



# Whitman Today

Wednesday, October 20, 2021

## Freedom Songs



Mark your calendar! At 7 p.m. on Nov. 12 in Cordiner Hall, Freedom Songs returns after a hiatus last year due to COVID-19. Freedom Songs is a program created and organized by students that specifically looks at uplifting various forms of music and art to recognize the differences in our society. The program is specifically a racial justice event that consists of three parts (concert, zine, and reflection party) all of which look at issues of race, privilege and different forms of oppression that come alongside our differences in America.

Developed and organized in 2016 by Joel Ponce '16 and Jess Faunt '17, Freedom Songs has grown into a signature campus program. This year's executive team for Freedom Songs includes Creative Director Marina Balasanyan '24, Music Director Bethany Hermann '23, Zine Editor Marharyta Tkachenka '24 and Event Coordinator Saki Bishop '24. With the support of the Intercultural Center, the executive team is recruiting participants and coordinating resources to produce a powerful multimodal program.

Recognizing how the pandemic has impacted our community cohesion, the [theme for Freedom Songs](#) this year is *Pieces of Home*. As the organizers explain:

"We are coming back together with different pieces of ourselves and our culture to create a new puzzle. In this year's Freedom Songs, we share these pieces of our homes through the universal language of art and performance. We gather around to listen to stories untold, celebrate our experiences, cry out our struggles, and feel a sense of belonging. As our puzzle pieces come together, we begin to make connections that we could not see before, and we face each other's struggles to help heal."

There are multiple ways to participate in this year's Freedom Songs:

- Submit art, prose, poetry or anything that can be printed to the zine: [email Tkachenka](#) with submissions or questions.
- Perform in the Freedom Songs concert; email [Balasanyan](#) and [Hermann](#) by next Wednesday, Oct. 27.

For more information, [visit the website](#) and [follow Freedom Songs on Instagram](#).

## Pink Out With Whitman Volleyball



In honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the Whitman Volleyball team will be hosting a fundraiser during Friday's match at 7 p.m. at the Sherwood Athletic Center. All proceeds from the fundraiser will be donated to the Providence St. Mary's Cancer Center here in Walla Walla.

Put on your best pink attire and come out to support your Blues while raising money for an important cause!

## Announcements

### New Faculty and Student Collaboration on History of Whitman

Dennis Crockett, retired professor of art history and visual culture studies, recently published "Greater Whitman: 1905-1912." The booklet tells the story of President Stephen Penrose's plan to reinvent Whitman as the "M.I.T. of the West." While these efforts did result in several beautiful buildings on campus, the scheme was ultimately abandoned due to lack of funds.

The publication features wonderful, seldom-seen archival images of the campus and was designed by senior history major Katy Sassara. Publication was made possible by Penrose's Larry Beaulaurier Library Endowment. A limited number of hard copies are available in the Archives and [a pdf version is available for download](#).

## Face Masks: Good for Keeping Out Bugs of Many Sorts

It is the time of year that Whitman is plagued by many types of "bugs": cold and flu viruses, COVID-19 and those clouds of dusky-winged ash aphids swarming above campus sidewalks. The good news is that a high quality, properly worn face mask can help keep all of those nuisances out of your mouth, protecting you from serious illness as well as the uncontrollable burn caused when one of those tiny fuzzy bugs flies down your throat.

## Happening Today

WEDNESDAY

- 9 a.m. **Strategic Core Messaging Presentation**  
*Join Interim VP for Communications Gina Ohnstad and Director of Content Margie Reese in Olin Auditorium for a presentation about the college's strategic core messaging and the ways it influences how we talk about Whitman.*
- noon **Self Management and SMART Recovery Training**  
*Learn to resolve problems related to substance use addiction and recovery. Participants find and develop the power within themselves to change and lead fulfilling and balanced lives guided by the science-based and sensitive 4 Point-Program.*
- 3 p.m. **SIT Virtual Internships Info Session**  
*SIT Study Abroad Virtual Internships are offered to Juniors and Seniors. In an info session, the SIT Rep. will discuss virtual internship opportunities and requirements. Learn about interning in Women's Rights in Cameroon, Education and Social Change in Chile, Public Health in Kenya, Transitional Justice in Serbia and Kosovo, and more.*
- 4 p.m. **Students & Alumni of Color Networking Event - Hosted by WhitmanSoWhite!**  
*Come engage in discussions surrounding support, advice, networking opportunities, and affirmations of BIPOC experiences in academic and professional spaces!*
- 4 p.m. **Whitman College Women's Soccer vs Whitworth University**
- 7 p.m. **Outhouse Potluck**  
*The Environmental House is hosting a vegetarian and vegan food potluck. Come meet friends while enjoying foods that are better for you and the environment.*

## Whitman Events Calendar

Have an event you'd like to share with campus? Submit the information to the [Events Calendar](#).

"Whitman Today" is produced by the Office of Communications and is emailed Monday through 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](mailto: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](#).

