All theatre alumni and friends are invited to a dramatic confrontations, and characters with depth that people come to care about." Everist said. "Comedy is definitely a part of the picture, but with performances of this length we can explore an even broader emotional range, that can include musical numbers, "Game of Thrones" think of each two-hour set as an episode in a season of engagement, made even richer by being part of a larger whole, the end of which is unknown," Everist said.

In the event of rain, see the Commencement Rain Plan. Questions? Contact the Office of Alumni Engagement at 1.800.467.6646 or by email at alumni@austincollege.edu.

Congratulations to the Austin College Class of 2019!

Formal Commencement activities will begin with the Baccalaureate service on May 18, at 7 p.m. in Wylie Chapel when Rev. John Warster, pastor of St. Philip Presbyterian Church in Houston, will deliver the message. The service will be preceded by a reception at 2 p.m. in the Wright Campus Center Living Room and is followed by a Senior Party in Mabie Hall, hosted by Student Life and the Senior Committee.

On Sunday, May 19, the Commencement Ceremony begins at 8:30 a.m. on Clyde Hall Graduation Court on the north lawn of Caruth Administration Building. Dr. Ruth Whiteside '94 will deliver the Commencement address. A trustee of the College, she recently retired as director of the Foreign Service Institute at the U.S. Department of State, capping her distinguished time as a career member of the Senior Executive Service of the agency.

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ON-CAMPUS NEWS

We’re Just Making This Up

Epic Improv VII on May 4 will be a sensational, improvisational marathon by the Austin College Improv Troupe beginning at 3 p.m. and ending at midnight at Ida Green Theatre in Ida Green Communication Center. The show is free and open to the public—come for a while, or come for it all.

There are four sets of improvisation, each performed with a 10-minute intermission, and a one-hour dinner break at 7 p.m. Kirk Everist, Associate Professor of Theatre, will narrate; John McGinn, Associate Professor of Music, will improvise music; and Dan Pucel '04 will provide set and lights.

“Think of each two-hour set as an episode in a season of Game of Thrones, each one an engaging melodrama, made even richer by being part of a larger whole, the end of which is unknown,” Everist said. “Comedy is definitely a part of the picture, but with performances of this length we can explore an even broader emotional range, that can include musical numbers, dramatic confrontations, and characters with depth that people come to care about.”

All theatre alumni and friends are invited to a reception with appetizers and drinks at 7 p.m. in Ida Green Lobby. RSVP for the reception to Janet Clark at jclark@austincollege.edu or call 903.843.2419.

Elite Scholarship Support

A dedicated team of faculty mentors is advising students from all disciplines at the College to pursue elite scholarship opportunities—and the results are exciting. Students can turn to an online resource to learn which scholarships best suit them and to read testimonials from students who have had life-changing opportunities in recent years. Austin College is proud to announce the 2019 recipients of these coveted international scholarships:

- Victoria Gilbert '21, Critical Language Scholarship to China
- Tanira Anderson '19, Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship to Indonesia
- Audrey Lynne Jones '18, Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship to Spain
- Julian Villa Cargo '19, Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship to Germany (Alternate)

Jennifer Johnson-Cooper, Associate Professor of Chinese & Director of East Asian Studies; Patrick Dulphy, Professor of Spanish; and Scott Langton, Associate Professor of Japanese, presented the awards at the formal reception held on May 15, 2019.

Jennifer Johnson-Cooper, Associate Professor of Chinese & Director of East Asian Studies; Patrick Dulphy, Professor of Spanish; and Scott Langton, Associate Professor of Japanese, presented the awards at the formal reception held on May 15, 2019.
Roos Names New Head Women's Soccer Coach

"I am honored to join 'RooNation and bring my passion for athletics and academics to Austin College. I look forward to working with a tremendous group of student-athletes and restoring a culture of winning. The women’s soccer program will be built on core values such as integrity, pride, competition, and academic excellence." – Michele Housden

Read more about Coach Housden

Women's Water Polo Earns Individual Awards

In its first season of varsity competition, the Austin College Women’s Water Polo team not only made some waves but also made history. The team finished 2nd in the CWPA Division III Championship Tournament, and Lexi Wong was named the 2019 CWPA Division III Rookie of the Year. She and fellow freshmen Brooke Lo, Presley Woods, and Valery Piachonkina have all been named All-CWPA.

ALUMNI NEWS

Fitzgerald Shares Chimpanzee Research

The Center for Environmental Studies hosted Maegan Fitzgerald ’09 on April 17 in IDEA Center. Now a doctoral student in primatology and wildlife sciences at the Wildlife Research Center of Kyoto University, Japan, she is conducting research on the unique and fascinating behaviors of chimpanzees.

The behavior and ecology of chimpanzees have been topics of research in the Nimba region of Guinea, Africa, for more than 40 years. “During this time, the landscape providing resources for these chimpanzees, other wildlife, and many thousands of people has undergone intense changes. There is an urgent need to address these changes and identify sustainable ways to balance wildlife conservation with socioeconomic development,” she said.

Cashion Inducted into Phi Beta Kappa

Ty Cashion ’79, an award-winning historian, author of five books (with a sixth on the way), member of the prestigious Institute of Texas Letters, an Austin College Distinguished Alumnae, and now – 40 years after his graduation from Austin College, he’s been inducted as an alumnae to the College’s Phi Beta Kappa chapter. Cashion was the guest speaker at the 2019 Phi Beta Kappa Induction Ceremony where he and 31 undergraduates were welcomed into the prestigious academic honor society.

Austin College chartered its PBK chapter on March 30, 2001, long after Cashion earned his bachelor’s degree in Business Administration and Economics. He continued his education at University of Texas at Arlington where he earned an M.A. in History and at Texas Christian University where he earned his Ph.D. in History. He has taught History at Sam Houston State University since 1999.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April
23 An Evening with the President | Oklahoma City, OK
24 An Evening with the President | Tulsa, OK
25 Honors Convocation
26-27 Aussie Spring Show
27 Sherman Symphony Orchestra & A Cappella Choir
29 Presbyterian Heritage Celebration

May
2 Athena Awards Celebration & Luncheon 2019
4 Theatre Improvathon VII and Reception
8 Honors Thesis Reception
9 Athletics Awards
13 Last day of Spring Term classes
17-19 Golden ’Roos Weekend
17 End of Spring Term
18 Reunions
19 Commencement
23 Dallas Huddle Up
27 Memorial Day Holiday (Campus Closed)
28 Dallas Alumni Night

Looking for news at Austin College? Check out the Austin College ’Roos in the News website.