

UNIVERSITY OF PUGET SOUND

PEOPLE AND IDEAS | AUTUMN 2025

# arches

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p. 12

Origins of the BSU  
p. 26

A New Kind of Grief Care  
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Social  
Fabric

Meet the **Loggers** who weave crafting  
into every part of their lives.





## SUMMER STIMULATION

Students in grades 7 to 12 took part in electro-stimulation and balance measuring lab activities during Summer Academic Challenge, which celebrates its 35th anniversary this year. Holly Roberts, professor of physical therapy, led these student labs. Learn more at [pugetsound.edu/summer-academic-challenge](http://pugetsound.edu/summer-academic-challenge).

## Finding that Sophomore Stride

It's back to school time, and for me, it feels like I am heading into my sophomore year as your *Arches* editor. This past year at the helm of a magazine I have always loved has been a pleasure, but I definitely experienced the steep learning curve we all did as first-year students: so many new names, new processes, and new deadlines, punctuated by that wonderful sense of pride and relief of having made it through.

But now — with three issues under my belt — I have a bit of that confidence I remember feeling when I came back to campus for my second year. I know who to connect with when we choose our crossword puzzle winner (the delightful **Kristi Dopp** at the Logger Store, who also let me know that she loves carrying alumni publications, so feel free to send yours her way!). My list of talented freelance creators continues to grow, and it always feels extra special working with alumni writers like **Zoe Branch '18** and **Kristi Bowman Morgan '93**, whose stories you'll get to enjoy in this issue.



Best of all are the countless conversations I've had with Loggers across all decades. I've had phone calls with **Mar White Hoey '45**, a classmate of **Michiko Kiyokawa '42**, **Hon'09**, whose story we shared last issue, and **Karen Kristine Sudderth MBA'82**, **MAT'96**, the winner of the crossword draw.

I met so many amazing alumni at Summer Reunion Weekend, including **Louis Smith '69** and **Regina Glenn '70, MBA'71**, who left me inspired. I connected with some truly awesome students at the reunion, and one of them — **Janac Hill '26** — wrote "Passing the Torch" on p. 26. I also reconnected with old friends during my Tacoma trip, including **Julie Davidson '96**, **Sara Freeman '95**, **Patrick McKern '94**, and **John Tocher '94**. All four are great fun to hang out with (still!) and they all possess that generous gift of being able to pick up conversations wherever they were left, however many years ago.

We all know this campus is a special place, and I didn't come back often enough before starting this role. But as a seasoned sophomore, I can confirm that it's worth the trip. That's one reason we added a new feature in the Class Notes section called The Logbook, listing campus events that might interest you. And even though it wasn't "my" year at reunion, I had a blast, and I encourage you to start making plans to come and celebrate together next June, whether it's your first reunion, your 50th, or something in between.

My next campus trip is planned for Homecoming and Family Weekend in October — and I'd love nothing more than to see you there. As always, thanks for reading, and enjoy this issue!

—Lisa Kozleski '94

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### OBJECT OF OUR AFFECTION

**Celebrate a Green and Gold Homecoming with these treasures from the archives.**



We are located on the traditional homelands of the Puyallup Tribe. The Puyallup people have lived on and stewarded these lands since the beginning of time, and continue to do so today. We recognize that this land acknowledgment is one small step toward true allyship, and we commit to uplifting the voices, experiences, and histories of the Indigenous people of this land and beyond.

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## The President's Perspective

On the joy of reconnecting at Summer Reunion Weekend



**More than 700 alumni came back to campus in June for Summer Reunion Weekend. In addition to attending the Logger Barbeque and Reunion Dinner, they took tours of Tacoma, played pickleball, connected with students, learned at Alumni College sessions, and more.**

**The *Arches* team asked President Isiaah Crawford to discuss why he looks forward to this event every year. Here's what he had to say:**

"I am grateful to have an opportunity each summer to welcome our alumni back to campus to remember, reminisce, and have some fun. Being in community with alumni is a reminder of why we do what we do at Puget Sound. It is a joy to reconnect with alumni and learn about the incredible things they are doing in their hometowns and on a national and global stage as they fulfill what we ask of them at Commencement — to put their valuable education to work in service of creating a more humane world.

Work is already underway planning the next reunion, when we will celebrate grads from 1976 and 2001, as well as Loggers who were Passages leaders, involved in ASUPS, or members of Ka 'Ohana Me Ke Aloha (formerly Hui O Hawai'i). Even if you aren't in those groups, I warmly invite you to attend. Summer Reunion is a time for reconnecting with old friends, reliving cherished memories, and celebrating Puget Sound. It reminds us of what it means to be a Logger for life, and that we are stronger because of each other."



# What We're Talking About on Campus



## POWER 10 (AND THEN SOME)

A \$1.05 million gift **Richard N. Laurance '74** made in June will establish the **Puget Sound Endowed Fund for the crew program**. The endowment will provide unrestricted support for the Loggers, helping sustain the school's 60-plus-year tradition of competitive rowing. Laurance's passion for rowing began during his time as a student at Puget Sound, where he joined the Logger rowing team in 1970 and competed for four years, and he continued rowing competitively and for pleasure long after graduation. "When I was introduced to rowing at Puget Sound, I found my sport and my life's passion — it's for anyone

who wants to work hard and find their place," Laurance says. "This endowment is something that will support the program long-term. I've been fortunate in life, and I wanted to give back. I'm hoping this will inspire other alums to join in."



## START THE COUNTDOWN

The university is launching a **new interdisciplinary Data Analytics minor** this autumn, equipping students with the skills needed to navigate the growing

world of big data, artificial intelligence, and data-driven decision-making. With course contributions from eight different departments, students will learn to analyze, model, interpret, and communicate insights from data, preparing them to address challenges in a variety of fields such as sociology, physical sciences, economics, business, public health, and education.



## LOOK WHO'S TALKING?

Research conducted by **Erin Colbert-White**, an associate professor of psychology, suggests a **surprising parallel between toddlers and parrots**. The study, published in the *International Journal of Comparative Psychology*, compared self-directed vocalizations of a verbal two-year-old girl and a home-reared African parrot named Cosmo, and the findings challenge long-held assumptions about what makes human language unique. Professor of Psychology **Tim Beyer** collaborated on the study, bringing his expertise on typical human language development, while **Matthew Maus**

'24 formatted the paper and managed citations.



## WHERE HISTORY MEETS ECOLOGY

A group of Logger alumni, parents, and friends landed in Berlin in May as part of **Puget Sound's Alumni Tours program**. Guided by biology professor **Andreas Madlung**, participants spent 10 days exploring how the city's history — from its days at the center of the Prussian monarchy through the Nazi reign and the city's division during the Cold War — has shaped the cultural and ecological landscape of this fascinating European metropolis.



## WHAT WATER TELLS US

Scientists from around the world came to campus for

the **Testing the Waters 8 conference** in June to tap into the hidden current of data that runs beneath city streets. This was the first time the U.S. hosted the international conference, welcoming global experts in wastewater testing — a growing field that turns sewage into public health data. Wastewater testing gained attention during the COVID-19 pandemic as a way to track the virus spread. Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry **Dan Burgard** organized the event.



## GAME ON

New athletics director **Chelsea Herman** started work on campus June 30, bringing more than 20 years of senior-level leadership experience in collegiate athletics to her new role. She succeeds **Amy Hackett**, who retired in December 2024, and will **oversee the university's athletics program**, including 23 varsity sports, coaching staff, facilities, and strategic initiatives to support student-athlete success.

## Logger Lookback Comedy Takes Center Stage

By Amelia Hooper

Director of Prospect and Information Management



It was December 1974, and while Tacoma may have been icy, the stage lights were hot! Campus members could shake off the chill at the Inside Theatre (now the Norton Clapp Theatre) while catching Peter Shaffer's one-act farce *Black Comedy*, where darkness and full light are reversed for the cast. The show, which was glowingly reviewed in the university's own *Trail* newspaper, featured the acting talents of **Doug Newell '78**, **Ingrid Anderson '78**, **Gary Richardson '74**, **Steven Caldwell '75**, **Dianne Simon '75**, **Charles Richardson '78**, **Genevieve Blais** (formerly Roberta Blair) '75, and **Robert Martin '75**.

Puget Sound has a rich tradition in the performing arts dating back more than a century; in 1912, eager thespians put on a series of three farces, *The Sleeping Car*, *A Woman Won't*, and *Mrs. Oakley's Telephone*, in the school's yet-unfinished gymnasium. The Theatre Arts program and its alumni received special recognition at the 2025 Summer Reunion Weekend.

Did you ever participate in a campus performance, either in front of an audience or behind the scenes? From singing to stage management to costume design, now's your chance to tell us all about it — send your memories and photos to [arches@puget-sound.edu](mailto:arches@puget-sound.edu)!

## Five Logger Legends Named to Athletics Hall of Fame

Five Loggers — **Emily Lau '07**, **Janece Levien '09**, **Chris Myhre**, **Al Roberts '68**, and **Jill Voorhies '02** — will be inducted into the Logger Athletics Hall of Fame during Homecoming and Family Weekend, Oct. 10 to 12.

**Lau** was a trailblazer for Logger women's golf, becoming the program's first NCAA All-American in 2007. That same year, she led Puget Sound to its first-ever Northwest Conference (NWC) team championship and NCAA tournament appearance.

**Levien** redefined soccer scoring records during her standout career with the Loggers. She netted 71 career goals and tallied 146 points, including 25 game-winning goals. In 2007, she set the school record for goals in a single season with 25.

**Myhre** served as head coach of Puget Sound swimming for more than 30 years, leading the Loggers to six NAIA national championships and 15 NWC titles. He coached 71 NAIA All-Americans, 21 NCAA All-Americans, and was twice named NAIA Coach of the Year.

**Roberts** set school records in football in 1967 for single-game rushing yards and single-season rushing yards; he also owns the second-longest run in program history at 90 yards. He went on to coach at Washington University, Purdue University, and for the Philadelphia Eagles, New York Jets, and St. Louis Rams.

**Voorhies** played a key role during one of the most successful eras in Logger softball history. She was named NWC Player of the Year in 2001 and earned All-Region honors twice. Voorhies holds school records for career hits with 165 and single-season hits with 50.

Since its inception in 1966, the Puget Sound Athletic Hall of Fame has inducted 106 student-athletes, coaches, administrators, and contributors. For more information on the induction ceremony and Homecoming weekend, visit [loggerathletics.com](http://loggerathletics.com).

—Veronica Craker

## Numerical Order

In June, *The Princeton Review* named Puget Sound one of the nation's Best Value Colleges for 2025. In its profile, editors highlighted the university's excellent academics and amazing support systems, with students describing it as challenging yet accessible. The university also ranked highly in multiple categories:



In July, the university also earned other national distinctions in 2025, securing recognition as a College of Distinction, a Business College of Distinction, and a College of Distinction for Career Development.

## Your Letters

### People Make the Place

I enjoyed reading your editor's message ["The Power of Connection," Spring 2025]. As I write in my book, "Looking back at the time spent at the University of Puget Sound, it's not the beautiful buildings that I remember, it's the people who were with me on this amazing journey called college life."

**Louis Slangen '69**  
Dublin, Ohio

### More to Savor

I enjoyed reading the articles on wine [p. 12, "A Passion, a Pleasure, and a Career," Spring 2025], and wanted to share a few more memories. First, **Robin Wade Hansen '09** is my daughter, and her dad Mike is the founding winemaker at our winery Fielding Hills Winery. One year, when **Mike Veseth '72** was teaching his class on economy and wine, Robin's dad participated in teaching one of the classes with Mike. Second, Robin was in the Business Leadership Program, and in the spring of 2009, her class came to Wenatchee, camped out in our house, and were the bottling crew for that vintage — hands-on experience! Lastly, in our more than 25 years of making wine, if I ever have a wine question I can't answer, I contact Mike Veseth. He has connected us with other Washington wine people who have enhanced our winemaking experience over the years.

**Karen Wade P'09**  
East Wenatchee, Wash.

### Lessons Beyond Logic

I just read your editor's message ["The Power of Connection," Spring 2025] and had to respond. While there are many teachers who influenced me during my time at Puget Sound, I wanted to share one with you: **Paul Loeb** from philosophy. I was pre-PT. Writing and grammar were definitely my weakest link. I took philosophy due to graduation requirements, not my interest in the material. But Paul Loeb's class challenged me to think in a way I had never thought before. I still remember the topics we had to write about and the arguments I had back and forth with myself and my own beliefs as I wrote and re-wrote the essays. He was kind and patient with my repeated office visits for help, and his passion made the assignments interesting.

**Erika Sparks Martinson '99, DPT'02**  
Olalla, Wash.

### A Head's Up on Beanie Dates

While I am not sure about the shift of mascot [p. 5, "A Gripe with Grizz," Spring 2025], I am sure that the last year for the beanies is incorrect. I am pretty sure that I have the one issued to me in 1965. Indeed, it is maroon and white and has the number 69 on the front.

**Dave Kinman '69**  
Astoria, Ore.

*From the editor: Thanks for letting us know, Dave! We have updated our records.*

### Riding with Ron and Mary

When my daughter was to visit Puget Sound, then-President **Ronald Thomas** and **Mary Thomas** invited us to come by their house before going to dinner at Asado on 6th Avenue [p. 45, "Object of our Affection," Spring 2025]. Well, they opened a bottle of champagne, after which we all rode to the restaurant in my car. I had brought a bottle of our favorite pinot noir, and of course, we shared some with Asado's owner. He was so impressed that he kept coming to our table treating me to tastes of wines he loved. He topped off a great evening with a dessert port for all those of legal age. As we left Asado, it occurred to me that I might not be legally qualified to chauffeur Ron and Mary home safely. My daughter, then 17, although initially terrified at the prospect of driving the university president and first lady home, stepped up and all arrived at their destinations safely. We all enjoyed a terrific and fun evening. For me, this is a special memory of a great leader who left us too early.

PS: I loved the article by **Mike Veseth** [p. 12, "A Passion, a Pleasure, and a Career," Spring 2025]. I met Mike at an event at Boedecker Cellars Winery in Portland and purchased several copies of his book *Wine Wars*. **Tom Hedges '73** was an occasional participant in Tuesday night poker games

at the Theta Chi house, although our association was pretty much limited there. I'm inspired to visit his winery in Walla Walla now. It was interesting to read Mike's take on liberal arts, the wine industry, and the many Puget Sound alumni who have become successful in the industry.

**Nick Veroske '73**  
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho



### Cottage Lore

Seventy years ago, there was another on-campus opportunity for student lodging [p. 26, "Dorms through the Decades," Spring 2025]. My then-fiancé and I moved from Pacific University in Oregon to CPS. He had changed his major because he wanted to study with **Dr. John Magee**, whom he had met during the summer. I loved being at Pacific but decided I needed to go with him. By the time we applied for our junior year, the dormitories were full. He decided to live off-campus, and I was offered a place at The Cottage, a former private home which had room for about 10 single upper-classwomen. It was friendly,

### Have feedback for us?

Email [arches@puget-sound.edu](mailto:arches@puget-sound.edu) or send a letter to Arches, Office of Marketing & Communications, University of Puget Sound, 1500 N. Warner St. #1041, Tacoma, WA 98416-1041. Letters should be no more than 250 words and may be edited for length or clarity.

cozy, and comfortable. There was a housemother who did not live there, and a graduate student who did live there (I roomed with her) as a live-in housemother. ...I don't know how many years The Cottage existed [but] check out the 1954 *Tamanawas*.

**Shirley Womsley Nelson '55**  
Florence, Ore.

*From the editor: Thanks for adding to this story, Shirley! The 1953 *Tamanawas* describes The Cottage as a small, white house located near South Hall and the college's smallest residence. The photo above of "the Cottageites" comes from the 1954 yearbook.*



## Ask the Expert: Professor of Sociology Jennifer Utrata Inside the World of Intensive Grandmothering



*What does it mean to be a grandmother today? For many, it's no longer just weekend visits or holiday baking.*

*As **Jennifer Utrata**, professor of sociology at Puget Sound explains, grandmothers across the country, often assisted by involved grandfathers, are stepping into daily, essential caregiving roles like never before. Her in-progress book manuscript, *Keeping the Kids Afloat: Intensive Grandmothering and Family Inequality*, uncovers how this quiet shift is transforming family life, and placing new, often invisible demands on an older demographic. —Kristi Bowman Morgan '93*

### A DUAL ROLE AT HOME

"Intensive grandmothering isn't just about love, it's unpaid labor focused on easing adult children's lives and supporting grandchildren's well-being," says Dr. Utrata. Families are turning to grandmothers for extensive childcare, domestic and logistical support, and even financial assistance.

### MIDDLE-CLASS AND MAXED OUT

Once concentrated in lower-income, immigrant families, or families of color, intensive grandmothering is now becoming widespread in white, middle-class households. Utrata notes,

"Many families are relying on grandmothers to bridge the widening gap between intensive jobs and parenting expectations."

### FEMINIZED CAREGIVING

While caregiving roles are slowly evolving, women remain the default helpers. "There's an unspoken assumption that older women, not men, will be both available and willing to help their children with childcare and related tasks," Utrata explains, underscoring how deeply rooted gender norms persist, even across generations.

### WHEN A YEAR TURNS INTO YEARS

"Grandmothers want to ease their daughters' stress," Utrata says, "but what begins as a short-term favor can stretch into years of ongoing care. Grandmothers enjoy developing a unique bond with their grandchildren, but they often have mixed feelings about retiring earlier than planned, skipping social activities or exercise, and making other sacrifices to help grown children manage parenthood."

**To learn more about Utrata's work and other research projects, visit [pugetsound.edu/grandmothering](http://pugetsound.edu/grandmothering).**

## Classes for a Changing World: ASIA 344—Asia in Motion

—with **Karl Fields**  
Professor of Politics and Government

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course explores the interactions of Asian peoples — the commodities, social practices, and ideas that they produce — across borders, both political and imagined, and crosses disciplinary borders as well, drawing upon divergent materials from the humanities and social sciences in an attempt to do justice to a complex contemporary context that we have called "Asia in motion."

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

To engage in the interdisciplinary process by identifying and analyzing issues from multiple disciplinary perspectives by participating in cross-disciplinary dialogue, and by exploring the integration of these multiple disciplinary perspectives.

### IT TOOK (AND TAKES) A TEAM

Asia in Motion was the brainchild of Emeritus Professor **Suzanne Wilson Barnett**, who Fields says "did so much over the decades of her service to establish and nurture Puget Sound's Asian Studies program." Four Asian Studies faculty members (including Fields and Barnett) built the course in the summer of 2001; many other faculty members have taught it over the years, including Barnett, Fields, **Mike Sugimoto**, **Nick Kontogeorgopoulos**, **Carlo Bonura**, **Gareth Barkin**, and **Yu Luo**.

### THE PROF'S VIEWPOINT

"My favorite experience teaching the course came in 2017 while leading the PacRim program, literally experiencing the course while in motion traveling into and through Asia," says Fields. "We began the course in Moscow...[and] took the Trans-Siberian railway across the expanse of Russia, literally witnessing the transition into Asia in the landscape and the faces of our fellow passengers. The students read Jack Weatherford's *Genghis Khan and the Making of the Modern World* over the six days it took us to arrive in Mongolia. We finished the course in South Korea, considering this country's tumultuous imperial and colonial past and national and global present and future. I wish all students (and professors) could experience such a course."

*Classes for a Changing World is a regular feature in Arches that spotlights one of the scores of inspiring, innovative, and timely courses offered each semester at Puget Sound.*



## The Pride of Puget Sound

*Congratulations to the following University of Puget Sound community members for making a difference in their work and communities:*

- At the Azusa Pacific Franson Last Chance Meet in May in California, **Lizzie Beiswanger '27** broke a school record in the 400-meter run and **Kyrstin Wilson '27** broke her own school record in the 200-meter dash.
- **Sarah Comstock**, vice president of student affairs and dean of students, discussed on the *One Question Leadership Podcast* how she developed a philosophy of athletics after Logger Athletics moved under the Division of Student Affairs in 2023.
- Students **Julio Deloya-Garcia '27**, **Hayes Freeman '26**, and **Isabeau Fuller '27** were awarded prestigious Gilman International Scholarships by the U.S. Department of State.
- Anthropology professor **Andrew Gardner** led a panel discussion about the place of anthropology in the liberal arts model of higher education at Heterodox Academy's 2025 Conference in New York City.
- The Latin American Studies Association's Nineteenth Century Section recognized **Brendan Lanctot**, professor of Hispanic studies, for his chapter, "Civic Festivals, Popular Spectacles, and the Art of Drawing Republics."
- International Political Economy professor **Pierre Ly** won a book award for the Spanish translation of *Adventures on the China Wine Trail*, which he and his wife wrote in 2020 on the rise of the Chinese wine industry.
- **Mark Martin**, associate professor of biology, discussed novel teaching strategies and mixing art with science at a LuxArt workshop in April. He also celebrated the 100th episode of his podcast, *Matters Microbial*, in July.
- The women's crew team won the Northwest Conference Championship for the second consecutive year; three Loggers — **Luci Reed '26**, **Ellery Garcia '28**, and **Maddie Johnson '25** — earned First Team All-Conference honors; and head coach **Dave Hammond** was named NWC Coach of the Year.

## Silver is the New Green

In May, the university earned a STARS Silver rating from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education, recognizing the institution's progress in sustainability across academics, operations, engagement, and planning.

**Just how green is the university?  
Test your sustainability smarts here.**

**1. What new department was launched to explore environmental issues through an interdisciplinary approach, combining the natural sciences, social sciences, arts, and humanities?**

- A. Department of Sustainability in Architecture
- B. Department of Environmental Studies & Sciences
- C. Department of Natural Resource Marketing
- D. Department of Global Policy & Climate Strategy

**2. The university has been recognized as a Tree Campus USA for \_\_\_\_\_ years in a row.**

- A. 5
- B. 8
- C. 11
- D. 50 (we wish!)

**3. How is surplus food from campus dining put to good use?**

- A. It's donated to local organizations like Guadalupe House of Hospitality.
- B. It's dehydrated and turned into long-term emergency rations.
- C. It's set aside for cooking competitions.
- D. It's used in campus landscaping projects.



**4. Where on campus can students find composting initiatives?**

- A. The SUB
- B. Residences
- C. Campus cafes
- D. All of the above

**5. How many pounds of textiles were diverted from landfills thanks to student-led sustainability projects like Grizz's Garage?**

- A. 600 pounds
- B. 1000 pounds
- C. 1,500 pounds
- D. 20,000 pounds (goals?!)

*Visit [pugetsound.edu/greensmarts](https://pugetsound.edu/greensmarts) to learn more about this recognition and other plans for continuing the work of creating a sustainable campus.*

ANSWERS: 1B, 2C, 3A, 4D, 5C.

# 'The Power of Patience and Pressure'

Kevoni Neely '25 discusses leadership, learning, and building something better

BY VERONICA CRAKER

PHOTOS BY ALEX CROOK

*Kevoni Neely '25, outgoing president of the Associated Students of the University of Puget Sound (ASUPS), wrapped up her final semester after serving as a key student leader on campus and delivered the undergraduate student address at University of Puget Sound's 133rd Commencement Ceremony in May.*

*In the Q&A below, Neely, who graduated with a major in African American Studies and a minor in Crime, Law, and Justice Studies, reflects on her time advocating for her fellow students and the university.*

*In addition to discussing the challenges of student representation, lessons from leadership, and her plans after graduation, she also offers advice to students looking to make a difference on campus.*

**What's been the most significant challenge you faced as ASUPS president, and what did you learn from it?**

The most significant challenge I faced as ASUPS President was learning how to navigate the balance between representing student voices and working with institutional systems that move much slower than students' needs often demand. I had to learn how to stay persistent without burning out, how to negotiate, and how to keep students engaged even when the process dragged on longer than we wanted. What I learned from them is the power of patience and pressure. Real change doesn't always happen at the pace we want, but that doesn't mean it's not happening.

**I see you majored in African American Studies and minored in Crime, Law, and Justice Studies. How did these programs influence your approach to leadership and advocacy?**

Majoring in African American Studies has grounded me in a deep understanding of systemic oppression, resistance, and the

**"Whether it's through student government, activism, art, or simply showing up for your peers, there are so many ways to lead and build community."**

ways Black communities have always led with innovation, care, and courage, even when the odds were stacked. It's given me a framework for thinking critically about power and justice, but also a sense of pride and cultural legacy that fuels the way I show up in leadership spaces. Minor in Crime, Law, and Justice Studies has added another layer; it's pushed me to examine the legal and institutional systems that uphold inequality, and it's sharpened my ability to ask tough questions about fairness, accountability, and policy. Together, these programs have taught me that leadership isn't just about being at the front; it's about listening deeply, disrupting when needed, and building toward something better. I try to lead with that kind of vision every day.

**What are your plans for the near future? How do you think your experiences at Puget Sound will influence your next steps?**

I'm planning to pursue law school. I want to continue doing the kind of work that challenges systems and creates space for equity, justice, and liberation. My time at Puget Sound, especially serving as ASUPS president, has shown me the impact of community building and advocacy from within institutions. It's also reminded me that change is

possible when you show up consistently. I carry those lessons with me into whatever comes next. Law school is part of a larger journey, one where I hope to keep fighting for the world I want to see, with the tools, clarity, and community I've gained here.

**What advice would you give to incoming or current students who want to make a difference on campus, whether through student government or other avenues?**

Start where you are and don't be afraid to not have all the answers. Growth begins with curiosity, and learning is a powerful process in itself. You don't have to have a title or a perfect plan to make a difference; you just have to be willing to listen, to act, and to stay committed, even when it's hard. Whether it's through student government, activism, art, or simply showing up for your peers, there are so many ways to lead and build community. Also, find your people. Change doesn't happen alone, and it shouldn't. And finally, don't forget to rest. This work is a marathon, not a sprint, and you're allowed to be a whole person while doing it.

**If you could sum up your Puget Sound experience in one word, what would it be and why?**

If I had to sum up my Puget Sound experience in one word, it would be "unfolding" because nothing about my journey has been linear. I arrived unsure of who I was, and over time, through community, challenge, joy, and deep reflection, I started to peel back layers. I discovered new parts of myself and slowly began to grow into the kind of leader and person I want to be. Puget Sound didn't give me all the answers, but it gave me space to explore, evolve, and keep unfolding into who I'm becoming, and for that, I'm grateful.

*To read or watch Neely's commencement address, go to [pugetsound.edu/Kevoni](https://pugetsound.edu/Kevoni).*



Kevoni Neely '25, outgoing president of the Associated Students of the University of Puget Sound (ASUPS), delivered the undergraduate student address at the 133rd Commencement Ceremony in May.



PHOTO BY ALLIE LAWRENCE



PHOTO BY ALEX CROOK / PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY CALVIN WERTS


**MAYBE ALONE ON MY BIKE**

The autumn colors bring the 97-acre campus to life in new ways each September — and make for a beautiful commute for cyclists and pedestrians alike.









LOGGERS WORKING IN THE  
PERFORMING ARTS SHINE  
A LIGHT ON HOW THEY  
MAKE THEIR WAY IN THE  
BUSINESS OF SHOW BUSINESS

STORY BY ZOE BRANCH '18

# FLIP THE SCRIPT



**Jenn Ruzumna '95** knows what it looks like to navigate a non-linear path in the show business industry, driven by the love of it.

After earning her degree in theatre arts from Puget Sound, Ruzumna interned at Tacoma Actors Guild before getting married and having children, “relatively young, considering,” she laughs. “I did keep my foot in theater all these years, but I was definitely really centered around family life most of the time,” says Ruzumna.

Around 2015, she decided to recommit to herself as an artist. “I did my first audition in probably 15 years,” Ruzumna says. “I remember being so nervous.”

From that audition, she was able to secure an agent and start building a resume in film. In the last decade, she’s worked as a playwright, artistic associate at Seattle Public Theater — a role which includes mentorship and fundraising — and has starred as the titular character in *Marcie’s*, an independent film now available on Apple TV+.

More opportunities dot the horizon, Ruzumna says, as she steps into the next season of her life as an empty nester — in the spring, her youngest graduated from high school and is off to pursue acting himself, a dream that Ruzumna says was hopefully fed by the fact that he got to watch his mother pursue that passion throughout his childhood.

The journey wasn’t always easy. It included a lot of work for often not enough pay, and without the support of her husband, she says, the money she makes through the arts would not be enough to make ends meet. Even so, Ruzumna encourages her son’s artistic ideals because “I think art is a form of activism. It’s community-building, and I really believe that storytelling is where we see each other’s humanity. That’s been the north star that keeps me going.”

Ruzumna is one of dozens of Loggers walking unconventional paths to rewarding careers in the show business industry. For some, that looks like making their way — often solo and as



Jenn Ruzumna '95 has worked as a playwright and artistic associate at Seattle Public Theater and starred as the titular character in *Marcie’s*, an independent film on Apple TV+.

independent contractors — through the worlds of comedy, film, theater, and more; for others, pursuing a career in the arts through an established institution offers an opportunity for financial stability and a chance to approach their artistry from a different angle. All of them, however, share a love of the art-making itself: a quality that keeps them engaged in what can be a difficult but incredibly rewarding line of work.

## ‘FINDING PEOPLE YOU LOVE AND MAKING EACH OTHER LAUGH’

**Jordan Moeller '15** and **Sarah McKinley '14** (who uses the stage name Sarah Kylie) were both members of Puget

Sound’s improv sketch comedy group Ubiquitous They (UT), and both cite community as a main component that keeps them grounded during the grind that is being a comedian based in Los Angeles.

McKinley, who specializes in improv and sketch comedy, pays the bills by working odd jobs that don’t take up too much creative energy such as dog-sitting, working as a background actor, and even taking on shifts as a janitor at IKEA. Even so, she says she feels more joyful than ever, despite the hard work and juggling schedules. “I think the best part is finding people that you love and just making each other laugh,” she says.

Moeller, who specializes in solo character work, says he’s been “pleasantly surprised” by the communal spirit of the comedy scene in Los Angeles, especially for an industry where the competition



Sarah McKinley '14 (who uses the stage name Sarah Kylie) specializes in improv and sketch comedy.



Jordan Moeller '15 says he's been "pleasantly surprised" by the communal spirit of the comedy scene in L.A.

can be cutthroat. "A lot of my best friends are just people I've collaborated with," he says. "It's a generally welcoming environment. People are kind."

Having fun is part of what keeps him working on his art while balancing a full-time job as a communications manager for a social justice philanthropic organization based out of New York — a role that he is passionate about. Doing comedy on the side, he says, feels like a more sustainable option. And though he'd still love to live in a world in which he's able to make all his money through comedy, he says that as he's gotten older, he's become more content.

"I'm at a point in my life where, even if that kind of breakthrough doesn't happen, it doesn't mean that I won't be creatively fulfilled," Moeller says. "At this point, I'm doing this for the love of the game."

## 'BUT THEN THE NEXT HURDLE COMES'

**Allie Lawrence '18** is treading a similar path in New York City, where she's been steadily climbing the ranks of the comedy scene since 2019. When she first moved to New York, Lawrence — who double-majored in English and theatre arts and was also a member of UT — worked full-time in publishing as a marketing and publicity assistant, and many of her goals as a performer were sidelined. After the pandemic, she more seriously pursued stand-up and built up to bigger and longer performances, including, most recently, a 30-minute solo show, *Quiet Kid*.

Five years ago, her goals focused on venues where she wanted to perform —

feathers in her cap that made her feel like she could call herself a comedian.

"Now I've done shows at many of those dream venues, which is really exciting," Lawrence says. "But then the next hurdle comes."

For Lawrence, that next hurdle is her long-term goal of making a living fully through creative work. For the past few years, she's balanced comedy gigs with work as a café manager, which she's leveraged into part of her online persona. Her "Barista Diaries" videos on Instagram and TikTok — which document her often-ridiculous encounters with customers as a "bean tender" — often go viral and have earned her a decent-sized following. And while alumni across the board tend to agree that social media is not their favorite landscape for creativity, they admit having an online audience helps.

"I try to think of it as a tool," says Lawrence, who says she's "not a social media person" though she now has more than 50,000 TikTok followers. "It can create opportunity and connection in a really cool way."

## 'COOL, WEIRD PROJECTS THAT MIGHT JUST CHANGE YOUR WHOLE OUTLOOK ON SHOW BUSINESS'

**Allegra Ritchie '18**, who holds a master's degree in theater and works as an assistant professor of voice and speech in the theater department at Pennsylvania State University, took an unexpected path to her full-time employment in the industry.

Ritchie was a sociology and anthropology major with a minor in French and had a party trick knack for accents; a bartender until the pandemic, she earned a graduate degree at Cal State Long Beach and then landed the job at



Penn State, where her endless curiosity and creativity have thrived.

Academia offers her access to myriad interesting projects, from her directorial debut in collaboration with a former-student-turned-playwright at The Edinburgh Festival Fringe in August 2025 to her recent auditing of a puppetry class, which took her to the Northeastern Regional Puppetry Festival.

“If you’re willing to say yes to them,” Ritchie says, “there are so many opportunities that arise for cool, weird projects that might just change your whole outlook on show business.”

## ‘TO SCRATCH THAT ITCH’

Also making a full-time career in the arts through a series of “yeses” is **Megan Ahiers ’06**, who moved to Seattle after graduating and got involved in a volunteer-run festival called The 14/48 Projects. The concept: staging 14 premiere plays in 48 hours. Overnight, playwrights create 10-minute plays, which a group of actors then rehearses throughout the day and performs that evening. Then: rinse and repeat.

“It’s a completely community-driven event,” Ahiers says. “It’s about getting people who don’t normally collaborate into rooms together — from people who work with the big equity houses to people who run their own tiny things in a basement.”

Ahiers and her partner are responsible for turning the festival into a non-profit, which also allowed them to turn it into their full-time jobs. Ahiers, a rare breed of creative who also has Type A tendencies, was the perfect person to take on a project that included, she says, an unbelievable amount of paperwork. In 2013, 14/48 earned tax-exempt status, which has since allowed it to launch partner programs in London, Austin, and Hollywood.

Thanks to her experience setting up and running the backend logistics of the venture, Ahiers has earned herself a

career as an arts administrator. She now works for the Seattle-based firm Scanduzzi Krebs, which supports culture and community-building organizations, while still serving as operations director for The 14/48 Projects.

“And I still act, probably in a play once a year or so,” Ahiers laughs. “You know, to scratch that itch.”

## ‘THE LIVE ARTS ARE SOMETHING THAT FEEDS THE SOUL AND BUILDS COMMUNITY’

Ahiers would describe herself as a producer of 14/48, which for her includes many logistical and planning

details. For **Ken Willman ’82, P’15, P’18**, however, producing means being a patron of the arts by investing in shows at the Broadway level.

An artist himself, Willman started off at Puget Sound as a music major with a love of conducting. He was soon struck by the competitiveness of the field and the apparent difficulty of earning a living in the arts. So, he shifted to a double major in economics and politics and government, and went on to earn a law degree in 1986.

With a successful global career in finance and law, Willman found himself in a very different position than he once might have when he imagined himself standing before an audience as a symphonic conductor: He was a person who could, because of his means, help make the artistic system go.



Allie Lawrence ’18 has been steadily climbing the ranks of the comedy scene since 2019.



Allegra Ritchie ’18 is an assistant professor of voice and speech in the theater department at Pennsylvania State University.

In 2012, Willman was invited to join the board of The 5th Avenue Theatre in Seattle where the Willmans' daughter was involved in educational programs and high school productions. By the summer of 2013, Ken and Rosemary Willman had their first opportunity to invest in a Broadway show alongside one of Willman's fellow 5th Avenue directors who was among the show's lead producers.

Since then, the Willmans have delved into co-producing musicals — which are particularly close to Ken Willman's heart — and plays, having had a hand in more than 50 different productions. The two of them have

collected Tonys for their involvement in *Parade*, *Hadestown*, and just recently, *Sunset Blvd.*, and Oliviers for *Come from Away* and *Dear England*. It's gratifying, he says, to support because "the live arts are something that feeds the soul and builds community."

Certainly, there are safer ways to invest one's money — many shows lose money, and most barely break even — but being at the right place at the right time as they were with *Come From Away*, for example, could mean a handsome return on investment.

"It's a delicate balance," Willman says of choosing which projects to get involved with. "It's a continuum. On one hand, we try to select stories that we think are really important to be told; on the other, it's also good to have some shows that make a good commercial profit. It's kind of like putting together a venture capital portfolio."

Of course, it's also about the heart of the thing: caring about the industry itself. And Willman does care. In another life, he is there in the pit, eight shows a week, holding the project together in a completely different way. There is a part of him, he says, that does ache for this life: who wonders what might have been. Sometimes, he says, when he's alone in his office, he'll put on a beloved symphony, close his eyes, and conduct.

## 'IT'S ALL ABOUT JOY AND COMMUNITY'

Success in the world of show business is an ever-moving target — a personal arc that never really ends. One goal is met, and a new one appears. A dream is shifted for something like stability, but the shadow of the dream never really disappears. Working artists make constant trade-offs and sacrifices; they hustle, they pivot, they partner with and push back against institutions. And in the end, for many of them, there is one real thread tying them: They love creating the art itself. The process is the point.

"Even if the industry fell into the Earth's core and disappeared forever — I love my friends, and I love what we're making together," says McKinley. "It's all about joy and community. I'll do it for the rest of my life."

*Zoe Branch '18 is a Brooklyn-based poet, essayist, and journalist. She makes a living primarily by writing custom, on-the-spot poems for strangers on a typewriter, which she does on the street, at events, and on the internet. She publishes a regular newsletter, Due Regards, and co-hosts a weekly poetry + comedy podcast, Poking Around.*



Megan Ahiers '06 helped turn The 14/48 Projects, a volunteer-run festival, into a non-profit, where she works full-time.



Ken Willman '82, P'15, P'18 and his wife, Rosemary, have co-produced or invested in more than 50 plays and musicals, including *Hadestown*, *Come from Away* and *Sunset Blvd.*



To read this story online or share it with a friend, go to [pugetsound.edu/flipthescript](http://pugetsound.edu/flipthescript).



# Spotlight On...



## Kate Johnson '75

Kate Johnson '75 is a character actor and trained voiceover actor who has appeared in many commercials, industrial films, TV shows, and movies — and is perhaps best known as the police officer, Rose, in *Home Alone*. Johnson says she has been performing and directing since she was a child, but seeing plays and art while studying in London during a Puget Sound semester abroad galvanized her. “I came back to campus and got serious about my acting study,” she says. “I knew I wanted to go to grad school and landed at Northwestern University in Illinois. My professors at Puget Sound gave me the tools to believe in myself so that I could take the leap, go to the Midwest, and learn more.”

Johnson says Chicago is a great place for an actor to be based, as it’s a hub for national advertising campaigns, television, and film. “What I love about my profession is the collaboration,” she adds. “The give and take, the exploration, and the discoveries you make together are exhilarating. Oh! And one more thing, actors don’t retire, they just age into a new category. I may no longer be cast as a ‘fast food counter girl,’ but check out the mature actors who are on stage and in your television!”



## Jack Aldisert '19

For Jack Aldisert '19, theater-making is a space where an audience can and should be challenged. His debut interactive drama, *The Manikins* — which he wrote and starred in through its six-month-long professional run in London — is performed for and with a single audience member. The show was his dissertation when earning his master of fine arts in advanced theatre practice from the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, where he took a particular interest in the possibilities of immersive theater.

“What I’m exploring is what it looks like to take an audience member and make them the protagonist,” Aldisert says. “They’ve had no preparation and so they can be genuinely inside the thing, experiencing their reality change and open up. That’s the potential of it for me.” Aldisert has toured *The Manikins* to New Orleans and Gothenburg, Sweden, as well as Tacoma, where he collaborated with University of Puget Sound students in March and staged the show with two student actors and two student stage managers.



## Robbie Diaz '19

After being inspired by a Puget Sound graduate at Career Day to look into voiceover work, Robbie Diaz '19 took professional voice acting classes and secured an agent in the niche industry in 2022. He says the option was attractive to him because “commercials are the bulk of a lot of voiceover work, as well as internal corporate narration, so it’s a good way to have more stable artistic work.”

As he climbs the ladder of that particular field, Diaz continues to act onstage when he can; he also earns money as a for-hire Game Master for tabletop role-playing games like *Dungeons & Dragons*. The person who knows the rules and helps guide the narrative, Diaz brings his storytelling and improvisational skills to the literal table with groups of all ages.

# BACKSTAGE PASS



Two of the three faculty members in the theatre arts department at Puget Sound are Loggers through-and-through, having been students who majored in theatre arts who then left to earn graduate degrees, work in the industry, and return to Tacoma to teach new generations on a wonderfully familiar stage.

Professor **Sara Freeman '95** joined the theatre arts faculty at Puget Sound in 2011 and has served as department chair and faculty senate chair, among other governance and leadership roles. She is currently president of the professional organization Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas. This fall, she is teaching classes on arts and activism, the fundamentals of acting, and theatre history. Professor **Jess K Smith '05** started working at Puget Sound in 2013 and is currently serving as chair of the department. This fall, she is teaching classes on the theatrical experience, directing, and the senior theatre festival.

The *Arches* team asked these two alumni professors to share some thoughts on coming full circle in their careers. Here's what they had to say:

## Do you have a favorite theater memory from your student days?

**SF:** One of my indelible theater memories is the night a windstorm caused a power outage during *Grapes of Wrath*, the fall 1991 mainstage show, and we finished the show using every flashlight that could be found, holding them up to spotlight each other on the stage (before this was a trope of a technique). The audience was with us, hushed and reverent, every step of the way. It was one of my most moving nights in the theater.

**JKS:** In my junior year, I was taking a contemporary world theatre class taught by Geoff Proehl, and he took us to see a production of *In Bella Copia* by the Italian company Deja Donne. It was the first piece of dance theater I had ever seen, and it rocked my world! I can draw a line from that experience through independent research, summer training intensives, graduate school, internships, and my own directing and pedagogy now. Just goes to show, you never know how a single production might change the course of someone's curiosity.

## What about a favorite theater memory from your time as a professor?

**SF:** For me, it was the whole production of Sarah Ruhl's *In the Next Room*. Directing that was a culmination of many things for me, and the beginning of many more. That cast! The design! Our stage manager! One of my friends saw the show and said, "I forgot they were students while watching, it was that good." I hold it all in my heart still.

**JKS:** Having the opportunity to work on Paula Vogel's gorgeous play, *Indecent*, was such a fulfilling experience for me.

The cast and production team were so generous and invested, I had the opportunity to collaborate with Leo Levine Sporer '15 as our Jewish cultural consultant and dramaturg, there was a live Klezmer band comprised of students, alumni, and professionals, and the resulting production was beautiful, affirming, and impactful for audiences.

## What's it like to teach at your alma mater?

**JKS:** One of the things that was so valuable for me about my time as a student was developing deep relationships with my faculty, which extended beyond my time on campus. So returning as a faculty member, I had the unique honor of teaching alongside professors who had been my mentors. Our relationships evolved into that of colleagues and friends, and I was afforded a new view of them — learning beside instead of from. Now being a professor with sustained relationships with students and alumni, I see how fulfilling it is from the other side! It is one of the many gifts of being an educator.

**SF:** It's not like being haunted; it's not like being in a museum; it's not like being in your childhood home and everything seeming so small. It's more going to your favorite restaurant but trying all new menu items. It requires noticing patterns but also releasing them; finding peace with all your most dearly held ideals and all your hard-earned battle scars; committing to each new wave of students and asking them new questions. It also means you're one of the only faculty members at commencement who knows the words of the *Alma Mater* without looking at the program!

*Check out an extended version of this Q&A online at [pugetsound.edu/backstagepass](https://pugetsound.edu/backstagepass).*



# A TRUE ENSEMBLE

The *Arches* team knows the alumni mentioned in these pages represent just some of the scores of Loggers living, working, and leading the way in the business of show business, whether on a stage, at the camera, in a classroom, or somewhere in between. Here are a few more faces and names you might see in the limelight or behind the scenes. If you'd like to add your name to the online version of this story, email [arches@pugetsound.edu](mailto:arches@pugetsound.edu).

## ■ Martin Smith '72

Retired after a successful career as a software engineer and technical writer. While living and working in Norway, he appeared as an extra in movies and series, including the espionage thriller, *Tenet*, and the Norwegian Viking comedy series, *The Norsemen*.

## ■ Mike Marr '76

Owner and founder of Hollywood Honeywagon production vehicles. He has worked for hundreds of productions providing celebrity, production, makeup, and wardrobe trailers for films and events.

## ■ Casey Sander '79

Performed in more than 300 TV episodes, movies, and commercials in his 40-year acting career, including *The Big Bang Theory*, where he played Bernadette's dad, as well as *Mythic Quest*, *Golden Girls*, *Home Improvement*, and *Grey's Anatomy*.

## ■ Eric Ray Anderson '81

Actor and frequent guest artist and text coach for classic shows on campus. Local stalwart in the Seattle acting scene, son of a Puget Sound geology professor, and a cast member on *Twin Peaks*.

## ■ Clint Wallace '90

Academy Award-winning art director who worked on art direction, set design, and visual effects for 25+ films, including *Captain America: Brave New World*, *Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness*, the *Pirates of the Caribbean* franchise, and more.

## ■ Darby Stanchfield '93

Best known for her role as Abby Whelan on ABC's *Scandal*, created by Shonda Rhimes. Previously, she played prominent recurring roles such as Helen Bishop on *Mad Men*, Shannon Gibbs on *NCIS*, and Dr. April Green on *Jericho*.

## ■ Jesse Hinds '95

Pacific Northwest-based actor, director, and fight choreographer. His work with the Freehold's Engaged Theater company, bringing Shakespeare to prisons in Washington, cemented his lifelong belief in the transformative power of live theater.

## ■ Stacey Wilson Hunt '96

Best known for her work for *The Hollywood Reporter*, where she is a contributing editor. She has written for dozens of publications, including *L.A. Magazine*, *Vanity Fair*, and *The New York Times*. She is also a prolific Hollywood host and podcaster.

## ■ Doug Bowen-Flynn '97

Worked with every major theater in Boston, is past president of New England SAG-AFTRA, and serves on boards of local arts organizations. He continues to work on stage, TV, and film in the Boston area.

## ■ Aadip Desai '98

LA-based writer, comedian, actor, podcaster, and multi-instrumentalist who has written for *The Goldbergs* as well as Netflix, Disney, Sony, and more. He runs an LA TV writers Facebook group and was in the Disney writing fellowship program.

## ■ Pannill Camp '99

Associate professor of drama at Washington University. Studies theater architecture, performance theory, and the history of modern western theater; also founded and is the producing co-host of the *On TAP* (Theatre and Performance Studies) podcast.

## ■ Ben Shelton '03

Worked on projects with Jean Smart, Rainn Wilson, Keke Palmer, Betty White, "Weird Al" Yankovic, and more. He sold a work-place comedy to NBC and a one-hour drama to Disney+; he is also the director of the Netflix film *Candy Jar*.

## ■ Greg Groggel '06

Five-time Emmy Award-winning producer and entertainment executive and a veteran of seven Olympic Games who created original documentaries, short-form digital programming, and new brand campaigns. Now a vice president at Skydance Sports.

## ■ Mark Sayre '06

Owner of Lexicon Entertainment with filmmaking partner Justin Foia. They produced eight feature films in four years, including *Point Defiance*, a thriller shot at his family's house on Vashon Island.

## ■ David Tveite '10

Stand-up comic who is most often found performing at Helium Comedy Club or Al's Den in Portland. He performed in Washington, D.C., and New York City before returning to the Pacific Northwest.

## ■ Laura Larson '13

A member of the Seattle a cappella group Girl Band, independent hairstylist, and software developer at Sony Interactive Entertainment.





MEET THE LOGGERS WEAVING CRAFTING  
INTO EVERY PART OF THEIR LIVES.



# Social Fabric

STORY BY JONNY EBERLE  
PHOTOS BY ALEX CROOK

**L**oggers are a creative sort, always looking for new ways to express themselves. From knitting and crocheting to quilting and spinning wool, these alumni, faculty, and staff are taking traditional crafting to new heights, whether it's making their own clothes or turning a hobby into an unexpected career. We caught up with a few Loggers harnessing their passion for crafting to address waste and unchecked consumerism, improve their mental health, teach the next generation, and make handmade sweaters cool again.



Genevieve Greblo '20, who started crocheting during the pandemic, now has 35,000 followers on TikTok and Instagram.

## GENEVIEVE GREBLO '20

*Fiber artist and social media influencer*

Like a lot of people stuck at home during the COVID-19 pandemic, Genevieve Greblo '20 was looking for a hobby to occupy her free time — preferably one that wouldn't take up too much space in her small Chicago apartment. So, she picked up a crochet hook and a skein of yarn and taught herself how to make a simple square. Something clicked, and she continued to learn and experiment. Along the way, she documented her journey on social media, where she has since gathered more than 35,000 followers.

"I started my TikTok and Instagram as an outlet to show the things I was

making and to connect with other fiber artists," Greblo says. "My goal with social media has never been to start a business or sell a product, but to encourage people to crochet and just be creative. Building that community has been awesome."

Greblo has also used social media to plug into a real-life community of artists and hobbyists, including a thriving group of queer crochet artists in Chicago. When her studio apartment started to fill up with projects, she took the leap into selling her work at local makers' markets.

Her skills have flourished over the last four years. She's branched into upcycling yarn — thrifting used sweaters with holes in them and unraveling so she can repurpose the yarn for a new project. Her creations change with the seasons, from cozy sweaters and wraps in the winter to mesh dresses and swimsuit cover-ups in the summer.

"It's such a versatile hobby. I can take my crochet everywhere. I crochet on the bus; I crochet when I'm hanging out with friends," she says. "I love being able to work on something and then have an end result that I can wear. I think making wearable clothing and wearable art is really cool."

## TIFFANY ALDRICH MACBAIN

*Professor of English and quilter*

This semester, Professor of English Tiffany Aldrich MacBain is taking a novel approach to teaching — by making a quilt with her students. In her first-year Connections course, Social Fabric: Quilting a Community, MacBain is using the process of creating with needle and thread to explore the social functions of quilting throughout American history, from the beautiful quilts made by enslaved women in the nineteenth century and their sewing descendants in the community of Gee's Bend, Ala., to the AIDS Memorial

Professor of English Tiffany Aldrich MacBain is taking a novel approach to teaching — by making a quilt with her students.



PHOTO BY GENEVIEVE GREBLO '20



Quilt, a 54-ton blanket memorializing and celebrating more than 100,000 people who have lost their lives to HIV and AIDS. MacBain is also using the exercise to encourage her students to dive into the deeper questions that only a liberal arts education can ask.

“What we’re doing is contemplating how one can structure and share a life. At school and at home we spend so much time on screens these days, that I’d like to give students the tactile experience of holding fabric and using a needle and thread, even at a basic level, while they’re contemplating different ways knowing,” MacBain says.

MacBain is an avid quilter and enjoys sewing with others and as a contemplative solo activity. She’s made several quilts and usually gives them away as gifts. Last year, she set out to create something for herself by documenting her daily emotional state by quilting one square every day for a year.

“I created a schema assigning colors and patterns to various emotions,” she says. “At the end of each day, I would evaluate how I had felt and then assign the day a piece of fabric. In the end, I had a

map of my emotional state for the year. It helped me to embrace the full slate of feelings, not just the ‘good’ ones.”

MacBain hopes the experience of learning to quilt gives her students a chance to slow down in a world that seems to always be speeding up. Taking up an analog hobby in an increasingly digital world is a way to recenter — and it’s something that the current generation of students are hungry for. At the end of the term, the class will donate the finished quilt to a local organization that can put it to good use.

## MAYA HERRAN

*Career advisor, knitter, and yarn spinner*

There’s a shawl on the back of Maya Herran’s chair in her office in Career & Employment Services. Not only did she knit the shawl — she spun the yarn herself. Herran’s grandmother taught her to knit at a very young age, starting with potholders. Since then, she’s leveled up, learning to knit sweaters, blankets, socks, hats, and other accessories. Her passion for making her own clothing stems from wanting to live an environmentally sustainable lifestyle.

**Career Advisor Maya Herran’s grandmother taught her to knit at a young age; she now makes many of her own items of clothing.**



## Crochet for Beginners

**Genevieve Greblo '20** is a devout crochet evangelist. To help spread the word about this accessible and fun hobby, she has shared a free pattern for a Granny Square Sweater on her Ravelry page. The cozy, oversized sweater is perfect for beginners or for expert crocheters looking to use up yarn scraps.

***Go to [pugetsound.edu/sweaterpattern](https://pugetsound.edu/sweaterpattern) to download the free pattern.***

## Procraftination Station

Located in the garden level of Collins Memorial Library, there is a refuge for Loggers who just need an excuse to take a break and find time to play and create. The Makerspace opened in 2017 and provides tools and supplies for any member of the campus community who wants to explore and make something with their hands.

The space is loaded with everything needed to design and create, including equipment like 3D printers, laser cutters, sewing machines, button makers, soldering irons, and a silhouette cutter, and supplies like craft paper, fabric, beads, thread, and embroidery floss, along with an extensive collection of instructional books on everything from bookmaking to jewelry design. Clubs and classes can reserve the space for large projects or individuals can drop by during open hours to explore and collaborate.

## A Stitch in Time

In the late 1980s, as the University of Puget Sound was approaching its 100th anniversary, a group of 48 alumnae immortalized the occasion with needle and thread. Together, they sewed the Centennial Quilts, two quilts each consisting of 25 squares. The quilts are loaded with meaning, representing various organizations and campus landmarks from throughout Puget Sound's first 100 years. Among the members of the Centennial Quilt project were **Lillian Shotwell '31, Catherine Coykendall '33, Jane Wood '42, Sarah Lyon '48, Jane Knapp '49, Borgie Totten '59, Helen Clemmons '61, Karen Peterson Finney '67, Kathleen Peterson '67, Elizabeth Sevy '79, and Sandra Bauer '83.**

The two quilts were completed in 1987, in time for the university's centennial celebrations the following year. One was donated to Collins Memorial Library for display. The other was auctioned off to raise money for student scholarships and was later donated to the university. Both now reside in Archives & Special Collections, where they are carefully preserved for future generations of Loggers to enjoy.



"In 2023, I challenged myself to not buy any new clothes, and so I was allowed to make things and I was allowed to thrift things," Herran says. "If I had to buy something, I had to find something that was sustainably and ethically made."

The experience taught her a lot of useful skills, like how to alter used clothing to fit better and match her personal style. These days, she spends much of her free time knitting tiny clothes for the baby she's expecting this autumn. Herran also facilitates a community of crafters on campus consisting of around 30 Puget Sound staff members who meet weekly during the lunch hour to work on their various projects together, from knitting to drawing to diamond painting.

"There are folks from all different corners of the university who come," Herran says. "It's fun to have an outlet where we're able to share what we're making."

Herran's latest obsession is spinning her own yarn from raw fleece. She started doing it three years ago after seeing other knitters on Instagram take up spinning. She's also participated in an annual online event called Tour de Fleece, where spinners around the world spin a certain yardage of fiber during the similarly named bike race in France.

"Last summer, I got my first raw fleece straight off the sheep. I washed and processed it myself," Herran says. "Now, I've got a spinning wheel and a whole bunch of fleece in my house. I don't have the sheep yet, but I've got pretty much everything else."

### ALICIA MATZ '15

*Academic, knitter, crocheter, and disability advocate*

When Alicia Matz '15 was deep in the trenches of writing her dissertation, knitting and crochet offered a way to decompress and do something creative

when she needed a break. Matz picked up knitting from her cousin while attending Puget Sound, knitting scarves for her friends before working up to more complicated projects like hats, socks, and blankets. Now that she lives in Southern California, she doesn't make as much thick knitwear, but still enjoys the process.

"I've been working on a sweater for months, but I don't feel a need to rush to finish it," Matz says. "I get a lot of my best ideas while knitting with the TV on in the background."



Alicia Matz '15 found knitting and crocheting offered a way to decompress while she was writing her dissertation.

Matz finished her Ph.D. on the goddess Diana in Roman poetry and material culture and now works as a postdoctoral researcher in the Classics & Humanities



department at San Diego State University. In addition to teaching courses about how the ancient world is invoked in modern literature, she also serves as the co-chair of Crip Antiquity, an advocacy group that aims to make academia more accessible for those with chronic illnesses and disabilities.

“I’m a Type 1 diabetic, which means I’m a full-time pancreas, a full-time academic, and also a full-time me,” she says. “Right now, we’re advocating for hybrid conferences, which makes it easier for people who are chronically ill or disabled or low-income to attend.”

Between her academic work and running Crip Antiquity, Matz savors the moments when she can pick up her knitting needles or crochet hook and let her mind wander.

“I’m the type of person who, when I’m thinking, I need to have something in my hands,” Matz says. “A lot of my great ideas come from sitting there knitting. Crafting gives my brain a break, and that break allows my academic brain to make those connections.”

## JARED FLOOD ’05

*Knitwear designer, photographer, and entrepreneur*

Jared Flood ’05 grew up watching his mother make clothes for him and his two older brothers. He took up knitting as a kid but eventually lost interest. It wasn’t until his sophomore year at Puget Sound that he picked up his knitting needles again. A friend made him a scarf and he was inspired to relearn the skill with her help.

“Within a few weeks, I overtook her ability to teach me anything,” he says.

After graduating with his art degree, he moved to New York City and continued to knit as he pursued his MFA in studio art. He became more confident in his

skills, selling commissioned pieces and submitting his designs to magazines. He built up enough of a following that he was able to turn his side-hustle into a full-time career, founding Brooklyn Tweed with his husband, Luigi.

The company took off, selling detailed patterns for Flood’s designs. In 2010, Brooklyn Tweed began manufacturing its own yarn in the United States — a huge gamble in a market saturated with cheap fiber from overseas. For Flood, the patterns and yarn were a way to push back against fast fashion and the associated environmental and ethical tangles that come with cheap, mass-produced clothing.

“We live in this world where we’re so disconnected from literally everything we purchase,” says Flood. “This was an opportunity for me to explore that world and slow down.”

The company ran into manufacturing challenges during the pandemic, and managing the increasingly complex web of logistics took Flood away from his true passion — knitting and design. So, in June 2025, Brooklyn Tweed announced it would wind down its popular yarn business and go back to its roots as a place to find unique patterns that bring a modern sensibility to a traditional craft.

“Fashion can be this beautiful language of self-expression, but we’re very conformist in how we learn to dress and how we internalize the psychology of clothing and gender presentation,” Flood says. “We need to be empowering people to look the way they want and express themselves in the way they want. It’s a joyful way to be and a joyful way to live.”

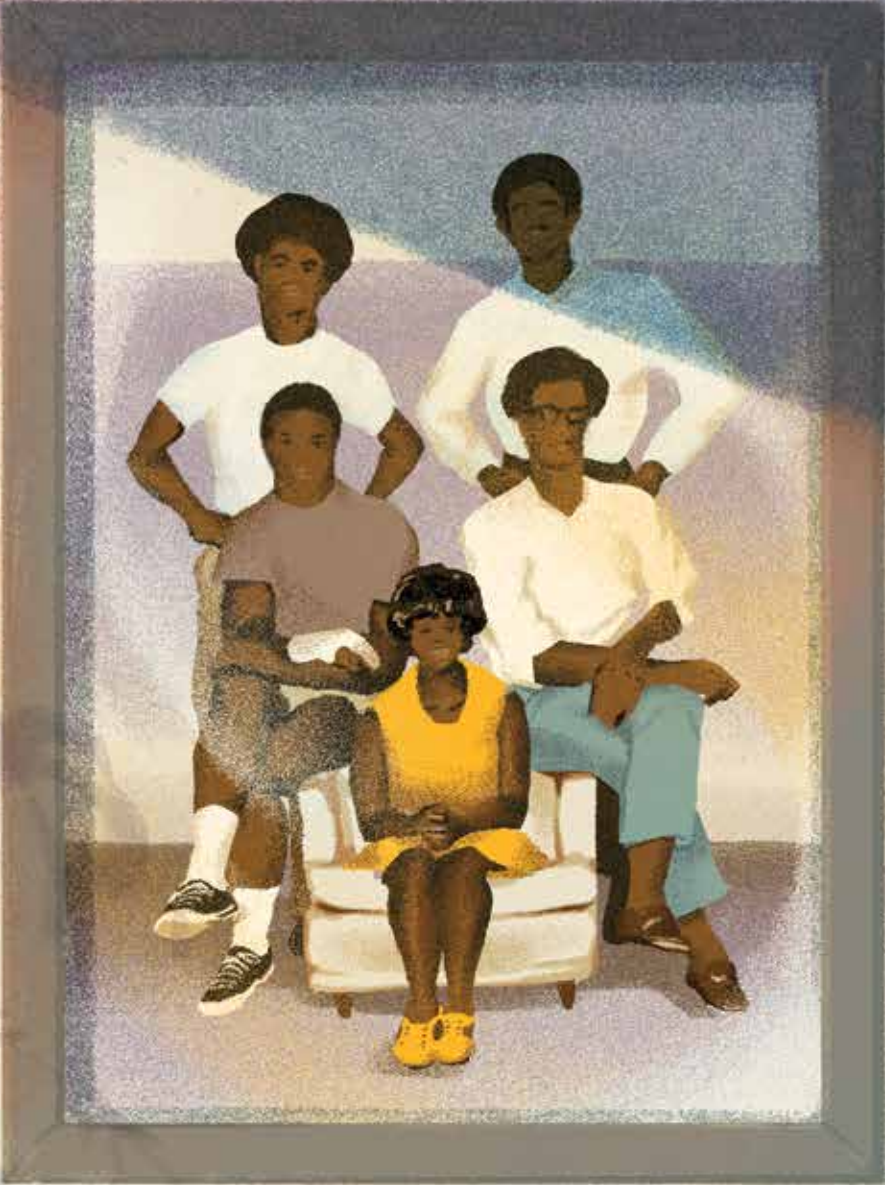


To read this story online or share it with a friend, go to [pugetsound.edu/socialfabric](https://pugetsound.edu/socialfabric).



Jared Flood ’05 was able to turn his knitting side-hustle into a full-time career, founding Brooklyn Tweed with his husband, Luigi, more than 15 years ago.







# PASSING THE TORCH

## THE ORIGINS OF THE BLACK STUDENT UNION AT PUGET SOUND

STORY BY JANAEE HILL '26  
PHOTOS BY ALEX CROOK  
ILLUSTRATION BY ANDREA CHEUNG

In 1964, freshman **Louis Smith '69** was one of two Black students living on Puget Sound's campus, and one of just four Black students in the entire student body. He remembered those years as a time of great hope and despair. While the Civil Rights Movement was discussed regularly in his family home as he grew up, he didn't hear students talking about it in the hallways, lunch tables, or classrooms when he arrived on campus. It felt silent.

Yet within just three years, this handful of Black students would grow to more than 25 who became the core group to organize the first Black Student Union in the state of Washington in the fall of 1967. In that union, Black students found a place to come together for con-

nection and support, to push each other to learn Black history and literature, to fight to develop a Black studies program, and to advocate for their rights, even against the greatest adversaries.

This is the story of the founding of the Black Student Union at Puget Sound told through the memories of Louis Smith, its founder and first president, and **Bill Baarsma '64, P'93, Hon.'23**, the first acting coordinator of the Black Studies Program. "It's not a history lesson," Smith said in July. "It's still a current challenge. The greatest opportunity is to coordinate between institutions of higher learning in the greater Tacoma area. But the fight is ongoing, and we've still got more work to do."

**What was the climate like at the University of Puget Sound in the late 1960s?**

**LOUIS SMITH:** I draw on Charles Dickens in *A Tale of Two Cities* to describe what Puget Sound was like as an 18-year-old African American student arriving on Puget Sound's campus in the fall of 1964: "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness... it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair." The things that were happening at the time were monumental in our Black community, but less so, if at all, in the broader white community: The Birmingham bus boycott in 1955–56. The 16th Street Baptist Church Bombing in 1963. The

*FROM THE EDITOR: This is the first in a series of occasional features in Arches that will showcase a pivotal moment in time in the university's history. In this story, senior **Janaee Hill '26** has written the introduction to a Q&A that was conducted in 2022 by **Serena Sevasin '22** and **Kellen Hagans '24** for the Tacoma Historical Society. Hill also edited this Q&A for length; the full video can be seen online at [pugetsound.edu/BSUinterview](https://pugetsound.edu/BSUinterview). This project has been undertaken with permission from the Tacoma Historical Society.*



**Louis Smith '69 was the founder and first president of the Black Student Union at Puget Sound. He is currently the president of the university's Black Alumni Union.**

murder of civil rights activists James Chaney, Michael Schwerner, and Andrew Goodman in 1964, the same year I came to Puget Sound. The assassination of Malcolm X in 1965. And three years later, the assassination of Dr. King. After creating the BSU, we had a place to gather to support each other in our pain, to share our tears of disappointment. Creating a BSU meant that when we left, all students coming to Puget Sound would have a place to grow and nurture their own professional development and being.

#### **How did the BSU come to life?**

**LOUIS SMITH:** At the time, I had some very close friends at the University of Oregon, and one weekend I went to visit the campus, which was much bigger and had a larger, diverse community of students. They had a BSU meeting while I was there, and I was welcomed to attend. The experience was fantastic.

The love, support, and camaraderie there struck a nerve with me. I needed to take this back to Puget Sound to see if I could plant that seed and germinate and nurture it, so it could grow into something that would be as beneficial to our campus as it was at the University of Oregon.

**BILL BAARSMA:** I was really influenced by my first spouse, Natalie Jane Myers, who was a close friend of Martin Luther King Jr. She talked about working in the trenches, being beaten up, and being jailed during that period. It certainly left an impression on me. [After completing my graduate studies], I returned to teach at Puget Sound in 1968. Booth Gardner, the director of the school of business and economics who later became governor of the state of Washington, came into my office and said: "Your wife, Natalie, was a good friend of Martin Luther King Jr. and worked with the Southern

Christian Leadership Conference?" I said yes. And then he said: "You believe in social justice and civil rights, and you're committed to the cause?" and I said yes. He said: "I would like to have you serve as the acting coordinator of the Black Studies Program. But to do that, you have to get the buy-in of the BSU leaders, because you'll be working closely with them." I can still remember going to the student center to meet with Lou and **George Neely '70, Al Roberts '69, and Jerome Crawford '69.** I tried cracking a joke to establish a rapport, but they were quite serious, and so I said: "Look. If you hang with me during this semester, you will have the opportunity to be part of the hiring of the full-time coordinator of the Black Studies Program at the university, and you will actually approve the hiring. I'll make that commitment." And we agreed to that, and Floyd Davis was hired.

#### **What were you expecting of the BSU in the late 1960s?**

**LOUIS SMITH:** One of the things that I wanted was to have the opportunity for students to come and participate in all of the experiences that the university had to offer. However, we saw beyond that vision the need to add to what the university was offering. We had silly ideas about Black history and literature; we had no idea how broad a scope that would require. But we had that seed, and we first had to educate ourselves: what was our history? And it was amazing what we did not know. For instance: Lerone Bennett Jr.'s book, *Before the Mayflower*. That was the first Black history book that most of us had ever read. When I got to Puget Sound, I learned about it because we as a BSU dove into it. We were hungry for it. We wanted to learn about ourselves, our diverse culture, and we wanted that diverse culture to be taught at the university level.

#### **What did support look like for the BSU at a more institutional level?**

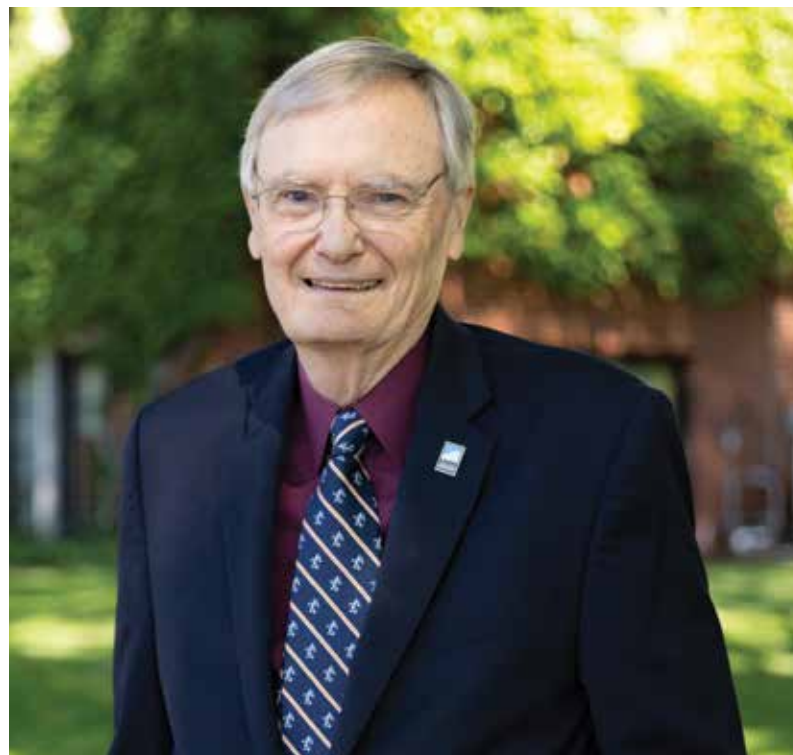


**BILL BAARSMA:** The administration was very leery of the BSU, and student activism in general. And I can remember one incident — I had met with the leaders of the BSU; we had a room up in the tower of Jones Hall. We were discussing an incident involving an older student and her husband, who was wearing a dashiki and had an afro, who was with her over at the student center. They wanted to have lunch and [the staff] wouldn't serve her husband. We were talking about this incident up in the tower and afterwards, as I walked down the steps, I ran into an administrator. And I'll never forget what he said: "Well, I understand that the Black students have real concern about [this incident]." I said "Yeah," and then I thought to myself: "How the hell did he know that we've been talking about that?" From that point on, all the meetings up in that room were scripted, and the real discussions were off campus. There was a lot of suspicion and concern and sensitivity about the "radical" members of the BSU.

**What are the words of encouragement you'd provide to young leaders who are trying to take these steps towards their own reformative justice and community building today?**

**LOUIS SMITH:** The challenges that we still have before us as a people and as a nation are substantial. Do we continue to have our democracy as we change from being a white majority culture to a majority culture of people of color? Do we continue to live out the dream of democracy? That is the challenge that Bill and I pass along to you. We didn't know how we were going to do it, and the furthest thing from my mind was that 50 years later, the Black Student Union would be as vibrant and as important on the Puget Sound campus as it obviously is today.

Looking ahead, I encourage our community to collaborate. Yes, Puget Sound is a small, liberal arts campus,



**Bill Baarsma '64, P'93, Hon.'23, was the first acting coordinator of the Black Studies Program at Puget Sound. He taught at the university from 1968 until 2001, leaving to serve as mayor of Tacoma from 2001 to 2009.**

but it's in a metropolitan region with four college presidents who are African American. Each of these schools has a Black student contingent we want to see supported, and each has alumni who we want to build successful careers, lives, and strong families. There is a lot we can accomplish by working together in Tacoma.

I have every confidence that today's students will step up to this challenge. We weren't trying to make history! Furthest thing from our mind! We were trying to do what needed to be done. I challenge all Puget Sound students today to carry the torch that we've passed on to you. Carry it high, and as you leave the university, make sure that you pass that torch on to students who are as dedicated as you are, to make sure that the flames continue and are not extinguished. Make sure you brighten a way for other students to follow you.

## CARRYING THE FLAME

The **Black Alumni Union** at the University of Puget Sound is committed to supporting and nurturing a successful Black student experience — both while students are on campus and long after graduation. Their vision is to create generational value while empowering dreams. To learn about upcoming BAU events and to get involved, go to [pugetsound.edu/bau](https://pugetsound.edu/bau).

***Janae Hill '26** is majoring in English and minoring in communication studies at Puget Sound. After graduation, she plans on finishing her novel.*



To read this story online or share it with a friend, go to [pugetsound.edu/BSUhistory](https://pugetsound.edu/BSUhistory).

# Always a Logger



## A New Kind of Grief Care

Mollyrose Dumm '07

BY DEBBIE CAFAZZO | PHOTO BY ALEX CROOK

WHEN THERE'S AN ADORABLE KITTEN OR PUPPY GAMBOLING ACROSS YOUR KITCHEN, you can be forgiven if you're not thinking about its future demise.

"But unless you're 80 and adopt a parrot, you're going to outlive them," said Mollyrose Dumm '07, of Urban Animal, which is based in Seattle and is the country's largest veterinary worker cooperative.

Most animal lovers aren't prepared for the day when their veterinarian gives them the bad news that their pet is in decline. For these folks, there's Comfort Animal — a service Dumm designed to help people facing their pet's life-limiting diagnosis or chronic condition. She developed the idea after watching her own dog, Izzy, grow older and after losing several members of her human family. She said goodbye to 16-year-old Izzy two years ago.

Dumm recognized that the feelings she experienced with Izzy resembled the ones she'd felt for her human family members. It's called anticipatory grief — a combination of anxiety, guilt, fear, and other emotions that precede a loss that you know is on the horizon.

She started researching the subject and learned how early it can appear, how long it can last, and how it can manifest with real physical or psychological symptoms.

Dumm works with clients to discuss end-of-life or chronic condition care for their pets. She isn't a vet, but she is certified as an animal hospice and palliative care practitioner, and a companion animal end-of-life doula. Aside from providing direct support to her clients, she can function as a liaison with the veterinarian. "Most people want to know that their pet is comfortable, that they're not in pain, and if there's an option to euthanize — to know when it's too early, and not too late," she says. "A big part of the conversation is honoring the relationship you have with them."

And after death, she helps find a way to continue honoring it — maybe it's a photo on your nightstand, just saying goodnight each evening. Most importantly, Dumm wants people to know they are not ridiculous or foolish for grieving a pet that played an important role in their life: "Our pets are often who we go to when we can't talk to people."

"I give you permission to feel the way you feel," she adds. "I remind people to give themselves grace."

**Mollyrose Dumm '07 developed the idea for Comfort Animal, a service to help people facing their pet's life-limiting diagnosis or chronic condition, after watching her own dog grow older and losing several members of her human family.**



## Class Notes

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## Scrapbook

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## In Memoriam

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## Crossword

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**Karon Fountain Olsen Davis '59, '60** sent the *Arches* team this update: "I just read the [new issue] and noted there were no Class Notes prior to 1970! I just wanted to let you know that some of us from the 1950s and 1960s are still around. Personally, I have been widowed twice and now split my time between Renton, Wash., and Surprise, Ariz. I still stay in touch with and sometimes get together for lunch with a diminishing number of my Alpha Phi sisters from CPS/UPS! Those still in the area (as far as I know) are **LaVonne Eggert Johnson '57, Helen Lahti Edmonds '59, Lauretta Thorne Scrafford '59, Barbara Faylor Swenson '60, Elaine Johnson Michel '60, Barbara Keevil Parker '60**, and myself. I have many fond memories of my years at CPS!"



**Robert L. Stovall '62** spent more than 48 years in the United States Air Force — in active duty, civil service, and as a consultant. His assignments included supporting space radiation hazards related to the Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo manned space programs. He also had assignments in radiochemistry, a joint Air Force, Army, and Israeli anti-armor testing program. He said travel during this 20-year program took him to Israel, Germany, Australia, and New Zealand, and his final test program supported the United States Navy and the Pentagon's Live Fire test program.

The Northwest Progressive Institute honored **Rosa Franklin '68, Hon.'06** with the Lynn Allen Award at its spring gala in April. Franklin broke barriers when she became the first Black woman to be sworn in as a member of the Washington State Senate in 1993. Prior to her 20-year legislative career, Franklin worked in healthcare, serving as a nurse during World War II before moving to Tacoma and earning her bachelor's degree from Puget Sound.

**Cheryl Hart Volheim '68** was profiled in the *Federal Way Mirror* in January about her work as a founding member of the Federal Way Senior Commission.

**Karen Robbins MEd '71** received a silver award from the Independent Book Publishers Association for her picture book *I Love You More Than Candy Pops*. She has also recently published *I Can Count* and *Shoe Print Art* (which was illustrated by fellow Logger and Tri-Delt sister **Sally**



**Raymond Marts '67**). Her books can be found in the Logger Store and wherever else books are sold. "I'm so grateful to Puget Sound for obtaining my MEd," she tells *Arches*. "I never planned to be an author and have had an amazing life creating for kids. It's my passion, purpose, ministry, and legacy."

**Yolanda Chew Griffiths '76**, professor of occupational therapy and former program director, concluded eight years of service at Drake University's College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences in May. She has been in the OT profession for 47 years.



**Jacalyn Bower Kreitzer '77** told the Alumni and Parent Relations team that, after graduation and a couple of years in Anchorage, Alaska, she moved to Los Angeles, studied with Herta Glaz, Leonard Stein, and Erich Leinsdorf, earned a master's degree in voice performance from the University of Southern California, then went on to have a 45-year career as mezzo-soprano soloist with opera and symphony orchestras across the U.S. and Europe. She writes: "I retired from the career and 24 years of teaching voice, developing a vocal performance curriculum and producing opera at Cal Poly State University in San Luis Obispo, Calif., and moved to Bend, Ore., where I now teach a little, am an adjudicator for festivals, and fly fish!"

**Janet Stanton Barnes '82** retired in March 2025 after 27 years working as an echocardiographer (cardiac ultrasound) at Tacoma General Hospital, St. Luke's Hospital in Boise, and Seattle Children's regional clinics in central Washington. Stanton says: "I will continue with my avocation — playing the French horn in the Yakima Valley Community Band and ringing in our church bell choir. My parents, **Ed Stanton '50** and **Blythe Callahan**

## MAILING MIXUP

The university switched the software we use to create our *Arches* mailing list earlier this year. In moving the data from one platform to another, the names of some former and deceased spouses were inadvertently transferred over and included on some mailed copies of the summer issue.

We apologize to anyone who received an incorrectly addressed magazine. We want people to be happy when they receive *Arches* — not upset or confused — and we fell short this time around. Thankfully, our data team seems to have resolved the issue, but we felt it was important to share this apology and explanation with all our readers.

This also serves as a good reminder that if you've had a change of name, marital status, or address, you can update your record easily online at [pugetsound.edu/infoupdate](http://pugetsound.edu/infoupdate).

—Lisa Kozleski '94

**Stanton '51**, will be celebrating their 75th wedding anniversary this August in Des Moines, Wash."

**Kathleen McCarthy Duncan '82** received an honorary doctorate at the University of Idaho's commencement exercises in May.



**Bonnie Napier '82** told *Arches* that after seven years in clinical OT practice, she went on to become a professor and taught at Samuel Merritt University and the Dominican University of California. She is the author of *The Fieldwork Survival Guide*, an OT textbook that will have its third edition published in the summer of 2026 by the American Occupational Therapy Association.

**Richard E. Asche MBA '84** retired from the U.S. Navy in Bremerton in September 1979, and soon after he and his wife Helen founded the Bremerton-Kitsap Airporter, which served Kitsap and

# Finding Beauty Everywhere He Looks

Doug Landreth '73

BY DEBBIE CAFAZZO | PHOTO COURTESY DOUG LANDRETH '73



THE PHOTOGRAPHY OF DOUG LANDRETH '73 MAY INCLUDE ALL MANNER OF FLORA AND FAUNA, but he is more than a nature photographer. Whether photographing the blossom on an artichoke plant or a blurred image of a Mexican matador, he employs multiple digitally composited images, laced with textural overlays and backgrounds, to create visual statements that can be bold, foreboding, or sublime.

Landreth's love of photography started in high school, when he bought a camera with his savings and took it on a two-week trip to Europe with his twin brother, Duncan Landreth '74. "My brother and I shot thousands of Kodachrome slides," he remembers. "I thought 'This is magical.' It determined what I was going to do with the rest of my life."

At Puget Sound, Landreth and his brother took over the laundry room in the SAE fraternity to use as a dark room. But in the classroom, he studied marketing, rather than art. Although he graduated with honors, he still considers himself a terrible marketer: "I would much rather be creating art than marketing my work."

Landreth began his career in advertising and spent 35 years as a Seattle-based commercial photographer. But in that fast-paced world, the assignment is most often to deliver on the vision of someone else, like the art director, rather than the photographer. In the 1990s, digital technology opened up a new world. "I was always bumping up against what you could do in analog," he says. Digital delivered "a big box of crayons with all the colors I could ever need," he says.

He taught classes in Photoshop and co-founded a company called Photomorphis that, for 10 years, offered tools for artists working in that software. But after working in Seattle for many years, Landreth moved north in 2017 to Camano Island. There his waterfront home offered a new perspective on the natural world. "You can find beauty anywhere if you take the time to look closely enough," he says. "That's what I love to do now."

**Doug Landreth '73 worked as a commercial photographer for 35 years and was an early adopter of digital technology. Digital delivered "a big box of crayons with all the colors I could ever need," he says.**

Pierce counties and SeaTac International Airport. Soon their operations will be extended to include service locations in Lacey, Dupont, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, and perhaps Lakewood. The Kitsap Airporter has carried more than 4.7 million passengers since its founding. Asche says their goal is to exceed the population of Washington state and writes: "Thank you, Puget Sound, as I have applied your daily teachings in the operations of the Kitsap Airporter! Well done!"

**Tim Gould '84** started as the CFO for Amara Family Services in April. He says his passion is for serving foster youth and families in the greater Puget Sound area. Before joining Amara, he ran a CFO consulting business for three years and served as CFO/VP of finance for a variety of non-profit organizations from South Seattle to Everett.



"I am spending my retirement happily writing and editing fiction," **Karen Meyer Eisenbrey '85** writes the *Arches* team. "In April, I welcomed my seventh published novel, *A Quest for Hidden Things*. I am also excited to have short stories in three different anthologies being released this spring and summer: *DOSA Files Volume III*, *What If We Kissed While Sinking a Billionaire's Yacht?*, and *Twists on Time*. On the summer solstice, I plan to spend all day drafting a new novel while raising funds for the Alzheimer's Association."

Ubilite, a semiconductor company based in San Diego, appointed **George Holmes '85** as its CEO in April. He had previously served as chair and CEO of Resonant, Inc. and brings 40 years of experience to his new role.



**Kathleen Piilani Schwartze (Ka'au'a) '85** sent the *Arches* team this update:

"I have graduated with a master's degree in Indigenous education in the native Hawaiian track from Arizona State University. It was a labor of love for my culture. Not everyone starts a master's degree at age 60 — but it's never too late. Quoting Phil Pibbs: 'Education for a lifetime.'"

**Cynthia Nims '86** was featured in a *Seattle Times Sunday Magazine* article in May about the collection of her mom's recipes and what they mean to her and her family.

**Elizabeth Roberts '87, '90**, told the *Arches* team that she retired in 2023 after 33 years of



public-school teaching in Kitsap County and now loves working part-time for her local public library. Her spouse **Brian Watson MAT'95** continues to run his two businesses: Watson Studios, designing and creating art for individuals and liturgical settings; and Bicycle Teacher, his bicycling education business. She writes: "He loves helping people of all ages learn to be the 'boss of their bikes!'"



This summer, **Julie Hornick '88** published a co-edited volume, *Critical Information Literacy Applications for All Libraries*. Hornick is currently head of library instruction at Florida Southern College in Lakeland, Fla., where she lives with her husband Dennis Williams and their cat, Barnaby.

**Scott Eagan '89** teaches middle school humanities in the Bethel School District and works as the owner and acquiring agent of Greyhaus Literary Agency, which represents romance and women's fiction. He also teaches developmental editing, marketing and PR, and networking for authors and agents with the UCLA Extension Program, and he recently released his third book, *Navigating the Submission Process*, which guides new authors toward their careers as published authors.



**Carolyn Kaltenbach Keurajian '89** is the new executive director of the Charlottesville Symphony. She had previously served as president and CEO of the Williamsburg Symphony Orchestra in Virginia. Her career includes work in arts education, event production, marketing, and corporate sales. She is a speaker on arts management and is a guest lecturer at the College of William and Mary.

**Greg Milosevich '89** was appointed executive vice president of Danaher Corporation in July, with responsibility for its life sciences business. He joined Danaher in 2010.

**Phillip Franck '90** retired from his role as theater department faculty at Vanderbilt University in May. He was named professor emeritus at the university's commencement exercises that month.



**Brenda Longfellow '94**, the Roger A. Hornsby Professor in the Classics in the University of Iowa's School of Art, Art History, and Design, recently published

## Building a Business, One Flavor at a Time

Jennifer Al-Abboud '86

BY DALONDO MOULTRIE | PHOTO BY ALEX CROOK



A HIGH SCHOOL FRIEND WORKING AT A SPOKANE COFFEE SHOP IN 1982 GUIDED JENNIFER AL-ABBOUD '86 to the world of gelato. Now, the Logger and her husband, Fareed, use the dessert to make a living while fostering community connections.

"It's a happy product," says Al-Abboud. "People come into our shop happy and leave happier. If they don't come in happy, they leave happy."

When threatened with layoffs after teaching in Dubai, the Al-Abbouds cashed in their retirement funds to open a gelateria with flavors inspired by their travels. They trained with Italian gelato masters in Philadelphia and Italy, where they learned to make artisan gelato from scratch using a rarely taught production method.

Circumstances landed them in seven locations over 12 years. During the pandemic, they downsized and relocated Medzo Gelato Bar to Tacoma in 2023, just around the corner from Wright Park.

Each batch of their gelato is hand crafted in house, one pan at a time, using real ingredients and local organic dairy. Coming up

with new flavors of gelato is part of the fun, says Al-Abboud. "Our Mediterranean flavors include a white rice that's very popular," she says.

"We have a baklava, rose, orange blossom, fig. We have one now called the Dubai made with pistachio kunafa bar," which features milk chocolate, shredded phyllo dough, and pistachio.

Al-Abboud recently published a memoir about the couple's business journey titled *The Scoop on Mom and Pop: A Small Businesswoman's Gelato Journey*. Tasting events with book readings correspond with various chapters. During their journey, the Al-Abbouds felt the sting of the COVID-19 pandemic, so the book is dedicated to family businesses lost during COVID.

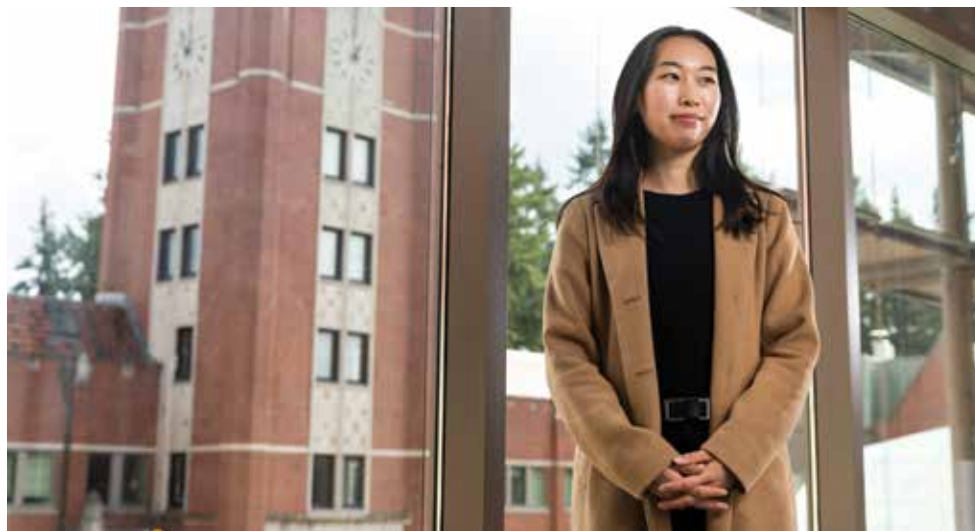
"I feel like we're still processing COVID as a society," says Al-Abboud. "I don't feel like we've paid proper tribute to the people who lost their livelihoods and legacies, and I wanted to do that."

**Jennifer Al-Abboud '86 and her husband, Fareed, opened the Medzo Gelato Bar in Tacoma in 2023. She recently published a memoir on their business journey titled *The Scoop on Mom and Pop*.**

# Exploring Brain-Inspired Tech and Space Medicine

Kyra Lee '24

BY VERONICA CRAKER | PHOTO BY SY BEAN



AS A FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR AT WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY, Kyra Lee '24 spends her days developing brain-inspired technologies that could one day reshape healthcare and robotics.

At the university's International Centre for Neuromorphic Systems, Lee is part of a research team designing neuromorphic systems — computing technologies modeled after the human brain. These bio-inspired tools could improve machine learning, enhance robotic responsiveness, and expand how artificial intelligence supports patient care. "It's incredibly exciting to be working at the intersection of neuroscience and technology," Lee says. "Neuromorphic systems are about replicating how the brain works, and that has huge implications for how we solve real-world problems."

Lee, who majored in mathematics, neuroscience, and exercise science at Puget Sound, says her undergraduate experiences prepared her to think across disciplines. Her path to global research began on campus with the RISE (Reflective Immersive Sophomore Experience) program and took shape during a competitive internship with NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center, where she contributed to research on peripheral neuropathy — a condition that affects astronauts and

millions of people on Earth. She also volunteered at MultiCare Health System in Tacoma and received the Hurley Community Service Scholarship,

using it to explore adaptive fitness programming. "Each of those experiences helped me ask better questions and see how science can improve lives," she says.

In Sydney, Lee is embracing both academic collaboration and cultural exploration — connecting with fellow scholars, engaging with Indigenous communities, and even traveling to Tasmania and Canberra to witness the Southern Lights. After completing her Fulbright year, Lee will join the MIT Lincoln Laboratory in Massachusetts to continue her work in applied neuroscience and space medicine. "Living and working abroad has broadened my perspective," she says. "But what stays constant is my desire to do science that centers on people and makes a difference in their health and lives."

From campus labs to global research networks, Lee continues to pursue science with purpose — pushing boundaries and building bridges between disciplines, countries and communities.

**Fulbright scholar Kyra Lee '24 is a part of a research team designing computing technologies modeled after the human brain at Western Sydney University in Australia.**

*The Lives and Deaths of Women in Ancient Pompeii.* In it, Longfellow explores how historical women of all social backgrounds acted in public and exerted agency on behalf of themselves and others, ultimately finding that female initiatives in Pompeii were not only accepted but desired by the community to a greater extent than has previously been recognized.

In July, **Peggy Hannon '95** was named the first recipient of the Harris-Wasserheit Endowed Professorship in Health Systems and Population Health at the University of Washington. She has been a faculty member in the School of Public Health since 2008.

In June, the 20th anniversary of the planned community of Seabrook, developed by **Casey Roloff '95** and **Laura Roloff '97**, was featured in a cover story in *Pacific NW Magazine*. In the article, the Roloffs recount their journey from building their first house to today's sprawling town, and emphasize the need for walkable developments that encourage community-building.

**Jonathan Wolfer '95** is president of the Colorado Association of Elementary School Principals for 2025–26. He is principal at Douglass Elementary School in Boulder, Colo., and he will represent elementary school leaders in advocacy at the state legislature and with U.S. representatives.



**Erin Hennessey Guinup '96**, a composer, conductor, and arts consultant, is the new director of Puget Sound Singers. As the founding executive and artistic director of the Tacoma Refugee Choir, she led singers from 75 countries in performances for more than 50,000 people. Her compositions have been performed at national conferences, on PBS, by Symphony Tacoma, and more.



**Kent Craford '98** is the CEO of SeaPort Airlines, a family-owned aviation company which launched daily commuter flights between Portland and Seattle in May. Craford co-founded the original SeaPort Airlines in 2008, but departed the company in 2009 after a falling out with the primary investor. In 2011, he and two partners acquired Alaska Seaplanes and grew it into the primary regional airline of Southeast Alaska, which today with sister companies employs more than 300 people and operates two dozen aircraft.



**Josh McDonald '02** was named 2025 Wine Industry Champion by the Auction of Washington Wines in June. McDonald is executive director of the Washington Wine Institute. The institute is the vocal, active, visible advocate and champion of the Washington wine industry in Olympia and Washington, D.C.

**Sydne Record '03** was promoted to full professor at the University of Maine in April. She is a professor of landscape conservation who joined the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Conservation Biology at the University of Maine in 2022. Earlier in her career, she was associate provost and associate professor of quantitative ecology at Bryn Mawr College in Pennsylvania.



**Logan Dancey '04**, associate professor of government at Wesleyan University, received one of three excellence in teaching awards in May.

**Andrew Miller '04, MAT'05**, who spent two years working in Washington state, tells the *Arches* team that he has ventured abroad once more to serve as academic principal at Beijing International Bilingual Academy.



Cloudwick, which provides data, automation, and AI solutions for public sector and enterprise organizations, appointed **Natasha Nicolai '04 DPT'06** as its new Chief Technology Officer in May. Nicolai had previously worked for Amazon Web Services and is experienced in driving data modernization and cloud best practices across public sector agencies.

**Sarah Laub Skubas '04** has been appointed vice chair of the American Health Law Association's Labor and Employment Practice Group. Skubas is a principal in Jackson Lewis' Hartford office and co-leader of the firm's healthcare industry group. She represents employers in all areas of employment law, including leave and disability issues, discrimination, internal investigations, and workplace issues related to marijuana.

**Lorna Shanks '05**, owner and operator of Shanks Primary Care, was featured in an article in *The Oregonian* in June. The article highlights a growing trend among physicians who are opting out of the traditional insurance model in favor of a more accessible, transparent approach to healthcare.



**William Baur '06** was recognized by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) in Washington State as a state finalist for the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

The Ladies Musical Club of Seattle premiered **Colleen Thomas Fraser's '06** "String Quartet No. 1" as well as a vocal quartet, "The Taxi" in April at the University House in Seattle.

**Emily MacPherson Kolby '06** completed a Ph.D. in adult and higher education in 2024 at Oregon State University and earned the program's Dissertation of the Year Award. She now works at the University of Washington as the director of curriculum and engagement in first-year programs and says she often reflects on the support and guidance she received at Puget Sound. "I chose to pursue a career in higher education thanks to my involvement on campus, work as a resident assistant, and connections with faculty, staff, and fellow students," she said.

**Jessica Stella '08, MAT'10**, (known as Jessica McPhee-Hayes during her student days) completed her principal certification at Pacific Lutheran University. She will serve as an assistant principal at Gates Alternative High School in the Franklin Pierce School District and is starting work on her Doctor of Education in educational leadership degree.

**Becca Bryant '10** has been named the board president for HomeSight, an organization that works to preserve and promote economically and culturally diverse communities. She says "I knew I wanted to volunteer with an organization from the 9th Congressional District to put my decade of Capitol Hill experience to work on behalf of the community that had given so much to me. HomeSight was the obvious choice!"

**Joan Ilacqua '10** led a discussion at All She Wrote Books in June with author Sarah Schulman. She is the executive director of The History Project, Boston's queer community archives and has dedicated her career to centering marginalized community histories through collecting oral history interviews, preserving archival records, and sharing queer stories.

**Vienna Saccomanno '13**, a senior scientist at the Nature Conservancy, reports that her team was among the 24 recipients of the Bezos Earth Fund's AI Grand Challenge for Climate and Nature this year. She says: "This grant is more than funding — it's a vote of confidence in our vision: that technology, when thoughtfully applied, can be a force for good in the fight for a more sustainable future."



In April, **Nicolette Andres '15** released her debut album, titled *Hands*. She has studied violin throughout her life, and began studying hardanger fiddle (hardingfele) in 2020. She received an instrument to loan through the Hardanger Fiddle Association of America, and then went to Norway to purchase her own. Her good friend and fellow Logger **Reilly Rosbotham '15** did the album artwork. She tells *Arches*: "While at Puget Sound I studied violin with Dr. Maria Sampen. I am thrilled to have completed my first album project, and I feel a lot of gratitude for my time at Puget Sound and all that I learned that helped make this dream more achievable."

**Slay Latham '18** wrote an op-ed in *The Bay Area Reporter* about the 1966 Compton's Cafeteria Riot, when queer and transgender patrons of a San Francisco late-night eatery fought back against police harassment. Latham learned about this little-known chapter of LGBTQIA+ history in an Intro to Gender, Feminist, and Queer Studies class at Puget Sound and argues that the site should be rezoned as a community space.

**Sage Bryson '22** is a Ph.D. student and researcher at the University of Vermont who is studying civil engineering. They told *Arches* that they published their first book in January 2025 and married **Elliot Stevenson '22** this summer.



**William Lum '23**, who has been developing his career as a professional musician in Texas, completed a master's degree in euphonium performance at the University of North Texas. He says he spends most of his time freelancing as a private music instructor, master class clinician, and solo contest adjudicator at various schools across the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex, and has recently been appointed adjunct instructor of tuba and euphonium at Dallas College.

## THE LOGBOOK

**Mark your calendars, Loggers!**

**We'd love to see you at these campus and community events.**

**Sept. 26** — Collage: 15th Annual Faculty and Student Showcase

**Oct. 2** — Loggers Keep Learning Denver

**Oct. 10 to 12** — Homecoming and Family Weekend

**Oct. 10** — Logger Athletic Hall of Fame Dinner and Inductions

**Oct. 12** — 15th Annual Logger 5K

**Oct. 31 to Nov. 8** — Fall Mainstage Play: *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*

**Nov. 4** — Fall 2025 Swope Endowed Lecture

**Nov. 6** — Loggers Keep Learning Seattle

**Dec. 6 and 7** — WinterFest: Adelphian Concert Choir and Puget Sound Singers

**Jan. 7, 2026** — Washington State Legislative Preview

**March 3, 2026** — Logger Day Challenge

**June 5 to 7, 2026** — Summer Reunion Weekend

**Some of these events require tickets. Get all of the details you need at [pugetsound.edu/events](https://pugetsound.edu/events), and hope to see you back on campus soon!**

### ALUMNI COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

This year's members of the university's

Alumni Council Executive Committee are:

**McKenzie M. Ross '06**, president; **Ken Teal '81**, vice president; **Alexandria Van Voris '16**, **Brittany Henderson '03**, **Andy Marshall '12**, **Brian Galicia '96**, **Deb Waldal-Smith '88**, **Doug Palmer '18**, **Julie Gates '90**, **Franchesca (Chessie) Bolt '27**, **Lynn McIlvain '21**, and **Amy VanZandt '06, MEd '11**.



▲ The Women's League, which celebrated its 125th anniversary in 2025, gathered for a celebratory toast during Summer Reunion Weekend. In this photo are members who either served as president or are related to a past president, with dates of service listed in parentheses.

Back row from left: **Patty Lynn '79, P'11**, granddaughter-in-law of **Gladys Lynn '18** (1938-39); **Lynn Raisl '77 P'13** (2012-14); **Karen Nelson Adams '89**, daughter of **Phyllis Nelson** (1969-72); **Debbie Winskill '75** (2007-10); **Jill Jackson '84** (2020-22); and current co-president **Carol Strobel Coleran '64** (2022-present), a daughter of **Elsie Strobel '33** (1972-75).

Pictured seated from left: **Laura Edman**, daughter of **Nancy Hoff '51** (1996-98); **Julia Strobel Arger '71**, **Betty Strobel Jameson '62**, and **Susan Strobel '70**, who are also daughters of **Elsie Strobel '33** (1972-75); and **Nancy Zittel Miller '71**, daughter of **Ann Zittel** (1967-69).



▲ The Multnomah Athletic Club, located in Portland, is the largest social and athletic club in the United States with 22,000 members. The club has four new officers, and two are Loggers: **Ken Meyer '80**, president, and **Susan Bladholm '87**, secretary. They are pictured here with **Brian Juckeland '00** who has led many club committees. In a community of Ducks, Beavers, Vikings, and Pioneers, it's fun to have an outsized representation of Loggers in the house!





▲ **Megan Janes-Barnes '12** (center) sent this update to *Arches*: "In late April, my wife, daughter, and I spent a day in Tacoma and had a picnic on campus. We ran into my old softball coach, Kara Dressel. It was a fun, impromptu meetup!" She is pictured with Suzie Janes-Barnes (left) and head softball coach Kara Dressel.



▲ **Kyle Chong '17** and **Emma X. Paulson '18** published an invited peer reviewed book review in May in the journal *Research on Diversity in Youth Literature*. Chong says: "We are excited for our first of hopefully many scholarly collaborations as we conduct research on Asian American racialization in media and education."



▲ Many of the DB Hoopers, a group of independent men from the mid-1970s, have gathered with spouses and significant others each year since the early 1990s in Cannon Beach, Ore. Pictured from left in this April 2025 photo are **Curt Nohavec '75, MBA'77**; **Gregg Dohrn '76**; **Randy Jones '74**; **Ron Albertson '75**; **Steve Page '75**; **Craig Likkel '75**; and **Gary Brown '75, P'06**.

▼ Logger athletes — including former football teammates — came together in June to celebrate the 80th birthday of athletic trainer **Zeke Schultdt '68**. Pictured from left: **Ed Raisl '78, P'13**; **Frank O'Loughlin '78, MEd'98**; **Schultdt**; and **Pat O'Loughlin '78**. Among the scores of other Loggers who were at the celebration were football teammates **Mark Torgerson '79**; **Steve Levenseller '79**; **Gordon Elliot '76**; **Bob Lucey '71, P'04**; and **Mark Scott '79**.







▲ **Kristi Hamilton '06** and Travis Waleri married in June 2024 in Salem, Ore., and many Loggers joined in the celebration. Pictured from left: **Brad Herley '06**, **Tessa Sylvain Herley '06**, **Lauren Furuya '07**, **Will Pearson '06**, **Maureen McDonald '06**, **Kari Hamilton Anders '00**, **Colleen Woodrow Gause '06**, **Greg Gause '06**, **Sam Hardy '06**, **Molly Clevenger '06**, **Wyatt Lewin '06**, **Julia Marie Lewin '06**, **Catherine Kurz Smith '04**, **Dan Ashley '05**, **Karli Thorstenson '06**, **Chris Andreev '06**, and **Ella Brown Daniels '06**.



▲ **Frank Krall '81, JD'85** welcomed fellow Sigma Nu brothers and their partners to his home in Palm Springs, Calif., in 2024 to help celebrate his 65th birthday, as well as the 65th birthday of many of his friends. Pictured standing, from left: **Bill Beatty '81, JD'84**; **Tim Zagurski '81**; **David Udell '81**; **Bob Coleman '81**; **Heather Coleman**; **Lori Hill**; **Bob Hill '81**; **Krall**; **James Cockerham**; **Kathy Draz Zopatti '81**; **Lei Narveson Udell '83**; **Todd Weber '83**; **Grant Loss '81**; and **Lauri Loss**. In the front row are **Janet Beatty**, **Bob Shipley**, and **Mindy Goss Shipley '81**.





▲ Among the 700 alumni who came to Summer Reunion Weekend were **Matt Adams '05**, **Rob Whiting '05**, **Jason Shaw '05**, and **Cheryl Schenk '05** — who said they were hoping the Class of 2005 would make it into the pages of *Arches*!



▲ SavorFest PNW brought together a rich tapestry of communities to showcase the artistry, food, and music that make the Pacific Northwest a uniquely flavorful place to live and gather. The July 20 festival, now in its fifth year, expanded its reach thanks to a dynamic collaboration with the Caribbean Queens of WA led by **Julie Davidson '96**, amplifying visibility for Caribbean performing ensembles and cultural vendors. Davidson, who also founded the Puget Sound Latinx Alumni Union to support students of Hispanic/Latinx heritage during their university years and beyond, recruited local Logger volunteers from the Latinx student organization Sin Fronteras. Pictured from left: **Davidson**; **Dr. Lorna Hernandez Jarvis**, vice president for institutional equity and diversity; **Evelyn Jacobo-Guzman '25**; **Valeria Jacobo-Guzman '25**; and **Sofia Cunningham '25**. (Not pictured was volunteer **Bella Rico '27**.)



▲ **Allison Goodell '24** shared this photo and update with the *Arches* team: "When I was a sophomore at the University of Puget Sound, I knew I wanted to work in sports but had no idea where to start. Everyone says to find mentors and in fact the program I was in required it, but finding Puget Sound alumni in the Seattle sports world was harder than I anticipated. I was lucky enough to get connected with **Nasser Kyobe '13**, who a couple years later encouraged me to apply to the Seahawks '24-'25 internship program. There ended up being five Logger alumni working for the Seattle Seahawks this past season, so we had to get together for a photo! Here's to planning for the next generation of Loggers to have plenty of alumni in the sports world to help them on their journeys! Roll Logs and go Hawks!" Pictured from left are **Kyobe**, **Dominic Torregroza '22**, **Marissa Perez '24**, **Goodell**, and **John Weaver '98**.

▼ Longtime Logger friends and former housemates **John Harding '94**, **John Tocher '94**, and **Pat McKern '94** met in Seattle in June for a delicious Thai dinner while they all happened to be in town.





## NOMINATE A LOGGER TODAY!

**Want to recognize someone for their athletic endeavors while at Puget Sound?**

Nominate them for the Logger Hall of Fame! Nominations are accepted year-round.







▲ Logger athletes from Arizona, California, Oregon, and Washington met up with water polo coach **Bernadette Ray '99**, **MAT'01** to reconnect over a long weekend on the Purdy Spit near Wauna, Wash. They enjoyed delicious food and wine, the opportunity to reconnect, great walks on the beach, and even a little competitive ping pong. Pictured from left: **Anna Marsh Fitzpatrick '03**, **Ray**, **Anne Crase Jones '00**, **Rachel Quisenberry-Bennett '02**, **Angie Cashman Keefe '02**, **Sarah Hesseltine Templin '02**, **Feather Robles Billings '00**, **Courtney Ludwig Marshall '03**, **Jenny Kalbfleisch Leitzinger '03**, and **Adriane Ougendal Friedman '03**.





▲ **Samantha Jones '15** and **Riley Carpenter '16** married in November 2024 in Raleigh, N.C., alongside a crew of their fellow Loggers. **Louisa Raitt '15** (top left) officiated and **Kyle Chambers '16** (top right) wrote and performed an original song about the couple during the ceremony. Also in attendance, pictured top row from left: **Becca Ebert '16**, **Misha Miller-Hughes '16**, **McKenna Milton '19**, and **Rob Korbel '17**; and bottom row from left: **Maria Mork '15**, **Mickela Heilicher '18**, the newlyweds, **Annie Paden '16**, and **Callie Holgate '16**.



◀ **My Khanh Tran '03** sent *Arches* this photo of Logger friends at a getaway in Cabo in February. She says the group tries to meet every few years to stay in touch and reconnect. Pictured from left are: **Erika Juergensen Mikles '03**, **Kayla Robinson McCain '04**, **Victoria Nguyen Frank '04**, **Tran**, **Tessa Shelton '03**, and **Liz Brown Wendler '03**.



▲ These Loggers, who have been friends since the fall of 1981 and still get together regularly to catch up and enjoy each others' company, made sure to make a stop at E9 during Summer Reunion Weekend. Pictured back row from left: **John Mendenhall '86**, **Greg Ursich '85**, **Bruce Valentine '89**, **Kerry Fredericks Valentine '85**, **Julia Koster '86**, **Duncan Marsh '85**, **Cheryl Fitch Blackburn '85**, and **Kim Brooke Muilenburg '85**. Front row from left: **Chip Lake '87**, **Chris Dederer '85**, **Lloyd Kaide '86**, and **Julie Johns Milner '85**.





▲ Members of the Class of '75 gathered for a weekend of fun at this year's Summer Reunion, where they reconnected while sharing meals and memories and were delighted to get a chance to hold the real hatchet!

Pictured back row, from left: **Duff Lawrence, Greg Elley, Greg Frank, John Barutt, Pete Northrup, Guy Watanabe, Steve Roll, Curt Peterson, Skip Strickland, Kurt Grimmer, Larry Olli, Lance Frodsham, Wes Stanton, Marcia Campbell, Lynn Swedberg, and Laurie Hallwyler.**

Pictured seated, from left: **Mike Ramoska, Vicki Ramoska, Janet Popp Winterrowd, Wendy Allen, Geni Dahl Fawcett, Kate Johnson, Ellen Seibert Poole, Debbie Daniels Ford, Jayne Bailey, Elizabeth Vincenti Heurlin, and Dawn Farm-Ramsey.**



◀ Anesthesiologist **Mike Burm '92** and urologist **Sam Antoine '10** have worked together for Kaiser Permanente in Colorado for about five years. They discovered they were fellow Loggers after Antoine was talking about college days with a colleague who knew Burm had gone to Puget Sound.

▶ In June, Beta Theta Pi alumni from the graduating classes of 1990 to 1994 gathered in Boise, Idaho, for, as they described it, "a weekend of food, drink, golf, and general debauchery." Pictured from front to back: **Mike Cox '91, Matt Allen '92, Nick Thompson '92, David Robinett '91, Steve Barragar '90, Greg Custer '91, Chris Coy '91, David Swartley '92, Scot Carley '92, Chris Downing '92, John McNeil '91, Scott Malmquist '91, Kendal McDevitt '91, Nate Board '91, Tim Schwarz '92, Bob Rice '94, Bill Seymour '92, Matt Augspurger '91, and Don Curtis '90.**



## ALUMNI

**Maryann Mavis Munro**

**Scott '47** of Seabeck, Wash., died April 4, 2025.

**Kathleen McElwain**

**McGoffin '51** of Tacoma died Feb. 3, 2025.

**Sally McClean Cooper**

**'52** of Centralia, Wash., died March 19, 2025. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in education and was a member of Chi Omega. Her spouse, Clyde Cooper '54 (now deceased), was also a Logger.

**Gwenn Huschke Fischer**

**'52** of Morgan, Minn., died April 22, 2025.

**Vivas Macoskey '52**

of Butler, Pa., died May 17, 2025. Her spouse, Robert Macoskey '51 (now deceased), was also a Logger.

**Herbert McKay '52**

of Tacoma died Jan. 15, 2025, in Milwaukie, Ore.

**Jo Ann Fosiy Read '52**

of Spokane, Wash., died May 9, 2025. She was a member of Alpha Phi. Her spouse, W. Russell Read '51 (now deceased), was also a Logger.

**Phillip T. Funke '54**

of Newtown, Pa., died April 8, 2025. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry. His sister, Catherine Jones '49 (now deceased), was also a Logger.

**Nancy Salmon '58**

of Portland died Feb. 16, 2025.

**Charles "Jack" Falskow**

**'59, P'97** of Tacoma died Feb. 13, 2025. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration and was a member of Sigma Nu. Survivors include his son John Falskow '97 and nephew Eric Jensen '86. His siblings, Guy Falskow Jr. '60 and Katherine Desberg '52 (both now deceased), were also Loggers.

**Michael Paulus '60**

of Gig Harbor, Wash., died June 7, 2025. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in geology, was a member of Sigma Nu, and played on the golf team. His spouse, Sally Ann Paulus '58 (now deceased), was also a Logger.

**Jack Rummel '61**

of Longmont, Colo., died March 10, 2025. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in biology and was in student government, *Tamanawas*, Sigma Chi, and Intrafraternity Council. His spouse, Lynne Rummel '61 (now deceased), was also a Logger.

**Gary E. Snyder '62**

of Edgewood, Wash., died May 12, 2025. He studied mathematics, played in the university's jazz band, and was a member of Theta Chi. Survivors include his spouse, Jo Ann Snyder '66.

**Allan Barnes '63**

of Vancouver, Wash., died Feb. 27, 2025. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in social science.

**Alex G. Bennett '63**

of Bedford, Texas, died May 6, 2025. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in mathematics, was involved in student government, was a member of Phi Delta Theta, served on the homecoming committee, and was an Intercollegiate Knight. Survivors include his spouse, Dorothy G. Ghylin-Bennett '67, and a cousin, Alan Worden '63.

**Josette S. Cella Madison**

**'63, P'92** of Idaho Falls, Idaho, died April 13, 2025. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry. Survivors include her spouse, David Maddison '62, and daughter, Lisette Maddison '92. Her sister, Evelyn Armstrong '64 (now deceased), was also a Logger.

**Sally Hanson Flaherty**

**'64, P'99, P'05, P'09** of Gig Harbor, Wash., died April 5, 2025. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology and political science, was a member of Pi Beta Phi, and volunteered on the alumni reunion committee. Survivors include her children: Katharine Pusztai '99, Christine Flaherty '05, and Michael Flaherty '09; and brother Warren Hanson '62.

**Galen "Gary" Willis '64,**

**MBA'64, P'02** of Burien, Wash., died June 3, 2025. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration and a Master of Business Administration, and he was a member of the swimming team and Sigma Chi. Survivors include his spouse, Nancy Willis '65; and son, Leher Willis '02.

**Gordon Besel '65**

of Colbert, Wash., died May 15, 2025. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration.

**Stanley Cross '65,**

**MEd'65** of Puyallup, Wash., died April 5, 2025. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration and a Master of Education degree.

**Philip W. John, Jr., '66**

of Dallas died April 30, 2025. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science.

**Lynn Loomis Wolfe '66**

of Salem, Ore., died July 27, 2024. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in mathematics. Survivors include a niece, Taylor Trembly '18. Her spouse, Thomas Wolfe '65 (now deceased), was also a Logger.

**Linda Reeves Wylder**

**'67, P'88, GP'24** of Lake Oswego, Ore., died Aug. 28, 2024. Survivors include daughter Leslie Greger '88 and granddaughter Liana Greger '24. Her spouse, Jim Wylder '66 (now deceased), was also a Logger.

**Lydia Topolski Jonas**

**'69** of Gig Harbor, Wash., died April 20, 2025. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in education. Survivors include her spouse, Trent Jonas '68.

**Janice George '70**

of Gig Harbor, Wash., died April 21, 2025. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in elementary education. Survivors include her spouse, Michael George '66.

Spring 2025  
crossword solution



**James E. Kirkebo '71** of Lakewood, Wash., died June 7, 2025. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration and was a member of the university's golf team.

**Thomas E. Leavitt '71, JD'75, P'10** of Seattle died June 15, 2025. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science and a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree. As a student, he was involved in KUPS and student government, where he was elected ASUPS president. He pursued a career in law and was elected to the university's Board of Trustees in 1990, serving more than 25 years. Survivors include his spouse, Darcy Goodman JD'75, P'10; son Alex Leavitt '10; nephew Joseph Campbell '98; and niece Elizabeth Campbell '02. In 2010, the Leavitts wrote a story for *Arches* about their son, Alex, which was one of the most-commented-on stories in the magazine's history. **To access the story, go to [pugetsound.edu/thomasleavitt](https://pugetsound.edu/thomasleavitt).**

We learned in June of the death of **Tom Reppun '71, P'99** of Honolulu. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in biology and was a member of Beta Theta Pi, Phi Sigma honor society, and Circle K. Survivors include his spouse, Marilyn Reppun '71; and son, Alika Reppun '99.

**Marvin L. Lindmark '73** of Overland Park, Kan., died May 24, 2025. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration.

**Randall Murch '74** of Manassas, Va., died May 28, 2025. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in biology, played on the football team, and was involved in Hui O Hawai'i (now Ka 'Ohana Me Ke Aloha) and the Phi Sigma honor society. In 2010, he received an Alumni Award for Professional Achievement. Survivors include his spouse, Liane Murch '75.

**Dave N. Scott '74** of Tacoma died Jan. 11, 2025. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration.

**Douglas G. Wilburn '74** of St. George, Utah, died May 21, 2025. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration.

We learned in April of the passing of **David Hildebrand '75, P'08** of Lake Forest Park, Wash., who died April 16, 2024. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry. Survivors include his spouse, Terri Hildebrand '76; so Robert Hildebrand '08; sister Susan Hildebrand Pickrell '78; and sister-in-law Carol Smith '74. His brother-in-law, Louis Lepp '77 (now deceased), was also a Logger.

**Karen Kiyoko Kiyabu '76** of Honolulu died March 23, 2025. She studied anthropology and political science at Puget Sound.

**Care J. Dressel Tuk '76** of Wasilla, Alaska, died March 29, 2025. Her spouse, William Tuk '76 (now deceased), was also a Logger.

**Jim Barnecut JD'77** of Seattle died Dec. 18, 2024. He earned a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree.

**Phil D. McGaughey '81, MBA'81** of Heber Springs, Ark., died March 1, 2025. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration as well as a Master of Business Administration degree.

**Judy Knight Hollar MEd'82** of Lacey, Wash., died May 29, 2025. She earned a Master of Education degree.

**Craig A. Shaw '82** of University Place, Wash., died May 12, 2025. He majored in business administration and played on the university's football team.

We learned in April of the death of **Raphielle Gennette Chynoweth '87** of Puyallup, Wash. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in occupational therapy and was a member of Alpha Phi.

**Valerie Jordan '87** of Brusly, Calif., died April 4, 2025. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in occupational therapy.

## SEND US YOUR NEWS

**We welcome news of new jobs, marriages, births, elections to office, retirements, and more.**

### To submit an item for Class Notes or Scrapbook:

Fill out the form at [pugetsound.edu/classnote](https://pugetsound.edu/classnote) or email [arches@pugetsound.edu](mailto:arches@pugetsound.edu).

**To submit news for In Memoriam:** Email the editor at [arches@pugetsound.edu](mailto:arches@pugetsound.edu) with the name of the grad who passed away, the date of death, and a link to an online obituary if available.

### To change your address:

Fill out the form at [pugetsound.edu/infoupdate](https://pugetsound.edu/infoupdate) or call 253.879.3299.

**Ken Kramer '92** of Tacoma died April 21, 2025. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in computer science and business administration.

**Sister Charlotte Ann Van Dyke (Sister Paulette) JD'92** of Seattle died April 30, 2025. She earned a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree.

**Jeremy (Jerry) Gallagher Van Fredenberg '98** of Normandy Park, Wash., died March 5, 2025. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration.

## FACULTY, STAFF, AND FRIENDS OF THE UNIVERSITY

**Bonnie Grondahl** of Tacoma died June 11, 2025. She worked for more than 25 years in the university bookstore and was remembered for her work ethic, longevity, and gracious nature.

Trustee emeritus **Thomas E. Leavitt '71, JD'75, P'10** (see alumni listings).

Trustee emeritus **William "Bill" Neukom P'94, Hon.'06** of Seattle died July 14, 2025. He was the chief lawyer at Microsoft for nearly 25 years and served as a trustee at Puget Sound from 1995 to 2006. In 1997, he and his four children created the Neukom Family Endowed Scholarship, which supports students from traditionally underrepresented groups in higher education who demonstrate academic excellence and a desire to improve their community. Survivors include daughter, Gillian Neukom Toledo '94; and son-in-law, Robert Toledo '94.

# ACTING UP

BY STELLA ZAWISTOWSKI

Mark up your script and prepare to step into the limelight with this theater-themed puzzle that’s packed with Puget Sound people, places, and ideas.

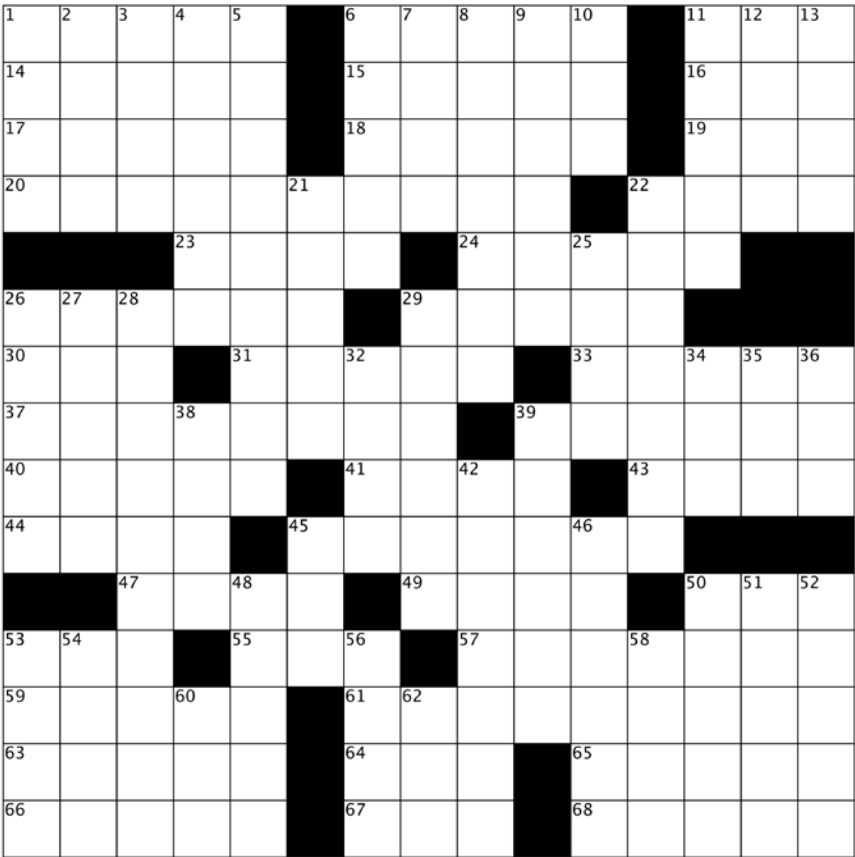
Show us a photo of your completed puzzle and you might win a prize from the Logger Store! Email the photo to [arches@pugetsound.edu](mailto:arches@pugetsound.edu) before Nov. 1, 2025, or post it on Instagram and tag us: @univpugetsound. Congrats to **Karen Kristine Sudderth MBA’82, MAT’96** of Tacoma who won the prize after submitting the Spring 2025 puzzle.

You can find the solution to this issue’s puzzle at [pugetsound.edu/actingup](http://pugetsound.edu/actingup), and the solution to the spring puzzle on p. 42 of this issue. Break a leg!

ACROSS

- 1 Highly skilled
- 6 Town \_\_\_\_ Speaks! (Puget Sound theater festival of the 2010s)
- 11 “My dude!”
- 14 Academic \_\_\_\_ (feature of a Puget Sound education)
- 15 “Good Times” actress Esther
- 16 Serving of meat at a barbecue
- 17 Gently mock
- 18 For everyone to hear
- 19 Puget Sound club that focuses on environmental concerns
- 20 Broadway revival that won Kenneth Willman ‘82 his third Tony award
- 22 \_\_\_\_ Your Professor to Lunch (program offered by the Dean of Students)
- 23 Flying saucers, for short
- 24 Caught some morays
- 26 AMC show on which Darby Stanchfield ‘93 played Don Draper’s neighbor, Helen Bishop
- 29 Brand for PMS symptoms

- 30 Healthy fat source, for short
- 31 Send in a payment
- 33 Envelope parts
- 37 Note to self
- 39 Tacoma performance space built in 1918
- 40 Shift, sheath, or slip
- 41 “\_\_\_\_ and shine!”
- 43 Starring role in a play
- 44 Way to add emphasis: Abbr.
- 45 ABC show on which Darby Stanchfield ‘93 played political fixer Abby Whelan
- 47 Puget Sound theatre arts professor \_\_\_\_ Freeman ‘95
- 49 Not relevant
- 50 Make an inquiry
- 53 Texter’s “how it looks to me”
- 55 Lifesaving medical pro
- 57 Seattle Storm lover, perhaps
- 59 Odometer units
- 61 Classic 1990 holiday comedy in which Kate Johnson Spector ‘75 plays a police officer



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- 63 Still in the competition
- 64 Green and Gold \_\_\_\_ (1968-99, for Puget Sound sports teams)
- 65 Rich cake
- 66 Military-school student
- 67 Unit of currency in Tokyo
- 68 Commit larceny

DOWN

- 1 The “A” in MA
- 2 God, in French
- 3 “A Visit From the Goon Squad” author Jennifer
- 4 North American marsupial
- 5 Rainforest plants with trunks and fronds
- 6 Some Tacoma Fish Peddler products
- 7 Turn in a game of Yahtzee
- 8 “That is awesome!”

- 9 Sidestepped
- 10 \_\_\_\_ alder (common Pacific Northwest tree)
- 11 Challah or ciabatta
- 12 \_\_\_\_ Tutor (aptly named former Puget Sound Theatre Arts professor)
- 13 Reed instrument heard at Schneebeck Concert Hall
- 21 Physically ripped
- 22 Dishy memoir
- 25 Nostalgic music aesthetic, for short
- 26 \_\_\_\_ Gras
- 27 Keep from happening
- 28 “I need a favor! Please!”
- 29 Sister of Moses, in the Bible
- 32 Bygone Ford make, for short
- 34 Selection at Tacoma’s Parkway Tavern

- 35 School support group: Abbr.
- 36 Turf material
- 38 Actress Fisher
- 39 Overhauled
- 42 “Frosty the \_\_\_\_”
- 45 OpenAI CEO Altman
- 46 Chances at the plate
- 48 Start-over button
- 50 Prior to, poetically
- 51 Noted sleigh driver
- 52 Get ready to propose or pray
- 53 Apple desktop
- 54 Kunis of “Black Swan”
- 56 Gender-neutral pronoun
- 58 Often
- 60 New Year’s \_\_\_\_
- 62 Mineral-bearing rock



### HOMECOMING IN EVERY COLOR

The University of Puget Sound changed the school colors from maroon and white to green and gold in 1968 to mark its entrance into the NCAA. In an all-school election, the students voted overwhelmingly in favor of the color change, and the “Green and Gold Era” was launched. While the green and gold are remembered fondly, the archives remind us the colors were technically changed to dark green and ice blue with gold highlights.

According to the Nov. 8, 1968, issue of *The Trail*, the new school colors received “raised eyebrows, startled glances, and hearty approval” from fans when first introduced at fall sporting events. The Green and Gold Era lasted until 1999, when the colors changed back to the original maroon and white. Today, the green and gold appear on Logger gear in the bookstore and are worn across campus during Reunion and Homecoming weekends, when alumni return to celebrate our shared legacy.



Grab your favorite Logger gear and join the entire Puget Sound community in celebrating Homecoming and Family Weekend Oct. 10 to 12. Get all of the details at [pugetsound.edu/hfw](https://pugetsound.edu/hfw).

—Story and image curation by Olivia Inglin,  
Archivist and Special Collections Librarian



# arches

University of Puget Sound  
Tacoma, Washington

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## LOGGERS KEEP LEARNING

### 2025-26

You're invited to join President Crawford at a Loggers Keep Learning event near you to connect with community, hear campus updates, and learn from our outstanding faculty.

#### Fall 2025–Winter 2026 Schedule

Oct. 2 - **Denver**

Nov. 6 - **Seattle**

Feb. 12 - **Los Angeles**

Mar. 12 - **Minneapolis**

May 21 - **Honolulu**



Learn more at:  
[pugetsound.edu/alumni/events](https://pugetsound.edu/alumni/events)  
— and we hope to see you in your hometown!

