



GRACELAND UNIVERSITY

# Horizons

 Saint Luke's



## *What do I want to do* **WHEN I GROW UP?**

### **GRACELAND GRADS**

Alumni share what they're doing to make the world a better place

**P.4**

### **THE MIDDLE OF EVERYWHERE**

A map showing the worldwide reach of our alumni network

**P.12**

### **EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING**

Social media marketing students apply their education in a real-world project

**P.14**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Harry J. Ashenurst, PhD, '70, Chair  
Robert G. "Bob" Ackerley, Vice Chair  
David J. Brown '73, Treasurer  
Michelle Waite '83, Secretary  
Sue Bevington '89  
Michele Black '81  
Stassi Cramm, PhD, '03  
Heather Donofrio, PhD  
Nancy Tanner Edwards, PhD, '65  
Ronald E. "Ron" Gillilan, MD  
Laurie Heintz '85  
Karen Jewell, JD, '76  
Ivan Joseph, PhD, '96  
Michael D. Lewis, JD '90  
Dale W. Lick, PhD  
Kay Johnson Mussell, PhD, '63  
John Sheehy '79  
Dennis Shields, JD, '77  
Samuel G. "Sam" Smalldon '78  
Rachel Bradford Tovey '07  
Michael R. Wiley, PhD, '83  
K. Michael "Mike" Zabel, MD, '84

**ADMINISTRATION**

Patricia H. Draves, PhD  
PRESIDENT  
Kathleen M. Clauson Bash, PhD  
VICE PRESIDENT FOR INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS  
Lee Bash, PhD  
DEAN, EDMUND J. GLEAZER SCHOOL OF EDUCATION  
Scott Briell, MA  
VICE PRESIDENT FOR ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT  
R. Paul Davis, MA, '81  
VICE PRESIDENT OF BUSINESS SERVICES  
Kelly W. Everett, BA, '77  
VICE PRESIDENT FOR INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT  
Matthew J. Frizzell, PhD, '96  
DEAN, COMMUNITY OF CHRIST SEMINARY  
Claudia D. Horton, PhD, RN, '86  
INTERIM VICE PRESIDENT FOR INDEPENDENCE CAMPUS  
AND DEAN, SCHOOL OF NURSING  
Robert A. Poulton, PhD  
DEAN, C.H. SANDAGE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS  
David Schaal, MA, '80  
VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT LIFE AND DEAN OF STUDENTS  
Jodi L. Seymour  
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT  
AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Brian White, PhD, '92  
INTERIM VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND DEAN OF FACULTY  
AND DEAN, COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

**ALUMNI BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Michele Black '81  
PRESIDENT  
Joseph Booz '86  
VICE PRESIDENT  
Holly Phillips Caskey '81  
SECRETARY  
Kevin Brunner '86  
FACULTY REPRESENTATIVE  
Caleb Brian '08  
Joy Brunner-Cannavino '85  
Cal Closson '82  
Michael Davis '10  
Carmen Fisher '02  
Lara Guscott '08  
Beth Higdon '73  
Jeff Martin '85  
V. Lynn Matthews '75  
Keith McMillan '87  
Nichelle Closson Oxley '10  
Brian Shantz '69  
Stacey Powell Sliifka '96  
Samuel G. "Sam" Smalldon '78  
Brittany Atwood Thomas '06  
Jeannine Andersen Ward '84  
Michael Wiley '83  
Brian Woodson '87

**EDITOR**

Jeanne Davis, MA '81

**DESIGN**

Amy Gully '18  
STUDENT CONTRIBUTOR  
Tiffany Smith, MEd, '06

**PHOTOGRAPHY**

R. Paul Davis, MA, '81  
Jennifer McBroom, MFA

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Bruce Blair  
Steve Edwards, MS, '96  
Megan Hartnett '18  
STUDENT CONTRIBUTOR  
Jennifer McBroom, MFA  
Brooke Sutherland, MS, '03



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

**This issue of *Horizons* celebrates the accomplishments of several young alumni who are making the world a better place.**

Graceland encourages the development of values — learning, wholeness and community — for the enrichment of lives and the betterment of the world. Celebrating the accomplishments of these outstanding people makes me cherish the value of a Graceland education.

Higher education is not a factory line where all the products come out looking the same. Students are individuals with different backgrounds, goals, skills and learning styles. A one-size-fits-all program doesn't produce the quality of recent alumni that you'll read about here.

While we provide a common foundation of the essentials, Graceland would not be Graceland without the profound respect for the inherent value of each student as an individual. We provide the launching pad, but we must never try to program the destination. The alumni you will read about in this issue are unique, with different visions of themselves and the world they want to create. They are living the values of learning, wholeness and community for the enrichment of lives and the betterment of the world.

Welcome to a window into the world of Graceland, "the center of everywhere." I hope you enjoy the stories of the alumni featured, and, if you want to meet upcoming graduates, come for a visit. We've got hundreds more just like them — but different.

*Patricia H. Draves*

# FOR



One of the challenges that Graceland has faced courageously and creatively is to identify what every student needs to be successful in today's world, even amidst an array of personal and career goals.

# WARD THINKING

How to communicate effectively, analyze and evaluate information, use digital resources and relate effectively to the natural and cultural world around us — all students need these competencies for personal and professional development throughout life, whether they plan to be teachers, business executives, pediatric care nurses or sculptors. Together, the faculty and staff have accomplished exciting work to make all aspects of the Graceland experience — both in the classroom and through campus activities — a valuable learning experience that instills these essential lessons in every student.

Graceland has always been entrepreneurial, with leaders who claim the strength, inspiration and roots of the past to push into the future with new insight. Last fall, Graceland introduced the strategic vision for exceptional academics, experiences and value through growth. The vision included six pathways to focus forward movement as a leader in higher education.

## POWER OF TOGETHER Strategic Pathways

### 1. Academics for the Future

Graceland will develop programs that are in demand, distinctive and that exemplify the value of Graceland.

### 2. Holistic Student Experiences

Graceland will prepare students to become change leaders by integrating exceptional academic, cocurricular and professional learning experiences.

### 3. Strategic Enrollment and Retention Growth

Graceland will establish and achieve strategic enrollment goals by building planned pipelines for recruitment and improved retention.

### 4. Financial Stability and Learning Environment

Graceland will ensure long-term financial stability while improving the physical and online learning environments through organizational efficiency and strategic partnerships, fundraising and reallocation of resources.

### 5. Distinctive Value

Graceland will share the value of its exceptional academics and cocurricular programs in the arts, athletic, professional and cocurricular programs in a safe location and an inclusive environment. Graceland will become a university where students seek to enroll for exceptional value.

### 6. Collaborative and Innovative Community

Graceland will build a collaborative, innovative and productive workplace culture and improve operations to enhance students' experiences while keeping Graceland affordable.



---

## *MISSION*

Graceland creates learning communities where students develop their potential for meaningful and productive lives.

## *VALUES*

Graceland values learning, wholeness and community. Graceland encourages the development of these values for the enrichment of lives and the betterment of the world.

*Graceland's principles still ignite change in the world – in ways both big and small – by preparing graduates to live rewarding and meaningful lives.*

# *GRACELAND GRADUA*

*make the world  
a better place*

Graceland is a place where students are able to explore ideas and forge their futures, and often discover something unique and remarkable: **themselves.**

Read about alumni as they share their experiences and how Graceland became part of the answer to the question,

***What do I want to do  
WHEN I GROW UP?***

---

## ON THE COVER



School of Nursing graduate Christine Trehwitt posed for the cover of this issue holding a photo of herself taken at age four-and-a-half years. Little did she know what career path she would pursue "when she grew up," but you discover when reading her story that it was in the works all along.

“ I really feel like it was a calling. I couldn't be anywhere else.”



## CHRISTINE TREWHITT '14

# TES

**Christine Trehwitt '14 is no stranger to the impact a nurse can have on one person — patient or otherwise.** Trehwitt has known the value of nursing since she was young; ever since she watched nurses in her home attend to her mother, who suffers from multiple sclerosis. She found that the presence of a nurse was a positive influence on both her and her mother. "I kind of correlated the two — a nurse in the house and my mom feeling better," she recalls. Trehwitt has taken this lesson with her throughout her life and into the career she has today.

The decision to become a nurse seemed a simple enough choice for Trehwitt. She is confident in her decision and finds that students can sometimes question whether they have made the right choice in their careers.

As far as choosing a university, she chose Graceland because of its highly ranked nursing program. She was familiar with Graceland already since her parents, grandparents and many members of her extended family have also been graduates. Her parents, David Trehwitt '80 and Carol Noffsinger '80, are in teaching and social-work professions. Trehwitt feels as though nursing is a combination of both, which revolve around helping people.

She took the opportunity to begin her altruistic experience while attending Graceland. When Trehwitt was a student, she took trips to Guatemala and Jamaica with other Graceland nursing students for cultural diversity credits. There, she spent a few weeks

immersed in the culture — she and her classmates stayed with Guatemalan families, helped in clinics and visited hospitals. "We got to see nursing from a whole different perspective," she says, remembering her experience. "It makes you very grateful for everything that we have."

Trehwitt received both her BSN and MSN from Graceland. Currently, Trehwitt works at Saint Luke's East Hospital in Lee's Summit, Missouri, as a registered nurse and continues to feel inspired in her profession. "It's important to have a meaningful profession, just for your own spiritual growth. You're always going to be learning, you're never going to be bored." Trehwitt says she enjoys the diversity of the tasks a nurse can provide, and she likes interacting with a variety of patients.

As a new family nurse practitioner, she recently accepted a job with Saint Luke's Medical Group on the Plaza in Kansas City, Missouri, where she will do just that. There, she will give primary care to a diverse community of patients and collaborate with some of the best health care providers in Kansas City. In regard to her future, Trehwitt knows there are many avenues to take within the nursing field. She is excited to see what direction she will go, but is interested in becoming involved in professional organizations that promote legislation to protect nurses, patients and the right to affordable health care for all.



Most Gracelanders will change careers in their lifetime, and often they'll have several.

**4**

*JOB CHANGES*  
by age 32

\*www.careers-advice-online.com

up to **7**

*CAREER CHANGES*  
during the average  
person's working life

\*money.cnn.com

With a world of rapid change, Graceland prepares students with the intellectual flexibility needed for professional and personal development throughout their lives. So, even with several career changes, Graceland graduates are supported by an education that anchors them with creativity, ethical judgement, critical thinking skills and a loyal tribe of alumni friends.

**“The knowledge gained from my research may be used to improve rice yields that are needed to combat hunger and keep up with the future food supply and demand.”**

— KEVIN POTTER

## KEVIN '08 & LORA '07 POTTER

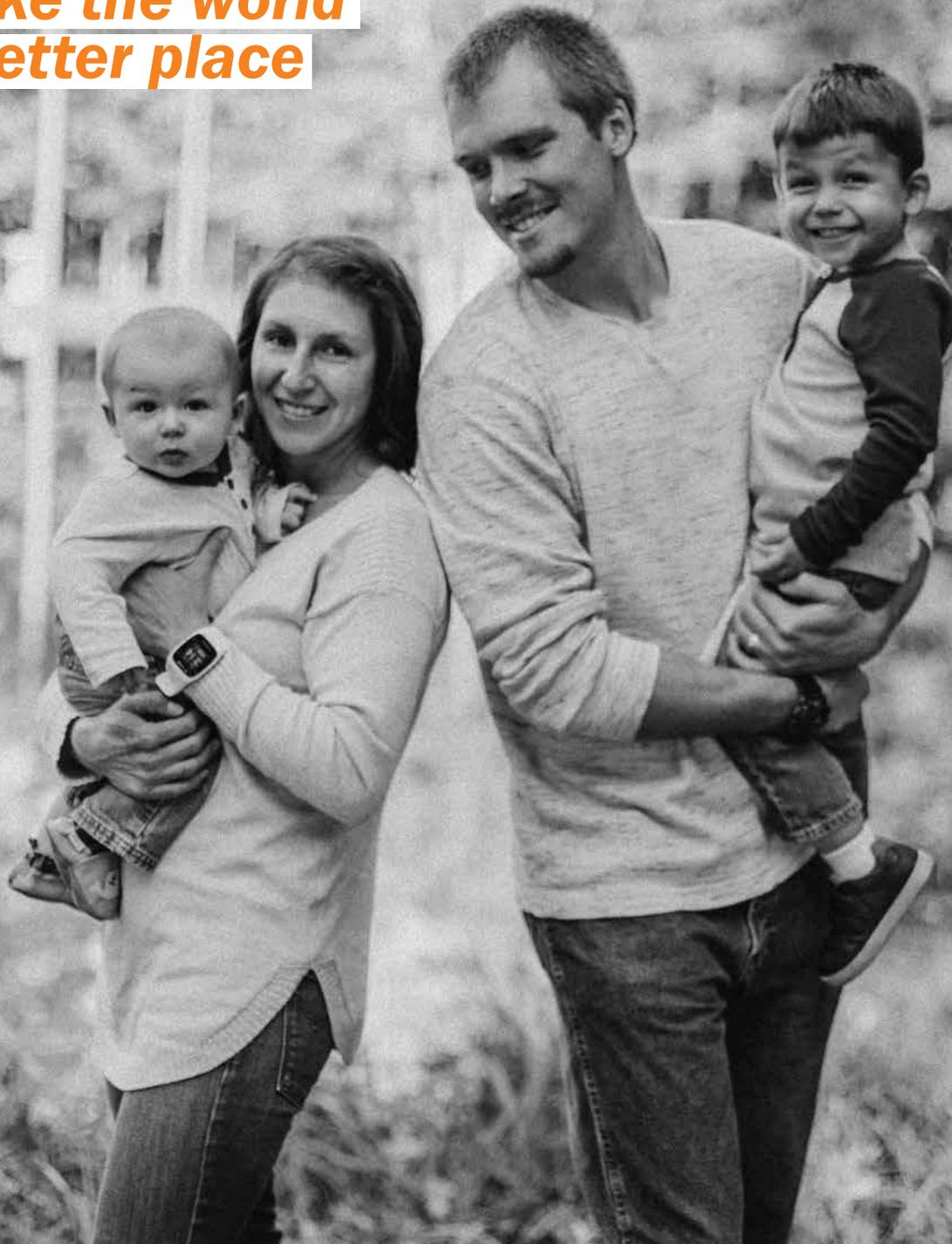
**Kevin '08 and Lora Toncheva '07 Potter are a duo that makes Graceland proud.** With successful careers, two young boys (and another one on the way) and their sights on improving the world, this couple is making a difference.

Kevin, from Missouri, and Lora, from Bulgaria, met at Graceland — in the middle of everywhere. After graduating, Kevin worked at DuPont Pioneer, where he developed a passion for research. He went to Iowa State University for graduate school and graduated with a PhD in molecular, cellular and developmental biology in 2015. Currently, he is a Postdoctoral Fellow funded by the National Science Foundation Plant Genome Research Initiative, where his research focuses on understanding how a plant hormone called cytokinin regulates diverse aspects of plant growth and development in rice.

After Graceland, Lora earned an MBA from the University of Iowa Tippie College of Business in 2014 while working full time at DuPont Pioneer. She now works as a project analyst in the Regulatory and Stewardship department at Pioneer, ensuring that the work necessary for getting new products approved in different geographies around the world is completed on time.

Both Kevin and Lora — coming from different places and studying completely different fields, biology and business — feel Graceland provided a solid undergraduate experience that prepared them for the next steps in their careers.

## make the world a better place



“My education prepared me well by pushing me to develop problem-solving skills, teaching me how to work well with people from different backgrounds and cultures, and how to be flexible and adjust easily to whatever each day brings,” explained Lora.

Kevin felt that the housing system gave him brothers to lean on. He was in Agape House and remarks, “AGAPE! I learned that putting a bunch of college boys together on a hall leads to a lot of craziness! Kidding aside, I think that by having a close community of friends to provide guidance and support definitely allowed me to perform well in my classes.”

The Potters, who currently live in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, plan to follow Kevin’s research. Lora isn’t sure where that will take them, but she is prepared and flexible; ready and excited for new challenges and opportunities. Kevin explains, “My hope is to obtain a professorship at a major research university and manage my own research program. I hope to have a well-funded laboratory that enables my trainees to answer broad questions related to plant biology. Also, I hope to have a house with two refrigerators to feed my three (the third is due in April) growing boys...”

**make the world  
a better place**





## Is it any wonder that so many Gracelanders choose careers that help people?

Who is changing the world?

Field Manager **Chelsea Tobin '11** and activist in the Denver area, shares her story.

# CHELSEA TOBIN '11

“It makes life exciting that there will always, always be something new to learn about the people around us and the world in which we live. That curiosity is what gets me up every morning.”

### Q What are a few top takeaways from your time at Graceland?

The importance of community and to always be a student. This is an age of growth and technology, of constant expansion with information and accessibility. I'm a big fan of being a lifelong learner, of always having the humility to learn something new, and to change based on new information and discovery. It makes life exciting that there will always, always be something new to learn about the people around us and the world in which we live. That curiosity and the scope of the "gray" (rather than perceiving everything as black or white) in the world is what gets me up every morning, and I wouldn't trade it for anything.

### Q What are you doing now?

I'm working for The Blue Bench in Denver, Colorado. It is the Denver-metro rape crisis center and serves the nine surrounding counties from downtown Denver. It is the only fully comprehensive prevention and care center for those counties and is a licensed nonprofit for the state. I am a field manager for the organization, which means I train activists on communication, programming, common responses, etc. We do door-to-door outreach in the communities the organization serves. The goal with the outreach is a combination of fundraising for the organization's programs, connecting survivors and their families with services, and to shift a culture and society that blames victims and perpetuates the problem of rape and sexual violence in this country. It is the only organization in the U.S. that does outreach like ours, and I've had a great time working with them the past few years.

### Q Is it related to your degree?

I completed two degrees while at Graceland — English and studio art. I am a professional communicator and activist, and my English degree 100 percent aids in that. Empathy, meeting people where they're at, compassion, being able to make connections, communicating well with various people from a wide array of backgrounds; all of these skills relate back to my English major. As far as art, I've had a lot of opportunities in Denver to explore and share both my love for the visual arts as well as the music scene. I've focused mostly on my activism the past few years but will be working more on art this coming year and hopefully will be in a few shows, creating zines and chapbooks.

### Q Your favorite class and why?

It's a hard tie between Cultural Studies with Brian White, Suffering and Meaning with Bob Mesle and The Structure of English with Jerry DeNuccio. I always tell folks it was just as hard to leave my professors when I graduated as it was to leave my friends. Cultural Studies and Suffering and Meaning shifted my ideology in significant and life-altering ways, and the Structure of English (which is about, perhaps, potentially the driest topic: grammar) was so much fun because DeNuccio was such an excellent teacher and exemplified something I admire greatly in others: the capacity for delight in the seemingly mundane or boring.

### Q Are you still in contact with other Graceland alumni?

Of course! [Graceland] alumni are everywhere! I have friends in Denver from Graceland, and just the other day I randomly ran into two alumni in the same week while out around the downtown area. I love my Graceland family!



# JEREMY GRAYBILL '98

**Jeremy Graybill '98** revealed that he wasn't really the best student when he came to Graceland. He had some areas that needed improvement and said he was thankful for the "patience and guidance" of Professor Emeritus Dr. Ron Smith, who taught several of his math classes. It was the Graceland community, the men's volleyball team, the guys on the hall and his family who helped to form the leader that Graybill has become today.

In order to spend time with his younger sister and to help her learn the ropes at Graceland, Graybill took a year off and waited to enter his senior year so they could share time together on "the Hill." There were several Graybills at Graceland during his time there, including his brother, sister and adopted siblings. Relationships and family still keep this successful Graceland graduate grounded and balanced.

Graybill graduated from Graceland with degrees in mathematics, computer science, computer engineering and a minor in physics, all of which are directly related to his current career. "We are using a number of advanced techniques in the areas of deep learning, machine learning, statistical analytics, big data, mathematical modeling and other emerging fields to provide value to the business in a number of different ways."

"I am leading the data science and data engineering efforts for Anadarko Petroleum Corporation in The Woodlands, Texas," explained Graybill. "Our data scientists and engineers are working on a number of exciting and challenging problems in order for us to produce oil and gas resources safer, faster and more efficiently."

Graybill shares that, when he was at Graceland, he didn't really see where his career would lead, but that learning

**“Our data scientists and data engineers are working on a number of exciting and challenging problems in order for us to produce oil and gas resources safer, faster and more efficiently.”**

how to be flexible and to think critically was what has really allowed him to stay in front of this instantaneously changing field. Graceland's strong liberal arts education, where critical thinking is paramount, really helped prepare Graybill for a field with constant change.

"When I started my career," explained Graybill, "knowledge was very important in my field. However, knowledge has become much more of a commodity in this field over time, given the increases with how computers can store, retrieve and process information. While some knowledge is still fundamental, it's the critical thinking and the ability to process and apply knowledge to other areas and domains that has become more vital to success."

Graybill lives in Spring, Texas, with his wife, Mendi, and their three young boys, Christian, Caden and Chase.

[graceland.edu/Horizons](http://graceland.edu/Horizons)

Check out the online version of *Horizons* for the full stories of these other amazing Gracelanders.



**Brittany St. Louis '11**  
Health communications graduate Brittany St. Louis is the operations manager for a health care facility. She knew she always wanted to work in management in a health care setting, and her bachelor's degree from Graceland helped set her on the right course to reach her dream.



**Aaron Richards '09**  
Earning a BA in business administration with an emphasis in management and minor in communications, Richards uses the knowledge he gained in his business courses to successfully lead his team as a quality assurance manager.



**Andi Chatburn '06**  
While she was at Graceland, Andrea "Andi" Barber Chatburn discovered that her understanding of death and dying was different than most. In Bob Mesle's Suffering and Meaning class, discussions around death led her to a doctorate in bioethics.

**make the world  
a better place**



**Clay Hines '09**

Clay Hines' work can put people to sleep — don't worry, it's a part of his job. Hines is an anesthesiologist. He graduated from Graceland with a double major in biology and chemistry, and recalls the hard work he put into achieving his accomplishments.



**Moriah Jones '13**

Moriah Jones recognized the powerful impact teachers can have on students and decided her best approach in life would be to follow their example. Jones has found her niche as an AP history teacher.



**Alex Cash '12**

It is common for students to be unclear on the path they wish to follow when they begin their college career. Cash, who graduated with a degree in computer science and information technology, began his Graceland experience as a music-education major.



**Tara Grubbs '05**

The Graceland experience allowed Grubbs to find her way and prepared her for a career in which she became the right person at the right time, and with the right skills to save a life.

Horizons recently used the World Wide Web — Facebook — to learn the scope of the Graceland network. The participation was incredible, and we loved reading so many testimonies of how the Graceland values have spread.



**WE ARE GRACELAND**

To read more and share your testimony: [graceland.edu/MiddleOfEverywhere](http://graceland.edu/MiddleOfEverywhere)

**Katie Thuesen '11** From Billings, Montana. Now living in Seoul, South Korea.

**Natascha Van Cleave '04** I came from Norco, California and I now live in Melbourne, Australia.

**Sally Norton '10** I came to Graceland from the UK and am still living in the UK! I have so many fond memories of Graceland and love the connections you find all over the world. I've met with Graceland students in South Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan, all across Europe, the U.S., and have even met them in airports. I often make a point to wear my GU shirts when I travel because of this wonderful connection we have.

**Sári Bosnyák '15** From Hungary, as the first second-generation Hungarian at GU, currently in England doing my master's!

**Dóri Bosnyák '15** From Budapest, Hungary, I suppose as the 2nd second-generation Hungarian alum at GU (she is older than me by 10 minutes). Currently doing my master's in Texas. I love all the amazing Gracelanders I met throughout my four years — internationals and U.S. students, faculty and staff alike!

**Abhik Mitra '02** Came from Kolkata, India and currently reside in Minneapolis, Minne"snow"ta! As an international student, what I loved most about the Graceland family was that I always felt like I was a part of it (from the day I started to now!).

**José Pablo Grases '96** I came to Graceland (1991-96) from Caracas, Venezuela, and now live in Barcelona, Spain. Graceland changed my life completely and taught me what true friendship and solidarity really mean. The most important thing I learned was in my first day of Humanities 1 class and it has defined my life since: "Practice random acts of kindness." Unbelievable friends. Magical times...

**Estefania Torres '16** Cumana, Venezuela. Living in Amsterdam, Netherlands. What I love most about Graceland is the connections we make with other people from all over the world and keeping those connections for life.

**Zahra El '17** Born in Morocco. Grew up in Germany. I loved everything about GU especially the tennis family, the best coach, and Diana Jones. Thank you for my personal [#AMERICANDREAM](https://www.instagram.com/AMERICANDREAM)

**Hank Ignatius '01** From a mountain village in Bulgaria...to Lamoni...to Memorial Stadium in Lincoln, Nebraska (5 National NCAA Football Championships)...to the U.S. Congress, to Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria, to the UN Security Council, to Nelson Mandela's funeral...to pretty much any place in the world you can think of — Go GU! Go Yellowjackets!

**Diana Jones '87** Came from Lee's Summit, Missouri...left for Taiwan for a couple years...came back as Hall Director for 7 years...tried to leave and live in D.C. but Tom Powell called me back to help with International students "temporarily." Been working here now about 28 years! Favorite thing... Students!!!



# WE ARE GRACELAND In the middle of

**STAY CONNECTED ON SOCIAL MEDIA**

Wherever you are in the world, share your Graceland pride with these hashtags:  
[#WeAreGraceland](https://www.instagram.com/WeAreGraceland)  
[#GracelandForever](https://www.instagram.com/GracelandForever)

**1906**

Canada

**1908**

Germany

**1910**

Japan

**1911**

Great Britain & New Caledonia

**1921**

Australia, Austria & Palestine

**1924**

Egypt

**1925**

British West Indies & Syria

**1927**

Denmark

**1930**

French Polynesia & Netherlands

**1935**

Netherlands Antilles

**FIRST YEAR COUNTRIES WERE REPRESENTED AT GRACELAND**



Lamoni, Iowa, is just 250 miles from the actual center of the continental U.S. **It's not far off to say Graceland is literally in the middle of the country — but Graceland's reach spans much farther.** Since early in its history, Graceland has attracted students from all over the world.

Students who come to Graceland from their corner of the world soon leave with **a network that spans the globe, and, in every corner, Graceland values are alive.**

**Graceland values learning, wholeness and community, and encourages the development of these values for the enrichment of lives and the betterment of the world.**

# EVERYWHERE



- Albania
- Argentina
- Armenia
- Australia
- Azerbaijan
- Bahamas
- Barbados
- Belize
- Bermuda
- Bolivia
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Brazil
- Bulgaria
- Canada
- Cayman Islands
- Chile
- China
- Colombia
- Croatia
- Czech Republic
- Ecuador
- Egypt
- England
- Federated States of Micronesia
- Fiji
- France
- French Polynesia
- Georgia
- Germany
- Greece
- Honduras
- Hong Kong
- Hungary
- India
- Iran
- Ireland
- Israel
- Italy
- Jamaica
- Japan
- Jordan
- Kazakhstan
- Kenya
- Kosovo
- Kyrgyzstan
- Latvia
- Macedonia
- Malaysia
- Mexico
- Mongolia
- Montenegro
- Nepal
- Netherlands
- Netherlands Antilles
- New Caledonia
- New Zealand
- Norway
- Paraguay
- Portugal
- Russia
- Saudi Arabia
- Serbia
- Singapore
- South Korea
- Spain
- St. Lucia
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Tahiti
- Taiwan
- Tajikistan
- Thailand
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Turkey
- Ukraine
- United Arab Emirates
- United Kingdom
- United States
- Uzbekistan
- Venezuela
- Wales
- Zambia



## Graceland's Annual International Night

Members of Graceland's Lamoni campus primarily from the Black Student Union, International Club, Latino Club and Polynesian Club, as well as members of the faculty and alumni community gathered for the annual tradition. The evening featured various acts and performances meant to encourage the audience to "cross [their] cultural bridge to another's world," as explained by Diana Jones, Director of the Graceland Intercultural Office.

Regardless of where Graceland students come from or where Graceland alumni end up, one common thread remains — **an appreciation for their alma mater** and the **lasting connections and experiences** they received while on campus. These threads have led to a web of Graceland alumni that spans the world.

# 82

**COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD  
WHERE GRACELAND ALUMNI LIVE**

(INCLUDING THE U.S.)

# EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING SOCIAL MEDIA MARKETING

**Seniors in the social media marketing major at Graceland University have taken on the task of promoting experiential learning opportunities while participating in one themselves.**

These five students are working together with Associate Professor of Business Administration Jeff McElroy, as well as members of the Graceland Communications Office, to carry out and measure the success of a social media campaign designed to highlight experiential learning at Graceland.

Through the Graceland University Twitter and Facebook platforms, these students are attempting to successfully and strategically create and post content with the intent to educate others on experiential learning, as they receive even more direct education on the topic. Students have been meeting with Communications Specialist Brooke Sutherland during their classtime to strategize the content they're uploading and review analytics as to what has worked and what they might like to tweak.

While students in education, nursing and others have taken part in this high-impact practice at Graceland for many years, experiential learning is becoming an even more integral part of Graceland's curriculum for an expanding population of students. Graceland has put a focus on this practice because it offers real-world experience to students entering an ever-competitive job market, and the C.H. Sandage School of Business has eagerly picked it up.

Through the many workshops and experiences Graceland offers, including internship fairs, resume assistance, and constant support from professors and faculty, experiential learning is an additional way in which Graceland is setting students up for success after graduation. As it was stated in a previous issue of *Horizons*, "When a student learns through their involvements outside of the classroom, they receive a different and very valuable learning experience."

Cory Dye is a senior in the social media marketing major who is currently working to promote experiential learning through Graceland social media platforms. He explains, "It helped me to make sure that the industry I want to go into was a good fit for me. I believe that every student should have at least a couple experiences with experiential learning because it will help them become better prepared for the real world and solidify their career choice."

Graceland University business students are currently involved in four different experiential learning projects through their student experience. Another class of social media marketing students are working with local businesses in the Lamoni area to create and improve their social media presence. Other marketing students are creating a campaign they will present at Principal's Voice of the Young Consumer business challenge in competition against schools like Iowa State University and Drake University.

These examples are just the beginning of what is to come for Graceland students, as faculty and staff alike work to provide more and more experiential learning opportunities for students on the Lamoni campus and beyond. Watch for more stories of how Graceland students are getting the most from their Graceland experience and how it might be impacting how you see Graceland on social media, the website, through presentations and more.

**“Experiential learning has been a huge factor in preparing me for the real world. It has helped me to gain knowledge that I would not be able to obtain in the classroom.”**



- Cory Dye '18

#### LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Graceland students gain real-world experience through collaboration with the Graceland Communications office and local businesses.

In January, theatre major **Haley Johnson '19** placed first out of participants from 315 teams from seven states at the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF) Region V Conference in Des Moines, Iowa.

*“THE ONE THING I KEPT SAYING TO MY PARTNER WAS, ‘IF WE WERE PROUD OF WHAT WE DID IN THE ROOM, THEN WE ALREADY WON.’”*

Haley’s positive vibes paid off, and her first-place title will send her to the national festival in Washington, D.C., in April, where she will compete with seven other regional winners at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts for one of two Irene Ryan Acting Fellowships, awarded on top of the Irene Ryan Scholarship she won at the regional level.

The festival, which was started in 1969 by Roger L. Stevens, founder and chairman of the Kennedy Center, strives to recognize the artistic talents of young college actors and features the finest works of theatre departments from over 700 higher learning institutions that participate nationwide.

Graceland congratulates Haley and wishes her the best in April!



**BONUS VIDEO**  
Watch an interview with Haley online: [graceland.edu/Horizons](http://graceland.edu/Horizons)

THE KENNEDY CENTER AMERICAN COLLEGE THEATER FESTIVAL also recognizes the outstanding work of individuals in the following Graceland productions:

*LEND ME A TENOR*  
Directed by Gary Heisserer

**Seth Campbell**  
for scenic design

**The cast** for its comic ensemble work in the homecoming production

*WIT*  
Directed by Gary Heisserer

**Seth Campbell** and **Kris Kirkwood**  
for scenic and projection design

*HEATHERS: THE MUSICAL*  
Directed by Tracy Salter

**Gretchen Halle**  
for costume design

**Josephine Acland** and **Tiffany Smith**  
for poster and program design

**Stage managers** and **backstage crew**

# SETTING THE *stage*

YELLOWJACKET PRIDE

# MAKING HISTORY

## THE ROAD TO NATIONALS



### MEN'S BASKETBALL

**1st win**

NAIA DIVISION I NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS

**29-10**

SEASON RECORD

RANKED

**23**

NAIA COACHES' TOP 25 POLL

On March 5, the **Graceland men's basketball team** made history in a packed Closson Center, claiming their first Heart of America Athletic Conference Tournament crown with a 95-68 victory over Peru State College.

In front of a standing room only crowd, Graceland not only hosted their first Heart Conference Title game, but also earned an automatic berth into the 81st Annual NAIA Division I Men's Basketball National Championship — their first NAIA National Championship appearance in program history.

***It was a special evening. It's a beautiful thing when athletics can provide a level of confidence and positive energy for an institution of higher education. We truly have some great student-athletes.*** — Craig Doty  
Head Coach, Men's Basketball

# ORY



SEEDED  
**5th**  
DUER BRACKET



The Yellowjackets knocked off the 2017 reigning national champions, Texas Wesleyan University, in their opening-round matchup March 15 at Municipal Auditorium in Kansas City — the team's first NAIA tournament win in their national debut.

Graceland won five straight games in six days to claim the championship title March 20, defeating Louisiana State University–Alexandria in overtime with a 3-pointer at the buzzer. Tremendous support was felt with record-breaking tournament attendance, and the Graceland community came *Together* across the world on social media.

## The hive is alive.

Yellowjacket success is widespread, as many of our athletes competed at the national level.

### CROSS COUNTRY

One student-athlete went to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Cross Country National Championships Nov. 18, 2017, held in Vancouver, Washington.



**Kami Tabor**

Sophomore  
Peculiar, MO

Heart Conference  
Championships

QUALIFIED 5k Race

TIME 19:42.51

11th place

### TRACK & FIELD

Two student-athletes went to the NAIA Indoor Track and Field National Championships March 1-3 in Pittsburg, Kansas.



**William "Tyree" Snorggrass**

Senior  
Raymore, MO

Grinnell College Invite

QUALIFIED Triple Jump

DISTANCE 14.15 meters

NAIA "B" standard



**Lexus Lovan**

Junior  
Urbandale, IA

Last Chance Meet  
hosted by Wartburg College

QUALIFIED Long Jump

DISTANCE 5.55 meters

NAIA "A" standard

### WRESTLING

Three student-athletes were sent to the NAIA Wrestling Championships March 2-3 in Des Moines, Iowa.



**Cartland Allen**

Junior  
Lee's Summit, MO

Heart Conference  
Championships

QUALIFIED 133 lbs.

4th place



**Brandon Seward**

Senior  
Jacksonville, NC

Heart Conference  
Championships

QUALIFIED 149 lbs.

4th place



**Drew Sams**

Freshman  
Oskaloosa, IA

Heart Conference  
Championships

QUALIFIED 157 lbs.

4th place



**HORIZONS SPECIAL EDITION: Men's Basketball National Championship  
COMING SOON**

# HOMECOMING '17 ALUMNI AWARDS



## GRACELAND AWARD OF RECOGNITION

The Graceland Award of Recognition salutes those who have supported Graceland and its programs in an exceptional way. **Gretchen Booz** has shared the Graceland spirit with all. In 1984, she began a 12-year tenure on the Graceland Board of Trustees where she served as vice chair and chair of the Student Affairs Committee. For decades of enthusiastic commitment, service and affection, Graceland University was proud to present its Award of Recognition to alumna extraordinaire Gretchen Booz.



## HONORARY ALUMNI AWARD

The Honorary Alumni Award recognizes people who did not attend Graceland but whose record of service and commitment to the university is outstanding.

**Rob Kuehl** has worked hard to establish a relationship between the Graceland sociology and criminal justice programs and the Kansas City Police Department. He has donated his time as a guest lecturer and served as a resource in many ways to Graceland students interested in police work. Graceland welcomed Kuehl with the presentation of the Honorary Alumni Award last fall at homecoming.



## DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Alumni at least 10 years removed from graduation and still living are eligible for the Distinguished Service Award, but there is more to eligibility and consideration. Recipients must have made an outstanding contribution to community at some level, whether local or international. **Dan and Beth Whittemore** met and far exceeded those requirements. Dan joined the alumni ranks in 1961, while Beth became an Honorary Alumna at homecoming last fall. They received the Distinguished Service honor together in recognition of their partnership in community service.

**Elizabeth (Beth) Whittemore** has proven her loyalty to Graceland. She has supported the Alumni Programs Office efforts to maintain contact with university graduates by supervising arrangements for dinners in the Phoenix and Denver areas. Over 100 Graceland students have been supported by the endowed scholarship she and her husband maintain. At last fall's homecoming, Whittemore was welcomed into the Graceland alumni family.



## REMEMBERING A GRACELAND LEGEND

**Brad Carr '91** first became a member of the Graceland University family in 1983 when he was hired as the Head Resident for Gunsolley Hall. He soon married Sharon McKiddie and eventually left Graceland and Lamoni for an opportunity in Omaha, Nebraska, in 1989, but the impact he made on Graceland — and that Graceland had on him — had already been set in motion, and Brad would return to touch thousands of lives.

Brad rejoined Graceland as a Personal Counseling Specialist in 1991, and then, in 1995, he began his service as Director of Student Activities; a role that would prove to be a perfect fit. Brad used his creativity and imagination to provide fun and safe activities for all Graceland Lamoni campus students — and his charisma lent itself to many successful events and connections with students, staff, faculty and alumni, alike. He had a strong work ethic, a quick wit, an unforgettable sense of humor and was a master storyteller. Brad served as a mentor and role model to thousands of students, often spanning several generations.

# WORKING TOWARD WHOLENESS



***THE QUEST FOR  
WHOLENESS IS  
A NEVERENDING  
JOURNEY, ALWAYS  
IN THE MAKING.  
WHOLENESS  
IN PROCESS  
HAPPENS AT  
MANY LEVELS  
AT GRACELAND.***

Wholeness also permeates Graceland at an institutional level, addressing all aspects of who we are: our intelligence, emotions, body and spirit. Our housing system, fine arts and intramural programs bring together in community persons of diverse backgrounds. Lifelong friendships emerge that endure over space and time.

Graceland has been working hard in the past couple of years to integrate classes and Student Life activities to encourage students to find meaning and challenge all dimensions of their lives. As this happens, we watch wholeness merge with the university's other two core values: learning and community.

We learn who we are and how we relate to our surroundings. We are not whole as individuals; we are social beings who need social connections. That acceptance gives us the courage and determination to reflect on our weaknesses as well as our strengths and to continue to strive for that elusive wholeness we have sensed in our days at Graceland.

Let's celebrate. Let's celebrate what we have accomplished together and how we can build on that. *Together* we celebrate the milestones along the way and the journey ahead.

**This is a celebration. Who wouldn't be proud of the accomplishments of the Graceland graduates featured here? And what I find even more exciting is that this is only the beginning of what we predict for their future.**

One of Graceland's three core values is wholeness, but wholeness is a process not an outcome. Wholeness is what we aspire to. It's not like making a loaf of bread, where you throw together the ingredients, bake them, and out comes a finished loaf. The quest for wholeness is a neverending journey, always in the making.

Wholeness in process happens at many levels at Graceland. In every decade of Graceland's history, there have been faculty and staff who have invested themselves in the lives of their students — in the classroom and outside — modeling lives of purpose and service, and the pursuit of excellence. If you're an alumnus, you can probably name those teachers and staff from your Graceland years who inspired you. I know I had mine.

In addition to his magnetic charm and the warmth he brought to the Graceland community, Brad was attracted to music at a young age and played guitar in many bands throughout his life; one could often hear the sound of faint guitar coming from his office in the Memorial Student Center between events or on a slow afternoon.

He loved to ride motorcycles, play golf and spend time outdoors. He took an interest in disc golf at Graceland and pioneered the construction of a course on campus, later facilitating disc golf tournaments in Lamoni and on campus.

Brad left this life suddenly Jan. 28, leaving a hole in the hearts of many. Memorial services were appropriately held in the MSC Main Room on the Graceland Lamoni, Iowa, campus Saturday, Feb. 3. A visitation the evening before brought friends from all over to celebrate a life and love held dear for decades. As longtime friend Greg Sutherland put it, "It sure was nice of Brad to throw us such a nice party; I just wish he was here with us to enjoy it." To which Bob Kelly, another longtime friend, replied, "He is."

***His charisma  
lent itself  
to many  
successful  
events and  
connections  
with students,  
staff, faculty  
and alumni.***



# CLASS Notes

## WEDDINGS

**William F. (Bill) Barlow '75** and John Davis, Atlanta, Georgia, July 26, 2016.

Jay and **Lani Hefel '08 Craig**, Grimes, Iowa, Dec. 14, 2016.

**Shane '06** and Marilyn **Everett**, Houston, Texas, Nov. 19, 2017.

**Joe '10** and **Nichelle Closson '10 Oxley**, Independence, Missouri, Oct. 21, 2016.

## ANNIVERSARIES

**James '48** and **Ardis Everett**, Independence, Missouri, celebrated their 65th anniversary in August 2017.

Lonnie and **Carol Mair '67 Knittle**, celebrated their 51st anniversary on Dec. 18, 2017.

Larry and **Dorcas Hentz '64 Wilkinson**, Cascade, Colorado, celebrated their 50th anniversary on Dec. 30, 2017.

## BIRTHS

**Jacob '05** and **Rachel Goodson '06 Blakesley**, Pensacola, Florida, Clara Faye Blakesley, born Dec. 22, 2015.

Jay and **Lani Hefel '08 Craig**, Grimes, Iowa, Alana Frances, born Aug. 30, 2017.

Michael and **Elizabeth Ferrara '07 Dorner**, Colorado Springs, Colorado, Eliza, born Oct. 28, 2016.

**Tyler '05** and **Kelsey Combs '05 Hosie**, Lamoni, Iowa, Eva Claire, born Jan. 19, 2018.

**Michael '08** and **Lauren Seaman '08 Hutchinson**, Litton, Massachusetts, Brody Muir, born July 21, 2017.

**Greg '10** and **Emily Phillips '10 Irr**, Lee's Summit, Missouri, Perry Joseph, born Nov. 26, 2014, and Sawyer Anne, born June 2, 2017.

**Tyson '08** and **Sara Klockau '09 Meierotto**, Iowa City, Iowa, Teagan Nora, born April 13, 2015.

**Jeremy '03** and **Rachel Duke '03 Yeamans**, Olathe, Kansas, Lucy, born Oct. 20, 2017.

## IN MEMORIAM

**Lois Burwell '46 Anderson**, Independence, Missouri, Jan. 18, 2018.

**Ann Voltmann '45 Beyer**, Penney Farms, Florida, Oct. 24, 2017.

**Gail Woodson '56 Biller**, Encendido, California, Dec. 25, 2017.

**Clyde Blakely '96**, Sutherlin, Oregon, Aug. 31, 2015.

**Hugh Boswell '56**, Sun City, Arizona, Feb. 2, 2018.

**Donald Bowman '64**, Whitehall, Montana, Jan. 25, 2018.

**Dorothy Flack '44 Buck**, Ukiah, California, Feb. 5, 2018.

**Brad Carr '91**, Allendale, Missouri, Jan. 28, 2018.

**Robert Carver '50**, Independence, Missouri, Nov. 23, 2017.

**Donald Cash '50**, Independence, Missouri, Dec. 5, 2017.

**Frank Church '55**, New London, Connecticut, Feb. 3, 2018.

**Mel Kauila Clark '68**, Kapolei, Hawaii, Dec. 24, 2017.

**Elizabeth Baller '69 Clarke**, Independence, Missouri, Feb. 10, 2018.

**Sharon Hetrick '59 Clothier**, Independence, Missouri, Jan. 22, 2018.

**Ken Cochran '52**, Joplin, Missouri, Nov. 19, 2017.

**Russell DeSalvo '63**, Pueblo, Colorado, Jan. 30, 2018.

**Ken Ensley '60**, Kansas City, Kansas, Dec. 27, 2017.

**Bert Feske '69**, Denham Springs, Louisiana, Jan. 21, 2013.

**David Freeland '53**, Largo, Florida, Oct. 29, 2017.

**Jenifer Friend '16**, Blue Springs, Missouri, Jan. 30, 2018.

**Bonnie Minthorn '52 Graham**, Missoula, Montana, April 9, 2016.

**Jennifer Hagerty '07**, Beardstown, Illinois, Nov. 11, 2015.

**Shirley Hall '42**, Normal, Illinois, Jan. 15, 2018.

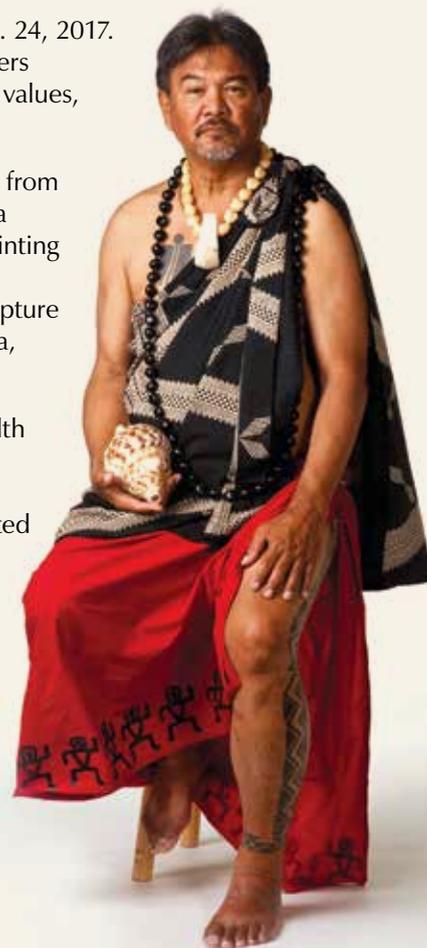
**Margaret Mussell '57 Piepergerdes Hansen**, Leawood, Kansas, Nov. 11, 2017.

**Mel Kauila Clark '68** passed away on Dec. 24, 2017. His life was committed to sharing with others the principle elements of Native Hawaiian values, Aloha and physical well-being.

Kauila grew up in Wahiawa and graduated from Leilehua High School in 1963. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in drawing and painting from Graceland College in 1968 and later earned his master's degree in clay and sculpture at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington.

A certified traditional native Hawaiian health practitioner, Kauila was an artist, a master potter, educator and lecturer. His artwork, internationally acclaimed, has been exhibited in 53 countries and museums such as the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.

Professor Clark taught design, drawing, painting, ceramics, art history and art appreciation at Graceland from 1971-83. Several of his pieces are included in Graceland's fine art collection, and a large collaborative work adorns the Shaw Center lobby. Kauila's legendary influence on students of all disciplines continues.





**Kenneth Cochran**, Graceland University Hall of Fame inductee (1989), passed away Nov. 19, 2017, at the age of 84 — one month shy of his 85th birthday. Cochran '52 received an Associate of Arts degree from Graceland with physical education as his major. He was a Gimper and played on the men's basketball team and the club baseball team.

In 1956, Cochran served as the starting catcher on the Olympic Baseball Team. Cochran's coaching career spanned a quarter of a century, and when he left coaching at the age of 48 after suffering a heart attack, he remained involved

with basketball. He invented the widely popular Pop-A-Shot game and was longtime director of the Heart of America Basketball Camps and Clinics in Salina, Kansas.

Cochran was inducted into six halls of fame — NAIA, Kansas Sports, Kansas Basketball Coaches Association, Kansas Wesleyan, Graceland University and Joplin, Missouri. He established the Graceland University Ken Cochran Endowed Scholarship to assist tennis and men's and women's basketball players.

**Linda Smith '63 Hellman**, Keller, Texas, Aug. 17, 2016.

**William Herod '51**, Irving, Texas, Feb. 12, 2018.

**Bernie Fleearty '45 Holmes**, Kansas City, Missouri, Dec. 8, 2017.

**Lenora McPherson '45 Horst**, Ocala, Florida, Dec. 10, 2017.

**Judith Millard '61 Howard**, Cameron, Missouri, Feb. 11, 2018.

**Minnetta Isaacks '72**, Independence, Missouri, Feb. 17, 2018.

**Marsha Robbins '77 Jackel**, Lamoni, Iowa, Dec. 26, 2017.

**Maxine Johnson '49 Jensen**, Woodbine, Iowa, Feb. 10, 2018.

**Harry Johnson '48**, Independence, Missouri, Nov. 24, 2014.

**Venna Stevens '45 Johnson**, Independence, Missouri, June 17, 2016.

**Barbara Wyatt '59 Kaminski**, Hummelstown, Pennsylvania, Jan. 30, 2017.

## 00s



**Nichelle Closson '10 Oxley** works for Humphrey, Farrington & McClain law firm, where seven of 18 attorneys are Graceland graduates. In 2017, Oxley was selected by the National Trial Lawyers as a "Top 40 Under 40" lawyer for the state of Missouri.

Oxley is a new member of Graceland's Alumni Board of Directors and continues to be very connected to the Graceland family.

## 80s



**Joe Madaffari '81** is in his 22nd year as the athletic director at Brien McMahon High School. He is one of eight finalists for the National High School Athletic Coaches Association's Athletic Director of the Year award. Congratulations, Joe!



**Brown's composition was featured during the opening ceremony.**

Photo: Andy Miah, flickr | [creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/legalcode](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/legalcode)

**Donald G. Brown '87** received notification from NBC-TV Broadcasting Editorial that two of the Music-Episode Compositions he composed last year as part of a five-person Olympic music project would be included during the coverage of the 2018 Winter Olympics Opening Ceremony from South Korea. His work was featured during the first five minutes of introduction music and just prior to the lighting of the Olympic Flame/Cauldron.



**Charles (Bob) Laudie '40** passed away Dec. 24, 2017, in Iowa City, Iowa. Laudie graduated from William Chrisman High School in Independence, Missouri, and was offered a job in facilities at Graceland. He “worked hard shoveling coal and snow, earning two cents an hour toward the next year’s expenses.” With the year’s earnings on the books, he became a student the next fall and two years later received an Associate of Arts degree from Graceland. He wrote his memoirs about his time at Graceland and shared them as a view into student life on “the Hill.”

He was employed by Lockheed before entering the Army AirCorp Aviation school in January 1942. During WWII, Bob was a B26 navigator/bombardier flying out of England. He flew over 73 missions including two over Utah Beach on D-day. Laudie received his BA from San Jose State University and MA from Stanford with postgraduate work at University of California, Berkeley. Laudie was principal of large California elementary schools for over 33 years.

His interests included HAM radio, and he helped build the Community of Christ church building in Walnut Creek. He also worked on the Happy Valley church campground and rejuvenated the Cloverdale Historical Society.

**Don Kasmerchek '73**, Independence, Missouri, Jan. 22, 2018.

**Harold Keairnes '52**, Independence, Missouri, Jan. 25, 2018.

**George Knotts '52**, Lamoni, Iowa, Feb. 13, 2018.

**Ardyce Mellendorf '54 Koonce**, Independence, Missouri, Oct. 22, 2017.

**Beverly Johnston '48 Koshatka**, Iowa City, Iowa, Jan. 2, 2018.

**Sharon Seaver '63 Lasswell**, Carthage, Illinois, Oct. 20, 2017.

**Bob Laudie '40**, Iowa City, Iowa, Dec. 24, 2017.

**Shirley McClain**, Independence, Missouri, Oct. 30, 2017.

**Betty Norwood '50 Mesley**, Kansas City, Missouri, Feb. 2, 2018.

**Dean Miller '48**, Fort Collins, Colorado, Oct. 23, 2017.

**Ruth Fishel '48 Miller**, Milford, Ohio, Dec. 2, 2017.

**Chris Osborn '85**, Eugene, Oregon, Oct. 8, 2017.

**Richard Porter '48**, Onset, Massachusetts, Jan. 22, 2018.

**Lynda Propst '68 Rolfe**, Lamoni, Iowa, Jan. 13, 2018.

**Marvin Scranton '50**, Geneseo, Illinois, Dec. 3, 2017.

**James R. “Jim” Shaw**, Calgary, British Columbia, Canada, Jan. 3, 2018.

**June Short Jr. '46**, Independence, Missouri, Feb. 7, 2018.

**Darton Simons '92**, Lee's Summit, Missouri, Nov. 1, 2017.

70s

**Mary Ellen '75 Kimball** was an art major at Graceland. Her paintings and prints were featured in the film *The Waiting Room*, which was recently celebrated by Fleur Cinema and Iowa Public Television's *Film Lounge*. She serves on the KSOI-91.9 FM Board and is a community advisor and arts host.

50s



**Marcia L. Kemp '59 Lloyd** received the Lifetime Achievement Award at the National Dance Education Organization's (NDEO) national conference in San Antonio, Texas, Nov. 12, 2017.

Marcia married Arthur Lloyd, from Independence, Missouri, in 1960. They continued their journey together teaching in higher education institutions — counselor education for Arthur and dance education for Marcia. Over the years, they have resided in Laramie, Wyoming; Bozeman, Montana; Springfield, Massachusetts; and Pocatello, Idaho.

Both retired from Idaho State University, and they now travel most of the year to Seattle (visiting their two grandsons), Malaysia, London and Honolulu.

**Louise Pualani Victor '45 Simpson**, Independence, Missouri, Nov. 20, 2017.

**Jerri Metcalf '48 Smith**, Eau Claire, Wisconsin, Oct. 16, 2015.

**Erma Ehlers '44 Snyder**, Lawson, Missouri, July 8, 2017.

**Joseph "Jerry" Tisler '60**, Lawrence Township, New Jersey, Nov. 23, 2017.

**Cynthia Frick '63 Torrie**, Boise, Idaho, Dec. 8, 2017.

**James Ulrich '46**, Falcon, Colorado, July 8, 2009.

**Nelda Bridges '49 Von Horton**, Kansas City, Missouri, Jan. 12, 2018.

**Marjorie Muir '46 Wilcox**, Flushing, Michigan, Oct. 27, 2017.

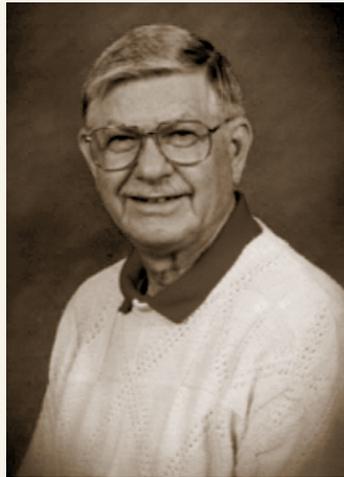
**Carol Elliott '74 Wilcoxson**, Creston, Iowa, Jan. 31, 2018.

**Marian Mussell '47 Wildermuth**, Independence, Missouri, Feb. 11, 2018.

**Eileen Wilson '52**, Osborne, Kansas, Nov. 22, 2017.

**Jann Hartwig '62 Wolf**, Clare, Michigan, Oct. 25, 2017.

**John Wolf '61**, Clare, Michigan, Dec. 31, 2017.



**Ken Cooper '51** received an Associate of Arts degree from Graceland with music education as his major. He received his Bachelor of Music Education degree from Kansas State College in Pittsburg, Kansas, in 1953 and continued to receive his master's in music composition in 1965.

Cooper returned to Graceland to teach music of every sort from 1971-83. He taught music theory, woodwinds, brass, percussion, instrumental and choral arranging, conducting and piano. He was the composer for the Adventureland and Boblo Island amusement park shows featuring Graceland students and founded

The Music Company tour programs. Graceland's music department still uses Cooper's musical arrangement for the alma mater.

In addition to writing and arranging music, Cooper spent many years as a church organist and choir director. His performance activities included classical music and playing in many jazz groups. He has more than 150 published compositions for instrumental and choral ensembles. Cooper's commissioned composition, "A Star," had its premiere performance in December 2000 by the Kansas City Symphony.

Cooper died June 18, 2017, at age 85 in Papillion, Nebraska, after struggling 12 years with Parkinson's disease. His ashes were placed in Graceland Park Cemetery in Omaha, Nebraska. A tree was planted in his honor by the Arbor Society in the Chippewa National Forest (Minnesota), and a bench was dedicated at Graceland University.

## 40s

**Kenneth '47 and Joyce Beitz '49 Swails**, O'Fallon, Missouri, were both honored by their children with a 90th birthday surprise card shower. Over 100 cards were sent from family and friends from all over the country.

### Zimmerman Brothers Remember Their Time at Graceland

Keith Zimmerman '44 fondly recalls his time at Graceland and that he was able to attend his freshman year because he gave the registrar \$100 from working all summer on the farm. He took accounting and business classes and went on to work in the lumber and hardware business. Neal '47 was at Graceland with his brothers and when *Horizons* asked him, "What did you study?" Neal's response was, "mostly girls!" Current students might be honest and say, "Guess some things haven't changed in 70 years!"

The youngest brother, Dale '47, will turn 90 in May, and he was at Graceland in the accounting classes with Keith. When the professor would ask Mr. Zimmerman for an answer, they flipped a coin to see who would answer.



Left to right: **Brothers Neal, Keith and Dale Zimmerman spent time together in Port Charles, Florida (November 2015).**

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

🔍 View the extended version of *Horizons* online: [graceland.edu/Horizons](http://graceland.edu/Horizons)

# SAVE THE DATES

## COMMENCEMENT

**April 29, 2018**

### COMMENCEMENT SPEAKERS

**Matthew Bolton '01, PhD, and Emily Welty, PhD**



Bolton and Welty work with the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), the organization recently announced as the winner of the Nobel Peace Prize for 2017. Both are professors for the Dyson College of Arts and Sciences at Pace University in New York City. Welty and Bolton made a conscious decision together to devote their lives to promoting peace and disarmament.

For more information, visit  
[GRACELAND.EDU/COMMENCEMENT](http://GRACELAND.EDU/COMMENCEMENT)

## HOME COMING

**October 5-7, 2018**

### HONOR CLASSES

**1958, 1968, 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 1998, 2008**

More information  
**COMING SOON**