

NEBRASKA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

ARCHWAYS

BUILD SOMETHING GREAT | SUMMER 2017 | VOLUME 17, ISSUE 2



Groundbreaking News

Shovels hit the ground for
the centerpiece of NWU's
emerging campaign.

A Lover's War

Can art and activism shine through an angry age?

FROM THE PRESIDENT



*Acklie was known,
consulted and admired
by U.S. presidents
for many decades.*

Dear Alumni and Friends,

In our lifetimes, not many people pass by us who are as remarkably accomplished and resolute as **Duane W. Acklie** was. By listening carefully and asking questions at opportune moments, a person could learn in striking detail how Duane had come from very simple origins. Even as he became so successful in business, he remembered his humble start.

From my own conversations with Duane, I learned about his father coming from a family so destitute that he had started working before he was even a teenager; about Duane as a boy in rural Madison County, Nebraska, selling watermelons at the roadside off the back of a truck; and about Duane and his wife, Phyllis, scrounging together every “last red cent” that could possibly be turned to cash in 1971, in order to purchase a small trucking company. (That colorful expression, by the way, goes back to the redness of copper pennies when they were not yet made of 97.5 percent zinc with just a thin copper coating.)

Duane Acklie was best known for building Crete Carrier Corporation into an extraordinarily successful business, for his ability to negotiate beneficial business deals, and for his sage and steady leadership in the Republican Party statewide and nationally. And rightly so.

So many other impressive things he did were less well known. From the time he served in the United States Army in Germany as a counterintelligence officer, he was a student of the world. He could not get enough of new places and new experiences. Duane treated each of his three sons-in-law as if he were his own born child. He encouraged vigorous pursuit of medical research to improve human lives, particularly after his eldest daughter, Dodie, died tragically young from cancer.

Duane had impressive national roles. He chaired the federal Student Loan Marketing Association for two years. He chaired the United Service Organizations (USO) for three years. In 2005, he served on the United States delegation to the United Nations General Assembly. Acklie was known, consulted and admired by U.S. presidents for many decades. Even with all those experiences and influences, for Rosemary and me, sitting down and talking with Duane and Phyllis Acklie was as natural as a conversation with any other couple who readily and instantly show their warmth, making you feel at home.

Duane Acklie thought carefully about his charitable giving. He wanted it to have long-term impact. He knew that there are so many needs in the world that a giving person has to consider carefully which philanthropic investments are going to be most meaningful. In Duane’s estimation, something that was good for people was a good way to give. All that he achieved, with his wife Phyllis ever alongside, is memorialized now in the naming of Nebraska Wesleyan University’s Duane W. Acklie Hall of Science. What a fitting tribute to our former board chair, our friend, our champion.

Yours truly,

—Fred Ohles
President



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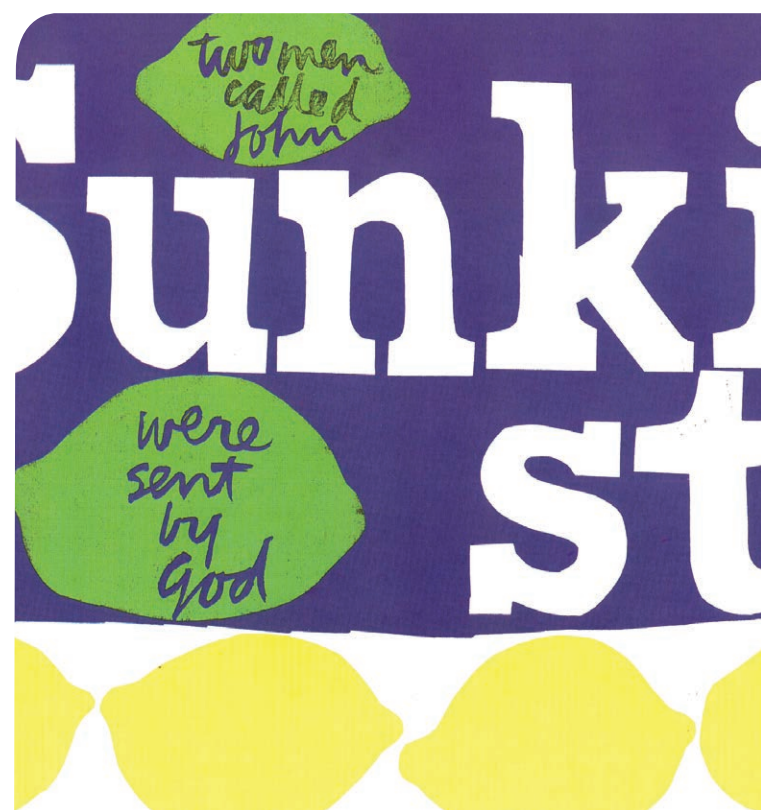
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Nebraska Wesleyan University is an academic community dedicated to intellectual and personal growth within the context of a liberal arts education and in an environment of Christian concern.

Archways is an examination—and, ideally, a conversation—of how Nebraska Wesleyan University and its people relate to the world around us. That examination is academically sound, socially conscious, and continuously curious.

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Photo by Zach Tuttle ('17)



Rachel Balter ('19), illustrator, "Truth by Numbers" ▶20

Rachel is an NWU art major and communication studies and marketing minor. She lives in Lincoln, works in Nebraska Wesleyan's Marketing and Communications Office as a designer, and owns seven hats in different shades of red.



David Edelman ('91), "Seeking Peace" ▶34

David is a business administration alumnus with a committed interest in peace in the Middle East. He has taken multiple trips to Israel and the West Bank through Americans for Peace Now. His most recent trip inspired his essay on the complexities of a two-state solution to the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians.



Hannah Segura ('19), illustrator, "Radicals Wanted" ▶22

Hannah has a Bachelor of Arts in graphic design from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. She came to NWU for a second degree to pursue a career in directing musical theatre. She works as a designer in Nebraska Wesleyan's Marketing and Communications Office. When she's not singing, directing or designing, Hannah obsesses over Marvel films.

Letters

This Thing Called Race

As a black man, one of a category of people who are often victims of unjust force by white officers, I would like to tell Mr. **Nathaniel Grimm** ('07) [Letters, "On Force," spring 2017] about the concept of institutional racism. Racism is a learned action, as little kids, we are taught that "white is good and black is bad" from elementary school through adulthood by ways of schools, books, TV, folklore, etc.

A study was done with elementary black kids using a "white doll and a black doll," asking them to pick the one they like the most. A majority of the black kids picked the white doll, not realizing they were being prejudiced against themselves.

Recently, a white police officer claimed her actions in killing an unarmed black man were not prejudice, the same system of institutional racism will not let her choose to shoot a white person. Automatically, she will look for the "good" before firing her gun. The same is not true when faced with a black man. The stimulus is "bad." Shoot to protect yourself. All the time, this officer is thinking she is not prejudiced.

If we are to get along as a nation of Americans and not just black or white citizens, we must start to talk about this thing called race.

From an NWU family member,
Andre Polk ('73)

Moved to Tears

I truly enjoyed the tribute to Profs. **William Kloefkorn**, **Mary Smith** and **Leon Satterfield** ["A Prescription for Poetry," spring 2017]. It literally moved me to tears. These outstanding teachers shaped my career as a writer and editor, and, more importantly, my life, in so many ways.

Thank you for publishing the tributes to them and for bringing back so many fond memories of NWU. Although my master's degree is from UNL, I will always think of Nebraska Wesleyan as my alma mater.

Suzi (Shugert) Harkola ('70)
Manasota Key, Fla.

Opinions expressed in letters to the editor are not necessarily those of *Archways* magazine or Nebraska Wesleyan University.

Anonymous letters will not be printed. Letters may be edited for length, content and style.



Be heard. Contact us.

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NSF Advances NWU STEM Students

The National Science Foundation has awarded Nebraska Wesleyan University one of the largest grants in school history. The \$650,000 grant funds NWU's new STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) Scholars Program, which will provide financial, academic and social support for selected students in biology, chemistry, biochemistry, molecular biology,

mathematics and physics.

More than half of the money will fund scholarships over four years for a selected set of students entering NWU in fall 2017 and fall 2018. Selection is based on significant financial need, career goals in industry or research, and a passion for STEM fields. Funds will also support the students' academic research and provide career

programming that will impact many NWU students.

"This grant is a great testament to the strength and success of our science programs," said Provost Judy Muyskens. "It also provides a wonderful opportunity to students who may not otherwise be able to pursue a STEM degree at Nebraska Wesleyan."

THE FINAL: A highly competitive NSF grant highlights Nebraska Wesleyan's bold steps in the sciences.

Transformational Provost Transitions to Retirement

Provost Judy Muyskens retired at the end of this academic year. Since her arrival in 2008, many of Nebraska Wesleyan University's largest and most consequential improvements have borne her fingerprints.

Muyskens was instrumental in developing Nebraska Wesleyan's nationally heralded Archway Curriculum. She led the blending of student life and academic affairs to advance the residential campus experience as part of Nebraska Wesleyan's overarching approach to education. She guided the introduction of the pre-licensure Bachelor of Science in Nursing, the Master of Business Administration, the Master of Science in Nursing/Master of Business Administration joint degree and the Master of Education. She oversaw the Athletic Department's addition of four varsity athletic programs.

Muyskens also played a pivotal role in the planning of the Duane W. Acklie Hall of Science under construction

now. Her goal was always to create a facility whose design and function meshed well with the way Nebraska Wesleyan professors teach.

Under Muyskens' leadership, NWU has secured major grant funding from sources including the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Association of American Colleges and Universities, the National Science Foundation, the Council of Independent Colleges and the U.S. Department of Justice.

In April, she delivered a "last lecture" of sorts to her staff colleagues. She called April a time of transitions on campus, as



Photo by Chad Greene

Judy Muyskens

students and professors prepare for finals; likewise, staff gears for commencement and a summer's worth of maintaining the campus and its facilities. As she approached her own segue into retirement, she said all these transitions bring with them opportunities to reflect, evaluate and adjust course.

She quoted Mary Oliver's poem, "The Summer Day," "Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?"

She stood before her colleagues and asked the question at the kernel of the Nebraska Wesleyan experience. "Are you leading the adventurous and inquisitive life you are meant to live?"

THE FINAL: Retiring Provost Judy Muyskens led NWU through a transformational period.

the MAIN event

NWU's First Giving Day Gives a Tremendous Boost

24
HOURS

731
DONORS

GOAL: **\$129,000**

AMOUNT RAISED: **\$217,159**

MATCHING GIFT
CHALLENGES:

7

CLASS THAT RAISED
THE MOST MONEY:

Class of '89

CLASS WITH
THE MOST DONORS:

Class of '13

On April 19, alumni, students, faculty, staff, parents and friends came together to celebrate their NWU pride and give back. Your gifts to the Archway Fund supported scholarships, faculty development, athletics, academic programs and so much more.

**THANK YOU for giving
on this day ... and every day!**

Visit nebrwesleyan.edu/themainevent
to see full results and a list of donors.

See your gifts in action at
facebook.com/NWUgiving.

April 19 is about as far away on the calendar from Thanksgiving Day as you can get. Yet the feeling of thanksgiving permeated the entire Nebraska Wesleyan community on that spring day.

Billed as "The Main Event," April 19 was Nebraska Wesleyan's first-ever giving day. The window was small: just 24 hours. The goal was big. Raise \$129,000 in honor of NWU's 129-year history. The response was bold.

More than 730 alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends made gifts to Nebraska Wesleyan's Archway Fund exceeding \$217,000.

"I was blown away," said Erika Paschold ('08), director of Nebraska Wesleyan's annual giving program known as the Archway Fund. "The way this entire community came together to support this school just shows so much."

Advancing efforts that day were several generous matching gifts. Select members of Nebraska Wesleyan's Board of Governors matched \$65,000 in gifts. Bill Muggy ('67) matched more than \$25,000, and Greg Bergt ('71) matched \$10,000. When we reached our 600th donor on the day, the milestone triggered another \$20,000 in a challenge gift from an anonymous board member.

Many gifts to the Archway Fund were undesignated and will be spent on the university's most pressing needs. Others chose to designate Archway Fund gifts to priority areas, including scholarships and

THE FINAL: NWU's giving day expired at midnight, April 19. But the Archway Fund never expires. You can make today your giving day at nebrwesleyan.edu/donate.



*The way this entire
community came together
to support this school
just shows so much.*

financial aid, academic departments, NWU faculty and NWU athletics.

"What an amazing result," Assistant Professor of English Sandra McBride ('84) posted on the Advancement Office's Facebook page, Nebraska Wesleyan University Giving. "Thanks to all my friends and family who donated."

The end result was more than a day of giving. It was a day of thanksgiving—minus the icy roads and turkey comas.

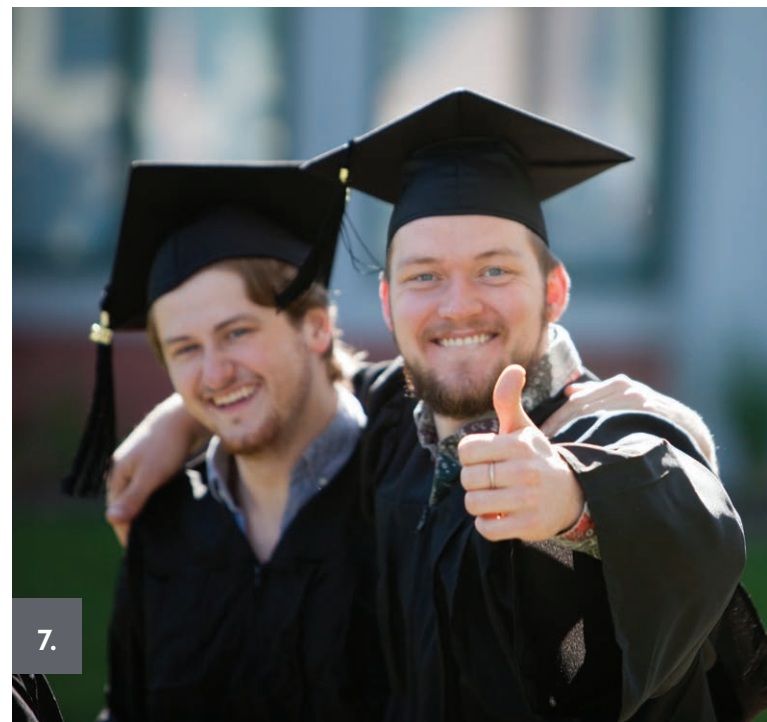
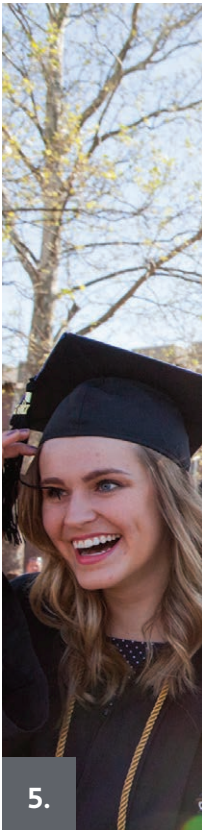




Photo by Peggy Hahn



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9.

Graduating Class Ready to Begin

The class of 2017's commencement day—complete with its traditional “final walk”—had more of a feeling of newness than finality. That walk took graduates along the future Duane W. Acklie Hall of Science's 50th Street location—a construction site as freshly graded as their final exams.

That feeling of newness carried into Antwan Wilson's (95) energetic commencement address. Wilson himself is new in his role as chancellor of Washington, D.C.'s public schools.

The graduates themselves took their first steps as Nebraska Wesleyan alumni, across the stage on a fresh and green Taylor Commons.

There is much newness in store for the class of 2017. First moves. First homes. First promotions. First children. Through all these firsts and countless more, we offer a single last. May our new graduates' pride in NWU be that thing, in the end, that lasts.

THE FINAL: NWU welcomed 489 students to the ranks of alumni on May 6.

- (1.) Commencement is always a family affair.
- (2.) Taylor Commons swells with people and pride.
- (3.) President Ohles congratulates a new graduate.
- (4.) Graduates feel the energy.
- (5.) Emotions run strong under the arch.
- (6.) Antwan Wilson delivers the address and accepts the honorary degree, Doctor of Pedagogy.
- (7.) Some thumbs up go beyond emoticons.
- (8.) Lifetime educator Marilyn Moore is awarded the honorary degree, Doctor of Humane Letters, as Board of Governors Chair Susan Gourley and Provost Judy Muyskens assist in the hooding.
- (9.) The honorary degree, Doctor of Laws, is conferred upon Jim Abel, chairman and CEO of NEBCO, Inc.

—Photos by Dan Luedert unless otherwise noted.

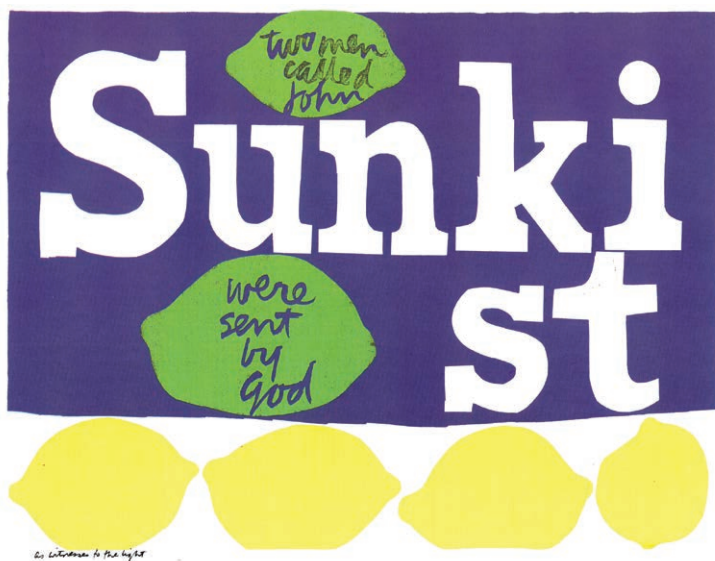


A piece of good news



A, Lover's War

Can art and activism shine through an angry age?





The war of an artist with his society is a lover's war. And he does, at his best, what lovers do, which is to reveal the beloved to himself, and with that revelation, make freedom real.

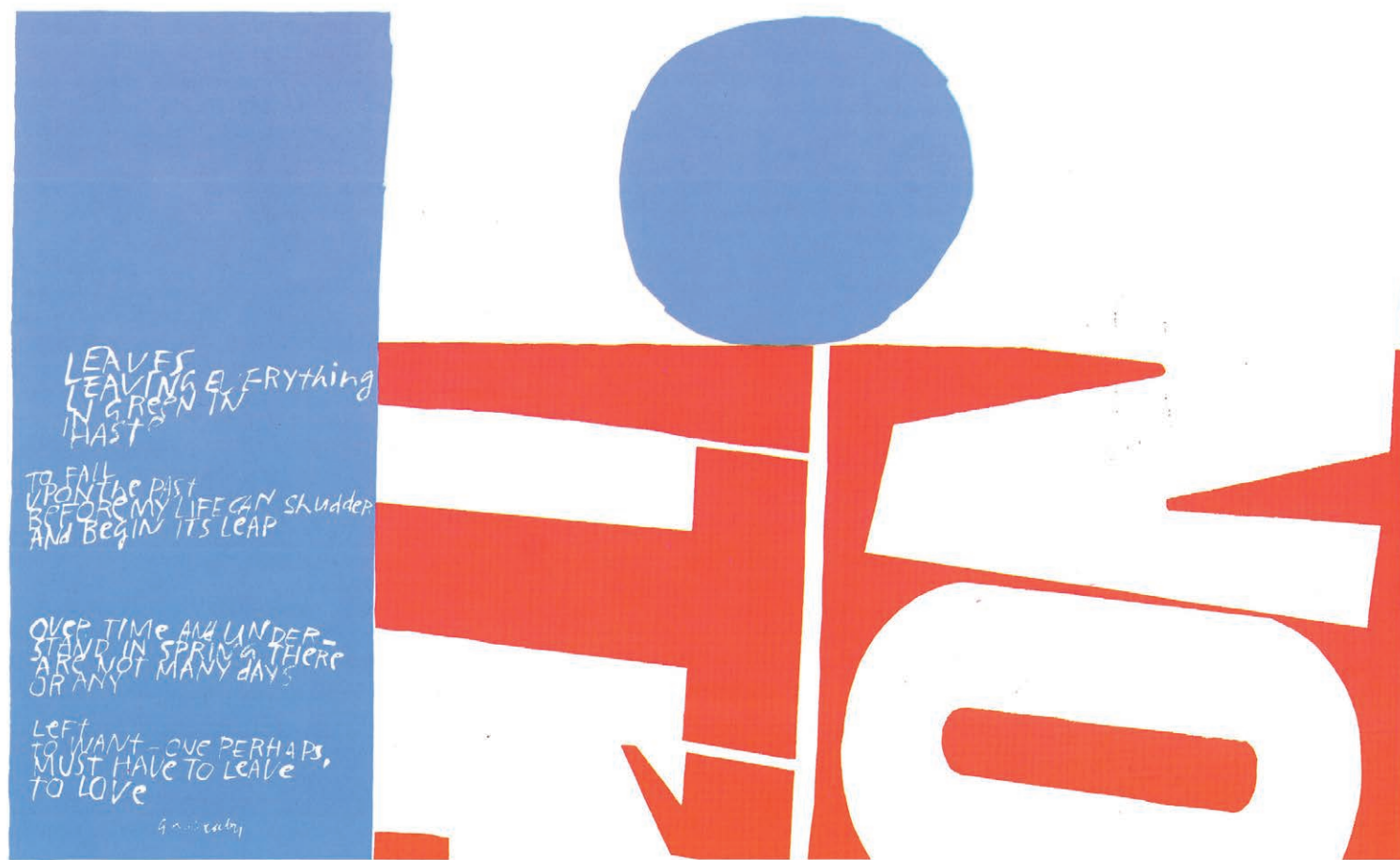
—James Baldwin

The late Sister Mary Corita Kent—the renowned nun, peace activist and pop artist—visited Nebraska Wesleyan University in the late 1960s or early 1970s. (Record of the exact date is lost.) While we don't know precisely what she said on campus, an essay she wrote before her visit feels custom fitted for NWU in 2017.

"Today is a question-making time," Kent wrote in 1965, "a time in which we have been forced to notice newly the uniqueness of people and things as they squirm out of categories and definitions."

As 2017 squirms, half-formed, into surprising shapes, there's anxiety in its newness. "Uniqueness confounds us," Kent said, "because there are no rules for guides."

It's expected that a nun would point to religion for managing that uncertainty. ("Only God is totally un-nervous," she said.) But she could point just as emphatically to art. Finding ourselves unable to match God's calm, Kent said the artist provides an attainable model for becoming more comfortable with the new.



To Leave to Love


“Art means going in a direction that nobody has ever been before. The artist must possess a kind of endurance to keep it up, a willingness to take risks, to be always not sure (which seems quite reasonable because, who is?).”

She continued, “This uncertainty is the dirty, grubby, hard bone of the artist’s life—this doing it new every time, this always taking the magic leap.”

Kent called it “dangerous to be made nervous by the new ... to want things not to be rearranged. It would be better to be able to take the leap, which is to be able not only to live with change and newness,” she said, “but even to help make it.”

Here, in her urge to make change, Kent’s faithful and artful sides merged beautifully with her activism. “To the extent that [a nun’s] community prevents her from being beautiful and human and Christian, that community must be remade over and over again,” Kent said. Whether or not she wears the habit, a Christian, Kent argued, must also be a catalyst. A reformer. An activist.

For Kent, all these words were synonyms for artist. For maker. “As a maker, she will rejoice to share in the making of the new creation.”

In Kent’s work (as well as in the stories of art and activism that follow), it’s delightfully possible to see art, faith and activism overlap in a shared expression of love. 

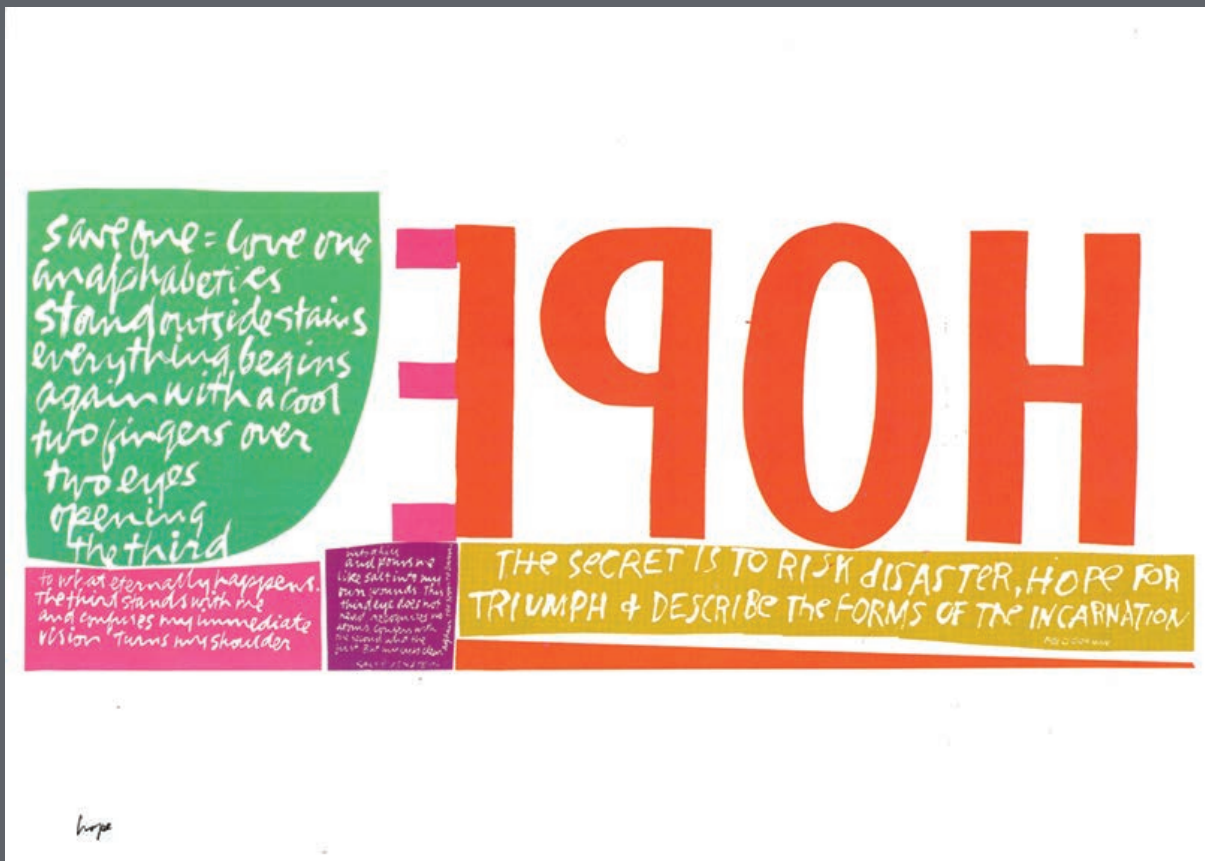
She’s right in there as far as peace, and racial justice, and the crisis in the nation is concerned. But it’s got a kind of lilt to it. A kind of joy that is so badly needed.

—Harvey Cox
Harvard Divinity School



Corita stands for
a kind of festive
involvement with
the world.

—Harvey Cox



Were you on campus
for Sister Corita's
NWU visit?

Share your memories at
ewendt@nebrwesleyan.edu

All images were drawn
from *Sister Corita*
(Pilgrim Press, 1968).
The book is out of print,
but is one of the tens of
thousands of valuable
pieces available to the
Nebraska Wesleyan
community via the
collection at Cochrane-
Woods Library.



Feed a movement

Can “art with a purpose” reshape art’s purpose?

Sarah Berkeley’s I-have-to-do-something moment came on June 17, 2015. That was the day a young white supremacist walked in on a Methodist bible study in Charleston, S.C., received a warm welcome, sat through a kindly discussion of scripture, then opened fire, killing nine.

One thousand three hundred miles away in Lincoln, Berkeley was left speechless. The assistant professor of art followed the investigation, which led to the arrest and conviction of a 21-year-old. “I remember thinking, ‘He’s the same age as the students I teach.’”

How could this young person’s worldview be so empty, so artless, so sick as to embrace the murder of strangers who’d just embraced him? Berkeley’s mind snagged on that artlessness. Artlessness and misery, she believed, are bound.

The physician and poet Dr. William Carlos Williams wrote a confirming diagnosis in 1955:

It is difficult
to get the news from poems
yet men die miserably every day
for lack
of what is found there.

Could the art that Berkeley and her colleagues help NWU students understand and create be lifesaving? It isn’t foolishness to believe so. Could Berkeley somehow amplify her impact as a teacher if she prepared students to become, not just better artists, but bolder activists?

She began designing a new course, “ART 3010: Art + Activism,” which debuted this spring. The hybrid studio/seminar course is geared to help students become familiar with the intersections of art and socio-political issues through lectures, discussion, research and the execution of individual and group projects. (Williams might call this the difficult work of getting the news from art.)

The new course drew an eclectic mix of students. Monte Monteagle (’18) of Omaha, was sold at a glance. The theatre studies major read the “Art + Activism” title and said, “I want to do more of both those things.”

Sarah Alkaltham (’18) of Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, and Gillian Wright (’20) of Waterford, Ireland, were both attracted thanks in part to the complex relationships between art and politics in their home countries.

“Art is held high in Irish society,” said Wright. “And it was people living on the

fringes—our artists and writers—who were responsible for inspiring Irish liberation.”

Motivated by the racist massacre in South Carolina, Berkeley originally intended to focus the course on race-related activism. But she quickly determined that the students themselves should choose the direction and nature of their joint activism. And the students were interested in planting seeds.

Inspired by the LA-based art collaboration, “Fallen Fruit” (fallenfruit.org), and by slow-food, organic and local agriculture movements, the class set out to create a campus community garden. The goal was for the project to bring the campus together in a way that fosters community and conversations about the things that sustain us.

But is that art? And if art has a non-aesthetic goal—a goal beyond being beautiful—if it strives to convince you to behave a certain way (vote libertarian, buy American, help the poor, eat at Joe’s), has it cheapened itself?

Berkeley’s students were refreshingly unconcerned with whether the public recognized their work as serious art. “If they have trouble seeing it as a garden, then we have a problem,” Monteagle joked.



ART ON PURPOSE

In addition to the group garden, “Art + Activism” students also created individual pieces of social practice art, including these projects.

And they were unapologetic about their art project’s social intent. “I don’t think having a goal devalues art,” said **Alexandria Lane** (’19) of Lincoln. There can be a balance, she said, between an aesthetic critique and a societal one.

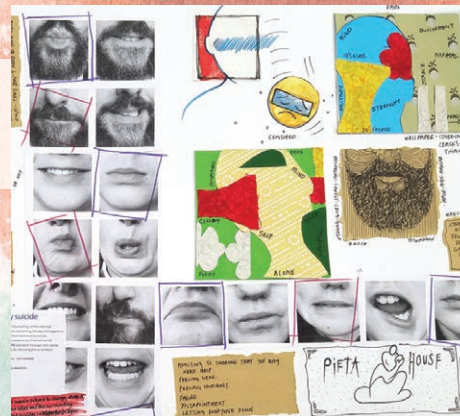
In that balance arises an opening where art can enter people’s lives in unexpected ways. “The point,” wrote Nato Thompson in the course’s textbook, *Living as Form*, “is not to destroy the category of art, but—straining against edges where art blurs into the everyday—to take a snapshot” of our culture.

It’s a form of art where “viewer” becomes “participant.” In fact, the last brushstroke, the work’s completion, falls not to the artist, but to the community.

One outcome of Berkeley’s I-have-to-do-something moment is this: the simple tending of a garden. As spring turned toward summer, her art students turned also toward their audience—the classmates and community they rely upon to complete their art.

And what sort of community action would tell them the artwork is finished?

“I hope they eat it,” said Monteague. “I hope they nourish it.” 🌱

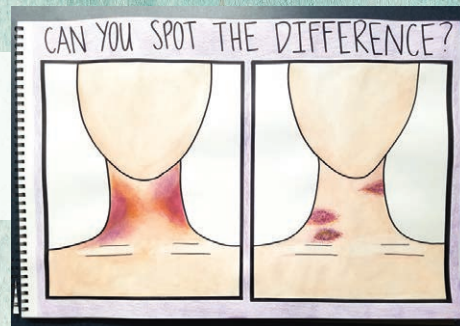


Gillian Wright

PURPOSE: Preventing suicide

PROJECT: Artful bar coasters incorporating information on prevention services

Alcohol use is high among people at risk of suicide. Wright’s work attempts to reach them where they often are: at bars and pubs.

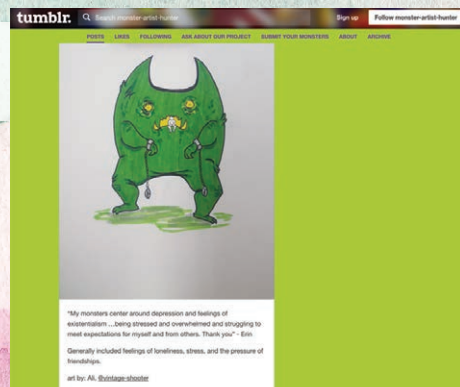


Savannah Larsen (’20)

PURPOSE: Identifying domestic and child abuse

PROJECT: “Spot the Difference” illustrations

Larsen uses the child-magazine trope of lighthearted “spot the difference” illustrations to convey a heavier message about the differences between the normal bumps and bruises of childhood and the warning signs of abuse.



Alexandria Lane

PURPOSE: Building emotional resiliency

PROJECT: “Monster Hunter” caricatures

Lane asks participants to describe the “monsters” they fight—anxieties, fears, illnesses, problems. Lane takes those descriptions and draws portraits to help users visualize and confront the obstacles they face.

A section of Emma Krenzer's "Touches," 2017, acrylic on photo. To view the entire image, or purchase a print, go to saatchiart.com/ekrenzer. Proceeds will benefit the Women's Center for Advancement of Omaha.



Draw Me a Map

When a simple art assignment goes viral, one student gives hundreds of thousands a route to understanding sexual assault.

—By Emmalie Harris ('18)

Emma Krenzer ('19) often shares her artwork on Twitter. So her decision to tweet her studio art assignment, "Touches," wasn't unusual. But the global response the art and psychology major's piece sparked was unlike anything she'd experienced.

Her provocative piece measures its online views and shares in the hundreds of thousands. It has appeared on *Buzzfeed*, *People* magazine, *Marie Claire* magazine and the *Huffington Post*.

"I never imagined it would get to this magnitude," Krenzer said.

The impetus for "Touches" came from an assignment in her studio art class. Associate Professor of Art David Gracie's prompt was to create a map. Any kind of map.

For a figurative artist like Krenzer, this seemingly straightforward assignment was a bit of a curveball. "A lot of my work is concerned with the female body and its capabilities," she said. "Up until this point, I had mostly focused on the internal functions of the body." This map assignment pushed her to think about the body's exterior—its topography.

From here, she said, "I got the idea about touch. I was thinking about the way people touch. It usually has movement." If that movement has a course, she thought, it can be mapped.

She took a photo of her friend and set about creating her map of touch. She finger painted the nude with the different "routes" of touch color-coded by the category of person doing the touching. Mom, dad, siblings, friends, lovers.

Then, coded in red, there's the simple category: "someone I told no."

The piece was a response to Gracie's assignment. It was also a

response to the January 21 Women's March in Washington, D.C., which she attended with roughly a dozen NWU classmates. She wanted to speak out and express not just anger, but truth. She wanted to give people a way to understand the reality of a violence that perhaps they could not or would not otherwise see.

"I thought about what was true for myself, and what I perceived to be commonly true for people in general when I mapped out these touches," Krenzer told BuzzFeed.com.

She posted the finished image and could tell almost immediately that it was resonating differently with people.

"I thought, 'That's really cool. This will maybe be the most popular piece I've posted yet.'" She'd soon have trouble keeping up with the wave of reactions, then online stories that brought about even more reactions.

"When people actually started contacting me with questions, that's when I was like, 'OK, this is actually a big deal.' This isn't just something on the internet anymore. This is a real thing that's sparking interest in big groups of people," Krenzer said.

"I feel like art, no matter how powerful or relatable it really is, a lot of the time it only reaches so far because it takes a lot of analyzing." And many people, Krenzer said, are just ill-equipped to do the work to find meaning in most art. In her piece, she said, "The meaning was literally mapped out. I think that's why it resonated with so many people."



This isn't just something on the internet anymore. This is a real thing that's sparking interest in big groups of people.

In this way, Krenzer's piece became a map on two fronts. It helped audiences find their way through the complexities of both contemporary art and the subject of sexual assault. "The fact that I could portray a message that people understood made me feel like I had done something successful as an artist."

She called the wave of reaction her piece started "amazing, but also sad." Her piece resonates with so many because the reality of sexual assault affects so many.

Krenzer credited Nebraska Wesleyan University's professors for equipping her to reach people through her work. "My art actually became art when I got to Nebraska Wesleyan," she said. "Before, I was doing crafts. I didn't really understand what art was before I came to Nebraska Wesleyan. I really liked to draw and paint, but I didn't do it in a way that was expressive."

As she continues her study at NWU, she's interested in extending her piece into a fuller series. She's exploring a partnership with the Lincoln-based Voices of Hope, a nonprofit organization that serves people who've experienced relationship

violence, sexual assault and other forms of abuse.

The enormity of what's to come isn't lost on Krenzer. "How do you follow something like that?" she asked. "What do you do now?"

It's a path her professors are helping her map out for herself. That path may be complex, but its first step is refreshingly simple: "You go to work." 🏠

Acting on Instinct

A theatre major follows her drive across continents.

—By Emmalie Harris ('18)

Photo by Michael Reinmiller



Olivia Finnegan ('17) has a salmon's urge to swim against the current. So while the dream of acting pulls hundreds of young Nebraskans toward Hollywood, Finnegan is an LA native who chased her acting dream all the way to Lincoln.

Once she arrived at Nebraska Wesleyan's bustling Department of Theatre, that urge to swim—to learn by immersing herself in new places and new experiences—only grew stronger.

Today, she holds two important documents: a Nebraska Wesleyan diploma and a passport stamped by 14 nations.

Her final study abroad experience took Finnegan farther afield than any other. She arrived in January at the 2017 Fringe World Festival in Perth, Australia. She was there to absorb as much as she possibly could of Australia's largest performance arts platform with 700 performances in 150 venues.

She was there, also, to perform. Finnegan premiered her one-woman show, "Hostel Environment." The show explores the quirks and complications of humanity she experienced in all her travels as a Nebraska Wesleyan student. Finnegan said the show's monologues and dance "portray a conglomeration of characters I've interacted with while traveling in an attempt to communicate the collective humanity of us all."

Those characters ranged from a homeless man dancing in the streets of Madrid to a tight-lipped but wise and kind-eyed Englishman. The show's title was born of the countless nights Finnegan spent sleeping alongside strangers in hostel bunkbeds throughout her travels.

NWU's Student-Faculty Collaborative Research Fund made

Finnegan is an LA native who chased her acting dream all the way to Lincoln.

Finnegan's senior capstone experience in Perth possible. Collaborating with her was Jay Chipman ('77), the professor of theatre who had long supported her study-abroad experiences through recommendation letters and personal advice. Chipman served as Finnegan's director for "Hostel Environment."

"When it was time to stage it and make it a story to be seen by the world, Jay was there to be that eye," Finnegan said. "It only made sense that

he was the professor to collaborate with because he had been an integral part of sending me abroad the first two times."


The things she learned at the Fringe World Festival combine with everything she experienced studying in England and Central America, backpacking through Europe, and contributing to productions on campus.

"I've learned a lot about what theatre looks like in other cultures and from an academic standpoint. That's fueled the fire to see what it looks like in real life," said Finnegan, who is considering a graduate degree in theatrical anthropology and a possible career teaching theatre internationally.

"It built her confidence as a performer and allowed her to network with other theatre artists," Chipman said of her Australia experience.

As Finnegan enters the next stage of her life, she takes with her great confidence in her ability to adapt and create.

"My resume is packed," said Finnegan. "Nebraska Wesleyan has taught me how to work hard. I am grateful for that."

Wherever her career leads, Finnegan is unlikely to feel like a fish out of water. "I feel ready for the real world," she said. 



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Truth by Numbers

Figures are 100 percent as reliable as the people wielding them.

Professor Rebecca Goldin has a magic penny. It picks presidents. Go ahead and flip it. Heads means a Democrat will win the next election. Tails means a Republican will.

Don't believe it? "My penny has matched 13 of the last 15 elections," the George Mason University mathematics professor told her NWU audience on February 28. "Not bad, right?"

Still, no one in the crowded Olin Lecture Hall looked particularly convinced her copper penny held predictive powers. After all, her Fetzer Lecture was titled, "Should You Believe It?"

"Want to know how I found my magic penny?" She broke a \$10 bill into cents and gave them to 1,000 friends. She asked them to flip theirs 15 times and

tally the results. Then she compared those results to the last 15 presidential elections. "And I picked the best one."

You're not inclined to believe her penny is predictive. But replace the penny with some other factor, like, say, the unemployment rate or change in GDP, and you're

more likely to be swayed. Goldin had her choice of 1,000 pennies. People making claims of causation have at least as many correlative factors to choose from. Don't be surprised when the one they pick behaves like one in 1,000.

"We tend to find the random indicator that fits what we want to see and claim it's not random," she said.

We tend to find the random indicator that fits what we want to see and claim it's not random.



Illustration by Rachel Balter ('19)

Sometimes, the people making these claims have bad intent. They're selling snake oil or trying to scare you. But often, they're not lying. They're just convinced.

Goldin contended that scientists, policy makers and the public alike are most likely to be swayed at the point of "moral and statistical collision."

She said, "Our convictions about the moral faults of others can shape the way we interpret numbers."

Our beliefs about foreigners, for example, can shape whether we interpret rates of immigration and crime as correlative or causal. And breathless claims about tax policy and health (Tax beer to stop teenage gonorrhea! Prevent tens of thousands of premature deaths with this soda tax!) are often rooted in biased notions about the behavior of the poor, the young and the overweight.

While journalists, policy makers and the public could all stand to improve their statistical literacy, Goldin's message was not "Trust no one." Her examples of flawed reasoning from mainstream media like *The New York Times* and agencies like the Centers for Disease Control were no more random than her choice of pennies.

She chose them because they supported her arguments. Run by humans, the *Times* and CDC are capable of errors. Goldin said they also get it right with great consistency.

"I want you to think of numbers as sources that can be more or less trustworthy," she told NWU students. "Statistics themselves aren't the truth. Statistics are evidence," she said. It's our job to judge the strength and context of that evidence. ■

Dr. W. R. Fetzer founded the Amos and Alice Fetzer Memorial Lecture to attract renowned scholars in science, math and technology. Goldin's lecture coincides with the 100-year anniversary of Dr. Fetzer's NWU graduation.

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NWU's professional mentors, amazing
professors and outstanding reputation.

Garrett Sellhorst ('16)

Radicals Wanted

The key to freethinking students isn't unbiased teachers. It's professors who know what to do with their biases.



Illustration by Hannah Segura (19)

Our topic here is the teaching of contentious topics—how NWU professors deal in the classroom with those issues that get people's blood boiling.

But before we light that powder keg, let's begin with a point of agreement—a given. Take the term “unbiased opinion.” We can agree it's an oxymoron. Our opinions are exactly where our biases often show.

Now let's carry our given one step further: Our biases aren't always bad.

Say you're at a street corner. You see a man at a crosswalk, waiting for the light to change. And another man slides behind him, picks his wallet and moves along.

Do you take sides? Or do you stop and say, “Well, maybe the man at the crosswalk deserved to have his wallet stolen. Or maybe the pickpocket had a compelling reason to steal. Who are we to judge?”

No. You judge based on what you see. And in the case of a victim and a victimizer, you are biased toward the victim. You respond according to your bias.

“Hey, that guy took your wallet!” you shout. Or, “Hey, buddy, give it back!” Or, “I'm calling the cops.”

As a thoughtful person of integrity, you match your bias for victims with all sorts of similar biases—for evidence, for justice, for manners, for reason. For tenderness, good humor and the liberal arts. In fact, you're

plum full of biases, and a great many of them are worth keeping.

As America debates bias in media and the classroom, we shouldn't forget the relationship between some of our biases and values. We shouldn't allow a noble desire to weed out bias to become the reason we discard our values.

Wendy Wright is a professor of criminal justice at Bridgewater State University in Bridgewater, Mass. She came to Nebraska Wesleyan in March to speak with NWU faculty on integrating issues of social justice in the classroom.

Wright said accusations of bias are being levied at professors across the U.S. more frequently and with greater passion than in recent years. It's tempting, she said, to respond to these pressures with a drier teaching style. If establishing context might reveal a personal inclination, simply drop it. Just be the unbiased messenger.

Wright encouraged NWU professors to resist this temptation. “Double down on critical thinking,” she urged. “Promoting the practice of reason is harder than just delivering classroom information. It's about more than the content. It's about making your own reasoning evident.” The intent here, Wright said, isn't to indoctrinate students to anyone's worldview, but to model critical thinking so students may apply those skills in

In fact, you're plum full of biases, and a great many of them are worth keeping.

their own reasoning.

“Show them the content element and that practice of reflecting on your own thinking,” Wright said. “Name the parts.”

Wright continued, “Don't shy away from positions. Don't be afraid to say, ‘You know what? I believe in justice, and this is how it applies here.’”

If such an approach gets you labeled a radical, Wright said, welcome it. In fact, she urged NWU professors to continue to “Develop your radical empathy for your students. Recognize with radical empathy that each of your students has the potential to become a more liberated thinker and citizen.”

As a professor and scholar of world religions, Nebraska Wesleyan's Rita Lester is no stranger to hot-button topics in the classroom. Wright's clear-eyed approach to teaching contentious topics resonated with Lester. “Investigate the conflict,” Lester said. “Unravel the issues. This is what college is supposed to be about.” 🍌

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Beckie Reicks ('14)

We understand great teachers.



Scientific *BREAKTHROUGH*

NWU breaks ground on the centerpiece of an emerging campaign.

April 4, 2017, was a landmark day in Nebraska Wesleyan University history as our community gathered to break ground on the forthcoming Duane W. Acklie Hall of Science.

Acklie Hall honors the memory of the late **Duane Acklie**, chairman of Crete Carrier Corporation and longtime advocate of Nebraska Wesleyan University. His wife, Phyllis Acklie, led a close-knit group of family, friends and colleagues to the spring ceremony, where they were joined by hundreds more in the Nebraska Wesleyan community.

"We are so grateful that Duane's family has chosen to partner with NWU to honor his legacy," said **Angie Muhleisen** ('81), who chairs Nebraska Wesleyan's campaign cabinet and was a friend of Acklie's. "Ask anyone who knew Duane and they will tell you how, at one point in their life, Duane helped them. How appropriate it is that this building, which will help generations of students, will bear his name."

Duane and Phyllis's daughter, **Laura Acklie Schumacher** ('78) called the groundbreaking ceremony part of "a magic day." She said, "This building will be the culmination of a lot of hard work done by a visionary group of people. My mother did not hesitate in her support of this worthy project because she believes deeply in the extraordinary people involved and the educational mission which this project will achieve. And my dad would have been humbled and gratified knowing that thousands of students will pass through these classrooms to pursue their passion for their life's work."

Morgan Zabel ('19), a biochemistry major from Omaha, was among the event's featured speakers. She expressed her excitement about what a new facility will add to her education. "Cell Biology and Genetics' has taught me that each day we are closer to curing diseases like Alzheimer's at the DNA level. 'Ecology and Evolution' has taught me the importance of caring for our earth and investing in green technology," Zabel said. "Nebraska Wesleyan not only recognizes this, but is ensuring that science will remain at the forefront of education for generations to come."

Once complete, Acklie Hall of Science will house Nebraska Wesleyan's academic departments in biology, chemistry and psychology. It will stand southeast of First United Methodist Church and in close proximity to Olin Hall, which will continue to house academic departments and labs in mathematics, nursing and physics.

With Old Main to the east and the Rogers Center for Fine Arts to the southeast, Acklie Hall will bring new energy to the traditional western boundary of campus. It will forge a vibrant campus quadrangle with the sciences, humanities, arts and Methodist Church sharing a common space and vitality.

Construction is projected to be complete in early 2019. 



1.

(1.) Susan Gourley, Tonn Ostergard, Angie Muhleisen, Holly Ostergard, Laura Acklie Schumacher, Phyllis Acklie and Fred Ohles move earth for NWU. (2.) Angie Muhleisen expressed NWU's gladness and gratitude. (3.) An I-beam is an apt metaphor for the Acklie family's supportive strength. Tonn Ostergard, Chad Kruse, Halley Kruse, Laura Acklie Schumacher, Phyllis Acklie, Holly Ostergard, Grant Schumacher, Maudine Melcher, Fred Ohles, Jeff Schumacher (4.) Phyllis Acklie (center) shared a moment with Fred and Rosemary Ohles. (5.) The crowd included board member Diane Nelson and her husband, former senator Ben Nelson. (6.) Everyone was invited to sign the beam. (7.) Morgan Zabel shared her excitement to study inside Acklie Hall. (8.) Laura Acklie Schumacher, Phyllis Acklie, Holly Ostergard (9.) Hundreds gathered for the occasion. (10.) Members of NWU's "Doctors for Science" support the facility.



4.



5.



8.



Photos by Dan Luedert unless otherwise noted

2.



3.



Photo by Michael Reimiller

6.



Photo by Zach Turtle (17)

7.



Photo by Allsen Woods (xx)

9.



10.

A Winning Debut

NWU marks one year in the IIAC.

NCAA athletics are about much more than winning—particularly in NCAA Division III, where the gradebook will always trump the scorebook. But Nebraska Wesleyan University's first year as an exclusive NCAA Division III institution and member of the storied Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference was a big win from a variety of perspectives.

NCAA Division III national champions: 2

Women's indoor 4x400 relay

Women's outdoor 4x400 relay

NCAA Elite 90 Award winner: 1

Katie Krick ('17) (indoor track & field)

CoSIDA Academic All-Americans: 2

Cooper Cook ('19) (basketball)

Madi Francis ('17) (softball)

Men's basketball,
IIAC champions

IIAC team champions: 4

Women's cross country

Men's basketball (first since 2000)

Men's swimming (first in school history)

Women's indoor track & field (breaks Wartburg's 14-year lock on the IIAC crown)



Photo courtesy of IIAC

Elizabeth and
Kaylee Jones
(19)



Photo by Lane Hickenbottom

All-America Awards: 18

SteaVen Becker ('18) (shot put, indoor)

Tanner Dewey ('17) (4x400 relay, indoor)

Zach Holka ('17) (4x400 relay, indoor)

Abbie Hunke ('17) (4x400 relay, indoor, outdoor)

Elizabeth Jones ('19) (400, outdoor; 4x400 relay, indoor, outdoor)

Kaylee Jones ('19) (400, outdoor; 4x400 relay, indoor, outdoor)

Katie Krick ('17) (400, outdoor; 4x400 relay, indoor, outdoor)

Michael Merial ('20) (4x400 relay, indoor)

Chandler Petersen ('19) (high jump, indoor)

Garrett Sellhorst ('16) (triple jump, outdoor)

Garrett Teel ('17) (4x400 relay, indoor)

SPRING SPORT SUMMARY

Baseball

NWU baseball watched its season wins tick another rung higher for a third straight season of improvement. Still, the Prairie Wolves won just a quarter of their IIAC matchups and finished 13-27 overall.



Photo by Luke Behaunek

Golf

The men finished third as a team at the IIAC Championship in Indianola, where Matt Unruh ('18) (left) took the individual crown by three strokes. He was named the 2017 IIAC Golfer of the Year. The women's conference tournament took place in the fall, where NWU finished fourth.

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME 2017 Inductees

Join us during homecoming festivities September 28–October 1 as we celebrate the achievements of this year's Athletic Hall of Fame inductees.

Photo courtesy of IIAC



Coaches
Ted Bulling
and Jackie
(Spelts)
McKenzie
(11)

IIAC coaches of the year: 3

Dale Wellman	(men's basketball)
Ted Bulling ('80)	(women's cross country)
Ted Bulling	(women's indoor track & field)

Katie Krick ('17)

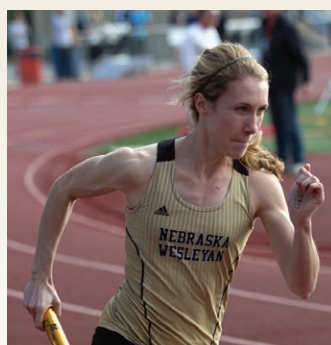


Photo by Lane Hickenbottom

IIAC athletes of the year: 3

Cooper Cook ('19)	(basketball)
Matt Unruh ('18)	(men's golf)
Katie Krick ('17)	(indoor track & field)

Josh Beaver ('01), football, track & field
Justin Hertzell ('03), baseball
Taci (Laws) Lyden ('95), women's basketball
Kelly (Sheaff) Mullendore ('96), softball
Justin Rice ('97), football
Nate Thomas ('98), men's basketball

2006 Men's Golf Team

Coach Brett Balak ('91)
Travis Davis ('06)
Jon Deines ('06)
Jeff Holm ('06)
Tyler Lawson ('08)
Aaron Stockton ('07)



Photo by Jacque Haefner

Spirit of the Plainsman Award

Dick Janda

Softball

NWU softball made itself at home in Clermont, Fla., over spring break, going 9-3 at the NTC Spring Trip on its way to a 15-7 nonconference record. IIAC play proved tougher as the Prairie Wolves marked just three conference wins and finished 18-18.

Tennis

The men's squad surged late, taking team wins in four of its last five regular season IIAC duals. They finished 4-4 in conference play and 6-13 overall. For a proud women's program, 2016-2017 was a difficult season. The Prairie Wolves finished 3-17.

Track & field

The women's 4x400 relay (Abbie Hunke, Elizabeth Jones, Kaylee Jones, Katie Krick) followed their indoor national championship with an outdoor crown. Three of those four (Jones, Jones and Krick) earned All-American status in the open 400. Joining them as an outdoor All-American was Garrett Sellhorst in the triple jump. The women placed seventh as a team at the NCAA Div. III championships in Geneva, Ohio.

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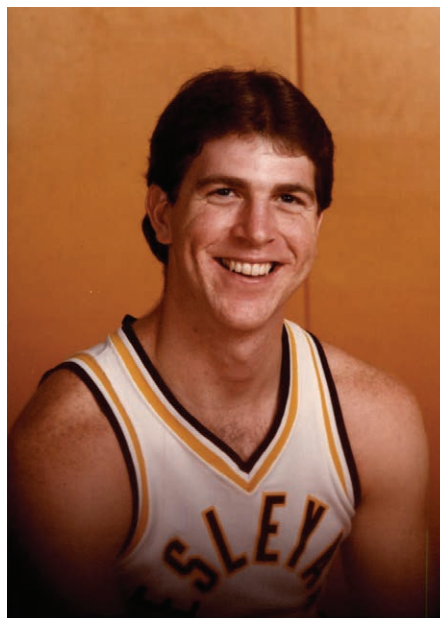
Room for Two Award-winning Cooks

Back in 1984, Kevin Cook ('86) became the first NWU basketball player to be named an Academic All-American. In 1986, he and catcher Phil Gaines ('86) became the first male student-athletes to become two-time Academic All-Americans.

And in 2017, Kevin Cook's son, Cooper Cook ('19) (right), made him part of another NWU first. The Cooks are Nebraska Wesleyan's first father/son duo of Academic All-Americans. The younger Cook enjoyed a tremendous sophomore season, averaging nearly 20 points per game and ranking second in the IIAC in blocks.

We searched for other examples of multiple generations of Academic All-Americans in one sport and uncovered only one. Ed McCaffrey was an Academic All-American wide receiver for Stanford who went on to win three Super Bowls in the NFL. His son, running back Christian McCaffrey, followed in his father's footsteps to Stanford where he was also an Academic All-American and a 2015 Heisman Trophy finalist.

Today, the elder Cook serves on Nebraska Wesleyan University's Board of Governors. And the younger Cook is an accounting major with an outstanding GPA. Cooper Cook is the men's basketball program's ninth Academic All-American and Nebraska Wesleyan's 161st, a total that ranks NWU eighth in the nation.



Kevin Cook ('86)



Cooper Cook ('19)



Krick is Champions' Champion

The moment Katie Krick ('17) set foot on the track for the 2017 NCAA Division III indoor national championships in Naperville, Ill., she won something special. Her GPA as an NWU communication studies major topped all qualifiers competing to become national champions. That accomplishment earned her the prestigious NCAA Elite 90 Award, which honors the student-athletes with the highest GPAs at each of the NCAA's 90 national championships.

The award recognizes the true essence of the student-athlete by honoring people at the pinnacle of academics and athletic competition. Winners must be of at least sophomore standing in both academics and athletics.

Krick anchored NWU's national champion indoor 4x400 relay team.

At the outdoor national championships in May, Krick and her 4x400 relay teammates added another national title. Krick also competed in the 400, where she placed second in the nation.

She wrapped up her NWU athletic career by winning a NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship—the 55th for NWU.

Fulbright Scholars to Teach English Abroad

Brian Dunic ('17) and Rachel Gordon ('15) earned prestigious Fulbright Scholarships, which will support their work teaching English abroad next year. Dunic will teach in Germany. Gordon will teach in Malaysia.

Dunic's interest in Germany is rooted in his childhood experience. His father, a U.S. Air Force serviceman, was stationed for a time in Heidelberg. "I have a deeply rooted interest in the nation's history, language and culture," Dunic said, "and I have a strong desire to become an effective educator of language."

For Gordon, her curiosity about Malaysia has its roots in an NWU world religion course. Gordon worked for Teach for America in New Orleans, La., after graduating from NWU in communication studies. An English language learner from Haiti inspired her to pursue a Fulbright Scholarship. "Through patience and collaboration, he passed my class," she said. "I now hope to combine my longtime dream of living in Malaysia with my newfound passion of teaching English to non-native speakers."

NWU remains a top national producer of Fulbright Scholars. Dunic and Gordon's awards bring Nebraska Wesleyan's total to 56 Fulbright Scholarships.

Nebraska Wesleyan University Theatre

2017–2018 Season

1776 (musical)	Aug. 17 – 20, 24 – 27
48th Street Cabaret #1	Sept. 14 – 17
Comedy of Errors (Shakespeare)	Sept. 21 – 24, Sept. 28 – Oct. 1
Dividing the Estate	Oct. 5 – 8, 19 – 22
Heathers (musical)	Oct. 26 – 29, Nov. 2 – 5
Dancing at Lughnasa	Nov. 9 – 12, 16 – 19
A Christmas Carol	Nov. 30 – Dec. 3, Dec. 7 – 10
48th Street Cabaret #2	Dec. 7 – 10
Death of a Salesman	Jan. 18 – 21, 25 – 28
Peter and the Starcatcher	Feb. 1 – 4, 8 – 11
Well	Feb. 15 – 18, 22 – 25
48th Street Cabaret #3	Feb. 22 – 25
The Bridges of Madison County (musical)	Mar. 15 – 18, 22 – 25
She Kills Monsters	Apr. 5 – 8, 12 – 15
48th Street Cabaret #4	Apr. 5 – 8
Cabaret (musical)	Apr. 19 – 22, 26 – 29



nebrwesleyan.edu/theatre-tickets





ALUMNI PAGES



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Update your contact information, professional details and more in our alumni directory at alumni.nebrwesleyan.edu.

MYSTERY PHOTO

Rat racers

The Psychology Department's X-treme Rat Challenge (formerly known as the Rat Olympics) has been an NWU tradition for decades. Can you name the tightrope coach on the left?

Send your responses to:

Eric Wendt
Nebraska Wesleyan University
5000 Saint Paul Avenue
Lincoln, NE 68504-2794
ewendt@nebrwesleyan.edu

MYSTERY PHOTO REVEALED

Meet the Wahoo flash.

We received a record number of responses from friends identifying the late Gary “Hunch” Hofmann (’60), “the Wahoo flash.” Here are just some of the responses.

I saw the photo and was pretty sure the fellow on the right was Gary Hofmann. But I asked my husband, Ephriam “Lefty” (’58), who confirmed my thought. He knew more than I did. It was taken in the spring of 1958. Gary beat Tom and Lefty was third.

—**Barbara (Binning) Hixson** (’58)

The two gentlemen are Tom Osborne and Gary Hofmann, the Wahoo flash. Gary was an excellent 440 trackman and a very good running back for NWU.

—**Rush Tucker** (’61)

The other person in the photo finish picture is Gary Hofmann. It must have been the last leg of a mile relay.

—**Jim Carr** (’60)

Larry Snyder’s ID of the runner with Tom Osborne is Gary “Hunch” Hofmann, at NWU in the late 1950s or early 1960s. Larry also competed against Osborne in basketball, NWU vs. Hastings, in the same timeframe.

—**Sheryl Snyder**

They’re Tom Osborne and Gary Hofmann in a photo finish. I don’t recognize the observer. The photo might have been taken by Darrel Seng (’58).

—**Harlan Heald** (’58)

My husband, Larry (’63), says it is Gary Hofmann. My husband was also in track at this time and probably participated in this meet.

—**Ruth Ann (Troutman) Bartels** (’63)



The track runner, finishing the 440 yard dash, probably in 1959, was Gary Hofmann running against Tom Osborne.

—**Dan Brown** (’63)

In the latest edition of *Archways*, the Mystery Photo shows Tom Osborne in a photo finish with the late Gary Hofmann of Wahoo. Gary died from leukemia quite a number of years ago.

—**Bob McMaster** (’62)

That is my former high school coach, Gary Hofmann.

—**Terry Radenslaben** ('69)

The person competing in a race with Tom Oz is Gary Hofmann, class of '59. He had a younger brother named Chuck ('61). The brothers grew up in Wahoo, Neb., and are both deceased. If my memory serves me right, the picture was taken during a mile relay.

—**Bill McNaught** ('59)

That is Gary Hofmann in a race with Tom Osborne. I don't remember who won.

—**A. J. Sundberg** ('62)

The Plainsman on the right is Gary Hofmann of Wahoo, Neb.

—**Fran (Shanahan) Ecklund** ('59)

My guess is that it's Theta Chi fraternity brother Gary "Hunch" Hofmann, class of 1960. He was also an outstanding running back.

—**Stephen Dakan** ('61)

I played football with Gary in 1955 and 1956, and also ran track. My wife, Rochelle (Copperstone) ('59), went to school with Gary in the same class in Wahoo.

—**Jack Wiltfang** ('57)

Without a doubt, the Plainsman is Gary Hofmann ('60).

—**Ron Hendrickson** ('61)

The mystery man in the recent *Archways* is Gary Hofmann! He was quite an athlete and belonged to Theta Chi Fraternity. Gary died in 2006. His wife, Carolyn Kay (Thompson) lives here in Omaha. The congressman is Tom Osborne, and he included this photo in one of his books!

—**Susan (Hansen) Brown** ('63)

The "former congressman" is, of course, Tom Osborne, who also was star quarterback on the Hastings College football team. (Later, he'd become a historic coach with the Nebraska Cornhuskers.)

This picture was probably from the spring of 1959, the year I was a sprinter on the Plainsman team. The runner on the right is Gary Hofmann, who was also a fine fullback on our football team and ran middle distances. Osborne ran hurdles, Gary did not, and middle distances, so this is probably the finish of the 440 yard dash since I can't see a relay baton in either runner's hand.

—**Doug Anderson** ('61)

Tom Osborne from Hastings College and Gary Hofmann from NWU, ca. 1959. Tom was a tremendous athlete, but so was Gary. This was probably an 880 yard run to the finish line. Gary was also an outstanding footballer at NWU, garnering many honors as a running back.

—**Vicente Colon** ('59)

The runner on the right is Gary Hofmann from Wahoo, Neb. I remember that race well. That was the finish of the 440 at the district meet. I ran the 2 mile that night, so was close to the finish line at the time. I saw Tom Osborne a few years ago and mentioned that race to him. He asked how Gary was doing; he did not know that Gary had passed away. Memories are made of things like this.

—**Art Freiberg** ('61)

The man running with Tom Osborne is my dad, Garrell "Gary" Jay Hofmann. I believe my dad graduated from Nebraska Wesleyan in 1960. Despite what it looks like, so I was told, Dad won that race, LOL. This photo also appears in Tom Osborne's book. My dad passed away in 2006, but he did get to see the photo in Tom's book. I cannot help but wonder if there are any track records of this event or of any other track records that my dad held. I seem to remember going to campus when I was a child and having my dad tell me he held some records for a while. Thank you for printing this. My dad would be very pleased.

—**Mark Hofmann**



Photo by Zach Tuttle ('17)

Seeking Peace in the Middle East

—By David Edelman ('91)

I attended my third tour of Israel and the West Bank with Americans for Peace Now (APN) in November. APN is the sister organization of Shalom Achshav, or “Peace Now,” in Tel Aviv. It seeks to achieve peace through a two-state solution for Israelis and Palestinians. Their 50-year conflict centers on control of the West Bank. Jewish settlements there have generated years of grief.

My group included 12 Americans in medicine, business, science, education and the arts. All want to see Israel prosper alongside a new Palestinian state. APN/Peace Now invites experts on both sides as presenters. Regular people caught in the conflict are often the most fascinating speakers.

One expert is Israeli Hagit Ofran, director of Peace Now's Settlement Watch. Their overviews of West Bank settlements are literal maps of roadblocks to peace. Those valuable maps have proven costly. Hagit has faced death threats for her work.

Our tour took us to Nahal Oz, near the fence with Gaza and within terrifying range of its rockets. I walked into bomb shelters where sirens offered just seven seconds

notice of launched rockets. The threat is such that Nahal Oz building codes require bomb shelters. Still, most residents empathize with Gazans for their hardships. Within four years, the U.N. estimates 2 million Gazans will lack life-sustaining services. Clearly, a failed state next door is not in Israel's interest.

We approached the fence separating Israel and Gaza, witnessing a wall between two populations where there is no trust. We visited a playground that, from a distance, looked like any other. But here, playsets doubled as rocket shelters. In these structures—both a place to play, and a place to hide—we saw the region's normalized hardship.

In Ramallah, I met Palestine's ambassador to the U.S., Husam Zomlot, who'd just returned from teaching at Harvard. We had open conversations about the quest for peace.


I leave these trips with competing emotions. I'm sometimes frustrated and feel no chance for peace. Other times, I'm energized, as when we visited a Jewish-Arab bilingual school in Kufr Kara. The school emphasizes peaceful coexistence. Children aren't born with distrust; it is taught. And lessons can change.

Our tour fell a week after the U.S. presidential election. Speakers had as many questions about our politics as we had about theirs. Senior officials in the Trump administration have signaled past support for Israeli settlements, which runs counter to a two-state solution. The issues are complex, and I hope U.S. policymakers visit the region to see what life is like on both sides of the

We visited a playground that, from a distance, looked like any other. But here, playsets doubled as rocket shelters.

wall that has solved some problems while creating others.

I encourage you to visit Israel. See the sources of the world's great religions. Find a way to the West Bank. Talk to people. Inform your interests. My interests are for a peaceful, democratic Israel. I'm for a Palestine that lives in peace with Israel and respects Jews. Let us exchange ideas. Let us disagree. Let us partner for peace.

Peace Now activists continue their risky work out of love of Israel and concern for its future as a democracy and a Jewish state. They make me proud to be Jewish. 

Views expressed here are those of the writer and do not reflect positions of Nebraska Wesleyan University or *Archways* magazine. David Edelman welcomes readers' responses and promises to answer “those who are interested in open, honest and kindhearted dialogue.”

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Within four years, the U.N. estimates 2 million Gazans will lack life-sustaining services. Clearly, a failed state next door is not in Israel's interest.

On Kindness

—By Emily C. Laskowski

For the past seven years, Kelly Krause's ('04) job has been to get to know people, first as the publicity maven and now as the chief content creator for the South By Southwest Conference and Festivals. However, her more recent unofficial job has been to cultivate the life-changing lesson she taught herself nearly four years ago.

Kelly Krause was born in Columbus, Neb., a town then of fewer than 20,000 people an hour and a half northwest of Lincoln. Raised by Mom and Dad, and best friends with her younger sister, she describes her family as the typical nucleus and herself as "a full-on Midwestern kid." She played all the sports, participated in all the activities and graduated from high school. Then, she began expanding her world.

Nebraska Wesleyan University was her first stop, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in communication studies with a minor in Spanish and an emphasis on public relations.

"The very first class that I took was 'Women in Indie Film,' and it very much had a feminist slant," Krause remembers. "You dissected all of these movies and women's roles in films. I had never approached anything with that kind of mindset. I loved that it opened my mind up to an entirely new way of thinking and going against the grain, and I feel like that was the catalyst to my curiosity with my career."

Next, she traveled eastbound to Washington, D.C., for an internship at CNN. She arrived in the nation's capital interested in television journalism and departed with a categorically different opinion.

"I ... realized, 'Oh my gosh, I hate the sound of my voice. I don't want to be on TV. I don't want to do any of that,'" Krause recalls.

She tracked back to Lincoln, this time to earn a graduate degree at the University of Nebraska, in what area of study, she hadn't quite decided. She treaded in one discipline



Photo by Annie Ray

Kelly Krause worried that people might see her first steps in fitness as an April Fools' joke. She had a choice: Quit, or quit worrying.

only to change course at the semester's end. By the end of her first year, she had rerouted her trajectory completely.

"Halfway through that, I got pretty burnt out," Krause says. "I was an editor at a wedding magazine, of all places, a PR intern at this global utility company. I was working full time at a makeup counter and going to graduate school full time. I was super burnt out, and through a bit of serendipity, [I overheard] somebody in the computer lab one evening [talk] about this internship they had in LA. I was like, 'That's it. I'm moving to LA. I'm going to intern in the entertainment industry.' So random, it had never been on my radar before. I applied for an internship with the Entertainment and Style Network and got it, and three months later, I was in LA."

Krause didn't return to Lincoln to complete her graduate degree. Instead, in the beaming Los Angeles sunshine out West, Krause planted new roots.

"I landed at an agency where a lot of people in the entertainment industry get their start—in publicity, anyway—and started working with tech clients. ... It was technology that I didn't really understand," she says, laughing because she knows now how advantageous, despite her limited interest, that exposure to the technological world was for her.

"I ended up volunteering for all of the film premieres and film screenings," she adds. "The film department was like, 'Hey, I think you're a natural fit. Why don't you come work in our department?' So, I ended up working with independent film, which is a crazy parallel to my college years and that very first experience that I had."

For the next six years, Krause immersed herself in every aspect of the job.

"We worked on Jimmy Kimmel Live and America's Next Top Model, and loved it. I thought it was so much fun," says Krause, whose days and nights started

overflowing with the nonstop grind of representing independent films, building a client list, working premieres and attending film festivals.

"In LA, work was my life ... but after a while, I realized it wasn't what I wanted to continue doing, and I valued my weekends and my time with friends and family so much more than the job."

So she made another move, from LA to central Texas. March marked her seventh SXSW. By 2012, nearly two years into her tenure at SXSW, she had mastered her publicity duties, but wanted to do more. She started developing content on her own and securing the partnerships and speakers that would deliver that content.

"I started meeting with all these publications, and they wanted to get involved in the event, and not necessarily from the sales component. They wanted to help work on programming, too. It was mutually beneficial for them," Krause explains. "I was meeting with *Time* and *Marie Claire* and *Vanity Fair* and *Vogue* and all of these awesome companies, and I really started to pour my heart into that."

Eventually, Krause's role transitioned from publicist to planner. In 2014, on top of her publicity duties (not to mention being named to *Marie Claire* magazine's second annual list entitled, "The New Guard: The 50 Most Connected Women in America"), she helped launch SXSW Style, which meant working around the clock to curate, give or take, 30 conference sessions, traveling throughout the country for meetings with the Council of Fashion Designers of America and companies like Refinery29, and working across multiple SXSW departments to coordinate corresponding dinners and parties and events.

Last year, Hugh Forrest (director of SXSW Interactive) promoted her to SXSW

Conference programming manager, essentially making her the curator and creator behind every keynote and featured speaker, in addition to SXSW Style.

"It takes a lot of people to do all of this," emphasizes Krause, who has been part of an extraordinary, almost unprecedented, team of organized yet visionary individuals responsible for recruiting such notable SXSW keynotes and featured speakers as Edward Snowden, Tesla and SpaceX Founder Elon Musk, author Malcolm Gladwell, celebrated astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson and, in 2016, President Barack Obama.

However, in the midst of all this remarkable, fun and fulfilling work, Krause admits neglecting one essential thing: herself.

"The defining moment for me was Easter Sunday 2013," Krause says. "I was sitting down at this really indulgent spread with my sister, and I just felt naked. I felt heavy, gross. It was hard to breathe. Leading up to that, I could not climb a flight of stairs without being breathless. I couldn't sit in an airline seat. ... I was just tired of feeling that way. I was sick and tired of feeling sick and tired."

Being overweight was something Krause had always battled. She would exercise to no avail, diet to no avail. That Easter, she abandoned the indulgent spread and made a resolution.

"Everything that I was doing came down to a bottom line of I wasn't being good to myself. I wasn't being kind," she says. "I need to live kindly. That's where the mantra kind of developed. I went to bed that night and [thought], 'You're just going to be good to

Everything that I was doing came down to a bottom line of I wasn't being good to myself. I wasn't being kind.

yourself."

The next morning, Krause found some stairs and walked up and down them three times. It was April 1, 2013, April Fools' Day, and she kept it to herself. She didn't want any jokes.

"That was my first

workout," Krause says. "Three flights led to four flights, which led to five, and then I kept just building up, and then I started going to spin classes. One class a week led to two a week led to three a week. There was just this snowball effect for me. I started to feel better, and I started to eat better and I didn't go on any crazy diets. I didn't really eliminate anything, aside from things that I knew made my stomach upset."

The key for Krause was looking ahead.

"Anything that I did was progress from what I did before, so even if I only made it around [Austin's] Town Lake once and I was walking, that was more than I did before," Krause says. "Everything was just moving forward. That was it. It seems so simple but yet, it was kind of hard because I wasn't living a lively path."

After one year on a livelier path, Krause lost 135 pounds.

"I just started to ... change the way I thought about myself and everything around me," she says. "The weight loss was great, but it was becoming less about what I was losing and more about what I was gaining: confidence, a more mindful and kinder approach to people, myself. My relationships all changed. I was more open."

That openness extended to sharing her journey with others. On May 5, 2013 (once it was clear her progress was no April Fools' joke), she made her first Instagram post on the subject. It's now archived behind hundreds more that chronicle her steps to live kindly. At Krause's one-year mark, Camille Styles (who had pedaled alongside Krause during classes at Ride, an Austin

Anything that I did was progress from what I did before.

indoor cycling studio) invited her to write about this living-kindly philosophy on Styles' eponymous and influential lifestyle blog.

Krause's personal journey elicited a stream of affirmations, positive responses and pledges of support from throughout the country. Styles made Krause a regular contributor, giving her a column that Krause rightly named "Living Kindly."

Krause still contributes monthly, covering topics from "Are You Choosing the Right Friends?" to "What Happened When I Went Vegan for Three Days." For the record, Krause isn't in the clear yet, and she openly discusses her ups and downs.

"I was featured in a bicycling magazine, and I hated the way I looked on the bike. In that moment of seeing myself ... I so quickly went to, 'OK, what can I do to lose more weight?' versus, 'This is really amazing. The editor of the bicycling magazine and writers thought that I was good enough to feature in their publication. They saw me as a leader

in this industry, and so did the women in the community, and I'm not focusing on that. I'm focusing on something negative.'

"I talked about that and I was very honest about it," Krause says. "I think a lot of people can relate to that in whatever capacity, that they see themselves differently and instead of focusing on the positive, they see the negative."

People—inspiration seekers or Krause's own peers and followers—continue to crave her advice. She is now as well known for her galvanizing transformation as she is for her stature within the roaring machine of SXSW.


As for Krause, she continues to crave what's ahead, whether that means more yoga ("The way my yoga friends talk is so much centered on the universe and mindfulness," she says.) or more traveling ("Right now, my wanderlust is through the

There is no diet. There is no magic formula for any of this. It is just taking care of yourself.

roof," she adds.) or more challenges ("I'm always thinking about what my future looks like," she says, "and what new skills I can go after.").

And whatever new skill she grasps, she kindly shares. She imparts wisdom, though she wouldn't call it that, to anyone who wants it. She faces the challenges that life throws at her, and reports back with unfiltered honesty.

Her friends and followers look at her success and ask, "What's her secret?" Krause's answers are earnest.

"There is no diet. There is no magic formula for any of this. It is just taking care of yourself. I love it," she says. "It's not a shake. It is not a pill. It is not a regimented routine. This is what works for me. You do what works for you." 

An expanded version of this article first appeared as "K Is for Kindness" in the February 2017 issue of *Austin Woman* magazine. We reprint it here with permission. You can access the original at austinwomanmagazine.com.

**Stay connected to the school
you make great.**



Meet the Legends

NWU announces its 2017 Legends and Legacies honorees.

—By Amanda Broulik

Nebraska Wesleyan's 2017 homecoming weekend (September 28–October 1) includes the Legends and Legacies banquet. That's where NWU pays special tribute to outstanding alumni for life and career accomplishments. **Join us on September 28** at 6 p.m. at the Country Club of Lincoln to applaud these fine alumni.

BREAKING NEWS: Bob Johnson ('60) will receive the inaugural John Rosentrater Act of Valor Award.



Douglas ('63) and Martha (Dennison) ('63) Maxwell 2017 ALUMNI MEDAL OF HONOR WINNERS

Doug and Martha (Dennison) Maxwell met in calculus class their senior year at NWU and both went on to impressive careers in the sciences.

Doug spent 33 years as professor of plant pathology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He retired in 2001 having trained scientists from 27 countries. His lab established the foundation for engineering transgenic, virus-resistant dry beans. "My NWU professors thought I could do more than I could really do," he reflected. "As a result of their encouragement, I ended up doing more than I thought I could, and I carried that throughout my career."

At Cornell University, Martha was involved in early efforts to use DNA to study interrelationships among bird species. She became an electron microscopist in the School of Veterinary Medicine. She's supported Doug's research, assisting in the lab, collecting data and studying languages to facilitate their travels. She uses the music skills she acquired at NWU, playing cello with several symphony orchestras and string quartets.



Marilyn (Morris) Horn ('65)

2017 ALUMNI HUMANITARIAN AWARD WINNER

Marilyn (Morris) Horn credits Nebraska Wesleyan for igniting her passion for civil rights and cultural diversity and leading her to a life of service. At NWU, Horn was actively involved in the student YMCA movement. "These were formative experiences for me," she said, "seeing other parts of the country and world, getting to know and appreciate people from different races and cultures."

After serving in the Peace Corps in Peru, Horn spent 35 years teaching high school Spanish, winning several awards and spearheading exchange programs to foster international understanding. She also began and advised an award-winning chapter of the Sociedad Honoraria Hispanica (Spanish Honor Society) at Coginchaug Regional High School in Durham, Conn.

She is vice president of the board and longtime sponsor of Oaxaca Street-children Grassroots in Mexico, which supports young people in the pursuit of better lives through education. The organization currently assists more than 600 children and young adults.

Marty Martinez ('99)

2017 YOUNG ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNER

Marty Martinez has been instrumental in developing groundbreaking initiatives in youth mentoring. In Boston, Mass., he is Mass Mentoring Partnership's first CEO of color. Martinez is active in local political, educational and community development organizations. He has served as director of youth programs for Somerville, Mass., and led a training and technical assistance collaborative for the Boston AIDS Consortium.

"As the first generation in my family to go to college, NWU was a place that I knew very little about," he said. "But with the support of great teachers, I quickly learned to get the most out of my experience." Through campus organizations and as a member of Theta Chi, he focused on increasing diversity and inclusion on campus and making NWU a place where all students could realize their full potential.



Photo by Matthew Guillary

Phylis (Stelling) Hollamon ('65)

2017 ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNER

Phylis (Stelling) Hollamon began her stellar 45-year career in health care soon after she graduated with a combined degree in nursing from Nebraska Wesleyan and Bryan Memorial School of Nursing.

Hollamon was an intensive care nurse at Bryan Memorial before transitioning into teaching and administrative positions. She played an instrumental role in transitioning the Bryan School of Nursing into an NCA-accredited College of Health Sciences. She became the college's first president, shaping the paths of future care providers.

Hollamon decided to attend NWU because, she said, it gave her the opportunity to pursue her nursing education while benefiting from the liberal arts experience. That decision also led her to her future career. "The fact that I was an NWU graduate was key in the offer to join the School of Nursing faculty," she said. "It sent my career in a direction I had not imagined."



Photo by Dan Luedert

Jason Licht ('93)

2017 ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNER

Jason Licht is entering his 23rd season in the NFL. He has worked for six teams and held nearly every position in football operations—from scouting intern to his current position as general manager of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. Under his leadership, the Buccaneers went from a two-win franchise in 2014 to a winning record in 2016. The Buccaneers' 9-7 finish was its best since 2010.

Although his life in professional football may seem far removed from his biology/pre-med degree, he said he regularly uses the skills and sense of accountability he built at Nebraska Wesleyan.

"Because of NWU's intimate atmosphere, you were held more accountable to your studies, and, as a result, I thrived by not wanting to let these great professors down," he said. "In my current job overseeing an entire football operation of an NFL franchise, I also thrive by knowing that my decisions are going to have an effect on thousands of fans, employees and players."





SEPT. 28-OCT. 1

2017 Homecoming

NEBRASKA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

You won't want to miss this year's Homecoming!

Come back to campus and reconnect with friends, professors and coaches. See the progress of our new science building. And learn more about the bold plans for the future of your alma mater.

Join us for special events highlighting theatre, athletics, nursing, biology, chemistry and psychology. And don't forget about returning favorites like the Legends and Legacies alumni awards dinner, Athletic Hall of Fame induction, class reunions, pre-game tailgate and more.

If there was ever a year to come back to Nebraska Wesleyan, this is it.

Visit nebrwesleyan.edu/homecoming to see the whole schedule and register today!

Calendar

Mark your calendar for these alumni events. All are welcome.
Contact Shelley McHugh ('91) for details at smchugh@nebrwesleyan.edu or 402.465.2123.

September 28–October 1

Homecoming

Be part of homecoming events and reunion celebrations.



AUGUST



17 NWU Theatre: 1776

You think politics got hot in '17? Try 1776. Both years collide in this Broadway hit about the Declaration of Independence. For tickets and show times, see nebrwesleyan.edu/theatre-tickets.

21 Eclipse watch party

Associate Professor of Physics Nathaniel Cunningham hosts this solar eclipse viewing on Taylor Commons. Classes are postponed so more students may join in. Eclipse glasses provided. The eclipse reaches totality at 1:02 p.m.

SEPTEMBER



Photo by Chris Smithberg

2 NWU football

The Prairie Wolves open the 2017 season at Abel Stadium with a 1 p.m. game against Concordia College (Minn.).

12-13 (Di)visions and Ventures: Refocusing our lens on American communities

NWU's annual symposium brings three renowned authors to O'Donnell Auditorium. Bryan Stevenson (*Just Mercy*) speaks at 7 p.m. on Tuesday. Wednesday brings J. D. Vance (*Hillbilly Elegy*) at 10 a.m. and Hanna Rosin (*The End of Men*) at 7 p.m.

OCTOBER



Photo by Chris Smithberg

19 NWU women's soccer

NWU takes on Grinnell College at Abel Stadium at 4 p.m.



Photo by Chris Smithberg

24 NWU volleyball

The Prairie Wolves close out regular season conference play versus Simpson College in Snyder Arena at 7:30 p.m.



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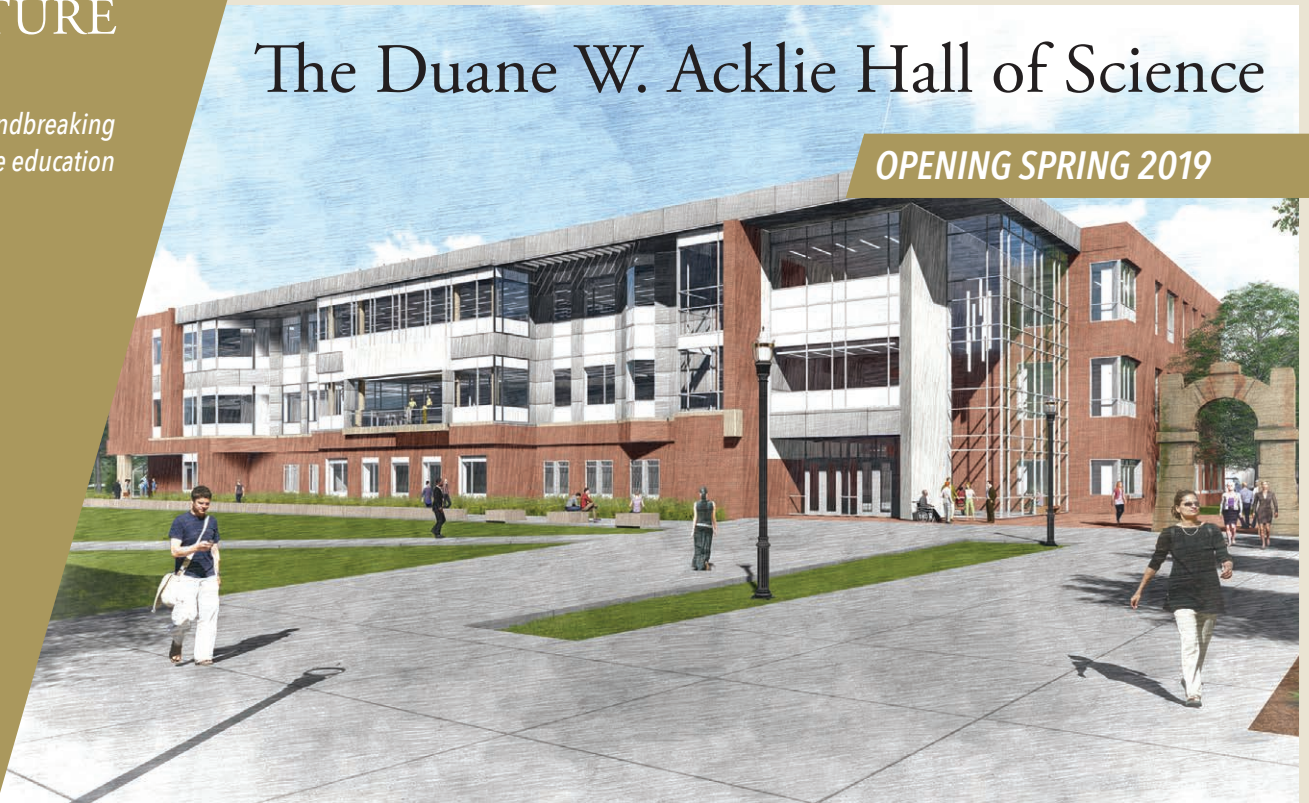
DESIGNS FOR A BOLD FUTURE

*Read about NWU's groundbreaking
advancements in science education
on page 24.*

INTRODUCING

The Duane W. Acklie Hall of Science

OPENING SPRING 2019



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