



# Whitman Today

Monday, September 28, 2020

## Coronavirus Task Force Update



As we head into the fall break later this week, Chief Financial Officer Peter Harvey explains how he and other members of Whitman's newly restructured Coronavirus Task Force are thinking about and planning for the spring semester.

### Announcements

#### Race, Violence, and Health Events

Please add these two forthcoming events in the Race, Violence, and Health series to your calendar. More information and join links can be found on the [Race, Violence, and Health webpage](#).

- **Structural Racism in the Workplace**  
Join a panel of alumni as they discuss their experiences as professionals of color and what their past and current places of work have — or haven't — done to create antiracist structures and culture at work. Tuesday, Sept. 29 at noon.
- **On Being Bulletproof: The Importance of Black Superheroes**  
Join comics creator Khalid Johnson for a conversation about Black superheroes. His comics and short films can be viewed on [his website](#). Tuesday, Sept. 29 at 4:30 p.m.

#### Banned Books Week with Penrose Library

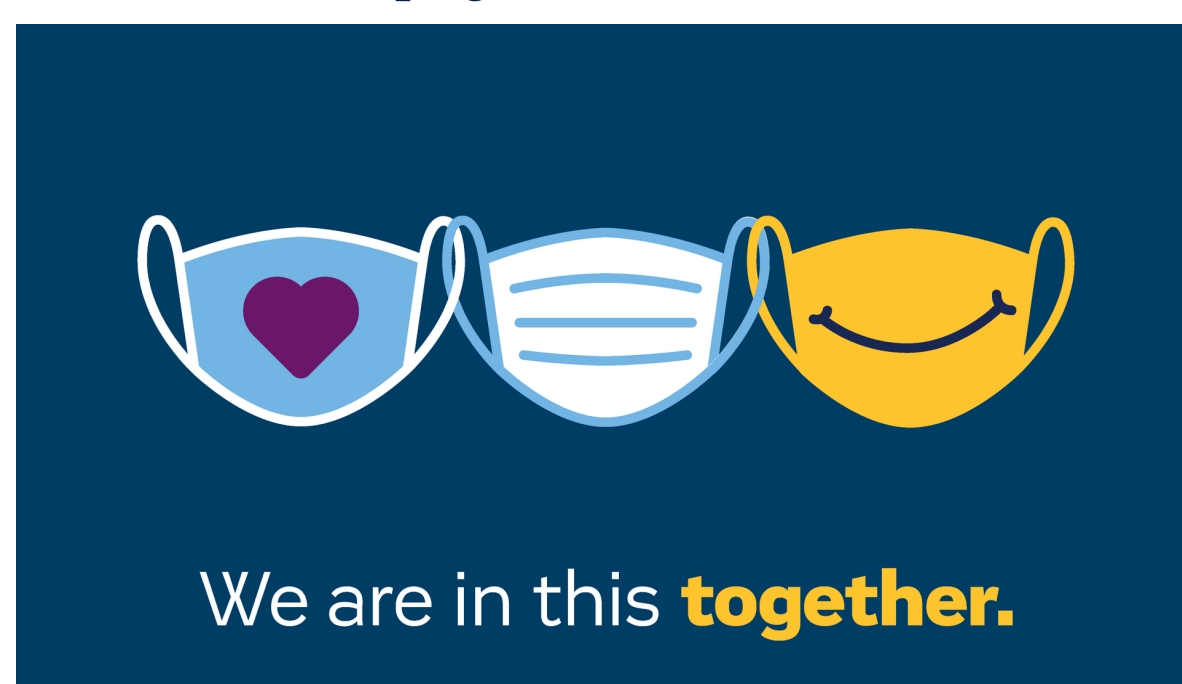
**Banned Books Week** is an annual event celebrating the freedom to read, and this year it takes place from Sept. 27 to Oct. 3. Banned Books Week spotlights current and historical attempts to censor books in libraries and schools and to support the freedom to seek and to express ideas, even those some consider unorthodox or unpopular, and offers an opportunity for you to voice your concerns on censorship and to support authors of banned books.

### Question of the Week

This week, we want to know: One month in to the fall semester, how's it going?



### Coping With Coronavirus



#### COVID-19 Mental Health Resources

It is normal to feel stressed about the unknowns we're facing. Know that Whitman College is doing everything it can to keep our community protected. This fall, the Counseling Center will be available for online counseling via Google Meet with students in Washington state. They may also be able to provide references and resources for students outside of Washington state. Call 509-527-5195 for assistance. The Counseling Center also has curated a [list of online resources and mental wellness apps](#).

### Happening This Week

THURSDAY, OCT. 1 & FRIDAY, OCT. 2

all day

#### October Break

*There will be no classes Thursday and Friday this week. Whitman offices will be open and staff will be working regular business hours.*

[More Upcoming Events](#)

Have a virtual event you'd like to share with campus? Email the details to [whitmantoday@whitman.edu](mailto:whitmantoday@whitman.edu).

### Getting to Know...



ILSE SPIROPOLOUS '23 (she/hers)

Major: philosophy

**Extracurricular activities:** [Martial Arts Club](#), [Debate Team](#), [Fencing Club](#), Renaissance Faire, Taekwondo through Jays Taekwondo of Alaska, and Dungeons and Dragons

**What is your favorite aspect of the Whitman community?** I really enjoy the general friendliness of the Whitman community as well as the intermingling of various clubs and interests that happens on a regular basis. I have encountered many instances where I am pleasantly surprised by the networks and friendships that form out of unsuspected places.

**Why are you a part of the Martial Arts Club?** I have been practicing Taekwondo for nine years and it is a really important part of my life. Martial arts is a really valuable form of physical activity and competition specifically because it's so accessible to individuals with disabilities such as myself. When I came to Whitman last year, I immediately got in contact with the former president of the club. Shortly thereafter I was given the opportunity to become more involved in club leadership and organization. As the current president, I hope to grow and improve upon the strong foundation of the club so that the Martial Arts Club at Whitman is a lasting organization that is open and accessible to all.

"Whitman Today" is produced by the Office of Communications and is emailed Monday-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](mailto: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.

