friday, June 12
- Town Hall Forum with President Lyle Roelofs
  5 p.m. | President’s Home
  Hosted by Pres. Lyle Roelofs and First Lady Laurie Roelofs.
  _____ # attending (No Charge - limited to you and one guest)

- Alumni Awards Presentation & Reception
  10 a.m. | Boone Tavern Event Ctr.
  Celebrating two Distinguished Alumni Award recipients: Leslie Parker Borhaug ’90 and Tore Borhaug ’90
  _____ # attending (No Charge)

- Class Luncheon
  12:30 p.m. | Boone Tavern
  _____ # attending (Early bird tickets are $20 each. After May 1: $25)

- Sweetheart Reception
  3 p.m. | Fireside Room, Draper
  Share your Berea love stories & have some wedding cupcakes.
  _____ # attending (No Charge)

- Alumni Reception
  5 p.m. | Boone Tavern
  mingling, drinks and hors d'oeuvres with your classmates
  _____ # attending (Early bird tickets are $10 each. After May 1: $15)

- Party of the Decade
  8-11 p.m. | The Garden behind Boone Tavern
  Celebrating all classes from 1980 through 1990, but everyone is welcome!
  _____ # attending (Early bird tickets are $10 each. After May 1: $15)

SR20 T-shirt
Especially designed to commemorate your reunion. Pre-order yours today — there will be a very limited supply available during reunion weekend. 2020 Summer Reunion.

- SM # ______ MD # ______ LG # ______ XL # ______
- 2XL # ______ 3XL # ______ 4XL # ______

Optional - If you plan to attend, please leave a question you would like answered during the Town Hall Forum with Pres. Lyle Roelofs (or email it to alumnirelations@berea.edu):

Make checks payable to “Berea College”

Gift to Berea Fund (Optional) $________________
Ticket Total $________________
Total Amount $________________
Check # (if applicable): _____________________

HOW TO REGISTER

Online: www.berea.edu/alumni/sr20
Phone: 866-804-0591 (toll free)
Mail: Berea College Alumni Relations CPO 2203, Berea, Ky 40404
The Berea College Alumni Association enjoys hearing from Bereans from all over the world. The “Class Notes” section of Berea College magazine reports verifiable news you wish to share with your alumni friends and associates: careers, weddings, retirements, births, and other items of importance to our alumni. Please include your class year and name used while attending Berea. Notes may be edited for style and length. While we will make every effort to put your information into the next issue of BCM, some delays may occur. We appreciate your understanding.

Submit class notes and photographs at www.berea.edu/alumni/classnote

1949
Franklin Parker and Betty J. Parker ’50, both in their 90s, spoke to children at a summer camp in July 2019 about their adventures more than 60 years ago, when Franklin was a Kappa Delta Pi fellow studying education in southern Africa. The children enjoyed handling wooden African carvings of antelopes and a lion.

1951
Claude Raymond Beverly has been a widower for two years, having lost his wife Annabelle Phillips Beverly ’52 to Parkinson disease. He worked 42 years as a physicist in the nuclear industry at Oak Ridge and Paducah. Raymond is still living at home in Paducah with reasonable health. He returned to Berea for the dedication of the Margaret A. Caryll Natural Sciences & Health Building in October 2018 and relished visiting the Grizzlies (Jim ’51 and Barbara Huntman Grizzle ’52) and the Mattinglys (Jim ’51, Barbara Huntsman Killian and her son-in-law and her daughter, who live in Ashland, KY). Raymond continues to do environmental activist work and is employed as a social worker. He plans to retire for the fourth time to do volunteer work in the health field.

1956
Tommy Clark and his wife, Dorothy, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary by taking a cruise to Antarctica in January 2019. When Tom retired, he picked up his Berea Pep Band trombone again, and he still plays in two bands at the local senior center. He and Dorothy have traveled to more than 70 countries and all seven continents during their 28 years of retirement. Currently, they live in Charlotteville, VA.

1961
Madge Maupin Haney and Phil Haney are both retired teachers still living in Ashland, KY. They have four children, 10 grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Madge and Phil were married June 4, 1961 in Doniford Chapel.

1967
Debra Scruggs moved to Chapel Hill, NC from Asheville. She now lives near her daughter, Dr. Monica Wrobel, who practices psychological counseling.

1970
Edward Smith is a retired historian and archivist who published his second book on student activism at Berea College during the late 60s. The book is titled “Black Power Comes to Appalachia: Bereans Create the Black Appalachia Commission, A Documentary History, 1969-1970.” The foreword is written by his wife, Claudette Schmidt Smith ’72. The book documents the student-led movement to create a commission within the Council of the Southern Mountains to address the needs of overlooked black communities in Appalachia. The 214-page book has more than 140 pages of documents and photographs and is $18. It can be purchased on Amazon, or by emailing smithedith60@gmail.com. It can also be purchased by mail to his home at: 5601 Joyce Place, Bladensburg, MD 20707-1645.

1980
Rose Weaver was featured in an Aug. 30, 2019 Oak Ridge Today article about the kick-off meeting for the Women’s Leadership Dialogue of Oak Ridge. She is an active member of the Oak Ridge community, a poet, and a historian. She is researching the history of desegregation of the area and the people who have had the greatest impacts in shaping Oak Ridge. Rose serves as Christian education director and superintendent of Savior Church A.M.E. Zion Church Sunday School. Read more: oakridgetoday.com/tag/ rose-weaver.

1997
Cathy Phillips Brinkley is the office assistant to Susan Bro of the Heather Heyer Foundation. Heyer is the young woman who was killed in Charlottesville, Va. by a white supremacist when he plowed his car into a crowd of counter-protestors on Aug. 12, 2017, injuring at least 19 and killing Heyer. The Foundation gives scholarships in her name to those who want to work in social justice fields. Students must prove they are already active in this area. Learn more at www.heatherheyerfoundation.com.

1999
John Alexander and Susan McGuffin Alexander retired from Grayson County Public Schools in June. They celebrated 49 years of being together in September. John and Susan said, “Brown coat students are the best!”

2000
Sharon J. Alexander retired from St. Mary’s Medical Center in Huntington, W. Va. where she was director of nursing and worked for nearly 40 years.

2001
Anthony C. Hackney will be receiving an honorary doctorate later this year from the medical school of the University of Tartu in Estonia. The university is honoring his research contributions in the area of exercise endocrinology, his long-standing collaborations with the late Professor Alko Viru of Tartu and his nearly 30 years of engagement in teaching and research in the Baltic countries. The University of Tartu is the country’s leading center of research and training, and is a member of the prestigious Coimbra Group of European universities.

2002
Pastor Donald Ray Napier has three sons and five grandchildren. In his retirement, he pastored Apto Baptist Church, works at a homeless shelter three days a week and volunteers at Christ’s Hands and the Red Cross. He would love to hear from friends: 1284 Hwy 38, Cloverlyton, KY 40831.
Julia Weatherford and Frederick Park ’93 were featured in a May 31, 2019 Mountain Xpress article, “A history of WNC’s most enduring social dance traditions.” The article chronicles the history of the weekly community dance tradition that dates back to the 1930s, once called the Farmer’s Ball, held in a hall on Warren Wilson College Road. Frederick, who danced and studied Appalachian studies at Berea, revived the tradition when he moved to Swannanoa in 1981 and heard country and bluegrass music coming from the old hall. Julia, who is a musician, describes the ruggedness of the old hall in the article. Read more: http://ow.ly/UDm230pNy6y

1981
Elaine Crull retired in June from the Jackson County School System (GAs) after 27 years as a public school speech/language pathologist (SLP). Starting in 1991, Elaine spent the first three years of her career as an SLP in Elbert County, GA. She spent the remainder of her career in service to the children and families of Jackson County, with the exception of one year spent at the Rochester Hearing & Speech Center in Rochester, NY. Elaine looks forward to traveling to new places.

1982
James Ramsay finished his Doctor of Ministry degree at Bakke Graduate University in June 2018. His focus was in migration and mission. The dissertation research he completed was looking at missions into ministry among diaspora populations. James and his family live in Atlanta, GA where he serves as vice president for global operations for TMS Global, a mission mobilizing and sending organization.

1984
Paul Phsophones Sirimongkhon and his wife Barbie Leggin Sirimongkhon ’83 moved to Green Valley, AZ. They are enjoying a change of scenery, an active outdoor lifestyle and long mild winter months. In 2016, Paul decided to go back to school and graduated in May 2018, with a master’s degree in digital storytelling/media communications from Arizona State University (KTV). Barbie formerly taught at the Bluegrass Community & Technical College as an assistant professor of development studies. Currently, she is working on building her adult health and skincare products business as an Arbonne International domain administrator and as an assistant curator at the Bluegrass Garden at Lake Meritt (CA), teaching the art of bonsai and maintaining private collections. Follow her on her blog: www.artsofjc.com

1984
Donna Sue Baker McClure is now U.S. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell’s senior field officer, serving the senator since 2005 in 24-eastern Kentucky counties.

1991
Katharine Silver Kelly was promoted from associate clinical professor of law to clinical professor of law at the Ohio State University Moritz College of Law. Katharine has worked at OSU since 2012. She was awarded the College of Law’s Morgan E. Shipman Outstanding Professor Award in 2016 and the University’s Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching in 2017.

1993
Edward Brock completed his degree in respiratory therapy in December 2018 and became a certified respiratory therapist in March 2019.

Frederick Park and Julia Weatherford ’79 were featured in a May 31, 2019 Mountain Xpress article, “A history of WNC’s most enduring social dance traditions.” The article chronicles the history of the weekly country dance tradition that dates back to the 1930s, once called the Farmer’s Ball, held in a hall on Warren Wilson College Road. Frederick, who danced and studied Appalachian studies at Berea, revived the tradition when he moved to Swannanoa in 1981 and heard country and bluegrass music coming from the old hall. Julia, who is a musician, describes the ruggedness of the old hall in the article. Read more: http://ow.ly/UDm230pNy6y

1994
Alan Hughes, chair of psychology at Berry College, is one of 41 administrators in higher education nationwide selected to participate in the 2019-20 Senior Leadership Academy.

1995
Mark Butler was appointed director of the office of founded ministries for the Dominican Sisters of Peace, a religious congregation with administrative offices in Columbus, OH. The office assists ministry leaders in the areas of governance and Dominican Catholic identity. The congregation’s sponsored ministries include primary and secondary schools, colleges/universities, health care centers, ecology centers, literary and outreach centers, and retreat centers in nine states.

1996
Katherine Cornwell is now a research scientist at the University of Connecticut. Prior to her new job, she worked as the director of the Transylvania County Library System in Washington, DC.

1998
Charles Hillard, his wife Alice and their son Micah moved to Green Valley, AZ. They are enjoying a change of scenery, an active outdoor lifestyle and long mild winter months. In 2016, Paul decided to go back to school and graduated in May 2018, with a master’s degree in digital storytelling/media communications from Arizona State University (KTV). Barbie formerly taught at the Bluegrass Community & Technical College as an assistant professor of development studies. Currently, she is working on building her adult health and skincare products business as an Arbonne International domain administrator.

1999
Amy Nishimura Harmon was promoted to director of residence life at Berea College.

2000
Leslie Miller Albam began working for Cape Fox Facilities Services at Rocky Mountain Laboratories (a National Institutes of Health facility) in Hamilton, MT, as a laboratory assistant in February 2018. She was awarded the Cape Fox Facilities Services Distinguished Achievement Award on May 30, 2019, after her first year of service.

2004
Heather Kristen Evans joined the faculty at West Virginia University of Charleston where she is an alternate Democrat election worker for the general election in November 2019. Karina is a member of the Democrat National Committee and a poet in the Pikeville Poetry Organization.

2005
Richara Finsel was chosen as the new director of the Transylvania County Library (NC) in July 2019. Prior to her new job, she worked as the director of the Polk County Public Library and was the senior librarian for public services at the Foothat County Library System in western Montana.

2003
Luke Saffidge, executive director of the Southeast Ohio Public Energy Council, was recognized by Midwest Energy News Network as a 40 under 40 champion. The program highlights emerging leaders throughout the region and their work in transitioning to a clean energy economy. https://energynews.us/2019-40under40/

2007
Kay Barnett resides in her hometown of London, KY, where she is employed as the community education and public information officer for Laurel County Public Schools. Kay is finishing her term as president of the London Rotary Club, serves as a board member with Court Appointed Special Advocate of Knox-Laurel Counties and God’s Pantry Food Bank Southeast Region Distribution Facility. Kay was selected this spring as a recipient of Laurel County’s 10 Under 40 Award, which recognizes the accomplishments and commitment to make Laurel County, KY a better place to live, work and play.

2008
Robert E. Haynes was promoted to major in the U.S. Army on Aug. 1, 2019. He is pictured with his wife Megan Henry Haynes ’07, and children Caleb, Christian and Elijah.

2019
Jennifer Carpenter is celebrating eight years at the U.S. Geological Society. She is serving as a lead domain administrator and as an assistant curator at the Bionna Garden at Lake Meritt (CA), teaching the art of bonsai and maintaining private collections. Follow her on her blog: www.artsofjc.com
CLASS NOTES

Dr. Demetrios A. Russell, Sr., earned a Master of Divinity degree in 2013 from Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary and a Doctor of Ministry degree in 2018 from Luther Rice Seminary.

2010

MARRIED: Shannon Nicole Brookman to Matthew Kiggen on July 12, 2019. The couple happily resides in Asheville, NC.

Akhilah Hughes was featured in a Sept. 23, 2019 Chicago Sun–Times article about her new book, “Obviously: Stories from My Timeline,” a collection of essays that chart her journey from a small suburb in Kentucky to a media career in New York, spanning from a popular YouTube channel to appearances on HBO’s “Pod Save America.” Read more: http://ow.ly/vxnK30pNVCZ

Brittany Smith was featured in a July 19, 2019 Advocate Messenger article about her appointment as the new young adult services librarian at the Boyle County Public Library. She will be tasked with reaching and serving local teens by increasing teen activities, such as a Dungeons and Dragons Club and by growing the young adult collection. Read more: http://ow.ly/2CQV30pNVmC

2012

Linsey K. Hoog earned a juris doctorate degree from the University of Kentucky College of Law in May 2018. She was elected to the college’s Order of the Coif and served as an editorial board member on the Kentucky Law Journal. She passed the Kentucky Bar exam in July 2018 and was admitted to the practice of law on Oct. 22, 2018. She currently serves as Fayette Circuit Court Judge Ernesto Scorsone’s staff attorney. Linsey’s additional legal experience includes serving as the real-time editor, digital consultant and research assistant for the U.S. Sixth Circuit Committee on Pattern Criminal Jury Instructions. Linsey also has served as UK Law professor Sarah H. Wellings’s research assistant.

2014

Sam Gleaves was featured at the 47th National Storytelling Festival as an Exchange Place Teller. A tradition since 1975, the festival hosts the nation’s top storytellers and draws 11,000 people to celebrate the ancient art of storytelling in Jonesborough, Tennessee’s oldest town. Read more: http://ow.ly/KYx30pNV50

Alix E. Heintzman’s debut novel, “The Ten Thousand Doors of January,” was published in February 2018 issue of Apex Magazine. This year, she was also a finalist for the Nebula, Locus and World Fantasy Awards in the short fiction categories. She lives and works in Berea with her husband and their two children.

Shaylan C. ’20

Major: Communication
Minor: Broadcast Journalism

2016

Matt Parsons was featured in a Sept. 25, 2019 Grayson Journal-Enquirer article about his storytelling set, “The Parsons Cowboy Suite,” that he performed at the Olive Hill Center for Arts and Education as part of the venue’s Trail Town Stage series with his father and brother. The set, written by Matt, is partly based on a man he met while still in school at Berea—Dale from Texas—and partly inspired by the western movies he and his brother watched growing up. Read more: http://ow.ly/k2mR30pNVMc

2018

Emily Chen-Newton, a host/producer at KIOS–Omaha Public Radio, teamed up with Dawaune Lanort-Hayes of NISSE (North Omaha Information Support Everyone) to talk with the producing artistic directors of The Great Plains Theatre Conference and The Union for Contemporary Art about using theatre as a means of healing and racial reconciliation in the July 17, 2019 piece “Theatre Bringing Reconciliation in Omaha” (listen here: http://ow.ly/mfAk30pNeXs). Emily also is working on KIOS podcast “Made in the Middle,” which combines science and culture into a one-hour conversation in which she takes a trip through the history of the American Heartland to uncover how it’s made our country what it is. Learn more: www.kios.org/programs/made-middle

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2019

Loren E. Weber recently accepted the American Foundation Clinton Fellowship. The fellowship is a 10-month commitment, which began in September 2019. Loren will work in her placement community as an organic and sustainable gardener and educator.

Effective July 1, 2018.

SAMPLING ONE LIFE RATES

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Learn how Berea College returns your generosity with guaranteed payments for the rest of your life and supports the next generation of scholars, leaders and innovators. Learn how Berea College invests in all students through the Kentucky Promise Scholarship and how a charitable gift annuity can work for you while supporting our mission.

Invest in lives of great promise at berea.giftlegacy.com
Zero Waste Takes Almost Zero Effort

This year, the Alumni Relations Office in partnership with Facilities Recycling and the Office of Sustainability, along with the help of our alumni and campus community, threw Berea’s third Zero-Waste Homecoming. They ramped up zero-waste efforts this year and replaced 500 printed schedules with a scannable QR code linked to an online schedule; placed name tag recycling bins around campus; and increased awareness by offering a Berea College Zero-Waste Homecoming reusable water bottle to the first 100 registrants.

The Office of Sustainability confirmed that Homecoming 2017, Berea’s first multi-day zero-waste event, was the first of its kind in Kentucky. Since then, Alumni Relations committed to making each alumni event zero-waste.

How we do it

During Homecoming week, Waste Ambassadors from Facilities Recycling and the Office of Sustainability “talked trash” with event attendees to maintain the integrity of the waste thrown into the recycling, compost, and landfill bins placed at high-traffic events. An event is considered zero-waste if at least 90 percent of waste is diverted from the landfill. This is made possible by an on-site recycling center and composting location on Berea’s campus. Compostable utensils, cups and plates also are used at most every event, with more and more departments switching to only compostable disposables at their receptions each year. Sustainable best practices are already used at each event catered by Berea College Dining Services.

Homecoming 2019 results

All recycling and compost collected is weighed and incorporated into a yearly total to be compared against the amount of trash collected that goes to a landfill. This year data was compiled from the Caramel Apple Bar, Labor Program Hot Cocoa Bar, Check-in/Registration (both Friday and Saturday), Block Party on the Square, Agriculture and Natural Resources Breakfast, Technology and Applied Design Breakfast, Mountaineer Basketball Players and Supporters Awards Brunch and BereaFEST. A total of 228 pounds of compost was collected, 12 pounds of recycling and 11 pounds of trash for a 91 percent diversion rate.

Learn more about Berea’s sustainability efforts at www.berea.edu/sustainability

Collected:

228 pounds of compost
12 pounds of recycling
11 pounds of trash

228 + 12 + 11 = 91% diversion rate
Our campus has so much to share.
Never before have we threaded together everything we offer.
Today, we welcome you to the Berea College Trace.
It’s the thread that weaves together our history and our future and enables us to share our gifts with old friends and new.
We invite you to come shop, explore, eat and stay!

Berea College Visitor Center and Shoppe | 104 Main Street