

p. 7



## COLUMN



Jewel Schuurmans

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 virus a global pandemic, states started to set into motion their individual plans to protect against the virus and we all began to wrap our heads around seeing people in medical masks in grocery stores and walking the street. I remember the first time I wore a mask into a store . . . I felt like I was gearing up to enter a scene from a dystopian movie.

As time went on, mask mandates and  
See **COLUMN** p. 3 >>

*The Collegian Editorial*

## 'Now we see through a glass darkly'

Gen Z: the generation that was born at the peak of the technological and social media explosion, created memes and copes with historic events with dark humor. We are the last generation of children whose baby pictures weren't taken with smartphones. We are the last generation to remember cartoons on cable television instead of Netflix. We are the last generation that will ever know how to work a VHS player. And now, we are the generation that went to college during a global pandemic.

It has been a long, challenging year. Since the end of the 2020 spring semester, we've seen race riots break out across the country, watched protestors break into the Capitol Building and lost loved ones to the COVID-19 virus. It has been a year of divisions, of heartbreak and of violence.

But it has also been a year of rethinking, of unity and of learning. We've learned to value the little things, or maybe the big things we didn't realize were quite so big: the ability to go to class, to grab a meal with a friend, to sing in chapel or even just shake someone's hand. We've learned to prioritize spending time with people and face-to-face interaction over technology or other distractions. We've learned to listen to others when they speak of their struggles and how to advocate for them in Christian compassion. We watched nations unite to respond to the pandemic, and we see the fruits of those efforts in the vaccine. We've come together, bonded through a

universal challenge that has touched every part of the globe.

As we look back on where God has brought us and how He is shaping our generation, a few crucial lessons from this year stand out. One is gratitude. After months in lockdown, we began to realize how much we took for granted. As the world began to bounce back and begin the long journey back to normal, we found immense joy in simple things. That easy gratitude for everything around us is something that should characterize our generation for the rest of our lives.

The second thing this year has taught us is trust. Few people alive today can remember a time more uncertain than the year we just faced. Yet God has brought us through it all and each of us are a testament to His grace. Each chapel service we sang in, each class we sat in and each meal we ate in the dining common are all only made possible because He saw us through this year.

Finally, this year has taught us passion: passion for each other, for our careers and for God. No one had 20/20 vision – we didn't see this past year coming. So let us maintain our passion for loving others, for sharing the Gospel and for doing what God has called us to do because we have seen that we are truly not promised tomorrow. Let us live every day to the fullest, knowing history has its eyes on us as we become the next greatest generation through the provision of God and through following His leading.

## the Collegian

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## TALKBACK

## What are you most grateful for as a graduating senior?

Taylor Bott  
SENIOR

"My society: a lot of good friendships were made there."

Nathan Swaim  
SENIOR

"My professors who have invested in me and cared about me as an individual."

Isabel Vosburgh  
SENIOR

"All the school leadership and all they've invested in my life."

Sarah Wallen  
SENIOR

"My teachers and dorm life: that was also a lot of fun."

Photos: Heath Parish

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stay-at-home orders gradually became expected everywhere. Everywhere, that is, except for South Dakota – my state. Under the guidance of Governor Kristi Noem, South Dakota began to separate from every trend across the country. To this date, South Dakota remains the only state in the country to have never mandated masks or stay-at-home orders on a state-wide level, and the only state to have never ordered a church or business to close.

Noem faced a lot of scrutiny for her decisions both from other political leaders and the media. Some of her conservative values like the sanctity of life were even thrown back at her in attempts to

imply hypocrisy. As over a year has passed since the beginning of the pandemic and South Dakota infection and death rates have continued to rise, her approach continues to be scrutinized – despite South Dakota's economy recovering with a budget surplus and the lowest unemployment rate in the country.

To understand Noem's leadership, we should understand her. When Noem was 22 years old, her father died in a farming accident and she had to take over his business. Months after his death and well into feelings of helplessness, she cleaned out his truck and found several tapes he had recorded giving advice on his management of crops and financial issues. She points

back to that experience of holding her father's words in her hands as being a defining point in her career to be like her dad – not only a person of words, but of action. I can relate to that sentiment.

Reflecting on that experience in a speech this February, she said, "In that moment, I felt a strange type of peace settle over me. Scripture talks of a 'peace that passes all understanding.' It was as if in that moment, God was saying to me, 'I will provide. Stop worrying. You will be ok. Your family will be ok. I've got this.'"

With a similar confidence, she explained to us that her objectives were not just to keep us safe and healthy, but to avoid sacrificing South Dakota's economy in exchange for

that safety. She said physical health was not her only concern, "but also, how does it affect their well-being, their economic well-being, their ability to keep their kids in school, their ability to keep their businesses open, pay their bills, that's been incredibly challenging."

Throughout the pandemic, her message has been unified on the theme that government was created by the people for the people, and governors do not have the authority to override their citizens' personal responsibility with a mandate for behavior. She decided early on not to require masks or state-wide stay-at-home orders, but instead to provide all the necessary medical information and allow individual communities

the freedom to make their own decisions as they saw would best benefit their circumstances.

She said she wasn't expecting to stand alone, but she hasn't wavered from the principles she's convinced were the best for her state – my state.

That kind of leadership inspires me, and her example as a strong female leader isn't lost on me either.

As a Christian, I know it's essential for any leader to lead with actions and not just words. That's true in civic duty, in regular daily responsibilities and in our service to God. James 1:22 warns against the self-deceit that comes with having empty intentions, however good they may be. I'd like to strive for something better.

## ★ FACULTY SPOTLIGHT ★★ ★ Cooks finish combined 85-year BJU career

Joanna Scoggins

COPY EDITOR

After almost 85 years of combined work at the University, music faculty Dr. Warren Cook and Mrs. Jean Cook are retiring from BJU.

The Cooks have been at BJU since starting their undergraduate degrees. Jean Cook came in 1972 as a student and graduated with a master's degree in piano in 1978. Warren Cook said his parents, despite not being alumni, pointed him toward BJU starting when he was three years old. After coming to BJU in 1974, he met Jean Cook in the dining common. They were married in 1978 and have three children.

Cook completed a

bachelor's in music education and a master's in sacred music at BJU before earning his doctorate in music performance with a focus in choral conducting from the University of Columbia. He first worked at BJU as a sound engineer in 1980 before becoming faculty in 1983. Jean Cook joined the faculty in 1978 and transitioned to adjunct faculty two years ago.

Cook has served as the director of choral activities at BJU, leading two University choirs, Chorale and the Chamber Singers. He has taught both undergraduate and graduate classes. Jean Cook taught piano and has accompanied choirs at BJU, including performances her husband directs.

Kristin Rutledge, senior music education major and Chorale member, said Cook has been one of her biggest supporters. "In my time at BJU, Dr. Cook has been more than a teacher to me and my classmates," Rutledge said. "He's always the first to crack a joke in difficult rehearsals and encourage us to keep going. He made us think about what we were singing and why, and that really makes a difference."

"Dr. Cook's wit and humor [were] always part of each rehearsal," said graduate student Caleb Woo. "Dr. Cook wasted no time helping us hone our skills as musicians, encouraging us as students, and motivating us in our performance. Mrs. Cook echoed his encouragement and motivation."

Cook said his biggest challenge teaching has been maintaining a full performance schedule of concerts year after year, though the experience was rewarding. His favorite memories of BJU have been leading songs and hearing thousands of voices sing the praises of God, as well as traveling with the BJU Chorale to the World Choral Festival in Seoul Korea to be the United States representative. He also said in his time at BJU, the best change has been Dr. Steve Pettit's fresh vision for student life and spiritual



The Cooks met at BJU and have been married for 43 years.

Photo: Lindsay Shaleen

health, student recruitment, and opportunities for students to build and enjoy community.

The Cooks served in church music ministry from 1978 to 2015. Cook said they intend to look for opportunities to serve in a local church after they retire. The Cooks also direct the Rivertree Singers and plan to continue to do so. The Rivertree Singers is made up of collegiate choral group alumni from South Carolina. They offer five concerts every season and host a choral festival each summer.

Cook said he will miss the people of BJU the most: colleagues and students who he said constantly challenged his perspective and encouraged his vision for Christ's work. The Cooks held their farewell concert on April 23 in Founder's Memorial Amphititorium, a

Chorale concert titled "So Many Joys and Wonders." This concert concluded 33 years of the Cooks' work with Chorale.

At the concert Dr. Michael Moore, chair of the Division of Music, said Chorale has gained regional, national and international acclaim under the direction of Cook. "Warren and Jean both have pointed us to Christ, not only in the beauty of their chorale artistry, but in the way they go about making music," Moore said. "Together they have been an inspiring example of what we call redemptive artistry in action – yielding themselves and their gifts to the Lord and wielding those gifts for His glory and the good of others." Moore also quoted a favorite phrase of Cook: "We don't use people to make music. We use music to make people."



The Cooks embrace after their final BJU concert on April 23. Dr. Cook directed Chorale and Mrs. Cook accompanied on the piano.

Photo: Bradley Allweil

# BJU refreshes global outreach

Johnathon Smith

STAFF WRITER

Despite being one of Bob Jones University's newest resources, the Center for Community and Global Health already offers opportunities for service across the world from Greenville to Ghana.

According to Dr. Amy Hicks, a faculty member in the Division of Health Sciences, the story of the CCGH began in 2018 when Bob Jones University students took a medical outreach trip to the Ivory Coast through Medical Missions Outreach. Hicks convinced the organization to allow the students to educate the patients on better health practices during a health clinic, something MMO had never done before. MMO now conducts public health education on most of their mission trips because of the success BJU students experienced.

Dr. Bernard Kadio, a faculty member in the Division of Health Sciences who is from the Ivory Coast, came to BJU after seeing the students' work. Shortly after Kadio joined

the University faculty in 2019, he asked Hicks what reputation she wanted their division to have. "Most of all, I wanted us to be known for the fact that we had a heart to see the vulnerable populations around the world," Hicks said. Specifically, Hicks hopes to reach those who face financial and social barriers to receiving healthcare.

Hicks said this goal is taken directly from a Bible verse. "He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?" (Micah 6:8)

Hoping to accomplish that goal, Kadio and Hicks proposed the CCGH to the administration. After it was approved, the new resource launched in August 2020.

Hicks said she hopes students from many different majors will become involved in the CCGH. The Center needs students with gifts in languages, education, marketing, counseling and other diverse areas, not just those interested in health science.



Hicks leads a meeting with student members of the CCGH at the Center's headquarters.

Photo: Lindsay Shaleen

Currently, the CCGH offers opportunities to perform research and engage in health education both locally and in foreign countries. Locally, the Center has partnered with the Greenville Homeless Alliance to educate people in need. In May, 16 team members will travel to Ghana in order to conduct research on childhood malnutrition.

Benjamin Brewer, a graduate assistant in the Division of Health Sciences, has assisted Kadio and Hicks in planning the trip to Ghana. Brewer volunteered to be a member of the team in the fall of 2020, but he began to take on more responsibilities after asking if he could help do anything to prepare for the trip. Brewer said this trip is meant to be the first of a recurring annual series of research trips that build on each other. He thinks this model will have a longer lasting impact on the people of Ghana by ministering to their physical and spiritual needs.

"At the beginning, we'll be conducting a lot of surveys, focus groups and that kind of thing to specifically target the problem of childhood malnutrition," Brewer said. "As we're able to conduct more research and develop more interventions for them, every year we can hopefully go back and give them more and more

comprehensive solutions that are appropriate to their cultural context."

The team will be working with Aiyinase Baptist Academy in Aiyinase, Ghana, to spread the word about their visit. However, this trip will be the first time Bob Jones University faculty and students have planned the

The Hope Christian Medical Center in the Ivory Coast is one of the CCGH's biggest projects. Hicks expects the Center to have a permanent presence within the next five years. "We would have opportunities for students to do semesters abroad . . . at the Hope Christian Medical Center while they're

**"WE NEED TO BE LEADERS. WE DON'T NEED TO SIT AROUND AND BE THINKING THAT WE'RE NOT AS SMART, GOOD ENOUGH OR WELL-TRAINED."**

**-DR. AMY HICKS**



Kadio talks with students about upcoming CCGH opportunities.

Photo: Lindsay Shaleen

itinerary for a research trip without the help of another organization.

Hicks said she hopes to add similar research trips to Togo, Peru and an undetermined location in Asia in the near future. Eventually, she hopes to have research teams visiting each of the six inhabited continents. Hicks believes trips like these will increase participants' empathy for people across the world and allow faculty members to publish peer-reviewed material.

learning."

The CCGH also sponsors other events that increase awareness of public health issues. For example, the Center held a symposium on COVID-19's lasting effects on April 22.

Hicks believes these activities will give students the confidence to pursue leading positions in their workplace. "We need to be leaders," Hicks said. "We don't need to sit around and be thinking that we're not as smart, good enough or well-trained."

Division of Communication  
Graduate Students Awarded

In fall of 2020, Division of Communication graduate students submitted their research papers to the 91st annual Southern States Communication Association Conference. After a competitive review process by virtual panels, the highest rated papers from competing universities were presented at the Conference in April of 2021.



Three BJU Division of Communication graduate students, Samantha Pfeiffer, Kaitlyn Stodola and Allison Gibbs, had their papers selected to be highlighted on panel discussions.

In addition to being selected to present their work, Pfeiffer and Stodola both presented on Top Paper panels with Samantha Pfeiffer going on to win the award of “Top Paper” in the category of Mass Communication for her work.

“This is an opportunity for our master’s program to receive external validation,” Dr. Charlotte Burke, Division of Communication faculty member, said. “When our graduate student work is anonymously reviewed and compared with the work of other graduate students, then selected for presentation and perhaps even as a top paper, that is confirmation of the quality of our BJU graduate education in communication.”

Paper topics:

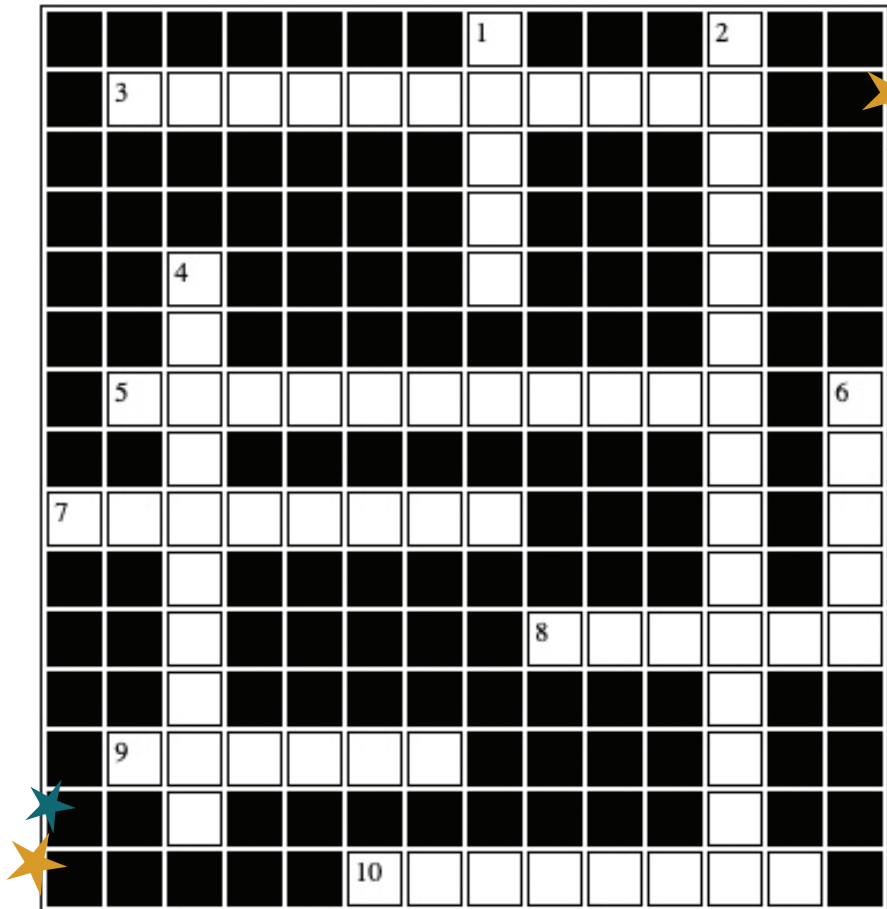
Kaitlyn Stodola  
“Control the War: An Overview and Application of Framing” and “Survival Through Commitment: A Deeper Look at the Importance and Processes of Trust and Commitment in Non-Profit Organization”

Samantha Pfeiffer  
“Sustainability as a Lifestyle: An Examination of Individual Experiences” and “The Public’s Reaction to Kobe Bryant’s Death as an Example of Parasocial Mourning”

Allison Gibbs  
“Image Repair Theory: Response to Southwest Flight 1380”

Text: Jewel Schuurmans Graphic: Alicia DeMott

ALICIA DEMOTT'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS:

- 3. I would rather fail the test than forget one of these and have to ask to borrow one from someone who was actually prepared.
- 5. You'll be pulling a lot of these with your roommates, but at least you will all be exhausted in solidarity.
- 7. You will be doing a lot of this for the next few days if you want to pass your classes. Don't you hate those people who can go without doing this and still do better than you?
- 8. Hopefully you study for these because C's may get degress but A's get you a mansion in the Alps.
- 9. If your veins aren't pumped with this magical liquid you are not staying awake for finals week . . . unfortunately, I don't like this form of caffiene.
- 10. You'll get plenty of these headaches while at school . . . always when you've committed to studying and avoiding procrastinating at all costs.

DOWN:

- 1. Sheer\_\_\_\_\_ that caused you to stay up past 2 a.m. to study . . . you knew you procrastinated too long.
- 2. The ultimate adrenaline rush and the reason you didn't start that Essential Science discussion post yet.
- 4. Some of you lucky seniors made it this far . . . unfortunately for the rest of us, we have a few more “late nights” to suffer through.
- 6. These cost a fortune, so buckle up, future freshmen, your room decor isn't worth the money anymore.



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# Bruins install new workout facility

Johanna Huebscher  
STAFF WRITER

The Bob Jones University athletic department has recently opened a new outdoor training facility, a Conex building, for its student athletes.

The Conex building is a converted storage unit retrofitted to house athletic equipment located behind the Davis Field House near the running track. Athletes take equipment from the unit and work outside. Sports information director Jonny Gamet helped coordinate the project. “You can do your strength and conditioning and then go for a run right afterwards,” Gamet said. “Our student athletes definitely utilize that aspect of it.” This enables a holistic approach to working out by having several elements of a team’s workout in the same location.

The Conex building is equipped with free weights, benches to do chest exercise, rubber bands for workouts and more. Outside of the

Conex building are pull-up bars. The Conex building has a roof that extends about six or seven feet beyond the building on all sides so students can work

★ **“WE CAN NOW ADAPT THE EXERCISES FOR OUR NEEDS AND SETBACKS. IT JUST SHOWS THAT THE SCHOOL IS THINKING ABOUT THE BRUINS AND IS THINKING ABOUT OUR HEALTH WELLNESS”** ★  
★ **—ANDREA VILLAVERDE** ★

out in the rain. “It’s not just a good weather type facility,” Gamet said.

Senior biology major Noah Villiger has been working out in the corner where the Conex building is currently located since before the facility was built. “There’s a small pull-up bar on the side,”



Bruins basketball player Kenneth Garrick lifts weights during a team workout at the outdoor facility installed earlier this semester. Photo: Bradley Allweil

Villiger said. “I’ve been using that for two years now, and now they opened this which is way bigger, so it’s really nice.” Although the workout facility was made with Bruins in mind, students like Villiger can make good use of it. “It’s technically for Bruins athletes, but even if you’re not a Bruins athlete, you can still use all the bars and everything,” Villiger said.

Bruins women’s volleyball player Andrea Villaverde has used the facility multiple times for conditioning throughout the volleyball season and in the off season. “You can utilize the box for literally anything,” Villaverde said. While the women did conditioning before, they didn’t have access to the wide variety of workouts they now have. “You can definitely see a huge difference,” Villaverde said. The box also allows for more flexibility with workouts. “We can now adapt the exercises for our needs and setbacks,” Villaverde said. “It just shows that the school is thinking about the Bruins and is thinking about our health and wellness.”

The Conex building was put in place mainly due to the restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. “State and local governments were telling us we can only have a certain number of people in workout facilities,” Gamet said. “We have over 200 student athletes and we didn’t want to overwhelm the two workout facilities that we have on campus.” It was then

that assistant athletic director Wyatt Parker came up with the idea of building an outdoor facility. “We wanted to come up

is that shipping containers are very, very cheap,” Gamet said. “The other thing that saved us a lot of money is we had some



The Bruins women’s basketball team perform exercises together using equipment stored inside the Conex facility. Photo: Bradley Allweil

with an idea that would help us to live together in harmony on campus, and this has been a great solution for that,” Gamet said. The new facility enabled student athletes to get their strength and conditioning in while still allowing ample gym space for the rest of campus.

Parker had the idea for the facility late summer 2020. It took several months for the container and equipment to arrive. It then took time to retrofit the container and put a roof over the container. The athletic department opened the Conex building at the end of the fall semester in 2020. The costs to buy, build and retrofit the facility were very minimal, according to Jonny Gamet.

“The awesome thing

very dedicated and talented people here on campus that could do a lot of the work for us.” For example, the BJU Facilities team was able to utilize the welder on campus. Another factor in minimizing costs was BJU alumni with businesses who came to work alongside the BJU facilities team. “Out of the goodness of their hearts, [they] came in and said we want to partner with you on this,” Gamet said.

Gamet has no plans to dispose of the building once COVID-19 restrictions are lessened. “It’s a permanent fixture,” Gamet said. “Obviously we’ll continue to look at the usefulness of it in the future, but it’s definitely retrofitted right now to be something that stays there for the future.”



Bruins basketball player Tamrah Konieczka uses an exercise band during a workout by the Conex facility. Photo: Bradley Allweil

# The *Vintage* to release 87th edition

» From **VINTAGE** p. 1

Dr. Steve Pettit, the official work begins. Over the summer, faculty design advisor Dr. Jared Stanley works with student designers to develop a quality design concept that will illustrate the theme. This design concept will be portrayed throughout the book.

Over the following fall and spring semesters, the production unfolds until the revealing of the book, the theme and the dedicatee of the *Vintage* on Tuesday of commencement week. *Vintage* editors first divide the book into approximately 12 signatures comprised of 16 pages. Designers then work on the portrait pages and add content for the remainder of the book.

The *Vintage* is sent to Chicago for pre-press work after student and faculty advisors have

completed the signatures. Bob Muccianti aligns portraits and makes any other changes necessary prior to printing. “A big part of his job is resizing and aligning [headings], maintaining a consistent black background in all photos and color balancing portraits on each spread,” Stanley said. The *Vintage* is printed in February or March at BJU Press. When first started, the *Vintage* was printed off campus but has now been printed by BJU Press for the past 12 years.

Keirstead pointed out the most important aspect of the *Vintage* is its compilation of BJU’s history. She also said the *Vintage*, which literally means “fruit of a year,” was named by Dr. Bob Jones, Jr., to serve as a reflection on everything that happens at BJU over the course of a year. The *Vintage* started in 1935 and over time has evolved into

the publication it is today. In its beginning, the *Vintage* was more formal, but over the years the style has taken on a less formal feel. Keirstead said students have gradually done more and more of the work involved with the *Vintage* and can be credited as producers of the book. “They really do a good job,” she said.

This year’s student editor, senior graphic design major Kelly Vervae, primarily serves as the liaison between faculty advisors and students. She carries several responsibilities including her creation of the theme and ensuring staff members meet deadlines. Vervae has appreciated the opportunity to be on staff as editor. “It has really been an amazing experience being part of something like this,” she said. “I am going through the job interview process right now, so being able to refer back to



2021 *Vintage* editor Kelly Vervae meets with the student yearbook staff. Photo submitted by Kelly Vervae

the experiences I have had with [the *Vintage*] . . . has been really helpful.”

Stanley enjoys working with the students on staff during the production process. “I get to know the graphic design team particularly well . . . and help them outside of the classroom setting to continue to develop and grow,” he said. Stanley also plays a vital role in working with the printing division, particularly Don Barrett and Bill Robson, to ensure that the *Vintage* is printed per his specifications.

The 2021 *Vintage* will be showcased on Tuesday, May 4 during chapel. Student editor Vervae will honor this year’s dedicatee and explain the significance behind the theme. *Vintage* dedicatees are selected based on several criteria such as length of service and overall contributions to the University and its students over time. The dedicatee is kept intentionally confidential until the dedicatee is told the day before the *Vintage*’s reveal.

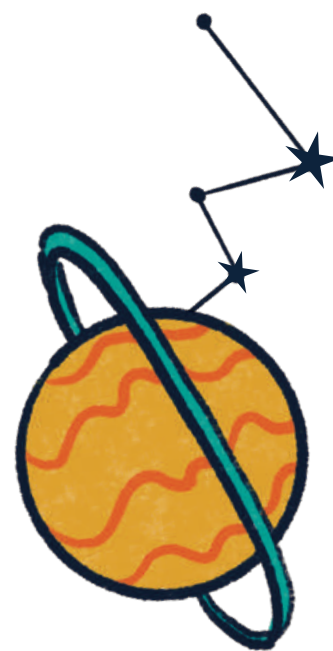
Students may pick up their 2021 *Vintage* in the Rodeheaver Auditorium

lobby on May 4 from 11:45 a.m. to 8 p.m. or May 5 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. For students enrolled both semesters of this academic year, the cost of the *Vintage* is included in their program fee. Students enrolled only one semester will pay \$25 to secure their copy. An online version of the *Vintage* may be accessed at [bjuvintage.com](http://bjuvintage.com).

Students interested in joining the staff next year should reach out to Kelly Vervae if interested in web, photography, graphic design or copywriting positions.



Every *Vintage* edition has a unique theme that is kept confidential until its release. The 2020 *Vintage* theme was “Perspective.” Photo: Lindsay Shaleen



## THE WEEK

### CONCERT

The Rivertree Singers and BJU Chamber Singers will perform Saturday, May 1 in Rodeheaver at 7 p.m.

### FILM PREMIERE

Senior cinema students’ films will play Saturday May 1, in Stratton Hall at 7 p.m.

### VINTAGE

*Vintage* copies will be available Tuesday, May 4, from 11:45 a.m. to 8 p.m. in Rodeheaver lobby.

### SOCIETY

Final society meetings for men and women will be held Wednesday, May 5, at 11 a.m.