



Whitman Today

Friday, April 2, 2021

Banking on Whitman



Recently promoted to chief credit officer at Baker Boyer Bank, Rosendo Guizar '94 has been rising through the ranks at the Walla Walla-based financial institution for years. But he says the credit for his success goes back even further than his 22 years of experience at the bank—to the encouragement and guidance he received from his high school librarian, Darcy Judd Wyant Ahlquist '54.

"She's been extremely supportive of me, more than I can ever repay her for," says Guizar.

As a bookish student at Grandview High School in Grandview, Washington, Guizar often found himself reading the newspaper in the school library. That's how he first connected with Ahlquist, who always made a point of checking in with her students. She talked to him about his classes and grades, helped him volunteer as a tutor for other students and, eventually, encouraged him to think about his future.

"She started asking me about my plans for after high school," says Guizar. "I think she kind of took it upon herself to guide me along and show me that there were more options out there, rather than just going to get a job straight out of high school."

Understanding his potential, Ahlquist took Guizar to a prospective student day at Whitman.

[Read more of Ahlquist and Guizar's story.](#)

Q: How likely is it for me to be a coronavirus carrier after I'm fully vaccinated?

A: Honestly, no one is totally sure yet. While there is data-driven proof that the vaccines do a great job preventing severe disease and death, scientists are still studying how effectively vaccines prevent transmission of the coronavirus. Until studies are able to provide conclusive evidence, fully vaccinated people should continue following the public health measures that reduce the risk of transmission.

Announcements

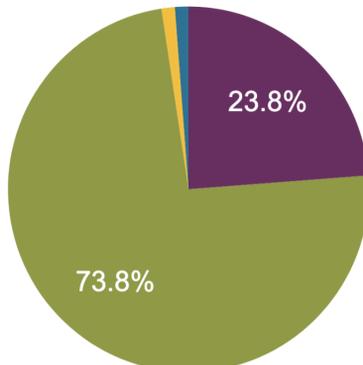
2021 Commencement Update

We are very pleased to announce that, due to new event guidelines from the state of Washington, we expect to be able to hold one single commencement ceremony for the entire 2021 graduating class. Commencement will take place at 10 a.m. on Sunday, May 23.

However, maintaining appropriate physical distancing means this event remains for graduates only. Family and friends are invited to join the celebration through the livestream, which will be broadcast on [the Commencement webpage](#).

Question of the Week: Answer Edition

● I will get it when eligible ● I already got it ● I don't plan to get it ● I am not certain



This week, we asked about our readers' plans for getting the COVID-19 vaccine. As you can see, of 334 responses the overwhelming majority have already started the vaccination process or plan to as soon as they are eligible.

Everyone 16 years and older in Washington state will be eligible beginning April 15. To find out more about upcoming opportunities to get vaccinated, visit the [Walla Walla County COVID-19 website](#) or call your local pharmacy to check on availability.

Happening This Weekend

FRIDAY

5 p.m.

[Grappling with "Othello" in Contemporary American Theatre](#)

Discussion and Q&A on Cal Shakes' 2016 production of "Othello," and the approach to handling the representation of Othello in the context of contemporary events.

7 p.m.

[PRISM Icebreaker Night](#)

Come join Whitman's LGBTQIA+ Inclusion Club, PRISM, for a night of casual conversation and socializing via Zoom! All folks within the LGBTQIA+ community are welcome to attend this inclusive and protected space.

SATURDAY

1 p.m.

[Beginning Mountain Biking With the OP](#)

Learn the basics of mountain biking on a casual ride up the Mill Creek Trail to ride at Bennington Lake. No previous experience necessary, mountain bike, helmet and rental clothing included.

4 p.m.

[David Nord Award Info Session](#)

Come learn more about the David Nord Award, presented annually to support LGBTQIA+ focused projects on campus. In this session, we'll discuss the application process and brainstorm ideas that might help you if you're thinking about applying.

SUNDAY

11:30 a.m.

[MOCA & BIPOC Outdoor Club Joint Climbing Wall Event](#)

The Men of Color Association and the BIPOC Outdoor Club are partnering to offer this free climbing wall event. No experience is necessary. Equipment and instruction provided. The goal is to have fun while climbing and getting to know each other better and also get familiar with the climbing wall.

1 p.m.

[Biking the Wheat Fields With the OP](#)

Take a ride around town to see some of the beautiful views of the Walla Walla Valley and the Blue Mountains. This is not a mountain biking trip, riding will be only on paved and gravel roads. Bike, helmet and rental clothing included.

Whitman Events Calendar

Have a virtual event you'd like to share with campus? Email the details to whitmantoday@whitman.edu.

"Whitman Today" is produced by the Office of Communications and is emailed Monday-Friday to Whitman College staff, faculty and students. All times are listed in Pacific Daylight Time.

Submissions are welcome! If you have a professional or personal accomplishment to celebrate, an event to publicize or other content to share with the Whitman community, email whitmantoday@whitman.edu. Submissions should be 125 words or less. The deadline for submissions is noon for the following day's newsletter, though submissions may be held for a later date according to space and editorial needs. By submitting to Whitman Today you also authorize use on Whitman's social media unless otherwise specified.

Previous issues of Whitman Today are [archived on our website](#).

