

Messenger

Fine Arts adapt and thrive

PERFORMANCES CARRY ON DESPITE CHALLENGES

In the wake of COVID-19, every academic discipline has learned to adapt to safety measures while maintaining excellence in the classroom. This is especially difficult for the fine arts, which thrive in close proximities and collaboration. As is the case for artists everywhere, Malone students have gained hands-on experience in flexibility as they continue to hone the performance skills they love.

Theatre recognizes 75th anniversary of Orwell's *Animal Farm*

Malone Theatre celebrated the 75th anniversary of George Orwell's novel *Animal Farm* with an online production presented in collaboration with Translations Art Gallery and Stark Library. The 'illustrated radio play' featured faces and voices of student actors, as well as music, sound effects, and visual artwork created by 52 artists (including **Michele Waalkes '07** and **Heather Bullach '11**).

"In an effort to execute theatre by non-traditional means beyond what Zoom-like platforms could accomplish, production choice was particularly important," said **Craig Joseph**, theatre director in residence.

"A 'readers theatre,' where actors basically read the script while seated on stools, doesn't work with every production, but it works with *Animal Farm*."



The fully-sensory experience, without the stage and blocking, created opportunities for actors to learn new ways to enhance their skills. "I've learned about myself as a physical actor and how attached I am to the usual proximity that theatre brings," said **Christian Sanko '20**. "As a lifelong dancer, I grew through the rewarding challenge of participating in a filmed radio-drama."

Music faculty find innovative approaches to rehearse and perform

Malone's Music Department also made creative adaptations to rehearsals and performances so that students could continue making music together.

Band students have been wearing playable masks with a fold for mouthpiece access, and they use bell covers with MERV-13 filters to mitigate microscopic aerosols emitting from the instruments. There was 6-foot spacing throughout all marching band drills and seating formations, and rehearsals were held outside whenever possible.



"We're still striving for the same goals, but now we're just moving about them more safely," said **Katie Fanning '22**. "We've become a tight-knit team and we're learning through new experiences that no one has ever navigated before."

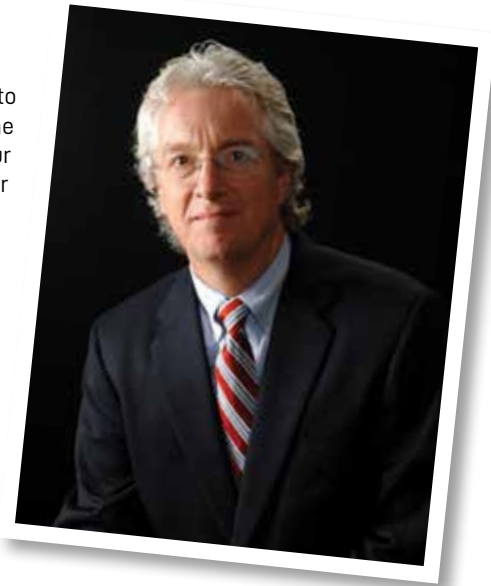
During the fall semester, music ensembles hosted outdoor performances titled "Picnics, Piccolos, and Praises" and "Swingin' in the Breeze"; they also gained valuable recording studio experience resulting in a virtual series of musical vignettes titled **Christmas with Malone** to be shared throughout December.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

I

has been several months since I've provided an update to an audience without mentioning the profound impact the Coronavirus has had on the Institution and members of our community. The virus continues to be central to all of our operations as I write to you today prior to the Christmas holiday.

Be assured that by following our established protocols and practices, we've managed to keep our number of active cases low, only 7 as of this writing. Still, the work has been unrelenting and we estimate that our Student Development staff has focused nearly all of its time this fall on housing, feeding, and caring for students in quarantine and isolation. Through our version of the HyFlex instructional model, Malone students have been able to continue their progress toward a degree. And, as you might expect, members of our community have come alongside our Student Development staff to help provide for the safety of our students, serving as confirmation that the strong sense of community that has been the hallmark of the Malone experience continues unabated.



Time spent battling the Coronavirus has not stopped us from fulfilling our mission to provide students with an education based on biblical faith which prepares them for service to the church, community, and the world. We have done more than survive. Our students continue to achieve success academically and athletically. On page 5, you can read about some of the good news coming from our campus. I encourage you to visit www.malone.edu/news to stay up-to-date on the ways members of our community are rising above the challenges of the current day.

Our faculty and students continue as partners in learning. With some students taking classes in person and others taking classes remotely, this has been a challenging semester for everyone involved. The HyFlex model has allowed students to flex into and out of remote learning during periods of quarantine and isolation. Hundreds of students have been able to continue their education without pause as a result. We are deeply grateful for the work of our faculty in this season. Their love and concern for our students and their passion for our mission are unrivaled.

Others outside the Malone family continue to recognize the quality of the instruction we provide, even in this challenging pandemic season. For example, the Malone Bachelor of Science in Nursing program has again been recognized by the Ohio Board of Nursing for excellence in preparing nurses, and U.S. News & World Report continues to rank Malone as one of the best universities in the Midwest. Additionally, Malone faculty such as Associate Professor of Counseling and Human Development **Christina Schnyders** continue to be honored for their expertise and their impact on students. Schnyders was recently chosen as Counselor Educator of the Year by the Ohio Association for Counselor Education and Supervision.

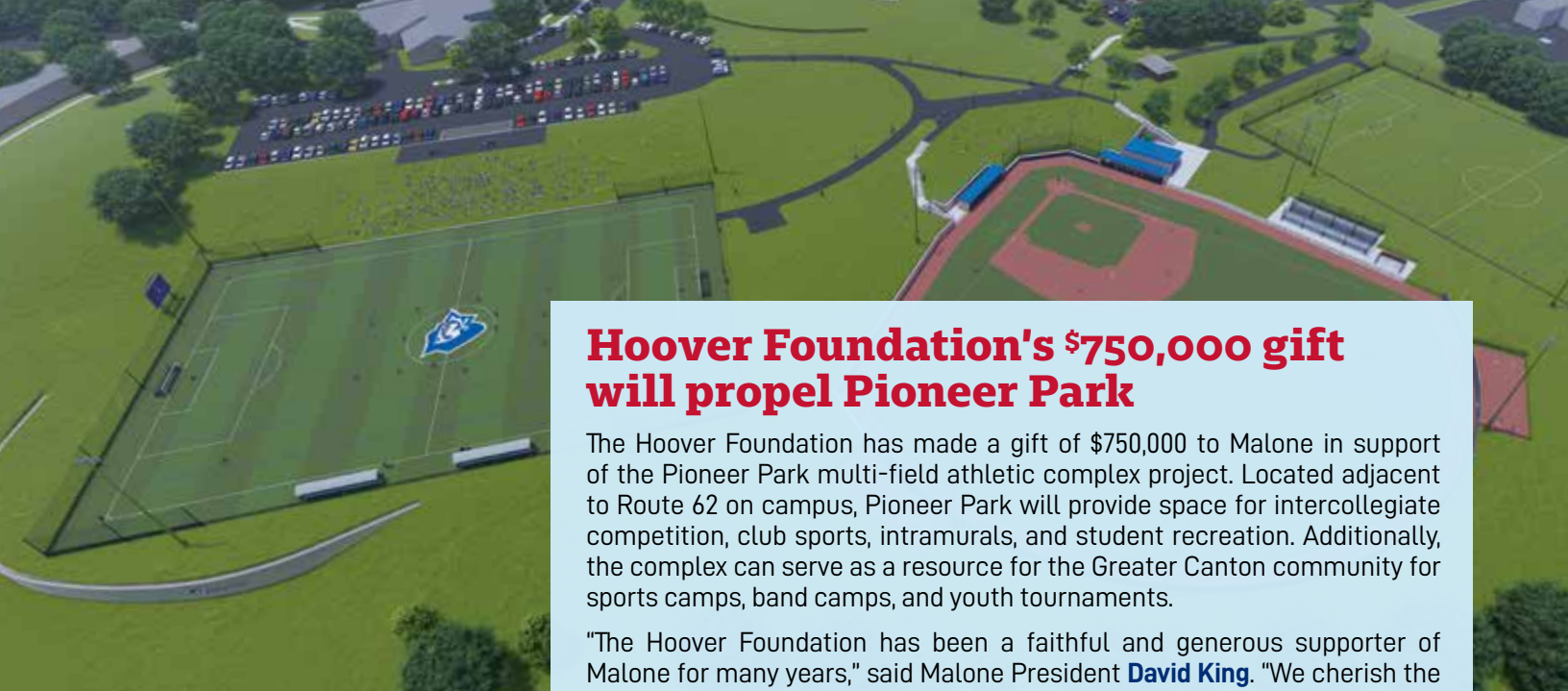
COVID-19 has impacted our environment and modified the way we live, learn, and work in community. We endure. We draw closer. We rely on each other and remain steadfast in our ability to rise above this challenge and the next one.

On behalf of students, faculty, and staff of Malone University, I wish you peace, joy, and continued good health in this season of Advent.

Merry Christmas!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David King', written over a horizontal line.

David King, Ed.D., President



Hoover Foundation's \$750,000 gift will propel Pioneer Park

The Hoover Foundation has made a gift of \$750,000 to Malone in support of the Pioneer Park multi-field athletic complex project. Located adjacent to Route 62 on campus, Pioneer Park will provide space for intercollegiate competition, club sports, intramurals, and student recreation. Additionally, the complex can serve as a resource for the Greater Canton community for sports camps, band camps, and youth tournaments.

"The Hoover Foundation has been a faithful and generous supporter of Malone for many years," said Malone President **David King**. "We cherish the partnership we have with them and are grateful for the opportunities they have created for our students through their decades of support."

Phase one of the project is complete with the preparation of the site to accommodate playing surfaces. With the gift from the Hoover Foundation, University officials are hopeful they can secure the remaining fundraising and move forward to complete the project next spring.

"This is a transformational gift for Malone," said King. "We're grateful that the Hoover Foundation could see our vision to build a complex that will be an asset for the Canton regional community. Pioneer Park will be a unique venue for competition, recreation, and entertainment for our students, while serving as support for economic development opportunities in our region. This is an extraordinary gift from a long-time partner. It provides fuel to our conversations with community partners such as the Canton City Schools, City of Canton, and the Professional Football Hall of Fame."

FUNDRAISING

News



RIDING & RUNNING for STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

President King's brother, Stan, completed the ride with him.

(below) **Alexis O. Kreiner '16**, **Julie Pickering-Campbell '09**, and **Doug Weingart '82**

completed the first Virtual Pioneer 5k.

Pioneer 100 exceeds goals

September 19 was a beautiful day for the Pioneer 100, President David King's Ride for Scholarships. His goal was \$100,000 and we are thrilled to share that, with the support of more than 150 donors, we raised **\$102,587!**

An avid cyclist, Dr. King works to ensure funding is available for scholarships. For five years, he has completed the Pioneer 100 (100 kilometers or approximately 62 miles) and sought support from the Malone community.

New for 2020 was the first virtual Pioneer 5K and many members of the Malone community went the extra mile in running shoes or on bicycles to contribute. Participants enjoyed their 5Ks individually and submitted photos on social media.

During the 2019-20 academic year, we devoted more than \$18M in financial aid for our student body, and more than 95% of Malone students received some form of financial aid.

We offer our sincerest gratitude to all of our Pioneer 100 donors who make these scholarships possible for our students.

ALUMNI

Profile

For **BRIAN MILLER '89**, a double major in accounting and business administration was much more than his education after high school. Now President and CEO of ProVia and founder of the newly-launched nonprofit Branches Worldwide, Miller understands how Malone's integration of faith and learning helped him prepare for leadership in today's ever-changing world.

"As a Holmes County resident, Malone was already on my radar and I was thrilled that I could receive a faith-based education there," he said. "Malone helped me define who I am today. A lot of students go to college questioning their beliefs, but for me, Malone helped me solidify my faith and gave me direction for my life and career."

Malone faculty members helped shape Miller to be the Christian leader he is today.

"Professors such as **BERT SMITH** and **CHERYL RAMSBURG '80** made an impact on my learning within the business department," he said, "and it was **EUGENE COLLINS**, my New and Old Testament Literature professor, who left the greatest impression on my young spiritual development. His experiences with Middle Eastern travel for archaeological digs was uncommon in my circles of influence and his Bible teaching was vibrant and appealing. I still have fond memories of my experiences in his classes."

While Miller was enrolled at Malone, he participated in Students In Free Enterprise, now known as Enactus.

"Malone was the catalyst that jump-started my career," he said. "My well-rounded education and co-curricular involvement broadened my network and I now look for those same characteristics when I hire employees. I like to hire Malone graduates because I know firsthand the holistic educational experience and ethical character that comes with the Malone name. I watch these graduates serve ProVia and am proud of the leaders that graduate as Pioneers."

Under Miller's leadership since 2010, ProVia is a faith-based company that offers high quality entry door systems, energy-efficient windows, super polymer vinyl siding, artfully-crafted manufactured stone, and a new line of decorative metal roofing. The company's vision is, "To be the premier building products manufacturer, providing unmatched quality and service." And their mission is, "To serve, by caring for details in ways others won't."

"It has been a wonderful exercise to clearly define our purpose as we continue to succeed in business," Miller said. "To be able to bring my heart's desire to my career has made a world of difference."



Miller also gifts his time as the founder of and board member to Branches Worldwide, which launched in 2019 under the day-to-day leadership of **DAN OWOLABI '07**. With a mission to partner with 30 leaders in 30 countries for 30 years, this nonprofit global network aims to help Christian leaders transform their communities.

"In a short amount of time, we have added leaders in North and Central America and hope to branch out to South America in the coming year," he said.

Although Miller is active both at ProVia and Branches Worldwide, he enjoys remaining engaged with Malone through his past involvement on the President's Advisory Council and as a Trustee. He often returns to campus for Homecoming and athletic competitions—a smiling reminder to current students that Malone can be a life-changing catalyst for them, too.

I like to hire Malone graduates because I know firsthand the holistic educational experience and ethical character that comes with the Malone name.

MALONE ALUMNI, LET US KNOW WHAT YOU ARE UP TO!

Malone alumni are serving their communities and the world in amazing ways and we want to hear more about it!

Visit malone.edu/alumni/update-your-information to update us on your professional accomplishments, marriages, and the Future Pioneers born into your families.

CAMPUS NEWS

Read more about Malone ...
malone.edu/news

Briefs



MALONE ZOO/WILDLIFE GRADUATES CONTINUE TO LAND TOP JOBS

MADDY OLSON '20 had an opportunity that zoo/wildlife biology students only dream of: to secure not only one job but two in a difficult job market. In July, soon after graduating, she was hired at the Metropolitan Veterinary Hospital in Akron, a 24/7 veterinary emergency practice.

Olson works as a veterinary assistant and a case coordinator who manages incoming cases for an assigned doctor. She communicates with clients, admits and releases patients, administers medication, and draws blood, among other responsibilities.

In addition to this role, in November Olson was also hired as a full-time veterinary assistant at Turkeyfoot Family Pet Center in Akron. She now works at Metropolitan when her schedule allows.

"Malone has prepared me for the technical aspects of my job, such as laboratory work, diagnostics, and x-rays," she said, "as well as the communication and leadership aspects that I utilize when case coordinating and corresponding with the doctors and clients."

MALONE NURSING PROGRAM RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE

The Ohio Board of Nursing (OBN) recently confirmed that Malone's pre-licensure Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program site visit is complete and has met the requirements necessary for renewal. In order for students in the traditional 4-year program to be eligible to become registered nurses (RN), by taking the NCLEX, ongoing program approval is necessary every five years. Malone's program has been approved since its founding in 1986.

"We are so proud that, yet again, Malone's BSN program has proven to demonstrate compliance with all rules that govern nursing programs so that we can continue providing the top-notch nurse education for which Malone is known," said Debra Lee, associate professor and chair of nursing.



MALONE AND STARK STATE COLLEGE PARTNER TO OPEN DOORS FOR STARK COUNTY STUDENTS

In an effort to provide access to higher education for the citizens of Stark County, Malone and Stark State College have formed a new institutional articulation agreement to ease the transfer process and promote the closer coordination of academic courses, programs, and degrees offered by both institutions.

This agreement, for a 4-year social work program with a 2+2 format and 3+1 format for both accounting and business, stems from a shared desire to fuel the economic engine for Stark County while readying graduates for leadership in their professions and communities.

"While Stark State and Malone have different missions, we share common core values which provide fertile ground for this agreement," said President David King. "Now more than ever, we believe it is critical to provide student support that will encourage vibrant young graduates to choose Stark County as home after graduation."

Profile

LEGACY STUDENT, CHRISTIAN STARK,
FORGES HIS OWN MALONE EXPERIENCE

What does it look like for the Malone experience to transcend generations? For legacy student **CHRISTIAN STARK '22**, it brings him joy.

The son of two Malone graduates, Stark heard all about Malone's Student Activity Council (SAC), Student Senate, and residence life before he even considered enrolling at Malone himself.

"My parents graduated from Malone in the 1990s," he said. "My dad, **WILLIAM STARK III '92**,

served as SAC director soon after becoming a Malone student. As an upperclassman, he also served as Student Body President before his senior year, when he was busy with student-teaching.

My mom, **POLLY (VELEY) STARK '90**, lived on the second floor of Woolman for three years and then became the resident assistant on the third floor there during her senior year. My dad often recalls the time when, as SAC director, he filled the second floor of the Barn with sand and threw a luau indoors."

While Stark knew that his parents loved their Malone experiences, the decision to come to Malone was all his own.

"I decided to come to Malone because I liked the small school atmosphere, the ways that faith is integrated in the classroom, and the feel of the campus community," he said. "I wanted to be cared for and known by my fellow students as well as develop and maintain my relationship with God in my everyday life."

The decision to become a Pioneer was a turning point for Stark and from that point on, he has thrived on Malone's campus. He chose to take after his parents with his campus involvement as a resident assistant (RA) in Haviland Hall, an Admissions Office student worker, and an honors student. Additionally, he participates in many intramural sports, including men's volleyball.

"It's rewarding to live in community with the men in my residence hall," he said. "It's an honor to be an RA and I am fulfilled by the relationships I've made with the guys around me and the community that we've built together. Our residence hall staff enriches my life and I enjoy growing closer with the other RAs and resident director in my building. Each one brings joy to my life as we learn to serve together."

Christian grew up hearing about the best time in his parents' lives at Malone, and now he finds fulfillment in living out the Malone experience himself.

**MALONE ALUMNI,
YOUR CHILDREN ARE ELIGIBLE FOR
LEGACY STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS!**

Visit malone.edu/scholarships for more information.



It's rewarding to live in community with the men in my residence hall ... I am fulfilled by the relationships I've made ...

Q & A

CATCHING UP with Proud Pioneers



**JACALYNN
STUCKEY '77**
professor of history



JACK HAZEN
coach emeritus,
cross country

MU: WHY HAVE YOU STAYED AT MALONE?

JS: *I remain at Malone because of the people and the institution's mission. Though I have been associated with Malone for more than 50 years and some may think I am here because of my Stuckey family connection, it's the quality of our students, sense of community, generosity of spirit exhibited by faculty, staff, administrators, and students, lifelong friendships, and the Christ-centered mission of the institution that keeps me here.*

JH: *I have developed a love and deep appreciation for what Malone stands for and what has been and still is accomplished in the lives of our students.*

MU: DESCRIBE MALONE STUDENTS AND HOW THEY HAVE CHANGED DURING YOUR CAREER.

JS: *Malone students are "salt of the earth" kind of people. They are genuine, honest, willing to learn, and not afraid to be vulnerable at times. They've shown willingness to persist in their academic work, to share their own stories with their professors and peers, and be open to the Christian faith (whether they are believers or not). College studies can be difficult, so I find it deeply gratifying when Malone students persevere.*

JH: *They are a diverse student body that continuously changes over the years, but I've found the mission and the end results to be the same: they learn how to draw closer to Jesus.*

MU: HOW HAS MALONE HELPED SHAPE YOUR OWN FAITH JOURNEY?

JS: *Over time, I have noticed that the diversity of theological and faith perspectives present among Malone's faculty has deepened my faith. My evangelical heritage was not as intellectually grounded as those of my colleagues, so through them I have developed a*

richer and deeper understanding of biblical texts, the Church Fathers, and spiritual thinkers who followed them. God calls us to love Him with all our mind, as well as our heart, strength, and soul, and that happens at Malone. In fact, I include Matthew 22:37 or Luke 10:37 in my course syllabi. Although the word "transformative" has become a rather overused term, it does rightly describe my spiritual journey at Malone.

JH: *Being a longtime member of a strong faith-based community has certainly helped mold and structure my own faith walk. I have benefited greatly from being surrounded by caring colleagues from various disciplines and walks of life. Even today, I am constantly challenged in different ways to act more like Jesus. Each year here has served a different and meaningful purpose.*

MU: WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO IDENTIFY A HIGHLIGHT OR TWO OF YOUR MALONE CAREER?

JS: *I am delighted that I continue to connect with my former students after they graduate, and I continue to be blessed by them. The Malone experience doesn't end when our students graduate. I grieve annually at Malone's commencement ceremony and so enjoy the Alumni Book Club that our department hosts each summer for young HPSS alumni. We all keep in touch with our students after they graduate.*

JH: *I have experienced so many instances of watching students not only achieve world-acclaim in their academic endeavors, but also as student athletes when they become national champions, world champions, and Olympic champions.*

Read more from Jacci and Jack
www.malone.edu/alumni/Q&A

