GEORGIA COLLEGE
GEORGIA'S PUBLIC LIBERAL ARTS UNIVERSITY

This Week

Prepared by Office of University Communications Sept. 14, 2021

Georgia College ranked as a 'Top Public School' by U.S. News & World Report

The 2022 U.S. News & World Report Best Colleges list designates Georgia College as ninth in the South–the highest-ranked Georgia institution in this category for the third year in a row.

"Georgia College continues to be recognized as a leading higher education institution that provides an outstanding liberal arts experience," said Dr. Steve Dorman, Georgia College president. "As we embark on our path to preeminence, I would like to credit this recognition to our accomplished faculty, staff and students for their efforts in making these achievements possible."

Georgia College's undergraduate nursing program appeared in a newly established rankings list for 2022 and was the fourth-highest ranking program in Georgia to be featured.

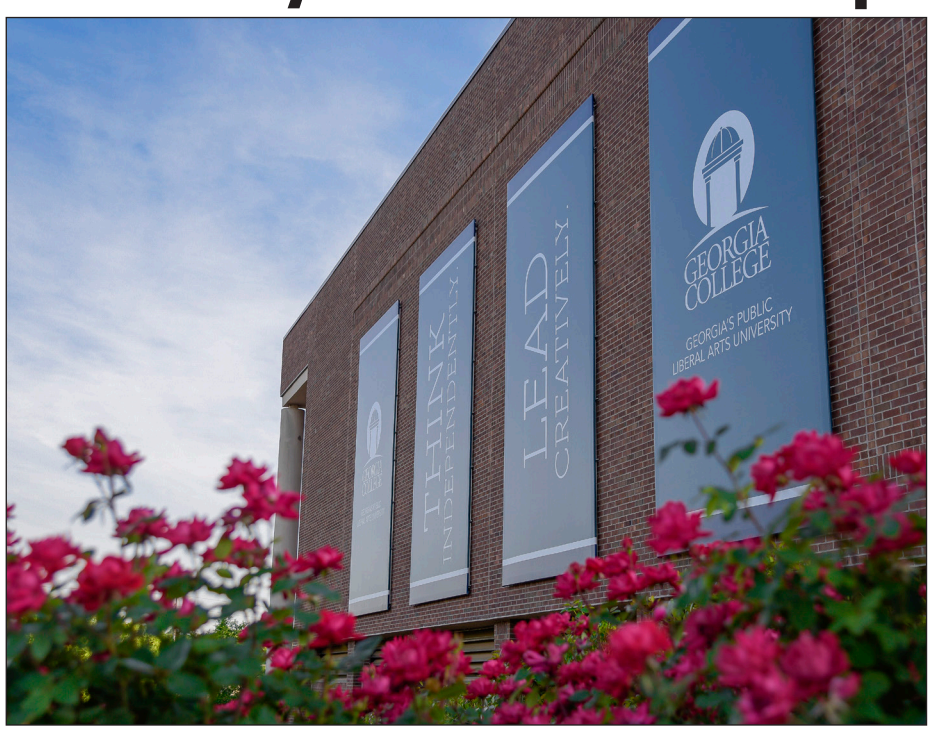
The guidebook lists Georgia College 21st out of the Best Regional Universities in the South. "Best Regional Universities" are not ranked nationally, but rather against their peer group in one of four geographic regions – North, South, Midwest and West.

Georgia College was also named a top undergraduate teaching institution in the South and ranked sixth in Georgia for undergraduate computer science programs.

The "Best Colleges" guidebook is made up of a wide variety of data on assessments by peers and counselors, retention rates, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources, graduation rate performance and the alumni giving rate.

The Princeton Review also recognized Georgia College on its "2022 Best Colleges: Region by Region" list for the 15th consecutive year. The university is a member of the elite group classified as the "Best Southeastern" colleges and universities.

Georgia College was distinguished by The Princeton Review for its "excellent academics" and student reports on their campus experience. The university is one in only 23 percent of national four-year colleges to be featured on their website.



Special education major enters GC with statewide playwriting award



First-year student Nina Schwelm enters Georgia College as an award-winning playwright. Although she's pursuing special education, writing holds a special place in her heart.

"I've always loved writing," Schwelm said. "I just never considered writing for the stage. So now my eyes are completely open to this new possibility."

Schwelm and playwriting are an unlikely duo, she said, but that didn't stop her from becoming one of three student winners of the Georgia Film Academy's (GFA) Dramatic Writing 10-Minute Play Competition.

More of a short story and poetry writer, Schwelm didn't consider playwriting until her writing class midterm. In writing her play, "Across the Sea," she was inspired by Adam Driver, famous for his portrayal of Kylo Ren in Star Wars, and his love of theater and nonprofit organizations. His nonprofit is called Arts in the Armed Forces and seeks to provide active duty military and veterans with performing arts experiences.

"He started a nonprofit where he does free performing arts for active duty and former military," Nina said. "I really, really admire that organization, so in writing my play, that was just at the back of my head the whole time."

But when she isn't winning state awards, she writes short stories, poetry, song lyrics and writes collaboratively with a friend in Sweden.

"We write through the eyes of underdeveloped characters in order to develop them further. It's a good exercise," she said.

The avid Star Wars fan is her own worst critic, but draws on both literature and personal experience when writing.

"Sometimes I just can't write, but then I'll wake up at 2 a.m. with an idea and not go to sleep because I just have to get it all down," Schwelm said.

Though she intends to nurture her passion for writing, Schwelm decided to major in GC's nationally recognized Special Education program. Her decision came after a hole appeared in her high school schedule; the need for special education interns made up the gap.

"I have never been in a place where I have felt so loved," Schwelm said. "Everybody just loved me. I made friends down there, and it just made me very, very happy."

As an intern, she fell in love with the children, teaching and using creativity to brighten their day.

"All the kids are so unique, and you have to take time to understand their individual needs," Schwelm said. "Most of them really like art, so I think that I can make an awesome classroom for them where they can feel welcome and happy."

Previously editor-in-chief of her high school magazine, she hopes to continue her rigorous schedule at GC, enrolling in both the Leadership Academy and Honors College.

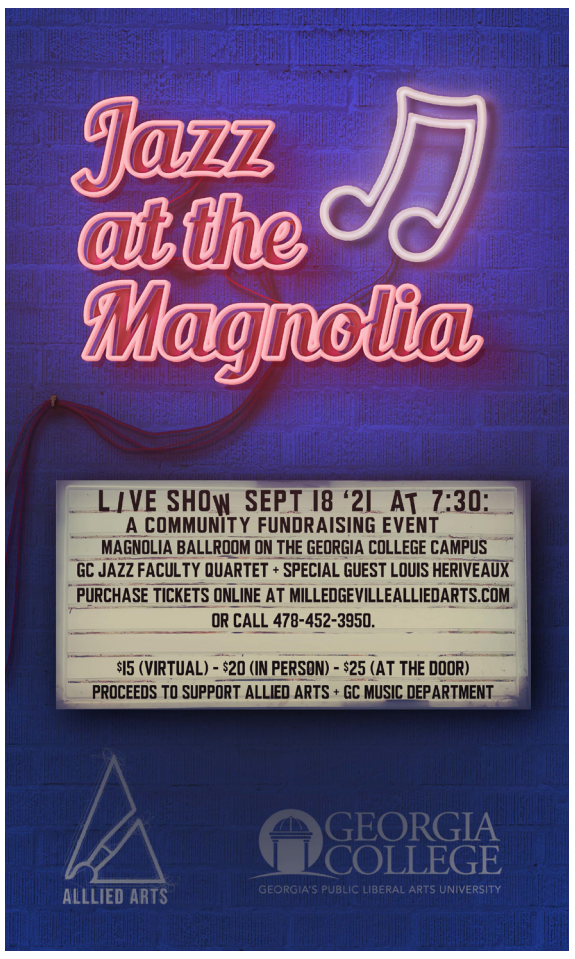
"My dad always tells me to take the hard teachers and not to take the easy way," Schwelm said. "It gets hard sometimes, but challenging yourself is important. I thought it'd be a good way to put myself out there and thought I'd give it a go."

To nurture her writing craft, Schwelm hopes to pursue writing for theater and GC's literary journal, "The Peacock's Feet." But that's not all she dreams of.

"It would be a miracle if I could write for a movie or a TV show," Schwelm said. "Being married with a family is a huge dream of mine I've had forever, but also making the most of what I have and trying to be happy wherever I am."

After pausing, she said, "And I'd also really, really like to meet Adam Driver one day."

Jazz at Magnolia concert this Saturday



The Georgia College Music Department and Allied Arts teamed up to bring the community Jazz at the Magnolia both as an in-person event and also live-streamed.

Featuring pianist Louis Heriveaux and the Georgia College Faculty Jazz Quartet, the concert will take place on Sept. 18 at 7:30 p.m. at the Magnolia Ballroom in downtown Milledgeville on the Georgia College Campus.

A $20 ticket for the in-person concert includes refreshments. A $15 donation will get you on the list for a link to watch the performance virtually. For an additional donation of $10, you will receive access to the May 1 Jazz at the Magnolia performance and corresponding Zoom chat, which you can view at your convenience.

All of these options can be purchased by visiting Allied Arts at milledgevilleal-liedarts.com or by calling 478-452-3950. The proceeds will be used to support Allied Arts and the GC Music Department through the GCSU Foundation, Inc.

The Georgia College Faculty Jazz Quartet was formed in fall 2019. It has performed as part of the concert series and hosted Amici Jazz Jams, as well as other community events. Performers include Don Parker, vibes/drums; Chris Enghauser, bass; Andrew Allen, saxophone; and Mia Eaton, drums.

Pianist Louis Heriveaux, a 2013 graduate of Georgia State University (GSU) with a Bachelor of Music, concentration in jazz studies, has over 25 years of experience as a jazz musician. He also has worked as a producer and studio engineer in a variety of genres, such as jazz, pop hip-hop and R & B. After graduating, Heriveaux taught jazz combos at GSU and taught in the middle school jazz program called Rialto Youth Jazz for Kids.

Currently, Heriveaux has been playing mostly in the southeast region of the United States in clubs, restaurants, festivals and concerts with Atlanta-based artists, as well as traveling artists such as Mace Hibbard, Melvin Jones, Russell Gunn, Rodney Jordan, Bob Reynolds, Jimmy Heath, Eric Vaughn, Bobby Broom, Jeannie Bryson, Curtis Lundy, Bobby Watson and many more. Pre-pandemic, Louis performed regularly at Houston's, an upscale restaurant in Atlanta.

In Fall 2021, Heriveaux plans to pursue a Master of Music with a concentration in Jazz Studies at Georgia State University. He hopes to share his academic experiences and his musical experiences including his unique perspective with college students in the future.

Allied Arts is a 501(c) 3 organization whose goal is to make quality arts opportunities available and accessible to those we serve in the Milledgeville and Baldwin County area through a wide array of art experiences. You can contact them at 478-452-3950 or by visiting the Marlor House at 201 N. Wayne St.

The Georgia College Department of Music provides a liberal arts-oriented education in music that prepares students to embark on rewarding career paths within the field of music and beyond while emphasizing the cultivation of critical thinking skills and global perspectives. For more information about our program and Allied Arts and performances, please email music@gcsu.edu or call 478-445-8289.

What's going on in Bobcat Territory?

Visit frontpage.gcsu.edu/calendar

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
14 7:30 p.m.- A piano and violin recital, "A Dialogue Between Continents," will be held in Max Noah Recital Hall. Guest artist and violinist Dr. Francisco Cabán will be featured, accompanied by faculty pianist Dr. Owen Lovell. This concert marks the inaugural performance of the Department of Music's new Steinway model D concert grand piano. 8:30 p.m.- Outdoor showing of the film "Big Fish," in collaboration with Allied Arts of Milledgeville, on Front Campus. Bring your blankets and lawn chairs. Rain site - A&S Auditorium.	**15**	**16** 11 a.m.- Hillel at Georgia College invites the community to join us for Yom Kippur services at First Presbyterian Church in downtown Milledgeville. To allow our community to observe the high holy days nearby, Reverend Susan Balfour has graciously extended her parish, located at 210 S. Wayne St., for these days. 6 p.m.- GC Volleyball vs. Montevallo.	**17** 4 p.m.- GC Volleyball vs. Valdosta State. 7:30 p.m.- Eleven Georgia College students will perform in this year's "Voice Honors Recital," accompanied by faculty pianists in Max Noah Recital Hall. This concert will also be livestreamed on facebook.com/GCMusicDepartment.	**18** 2 p.m.- GC Soccer vs. Columbus State. 3 p.m.- GC Volleyball vs. West Alabama. 7:30 p.m.- Jazz at Magnolia.