AS WE ENTER INTO OUR THIRD CENTURY, GW REMAINS COMMITTED TO MAKING A BETTER WORLD.
Dear Members of Our D.C. Community,

I am pleased to share with you the George Washington University’s second annual GW Serves D.C. Report. For centuries, the George Washington University and our students, faculty, staff and alumni have served the District in important and meaningful ways.

As the university embarks on its third century, we are committed to strengthening the invaluable partnerships we have established across all the District’s eight wards. These collaborations are guided by our deep commitment to serve our neighbors and communities—whether in work to address health disparities, including through the forthcoming Cedar Hill Regional Medical Center, GW Health; pandemic response and expertise; policy research and advocacy; innovation and entrepreneurship; or programming and scholarships for the next generation of District leaders.

GW’s civic engagement activities, coordinated by the Honey W. Nashman Center for Civic Engagement and Public Service as well as the academic programs in our schools and colleges, address issues that are important to the residents of Washington, D.C. From mentoring the city’s youth in D.C. schools to participating in days of service across the District, George Washington University faculty, staff and students are helping to improve lives.

Our partnerships are driven by our mission and the needs of the District, and they are rooted in our long-term commitment to finding creative and collaborative solutions. I am very proud of the role our institution of higher education and its teaching, research and patient care play in the dynamic life of our city. I look forward to the continued impact we will have together improving our home here in Washington, D.C.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

Sincerely yours,

Mark S. Wrighton
President
GW will provide patient care and community programming focused on health and wellness in wards 7 and 8 in the city’s first new hospital in 20 years. The new $375 million, 365,000-square-foot medical campus, Cedar Hill Regional Medical Center, GW Health, is named after Frederick Douglass’ historic Anacostia residence two miles north of the St. Elizabeths campus. The new facility aims to significantly improve access to high-quality, integrated care for District residents.

The GW Medical Faculty Associates and the GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS) will serve as the physician and academic arm of the new complex, with Children’s National Hospital offering pediatric care. Universal Health Services, the parent company of GW Hospital, will run the new facility.

“The George Washington University is honored to join with the District to develop a new hospital to deliver high-quality comprehensive health care services to the citizens of Ward 7 and Ward 8,” GW President Mark S. Wrighton said. “Our university faculty of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences and the GW Medical Faculty Associates are committed to providing world-class, patient-centered care while addressing disparities in health outcomes and expanding our teaching, research and clinical footprint in the District.”
The new medical campus provides opportunities for GW’s academic medical faculty to support the health care needs of the citizens in Ward 7 and Ward 8, but it also expands opportunities for GW students and residents to provide care and learn by working with patients and families.

Construction on the Cedar Hill Regional Medical Center, GW Health, scheduled to be completed by December 2024, will support nearly 2,000 District jobs and create at least 50 apprenticeships, with more than 300 workers on site daily at its peak. The new hospital will feature a verified Level III trauma center, newborn delivery and women’s services, a Level II neonatal intensive care unit, five operating rooms, two procedure rooms and 54 emergency room bays. A full range of specialty services, including nephrology, cardiovascular, neuroscience, orthopedic, oncology, pediatric, urology and infectious disease services, as well as acute mental health and outpatient behavioral health services, will be available.

“The most critical ingredient for success in health care is a trusted partnership between the health care provider and the patient. We are eager to build those bonds with the citizens of the community we will serve at Cedar Hill,” said Barbara L. Bass, vice president for health affairs, dean of SMHS and CEO of the GW Medical Faculty Associates.

“We look forward to establishing a family medicine residency program to develop a new cohort of primary care physicians trained on the St. Elizabeths campus and poised to continue to practice in Ward 7 and Ward 8,” Bass said. “I know this group will develop important relationships with the community during their years of training at the Cedar Hill Regional Medical Center, GW Health.”
GW MILKEN INSTITUTE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND D.C. DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PARTNER TO CREATE D.C. COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE (DC COP)

Far too many children and youth in the District of Columbia face tremendous challenges that interfere with their health, well-being and ability to learn and thrive in school.

More than 47 percent of children and teens in D.C. have experienced at least one adverse childhood experience, and the impact of these experiences can have a negative effect on school performance and the ability to lead a successful life. D.C. youth are more likely than their peers to be in a physical fight in school, attempt suicide and use illegal substances. Consistent with national statistics, one in five children in D.C. has a diagnosable mental health problem, yet only 21 percent of these children receive the help they need.

To address these issues, the District of Columbia has prioritized ensuring that quality behavioral health services are available to children and youth attending its public and charter schools. Since 2019 the Center for Health and Health Care in Schools (CHHCS) at the Milken Institute School of Public Health has been working with the District of Columbia’s Department of Behavioral Health to convene and facilitate what is known as the DC Community of Practice (DC CoP). Its goal is to support the development of a comprehensive school-based behavioral health system in D.C.

The DC CoP invites school behavioral health coordinators and community-based organization clinicians, along with other members of school-based teams and community stakeholders, to participate in peer learning opportunities with the goal of embedding high-quality school behavioral health practices in all D.C. public and public charter schools.

The DC CoP regularly convenes clinicians and other partners who serve as a resource to 251 D.C. Public Schools and D.C. Public Charter Schools that collectively serve more than 50,000 children and youth. Along with other community partners and District agency leaders, DC CoP members come together monthly to learn from each other, solve problems of practice and to support the implementation of best practices in school behavioral health to promote healthy development and well-being for all students and their families. The DC CoP offers a space for system-level leaders to interact with service providers—and learn about the urgent challenges facing students, staff, families and providers—so all invested partners are empowered to respond quickly and use numerous communication channels to carry the learning into the broader system.

“I’m so proud of the work we are doing in the District to ensure our students receive the behavioral health support they need,” said Olga Acosta Price, who is a GW professor and director of CHHCS. “In three years, we have built a community of clinicians and school staff who not only learn from each other, but also support each other. It’s gratifying work and it’s making a difference in children’s and families’ lives.”

GW MOBILE VAN PROVIDES HEALTH CARE SERVICES TO PEOPLE AFFECTED BY THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC

Researchers from the George Washington University are using a mobile health van to deliver health care services to people who use opioids and are at higher risk for HIV. Leading the GW research team is principal investigator Irene Kuo, an associate research professor of epidemiology at the GW Milken Institute School of Public Health. Kuo and her colleagues travel to D.C. neighborhoods to provide integrated health services such as HIV testing, prevention and treatment including medicine used to treat opioid disorder. D.C. is one of five cities around the country participating in the four-year study, which is funded by the National Institutes of Health.

About one in 10 new HIV diagnoses in the U.S. can be linked to injection drug use. Many people who use opioids, including heroin and fentanyl, inject these drugs, which can put them at risk for health problems, including HIV. People with opioid use disorder have many barriers to care, and they tend to have, or run the risk of developing, many underlying medical conditions.

By bringing integrated care to D.C. neighborhoods, Kuo and her team hope to address not just drug use but HIV and other chronic health problems at the same time.
COMMUNITY-BASED PROJECT AIMS TO INCREASE LOCAL COVID-19 VACCINATION RATES

George Washington University School of Nursing researcher Y. Tony Yang launched a $1 million initiative to connect minority communities with culturally relevant vaccination information and resources. This federal-supported initiative was designed to expand and evaluate COVID-19 vaccine access with the goal of increasing vaccination rates among Washington, D.C., communities disproportionately harmed by the pandemic.

Working with community partners, Yang, the endowed professor in health policy and executive director of the Center for Health Policy and Media Engagement, targets racial and ethnic minority groups, including African, Hispanic and Asian communities, living in east and southeast Washington, D.C., Northern Virginia and Southern Maryland.

This cross-jurisdictional, collaborative project was part of a $121 million Biden administration push to support community-based organizations across the country that are working to build vaccine confidence, share factual information about vaccines and answer people’s questions about getting vaccinated.

Yang works with community groups to do outreach to unvaccinated individuals in the region and provide culturally relevant information to dissuade vaccine hesitancy and improve uptake. The funding allows community groups to hire and train part-time workers to talk about COVID-19 and provide financial incentives for individuals.

This project builds off the ecosystem of relationships Yang has formed with local organizations through a separate project focused on hepatitis funded by the Office of Minority Health. Expanding from two active federal grants, Yang hoped to get the COVID-19 project up and going to engage with a targeted 36,000 local individuals in the first 12 months. He hopes this new project will establish a sustainable model that can be used to monitor and assist with COVID-19 vaccination and be reproduced in the future.

The project provided opportunities for GW Nursing students, who were able to obtain clinical experience by volunteering with partnering organizations and acting as providers of compassionate care.
PROVIDING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

AWARDING OUTSTANDING D.C. HIGH-SCHOOL STUDENTS FULL-RIDE SCHOLARSHIPS

GW’s Stephen Joel Trachtenberg (SJT) Scholarship program, founded in 1989, provides ten academically talented D.C. high school seniors with four-year, full-ride scholarships, covering tuition, room and board, books and fees at the university.

Launched as the 21st Century Scholarship by GW Emeritus President Stephen Joel Trachtenberg, this annual award is designed to support talented high-school seniors from D.C.’s public and public charter high schools to GW. The university selects students based on high school academic performance, strength of curriculum, recommendations, leadership qualities, community service, extracurricular activities and achievements and standardized test scores, should they choose to submit them.

Each spring, the GW prize patrol surprises SJT Scholarship recipients at their high schools. Since its inception, the SJT scholarship program has enrolled over 200 District of Columbia students and provided over $25 million in scholarships.

The 10 recipients represent the following D.C. schools: Bell Multicultural High School/Columbia Heights Educational Campus, Benjamin Banneker Academic High School, Cesar Chavez Public Charter School, Eastern High School, Jackson-Reed High School, McKinley Technology High School, and Thurgood Marshall Academy.

“Your motivation and thirst for knowledge are what make you such an exciting addition to the George Washington University’s vibrant community of scholars,” Provost Christopher Alan Bracey told scholarship recipients. “Here, your potential will be fully realized.”

This year, graduating George Washington University senior Lester Maupoy, a 2018 recipient of the SJT Scholarship, realized his potential. He wants to work in
data analytics in the music industry, but is also intrigued by entrepreneurship and understanding how markets work. In addition, Maupoy, who moved to the United States from the Philippines as a student in eighth grade, discovered a passion for cooking and hasn’t ruled out culinary school in the future.

Maupoy’s involvement in clubs, activities and classrooms at GW has opened multiple career paths thanks to receipt of the SJT scholarship four years earlier. Maupoy was able to discover his interests without worrying about their costs.

“My time as an SJT scholar allowed me an opportunity to explore what I want in my career and personal life without thinking about my financial hardships,” said Maupoy, who earned a degree in business administration.

Maupoy and six other graduating SJT scholars were honored at a ceremony in the School of Media and Public Affairs building days before the 2022 Commencement on the National Mall.

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**PARTNERING WITH D.C.’S SCHOOL WITHOUT WALLS**

GW has a longstanding collaboration with the School Without Walls (SWW), a nationally ranked D.C. public high school located on GW’s Foggy Bottom campus. Since 1980, the two institutions have partnered on myriad levels with the goal of fostering a mutually beneficial learning environment.

This collaboration includes the GW Early College Program, which gives SWW students the opportunity to take college courses and earn a GW associate’s degree while also completing high school. Examples of other joint initiatives include facilities sharing, teaching collaborations, GW graduate students serving as interns, tuition-free access to GW courses for SWW students, and educator training. Also, GW students, faculty and staff review and assess the senior theses of all SWW students.

**PARTNERING WITH DUKE ELLINGTON SCHOOL OF THE ARTS**

GW and the Duke Ellington School of the Arts have a decades-long partnership that was created by Peggy Cooper Cafritz, a distinguished GW alumna, who was the force behind the founding of the Duke Ellington School. In 1974, after years of lobbying, Cafritz secured permission to turn a summer arts program into an arts school and secured a building on R Street in Georgetown.

In 2000, Duke Ellington created a governing board and formed partnerships with GW and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. GW contributes to the partnership by having three GW representatives serve on the Duke Ellington School of the Arts Project Board of Directors. GW also promotes Ellington’s jazz program on GW radio, assisting the school in categorizing and planning for the enhanced storage of its significant art collection and working with faculty and students on multiple projects.
GW REACHES OUT TO LOCAL D.C. STUDENTS TO PROMOTE CAREERS IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

The Elliott School’s Generations Dialogue Project aims to increase the representation of groups typically underrepresented in international affairs. The project builds on the recently published book, *The Young Black Leader’s Guide to a Successful Career in International Affairs: What the Giants Want You to Know*, co-authored by three members of the Elliott School community: Advisory Committee member Aaron Williams, alumna Taylor Jack and faculty member Jennifer Brinkerhoff. Students from the Elliott School of International Affairs exposed hundreds of D.C. high-school students to the possibility of a career in international affairs. They engaged with seasoned practitioners who shared their experiences, challenges and advice. The conversations included topics such as the rewards of an international public service career, convincing your family it’s a good idea, imposter syndrome, being your authentic self and more.

For Ramani Wilson, Elliott School senior and SJT Scholar, it was a chance to give back to her community, share with younger students the advantages of an international affairs career and open minds to broader possibilities. She helped organize two major events through programs she had benefited from as a D.C. high-school student.

Generations Fellow Laura Narcisse, a rising junior at the Elliott School, led the conversations with international affairs experts and trailblazers. At Benjamin Banneker Academic High School, she collaborated with Victoria Cooper, a senior vice president at an international development contracting firm, and engaged 175 incoming first-year high-school students. In a separate event, she spoke with Ambassador Gina Abercrombie-Winstanley, the U.S. State Department’s first chief diversity officer, before an audience of over 200 students from the Marion Barry Youth Leadership Institute and Global Kids.

The high-school students asked what it was like to live and work abroad. They raised concerns about finances, safety, discrimination and representing U.S. policy they might not agree with. Narcisse shared why she chose this path and what she intends to do with her international affairs education. Wilson shared her experiences with study abroad and encouraged students to commit to their studies and leadership opportunities so they, too, could win a college scholarship.

GW STUDENTS TUTOR AND MENTOR LOCAL MIDDLE-SCHOOL STUDENTS

In fall 2021, the Honey W. Nashman Center for Civic Engagement and Public Service launched Math Matters, a high-impact tutoring program developed in partnership with CityTutor DC and GWTeach. Math Matters trains GW students to become effective tutors and role models for D.C. Public Schools (DCPS) middle-school students, who they meet with for an hour and a half each week.

During the spring 2022 semester, 21 GW students served more than 100 DCPS students from three middle schools in wards 6 and 7. Based on the strong initial performance, the Nashman Center was awarded significant funding by the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) to expand GW Math Matters through 2024. In the 2022-2023 academic year, Math Matters plans to expand its reach by recruiting 80 tutors and serving more than 300 DCPS students.
GW PARTNERS WITH DCPS TO CREATE AN EQUITY-CENTERED PRINCIPAL PIPELINE

School leaders are second only to classroom teachers in their school-based influence on student outcomes and achievement. In 2021, DCPS received new grant funding from the Wallace Foundation for a five-year project. The project is designed to prepare DCPS system employees who aspire to become school leaders to serve in this critical role.

Through this partnership project, GW’s Graduate School of Education and Human Development’s (GSEHD) Educational Leadership and Administration (ELA) program has joined the Wallace Foundation-funded District Partnership Team (DPT). Working with DCPS, Howard University, the D.C. Public Education Fund and OSSE, an equity-centered principal pipeline within DCPS was launched.

GSEHD faculty members began supporting DCPS’s needs through a research practice partnership that focused on understanding and addressing questions of equity within DCPS’s principal leadership pipeline. Findings from this work are informing the District Partnership Team’s work. Since September 2021, the partnership has begun drafting equity-centered leadership standards to begin defining what an equity-centered leader needs to know and be able to do. The partners also attend Wallace Foundation convenings to learn from other school districts and universities engaged in preparing and supporting principals in making a vision for equity a reality. During the lifetime of the project, this initiative will prepare DCPS educators, through the GSEHD ELA program, for their roles as assistant principals and principals.

GW’s ELA program is nationally recognized by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation, the National Educational Leadership Preparation Specialized Association, and is a member of the University Council for Educational Administration. In future years, aspiring DCPS leaders will enroll in ELA courses redesigned to prepare equity-centered school leaders to fill critical school leadership roles in the District.

INSPIRE MIDDLE-SCHOOL STUDENTS TO GIVE BACK TO THEIR COMMUNITIES

The Nashman Center’s GW Civic Changemakers program was expanded this year as a part of the Emerson Collective Youth Collaborative (ECYC). The ECYC summer internship program consists of 250 college students from 129 colleges and universities around the country. This coordinated effort between Emerson Collective, George Washington University, National Geographic and Smithsonian Institution was designed to recruit young leaders who are motivated to support their communities and advance social justice.

During the summer of 2022, 49 GW students participated, along with students from other colleges and universities around the country, as interns to lead a five-week summer program in two D.C. middle schools, Eliot-Hine Middle School in Ward 6 and Sousa Middle School in Ward 7. The interns received rigorous training on facilitating summer learning and studied the District’s history, culture and politics. Interns led groups of middle-school students through the Civic Changemaker program, which included service-learning projects to address issues that were important to the students and the local community.

Civic Changemaker interns helped to build student reading, writing and communication skills, oral and visual presentation and critical thinking skills as they worked on their Civic Changemaker projects. During the lifetime of the project, this initiative will prepare DCPS educators, through the GSEHD ELA program, for their roles as assistant principals and principals.
ADDRESSING COMMUNITY NEEDS

THE HONEY W. NASHMAN CENTER FOR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND PUBLIC SERVICE

The Honey W. Nashman Center for Civic Engagement and Public Service is a university-wide office whose mission is to integrate civic engagement into GW’s educational work. We promote equity and active citizenship in a diverse democracy, focus GW’s resources to address community needs through reciprocal partnerships beyond the campus and enhance teaching, learning and scholarship at GW.

We do this through three primary avenues:

Community-engaged scholarship: Students, faculty and community partners leverage their skills and resources to make a difference through over 80 service-learning courses each year along with dozens of ongoing community-engaged research projects.

Community Service & Engagement: Hundreds of GW students tutor, mentor and serve on a weekly basis in partnership with D.C. public schools and nonprofits, in addition to the examples of immersive one-day service programs highlighted here.

Social Innovation: Students and faculty work with D.C. residents and organizations to turn their ideas for social innovation into action with funding and mentoring provided by the Nashman Center.

Because of its academic and institutional commitment to community engagement, GW received designation by the Carnegie Foundation as a Community-Engaged Institution in 2020. This is the highest recognition an institution can receive for its commitment to community engagement.

Caroline Laguerre-Brown, Vice Provost, Diversity, Equity and Community Engagement

Amy B. Cohen, Executive Director, Honey W. Nashman Center for Civic Engagement and Public Service

GW DAYS OF SERVICE

Each year, GW holds several events and workshops that give opportunities for students, faculty and staff to engage in service that addresses the needs of residents of the District and surrounding communities.

Welcome Day of Service

Welcome Day of Service is the official welcome event for the incoming first-year class at GW. The president, provost, faculty, staff and student leaders join first-year students for a day filled with engaging speakers and various service projects around the District.

Organized by the GW Honey W. Nashman Center for Civic Engagement and Public Service, the annual service day tradition began in 2010 after former First Lady Michelle Obama challenged the university to complete 100,000 volunteer hours in one academic year. The university has exceeded that number every year since. In 2018, the GW community completed 759,891 hours of service and was awarded 902 President’s Volunteer Service Awards, a national recognition for service.

Projects vary from year to year and spread across all eight wards of the District.

In the past, projects have included aiding organizations that support families such as painting the walls of classrooms at the Gap Community Child Center in Northwest D.C., which has educated the children of immigrant and low-income families since 1982, and helping build Habitat for Humanity houses. Students have also participated in trash clean-up projects across D.C. parks, weeded the Anacostia River watershed and trained for disaster and emergency response with GW Emergency Medical Response Group (EMeRG) and the National Academy of Sciences’ LabX.
Veterans Day of Service
Veterans Day of Service was held on Saturday, Nov. 20. The annual event is organized by the Nashman Center in partnership with GW’s Office of Military and Veteran Services. GW students served in-person and virtual partners, including A Wider Circle, No One Left Behind, Free Minds, the National Park Service and Smithsonian Transcription Project. Individuals visited the WWII Memorial at the National Mall and were honored to be given the responsibility of cleaning the memorial. Those who worked with the Smithsonian Transcription Project helped transcribe physical documents so they are available in the online archive.

MLK Day of Service and Leadership
As part of the GW celebration of the life and legacy of Martin Luther King Jr., students, faculty, staff, alumni and community members participate annually in a day of service, leadership development and interfaith dialogue. Every year, more than 800 participants gather for an opening program with keynote speakers followed by service projects both on and off campus. The MLK Day of Service and Leadership is part of GW’s annual King Week celebration throughout January with thought-provoking and inspiring programming. Service opportunities vary from year to year but have included projects ranging from local school cleanups to CPR training, from transcribing Freedmen’s Bureau documents to gathering stories of families who participate in Girls on the Run.

In 2021 and 2022, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the events of MLK Day had to be moved online. Despite the switch, the event had a good turnout and a great opening program that included the introduction of new GW President Mark S. Wrighton and a keynote presentation from D.C. Attorney General Karl Racine. The Nashman Center partnered with three organizations: Smithsonian Transcription Project, Free Minds Book Club and National Archives Citizen Archivist program. Altogether, the students completed 1,240 hours of community service.
GW ATHLETICS IMPROVES QUALITY OF LIFE FOR CHILDREN THROUGH TEAM IMPACT

Highlighted by the work of GW men’s and women’s basketball and volleyball student-athletes, GW Athletics made an indelible impact on the lives of several children facing serious and chronic illness. Brought together by national nonprofit Team IMPACT, whose mission is to improve the quality of life for sick children, student-athletes, coaches and staff bonded with Team IMPACT families through the power of teamwork. Youth attended GW practices, games, team dinners, events and various team functions, finding the love and support of all of GW Athletics. With the organizers’ hope that they would form lifelong bonds and achieve life-changing outcomes, selected children officially joined the athletics teams in a signing day ceremony and press conference, while the student-athletes joined the child’s support team. The children gained strength, camaraderie and support while the student-athletes experienced lessons of courage, resiliency and perspective they can’t learn in a classroom.

THROUGH THE GRASSROOT PROJECT, GW ATHLETICS HELPS D.C. YOUTH BETTER UNDERSTAND HEALTH AND PREVENTION STRATEGIES

At the George Washington University, student-athletes strive to be champions in competition, in the classroom and in the community. Several GW student-athletes have joined together to make a difference by educating at-risk youth in the community about HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention through the Grassroot Project (TGP) and Grassroot Colonials. What started more than a decade ago as HIV/AIDS awareness initiatives in D.C. schools, The Grassroot Project has now built an innovative model that provides low-cost, wrap-around health promotion programs for youth. GW student-athletes joined other college athletes to educate youth and engage their families in health communication skills-building workshops, while helping to connect young students and caregivers to clinical and social service providers. TGP’s programs use sports-based games as a tool to both increase the retention of key health messages and break the ice around sensitive health topics. By combining movement with learning, GW and TGP were able to increase physical activity in schools at the same time as helping students to meet basic health literacy standards.
GW HOSTS D.C. MAYORAL AND ATTORNEY GENERAL FORUMS

The George Washington University, in partnership with the League of Women Voters DC, hosted two candidates’ forums for the city’s two highest elected offices, mayor and attorney general of the District of Columbia.

The inaugural D.C. Mayoral Candidates Forum—moderated by NPR Senior Editor for Investigations and GW Associate Professor of Media and Public Affairs Cheryl W. Thompson—and the Attorney General Candidates Forum—moderated by GW Law Dean Dayna Bowen Matthew—welcomed a total of eight candidates to Jack Morton Auditorium on the Foggy Bottom Campus. The forums gave District voters an opportunity to hear candidates’ priorities and issues of importance in the upcoming 2022 D.C. election.

GW and the League of Women Voters DC, made the forums available not only by hosting the in-person events, but also by livestreaming both on Facebook to ensure the entire D.C. community could view what each candidate had to say. Recordings were also made available to residents currently held in D.C. or federal corrections facilities.

GW’S CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC LEADERSHIP CAFRITZ AWARDS HONOR LEADERS IN D.C. GOVERNMENT WHO MAKE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE FOR THE RESIDENTS OF D.C.

The George Washington University Center for Excellence in Public Leadership (CEPL) hosted the 19th and 20th Annual Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Awards Gala, which was held June 30 at the University Student Center to honor outstanding D.C. government leaders and innovative teams. This combined event honored 2020 and 2021 recipients.

Established in 2000, the awards honor individuals and teams whose commitment and professionalism demonstrate the best in public service. The program is made possible by a grant from the Cafritz Foundation and was created by DC Agenda and GW’s CEPL, which currently manages the awards.

These winners have made an extraordinary impact in the lives of those who live, work and travel in D.C. Recipient Aisha Williams set up mass COVID-19 testing sites—with GW as a key partner. Another winner, Thennie Freeman, runs a program for 10,000 young people throughout the District—a program GW Provost Christopher Alan Bracey once went through.

“In public service, we have the opportunity to make a difference every day, and every day, I am grateful for and inspired by the work of our 37,000-strong team of D.C. government employees,” D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser said.
**GW JOINS AREA COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES IN THE FIGHT AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE**

With gun violence at epidemic levels in America, the Consortium of Universities of the Washington Metropolitan Area is launching its new 120 Initiative, bringing together administrative and faculty experts to address the scourge.

George Washington University President Mark S. Wrighton is one of more than a dozen higher education leaders in the area backing the effort. The consortium cited statistics from the Gun Violence Archive that say the United States has had at least 314 mass shootings since the start of 2022, and that gun violence in cases of suicide, domestic abuse and other assaults has resulted in more than 23,500 deaths so far this year.

“The George Washington University and our consortium partners across the region have a unique ability to convene and bring to bear the research and expertise to address the most pressing challenges of our times,” Wrighton said. “Our university must help contribute solutions to overcome this major public health crisis.”

Several experts from the GW community will join the new initiative, named in remembrance of the more than 120 people who die every day as a result of firearms. They include Adnan Hyder, director of the Center on Commercial Determinants of Health and a professor of global health at GW’s Milken Institute School of Public Health.

Other members of the GW community who have joined the initiative from the Milken Institute School of Public Health include associate professor Naomi Seiler; professor Mark Edberg; associate professor John (Jack) Sandberg; research professor Katherine (Katie) Horton; and assistant research professor Nino Paichadze. Jeff Delinski, a professor from GW’s College of Professional Studies, will also be working on the initiative.

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**25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

Established at the height of the District of Columbia’s financial crisis in 1997, GW’s Center for Excellence in Public Leadership (GW CEPL) was formed as an innovative public-private partnership among the academic, business, professional and philanthropic communities within the District. Key stakeholders included the Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, the Fannie Mae Foundation, D.C. government, Giant Foods, the World Bank, DC Agenda and the GW School of Business and Public Management (now GWSB). The purpose of the partnership was to help the D.C. government create a cadre of highly skilled public administrators who could support governmental change efforts.

The Center for Excellence in Municipal Management—as it was called at the time—set out to fulfill this mission through two main activities: high-quality executive education in leadership and public management, and expert management advice. As a result, the Center established its nationally accredited Certified Public Manager® program, the Program for Excellence in Municipal Management (PEMM). Today, 25 years, 34 cohorts and nearly 1,000 graduates later, PEMM stands as a success story in establishing a skilled mid-level leadership pool in D.C. government.

D.C. government then reached out to CEPL to create the D.C. Executive Leader Program (DC ELP), now in its seventh cohort, which develops high-ranking career officials, including deputy directors and chiefs of staff. We are pleased to report that the alumni of both PEMM and ELP continue to frequently request the Center’s support with expert management advice, leadership training and coaching.

Renamed the Center for Excellence in Public Leadership in 2005 to recognize our work with the federal government and the metropolitan Washington region, GW CEPL looks forward to another 25 years of serving the District of Columbia by developing public leaders who make a positive difference in their organizations, communities and the lives of the people they serve.
GW SCHOOL OF BUSINESS SUPPORTS D.C. MINORITY-OWNED BUSINESSES AND ENTREPRENEURS

The GW School of Business demonstrated social impact through its second year of the community program, ELEVATE. Through partnership with the Coalition for Nonprofit Housing and Economic Development (CNHED), ELEVATE, which stands for Executive Leadership Education Venture Advancing Talented Entrepreneurs, provides best-in-class training for minority-owned entrepreneurs in the District of Columbia.

“We launched this partnership in February 2021 using a curriculum designed by the Center for Entrepreneurial Excellence at the GW School of Business,” said Professor of Marketing, Strategic Management and Public Policy Vanessa Perry, who was involved in bringing ELEVATE to the school. “This partnership allows the GW School of Business to play a valuable role in the local community, in supporting minority-owned businesses and in advancing entrepreneurship—one of our areas of expertise.” The training, led by GW School of Business faculty, extended the school’s connection to D.C. and underscores its commitment to community engagement.

GW OFFICE OF INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP SUPPORTS D.C. SMALL BUSINESSES

The GW Office of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (OIE), in partnership with Howard University, offers a program to support local entrepreneurs, with a special interest in reaching women and minority business owners who represent diverse startup founders in the District. Funded by a $75,000 grant from the Wells Fargo Foundation—and additional grant funding from the Washington, D.C. Economic Partnership, via $30,000 from Pepco—OIE’s pilot program will provide 75 District-based entrepreneurs, universities, accelerators and economic development organizations representing diverse backgrounds access to instructional programs to supplement their existing resources and support the local economy. The program is working with its partners to recruit early-stage companies that need business development and go-to-market strategies. Although the application is open to all, those who do not qualify are directed to a variety of free resources provided by community partners. Throughout the program, all participants will remain connected to partnering organizations in the District, such as the Washington, D.C. Economic Partnership and D.C. Small Business Development Center, investment programming, accelerators or partner banks that can help them reach the next stage of development in their business. D.C. entrepreneurs will benefit from curriculum pertaining to their business stage, expert university faculty and supportive mentors who understand what it takes to own a business. This is a critical addition to D.C.’s small business ecosystem.
GWOMEN X SPRINGBOARD

GWomen X Springboard, a program within the university’s Office of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (OIE), aims to empower women-owned startups on campus through a partnership between OIE’s new GWomen initiative and Springboard Enterprises. GWomen seeks to empower and accelerate women innovators and entrepreneurs at GW by connecting them with resources, networks and skills that can transform their ideas into successful businesses. Likewise, Springboard offers a virtual accelerator program for women business owners seeking investment of financial and human capital for product development and expansion. Since 2000, it has helped nearly 800 women-led ventures.

In this program, the female student entrepreneurs participated in a two-day boot camp and two-month tailored advisory period. The boot camp provides intense pitching and networking training and helps students refine their business plans for investors. Students will also work with personalized mentors and strategic advisers to assess their venture’s critical short-term needs. GWomen X Springboard’s student ventures have included developing a Girls’ Leadership, Apprenticeship and Mentorship (GLAM) program that offers opportunities in those areas to underperforming low-income female high-school students in D.C.’s Ward 8; and co-founding Soultry Sisters, a women’s empowerment organization that curates events, workshops and meetups centered around arts and wellness.
GW’S COMMUNITY PARTNERS*

11th Street Bridge Park
826DC
A Wider Circle
Academy of Hope
African American Civil War Museum
Alpha Phi Omega
American Farmland Trust
American Red Cross
Anacostia Coordinating Council
Anacostia Riverkeeper
Anacostia Watershed Society
American Public Transit Association DC
Armed Forces Retirement Home
Arthritis Foundation
ArtReach GW at THEARC
Arts on the Block
Associates for Renewal in Education
Ballou High School
BEST Kids, Inc.
Better Markets
Black Swan Academy
Boys and Girls Clubs of Washington
Brainfood, Inc.
Bread for the City
Breastfeeding Center for Greater Washington
Brent Elementary School
BRIDGE America
Bright Beginnings
BroadFutures
Bruce-Monroe Elementary School
Bunker Hill Elementary School
Burroughs Education Campus
Campus Kitchens
Capital Teaching Residency
Capital City Voices at Levine Music
Capitol Hill Village
Catholic Charities Archdiocese of Washington
Catholic Climate Covenant
Center for Education Reform
Central Union Mission
CentroNia
Charlie’s Place
Chesapeake Climate Action Network
Chess Challenge in DC
Children’s National Medical Center
Circle K
City Blossoms
City Dance
City Gate, Inc.
Climate Action Network
College Next Door
College Tribe
Columbia Heights Educational Campus
Common Good City Farm
Community College Preparatory Academy
Community Educational Research Group
Community Forklift
Community of Hope
Coolidge Senior High School CulturalDC
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation - Metro DC Chapter
Dance Institute of Washington
DC Bilingual Public Charter School
DC Center for the LGBT Community
DC Central Kitchen
DC Charter School Alliance

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GW'S COMMUNITY PARTNERS*

DC Dream Center
DC Greens
DC International School
DC Jewish Center Preschool
DC Office Of Planning
DC Preparatory Academy PCS
DC Primary Care Association
DC SAFE
DC Youth Orchestra Program
DC Public Schools - Central Office
District Alliance for Safe Housing (DASH)
District of Columbia Sociological Society
Dreams For Kids DC
Drew Elementary School
Duke Ellington School of the Arts
Dumbarton Oaks Park
Conservancy
Dunbar High School
Edward C. Mazique Parent Child Center, Inc.
Earth Conservation Corps
Edgewood Middle Campus
Eliot-Hine Middle School
Epsilon Sigma Alpha
Everybody Wins DC
EXCEL Academy
Fair Chance
Family Matters of Greater Washington
Far Southeast Family
    Strengthening Collaborative Fields of Dreams
Fly By Nature Foundation
Foggy Bottom Association
Foggy Bottom Food Pantry
Foggy Bottom West End Village
Food & Friends
Food Rescue US
For Love of Children
Fort Dupont Park
Fort Dupont Ice Arena
Fort Slocum Park
Free Minds Book Club & Writing Workshop
FRESHFARM
Friends of Noyes Park
Friends of the Soldiers’ Home
Friends of The W Street Park
Gap Community Child Development Center
Garrison Elementary School
Get Us PPE
Girls on the Run
Global Campaign For Education - US
Global Kids
Greater Brookland
    Intergenerational Village
Greater DC Diaper Bank
Greater Washington Urban League
GW Catholics at the Newman Center
GW Hillel
Habitat for Humanity
Higher Achievement
HIPS
Housing Up
Institute for the Improvement of Teaching and Learning, Inc.
Iona Senior Services
Jackson-Reed High School
Jan’s Tutoring House
Janney Elementary School

*GW'S COMMUNITY PARTNERS*
Jefferson Middle School Academy
Jelleff Recreation Boys and Girls Club
Jewish Women International
Jubilee Jumpstart
Jumpstart
Junior Achievement of Greater Washington
Kennedy Center
Friends Volunteers
Key to Knowledge
Kid Power
Kids Enjoy Exercise Now (KEEN)
LabX - National Academy of Science
Latin American Youth Center
Latino Student Fund
League of Women Voters DC
Lesson Check-In
Life Pieces to Masterpieces
LIFT
Literacy Lab
Little Friends for Peace (LFFP)

Live It Learn It
Living Classrooms
Malcolm X Elementary School
Marie Reed Elementary School
Martha’s Table
Maury Elementary School
McKinley Middle School
McKinley Technology High School
Mentors of Minorities in Education’s Total Learning Cis-tem (M.O.M.I.E’s TLC)
Metropolitan Police Department
Miner Elementary School
Miriam’s Kitchen
Muscular Dystrophy Association: Metro DC Chapter
N Street Village
NAMI DC
National Children’s Museum
National Domestic Violence Hotline
National Women’s Law Center

Nationwide Homeless Hotel-styled Shelter & Services Inc.
New Futures
Noyes Elementary School
NRH Medstar Adaptive Sports and Fitness Program
Office of Family & Public Engagement - DCPS
Central Office
One Tent Health
ONE DC
Oxon Run Park
Oyster Adams Bilingual School
Palisades Village
Paralyzed Veterans of America
Park Rx
Pax Musica Studios
Payne Elementary School
Phelps Architecture, Construction and Engineering High School
Phillips Collection
Play Footy
Playworks

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<th>GW'S COMMUNITY PARTNERS*</th>
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<td>Points of Light Potomac</td>
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<td>Riverkeeper, Inc.</td>
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<td>Project Beautify You, Inc.</td>
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<td>School Without Walls at Francis Stevens</td>
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<td>SNEAKERS - Crittenton Services</td>
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<td>Student-Athletes Organized to Understand Leadership (SOUL)</td>
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*This is a non-exhaustive list of our community partners*
The Office of Government and Community Relations (OGCR) is the primary liaison between the university and critical stakeholders in the federal, regional, District and neighborhood sectors. Located in the heart of the nation’s capital, GW is well known for its proximity to the country’s leaders and powerful civic institutions. What makes our university unique: GW is embedded in D.C. life and culture. GW’s character and mission are deeply connected to the social and economic life of the District.

OGCR works closely with the GW schools and colleges and programs to promote promising university projects and programs that highlight GW’s civic contributions to the D.C. community.

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