
Special
delivery!
EMORY
2036

A GALLERY OF POSSIBILITY

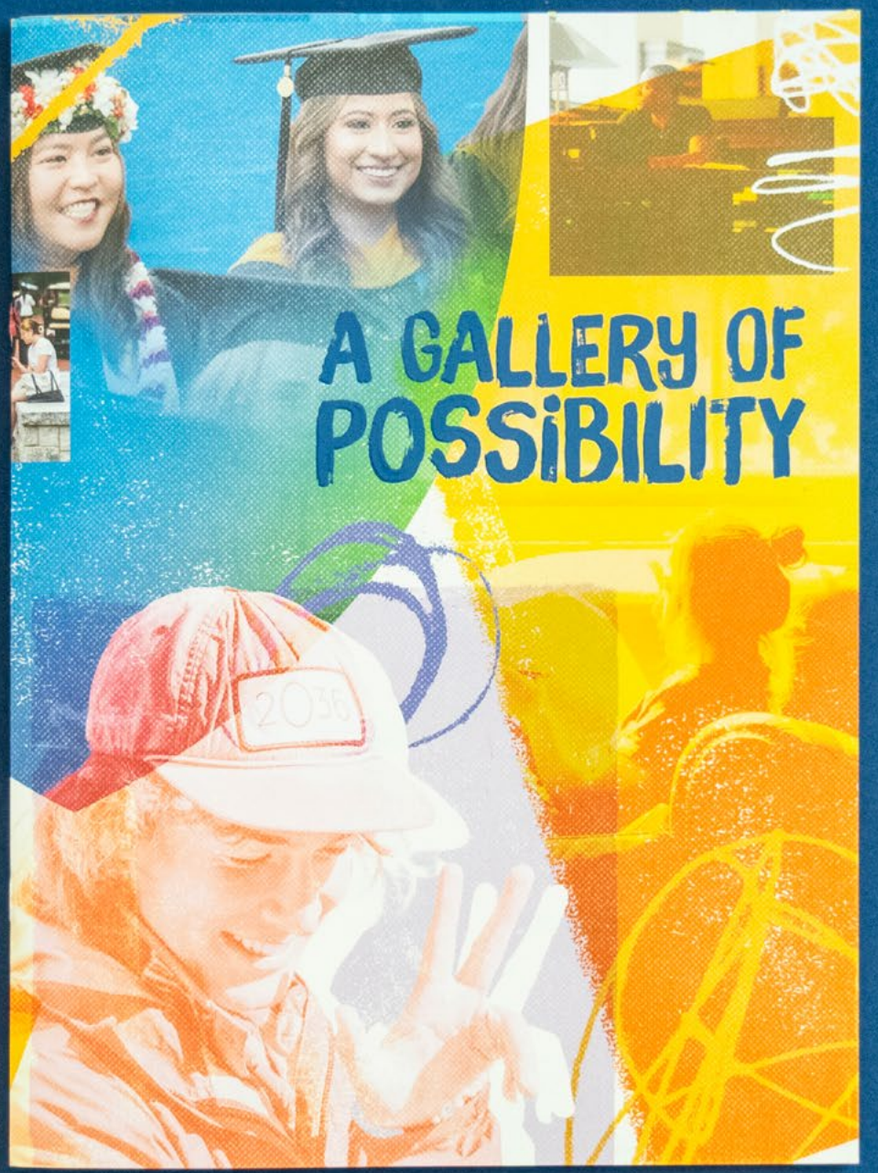


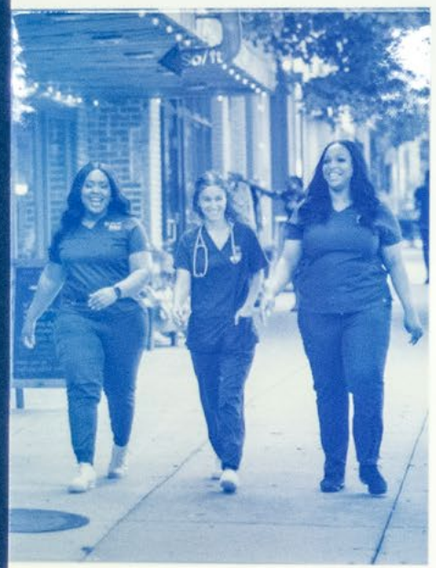


Prepared for:
John Smith

EMORY


A GALLERY OF POSSIBILITY
Prepared for:
John Smith
EMORY
A GALLERY OF POSSIBILITY
2038


A GALLERY OF
POSSIBILITY
2036





For Taylor,

Honoring your courage to imagine a better world — one shaped by heart and mind.

You are part of every story that unfolds within these pages, a vital presence behind each discovery and achievement. Your support, guidance, and belief in Emory's vision bring bold ideas to life and ensure that progress never stands still.

May this keepsake remind you that your dedication and care light the path forward, inspiring others to dream, question, and create with purpose.

A FUTURE PAINTED TOGETHER

Every great work begins with vision —
not of what is,
but of what could be.

2036 began this way:
a spark,
a stirring,
a call to dream bigger.

And then came you —
not just as supporters,
but as creators,
as architects of something greater,
as authors of a shared story,
as artists of possibility.

With every step forward, a brushstroke.
With every gift, a bold color.
With every act of trust, a layer of light.

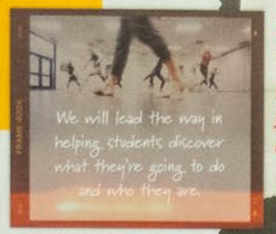
Together, we formed a movement —
a community bound by purpose,
daring to shape a future
that serves, heals, and lifts.

What you helped create
is more than a campaign.
It is a living gallery
of lives changed, ideas ignited,
futures opened wide.

This book is a tribute —
to your imagination,
to your investment in possibility,
to the shared vision we carry forward.

There will be tremendous excitement to support students and faculty members in reaching their dreams.

WE HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE TRAILBLAZERS: CHALLENGING STUDENTS AND FACULTY TO THINK ABOUT HOW WE CAN MAKE THIS WORLD BETTER.



Emory will bring different perspectives to the forefront to solve difficult issues.

I hope Emory doubles down on the things that make us a unique and important place in the world.

EXCELLENCE TO EMINENCE.

IMAGINE 2036

What does the world look like when we dare to dream boldly? As Emory moves toward its bicentennial, we invited our community to look ahead and share their visions of the future.

The answers, sometimes personal, sometimes global, paint a portrait of hope, progress, and possibility. Here are 20 inspiring replies to the question: ***What will 2036 look like?***→

I hope Emory continues to be a leader in research and social causes.

I SEE EMORY BEING THE EPICENTER OF GROWTH AND PROGRESS THAT IT ALWAYS HAS BEEN.

Our faculty will continue to innovate in how they teach students to analyze and use big data. And that knowledge will inform the companies and organizations they work for.

Emory will have a deeper impact internationally, and our researchers will continue ascending to eminence.

We'll be a trailblazer in athletics, and we will continue to win across the board — UAA championships and national championships.

I'm excited by our potential to reduce the burden of brain diseases. The work we're doing now in the Personalized Brain Health Initiative will transform our ability to take care of people.

Emory will be at the forefront of mental health service and research. We can do many things to improve our work for communities and people.

There will be so much to be proud of.

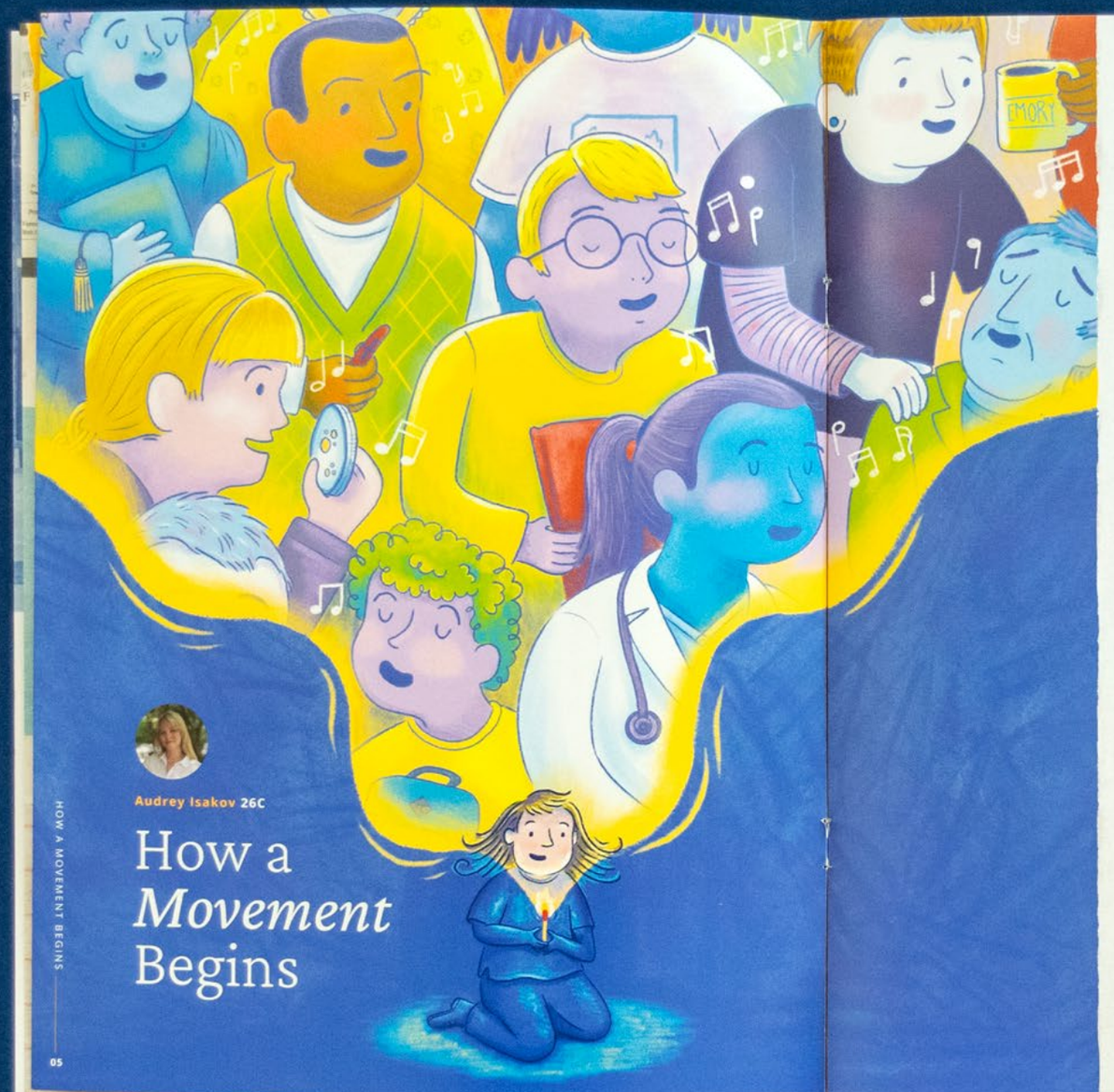
I SEE EMORY ON THE CUTTING EDGE. "I WANT TO GO TO EMORY UNIVERSITY" SHOULD BE ON EVERYBODY'S MIND.

I hope that we're wonderful humans to each other and the communities we serve.

I HOPE EMORY WILL BE AT THE FOREFRONT WITH THE BEST RESEARCH, PROFESSORS, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS.

I HOPE EMORY BECOMES A UNIVERSITY WITHOUT PEER.





Audrey Isakov 26C

How a *Movement* Begins

Profound transformations often start small. A question. An idea. A single voice. These moments ignite progress, like the bright flame of a match struck.

The first time I stepped into rehearsal for Emory Choirs, excitement and uncertainty flooded me. But before I could dwell on the nerves, we were asked to sing a simple chord. In an instant, the choir swelled, and the room filled with the most magical sound — my voice blending with a hundred others in perfect harmony. That was just the beginning. Week after week, rehearsal after rehearsal, I discovered how my individual voice was part of something much larger.

As part of an ensemble, you listen as much as you sing. You adjust, blend, and trust that your part matters, reaching its full potential only when joined with others. Concerts serve as a powerful reminder that music can unify, challenge, and move people in ways few other things can. Yet they also reveal something deeper: the power of collective effort and sustained support.

I came to Emory in fall 2022, one year after the launch of 2036. Over the past three years, I've witnessed how the sense of community I've found through music extends far beyond the concert hall. It lives in a student's curiosity that becomes a medical breakthrough. In a donor's love of the arts that opens the door for someone to take the stage. In faculty mentorship that becomes the turning point in a student's path.

At the heart of it all is generosity — making every moment, every breakthrough, and every connection possible.

I realize so many of our lives, mine included, have been shaped by the vision and generosity of others. Each gift of time, funding, or expertise contributes to something greater: a shared effort to build a better future.

My Emory experience has shown me that a better future often takes root in the smallest beginnings — sometimes, just a single note.

A LITTLE HELP MAKES BIG DREAMS REAL

Like skipping a pebble across a pond, scholarship support creates ripples — touching not just students, but entire families. Each year, students step into college with excitement for the future, often shadowed by the stress of how to afford it. Scholarships lift that weight, replacing worry with hope. Parents breathe easier. Siblings dream bigger. Grandparents celebrate milestones they never imagined. The impact of scholarships can echo through generations, opening doors not just for students, but for everyone who loves and supports them. Here are just a few of those dreams realized.



















1. **Nikki Hurtado 24L** and her family celebrate her Emory Law graduation. A King and Spalding Scholar, she focused on civil litigation and dispute resolution. Now an associate at Ferraro Law in Miami, Hurtado leads with compassion and advocates with integrity.

2. **Will Farthing 24Ox 26C** celebrates with siblings after graduating from Oxford College. Now studying applied mathematics and physics at Emory College, he's a Susan A. Cahoon Scholar — recognized for leadership and excellence as he prepares for a STEM career.

3. **Tiarra Murphy 23PH** celebrates her Rollins School of Public Health graduation with three generations of family. She balanced five jobs while studying health education before receiving the Nancy J. Thompson Legacy Scholarship. Now a project officer at the Center for Black Health and Equity, she works to advance public health.

4. **Noah Mancuso 23PH 29PhD** and family pose outside Emory's Woodruff P.E. Center. A James W. Curran Scholar, he excelled in infectious disease epidemiology at Rollins School of Public Health. Now pursuing a PhD at Laney Graduate School, he contributes to global research at RTI International.

5. **Ann Elizabeth Farthing 22Ox 24B** celebrates her Goizueta Business School graduation with nine family members. A Triple J BBA Scholar and a John and Rosemary Brown Scholar, she pursued her goals at a top business school. Today, she's a global streaming strategy associate at Warner Bros. Discovery.

6. **Jane Chakraborty 24C** shares a joyful moment with loved ones after earning dual degrees in chemistry and music. A recipient of the Laurie and Andrew Fishman Scholarship and the William B. Dickinson Scholarship, she now studies at The Ohio State University College of Medicine, blending science and creativity.

7. **Alex McIntosh 26M** celebrates with family after receiving his white coat at Emory School of Medicine. A Robert W. Woodruff Fellow, he blends engineering, clinical experience, and philanthropic work to make a global impact through compassionate care.

8. **Olivia Davis 25L** stands proudly with family after graduating from Emory Law, supported by the Judge Stephen and Beatrice Dodd Toth Scholarship. Her deep engagement with Emory Law shaped her passion for the South and its future.

9. **Olivia Singleton 27M** beams with family after receiving her white coat, marking her journey into medicine. Supported by the Suzie C. Tindall Medical Scholarship, she's inspired to honor a legacy of compassion and excellence — and to pay it forward.



A Born Lawyer

As a newborn, Myles McCants 26L was often dressed in a tiny Stetson Law shirt. Adorable? Yes. Prophetic? Also, yes!

As a child, his imagination was stirred by legal dramas. In high school he got a job chauffeuring attorneys, which made the law feel real and attainable.

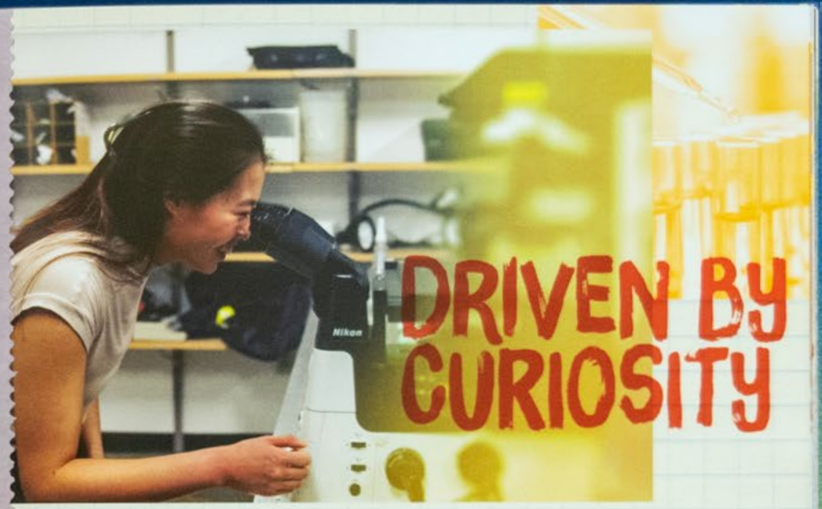
After earning a political science degree from the University of South Florida, he chose Emory Law for its rigor, Southern roots, and welcoming community.

Now in his third year, McCants leads the Black Law Students Association, represents his class in the Student Bar Association, works in legal clinics, and is preparing for a career in corporate defense.

McCants says the Telesca Family Scholarship freed him from financial stress, allowing him to focus on academics, leadership, and professional growth. He considers it an expression of belief in his ability.

"The scholarship gave me support, structure, and pride," he says. "It reassured me my hard work was being recognized."





DRIVEN BY CURIOSITY

At 13, Kate Huang 21Ox 24C left Shanghai for California, unaware she was starting a journey that would lead her to her life's purpose. Middle school biology and chemistry stirred her deep curiosity about how the world works. That curiosity grew into a calling — one that would eventually guide her to Emory and the neonatal intensive care unit.

"I'd never been to the South before," she says. "But Emory was perfect — it gave me space to grow." That growth took many forms.

Huang volunteered with Kesem East Atlanta, supporting children whose families are affected by cancer. She was involved with international student orientation, eventually leading the program. During the COVID-19 lockdown, she virtually engaged with local communities in Guatemala to develop a community-driven training module and evaluation metrics for annual short-term medical missions.

As a research specialist, Huang does the work that matters most to her. She works with babies in the neonatal intensive care unit and their families, using music therapy and community-based care to improve outcomes in Georgia's most underserved areas.

Thanks to the Johannah and Charles Bauknight Scholarship, she was free to discover the difference she could make in the world. It lifted a major financial burden from her family, already supporting her twin brother at another private college.

Now working full-time in the same lab she joined as a sophomore, she's preparing for medical school, determined to keep advocating for children and families. Her journey is still unfolding — but thanks to the generosity of donors, she's already changing lives.

"Your support gave me the chance to discover who I am," she says. "And now, I get to help others do the same."





"Art is a kind of breathing, an exhalation and an inhalation. The artist exhales, the viewer inhales."



01



02

"It's just as important to cultivate character as expertise. We are all, ultimately, students."

01 Olufani's art uses cultural representations of blue and indigo in African and African American experiences, including associations with deities, music, and coolness. This piece is from his Emory exhibition, *Dream Life of the Indigo Children*.

02 Each of Olufani's students explored the interconnectedness between the individual and the collective by getting to know a classmate and presenting that person's narrative through an original work of art.



RESPONDING TO THE CALL:

Art as Conversation

As the inaugural Emory Arts Fellow in 2021, Masud Olufani kept busy. In addition to teaching, he also created *Dream Life of the Indigo Children*, a collection of mixed-media works inspired by the African traditions and culture handed down through the Gullah Geechee communities who live on the coastal islands of Georgia and South Carolina.



The artist's multidisciplinary work represents conversations between the past and the present. He mixes language, sound, and organic materials with painting and sculpture to speak through his art. "There's a dialogue happening across time and place," Olufani says.



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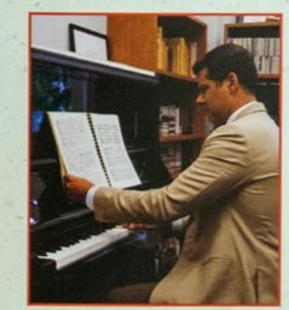
WHERE CREATIVITY & COMPETITION SHAPE STUDENT LIFE

The sweep of a bow. The surge of a sprint. With each note and every competition, students sharpen focus, grow in confidence, and activate curiosity. On the stage and on the field, the arts and athletics are woven into the Emory experience.









For Paul Bhasin, music is a rigorous form of knowledge, distinctive because it sits at the heart of a liberal arts education. At Emory, performance, composition, and creative scholarship stand alongside the sciences and humanities.

As the Donna and Marvin Schwartz Professor in Music and director of the university orchestra, Bhasin has turned his classroom into a living laboratory. Students take risks, try new ideas, and push the boundaries of what they thought possible. By embracing risk and experimentation, they learn to navigate uncertainty and innovation — lessons they'll carry from the stage into their lives.

"Music is treated as a central pillar of the academic experience at Emory. The discipline of a professional school meets the openness and experimentation of the liberal arts."





Keiko Price Carter takes a thoughtful approach to athletics and recreation in campus life. As the Clyde Partin Sr. Director of Athletics, she works to create welcoming spaces where students can be active and find community through sport.

Every moment of effort — on the field, in the pool, and on the court — builds resilience and skills that students carry far beyond athletics. Through Price Carter's leadership, athletics and recreation shape a well-rounded, powerful student experience at Emory.

"Athletics strengthen physical and emotional well-being. Students push themselves beyond their comfort zone, learn resilience through setbacks, and carry those lessons into life beyond sport."

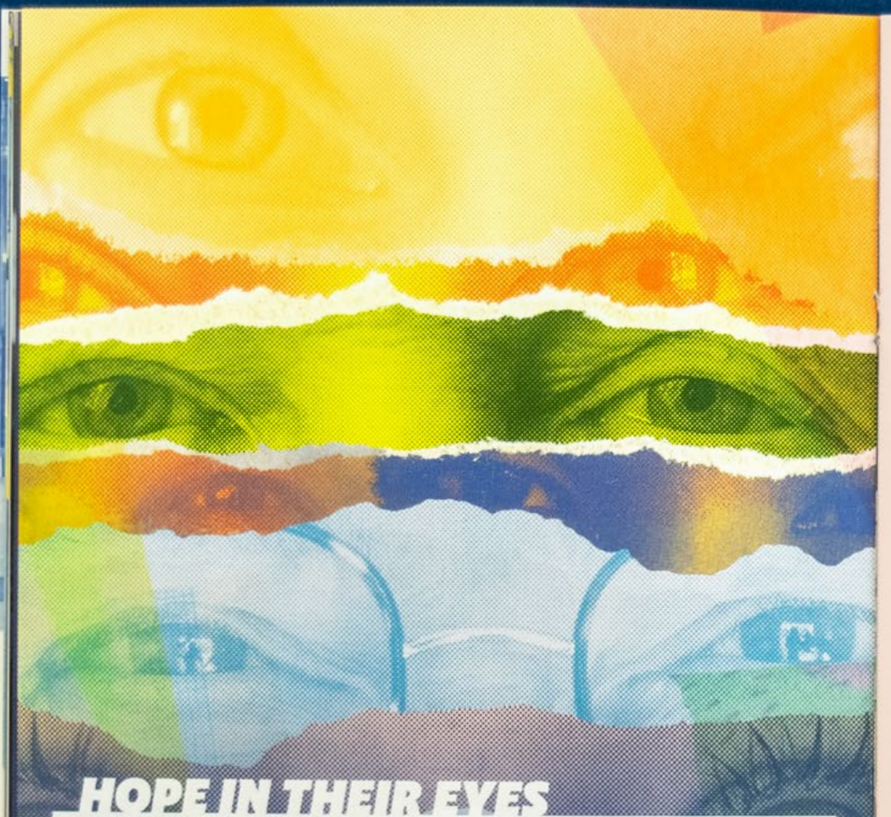


In a world of constant challenge and change, liberal arts prepare us by

NURTURING CREATIVITY, CURIOSITY, & RESILIENCE.

They enable us to meet those challenges critically and wisely. By introducing us to the larger world, we learn how to live lives worthy of our best selves.

— **JAMES T. LANEY**, EMORY UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT EMERITUS



HOPE IN THEIR EYES

Science meets compassion at the Emory Brain Health Center, transforming cutting-edge research into everyday hope for patients and families.

ALZHEIMER'S: An early Alzheimer's disease diagnosis can determine which treatments are needed. A new tool is being used at Emory to detect it years earlier — while memory is still intact. For Christa, this meant starting treatment before forgetting her loved ones' names.

PARKINSON'S: Mac's tremor made writing impossible until Emory offered him a first-of-its-kind ultrasound designed to treat tremors. With a single, noninvasive, outpatient procedure, Mac drew a straight line for the first time in 10 years.

ALS: Diagnosed at 34, Melissa is part of a promising Emory trial using her own immune cells to fight ALS. The goal is to slow disease progression, giving her more time with her husband and children — and a future shaped by hope, not fear.

INTEGRATED MEMORY CARE: Dementia is daunting for patients and families. When Sharon's husband, Rod, showed early signs, they turned to Emory. With expert care on their side, they're moving forward with confidence and support.

AUTISM: When people with autism reach 22 years old, many of their support services end abruptly. Some people liken the shift to falling off a cliff. That's when the Emory Autism Center's myLIFE Program steps in. This three-week course in independent living helps build skills and confidence. After participating, Noah said the transition into adulthood felt less like falling and more like bungee jumping — secured by a safety tether.

VETERANS PROGRAM: Daniel sustained a traumatic brain injury in Afghanistan, with lasting physical and psychological effects. Exhausted and disconnected, he turned to the Emory Healthcare Veterans Program. There, he gained tools to manage his injury, confronted his trauma, and rediscovered joy and camaraderie.

SHOWING UP, STAYING, AND CHANGING LIVES

Rooted in Georgia—and in Community



In Thomaston, Georgia, about 65 miles south of Atlanta, Jasmine Shackelford 23MR starts each day not just as a primary care physician, but as a listener, advocate, and neighbor.

At Emory, donor-funded student loan forgiveness initiatives make it possible for physicians to work in underserved Georgia counties such as the ones shown in the map cutouts.

Trained at Emory and now practicing family medicine in a medically underserved community, she moves purposefully through each clinic visit, each patient conversation, each act of care. Her days are full. She routinely sees 20 patients or more each day, from babies to great-grandparents.

"That's the beauty of family medicine," she says. "You're not just treating one person. You get to know the entire family" in the office and during chance social encounters in the community, as she has done many times. Shackelford cares for at least a dozen multigenerational families that include grandmothers, aunts, uncles, nieces, and nephews. "That kind of connection brought me into medicine in the first place," she says.



"I do it because I care deeply about my patients and my community."



Outside the clinic, a billboard bears Shackelford's face. Inside, it's her compassion, care, and consistency that patients remember.

In terms of health care services, Thomaston is among the more fortunate rural communities in Georgia, which is facing a significant shortage of doctors. More than 140 of the state's 159 counties are officially designated as primary care shortage areas, and nearly 2.75 million Georgians have difficulty accessing a family doctor. Experts estimate that the state will need more than 2,000 additional primary care physicians by 2030 to keep up with demand. In places like Thomaston, that shortage isn't just a statistic — it's a daily reality, and Shackelford finds she must balance the roles of physician, counselor, and community anchor.

She recalls one patient in particular, an older Black gentleman who had resisted care until his family insisted on it. When Shackelford asked why he waited so long, his answer stuck with her: "I don't go searching for things wrong with me. It's all about money."

After an exam, she discovered he had prostate cancer. Fortunately, it was treatable. "I reassured him and explained everything. I told him, 'Here are the doctors I'm sending you to. We're going to do this together.'"

As a Black woman in medicine, Shackelford understands the deeper layers of care that can be required in a rural Southern community. "There's often a lack of trust — especially when it comes to institutions. For patients who look like me, it's not just about health, it's about overcoming social and historical barriers. I can't teach trust, but I can earn it. That's something you do by showing up in the way patients need you."





DIANA BLAIR: PATIENT, SURVIVOR, CHAMPION



Diana Blair with **Alicia Smith**, who holds the Diana and Bryan Blair Research Professorship. Smith is working to develop better screening tools and treatments for patients with gynecologic cancers.

There is no routine screening test for ovarian cancer.

As a result, the disease often progresses to later stages before women receive an accurate diagnosis. This was the case for Diana Blair. She was diagnosed with stage 3 ovarian cancer in 1998. Her choice to receive care at Emory saved her life.

"I couldn't sleep or eat. I was in terrible pain, and there was so much fluid built up in my body I looked nine months pregnant by the time I was finally diagnosed," Blair says. When she arrived at Emory, her treatment plan went into overdrive.

"Dr. Ira Horowitz performed surgery the day after I arrived, my chemotherapy port was installed two days later, and I started treatment at Winship Cancer Institute the following week," she says.

Her care was part of a clinical research trial at Winship. As the only National Cancer Institute-Designated Comprehensive Cancer Center in Georgia, Winship develops and leads these trials, providing patients throughout the state with access to innovative treatments.

After three months of chemotherapy, tests showed Blair was cancer free. She's been cancer free for 27 years.

"Thanks to Emory, I'm still here, and I want to do anything I can to help further Emory's mission to help people," Blair says.

"My brother calls me an 'Emory cheerleader' because I tell anyone who will listen about all the great things Emory does."

Purpose MEETS Place

The call to serve humanity often begins far from home. In coastal cities, rural clinics, and crowded markets, Emory students and faculty members step into the unknown, bringing knowledge, curiosity, and compassion to meet the world's challenges side by side with the people who live them.







01 Gonzalo Vazquez-Prokopec, Winship Distinguished Research Professor in Environmental Sciences, leads a research team in Merida, Mexico, targeting the Aedes aegypti mosquito — a primary carrier of dengue, Zika, chikungunya, and yellow fever. Using big data to map outbreaks, his team focuses on urban neighborhoods where the insects thrive.

02 In Acadia National Park, a naturalist collects birdsongs with a parabolic microphone. Catherine Wang 25C spent a summer internship photographing scientists in the field. This moment reflects the stillness, dedication, and quiet rigor of environmental research — a passion she later carried to the United Nations Climate Conference in Azerbaijan.

03 As the workday ends in Brás — a historic immigrant neighborhood in São Paulo — crowds move from hundreds of clothing shops toward the metro. In this bustling scene, Surbhi Shrivastava 23G 26PHD spoke with Indian immigrant women whose experiences shaped her research on women's health in Brazil.











04 Goizueta Business School Professor Peter Roberts helps women coffee growers in Central America share their stories — and their coffee — with the world. Through workshops pairing Emory students with growers, narratives of land, people, and craft become powerful tools for opening markets and building connections across continents.

05 Guided by the values she honed through Emory's Ethics and Servant Leadership Program, Ava Herrin 25C brought her passion for community engagement to the High Museum of Art. She supported mindfulness-centered art programs, strengthened partnerships, and created resources that deepen the museum's connection with its audiences.

06 Oxford College's organic farm is a hands-on classroom where students learn soil health, nutrition, and sustainability while harvesting fresh produce for the dining hall and local community boxes. Founded in 2014 on 11 acres donated by an alumnus, the three-acre farm has earned a place among the nation's top 30 sustainable college-run farms.

07 With support from more than 1,100 donors, the Lillian Carter Center and Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing have sent 325 students to serve thousands of patients in the Dominican Republic, delivering screenings, supplies, and care that restore dignity and expand access to health care.





08 In a Javanese neighborhood in Yogyakarta, colorful houses mirror the spirit of the community. Jack Wood 23Dx 25C, who studied abroad in Indonesia, explored how cultural pride and identity are expressed across the country's diverse landscapes, religions, and languages. His research examines what it meant for Indonesians to take pride in their identity and how those experiences vary across communities.

09 As a fellow with Emory's Center for AI Learning, Alisha Moreyon 25C helped apply AI tools to a collection of more than 40,000 drawings by children in rural Uganda. Working with project sponsors, she identified patterns that could offer new insights into early literacy and school readiness.

The Long Arc of a Cure

Long before Ned Waller could imagine how his life would unfold, his mother had two simple requests:

Become a renaissance man and discover a cure for cancer.

Her words have been indelible charges to the renowned researcher, doggedly pursued through losses, victories, and the resolve to begin again and again.

"I think all of us are conditioned as children to follow certain paths, whether we recognize it or not," he says. "For me it happened when I was five years old, watching my mother witness her own mother suffer from breast cancer."

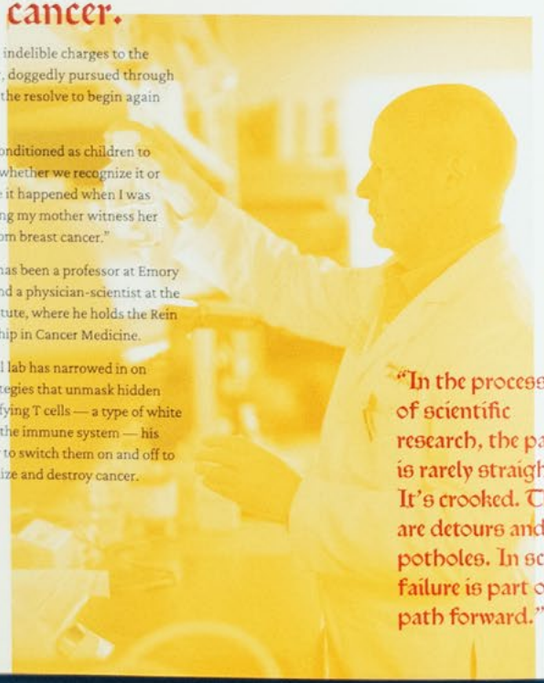
For 30 years, Waller has been a professor at Emory School of Medicine and a physician-scientist at the Winship Cancer Institute, where he holds the Rein Saral, MD Professorship in Cancer Medicine.

Waller's translational lab has narrowed in on immunotherapy strategies that unmask hidden cancer cells. By modifying T cells — a type of white blood cell trained by the immune system — his team is learning how to switch them on and off to help the body recognize and destroy cancer.

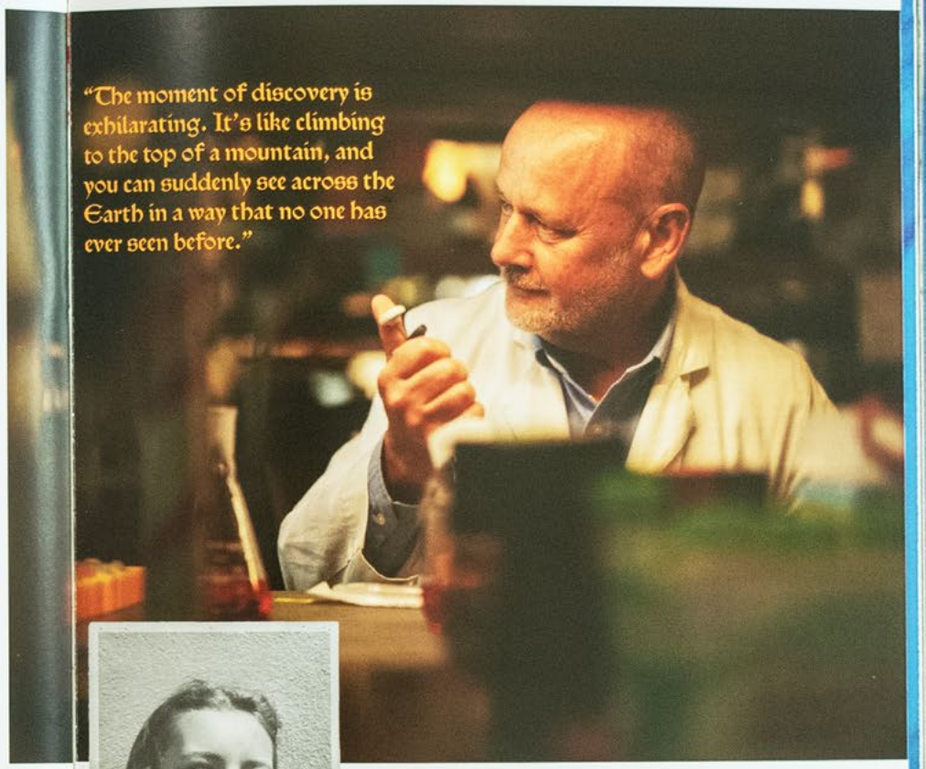
His work is long and difficult, often marked by setbacks. For Waller, it's also deeply fulfilling. As a *physician*-scientist, he also provides compassionate patient care, meeting people in their most vulnerable moments.

"Resiliency in the face of cancer is important, but connecting with patients and comforting them is even more important," he says. "We all suffer in one way or another. But to go through life with a cancer diagnosis, we need the support of our family, colleagues, and doctors. That can lighten the burden."

Waller's lab recently developed a new drug to treat pancreatic cancer. They tested it with mice that carry bioluminescence genes from fireflies. The team treated one group of mice with the drug. The other, a control group, received no treatment.



"In the process of scientific research, the path is rarely straight. It's crooked. There are detours and potholes. In science, failure is part of the path forward."



"The moment of discovery is exhilarating. It's like climbing to the top of a mountain, and you can suddenly see across the Earth in a way that no one has ever seen before."



Nancy Aries Waller sparked her son's fascination with her work at a local science museum, where she operated a life-size model of the human body. For Ned, those moments became the foundation for a lifelong quest to understand and control disease.

In their darkened lab, Waller and his research assistants saw the telltale glow in the untreated mice. The cancer still raged. In the treated group, they saw something remarkable. Darkness. No spark of light appeared. The cancer was completely gone.

What *doesn't* work has often been Waller's guiding light. A patient who pursues 11 rounds of treatment before succumbing to disease. Liquid in an Erlenmeyer flask shifting from cloudy yellow to crystal clear, an unexplored clue that could have revealed a cancer-promoting gene. These are markers on a difficult path — and a prelude to discovery. Making it all worthwhile, he says, is the thrill of unearthing something new and sharing it with the world.

IMPACT IN MOTION

CELEBRATING THE ARTISTRY OF IDEAS AT WORK

Whether helping Georgians beat addiction, harnessing the wisdom of theology to transform communities, or pursuing affordable medicines, Emory scholars apply their expertise to make the world better. With persistence and passion, they advance knowledge in every discipline. When considered as a whole — as a collective act of creation — their individual academic artistry becomes greater still: a masterpiece of ideas. Here we showcase several Emory innovations from our creative community of scholars.

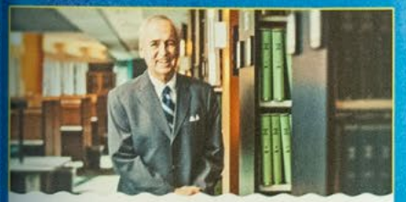


What if new, lifesaving treatments for cancer and other serious illnesses aren't new at all? What if they're already available for other, unrelated problems? That's the premise of Emory's Morningside Center for Innovative and Affordable Medicine, which studies repurposed medicines to change the outlook for patients who may be out of options.





Teams from the Emory Vaccine Center and Emory Healthcare filled the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic, providing hospital care, operating testing and vaccination sites, and developing a vaccine and an antiviral medication.



Combining legal education and business knowledge, the William and Jane Carney Center for Business and Transactional Law helps communities stay strong.



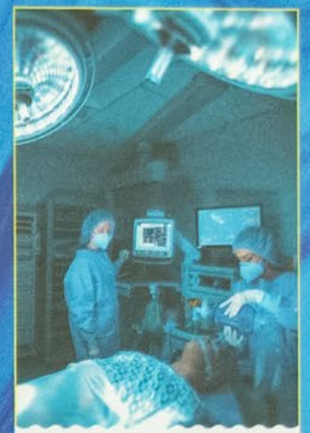
Emory experts in psychiatry and behavioral sciences are helping people recover from addiction. The Emory Addiction Center and our partnership in the Addiction Alliance of Georgia offer treatment, prevention, and support based on the latest research.



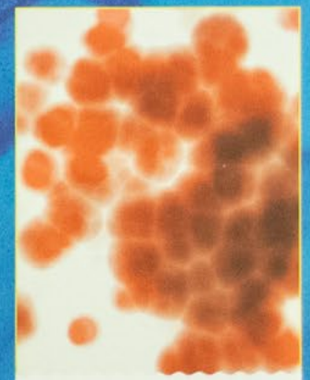
Rollins School of Public Health collaborates with partners worldwide to track disease outbreaks, improve maternal health outcomes, address mental health challenges, mitigate environmental threats, and more.



The Mellon Humanities Pathways initiative is helping liberal arts students at Emory College of Arts and Sciences and Oxford College apply their learning to prepare for wide-ranging career opportunities.



With scholarship support and high-tech simulation technology, Emory is preparing nurses to create a healthier future for everyone through top-ranked undergraduate and graduate programs at the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing.



By creating a tiny world of 3D blood vessels on a microchip, Emory scientists are learning why clots form and how best to treat them. This groundbreaking research model is just one example of Emory's remarkable strengths in heart care.



Atlanta is the place for business. More than 75 percent of Fortune 1000 companies have a presence here, and the city is a real estate hub, a FinTech capital, and a thriving community for startups. Enter the BL Harbert Real Estate Center at Goizueta Business School. This new center is driving innovation across the Southeast.



Candler School of Theology helps students find their unique voices and transform communities. Candler is bringing faith and hope to people in churches, hospitals, refugee programs, youth detention centers, and senior living programs.

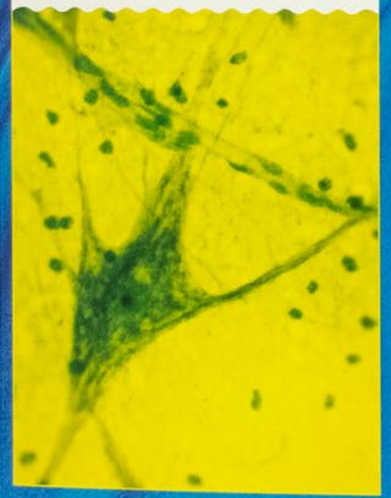


Emory was the world's third-leading source of new drug discoveries among public sector institutions in 2023, according to a study in *The Journal of Technology Transfer*.



The new Stuart and Mimi Rose Program for Student Startups will offer courses, programs, and mentoring to students who want to create their own businesses.

Emory researchers are working to identify biomarkers — biological indicators — to improve diagnosis and treatment for people with ALS. A progressive disease affecting nerve cells, ALS does not yet have a cure.

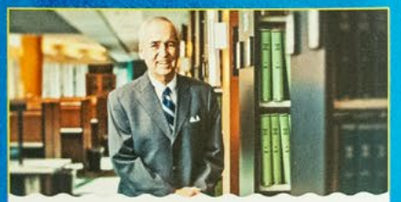


What if new, lifesaving treatments for cancer and other serious illnesses aren't new at all? What if they're already available for other, unrelated problems? That's the premise of Emory's Morningside Center for Innovative and Affordable Medicine, which studies repurposed medicines to change the outhook for patients who may be out of options.





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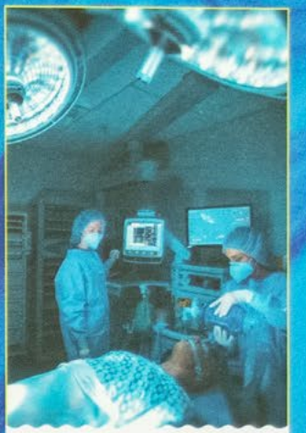
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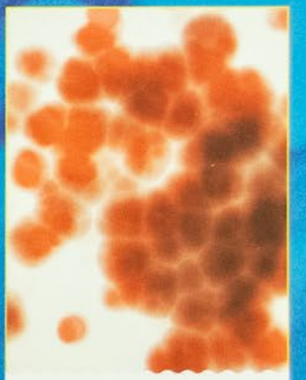
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THE EXPERTS

Through 2036, Emory invested in visionaries shaping the future of medicine, the arts, history, public health, and more. Endowed professorships provide scholars with freedom and stability to pursue bold ideas, leaving a lasting mark on students, scholarship, and society. Illustrating the enduring impact of generosity, donors endowed 107 new professorships. *When we invest in people, we ignite possibility.*



UNEARTHING THE FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH

Anthony Briggman, *Andrew J. and Georgia L. Ekonomou Distinguished Professor of Patristic Theology*

This 1534 volume of Bishop Irenaeus of Lyons illustrates Briggman's research into how early Christians drew upon ancient philosophy to help explain their beliefs.



DEMOCRACY THROUGH CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Bernard Fraga, *Ann and Michael Hankin Distinguished Professor of Political Science*

Fraga's pin from the 60th anniversary of the Selma Bridge Crossing is emblematic of his passion for how history, elections, and representation shape present-day American democracy.



ADVANCING DIAGNOSTIC PRECISION

Amita Manatunga, *Donna J. Brogan Professor of Biostatistics*

Manatunga is developing better methods for complex data analyses. Her work will improve disease prediction and diagnosis by offering clearer insights into the biological mechanisms that shape clinical outcomes.



MAPPING HEALTH EFFECTS FROM SPACE

Yang Liu, *Eugene J. and Rose Gongorosa Chair in Global Safe WASH*

Liu's custom-designed air sampler for a NASA satellite mission is essential to his work uncovering the links between wildfires, air quality, and health outcomes.



WEAVING INDIGENOUS HISTORY, IDENTITY, AND LEGACY

Malinda Maynor Lowery, *Robert Harold, Alice Dubberly, and Susan Alice Cahoon Chair in American History*

A pine needle basket crafted by Lumbee basket weaver Loretta Oxendine is an expression of Lowery's research into how Native American history is deeply ingrained in American history and culture.



TRANSFORMING CANCER TREATMENT

David Frank, *Christopher Brett Wolf Chair in Hematology and Medical Oncology*

A painting by one of Frank's graduate students depicts proteins that regulate gene expression as animals, illustrating both the creativity of his team and the targets of the new cancer treatments they are developing.



KEEPING YESTERDAY WITHIN REACH ALLOWS A NEW GENERATION TO

imagine tomorrow.



Galleries of Ancient Egyptian and Nubian Art at the Michael C. Carlos Museum

Students Bring Bold Ideas

When Sarah Orozco 25C decided to pursue environmental science, she wasn't sure where that path would lead, but she was ready to explore. Her openness led to the Saikawa Lab, where she arrived with no research experience but a fierce desire to learn. She found a dedicated mentor in Eri Saikawa, Winship Distinguished Research Professor of Environmental Sciences.

A hallmark of Saikawa's mentoring style is encouraging people to pursue projects they hadn't previously imagined. In Saikawa's lab, students take the lead on projects that tackle real-world challenges in local communities.

Saikawa believes the purpose of scholarship is to change lives.

"True scholarship means engaging diverse voices and merging student passions with the urgent challenges we face," says Saikawa. She says students bring new energy and bold ideas that spark innovation.

And that's exactly what Orozco did during her time in the lab. She organized community outreach events like hackathons, contributed to key research, and even joined Saikawa at United Nations climate negotiations in Azerbaijan.

Along the way, she gained skills and confidence, but more than that, she discovered where she belonged and how she could contribute. The work Orozco and her peers are doing today will ripple outward, shaping healthier environments and more resilient communities around the world.







Shown in photo with Cari Jo Clark: Jack Cagney and Zarmeen Shakil

HELPING OTHERS HELP OTHERS

Cari Jo Clark, associate professor of global health at the Rollins School of Public Health, doesn't draw a hard line between life in and out of the classroom. "It's not just academics with her. She's there to help with a funding grant or if you're having a personal crisis — even if she's on vacation," says Zarmeen Shakil 28PhD. "She just magically makes everything better."

Clark brings the same deliberate care to the global community through her research. Intimate partner violence affects one in three women worldwide. Clark and her team develop innovative social and behavior change interventions to reduce it. "Our research happens at the intersection of skills application and real life. To see these teams in action, collectively succeeding and navigating challenges, is unparalleled in the classroom."

Clark relies on her graduate student team's diversity to help create culturally sensitive, locally tailored solutions. Shakil and Irina Bergenfeld 18PH 28PhD use Clark's tools and expertise to prevent violence on college campuses. Jack Cagney 30PhD uses the same tools to reduce violence against children.

In Nepal — where rates of family violence are high — Clark's students work with couples who listen to radio dramas that model healthy conflict resolution strategies. Afterward, the couples discuss the scenarios as a group, and many have reported a decrease in violence at home.

THE CORE OF THIS WORK IS PARTNERSHIP BUILDING, WHICH DR. CLARK APPROACHES WITH THE IDEALS OF EQUITY AND MUTUAL RESPECT.

— Irina Bergenfeld 18PH 28PhD

"She teaches us to look at our work through a global and local lens. When you change social norms in communities, eventually you can influence policy, and that's how interventions scale up," says Shakil.

Clark looks forward to the day when policy makers understand that they can change attitudes about intimate partner violence and child violence by funding community interventions. "The prevalence of abuse and violence is very high throughout the world," she says. "We're moving from the belief that these are private issues to understanding the need to develop public health interventions."



Faith in Communities

For Jennifer Ayres 07PhD, L. Bevel Jones III Professor of Religious Education at Emory's Candler School of Theology, an exceptional education goes far beyond the walls of the classroom. She believes that truly transformative learning is only possible through relationships between people, communities, and the places they inhabit.

Her work at the intersection of ecology and theology has shaped not only her research but also that of her students, including Codi Norred 17T.

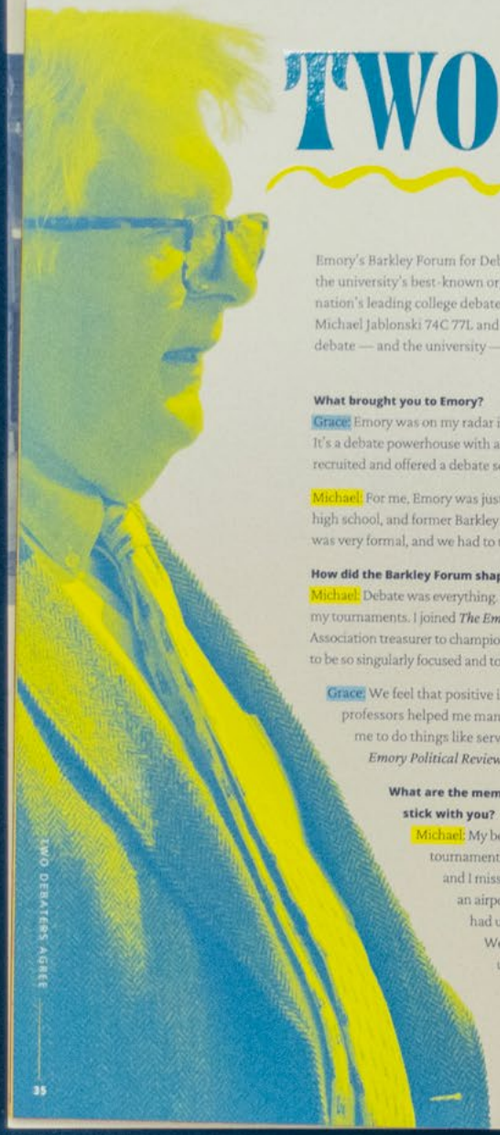
Through Ayres's example, Norred learned that tackling challenges means engaging with local communities and forging partnerships to address urgent social and environmental issues. Under her guidance, he refined his vision for ministry and community engagement.

Now executive director of Georgia Interfaith Power and Light, Norred helps congregations of all faiths across the state embrace sustainability through the implementation of practical climate solutions and advocacy.

His work embodies the frameworks he learned from Ayres, whose research on faith communities' care for the land brought her to Norred's congregation. Norred served as a research assistant for the project, which — based on conversations about composting, gardening, and sharing food — became part of Ayres's book, ***Inhabitance***, exploring what it means to live faithfully and responsibly in a particular place.

Today Norred is mentoring emerging leaders who share his commitment to sustainability and service. And Ayres continues to guide students who explore bold questions and engage deeply with communities.

TWO DEBATERS AGREE



Emory's Barkley Forum for Debate, Deliberation, and Dialogue is among the university's best-known organizations for good reason: It's one of the nation's leading college debate programs. Though decades apart at Emory, Michael Jablonski 74C 77L and Grace Kessler 24C sat down to talk about how debate — and the university — shaped their lives.

What brought you to Emory?

Grace: Emory was on my radar in high school because of the Barkley Forum. It's a debate powerhouse with a big team, resources, and great coaches. I was recruited and offered a debate scholarship.

Michael: For me, Emory was just so close. It was two miles away from my high school, and former Barkley Forum debaters were my coaches. Back then, it was very formal, and we had to try out for the team.

How did the Barkley Forum shape your time while at Emory?

Michael: Debate was everything. My coach picked my classes, my partner, and my tournaments. I joined *The Emory Wheel* and became the Student Government Association treasurer to champion the Barkley Forum. Now I advise students not to be so singularly focused and to take advantage of every opportunity.

Grace: We feel that positive influence from alumni today. My coaches and professors helped me manage and balance my time. That support allowed me to do things like serve as the editor-in-chief of the *Emory Political Review* and to conduct research in immigration law.

What are the memories about the Barkley Forum that will stick with you?

Michael: My best memories were the times between practice and tournaments. We were always laughing. One time, my partner and I missed a tournament because we were grounded in an airport overnight. As soon as we got back, our coach had us drive to Nashville for a different tournament. We were exhausted but had so much fun. It ended up being one of my best tournaments. I was top speaker.

Grace: That's wild. My favorite part of Barkley was the team retreat at the start of each season. That time was extra special because along with practicing debates, we played games and cooked together. It was time to get to know each other better.

What do you hope for future Emory students?

Grace: Emory offers incredible opportunities, so I hope students continue to take advantage of that, surround themselves with interesting people, and work on something bigger than themselves.

Michael: That's a great perspective. I will add that they should ask how they can apply skills they learn at Emory elsewhere. Use what you know and stay open. You never know where opportunities will come from or where they will take you.

How is the Barkley Forum still a part of your life now?

Michael: I never really left the Barkley Forum. My whole career, from practicing law to writing speeches for President Carter, has its foundations in debate. My role changed through the years from coaching and advocacy to fundraising and outreach. It's something I really believe in.

Grace: I agree. Debate helped me articulate my thoughts quickly and work effectively with others to solve problems. There's never really a time when you are no longer a member of the Barkley Forum. It isn't watered down by time. We have a shared home away from home.



The Barkley Forum circa 1972. **Michael Jablonski** is seated on the far right.



The 2024 Barkley Forum. **Grace Kessler** is second fourth from the left in the bottom row.

THE ENDURING LIFE OF A GIFT

Thanks to your generosity, I can share the power of stories and ideas with students who will carry them into the world.

You don't just fund research. You fuel the breakthroughs that are shaping the world.

Thank you for giving low-income, first-gen students like me the chance to pursue higher education.

BECAUSE OF YOU, TREATMENTS WILL REACH PATIENTS FASTER — GIVING HOPE, HEALING, AND A FUTURE REIMAGINED.

I'm a first-year nursing major and never dreamed I'd have the chance to go to the No. 1 nursing school in the nation. You made it possible, and I'll carry that with me always.

I found my calling because of your kindness.

Donor support changes lives, mine included. I can't thank you enough.

YOUR SUPPORT HELPS CHART NEW PATHS IN CANCER RESEARCH THAT WILL ONE DAY SAVE LIVES. THANK YOU.

THANK YOU. YOU HAVE NO IDEA THE AMAZING IMPACT YOU MAKE ON ALL OF US. YOU MAKE EMORY SPECIAL.

I am eternally grateful for your support. Because of you, I have the opportunity to work alongside brilliant minds every day.

Dear Taylor,

When we first talked about 2036, we knew it would be successful because that's what the Emory community does. We couldn't fully imagine, however, just how powerful the results would be.

And this is just the beginning. Thank you for being a part of this remarkable movement to shape what comes next.

You have helped write a defining chapter in Emory's history, one that celebrates extraordinary achievements and lays the foundation for the future.

The stories featured throughout these pages — of discovery, compassion, and impact — are possible thanks to your commitment to the community we are building together.

Because of you, Emory will continue to inspire all who look for knowledge, leadership, and hope.

With appreciation,

Joshua R. Newton
Senior Vice President
Advancement and Alumni Engagement
Emory University


EMORY