

# The Flight Plan

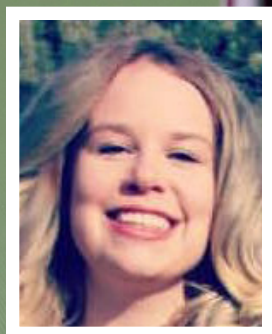


*A Report of the Society of Yeager Scholars at Marshall University*



**GEN. ANTHONY  
CRUTCHFIELD RECEIVES  
5TH ANNUAL WILLIS  
LEADERSHIP AWARD**

Page 5



**SHELBY BREWSTER  
SHINES AT THE UNIVERSITY  
OF PITTSBURGH**

Page 3



## THE SOCIETY OF YEAGER SCHOLARS AT 30

Dear Yeager Scholars and Supporters-Past, Present and Future:

Can it be? Thirty years? My oh my, what does that say about us who were there at the creation?



Why good things, of course. We launched a wonderful thing — from those who worked at the initial planning to those first recruits

who set the bar for a program much imitated but never equaled. We can never thank those folks enough for setting us on the path to fulfilling our claim to be “Only The Best.” What stories we can (and do) tell.

Then came years of steady progress, with a few dips in between. But we believed in what we were doing, and as we continued to convince others of the value of our effort we brought in excellent Scholars, excellent board members

*We produce leaders with an integrated view of the world, bolstered by an interdisciplinary education including an international experience.*

and excellent staff. Those leaders the program produced paid back with their contributions to society as General Yeager predicted. He said to me once that being a part of the Society of Yeager Scholars was one of the most important things he had ever done. He expected great things of them all, and he went on with a few “expletive deleted” statements about how he felt about anything that got in their way.

I always felt that we were all — students, supporters and faculty — on the journey together, that any good or bad event affected us,

every one. We stood together and faced what came. We are strong because of that continuing feeling. The adaptations brought about by changing times have made the program look different from the original concept, but the core remains. We produce leaders with an integrated view of the world, bolstered by an interdisciplinary education including an international experience. Alumni give their enormous talent to their communities, to the world and to their fellow Scholars. Our time at Marshall, whether in 1987, 2017, 2047, or beyond, reinforces the principles of the Society of Yeager Scholars. With the banner claiming “Only The Best” waving over us, we continue to improve what we began those thirty years ago.

*Martha Woodward served as the director of the Yeager program from 1991 to 2006 and is in her fourth term on the Board of Directors.*

### YEAGER PROGRAM STATISTICS - 1987-2017

30 years in existence

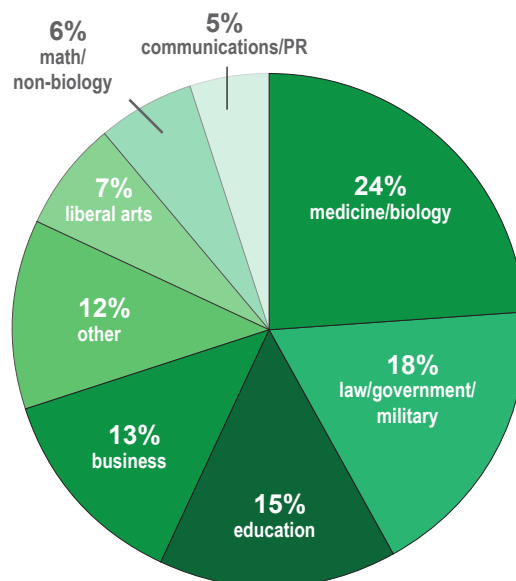
27 graduating classes

4 current classes

244 graduates

32 current students

#### ALUMNI OCCUPATIONS



#### DONATE TODAY

The Yeager Scholarship at Marshall University is made possible through generous donations from a supportive community. If you would like to make a donation to the Yeager program, please call toll-free, 1-866-308-1346 or go to:

[www.marshall.edu/foundation](http://www.marshall.edu/foundation)

## ALUMNA PROFILE: SHELBY BREWSTER, JOYCE WILLIS CLASS OF 2012

### Current location:

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

### Current occupation:

Ph.D. student, Theatre and Performance Studies, 2015-16  
Provost's Humanities Predoctoral Fellow, University of Pittsburgh.

### Yeager Class:

Joyce Willis Class of 2012



### Favorite Yeager memory:

Essentially everything about our trip to study at Oxford was simply life-changing, from the courses, to the museums, to the pub quizzes. One of my favorite memories from Oxford is walking into the Radcliffe Camera, part of the Bodleian Library, which was only accessible to students. The building is simply stunning. Writing and studying inside the Camera was an amazing experience and remains one of my most valuable memories.

### What boost did the Yeager program give you after college?

The structure of Yeager seminars provided me with a distinct advantage when I started graduate school. At both institutions I've attended since graduating from

Marshall, The Ohio State University and the University of Pittsburgh, the structure, materials, and expectations of my graduate seminars have resembled those of the four seminars I took through the Yeager program. My experience in those courses not only prepared me for the type and amount of work I would do in graduate school, but also opened up my interdisciplinary mind. Based on the wide variety of areas I explored through Yeager seminars, many of which were outside of my undergraduate study in theatre, and the seminars' interdisciplinary connections, I have continued to pursue an interdisciplinary approach in my graduate work as a scholar and as an artist.

“

*Based on the wide variety of areas I explored through Yeager seminars... I have continued to pursue an interdisciplinary approach in my graduate work as a scholar and as an artist.*

”

### Any advice for the current scholars or recent alumni?

Savor all of the personal experiences you will have in the program—studying abroad and meeting new people, the connections within your class, meeting alumni. I value the wonderful experiences I had traveling with my classmates, from Virginia to Washington, D.C., to Oxford. These trips broadened my horizons and were part of several friendships which I still treasure. Make the most of those opportunities!

### Leadership/Service:

Throughout conversations in our interdisciplinary seminars, and as a student in one of the smaller arts departments on campus, I was passionate about advocating for the arts and humanities in the context of the university,

something that is still important to me. I felt it was especially vital for students' voices to be heard at the level of the administration, who may or may not know about students' everyday experiences in their departments. I was pleased to serve on the undergraduate advisory council to Don Van Horn, dean of the College of Fine Arts. Through that opportunity, I was not only able to voice students' opinions and concerns to the administration, but also experience how that level of the university functions. This has been valuable to me as I have continued my education in two other universities since then.

*Do you know someone who should be profiled? Send your suggestions to Cara Bailey at [bailey160@marshall.edu](mailto:bailey160@marshall.edu)*

# JOHN AND BETTY SUE KINZER CLASS OF 2021



**ALEXIS ADKINS**

Proctorville, Ohio  
Fairland High School

Major: Political Science



**JORDYN BRYSON**

Barboursville, West Virginia  
Cabell Midland High School

Major: Mathematics



**ERICA BURNS**

Culloden, West Virginia  
Hurricane High School

Major: Biology



**SCOTT DAVIS**

Ranger, West Virginia  
Lincoln County High School

Major: Environmental  
Science



**BOUTHIANA FATHALLAH**

Charleston, West Virginia  
George Washington High School

Major: Biology



**LILY JURSKIS**

Jupiter, Florida  
Oxbridge Academy

Major: English



**GRACE REED**

Santa Cruz, Bolivia  
Santa Cruz Christian Learning Center

Major: International Affairs



**OLIVIA ROGERS**

Huntington, West Virginia  
Huntington High School

Major: Engineering



**JOHN AND BETTY SUE KINZER**

The 31st Class of Yeager Scholars is named for ardent Marshall supporters, John and Betty Sue Kinzer. The Kinzers, Huntington residents and graduates of Marshall, are active members of the Herd family. They are in the President's Circle, and John has served as the president of the MU Alumni Association and the interim CEO of the Marshall Foundation. He is currently on the Foundation Board and serves as the treasurer for the Society of Yeager Scholars Board of Directors.





Photos by Toril Lavender, Lavender Photography

The Wolfe Family Class of 2017, shortly after receiving their medallions, are pictured with Kenneth and Margaret Wolfe, for whom their class is named. From left, Amanda Schwartz, Abby Pullen, Chandler Milam, Margaret Wolfe, Kenneth Wolfe, Ben Jones, Mary Kate Miller, and Sara Brumbaugh.

# 2017 Medallion Ceremony

Annual ceremony also celebrates 25th anniversary for the Francis Class of 1992



Several members from the Francis Class of 1992 came to the Huntington campus to be recognized on their 25th anniversary. Front row: Jennifer Snider, Maribeth Anderson, Maureen Mack, Belina Alfonso; Back row: Bill Snider, Scott Anderson, Rob McKinney, Chris Stadelman.

**T**he six students in the Wolfe Family Class of 2017 were recognized May 5 at the Yeager Medallion Ceremony. All six students graduated *summa cum laude* and each graduated with a job or a graduate program.

**Amanda Schwartz** is the administrative coordinator for WVFree, located in Charleston.

**Abby Pullen** is heading to Indiana University - Bloomington, for an M.A.T. in Latin.

**Chandler Milam** is now a director of philanthropy with the Marshall University Foundation.

**Mary Kate Miller** will attend the Marshall University School of Pharmacy.

**Ben Jones** will attend Mercer University for an M.A.T. in Secondary Education (Mathematics).

**Sara Brumbaugh** will work toward an M.A.T. in Secondary Education (Mathematics) at Kennesaw State University.



## SCHOLAR SUBMISSIONS

Dancing by David Hannan

—for Katelyn [*Distance: 4,078 Miles*]

Downtown  
in a gazebo

across from the Red Caboose  
at Heritage Station

I'm awkward and  
ambivalent;

your denim'd hips betray  
years of experience.

You taught me how  
to swing dance

to Ed Sheeran singing,  
"should this be...

the last thing I see  
...it's enough for me,"

muffled from the iPhone  
in my back-pocket.

Right Left Right  
Left Right Left

Right. Left.  
Push your hip.

Turn.  
Repeat.

Though I knew  
I'd never quite dance

en pointe or  
pas de bourree

and that Debussy  
was the only  
arabesque  
I'd ever perform;

though I looked like Bill Nye  
on "Dancing with the Stars"—

I was as sure  
as I could be

that, with you—  
I was Baryshnikov.

"Dancing" was written by rising senior David Hannan while his then-girlfriend, now-fiancée, Katelyn, was traveling in North Africa. It received first place in Poetry at the 2017 Maier Awards.

"Photogenic Ovaries," by recent graduate Amanda Schwartz, is a braided memoir about Amanda's personal journey with birth control. It was published in Thoreau's *Rooster* and also placed third in the Creative Nonfiction category of the Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society National Convention.

*The following is an excerpt from  
"Photogenic Ovaries," by Amanda  
Schwartz, Wolfe Family Class of 2017*

~~~

To raise my own, ultimately, is what it boils down to. My brother, however much I cherished and helped or failed him, is not my child, just a part of a greater web of people whom I was learning to lift up. It comes down to them – my true children, the ones whose lives I will help shape with the compassion and grace I pray is inside of me.

The reflection in their round, knowing eyes will show me who I really am; all of my mistakes, all of my flaws, coupled with my greatest triumphs. My mother tells me being a parent teaches you things about yourself you never knew, feelings you never felt, like the strength it takes to maintain consistent discipline, the shock of frustrated anger that causes you to even fathom shaking your child, the shame as you rush from the room, exhausted and terrified... I want to know how I stack up, like it's a challenge I have

to prove myself worthy of facing, but deeper than that, like a calling, as if I can't live the rest of my life without knowing that experience inside and out.

I feel almost as if I'm betraying my body by keeping it from that. I hold a foreign object inside me where my children should grow, perverting its purpose. A hostile uterus. A few months after the IUD was placed, I had to get a transvaginal ultrasound to ensure it was in the right location.

While I was lying there, sonographic wand digging around inside me, the technician performing the procedure informed me that I had photogenic ovaries. "Sometimes they hide and we have to search around for them, but yours just want me to take their picture!" she exclaimed, pointing out two white blobs as if they should mean something to me. As if they had personalities and desires of their own. I forced a laugh, staring down the ghostly, t-shaped outline glowing between them, the picture shifting and trembling like a heartbeat. ■

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPOTLIGHT

Jessica Kennedy is a graduate of the Ed H. Maier Class of 2006 and now serves as a Yeager board member. She is also a proud, native West Virginian who believes in the beauty and potential of her home state and its people. Jessica grew up in Spencer and is a graduate of Marshall University and the University of Colorado Denver. She has built a career in advertising and design, focusing on projects that address social issues.

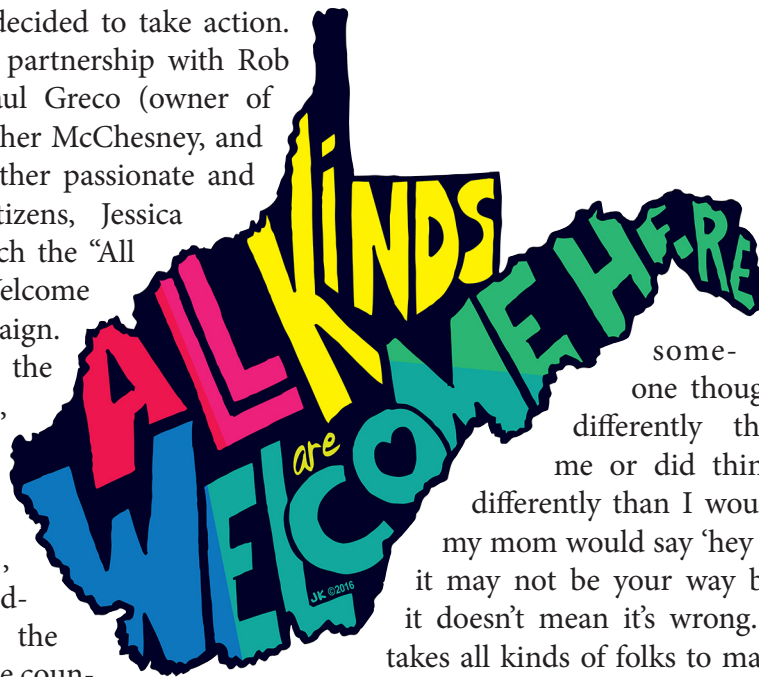
By day, Jessica serves as director of communications and outreach for the Higher Education Policy Commission, where she is part of a team working to expand opportunities to help all West Virginians go to and succeed in college. Jessica also runs a small graphic design and web development business called Black Bear Creative with her lifelong friend, Brianna Allen.

When the West Virginia House of Delegates introduced legislation that threatened to give license to injustice and discrimination, a group of friends who congregate at Sam's Up-

town Cafe decided to take action. Working in partnership with Rob Crowley, Paul Greco (owner of Sam's), Heather McChesney, and dozens of other passionate and engaged citizens, Jessica helped launch the "All Kinds are Welcome Here" campaign.

As part of the campaign, thousands of organizations, businesses, and individuals across the state (and the country) posted stickers and signs sharing their values and the belief that West Virginia is an open and welcoming place for everyone.

Jessica designed the "All Kinds are Welcome Here" graphic. She said words of wisdom from her mother inspired the design and language used in the symbol. "When I was growing up and I was frustrated because



some- one thought differently than me or did things differently than I would, my mom would say 'hey — it may not be your way but it doesn't mean it's wrong. It takes all kinds of folks to make the world go round,'" Jessica said. "I think we've created a political climate — and maybe a culture — that defaults to anger and fear in response to differences. With the "All Kinds" campaign, we want to change that so that our default response is openness and kindness and love."

*Portions of this article first appeared in the WV Pride Guide and are being reused with permission.*

## Crutchfield receives 5th annual Willis Leadership Award



Members of the Gillette Class of 2020, pictured with Tony Crutchfield at the 5th Annual Yeager Leadership Institute this past April. From left, Luca Brambilla, Langley Sonnenberg, Paige Looney, Tony Crutchfield, Tatiana Schrader, Alex Canfield, Will Sheils and Faith Hensley.

Lt. Gen. Anthony Crutchfield was honored in April as the 2017 recipient of the William E. Willis Leadership Award. Tony, a 1982 graduate of Marshall, recently retired from the U.S. Army after 35 years of service. At the time of his retirement, he was Deputy Commander of the U.S. Pacific Command.

The Society of Yeager Scholars Board of Directors chose Tony for his outstand-

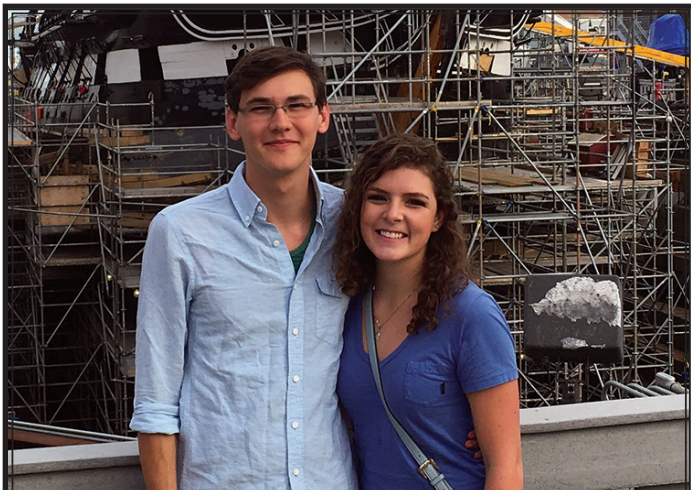
ing service to his country and exceptional leadership for the Yeager Scholars. Tony recently joined the Yeager Board of Directors.

The award, presented annually at the Yeager Leadership Institute, is named for longtime Yeager board member and supporter, William E. Willis. Past recipients include the eponymous Mr. Willis, Paula George Tompkins, Joe Gillette, and Bob Brammer.

If you would like to learn more about the Society of Yeager Scholars,  
please contact Outreach Coordinator Cara Bailey at 304-696-2474 or [bailey160@marshall.edu](mailto:bailey160@marshall.edu).

[WWW.MARSHALL.EDU/YEAGER](http://WWW.MARSHALL.EDU/YEAGER)

## YEAGER SCHOLAR ACHIEVEMENTS



**Ben Jones** and **Sara Brumbaugh**, pictured above, have each been awarded a teaching fellowship from the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation. Ben and Sara, who graduated in May, will receive their master's degrees in addition to extensive preparation for teaching mathematics in high-need rural or urban schools, plus a \$30,000 stipend. Ben chose to further his education at Mercer University, while Sara will be attending Kennesaw State University.



### REBECCA TURNBULL

Rebecca Turnbull, a rising senior in the James and Verna Gibson Class of 2018, has been named as the summer intern for the West Virginia Secretary of State. Rebecca, a broadcast journalism major, spent the Spring 2017 semester as a journalism intern for the West Virginia Legislature.

### ELIZABETH ADAMS AND HUNTER BARCLAY

Elizabeth Adams and Hunter Barclay, both in the Dr. Daniel P. Babb Class of 2019, led their team to victory in the Intuit Innovating for Impact Challenge, hosted at Marshall this April. As two of the six students on team 42 Peaks, Liz and Hunter helped design an app that would connect people affected by substance abuse to resources, support groups, community events, peers with similar experiences, real-time video mentors and other resources. As a reward, Liz and Hunter were given a two-day immersive experience at some of the top technology companies located in Silicon Valley, such as Facebook, Google, and Intuit.

### TATIANA SCHRADER

Tatiana Schrader, a sophomore from the Joseph and Pamela Gillette Class of 2020, received a place on a Fulbright Summer Institute to study at the University of Exeter. Tatiana will experience the U.K. on a four-week summer program while taking courses geared around the theme of climate change.

