

# WHITMAN

MAGAZINE

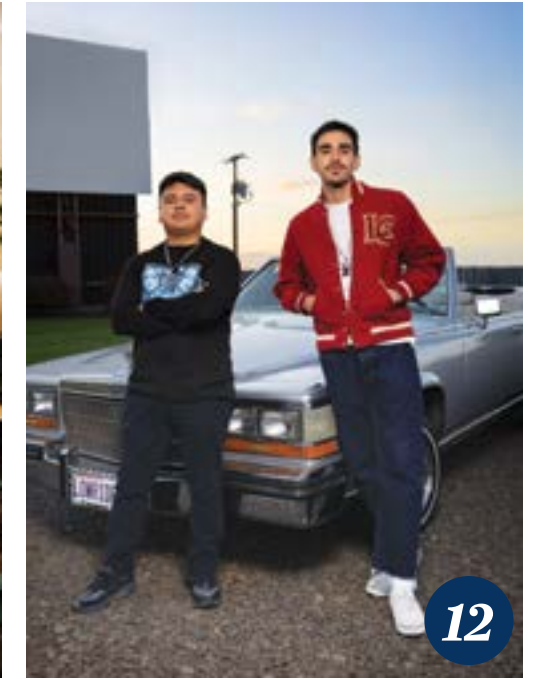


## Roll Modelz

Two Whittie filmmakers turn the lens on a small-town lowriders club with a big heart

## Flying High

The Whitman College men's soccer team rose to new heights in 2025 with its first outright Northwest Conference Championship title. The team automatically advanced to the NCAA tournament. Pictured: Midfielder Henry Pierce '27 (Missoula, Montana) goes up for header at a Nov. 2 game versus Lewis & Clark College.



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### MAKING A SPLASH

On her way to one of the winningest records in Whitman Athletics history, Head Swimming Coach Jenn Blomme finds season after season of success by embracing the competitiveness, camaraderie, whimsy and well-being of student-athletes who are people first, swimmers second.

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### FLIPPING THE SCRIPT

With their indie documentary “Roll Modelz,” recent graduates Oliver Rodriguez Dickson '25 and Yahir Tzec-Carrasco '25 are shedding light—and busting stereotypes—on a small-town lowriders club that exemplifies the joy, skill and community spirit of Chicano culture.

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### THERE'S ALWAYS HOPE

From Washington to the world, clinical psychologist Kira Mauseth '00 helps people affected by disasters build resilience in the face of unimaginable tragedy—and she says there's one remarkable thing their communities have in common: a limitless capacity for hope.

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CLASS NOTES



Whitman Magazine, Spring 2025

## More to the Story

We caught up with Ryan Garrett '18, Education Director for the Mono Lake Committee, as he hosted the Fall 2025 cohort of Whitman's Semester in the West program. Mono Lake, a natural salt desert lake in Eastern California, has been a passion project for Garrett and others who have stepped in to help protect the lake and its ecosystem from the effects of drought, excessive water diversion and climate change. Read about the visit at [whitman.edu/magazine](http://whitman.edu/magazine).

**ON THE COVER** Yahir Tzec-Carrasco '25 (left) and Oliver Rodriguez Dickson '25 (right) celebrated the premiere of their Walla Walla-based film at the Milton-Freewater Drive-In Theater. See page 12.

### LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Whitman College is located on the traditional Cayuse, Umatilla and Walla Walla homelands. We pay our respect to tribal elders both past and present and extend our respect to all Indigenous people today. We honor their stewardship of the land and ecosystem and commit to continuing that important work.



## World-Changers & Difference-Makers

AS WE ENTER A NEW YEAR, I am inspired by the impact a Whitman education makes in the lives of our students and alumni—and in the lives of the people they encounter as they go out into the world. The values our students cultivate here—care, connection and a commitment to the common good—become tools they carry into their lives beyond campus.

Empowering these talented students is the unwavering support of Whitman alumni, parents and friends. And we can see its remarkable impact on campus today. Through the **Upward Together** campaign—now in its final year—we have opened Nancy Serrurier Village, with Robart, Stegner and Harvey halls. These halls are named for inspiring alumni who exemplify service and leadership. This space represents more than a decade of work and the support of more than 160 generous donors. Through their generosity, they have created opportunities for students to thrive, to grow in confidence, and to prepare for lives of purpose.

This issue also highlights stories of Whitties who make an impact beyond our campus, including Kira Mauseth '00, a clinical psychologist and educator supporting communities all around the world as they recover from disaster and trauma, and two recent graduates from Whitman's Film and Media Studies program, Yahir Tzec-Carrasco '25 and Oliver Rodriguez Dickson '25, whose documentary "Roll Modelz" celebrates a creative Mexican American community right here in Walla Walla.

In this new year, I am deeply grateful for the ways you give of yourselves to strengthen Whitman and to uplift future generations of world-changers. Together, we continue to build the legacy of a college defined by excellence, care and community.

Sarah Bolton  
President

“The values our students cultivate here—care, connection and a commitment to the common good—become tools they carry into their lives beyond campus.”

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**CLASS NOTES**  
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**NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY**  
Whitman College is deeply committed to the principle of nondiscrimination in all its forms. In its admission, educational, and employment practices, programs, and activities, the college does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex (including pregnancy and parenting status), gender, gender identity or expression, genetic information, sexual orientation, religion, age, marital status, national origin, shared ancestry, disability, veteran status, or any other basis prohibited by the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and other applicable federal, state, or local laws.

# On Boyer Avenue

NEWS FROM CAMPUS



**Welcome to Whitman!** In October 2025, current students brought their enthusiasm as they helped host prospective students and families during Fall Into Whitman Day. From left: Nethblaykela Sherehkanyaw '29 (Indianapolis), Pendhay Yeshey '28\* (Bhutan), Charlie Boudreau '29 (Portland, Oregon), Guillermo Rodriguez '28 (Panama) and Gelic Gerona '27\* (Philippines).

## A Milestone Opens Doors

### WHITMAN COMMITS TO MEETING FULL FINANCIAL NEED FOR INCOMING STUDENTS STARTING IN FALL 2026

WHITMAN COLLEGE'S BOARD OF TRUSTEES voted this fall to begin meeting the full demonstrated financial need of incoming students, beginning with first-year and transfer students in the 2026–2027 academic year.

“The impact of meeting full need for future generations of students will be profound,” says Joe Davis '80, Chair of Whitman's Board of Trustees. “It will expand opportunity and ensure that students from all backgrounds can fully participate in the learning, research and community experiences that define Whitman.”

With this historic milestone, Whitman joins a select group of highly regarded U.S. colleges making the promise to meet students' full need.

#### A DECADE OF PROGRESS

Whitman's path to this moment has been more than 10 years in the making as part of the college's strategic planning to increase access and affordability. A significant step

forward came thanks to a historic gift from the Weingart family in 2022, which created an endowment making it possible for Whitman to meet the full need of students from Washington state.

Whitman is now able to expand that commitment to all incoming students, thanks to the generosity of more than 15,000 people who have supported the **Upward Together** campaign.

Ongoing gifts to The Whitman Fund will ensure that by the 2029–2030 academic year, the college will be meeting the full demonstrated financial need of all enrolled students.

Meeting full need is just one part of Whitman's approach to supporting students and affordability. The college also offers robust merit-based scholarships and an Early Financial Aid Guarantee. With this easy-to-access tool, high school seniors can see their financial aid before they even apply.

#### A COMMUNITY OF CHANGEMAKERS

By removing financial barriers, Whitman will open doors for talented students, while creating a more socioeconomically diverse student body, enriching campus life, and expanding opportunities for all students to engage in research, internships, campus clubs and community involvement.

“When students from all backgrounds learn together, they're better equipped to innovate and create solutions that address the challenges and opportunities of our time,” says President Sarah Bolton.

**How will it work?** Read more about this historic step forward—including frequently asked questions—at [whitman.edu/magazine](http://whitman.edu/magazine).

\*Davis United World College Scholar



**Celebrating an exceptional leader.** Nancy Serrurier at the dedication ceremony for the new residential village named in her honor.

## Introducing Nancy Serrurier Village

WHITMAN COLLEGE'S NEW RESIDENTIAL community has been named Nancy Serrurier Village in recognition of its namesake's visionary leadership and exceptional generosity spanning 18 years of service to the Board of Trustees.

Nancy Serrurier Village—comprising Robart, Stegner and Harvey halls—includes airy, modern apartments in a parklike setting for more than 200 junior and senior students. Located along Boyer Avenue and steps from the heart of campus, the village provides students

with greater connection, support and a thriving Whitman experience.

“Whitman College is demonstrably better as a result of Nancy's leadership of our board and of the **Upward Together** campaign,” says Joe Davis '80, Chair of the Board of Trustees. “We might not be realizing the village itself if not for her unyielding commitment to the effort and lead gift for the project. I am so proud to see the village make her legacy known for generations to come.”

### INSPIRED SERVICE

Nancy and Greg Serrurier first served on the Parent Leadership Committee following the enrollment of their son, Ben Serrurier '11. They quickly became invested in Whitman's transformative education as they watched Ben's confidence, curiosity and leadership skills flourish through his experiences on campus.

In 2009, Nancy joined the Board of Trustees and served as its Chair from 2018–2021, including through the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2022, she stepped forward to chair the **Upward Together** campaign.

“Nancy's vision and dedication are an inspiration to me and to so many on our board,” says President Sarah Bolton. “I am deeply proud that current and future generations of students will find a home in Nancy Serrurier Village as a reflection of her unwavering commitment to excellence and student thriving at Whitman.”

### 'ENDLESSLY PASSIONATE'

The Serruriers' generosity touches all aspects of the Whitman experience—from the new village, to creating new internship and career coaching resources for students, to supporting scholarships and academic innovation.

Most recently, Nancy and Greg established the Serrurier Community-Engaged Teaching and Learning Endowment, which will support faculty members as they create immersive learning opportunities for students to collaborate with local nonprofits, schools,



**'It's beautiful first and foremost.'** Senior Sybella Ssewakiryanga, a Davis United World College Scholar and a resident of Stegner Hall, shared what the new village means to her and her fellow students: “It allows juniors and seniors to stay connected with everyone on the Whitman campus. ... It gives us the independence we need as we get older. This is an incredible project.”

government agencies and community groups.

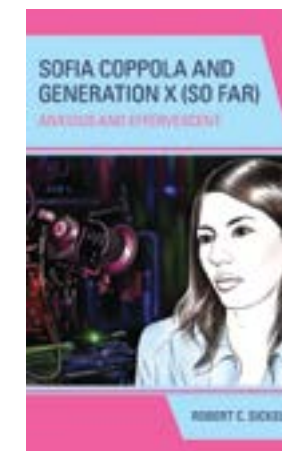
“Nancy is a force—driven, generous and endlessly passionate about Whitman,” says Trustee Tricia Putnam Montgomery '90. “She is one of those rare people whose energy and devotion lift everyone around her. It's so fitting to honor her lasting and immeasurable impact on Whitman in this way.”

**Welcome home!** Read more about the opening of Nancy Serrurier Village at [whitman.edu/magazine](http://whitman.edu/magazine).

### FACULTY & STAFF NEWS



An exhibit created by Professor of French and Francophone Studies **Sarah Hurlburt**, in collaboration with Sheehan Gallery and Maxey Museum, received an Award of Excellence from the American Association for State and Local History. “Picturing Family: Métis Life in the Walla Walla Valley” combined family photos of the Métis population of the Umatilla Indian Reservation at the turn of the 20th century with contemporary art made and collected by their descendants.



**Robert Sickels**, the Alma Meisnest Chair of Humanities and Professor of Film and Media Studies, published “Sofia Coppola and Generation X (So Far): Anxious and Effervescent” (Bloomsbury Publishing, 2024). The book argues that Coppola's filmography acts as a reflection of her generation's evolving mindset and self-image. The cover was illustrated by **Kynde Kiefel**, Director of the Donald H. Sheehan Gallery.



**Zahi Zalloua**, the Cushing Eells Professor of Philosophy and Literature and Professor of Indigeneity, Race, and Ethnicity Studies, published “Fanon, Žižek and the Violence of Resistance” (Bloomsbury Publishing, 2025). The book explores the ways anti-colonial theorist Frantz Fanon and Marxist-Lacanian philosopher Slavoj Žižek expose the violence of political structures.

An installation of artwork by **Maria Lux**, Associate Professor of Art and Paul Garrett Fellow, appeared at the Carnation Contemporary art gallery in Portland, Oregon in July 2025. In “Heart and Mind, Blood and Nerves,” Lux considers venomous snakes as bringers of health and death, linking our distant past with modern knowledge.



## STANDING TALL NOW & FOR GENERATIONS TO COME: ROBERT, STEGNER & HARVEY HALLS



◀ **Robart Hall** was dedicated to Trustee Emeritus Judge James Robart '69 (right, with his wife, artist Mari Jalbing)—thanks to a generous gift from John Stanton '77 and Theresa Gillespie (Parents '18).

▶ **Stegner Hall** was dedicated to Judge John Stegner '77 (right) and Laurie Elgee Stegner '80 (left)—thanks to a generous gift from Larry Stone '77 and Jan Jecha.



▲ **Harvey Hall** was dedicated to Peter Harvey '84 (left)—with a lead gift from Nancy and Greg Serrurier (Parents '11). Also present (from left): Harvey's son, Andrew Harvey '20; daughter-in-law Brooke Randall Harvey '19; and wife, Kristen Bogen Harvey '87.



### Correction: Whitman Athletics Hall of Fame

A caption in the Fall 2025 issue of Whitman Magazine misidentified Mark Francis '77 (second from right) as inductee Floyd Bunt Jr. Rather, Francis accepted the award on Bunt's behalf as Bunt was unable to attend the Hall of Fame induction ceremony. We apologize for the error.

# The Good Doctor

ELLIOT KALAUAWA, M.D., '75 BUILT A CAREER ON HIS HOME ISLAND DELIVERING CARE TO THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST

BY DANNA LORCH

ELLIOT KALAUAWA, M.D., '75, Chief Physician Emeritus at Waikiki Health, got chills when he found out he had received the 2025 Alumni of Merit Award from Whitman College in recognition of his nearly 40-year career serving as an HIV/AIDS specialist in the same Hawaiian community where he grew up on the island of O'ahu.

"In many ways, this award feels more special than others I have received," he says from his office the day before his 72nd birthday. "It represents how I've come full circle. Whitman was a time in my life when I grew from being a shy, immature teenager to a man. It's where I planted my roots as an adult."

## SOWING THE SEEDS OF SERVICE

Long before he earned a medical degree, Dr. Kalauawa was a self-described "book-worm," the only child of a single mother who loved him fiercely and pushed him to study hard, even while leaving him on his own at home much of the time.

Growing up in public housing was crowded, Dr. Kalauawa says, but from a child's perspective, there were more positives than negatives: Friends, neighbors and other family members stepped up to look out for him, and he learned to do the same in return.

"Even though we were poor, we got along, and as a kid, I always had friends around," Dr. Kalauawa says. Though his grandmother died before he could meet her, she still passed on something precious to him. As a natural healer, a kahuna, she never turned anyone away and treated all kinds of ailments.

From an early age, Dr. Kalauawa knew that he would honor her memory and become a healer in the community too. That started with earning a full-ride scholarship to Iolani School, a K-12 college prep school in Honolulu, starting in the ninth grade. It was there he was first nurtured by teachers and pushed—in a good way—academically.

When it came time to apply to colleges, Dr. Kalauawa didn't hesitate. He applied Early Decision to Whitman. "I liked Whitman because it felt like a similar atmosphere to my high school: Academics

that continue to this day. After graduation, he returned home to attend the University of Hawai'i School of Medicine.

## A CARING PLACE

After earning his medical degree and completing the first year of an internal medicine residency in California, Dr. Kalauawa went home, finishing his residency before taking a job as a doctor at a local community health clinic, Waikiki Health, not far from where he'd grown up.

Over four decades, he's seen the clinic's team grow from 15 employees to its

**"We treat everybody, whether they can pay or not. In our clinic, we don't judge anyone. We care about the individual."**

—ELLIOT KALAUAWA, M.D., '75

were a priority, the classes were small and the faculty took a personal interest. When I went there, I found all these things to be true," he says.

Before arriving on campus, he'd never left Hawai'i. "Whitman felt like a different planet at first," he says. His first language is Hawaiian Pidgin, an English-based creole language. "I had to learn to speak so that people would understand me."

In fact, Dr. Kalauawa learned to speak so powerfully that he joined the speech and debate club. He majored in Biology and also played on the men's basketball team, where he built strong friendships

current 200—all of whom he holds a deep respect for and credits with the clinic's success. Even as the clinic has expanded, its mission to care for the underserved has remained unchanged. That's something Dr. Kalauawa is proud of.

Most of the clinic's patients are uninsured. Many grapple with mental illness or substance use—or are unhoused.

"We treat everybody, whether they can pay or not," he says. "In our clinic, we don't judge anyone. We care about the individual."

While typical clinics may push patients through exams as rapidly as possible, at



**A heart for healing.** Elliot Kalauawa, M.D., '75 (right) has spent nearly 40 years delivering low-cost, compassionate health care to Honolulu's most vulnerable populations at Waikiki Health. He and his wife, Luana Kalauawa (left), are proud to call Hawai'i home.

Waikiki Health, Dr. Kalauawa sits with patients, taking the time to listen and talk with them about their health.

## AT THE CENTER OF AN EPIDEMIC

The HIV/AIDS epidemic broke out in the United States in the early 1980s, just as Dr. Kalauawa began his medical residency. Soon after joining Waikiki Health, he became the clinic's HIV/AIDS specialist.

"We did the best we could at that time with the little knowledge we had," he says. "It was a challenge to treat people with a disease that you didn't fully understand—and for which there was no treatment."


It was often gut-wrenching, he recalls. It meant looking a patient in the eye and telling them they might not survive the disease, then holding their hand as they passed.

Many of his HIV patients were lonely

because of the stigma they faced at home. He'll never forget one who came into the clinic.

"By then, there was treatment and we knew how to stop the spread, but his family didn't understand," Dr. Kalauawa explains. "He went home to visit them in the Midwest, and they had a steak dinner together. Everyone else had a regular plate and silverware, but his parents gave him a paper plate and plastic silverware. He left and walked out of his old life that night and came back to Hawai'i."

Today, HIV and AIDS are manageable as long as patients take their medicine and come in for treatment. When they don't show up, Dr. Kalauawa and his colleagues go looking for them in a mobile clinic van.

"I love my patients," he says. "Many of them come from the same poor background as mine. I'm here for them." 

## Healing With Empathy

As new residents rotate through Waikiki Health, Elliot Kalauawa, M.D., '75 emphasizes one of the most important aspects of patient care: empathy. He offers these tips to healers in training:

**1. Be authentic.** "To show empathy, you actually have to feel it," he says. "If you fake it, people will be able to sense that it's an act."

**2. Put yourself in their shoes.** "Give them the benefit of the doubt. On the surface, they may seem rude, but maybe there is something else going on in their life that you don't know about. The rudeness is not the real person."

**3. Let empathy lead you.** "Once you have built empathy, it's easy to show it in your words and actions."



# Making Waves

WHITMAN'S HEAD SWIMMING COACH STACKS UP THE WINS BY PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST

BY PAN DEINES '26

HEAD SWIMMING COACH JENN BLOMME is diving into her 26th season at Whitman College. And after all these years, her favorite part of being a coach is still seeing how her student-athletes transform throughout their college years.

“So much growing is happening. So much change is happening,” she says. “At the very least, to be witness to that is amazing, and at best, to help support and foster some of that growth along the way is incredibly meaningful.”

Born in Walla Walla, Blomme swam as a student-athlete at Grinnell College in Iowa. The experience inspired her to become a coach, and a small liberal arts college in the Northwest seemed like the perfect place to grow her career.

**“It can be really easy as an athlete to feel that every competition is a test. I like to make it more about celebrating the work you’ve put in, celebrating where your body is physically, celebrating where your mind and emotions and team are.”**

—JENN BLOMME, HEAD SWIMMING COACH

“So many of the lessons I learned in those four years of college came through that athletic experience,” she says. “I was hopeful to carry that forward and be part of that for other people—and to stay involved in this sport that I love.”

## HIGH HONORS

Blomme’s swimming teams have been incredibly successful, placing in the top of the Northwest Conference (NWC) Championships year after year. And she has coached two NCAA National Champions: Karl Mering '15 and Tanner Filion '23.

In 2025, she was recognized as NWC Coach of the Year for the 15th time. The annual award is voted on by NWC coaches at the end of the four-day-long championship meet. Blomme is honored to have received this recognition from her peers so many times.

“You’ve been in fierce throes of competition with these people for four days, so to have their respect and admiration in those moments means a lot,” she says. “Nobody knows the challenges and effort and hard work that goes into coaching better than your peers who are doing the same thing all year.”

## THE SECRET SAUCE

Blomme’s approach to coaching goes well beyond the pool. She highlights the importance of sleep, nutrition, time management, academics and mental well-being in her students’ lives—and making sure that the focus and drive to perform in the pool don’t overshadow what her athletes need most.

“Whether it’s the need to miss practice to go to a tutoring session or anything else,” she says, “we’re trying to support the whole person as best we can.”

Blomme also works hard to lighten the stress of swim meets and competitions. As the season progresses, she focuses on

celebrating her swimmers’ accomplishments instead of pushing them to perform.

“It can be really easy as an athlete to feel that every competition is a test,” Blomme says. “I like to make it more about celebrating the work you’ve put in, celebrating where your body is physically, celebrating where your mind and emotions and team are.”

Another important facet of Blomme’s mindset is to have fun. Silly precompetition traditions lighten the stress load and build community within the team.


“I think our team does a great job of being fierce competitors who have a lot of fun while they’re doing it. If you took the silliness out of our team, we would not perform as well,” she says.

## BUILDING THE TEAM

Blomme approaches recruitment through a lens of tight community and team camaraderie.

“This is my 26th season of coaching this team, and no two rosters along those years are exactly the same, but there are these threads of what makes us *us*,” she says.

Swimmer Avery Riley '28 says Blomme’s strategy works so well because she attracts people with good energy.

“There’s a reason she’s so successful, and I think that’s because she knows how to cultivate a great team,” Riley says. “When she’s looking at recruiting, she’s not just looking at how fast you can go, but also what kind of person you are. She builds the team in a way that attracts the same energy: open-minded, good-hearted people. And that’s because she is both those things.” 

**Raise your voice for the Blues.** Support varsity athletics at Whitman with a gift to the W Club or the team of your choice at [give.whitman.edu/wclub](https://give.whitman.edu/wclub).

## Coaching the Whole Human

Avery Riley '28, a second-year Brain, Behavior and Cognition major from La Grange, Illinois, was named Northwest Conference Rookie of the Year in 2025 after setting two new records for Whitman College in the women’s 200 butterfly and 500 freestyle.

Riley appreciates the care that Head Swimming Coach Jenn Blomme brings to her work.

“There are two things about her that make her a great coach,” Riley says. “One of them is that she wants to win. She is determined, and you can see it when she rallies the team. She’s very good at relating to us and motivating us. And I think a lot of that comes from the second thing, which is that she really cares about who we are outside of swimming too.”

Riley notes Blomme’s commitment to making sure her athletes are well-rounded students in addition to strong teammates.

“She understands that swimming is not our lives; it is a part of our lives.”





### THE GREENHOUSE

NO MATTER THE SEASON, Whitman College's Arthur Rempel Greenhouse is a place for students and faculty to explore and cultivate their fascination with plant life.

The greenhouse has two climate-controlled teaching zones that are home to diverse desert and tropical plants from around the world, a collection developed over the past 30 years by Professor of Biology Heidi Dobson and used in introductory biology labs and plant biology courses. A third room was later built to house student-faculty research projects.

Student greenhouse assistants manage the propagation and care of the plant collection year-round. They also serve as plant ambassadors to the community through Open Greenhouse events and popular semiannual plant giveaways.

Constructed in the early 2000s adjacent to the Hall of Science to replace an older teaching greenhouse on the roof of the building, the Rempel Greenhouse is directed by Professor Dobson and managed by Biology Lab Coordinator Travis Morgan.

# ROLL MODELZ

Whittie filmmakers flip the script on lowriders and Chicano culture

BY PATRICK MULIKUZA '28



**The final cut.** “Roll Modelz” Co-Directors Yahir Tzec-Carrasco '25 (left) and Oliver Rodriguez Dickson '25 (right) take in the moment their documentary first appears on the big screen during its premiere at the Milton-Freewater Drive-In on Oct. 11, 2025.

**In their documentary “Roll Modelz,” Film and Media Studies majors Oliver Rodriguez Dickson '25 and Yahir Tzec-Carrasco '25 set out to challenge the stereotypes of an often misunderstood cultural movement: lowriding.**

Lowriders—customized cars modified so that their bodies are low to the ground—began to gain popularity in the mid-20th century in the Mexican American community. But, as the two recent Whitman College graduates discovered, lowriding is about much more than the hands-on skills it takes to build a custom ride. Frame by frame, their film uncovers the richness and complexity of a small-town lowrider community that emphasizes craftsmanship, family, friendship, service and a proud celebration of Chicano culture.

## Start Your Engines

In the fall of 2024, Tzec attended the Wheelin' Walla Walla Car Show—and was surprised by what he found: a lowrider club in Walla Walla.

The Washington State Lowriders Car Club was founded in 2021 by Jason Pastor O'Neel, a lifelong lowrider enthusiast and Walla Walla native, along with his cousin, Cris Avila, in

memory of Avila's daughter, Mya. Most club members are based in the Walla Walla Valley, while others come from as far away as Ephrata and Moses Lake.

“I wanted to know what their story was, because usually lowriders are associated with California, Chicago, these bigger cities,” recalls Tzec, who hails from Portland, Oregon.

The encounter struck a chord with Tzec's own Mexican American heritage and sparked his curiosity. “I knew that I wanted to make a documentary about them,” he says.

To help bring the project to life, he turned to Dickson, a fellow Whitman student from Olympia, Washington.

Dickson, who also has Mexican American roots, loved the idea. “I think we both felt like, as filmmakers, we have the skills to make this story a thing, so we have to do it, for our culture, for ourselves, for the club, for what they stand for,” he says.





**Poetry on wheels.**

“Roll Modelz” celebrates the craftsmanship, community and creativity of Chicano culture.

**Above:** A Washington State Lowriders Car Club vehicle on display at a community event.

**Left:** Lowrider club member Daniel Brito-Martinez poses with his custom lowrider bike in front of the Mural de Alebrijes painted by students from Whitman’s Hispanic Studies program.

**Right:** Folklorico Tierra del Sol dancers perform at a lowrider car show in Chelan, Washington.

PHOTOS BY YAHIR TZEC-CARRASCO '25



Although they hadn’t worked together before, the two clicked instantly. “We naturally were both co-directors,” Dickson says. “The best part was that we never had to sit down and discuss what roles we were going to play. We just worked together well enough to fluidly switch between tasks. It’s really fun to work this way.”

**Respect at the Wheel**

As they embarked on the project, building trust with the club was essential. Dickson and Tzec weren’t just capturing cars—they were entering people’s lives. “We’re Mexican American; they’re Mexican American. That level of understanding—that we know where they’re coming from and they know where we’re coming from—really helped strengthen that bond,” Tzec says.

But they didn’t rely on cultural proximity alone. They spent time with club members on and off camera. “Whether it’s to film or just get to know them, we were always showing up,” Tzec recalls.

“The gateway was respect,” Dickson says. “We showed them that we weren’t just trying to make a movie for our own egos, that we actually cared about what they’re trying to do in the community and who they are as people.”

On their first day of filming, Dickson and Tzec were invited to a large family gathering.

**“My biggest inspiration has always been my peers, especially people of my community.”**

—YAHIR TZEC-CARRASCO '25

For seven hours, they captured a vibrant world filled with warmth, laughter and deep-rooted kinship. Over time, they felt more like family than guests, Tzec says.

For Dickson, this was especially heart-warming. “As someone who is mixed race, I grew up in spaces where I was pushed to be a little bit more white than Chicano,” he says. “So I was a little bit nervous that maybe I didn’t have enough culture, enough spice, to get along with them. But they really accepted me and gave me some more of that spice over the course of the project, which I’m really proud of.”

Throughout their time filming, Dickson and Tzec discovered that the lowrider club’s mission has as much to do with honoring family and community, giving back through service, and celebrating culture as with the craftsmanship of building cars and bikes from scratch.

By telling the story, the filmmakers hope to reframe how the broader public sees lowrider culture. “There’s something about pursuing something you’re passionate about, putting hard work and time into it, that I think everyone can relate to,” Dickson says.

**Getting in Gear**

Like any filmmaking endeavor, “Roll Modelz” wasn’t the work of only two people. Dickson and Tzec were quick to credit Isaac Vale '27 for his help with sound; Nina McCormick '27 and Agustín Ramirez '25 with production assistance; and their producer, Dasha Levin, an award-winning filmmaker and Chaplain University graduate from San Diego.

They also acknowledge how instrumental Whitman was in equipping them for this journey—both with access to



**“There’s something about pursuing something you’re passionate about, putting hard work and time into it, that I think everyone can relate to.”**

—OLIVER RODRIGUEZ DICKSON '25

filmmaking equipment and technical training.

“This level of support is something I likely wouldn’t have experienced if I had not gone to Whitman,” Dickson says. “I think that through Whitman, I’ve grown a lot. I’ve learned a lot about the scary step of committing to your own idea. Whether that’s through film or my Psychology classes or playing soccer, a lot of my experiences have led to me feeling comfortable and confident enough to say, ‘I can do this.’”

“My biggest inspiration has always been my peers, especially people of my community,” Tzec adds. He says the wide range of student-led initiatives organized through Whitman’s Hispanic Studies Department gave him the confidence to launch this project.

Dickson says he’s thankful to his Film and Media Studies peers. “The students in that department really know how to get things done. If you find your group at Whitman, it gives you an extra boost to want to go and do something meaningful.”

### Looking Down the Road

After completing their ambitious project in August 2025, Dickson and Tzec began entering it in film festivals around the country. Although

they face the festival circuit without the financial backing of a production company, they intend the quality of their work to be competitive—and it has been.

In November 2025, “Roll Modelz” was selected by a panel of judges to receive a 2025 Seattle International Film Festival Grant for Courageous Documentary Filmmaking, funded by the Satterberg Foundation.

“This grant changes everything,” Tzec says. “Being physically present at festivals is one of the best ways to make connections and build a name in the industry, but it’s expensive. Thanks to this grant, we can actually show up. We can get visibility.”

They hope community members will also support the project by spreading the word. “We want people to know that this is something that can happen from Whitman students; the story is documented right here in town,” Dickson says.

The pair is already hard at work on their next documentary project. **W**

See a sneak peek. Watch the “Roll Modelz” trailer at [whitman.edu/magazine](http://whitman.edu/magazine). And look for @RollModelzDocumentary on Instagram, Facebook and TikTok to follow the film’s journey.

### A Premiere To Be Proud Of

On Oct. 11, 2025, lowrider enthusiasts, artists, musicians and dancers gathered at the Milton-Freewater Drive-In Theater—just a few miles south of Whitman College in nearby Oregon—for a special car show and community gathering to celebrate the big-screen premiere of “Roll Modelz.”

“Tears were flowing down my face,” says Yahir Tzec-Carrasco '25, Co-Director of the documentary. “I was just thinking about all the people to whom I dedicated this film—my parents, the lowrider community, the Latino community, the immigrant community—and how they were all present in one space.”

Tzec’s Co-Director Oliver Rodriguez Dickson '25 felt the power of the moment too. “I was emotional,” he says. “I was so proud of the work we had done. At the end of the film, all the cars in the audience were honking their horns, and it felt like the cars were cheering for us. I remember just looking at Yahir and smiling and saying, ‘We actually did this, bro!’”

In a full-circle moment, the directors also brought the film to Whitman’s campus for a second premiere on Oct. 17, where they were joined by club members and faculty for a post-screening Q&A.

“It was really special to take our work back to the place where it all started,” Dickson says.

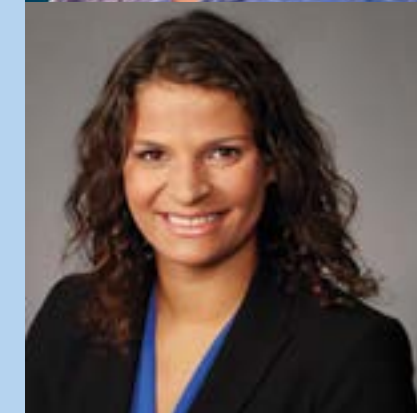
## Recognizing the Remarkable

### Nominate a Whittie for an Alumni Association Recognition Award

There are multiple categories for recognition:

- **Alumni of Merit Award** for outstanding service to the community or to Whitman
- **Gordon Scribner Award for Distinguished Service** to the college
- **Pete Reid Award for Young Alumni** of the last 10 years who demonstrate youthful exuberance to their career, community and Whitman
- **Sally Rodgers Award for Lifelong Achievement** for those graduating 50 or more years ago who exemplify the qualities of a liberal arts education
- **Trailblazer Diversity and Equity Award** for those whose work exemplifies inclusion, promotes equity, and values and reflects the diversity of our world

Nominate a deserving alum by **March 20!** Learn more at [whitman.edu/alumni-awards](http://whitman.edu/alumni-awards).



Read about the 2025 winners at [whitman.edu/alumni/award-winners](http://whitman.edu/alumni/award-winners).

## Looking to Give Back? Join the Alumni Board of Directors

The Alumni Association Board of Directors seeks new board members who will bring diverse perspectives and serve as advisors to the Office of Alumni Relations. Candidates of all backgrounds are encouraged to apply by **March 13!**

Scan the QR code to let us know you’re interested in joining.

If you prefer, you can also fill out the form at [whitman.edu/alumni/jointheboard](http://whitman.edu/alumni/jointheboard) or email us at [alumni@whitman.edu](mailto:alumni@whitman.edu) with any questions.





# Harnessing HOPE

**Psychologist Kira Mauseth '00 helps people and communities recover from disasters and build resilience**

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BY DEBBIE RITENOUR

**In** January 2010, a catastrophic 7.0 magnitude earthquake struck the Caribbean nation of Haiti, devastating lives and communities and affecting more than 3 million people.

That spring, Kira Mauseth '00 traveled to Haiti as part of a multidisciplinary medical crisis team. The Whitman College grad hoped she could make even a small difference in the lives of those recovering from the disaster.

What she didn't know at the time was the big impact the trip would have on her own life.

The team, including Mauseth, a practicing psychologist, set up a clinic on a soccer field. Over 10 days, they taught adults and children skills to manage the emotional and psychological distress often experienced after such traumatic events, focusing on tools for well-being, recovery and resilience.

"That was it," she says. "I was hooked." During her time in Haiti, Mauseth discovered not only a passion but also a way to create lasting support in affected communities.

The team partnered with local students who served both as translators and guides on cultural customs, norms and coping options. By the end of the second day, the students were suggesting which interventions, such as deep breathing or mindfulness, were most appropriate for which individuals.



**“Hopefulness is fundamental to how humans operate in the world, and I have never seen more capacity for it than when I’ve been around people who have nothing else.”**

—Kira Mauseth '00

It was an “Aha!” moment for the U.S. team. “My colleague and I looked at each other and realized we needed to train the students on how to teach the techniques themselves,” Mauseth says.

On the flight home, she and that colleague, psychologist Tona McGuire, developed the initial draft of the Health Support Team (HST) curriculum, which is designed to train local Indigenous survivors of any disaster on providing appropriate behavioral health support that can be adapted with cultural norms for their community. They continued to refine the train-the-trainer curriculum over the next two years, returning to Haiti seven more times.

### Support on a Global Scale

Mauseth has since implemented the HST curriculum in dozens of sites around the world. She has trained teachers, pastors and others on how to meet the mental health needs of Syrian and Palestinian refugees in Jordan, displaced Ukrainians in Poland, and those affected by wildfires in Maui. No matter where she travels to help, she is

always moved by the strength and spirit of local communities.

“The human capacity for hope and resilience is pretty much unlimited,” she says. “Hopefulness is fundamental to how humans operate in the world, and I have never seen more capacity for it than when I’ve been around people who have nothing else.”

In Haiti, for example, a grandfather told Mauseth that his sense of purpose was destroyed when he lost his wife, children, home and business during the earthquake. When she returned two months later, however, he told her he had found a new purpose: teaching his two granddaughters how to read, write and speak English.

“It has been an incredible honor to share in such poignant and significant experiences in people’s lives as they recover from very difficult situations,” she says.

Mauseth also provides disaster support closer to home. In 2020, she was named co-lead of the Washington State Department of Health’s Behavioral Health Strike Team, which was created

to inform strategies to support the mental health of Washington residents during the COVID-19 pandemic. In that role, she gave more than 400 webinars on resilience, recovery and the impact of disasters on mental health.

### ‘I Love What I Do’

Mauseth, who grew up near Mount St. Helens, developed an interest in cross-cultural studies while taking a gap year in Australia after graduating from high school. Her travels influenced her decision to major in Anthropology at Whitman.

“One of the big lessons my parents taught me was that the two most important things you can spend your money on are education and travel,” she says. “Here’s the secret: They’re actually the same thing.”

Mauseth—who was President of Delta Gamma and met her husband, attorney Jensen Mauseth '01, at Whitman—credits the college with also helping her learn more about herself and her core values.

“What I enjoyed the most was being part of a community of like-minded people who were invested in learning how to learn,” she

says. “It was less about the content than it was about the process of becoming a critical thinker. We learned how to process information and navigate through murky issues in the world, which I think is more relevant right now than it’s ever been.”

After graduating from Whitman, Mauseth earned her doctorate in Clinical Psychology from Seattle Pacific University. She opened her own clinic, Snohomish Psychology Associates, in 2008 and began teaching at Seattle University that same year. She later founded Astrum Health, a consulting firm that offers training and education on organizational change, workplace and team behavioral health, and disaster or crisis preparation or recovery.

“I love what I do,” says Mauseth. “It’s kind of all over the map, but I love it.”

### The Resilience Doctor Is In

If Mauseth had a moniker, it might be Dr. Resilience. As a psychologist, she helps individuals overcome trauma and develop coping skills. As a consultant, she helps state agencies, school districts and other organizations prepare for and respond to disasters and critical incidents. And as a

### A world-hopping helper.

Her unique skill set has taken Kira Mauseth '00 from Haiti (below left) in 2010–2012, where she trained volunteers in the aftermath of a devastating earthquake, to Jordan (opposite) in 2012–2015, where she worked with trainees helping Syrian and Palestinian refugees, to Maui (below right) in 2024, where she trained counselors and community volunteers during recovery from the Lahaina fire.

**Want to connect?** You can reach out to Kira Mauseth at [drkira@astrumhealthllc.org](mailto:drkira@astrumhealthllc.org).




professor at Seattle University, she teaches courses and leads a research lab focused on resilience and disaster recovery.

Building a culture of resilience on college campuses is critical, Mauseth notes.

“Neuroscience has taught us several things about resilience, and one is that if people feel constantly under threat or are operating in crisis mode, they can’t learn new things or think creatively, and they lose the ability to problem-solve,” she says. “I definitely see one of my professional roles as helping people modulate out of crisis so that they’re able to think more clearly and learn more effectively.”

Mauseth points out that resilience is about more than overcoming adversity or surviving tough times. It’s a valuable skill people can develop to help them manage daily stressors.

“Resilience is found every day and everywhere. It’s not just in refugee camps in Jordan or Haiti, but among the staff at Seattle Children’s Hospital, in the classrooms in Everett and Anchorage, in the fire departments all over the region, and with educators and health care workers in their day-to-day efforts,” she says.

“That’s part of what gives me so much hope in my own work: There are helpers and good people doing good work everywhere.” 



**Showing up for others.** For 15 years, Kira Mauseth '00 has shared her behavioral support methods with helpers around the world—including in Alaska (top left), Jordan (top right) and Haiti (below).

# Class Notes



## Good Food & Good Business

Lessons in changemaking from an alum and Peace Corps '40 Under 40'

BY PAM MOORE

For Lisa Curtis '10, learning she'd been named to the National Peace Corps Association's 2025 "40 Under 40" list was both surreal and satisfying. "Because the Peace Corps led me to start Kuli Kuli, this was a special full circle moment," says the Oakland, California-based social entrepreneur.

It all started when Curtis, a vegetarian, was seeking more nutrients in her diet while serving in the Peace Corps in a remote village in Niger. She felt lethargic and asked the village women for help. They offered her kuli kuli, a traditional peanut snack, and mixed it with leaves of moringa—a drought-resistant tree rich in vitamins, minerals and antioxidants.

When Curtis incorporated the snack into her diet, her energy returned—and the experience laid the groundwork for Kuli Kuli Foods, the company Curtis founded after returning from the Peace Corps in 2011.

Kuli Kuli—known for its superfood-based powders, lattes and gummies—grew out of Curtis' desire to bring Americans the health benefits of superfoods like moringa while empowering the communities who grow them. By sourcing traditional ingredients from small family farms in India and seven different countries across Africa while prioritizing equity, collaboration and sustainability, Kuli Kuli

has generated over \$40 million in revenue, planted millions of trees, and supported the livelihoods of more than 4,000 farmers.

**Wondering what it takes to create a business that drives both profit and social change?** As she celebrated her 15th Reunion at Whitman College, we asked Curtis to share her best advice for Whitties who aspire to build successful social enterprises.

### 1. DARE EARLY

"Seize the opportunity to work in the social impact space while you're young," advises Curtis. While it can be tempting to go into a field like corporate finance with a plan to pivot later, Curtis is grateful she went straight into a mission-driven venture.

Would she have eventually made it to Africa had she gone into a more lucrative career right out of college? While it's impossible to say, she's glad she didn't miss the chance to go straight into the Peace Corps.

### 2. LEAP BEFORE YOU'RE READY

"Have the audacity to believe in yourself and your mission and not to feel like you need to do X, Y and Z before you pursue your passion," says Curtis.

She's often asked if she had experience working



**Energy and empowerment.** Lisa Curtis '10 (front row, center with B'Ayoba baobab harvesters and their children in Zimbabwe) founded Kuli Kuli Foods with a mission to support small family farmers around the world while fighting climate change.

at a food company or if she'd earned an MBA prior to launching Kuli Kuli. The answer is no—but she had the boldness to try anyway. "I've been successful because I believe I can," she says. "If you believe in yourself, you can figure out the rest along the way."

### 3. BUILD YOUR VILLAGE

"Asking people for help is my superpower," says Curtis, who feels that her ability to make clear, direct requests for exactly what she needs has been vital for networking and fundraising.

Nervous to put yourself out there? Remember that most people will be flattered that you asked for their support and are excited for the chance to chip in.

"People love to help," Curtis reminds us. "And if you can actually use other people's ideas and desire to support your organization in a way that moves you forward, it's a very powerful thing."

**Hungry for more?** Kuli Kuli founder Lisa Curtis '10 continues her advice at [whitman.edu/magazine](http://whitman.edu/magazine).



**89%**  
of Whitman students say they know where to go for professional help with their mental health.

—Healthy Minds Study, Spring 2025

## Nurturing Healthy Minds at Whitman

IT TAKES COMMITMENT and a robust community of caring to ensure that Whitman College students are surrounded by the support they need to thrive—academically, physically and emotionally.

At a time when concerns about the mental health of young people are on the rise, Whitman is strengthening that core promise.

As part of its commitment to student well-being, Whitman has completed the JED Campus program, a four-year deep dive into the college's mental health services and resources.

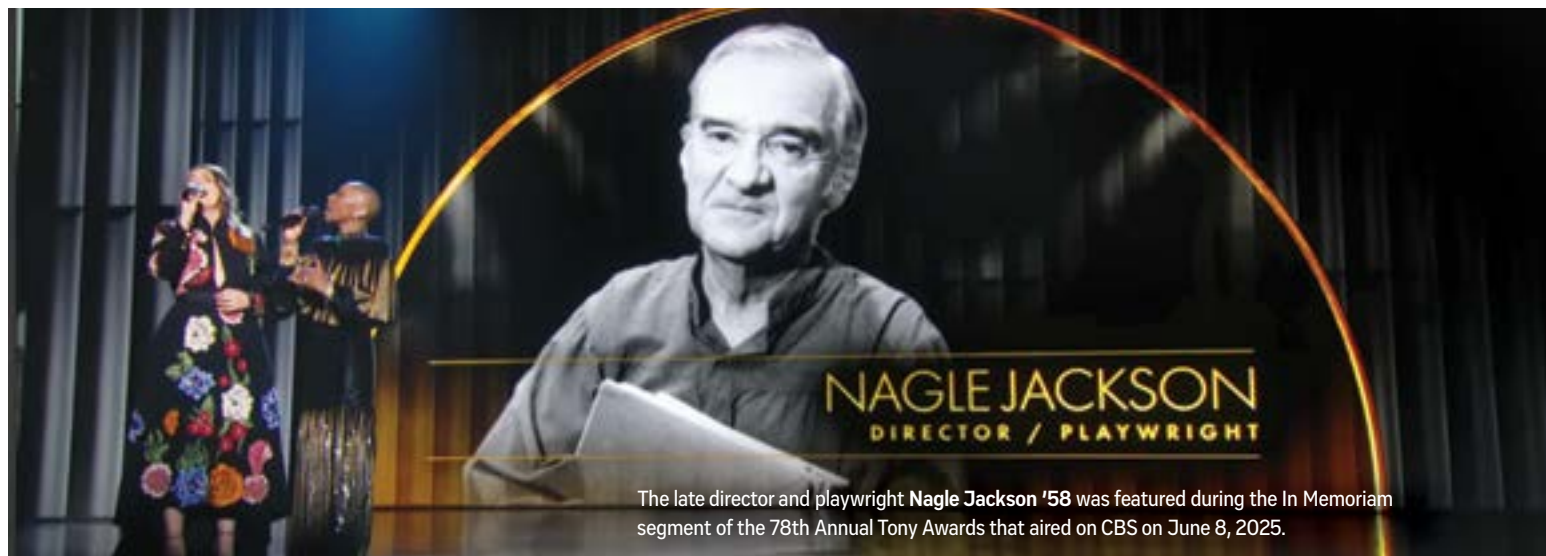
With guidance from the Jed Foundation (a nonprofit group of experts in youth mental health) and campuswide collaboration, Whitman has done the following to safeguard the well-being of students:

- Created new positions to contribute to wellness at Whitman, including an Assistant Vice President for Wellness

(Aimée Milne) and Prevention Specialist (Michelle Shin '23)

- Integrated services offered by the Welty Health and Counseling Center, giving students one go-to hub for medical and mental health services
- Expanded the staff of providers and reduced wait times to see a therapist on campus
- Developed programming to help students manage stress and develop life skills
- Partnered with UWill, a teletherapy service that gives students 24/7 access to therapy
- Launched suicide prevention training open to students, as well as faculty and staff

"Wellness isn't a quick fix—it's the culture we build at Whitman every single day," says Milne. "We are deeply invested in our students' mental health, now and in the future."



The late director and playwright **Nagle Jackson '58** was featured during the In Memoriam segment of the 78th Annual Tony Awards that aired on CBS on June 8, 2025.

## 1930s

The G. Leon “Doc” Stroud Photography Collection was recently acquired by Washington State University Vancouver Library, Archives and Special Collections. **Leon “Doc” Stroud '33** was a photographer and longtime Woodland, Washington, resident. The substantial collection features photographs of community and civic life in Woodland and the surrounding areas from 1938–1974.

## 1950s

**Junius Rochester '57** continues to write for Post Alley. Rochester’s blog explores the history and historical figures of Washington state. He is an award-winning Northwest historian whose recent posts include profiles of the

Northwest’s first Pulitzer Prize winner, Vernon Parrington, among other Pacific Northwest poets, such as Herbert Bashford and Theodore Roethke.

## 1970s

**John Adkison '70** is fully retired and has been traveling extensively with his wife, Maureen, taking advantage of their good health in retirement. They also enjoy the company of their daughter’s family and two grandsons in Yakima, Washington. Adkison also enjoyed attending the Phi Delta Theta reunion in April 2025.

**Jerry DeGroot '77** credits a Whitman poster advertising the Garrett Scholarship as the moment that changed his life’s trajectory. His time at Whitman led to a passion for history, obtaining a doctorate in the

U.K., a career at St. Andrews University, Scotland, and a reconnection with classmate **Sharon Roe '77**—“the real love of my life.” Read his blog at [substack.com/@gerarddegroot](http://substack.com/@gerarddegroot).

## 1980s

**Holly Woll-Salkeld '81** has dedicated her life to public service—from nearly 40 years as a volunteer firefighter and EMT to her current role with Whatcom County Emergency Management. A behind-the-scenes leader, Woll-Salkeld helps communities prepare for disasters and recover from crises with quiet strength, compassion and unwavering commitment.

## 1990s

As part of the “Our Place in Walla Walla” series hosted by the Career and Community

Engagement Center, Professor of Anthropology **Jason Pribilsky '93** spoke about the area’s public health networks in May 2025. **Kate Morrison '95** shared insights on local nonprofits and life as a Walla Walla performer in April 2025. And also in April, award-winning musician **Anna Okada Burgess '17** discussed pathways to careers in the arts with students and staff.

Trustee **Cecilia Kang '94** was featured in an interview on the New York Times podcast “The Daily” in April 2025. She spoke with host Rachel Abrams about the Federal Trade Commission’s antitrust case against Meta. To listen to the interview on [nytimes.com](http://nytimes.com), search for “The Daily Mark Zuckerberg Trial.”



Whitman President Sarah Bolton and several members of the Classes of 1967 and 1968 gathered at the memorial service in honor of **Janet Green Hunter '67**, who passed away in March 2025. Standing (from left): **Mike Munson '67**, **Susan Baugh Tomley '67**, **Pat Daugherty Shallenberger '67** and President Sarah Bolton. Seated (clockwise from top left): **Lonnie Reed '67**, **Marsha Franks Munson '68**, **Susie Wilbanks Garrison '67**, **Sherry O'Donnell Burns '68**, **Vicki Welsh Jones '68**, **Elizabeth “Liz” Guthrie Newland '67** and **Steve Turner '65**. Also in attendance (not pictured) were **Dick Hunter '65**, **Sue Baird Turner '67** and **Gary Jones '68**.

**Vic Walker '61** poses with his Mayor’s Community Service Award. The Walla Walla City Council proclaimed April 25 Vic Walker Day in honor of Walker’s 59 years of dedicated service as an official for youth, high school and adult sports in the Walla Walla Valley.



## 2010s

**Dujie Tahat '12** was named the 2025–26 Seattle Civic Poet in February 2025. Author of three chapbooks, Tahat advocates for civic dialogue

grounded in shared humanity. The Seattle Civic Poet serves a two-year residency as a literary ambassador for Seattle, fostering community dialogue between the city, the public and other artists.

PHOTO BY LINDSEY KELLY



**Kaliswa Brewster '05** recently produced “Duke & Roya” off-Broadway and performed in the world premiere of “Prosperous Fools.” She serves as Board President of Molière in the Park and was selected for Black Theatre United’s New Guard. Brewster also completed the Theatre Producers of Color program and continues her voiceover work and speaking appearances.



**Rosalinda Mendoza '06** (right) and her sister, Elizabeth (left), earned gold medals for their mezcal brand, Mocal, at two top global competitions: the San Francisco World Spirits Competition and the Agavos Awards. Rooted in Michoacán traditions and Pacific Northwest values, Mocal reflects the commitment to craftsmanship, sustainability and cultural pride that were nurtured during Rosalinda’s time at Whitman.

**Gillian Friedman '16** graduated in spring 2025 from the University of Chicago Law School as a recipient of the full-tuition David Rubenstein Scholarship. Next, she will complete two federal clerkships with the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit.

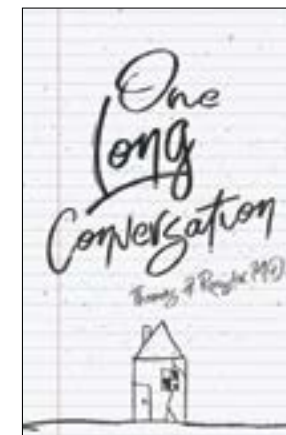
**Allie Donahue '17** has moved back to Portland, Oregon, with her partner and stepchildren, after almost a decade in Rhode Island. She invites Portland-area Whitties to reach out to her!

## 2020s

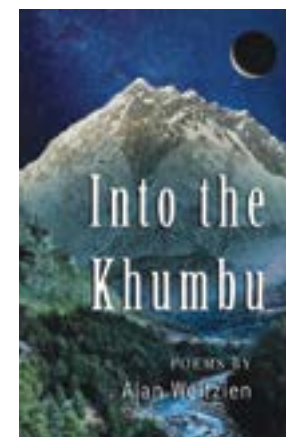
**Beck Williams '22** recently completed the Washington Education Association’s innovative Apprenticeship Residency in Teaching, gaining hands-on experience across special education classrooms in Walla Walla. Williams’ approach combines practical training with mentorship to meet students’ diverse needs.

**Will Weisz '23** is working as the Marketing Manager at Ski Bluewood and freelancing as a photographer. This past season, he had the opportunity to shoot a project in Japan. He also traveled around the Pacific Northwest, shooting with brands and riders. See his work at [willweisz.com](http://willweisz.com).

## Whittie Authors



**Tom Roesler '67** released his novel “One Long Conversation” (Atmosphere Press, 2024), which follows the story of a budding child psychiatrist, Jennifer Getty, as she delves into the intricate world of family systems-based psychotherapy. The novel is a captivating journey through therapy sessions, personal revelations, and the ebb and flow of life.



**Alan Weltzien '74** has published two works of prose and poetry: “The Taylor Triptych” (The Sea Letter Journal, 2024) and “Into the Khumbu” (Cirque Press, 2025). “The Taylor Triptych” explores Weltzien’s family history while “Into the Khumbu” is a collection of poetry from his trek through Nepal’s Khumbu region.



### Tell Us About It!

Whether you’re just starting your first job, embarking on a career change or preparing to retire after a fulfilling life’s work, we want to help you share your news with your classmates. To submit your big news, visit [whitman.edu/classnotes](http://whitman.edu/classnotes).

# Whitties in the Wild



President's Advisory Board member **Laurie Smiley '81** (left) hosted several Whitties at her home in New Orleans in April 2025. In attendance were (continuing from left) David and Alicia Bendana (Parents '26), **Caitlin Moore '11**, and **Vanessa Spinazola '98**.



Whitties reunited at the U.S. Conference on Teaching Statistics in Iowa in summer 2025 (from left): former Assistant Professor of Statistics **Kelly McConville**, now Director of the Dominguez Center for Data Science at Bucknell University; **Nate Wells '11**, Assistant Professor of Statistics at Grinnell College; **Marina Ptukhina**, Associate Professor of Statistics at Whitman; **Will Boyles**, Assistant Professor of Statistics at Whitman; and **Halley McCormick '15**, Mathematics Instructor at Walla Walla Community College.



**Derek Porter '94** and **Carrie Jensen Posey '96** reconnected during the Highline Musical Theater's (HMT) spring production of "Mean Girls Jr." Posey is the Managing Director of the HMT program. Porter's daughter, Fiona, was a cast member in the musical.



**Katie Rouse '10** (left) and **Dana Bialek '11** (right) reunited by chance at the 2025 New York Liberty season opener, coincidentally wearing matching "Everyone Watches Women's Sports" shirts—in different languages! Their shared passion for the WNBA was an unexpected connection.



**Carol Heinz '99** (left) and **Kim Kiefaber Ryseff '80** volunteered together at Save a Forgotten Equine (SAFE) in Redmond, Washington, for 18 months before discovering their shared Whitman connection.

# Happily Ever After



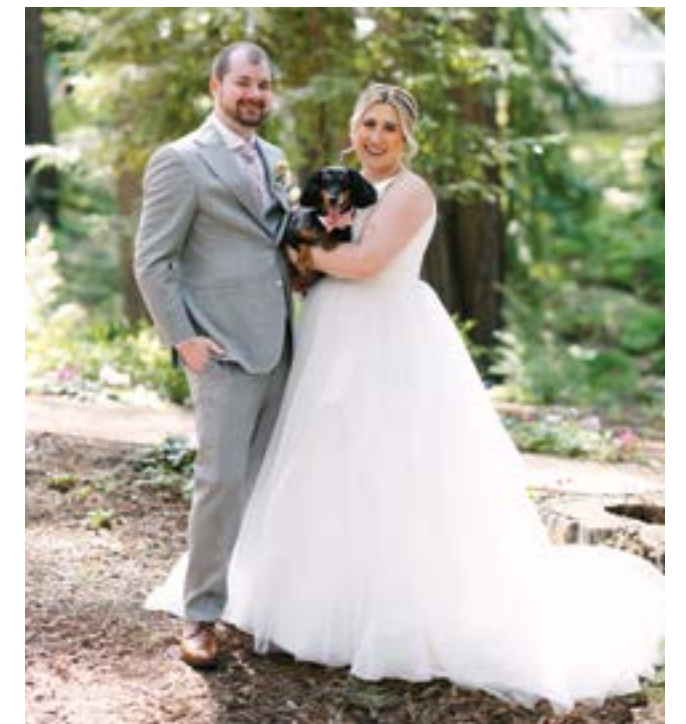
**Hayley Mauck '12** and **Ethan Maier '13** wed Oct. 9, 2021, in Oysterville, Washington. In attendance (from left) were **James Ford**, **Sam Harris '16**, **Max Bates '15**, **William Maier '10**, **Zander Guzy-Sprague '17**, **Catherine Maier '17**, **Sam Epstein '12**, **Ryan Nesbit '13**, **Ethan Maier '13**, **Hayley Mauck '12**, **Brett Konen '12**, **Katie Fales '11**, **Aaron Zalman '12**, **Max Henkels '12**, **Gaea Campe '12**, **Haverty Brown '13**, **Peter Qualtere-Burcher '12**, **Rocío Cauldron** and **Josh Melander '14**.



**Gareth Jones '19** married **Caroline Karschney '19** on June 8, 2024, at Yellowhawk Resort in Walla Walla. Pictured (kneeling, from left) are **Ben Coleman-Fire '06**, **Matt Brown '80**, **Jake Wishart '19**, **Braden Hussey '18**, **Liz Gossard Coleman '11**, **Kaitlin Coleman Rieck '08**, **Nathan Kruger '19**, **Nate Raphael '19**, **Teagan McMahon**, **Luke Williford '19**, **Ricardo Vivanco '18**, **Brooke Randall '19**, and (standing, from left) **Claire Pepple '19**, **JJ Graham '19**, **Julia Karschney '17**, **Leora Coleman-Fire '06**, **Lucy Swanson '04**, **Jennifer Brown Coleman '78**, **Carol Jean Babbitt Brown '53**, **Bob Coleman '77**, **Victoria Karschney '15**, **Mikaela Slade '19**, **Lindsey Brodeck Barry '18**, **Jackie Greisen '19**, **Kaitlin Sisson '19**, **Caroline Karschney '19**, **Gareth Jones '19**, **Ian Coleman '11**, **Jesse Sindelar '19**, **Mackenzie Timbel '19**, **Christoph Suhr '19**, **Eli Cohen '19**, **Lee Pollard '19**, **Conrad Karwal '19**, an unnamed guest, **Ethan Phillips '19**, **Chaney Coman '19**, an unnamed guest, **Erin Lopez '19**, **Ellie Fix '19**, **Sarah Fix '19**, and **Andrew Harvey '20**.



**Geni Venable '12** and **Michael Smith** were married Jan. 17, 2025, in Mukilteo, Washington. **Rhya Milici '12** was in attendance as a bridesmaid.



**Meghan Browne '14** and **Dr. Patrick McQuade** were married on April 5, 2025, at Nestldown in Los Gatos, California.

# Little Whitties



Willa Cate Mauck, born April 16, 2025, to **Hayley Mauck '12** and **Ethan Maier '13**. Willa joins older sibling Charley (3).



Cian Ryan Tackett, born May 20, 2025, to **Elizabeth Fleming Tackett '12** and Ryan Tackett. Cian joins older siblings Clare (6) and Ailey (4).

# In Memoriam

## 1940s

**John Bond '44** on June 9, 2025, in Walla Walla at the age of 101. Shortly after graduating, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and was redirected to attend medical school at the University of Michigan, earning his degree in 1946. Following a tour in Japan and a residency in ophthalmology in Portland, Oregon, he returned to Walla Walla to begin his practice. A passionate golfer and bridge player for more than six decades, Dr. Bond earned the rank of Golf Life Master in April 2025. He was survived by five children, eight grandchildren, his sister and two nieces.

**Ellin Hager Larimer '47** on April 3, 2023, in Port Townsend, Washington. After earning a Master of Science in Retailing from Simmons College in 1949, she married James Larimer, and together, they raised five children across four states before settling in the Tri-Cities. Larimer co-owned OXARC, Inc., from 1970 until her retirement in 1987. A skilled private pilot with instrument and commercial ratings, she was a proud member of the Ninety-Nines—an international organization of women pilots. Larimer was predeceased by her husband and one son and was survived by her sister, **Joan "Jody" Hager Cochran '49**; four children; and five grandchildren.

**C. Robbie Green '48** on Nov. 20, 2024, in Minneapolis. Dr. Green attended Whitman from 1944–1945 as part of the U.S. Navy's V-12 program. He went on to earn a Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Science in 1946 and a Doctor of Medicine in 1949 from the University of Minnesota. After completing

his residency at the university hospital, he served as a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy until 1952. Dr. Green enjoyed a long and dedicated career as a pediatrician, caring for generations of families over 42 years before his retirement in 1998.

## 1950s

**Rodney "Rod" Orth '51** on Feb. 22, 2025, in San Diego. At Whitman, Dr. Orth met **Barbara Ostgren '52**, and they married in 1952. Orth earned his Doctor of Medicine from the University of Washington in 1955 and practiced internal medicine at Alvarado Hospital from 1960 until his retirement in 1995. He was an avid sports fan and loved classical music, the arts, puzzles, math and science, and dogs. He was predeceased by his parents, **Raymond Orth '16** and **Fredda Orth '18**; his wife; and his son, **Craig Orth '82**. He was survived by his daughter, **Catherine Orth '79**, and one granddaughter.

**Eileen Golden Boyes '52** on May 14, 2025, in Placerville, California. Boyes met her husband, **Calvin Boyes '51**, at Whitman, and they married during her senior year. She taught in Walla Walla and Seattle before relocating to California, where she later earned her teaching credential and taught high school and adult education. In retirement, Boyes and her husband enjoyed golf, skiing and traveling the world from their home in Auburn, California. She was predeceased by her husband and brothers, **Donald Golden '49**, **William Golden '50** and **Eugene Golden '51**. She was survived by one brother, three children and two granddaughters.

**Paul Hoerlein '52** on May 25, 2025, in Bothell, Washington. After Army service in Korea, Hoerlein married **Beverlei Nuzum '51** and began a long career in Seattle Public Schools, rising from teacher to Assistant Superintendent. He earned a master's degree from the University of Washington in 1960 and later taught Teacher Education at Seattle Pacific University until 1999. A committed volunteer, Hoerlein served on the Whitman Alumni Admissions Committee and as a Class Representative for a decade. He enjoyed travel, theater, hiking and music. He was predeceased by his wife and was survived by four children, including **Pamela Hoerlein Mach '82** and **Diana Hoerlein Gruman '86**, and eight grandchildren.

**Everett Greer '54** on May 18, 2025, in Tigard, Oregon. Greer married Phyllis Thornton in 1961 and had two daughters. He worked in the Pacific Northwest sportswear industry as a production manager, salesman and merchandise manager until his retirement in 1991. He served as a Class Representative and chaired his 30th and 45th reunions. A lifelong skier and tennis enthusiast, Greer embraced an active life and strong Whitman ties. He was survived by his wife, Phyllis; his daughters, **Jan Greer Terhaar '85** and **Lynn Greer McKelvey '88**; his son-in-law, **George McKelvey '87**; and two grandchildren.

**Mary Crouter Leitch '55** on Sept. 4, 2024, in Newport, Oregon. After graduating from Whitman, Leitch earned her teaching certification from the University of California, Los Angeles, and taught high school French. She later stepped away from the classroom to raise her family. Once her children were grown,

Leitch earned new teaching credentials from Portland State University in 1987 and spent another decade teaching English as a Second Language. She loved thoughtful conversations about history and current events—and delighted in teaching Spanish to her grandchildren. Leitch was survived by her five children and several grandchildren.

**Earle Walker '55** on July 18, 2025, in Anchorage, Alaska. Walker taught Physical Education and coached for 35 years in the Anchorage School District, retiring in 1984 as Athletic Director at Diamond High School. During his career, he earned a master's degree in Education. Walker continued coaching after retirement as an Assistant Basketball Coach at Alaska Pacific University. In 2017, he was inducted into the Alaska School Activities Hall of Fame in the Coach category, a tribute to his exceptional career and impact on student-athletes. Walker was survived by his wife, Marie; three children; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

**John Cope '56** on March 15, 2025, in Gunnison, Colorado. He married **Marilyn Matter Cope '57** the summer after her graduation, and the couple settled in Colorado, where he taught English at Western State College (now Western Colorado University). A devoted writer, he self-published poetry throughout his life and also pursued an interest in stone masonry. Cope was predeceased by his sister, **Mary Cope Peterson '60**, and survived by his wife; their four daughters, including **Ann Cope '81**; and five grandchildren.

**Marilyn Matter Cope '57** on July 5, 2025, in Loveland, Colorado. After graduating from Whitman, Cope and her

husband, **John Cope '56**, settled in Gunnison, Colorado. She loved working with children and taught preschool and elementary school while raising their family. An avid outdoorswoman, Cope enjoyed cross-country skiing in winter and hiking with her women's group in the warmer months. She was active in the American Association of University Women and Gunnison's League of Women Voters. She was predeceased by her husband and survived by four daughters, including **Ann Cope '81**, and five grandchildren.

**Emily Herman Meyer '57** on March 4, 2025, in Vancouver, Washington. After graduating from Whitman, Meyer taught high school math in north-eastern Washington and in the Portland area. She married John "Kent" Meyer in 1969 and remained at home with their children. Meyer later returned to public education administration with Vancouver Public Schools until her retirement in 1990. Meyer enjoyed extensive travels and regularly attended Portland-area Whitman events. Predeceased by her husband, she was survived by their two daughters.

**James "Jim" Whittemore '57** on June 2, 2025, in Scarborough, Maine. Whittemore joined the U.S. Information Agency in 1963 and later the Foreign Service, with postings in India, Bangladesh, Morocco and more. He retired in 1992 but continued traveling alongside his wife, Simone de Hann, during her diplomatic assignments. In retirement, he volunteered at the National Cathedral and National Archives and was a loyal attendee of D.C.-area Whitman events. He was predeceased by his wife; his parents, including **Samuel Whittemore '26**; and his brother, **Samuel Whittemore Jr. '54**. He

was survived by two children, including **Pieter Whittemore '86**, and two granddaughters.

**George Brown '58** on May 14, 2025, in Seattle. After serving in the U.S. Army until 1968, Brown enjoyed a long career in commercial ocean marine insurance and underwriting in San Francisco and Seattle, applying his literary training in an unexpected field. Brown loved poetry, coffee, crowns and clever gadgets. Endlessly curious and deeply sociable, he had a gift for striking up a conversation with anyone. He was predeceased by his brother, **Thomas Brown '53**. He was survived by his wife, Eleanor; daughter, Molly; and his grandchildren.

**R. Cargill Hall '59** on April 10, 2025, in Arlington, Texas. A noted public historian, Hall's distinguished career included roles with Lockheed Missile and Space Division, Caltech's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, and the U.S. Air Force History and Museums Program. In 1998, he was named Chief Historian of the National Reconnaissance Office, where he researched and wrote classified histories until his retirement in 2008. Hall earned a master's degree in Political Science from California State University and was known for his dedication to historical research. He was predeceased by his former spouses, **Beverley Chichester '58** and Shirley Maynard. He was survived by three children and three grandchildren.

**Albert "Bucky" Jentsch '59** on Dec. 16, 2024, in Snohomish, Washington. While stationed in San Francisco and serving in the U.S. Navy, Jentsch met his wife, Jackie Boehner. After his military service, he pursued a career as an insurance broker, retiring in 1996. He was known

for his warmth, vibrant personality and the deep love he shared with family and friends. Jentsch was survived by his wife, three sons, two stepsons and two grandchildren.

**Margaret "Peggy" Barhyte Scholz '59** on April 17, 2025, in Iowa City, Iowa. After Whitman, Scholz studied advanced mathematics at the University of California, Los Angeles. At the same time, she began her career as a mathematician at the Naval Ordnance Test Station, where she met her husband, Paul Scholz. She later worked as a programmer and systems specialist in physics and biomedical research until retiring in 1997. In retirement, Scholz traveled extensively and was a dedicated community volunteer, supporting the arts and serving on the board of the Children's Museum. Scholz was predeceased by her husband and one grandson. She was survived by her brother, two sons and five grandchildren.

**David Smith '59** on March 15, 2025, in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Smith married his high school sweetheart, **Elizabeth "Betsy" Speir '59**, just before their senior year at Whitman. He earned a master's degree in Chemistry from Cornell University and a doctorate from the University of Tennessee. After a two-year appointment with the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, Smith began a long and impactful career at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, publishing nearly 200 papers on isotope ratio mass spectrometry. He retired in 1999. Smith was survived by his siblings, **Timothy Smith '61** and **Margaret Smith '63**; his wife, Betsy; two children and two grandchildren.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE INSTITUTE FOR SYSTEMS BIOLOGY

**WHITMAN LEADER | Valerie Logan Hood '60** on Feb. 26, 2025, in Seattle. After earning her master's degree in English Education from George Washington University in 1964, Logan Hood began her career teaching English in California. In the 1980s, she joined Caltech's Industrial Relations Center, eventually serving as Associate Director. In 1992, Logan Hood and her husband, Leroy, relocated to Seattle, where they co-founded the University of Washington's Department of Molecular Biotechnology and, later, the Institute for Systems Biology (ISB) in 2000. A passionate advocate for education, Logan Hood focused on K–12 science education, securing one of the first local systemic education grants from the National Science Foundation to support hands-on learning for Seattle elementary students. She helped raise more than \$25 million for science education initiatives, culminating in the creation of the Valerie Logan Education Center at ISB. Logan Hood served on Whitman's Board of Overseers (1995–2000) and Board of Trustees (2000–2008). She was survived by her husband, two children and five grandchildren.

## 1960s

**Bruce Hegstad '60** on June 24, 2025, in Bel Air, Maryland. Hegstad married his Whitman sweetheart, **Mary "Mickie" Mills '60**, in the autumn of their senior year. After graduation, they moved to Portland, Oregon, where Hegstad held various jobs to support their growing family. In 1976, they relocated to Maryland, where he served as President of Hazleton Systems and later led Kirschner Medical Corporation as President and CEO. In retirement, the couple managed Millstad, their sporting and event venue in Harford County, from 1971–2021. Hegstad was survived by his wife, three children, seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

**Jon Lounsbury '60** on April 10, 2025, in Boulder, Colorado. After marrying his wife, Susan, in 1964, the couple settled in Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i, where they raised their daughter while Lounsbury owned and operated a men's clothing store. In 1978, the family relocated to Boulder, where he worked in wholesale construction materials. In retirement, the Lounsburys traveled extensively, visiting more than 80 countries.

Lounsbury was predeceased by his older brother, **Loren Lounsbury '56**, and his twin brother, Joel. He was survived by his wife, daughter and three grandchildren.

**Mark Mittelstaedt '61** on June 12, 2025, in Spokane, Washington. After graduating from Whitman, Mittelstaedt earned a master's degree in Business and Finance from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. Then he returned to Washington to begin his career in securities analysis with Murphy Favre Inc. in Spokane. In 1971, he married his wife, Colleen, and together they shared 55 years of adventure—from flying into a Hawaiian volcano caldera to enjoying evenings at the Spokane Symphony. Mittelstaedt was predeceased by his parents; his brother, **Robert Mittelstaedt '55**; and a stepson. He was survived by his wife; his twin sister, **Marcia Mittelstaedt Black '61**; his nephew, **Donald Black '89**; three stepchildren; 14 step-grandchildren; and 30 step-great-grandchildren.

**Mary Lee Pettibone Gross '62** on Feb. 28, 2025, on Bainbridge Island, Washington. While

at Whitman, Gross met her husband, **Warren Gross '62**. The two married in 1963 as he completed Navy Officer training. Gross raised their children while the family lived abroad in Tokyo, Korea and Taiwan. Upon returning to the U.S., they settled in Spokane, Washington, where she volunteered, played tennis and finished raising their family. Later, they moved to Bainbridge Island to be closer to their children and grandchildren. The couple remained active Whitman volunteers. Gross was predeceased by her husband and her brother, **George Pettibone '59**. She was survived by two children and two grandchildren.

**Mary Klas Mattern '64** on Feb. 24, 2025, in Ocean Shores, Washington. Some of Mattern's fondest Whitman memories were the friends she made playing bridge at the Student Union Building—a passion she continued throughout her life. She spent 45 years working in real estate and mortgage brokering, building her career in California before retiring in Washington. When not working or playing bridge, she enjoyed traveling across the U.S., in Europe or anywhere she could get a ticket. Mattern was predeceased by her husband

and survived by her two sisters, two children and seven grandchildren.

**Clayton "Clay" Patrick '66** on April 24, 2025, in Longview, Washington. Patrick earned his law degree from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1969 and spent his career in private practice, focusing on appellate law for other attorneys. In 1979, he was one of Oregon's delegates to the White House Conference on Libraries. He also served as Executive Director of the Oregon Trial Lawyers Association for two years. Patrick retired in 2017. Deeply curious about metaphysics, he practiced yoga and meditation and became a Reiki Master in the early 1990s. Patrick was predeceased by his former wife, Maggie. He was survived by his partner, Julie; his former wife, **Linnea Hartford Patrick '66**; and two half-siblings.

**Fredric Brewer '67** on June 21, 2025, in Honolulu, Hawai'i. After Whitman, Brewer went on to earn his master's degree in Electrical Engineering from Columbia University. He worked as a systems analyst and senior consultant for a variety of telecommunications and technology consulting firms. Brewer was survived by his two children and six grandchildren.

**Jennifer "Jenny" Mantz '67** on Feb. 24, 2025, in Seattle. Mantz earned a Master of Education from the University of Washington in 1981 with a focus on Higher Education English as a Second Language, teaching English in the Seattle Community College system and in Brazil with BRASIS. Later, she earned her law degree from the University of Puget Sound and worked as an Assistant City Attorney and Prosecutor for the City of Seattle. She then returned to Walla Walla, serving as a legal advisor and

representative for inmates at the Washington State Penitentiary. Mantz was predeceased by her parents, **Margaret Mantz '37** and **William Mantz '37**, and her sisters, **Mary Mantz Doran '64** and **Sarah Mantz '73**.

**John Crosby '69** on July 4, 2025, in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Crosby had an adventurous spirit that took him from the wheat fields of Walla Walla to cities around the globe. He began his career in communications after earning a master's degree at the University of Washington in 1971, later working with major clients like Southwest Airlines and The Wall Street Journal in Washington, New York and Texas. International opportunities followed throughout the Middle East and Southeast Asia. While in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, Crosby met his wife, Mika. They were married in 1999 and soon welcomed their son. In retirement, they settled in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Crosby was survived by his wife and son, Nathaniel.

## 1970s

**Richard "Dick" Hazel '70** on June 6, 2025, in Portland, Oregon. At Whitman, Hazel met his wife, **Cheryl Smith '70**, beginning a lifelong partnership of sarcastic humor and good cooking (Cheryl's). Hazel began his teaching career with the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indian Nation before spending 29 years as an English teacher at Jesuit High School in Portland. He later taught with the Native American Youth Association before retiring in 2010. A loyal Whitman volunteer, he served on the Alumni Board and supported Admission and Career Services. He loved traveling the world with Cheryl and quietly watching college sports on Saturdays. Hazel was survived by his wife, two siblings, many nieces and nephews, and dear friends.

**Brian Chronister '73** on May 14, 2024, in Las Vegas. After graduating from Whitman, Chronister worked as an accountant and fiscal analyst in Anchorage, Alaska, while occasionally preaching for his church. In 1976, he married Happy Titus, and together they raised four children. By 1986, Chronister was serving as Associate Pastor and Financial Administrator at Anchorage Grace Brethren Church. He continued in ministry in Anchorage for nearly four decades before retiring in 2023 and relocating to Las Vegas. Chronister was survived by his former wife, their children and nine grandchildren.

**Blaine Kozak '74** on May 7, 2025, in Reno, Nevada. After earning his medical degree from the University of Washington and completing his radiology residency at Oregon Health & Science University, Dr. Kozak dedicated nearly 40 years to medicine. He was active in many local and regional organizations seeking to increase accessibility to health care among underserved groups, including the LGBTQIA+ population. He is remembered for his wit, compassion, intelligence and kindness. Dr. Kozak was survived by his partner, Matt Peharda; a sister; two nieces; and his beloved French bulldogs.

**Franklin Hanson '75** on Aug. 23, 2024, in La Push, Washington. Though he matriculated with the Class of 1975, Hanson left Whitman to pursue adventure at sea as a commercial fisherman. He returned to complete his degree, graduating in 1979, and remained closely connected with his Class of 1975 classmates throughout his life. He continued his work in the fishing industry as a consultant while teaching at the Quileute Tribal School. Hanson was predeceased by his parents, **Franklin Hanson '42**

and **Ruth Silven Hanson '44**. He was survived by his wife and daughter.

**George Winch Jr. '77** on March 31, 2025, in Rock Creek, Nevada. After Whitman, Dr. Winch earned his medical degree in 1981 and became a board-certified OB-GYN. He served as Chief Medical Officer at Duck Valley Indian Reservation Hospital before founding Elko Women's Health Center. Over three decades, he delivered thousands of babies, pioneered laparoscopic hysterectomies in rural Nevada and earned national recognition for his work in women's health. Dr. Winch was predeceased by his wife, Brenda. He was survived by a sister, a brother, four sons and two grandchildren.

## 1980s

**Paul Stasch '80** on June 18, 2024, in Olympia, Washington. After Whitman, Stasch worked for the Washington State Department of Ecology while embracing a rural lifestyle on his homestead with his family. With a deep love for the natural world, Stasch was an adventurer; environmental steward; devoted husband, father and grandfather; and valued member of his community. In his memory, the Stasch Rocky Woods Nature Education Center was established in Rochester, Washington—a place where future generations can explore, learn and connect with nature. He was survived by his wife, Yan Dai; his daughters, including **Sydney Stasch '10**; two grandchildren; and his former spouse, **Callie Otness '83**.

**Matthew "Matt" Rutt '81** on Feb. 7, 2025, in Richland, Washington. Rutt earned his law degree from Gonzaga University in 1985 and went on to practice law for more than 35 years. Early

in his career, while working as a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney in Colfax, Washington, he met and married his wife, Barbara. Rutt's legal work spanned criminal, immigration and environmental law, and he represented thousands of clients as a defense attorney in the Tri-Cities. Rutt was predeceased by his wife and survived by his mother, sister and son.

**Tracy Griffin Zerr '84** on June 5, 2024, in Sun City West, Arizona. A standout on the women's swim team from 1979–1983, Zerr was posthumously inducted into the Whitman Athletics Hall of Fame for setting three individual program records. After Whitman, she worked a variety of jobs while pursuing nursing credentials. Zerr became a registered nurse in 1991. She built a career in ER and trauma care. Diagnosed with multiple myeloma in 2022, Zerr remained deeply committed to helping others—as a nurse, mother and steadfast source of encouragement. She was survived by her husband and three children.

**Jon Hendrix '85** on July 11, 2025, in Seattle. He earned his MBA from Baldwin Wallace University and spent 35 years in corporate insurance, holding leadership roles at Premera Blue Cross and Aetna. Known for his integrity and collaborative leadership, Hendrix was dedicated to transforming health care. A lifelong sportsman, he enjoyed boating, skiing, tennis, golf and hiking—not for the activity alone, but for the time shared with family and friends. He was survived by his fiancée, two siblings and four children.

**Andrew Lodmell '86** on June 9, 2025, in Seattle, Washington. After Whitman, Lodmell taught skiing at Ski Bluewood briefly before he partnered with his father, **Miles Lodmell '54**, in farming and vineyard management in the late 1980s. Lodmell played a key role in expanding Lodmell Farms and Vineyards and establishing Lodmell Cellars with his sister. His love of travel and diverse cultures shaped his life. Lodmell will be remembered for his humor, love of music and fireworks, and deep devotion

to family. He was predeceased by his mother. Lodmell was survived by his father, sister and extended family.

**Mary Mathisson '87** on May 1, 2025, in Seattle. After graduating from Whitman, Mathisson earned a master's degree in German and French and went on to teach French at the University of Oregon. A lifelong traveler, she explored Europe and New Zealand and spent many joyful years living aboard a sailboat with her husband in Alameda, California. Mathisson was survived by her husband, her parents and her brother.

**WHITMAN FACULTY | Peter Crawford** on April 30, 2025, in Walla Walla. Crawford grew up in Mandan, North Dakota, where he excelled in band. As a junior in high school, he was one of two students to represent North Dakota in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. Crawford went on to become an accomplished musician and taught elementary, high school and community college band before completing his educator career at Whitman College. He arrived at Whitman in 1994 as a Lecturer of Music, retiring as a Senior Lecturer of Music in 2012. Crawford was survived by his wife of 51 years, Midge; three sons; a grandson; a sister; and two brothers.

**WHITMAN FACULTY | Thomas "Tom" Hines** on July 25, 2025, in Oak Harbor, Washington. Hines grew up on a farm in northern Minnesota, where he learned to drive a tractor and tell a story. In 1998, he accepted a professorship at Whitman in the Theater Department. Hines oversaw the complete renovation and expansion of Harper Joy Theatre. He retired from Whitman in 2016 as Professor Emeritus of Theater and former Chair of the Theater Department and moved to Oak Harbor. He was predeceased by his wife, Betty. Hines was survived by his daughters; four grandchildren; and many friends, colleagues, students and others whose lives he touched through his scholarship and art.

# Now & Then

2025



**Ella Harrington '28** runs in the women's 6K at the Whitman Open on Oct. 4, 2025. Harrington led the Blues with an individual fourth-place finish and personal best time. The sophomore from Bainbridge Island, Washington, went on to qualify individually for the 2025 NCAA Division III Women's Cross Country Championship.



## Same Passion. Different Era.

The uniforms are different, the venues have changed and records have been broken. But the look of grit and determination on a Whitman College runner's face is timeless. Separated by half a century, these runners share the relentless pursuit of excellence that has long defined Whitman's athletic spirit.

1974



**John Leier '74** competes at a track and field event in his senior year. Leier went on to finish third in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics National Championship later that year.

### Whitman Blues Today

17

varsity teams

280+

student-athletes

19%

of student body

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## A Place Like No Other: Fall 2025 in Photos




**WHAT A SEMESTER!** There's something magical about Whitman College in the fall. From the moment the Class of 2029 arrived on campus to landmark events like the opening of the new Nancy Serrurier Village to moments in and out of the classroom that transform students' lives, these are days worth remembering. Join us on a journey back through some of the highlights of the Fall 2025 semester. Check out the photo story at [whitman.edu/magazine](http://whitman.edu/magazine).



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