



Whitman Today

Thursday, August 26, 2021

2021 Convocation



Senior Salma Anguiano and sophomore Tejashree Jadhav will be part of the 2021 Convocation ceremony.

On Monday, August 30 at 4 p.m., all Whitman faculty, staff and students are invited to join as we open the 2021–2022 academic year with [Convocation](#). This ceremony features a number of student and faculty speakers as well as musical performances:

- "One Thousand Five Hundred Whitties," a poem from sophomore Tejashree Jadhav, Power & Privilege co-chair.
- "Change is Necessary," an address by senior Salma Anguiano, ASWC president.
- Two musical interludes performed by senior Leisha Casimiro and Jackie Wood, senior lecturer in music.
- "Climate Reckonings, Climate Justice," an introduction to the 2021–2022 Academic Theme by Kurt Hoffman, professor of physics.
- "Breath," a Convocation address by Lauren Osborne, associate professor of religion.

In order to support campus COVID-19 protocols, this year's Convocation ceremony will be an online event, livestreamed on the [Convocation webpage](#) as well as to numerous small group locations around campus. Watch parties for first-year students will take place in their OWL groups, while faculty, staff and returning students may gather to view livestreams in the Reid Campus Center Ballroom or residence hall lounges as well as watching from their individual computers.

Daily COVID Update

Baseline COVID-19 Testing

Today's coronavirus testing is for employees and students, who should come to Cordiner between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. for their Round 1 test.

Remember not to eat, drink, chew gum or brush your teeth for 30 minutes prior to coming for your test or use mouthwash for two hours prior to your test.

[Review the schedule and instructions for more details.](#)

Campus Vaccination Update



As of today, 96% of students and 94% of employees have completed the full vaccination course, totaling 95% of our campus community.

Announcements

2021-22 COMMUNITY FELLOW PROGRAM PARTNERS



Community Fellows Program Application Open for Juniors and Seniors

The [Community Fellow Program](#) funds work-eligible juniors and seniors to spend the 2021-22 academic year working part-time at a prominent Walla Walla organization to address some of the area's social, economic and cultural challenges. As part of the program, Community Fellows meet successful, high-level leaders in Walla Walla and receive professional mentoring, targeted career development guidance, and broad exposure to local organizations. Positions range from assistant study coordinator to public policy and health equity fellow — [view them all on Handshake](#). Final deadline for applications is September 6. You can even meet representatives from partner organizations in group or one-on-one sessions at [the Virtual Fellows Fair](#) at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 2. [Register for sessions on Handshake](#). Any questions? Please contact Mitzy Rodriguez at rodrigmy@whitman.edu.

Noteworthy

Whitman Outdoor Program Featured in Blue Mountain Land Trust Newsletter

The Blue Mountain Land Trust (BMLT) published an article entitled "Transforming Trails with the Next Generation" in its [Summer 2021 BLUE newsletter](#). (You can find the story on pages 19-20.) The article features the Whitman Outdoor Program Trails partnership with the BMLT Blues Crew and the United States Forest Service.

Sams Nominated to Lead National Park Service

[President Joe Biden has nominated Chuck Sams](#), who co-taught an indigenous politics course at Whitman in 2020, as the first Native American to lead the National Park Service. Sams is the former director of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

Happening Today

all day

[New Student Orientation](#)

Today's big events include: academic open houses, OWL group meetings, workshops on race and identity and on academic resources, the Family Farewell Reception, an expert talk on alcohol and cannabis, and discussion of living with roommates and sectionmates.

8 a.m.–3 p.m.

[Baseline COVID-19 Testing](#)

For employees and students. At Cordiner Hall.

Whitman Events Calendar

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

"Whitman Today" is produced by the Office of Communications and is emailed Monday through Friday to Whitman College staff, faculty and students. All times are listed in Pacific Daylight Time.

Submissions are welcome! If you have a professional or personal accomplishment to celebrate, an event to publicize or other content to share with the Whitman community, email whitmantoday@whitman.edu. Submissions should be 125 words or less. The deadline for submissions is noon for the following day's newsletter, though submissions may be held for a later date according to space and editorial needs. By submitting to Whitman Today you also authorize use on Whitman's social media unless otherwise specified.

Previous issues of Whitman Today are [archived on our website](#).

