

# UVU magazine



## ROOTS OF KNOWLEDGE

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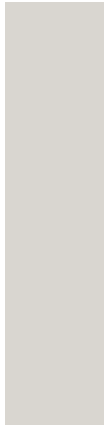
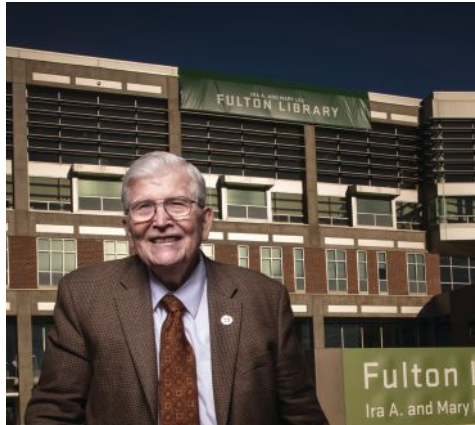
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A HIGHER DEGREE

Five new master's degree programs will be added to Utah Valley University's offerings this fall



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OPENING DOORS

Philanthropist Ira Fulton's support of UVU recognized with naming of Library

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WINTER 2017 volume 8 issue 3



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 New stained-glass installation at UVU charts human search for learning

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Over the past year, Utah Valley University has celebrated 75 years of excellence, innovative educational experiences, and student success. From humble beginnings as a wartime vocational school, UVU has taken a trajectory of steady, and sometimes breathtaking, physical and programmatic development, achieving heights few could have ever conceived. Those heights continued as we celebrated 75 years strong.

Our 2016 commencement featured one of the largest graduating classes in our history. We hit a new enrollment high of nearly 35,000 students — the largest headcount in the state. We broke ground and began construction on three new buildings: the NUVI Basketball Center, the Nellesen Autism Center, and the Noorda Center for the Performing Arts. We added five new graduate programs in computer science, public service, social work, accountancy, and cybersecurity. And we watched hundreds of students and faculty achieve national recognition in everything from culinary arts to acoustical physics.

The capstone of our 75th anniversary celebration was the unveiling of the spectacular stained glass project, *Roots of Knowledge*. This issue gives just a small taste of the effort, creativity, and inspiration that went into the creation of this remarkable work of art. I invite you to come visit this stunning display in the newly named Bingham Gallery in the Fulton Library at UVU. It is a beautiful and timeless example of engaged learning, and its installation appropriately and magnificently concludes UVU's diamond anniversary.

We look forward to reaching even greater heights at Utah Valley University over the next 75 years and beyond.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew S. Holland". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

*Matthew S. Holland*  
President

## PERFORMING ARTS CENTER IS UNDER WAY

On a cold Dec. 1, smiles were bright and hearts were warm as UVU broke ground on a long-anticipated Noorda Center for the Performing Arts. With \$22 million from the Ray & Rye Noorda Foundation and numerous other donors, and \$32 million from the Utah State Legislature, construction will soon begin on the 130,000-square-foot center. The University has committed to raise the remainder of the anticipated \$60 million price tag. The center is scheduled to be completed in January 2019.

It will feature a 500-seat proscenium theater with an orchestra pit, a 900-seat concert hall, a choral recital hall, a dance theater, 27 practice spaces, 27 teaching studios, production and recording space, piano and computer labs, and conference rooms.

“Our students, faculty, and staff have worked very hard to build award-winning arts programs that are gaining national attention, despite limited space, sharing it with students from various other programs,” President Matthew S. Holland said. “This groundbreaking is a significant achievement and will greatly increase the opportunities we are able to offer performing arts students at Utah Valley University.”





### UVU STUNS BYU IN A RECORD-SETTING WIN, 114-101

Beating Brigham Young University in men's basketball was more than just a win. It was one for the record books and long-lasting memories. The Nov. 26 game ended with a 114-101 score in UVU's favor. It was the most points scored by a BYU opponent since the Marriott Center opened in 1971.

UVU had a school record 18 three-point field goals and the second-most points ever scored in a game by the Wolverines. Isaac Neilson scored a career-high 26 points and Brandon Randolph had 21 points and 14 assists.

Randolph had a career high of 21 points, including 8-of-10 free throws. Randolph was one rebound shy of a triple-double. His 14 assists are the most ever recorded by a UVU player in a single game.

Connor Toolson and Jordan Poydras also had career-high nights with 21 and 20 points.

### UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY REMAINS LARGEST INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN STATE SYSTEM

Enrollment data released in October by the Utah System of Higher Education indicate UVU remains the largest institution of higher education in the state system for the second year running. Seventy-five years since its founding, total enrollment at UVU has crested the 34,000 mark for the first time in its history and sits just shy of 35,000 at 34,978.

"It is a nod — particularly as we commemorate our 75th anniversary — to those who laid the foundation and further validation of their hard work and sacrifice," said UVU President Matthew S. Holland. "Few institutions have evolved like UVU has, particularly in such a relatively brief span."

UVU's growth this fall accounts for 37 percent of the total growth of the Utah State System of Higher Education this fall. UVU added 1,767 students compared to the same time last year, an increase of more than 5 percent. UVU's full-time equivalent moved to 23,706, an increase of nearly 5 percent. UVU has grown more than 8,000 students since transitioning to university status in 2008 and currently educates more Utahns than any other institution in the state.



**UVU CELEBRATES RECORD DONATIONS, MILESTONE ANNIVERSARY AT ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP BALL GALA**

A record \$87 million in funds has been raised since Matthew S. Holland became president of UVU in 2009. That includes more than \$15 million for student scholarships. The University’s annual President’s Scholarship Ball provided the forum for the milestone announcement of the record donations.

Over \$46 million has been donated for new facilities, including the Wee Care Center, the Science Building, the Cole Nellesen Building/Melisa Nellesen Center for Autism, the NUVI Basketball Center and the arts center, for which ground was broken in December.

Over \$18 million has been raised for programming, \$4 million for faculty and \$4 million for additional University needs.

“On behalf of thousands and thousands of students, and hundreds and hundreds of faculty and staff, let me express our complete gratitude for all you have done and continue to do,” President Holland said to the 800 guests who attended the ball in early October.

The gala celebrates the Presidential Scholarship program, which has provided the Presidential Scholarship for 873 students during the past 26 years. This year’s event raised a record \$203,000 for the Presidential Scholarships.

**UVU PUBLIC RELATIONS STUDENTS EARN HONORS AS TOP CHAPTER IN NATION**

At the National Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) conference in Indianapolis in late October, the University’s student public relations society received the honor as the best chapter in the country. The award is presented annually to only one university.

It is the second time UVU’s chapter has earned this distinction, having previously received it in 2013. Since its inception in 2009, the UVU PRSSA Chapter has also received the National Outstanding Faculty Adviser Award and Outstanding University Service Project in the Nation Award.

Outstanding performance in multiple areas was the basis of the award. Those included leadership on the national level, faculty advisement, community service, student internship placement, the chapter’s student-run PR firm, and strong working relationships with the Public Relations Society of America, the professional equivalent of PRSSA.

**LAWRENCE LIVERMORE-LED TEAM INCLUDING FORMER UVU SCIENTIST DEVELOPS FORENSIC METHOD TO IDENTIFY PEOPLE USING HUMAN HAIR PROTEINS**

In an important breakthrough for the forensic science community, a team of researchers including a former Utah Valley University faculty member has developed the first-ever biological identification method that exploits the information encoded in proteins of human hair.

Scientists from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) and a Utah startup company have developed the ground-breaking technique, providing a second science-based, statistically validated way to identify people and link individuals to evidence in addition to DNA profiling.

In March 2013 biochemist Glendon Parker, the inventor of the protein identification concept and then an associate professor at Utah Valley University, began work at LLNL.

The new protein identification technique will offer another tool to law enforcement authorities for crime scene investigations and to archaeologists, as the method has been able to detect protein in human hair more than 250 years old.

“We are in a very similar place with protein-based identification to where DNA profiling was during the early days of its development,” said LLNL chemist Brad Hart, the director of the Lab’s Forensic Science Center and co-author of a paper detailing the work. “This method will be a game-changer for forensics, and while we’ve made a lot of progress toward proving it, there are steps to go before this new technique will be able to reach its full potential.”





## LIKING THE LICHEN

Biochemistry student researches lichen for international presentations

by BARBARA CHRISTIANSEN

**NICK ZEMP** is one of numerous Utah Valley University undergraduate students mistaken for a Ph.D. as he presents his research at a prestigious international conference.

He is a biochemistry major and took a course on lichens from Emily Holt, an assistant professor at UVU. He earned an A in the class and played a leading role in expanding the class project into a published scientific paper. He developed a deep curiosity about the biochemistry of lichens, and he and Holt began further study.

Zemp's work was the equivalent of a master's thesis, according to Holt. He presented that work at Botany 2015, an international conference in Canada, then at the International Association of Lichenologists in Finland in August 2016.

Lichens form a symbiotic relationship between algae and fungus, explains Zemp. By studying lichen, scientists can understand what drives the ecology of a certain geographic area. The composite organisms can be indicators of changes happening in that environment.

"We can find out what types of species are in a community structure and how abundant they are," he says. "Biodiversity is important for our survival. Lichens are definitely very key organisms in ecological systems."

The research he accomplished is somewhat rare for an undergraduate student; it is even more rare to present those findings at a prestigious international conference. But Zemp's story goes beyond that.

More than seven years ago, Zemp suffered an accident that left him with no use of his legs and very limited use of his hands. He usually gets around in a motorized wheelchair, but in the field, he has an assistant who helps him through the forest in a standard wheelchair.

"Conducting high-level research and traveling to conferences is exhausting for any person, but Nick does these activities with seemingly inexhaustible energy and a constant smile on his face," says Daniel Horns, associate dean of UVU's College of Science & Health. "While Nick would deserve this recognition based purely on the quality of his research, the fact that he has conducted this work despite his physical limitations makes him even more deserving and inspirational."

Zemp returned the compliment and praised the University. "UVU has definitely given me opportunity and encouragement," he says. "It has been good to be treated like a peer as opposed to just a student. I have had the opportunity to engage in science with other scientists and be in the field with professionals and be treated as a professional."

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PRICING  
ON SELECT PRODUCTS  
FOR**

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Asus®  
Dell™  
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SAVE  
UP TO  
\$200

iMac®  
iMac with Retina® display  
Mac® mini  
MacBook Air®  
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Activity Trackers  
Phone Covers  
Headphones  
Speakers  
And More

# LIGHTS CAMERA EDUCATION

by BARBARA CHRISTIANSEN

## UVU student works on alum's feature film debut

business background will serve him well as he continues in the industry. "Many filmmakers wish they had a business degree," he says. "I definitely think that some of the networking and experiences you get in school are invaluable. When school is more like an apprenticeship, that is the most valuable."

Flake pays tribute to instructors who take the time to know their students and help them meet those in the industry they are pursuing. He also encourages future students to focus on engaged learning. "If you don't have engaged learning it will limit your success in the future," he says.

was trapped in Utah County's Nutty Putty Cave in 2009.

Having the opportunity to step from a classroom environment into an actual movie production has made a difference for Flake. "It is significantly easier to learn and to learn more quickly," he said.

"It is exponentially profitable."

On the flip side, Flake had experiences on the movie set that caused him to appreciate the education he had received. "I actually used something I had learned," he says. "It is nice to see the education was worthwhile."

He has earned an associate degree and a bachelor's degree in business and is working on a second bachelor's in digital cinema. A nontraditional student, Flake has taken time off several times to support his family.

Flake's goals include writing, producing, and directing his own films. He said his

TALK about being in the right place at the right time. For Redge Flake, that right place was in a script editing class at Utah Valley University. UVU alumnus and movie director Isaac Halasima brought the script to his movie, "The Last Descent," for the class to review, and Flake's knowledge, willingness, and preparation opened the door for him to play a large role in the movie's production.

"I was interested," he says. "I sold myself to become the second assistant director." That included creating call sheets for the shooting and making sure everyone was in the right place at the right time. Because "The Last Descent" was an independent production, Flake's role expanded. "I was doing anything and everything — going on runs for equipment, getting actors on the set, holding lights, spraying fog... I even got to say a line as an actor."

"The Last Descent" tells the story of John Jones and his attempted rescue and ultimate death as he



# RUNNING WITH

**THEATER** wasn't what Christopher Clark had in mind when he headed off to college almost two decades ago. Although he'd always been interested in the stage — he wrote and directed plays in his sixth-grade history class — he decided theater wasn't a "practical" career choice, so he decided to major in English instead.

"I was awarded a theater scholarship," Clark says, "so I stayed involved in shows to keep my scholarship. But I didn't intend to make a career out of it. But since there aren't a lot of jobs available for English majors, I went into retail after graduating."

After four years of "being miserable in retail, I decided maybe being practical was overrated," Clark explains. He heard about a program at Exeter University in England and talked to his wife, Lisa, who was also an English major with a love for theater. (The two actually met at BYU while performing in an Old Testament play produced by the English department. "I was Satan, and she was a chicken on Noah's ark," Clark recalls.)

"She agreed to let me quit my job, and we moved to the UK," Clark says. While at Exeter, Clark earned a master's degree in directing and even spent time performing onstage in the legendary Globe Theatre. After that invaluable experience, the family headed back to Utah, where Clark began teaching both English and theater classes at UVU while also earning a doctorate from BYU in education leadership.

Although he hadn't planned on making UVU an ultimate career destination, when a full-time position opened up in 2005, Clark applied. He became chair of the department in 2012 and led the department to unprecedented back-to-back outstanding awards (one for drama in 2013 and one for musical in 2014) at the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival. UVU students have also won numerous individual awards at the festival, which is considered one of the most prestigious student theater competitions in the country.

"I knew when I started that we had incredible potential here," observes Clark. "We kept seeing these students come through who were so talented and such hard workers."

And through the years, many of them have. Enrollment in UVU's theater program has grown steadily in the past 20 years, the size of the faculty has tripled, and the department now stages six to eight productions a year. "We have a vision of innovation and excellence," Clark explains, "and we pride ourselves on thinking outside of the box. And we do that not just in our productions but in our classrooms."

UVU  
THEATER  
PROFESSOR  
CHRISTOPHER  
CLARK  
MADE  
THE  
MOST  
OF  
THE  
SUPPORT,  
ENCOURAGEMENT,  
AND  
ULTIMATELY  
CHOSE  
THEATER—  
AND  
UVU—  
FOR  
HIS  
CAREER



BY KELLENE RICKS ADAMS  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY AUGUST MILLER



WE HAVE A VISION OF INNOVATION AND EXCELLENCE, AND WE PRIDE OURSELVES ON THINKING OUTSIDE OF THE BOX. AND WE DO THAT NOT JUST IN OUR PRODUCTIONS BUT IN OUR CLASSROOMS.



## THERE'S NO ONE BETTER THAN CHRIS AS A DIRECTOR; ACTORS ARE AT THEIR BEST UNDER HIS DIRECTION.

“We’re not running a drama club, and we’re not here just to have parties,” Clark continues. “We’re interested in students who have the potential to work in the real world, and we prepare them to actually make a difference in their fields. We have UVU graduates who are performing, producing, and working on the crew for shows from Broadway to professional theaters around the country. We’re one of the strongest theater departments in the state.”

And although Clark attributes much of that growth and success to a group effort by UVU theater faculty, staff, and administration, his contribution is undeniable.

“Chris is in the way he lives and thinks the epitome of UVU values,” says K. Newell Dayley, dean of UVU’s School of the Arts. “He’s inclusive in the way he thinks about students. He engages them completely in what they’re doing, and he engages them in the community through the art that he teaches. He is serious, and it helps them be very serious. And in the middle of it all, he wants every student to succeed.”

“There’s no one better than Chris as a director,” Dayley continues. “Actors are at his best under his direction. His influence on UVU has been sometimes subtle, sometimes powerful, but always excellent. He fits well into the theater faculty—he loves them, they love him.

He is always trying to find a way to make all of his colleagues better by making sure they have assignments that draw the best from them. I think he’s magic that way.”

This year’s recipient of the University’s Wilson W. Sorensen Lifetime Achievement Alumni Award, Clark has become renowned for his creativity as a director. “I love when I’m able to conceptualize and devise with actors,” he says. “I love being able to come up with things in the moment and create storytelling that way.”

One of his most memorable experiences directing is adapting a 1920s horror film about vampires into a UVU stage production, and he is currently directing “Betty Blue Eyes,” a quirky musical about a pig being raised to be eaten by the queen of England.

His commitment to give his all to whatever he is involved in extends to all reaches of his life, from his family and friends to community involvement. Clark played a central role in revitalizing Sundance Summer Theater, a

time-honored Utah County tradition. When Sundance Resort could no longer maintain summer theater, Clark championed a partnership with UVU, which led to the University staging an annual summer production on the open-air stage at Sundance.

Recently, Clark was diagnosed with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS). “When something like this happens, you see everything much more clearly,” he observes. “The importance of family relationships takes priority over just about everything, and I’ve realized that being busy is overrated. For so many years I just went and went and went, and I’m realizing now that doing less is OK as long as what I’m doing is quality and something I’m proud of.”

His proudest accomplishment is his family. He and Lisa have five children; the oldest is attending UVU and studying computer graphic design. “None of our children are into theater, which is fine, although it’s kind of a surprise,” he notes.

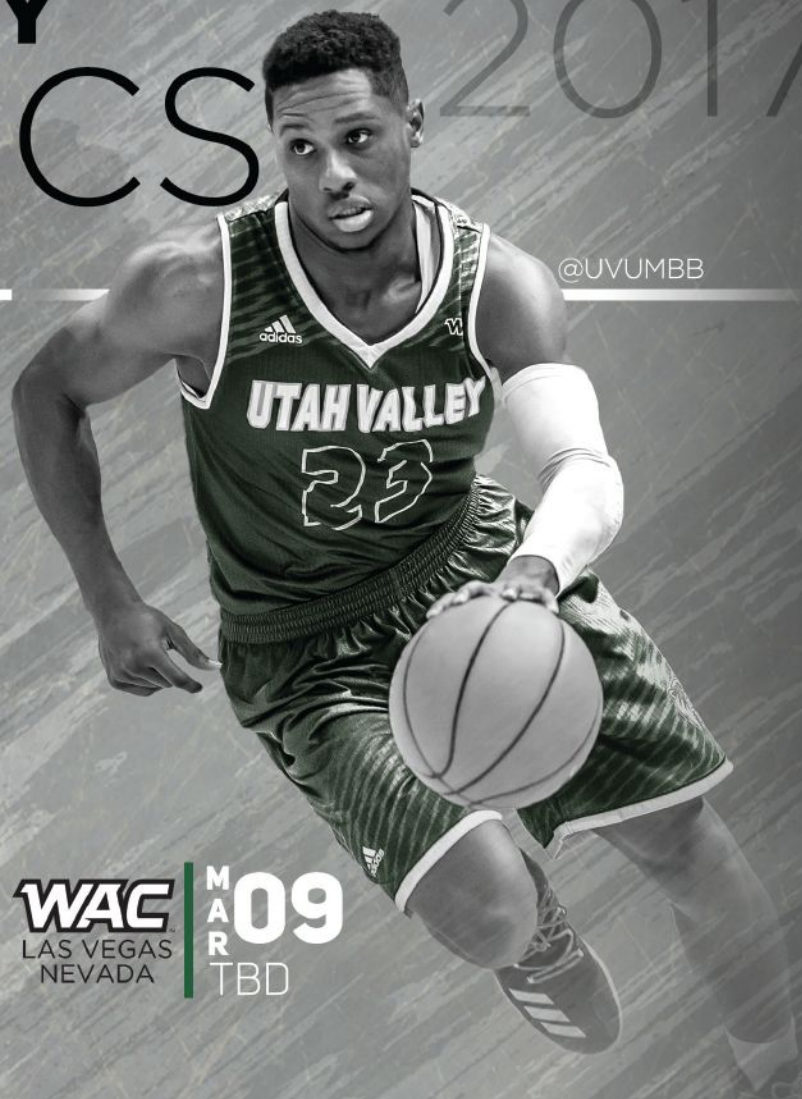
But not far behind what he’s accomplished at home is what he’s made happen on the UVU campus. He’s particularly excited about the new performing arts building, which will be home to UVU theater performances; the groundbreaking for the new 130,000-square foot center was held Dec. 1.

“I never thought that I would stay here,” Clark continues. “But as time has gone by, I’ve completely fallen in love with this school. I have opportunities here, and I have been given a lot of freedom, trust, and encouragement by those around me. I realized about three or four years into my job here how great the students were and how supportive the administration was, and I just kind of ran with it. We’re at an exciting point right now, and I look forward to being part of that and seeing it happen.” ■

# UTAH VALLEY ATHLETICS 2017

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

@UVUMBB



JAN 02  
7:00PM



JAN 28  
7:00PM



JAN 12  
7:00PM



FEB 16  
7:00PM



JAN 14  
7:00PM



FEB 18  
7:00PM



JAN 26  
7:00PM



MAR 04  
7:00PM



MAR 09  
TBD

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL @UVUWBB

## @UVUWRE WRESTLING



JAN 07  
7:00PM



FEB 11  
3:00PM



JAN 21  
3:00PM



FEB 23  
7:00PM



FEB 04  
3:00PM



FEB 25  
3:00PM



FEB 09  
7:00PM



MAR 08  
TBD



JAN 07  
ALL DAY



FEB 10  
7:00PM



JAN 13  
7:00PM



FEB 11  
3:00PM



JAN 19  
7:00PM



MAR 04  
ALL DAY



JAN 28  
4:00PM



MAR 16  
ALL DAY



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# Ghosts of a char

**DIGITAL MEDIA ALUM CHRIS BRINGHURST LEADS  
TEAM TO UVU'S FIRST STUDENT EMMY WIN**

**BY LAYTON SHUMWAY  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY JAY DROWNS**



**F**rom the first time Chris Bringhurst saw “Toy Story,” he wanted to be an animator. Even if he didn’t know it yet. “Seeing “Toy Story” as a first- or second-grader planted the seed,” Bringhurst says. “Woody was the first character who really grabbed me and stuck with me.”

The desire to make a character as memorable as Pixar’s cartoon cowboy led Bringhurst from his home in St. George, Utah, to the digital media program at Utah Valley University. And in 2016, Bringhurst stepped onto a Hollywood stage to accept the first student Emmy in UVU history for the film he wrote and directed, “The Ghost Next Door.”

“It wasn’t until I got to UVU that I realized I could actually do this,” Bringhurst says. “It’s an experience I’ll cherish forever.”



t  
nce



## DISCOVERING ANIMATION

As a child, Bringhurst started drawing as soon as he learned to hold a pencil. Making movies was also an early passion, as Bringhurst and his young friends experimented with homemade special effects. Bringhurst says he learned at a young age to tell creative stories with limited resources.

“Throughout my entire life, I’ve been using the limitations I had to try to make something fun,” Bringhurst says. “But for some reason, the idea of animation was this foreign, alien concept. I could film things, and I could draw things, but I didn’t know how to film drawings.”

When he arrived at UVU in 2010, Bringhurst intended to study film. But an animation class with UVU professor Anthony Romrell changed his mind. As he worked through the course materials, he suddenly realized how to combine his interests.

“I made a 3-D pig and dressed him up like Batman,” Bringhurst says. “And I just suddenly thought, ‘Of course! Animation! How could I have forgotten?’”

Bringhurst says UVU’s faculty, especially Romrell, Rodayne Esmay, and Marty Clayton, taught him how to bring his love for storytelling to life as he learned the technical skills needed in modern animation.

“I had amazing relationships with all of the professors in the program,” he says. “They taught us a lot, and they held us accountable for things, but best of all, I felt we could consider them friends.”

## A STORY WITH HEART


When the time came for the students in his cohort to choose a senior project, Bringhurst was ready with an idea: a 3-D animated film about a comical skeleton struggling to open a treasure chest before a group of heroes beats him to it.

“The story was just this two-minute joke my wife and I hashed out,” Bringhurst says. “I pitched it to Marty Clayton, and he told me

the story didn’t have heart. And I could see what he meant. You need a story that is both human and something that could only be told in the setting you’re telling it in, which is hard to do.”

After scrapping a few more drafts, Bringhurst finally hit upon the concept that would become “The Ghost Next Door.” In the film, a skeleton comforts the ghost of a recently deceased young girl, through a series of mishaps (and one insightful gift). Finally, Bringhurst thought, he had a story that touched on something human.

“It ended up becoming a very personal story for my wife and me,” he says, “because we’d both lost people in our lives. It was still funny, but it became a story about grief and about comforting those who grieve.”

A glowing, 3-D pig character is shown in a cemetery at night. The pig is standing on a grave, looking down with a sad expression. In the background, there are several tombstones and a fence. The scene is dimly lit, with the pig being the primary light source.

**“IT ENDED UP BECOMING A VERY PERSONAL STORY FOR MY WIFE AND ME.”**



**“IT LITERALLY  
TAKES YEARS  
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THING LIKE THIS.”**

#### **FLESHING OUT THE SKELETON**

The pitch for “The Ghost Next Door” was accepted as a senior project for UVU digital media students in September 2014, and Bringhurst began leading a team of almost 30 digital media students. He also served as writer, director, editor, compositor, co-producer, and co-animator.

“Managing people was definitely the hardest part of the entire project for me,” Bringhurst says. “Sometimes it felt like babysitting, sometimes it felt like a well-oiled machine. The experience taught me a lot beyond just animating.”

Things didn’t always go smoothly for the project. In January 2015, UVU faculty sat the team down and told them they needed to start the project almost completely from scratch. Only the modeling and rigging for the skeleton character survived as the students went back to the drawing board.

“It’s difficult to fully explain how hard it is to produce a title like this,” Romrell says. “It literally takes years of persistence on the part of these students to acquire the skill set necessary to pull off something like this.”

As the next draft neared completion, story artist Moroni Taylor from Blue Sky Studios in New York City was brought in to serve as a mentor. And his feedback led to more serious revisions, Bringhurst says.

“Moroni told us we had to have a ‘why’ for everything in the film,” he says. “If we couldn’t explain why something was there, he told us to get rid of it. He really helped us to de-clutter the scenes.”

Over the summer of 2015, the team dwindled as students moved on to other projects. By the time the final draft was completed, less than a third of the original team remained. But in October 2015, “The Ghost Next Door” was done and submitted for Emmy evaluation.

#### **A GHOST OF A CHANCE**

Bringhurst had started working at a local online marketing business in early 2016 when he got the call from the Television Academy, the organization that awards both the Primetime Emmys and their university counterparts, the College Television Awards.

“I got a voicemail at first,” Bringhurst says. “They said they wanted to ask some questions, and I thought, ‘Oh, no, there’s something wrong with our submission.’ I was terrified to call them back.”

When he finally did, he received the good news: “The Ghost Next Door” had been nominated for an Emmy, the first in UVU history.

“For those who made the film, for our department, our college, and our university, this is really a big deal,” Romrell says.

As part of the award, Bringhurst and members of his team were flown out to Hollywood, where they participated in a nominee summit with big-time TV showrunners and celebrities. The awards show was held in the Skirball Cultural Center in Los Angeles, where the UVU students got to see their hard work recognized.

“Everyone here understands the significance of this achievement,” Esmay says. “In this industry, there are two awards that stand head and shoulders above all others — the Oscar and the Emmy. To be a part of this celebration in Hollywood and see our students rewarded for their monumental effort is extremely gratifying.”

Since receiving his degree from UVU in 2016, Bringhurst has gone to work at Strata, a leader in the 3-D graphics industry. But he still dreams of making his own “Toy Story” someday.

“I love mascot characters,” he says. “Creating a character like that, something kids want to take pictures with at Disneyland — that’s something I aspire to. I hope I get to create something that becomes a part of people’s lives.” ■



Ashley Standifird and her son Lucas  
marvel at the newly installed Roots of Knowledge  
windows in the Fulton Library at UVU.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY  
AUGUST MILLER, JAY DROWNS, KIM RAFF

# ROOTS OF KNOWLEDGE



## NEW STAINED-GLASS INSTALLATION AT UVU CHARTS HUMAN SEARCH FOR LEARNING

BY LAYTON SHUMWAY

**A**t the heart of every university is a desire to explore, to learn, and to increase students' ability to meaningfully interact with their surroundings. In the 75 years since its inception, Utah Valley University has distinguished itself by combining these desires into a focus on engaged learning — immersing its students in real-world contexts to increase professional competence and confidence.

On Nov. 18, 2016, UVU unveiled the perfect representation of that philosophy — a stained-glass public art project of extraordinary proportions called Roots of Knowledge. Now permanently installed in the Marc C. and Deborah Bingham Gallery within the Ira A. and Mary Lou Fulton Library at UVU, Roots of Knowledge chronicles the human quest for intellectual advancement and progress and serves as a reminder of the purpose and power of education.



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## A WINDOW INTO HISTORY

Holland and Holdman soon formulated a partnership for Roots of Knowledge, allowing more than 40 professional artists to work side-by-side with more than 350 UVU students in a prime example of engaged learning. A committee of 26 UVU scholars supplied the artists with historically accurate and well-rounded points of view for inspiration. The end result is 80 panes containing more than 60,000 pieces of handcrafted stained glass, spanning 10 feet in height and 200 feet in length, which now anchor the entrance to UVU's newly named Ira A. and Mary Lou Fulton Library.

"I've heard it said that a library is to a university what a kitchen is to a home," Holland says. "This is our heart. This is where our students will gather to study and converse and interact. And they'll do it under the powerful images of these spectacular windows."

The story begins with a life-size depiction of one of the oldest living trees, the bristlecone pine Methuselah, in spring. The tree's roots and branches travel chronologically, interlacing like the strands of a DNA chain across all 80 panes. Methuselah intersects with a Tree of Life, representing various interpretations of the beginning of the world.

The windows are rich with colorful and historical detail. A single window shows important representations of the 13th and 14th centuries, including Kublai Khan of the Mongol Empire; the Mosque of Isfahan in Iran; Dante Alighieri, "the Father of the Italian Language;" and the University of Krakow, the oldest university in Poland, whose most famous student was Copernicus. Another, from the late 1800s to early 1900s, includes a quote by Cuban revolutionary José Julián Martí; portraits of Marie Curie and Henrik Ibsen; a kiosk in Paris; and the great Indian hornbill, the symbol of the Bombay Natural History Society.

The artists and the team of scholars advising them made a special effort to show images and historic events from a variety of cultures, reflecting one of UVU's core themes: inclusivity.

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## SPEAKING THROUGH THE ARTS

When Utah artist Tom Holdman was a child, he spoke with a severe stutter. The condition drew teasing from classmates and affected his school performance. Art soon became the outlet whereby Holdman could communicate most freely. "I chose to speak through the visual arts," he says.

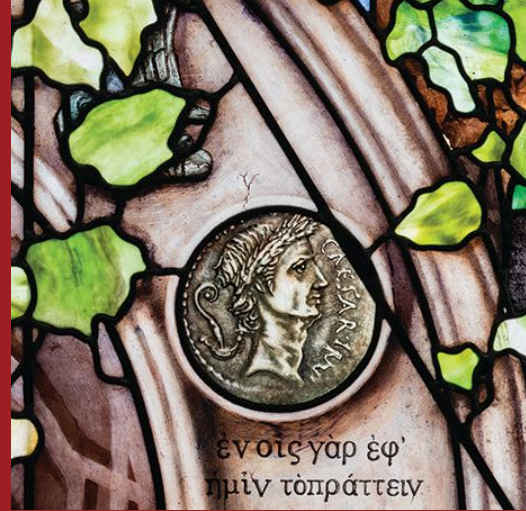
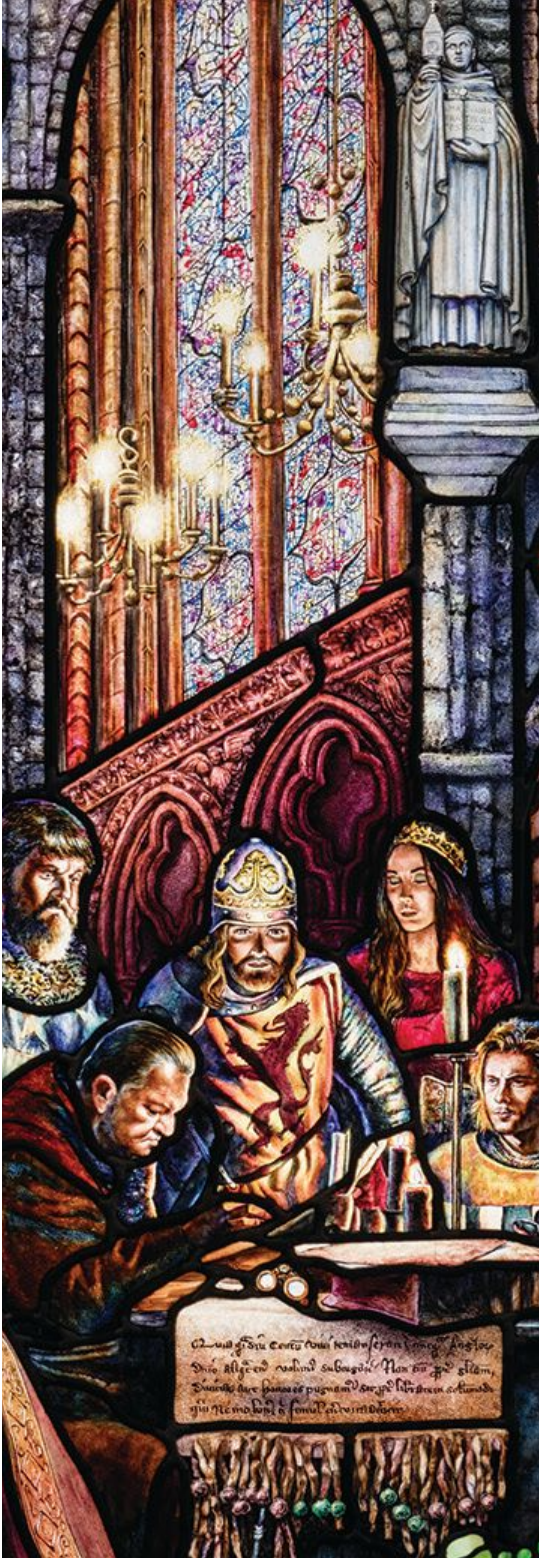
Through the influence of his father, a photographer, and the teachers who nurtured him throughout his school years in Utah, Holdman was encouraged to explore the medium of stained glass. He formed Holdman Studios in 1988, working out of his parents' garage. From those humble beginnings, Holdman's stained-glass creations have been displayed in all 50 states and worldwide, including more than 40 Catholic, Mormon, and Protestant sanctuaries.

Holdman first pictured the Roots of Knowledge project as a series of stained-glass windows specifically following the history of

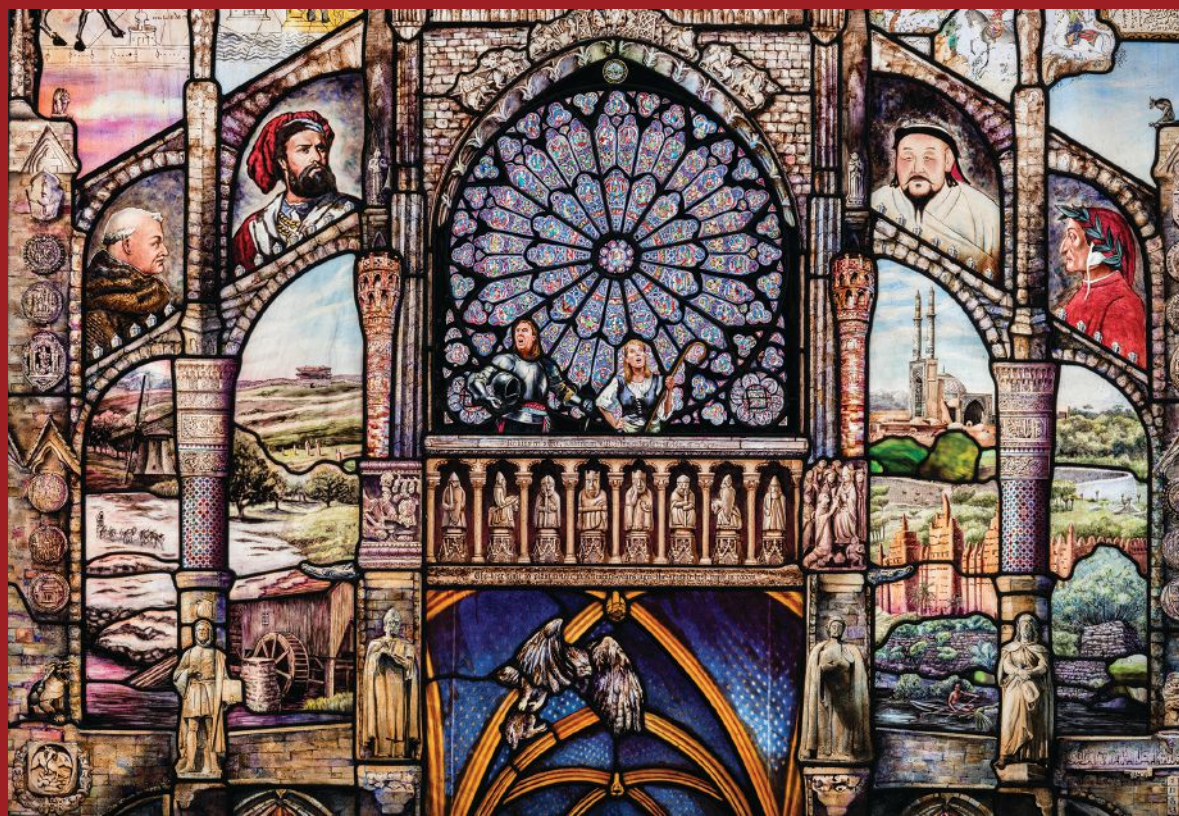
the written word. He pitched the idea to UVU President Matthew S. Holland for possible installation in the library on UVU's Orem campus. Holland, who has overseen UVU's transformation into the largest institution of higher education in Utah, said he liked the concept but — in trademark UVU fashion — wanted to make it even more ambitious.

"As Tom talked, I got so excited because I could see the potential," Holland says. "It would be a statement of what we were becoming as a true university. I loved the idea of taking an ancient art form and translating it into a modern secular environment. But I just thought it had to be bigger and more expansive."

Nine months passed, and Holland thought the idea had been abandoned. But Holdman soon returned with a stunning new layout sketch. At that moment, Holland knew they were in business.



The Roots of Knowledge project includes 80 panes containing more than 60,000 pieces of handcrafted stained glass, spanning 10 feet in height and 200 feet in length. The windows are rich with colorful and historical detail.





Several Roots of Knowledge panels traveled across the country to New York City (center left), and across the Atlantic to London and Oxford, where they earned the praise of officials like Baroness Emma Nicholson (top right) and Alderman Peter Estlin, Sheriff of London (center right), before final installation at UVU (bottom).





“Roots of Knowledge is an extraordinary work of art that underscores the University’s core commitment to serious reflection and consideration of the human mind’s greatest achievements.”

MATTHEW S. HOLLAND, PRESIDENT, UVU

“It’s easy to imagine innovation from our own culture’s perspective,” said UVU professor Kate McPherson, who served on the scholar advisory committee. “But the collaborative spirit of this project enabled us to reach across every inhabited continent and honor the enduring quest for human communication, healing, beauty, engineering, literature, scientific discovery, and progress.”

## A WORLD OF LEARNING

Prior to the project’s unveiling at UVU, the Roots of Knowledge team traveled across the country and across the Atlantic to display several panels in New York City, at Christ Church in Oxford, and the Glaziers’ Hall Library in London. The exhibitions drew hundreds of attendees, as well as the attention of publications like major UK newspaper The Guardian.

“It comes at such an important time because it’s such a thoughtful and reflective piece that goes back to the beginning, that is so inclusive,” said Victoria Dengel, executive director of the General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen of the City of New York and the General Society Library. “It was so fun to see people’s reactions from across the globe here in New York — it was a very diverse population that came together and applauded this beautiful work.”

Attendees in London were even more effusive in their praise. “The city of London is 2,000 years old, and I don’t think I’ve ever seen anything like this before,” said Emma Harriet Nicholson, Baroness of Winterbourne and Member of the House of Lords, UK Parliament. “The university, I know, will cherish it and love it.”

## PLANTING THE ROOTS

A standing room-only crowd packed the newly named Marc C. and Deborah Bingham Gallery on Nov. 18, spilling out into hallways and overflow rooms. With leaders like Utah Gov. Gary Herbert, Sen. Orrin Hatch, and many other local and state officials in attendance, President Holland invited the Binghams, Ira Fulton, Tom Holdman, and Holdman Studios head artist Cameron Oscarson to stand with him at the podium to unveil the full Roots of Knowledge project to the public for the first time.

The awed gasps were immediate, quickly followed by a standing ovation — and widespread mobile-phone snapshots. Attendees lingered for hours as they studied the windows, and hundreds more arrived later that evening for a public reception. And President Holland says he expects that phenomenon to continue into the new year and beyond.

“They’re not going to be able to take in the whole project in one sitting or viewing,” President Holland says. “This took an army of people to create, and their detail and insights could fill an encyclopedia or two. People are going to have to come back.”

The newly named Fulton Library is prepared to welcome those people, with annotated Roots of Knowledge guides and daily public availability. And as visitors learn from the windows, they’ll also get a taste of what drives UVU to share that knowledge with others.

“UVU is all about giving people hope,” President Holland says. “Roots of Knowledge was the perfect project to end our 75th anniversary on, because it so neatly reflects all of our core themes — being inclusive, reaching out to different people and places; being engaged, doing practical applied things that make a difference and are beautiful; and being serious about the most important ideas and intellectual contributions to society. That all comes together in these windows. That’s what UVU is about.” ■



With Sen. Orrin Hatch and Utah Gov. Gary Herbert in attendance (third from top), Cameron Oscarson, Ira Fulton, Tom Holdman, President Matthew S. Holland, and Marc and Deborah Bingham pressed the button to unveil Roots of Knowledge at its permanent UVU home.



BY BARBARA CHRISTIANSEN



UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY WILL ADD  
FIVE NEW MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMS  
THIS FALL, MORE THAN DOUBLING THE  
AVAILABLE PROGRAMS. MASTER OF  
COMPUTER SCIENCE, MASTER OF PUBLIC  
SERVICE, MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK,  
MASTER OF ACCOUNTANCY, AND  
MASTER OF SCIENCE OF CYBERSECURITY  
ARE THOSE TO BE ADDED.

photography by university staff

**STARTING** in fall 2017, students attending Utah Valley University will have more options for career success than ever before. When UVU transitioned from state college status to university status, one of the main differences was the advent of master degrees. UVU added three the first three years and is now more than doubling that in one fell swoop, bringing the total to eight.

Computer science, public service, social work, accountancy, and cybersecurity round out the new offerings. Existing master degrees are in nursing, business and education.

Preparations for the new degrees have been ongoing for several years, and the final approval of the programs was given in July. However, work to add the new programs began in earnest in January 2015 and involved a number of

steps, including accreditation by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities.

“We established a University graduate office, appointed a graduate director, elected a graduate council, created and revised graduate policies, and developed a graduate program development process for new graduate programs,” says Jeffery E. Olson, senior vice president of academic affairs. “We did this to ensure quality in our current and proposed graduate programs, courses, and faculty.”

“We had to go through a pretty long approval process,” says Jim Bailey, director of graduate studies.

There were 22 proposals for expansion of the graduate offerings. Of those, the five were selected, based on industry and student demand in the University’s service area and the strength of UVU’s capacity to offer the degrees.

Now that the rigorous process is basically complete, students are preparing to enter the new programs with an eye to the future and the benefits having a master’s degree may bring.



## ACCOUNTANCY

Jesse Howard is an adjunct professor of accountancy at UVU. He received a bachelor's degree from the University in 2011 but had to continue his education elsewhere to earn his master's. He received that from the University of Utah in May 2013.

"In today's environment having a master's degree for accounting is almost essential," Howard says. "By getting my master's degree, I was able to pass my CPA exams.

"With that, I was able to get a job at a national accounting firm," he added. "There were tons of opportunities, including the job I have now working for a large public company. It opens a lot of doors."

Courses in the master's program will include financial accounting, auditing, taxation, and business law, says Stan Jenne, UVU's accounting department chair. There are two areas of emphasis from which students may choose elective courses: one is taxation, the other is practice auditing and internal auditing.

The CPA exam requires graduate hours and training. "The Master of Accountancy program does qualify students for the exam," Jenne says. "Students who complete a MAcc program at an accredited school complete the education requirements to take the exam."

And they have to be in the master's degree program to qualify to take the advanced courses, Jenne adds.

With only a bachelor's degree in accounting, students can begin careers such as management accounting. "The master's degree prepares people for professional accounting positions, such as certified public accountants and related positions," explains Jenne. "It will help students advance in the industry."

## PUBLIC SERVICE

This two-year, part-time program will initially focus in the areas of fire and police, with course offerings planned in public services administration, finance, legal issues, organizational behavior, and leadership.

"We expect it to expand," says Tom Sturtevant, associate dean of the College of Aviation & Public Services and interim director for the Master of Public Service program. "As student demand and interest increases, we will start offering courses in other public services areas." Those would include any services that a city provides, such as community and public health.

"I think the majority of our students will be already employed," he says. "I will be asking the faculty to emphasize the soft skills. Those include communications, teamwork, and supervision. We want to provide engaged learning opportunities that hone in on those skills."

With those additional skills, graduates will be able to move ahead in their fields. "We are really looking at the sweet spot between lower and upper supervision and management," he continues. "It will increase the opportunities down the road for them."

Industry professionals note the importance of advanced education. "There is little else more important than education for a fire service professional of today," says one of those industry professionals, Kriss Garcia, chief of the American Fork Fire Department. "To meet the increasing political and public demands without education is like going into battle with no ammunition. Someone can have all the good intentions and desire in the world, but without formal education, they will not be successful."

## COMPUTER SCIENCE

When UVU's Department of Computer Science was planning the coursework for a master's degree, members followed three guiding principles, says computer science professor Curtis Welborn. They wanted the program to be rigorous, relevant, and practical.

"One of the things that is happening in the industry is that systems are getting larger and larger," he says. "We have students who work on systems that are a million lines of code. We want students to work on designing a large-scale program while they are in school."

Another aspect the department is focusing on is having students learn and practice on a professional level.

"They will be able to take on more leadership and responsible roles," he says. "We are trying to get them to be leaders and innovators. We are looking at them taking a larger amount of responsibility and taking things to the next level. We want them to develop a large base of competency and increase their breadth and depth. These are the guiding principles for our teachers."

UVU's Master of Computer Science has been designed as a part-time program so working professionals may continue their employment while attending classes.

Utah's growing computer science industry needs is seeking employees trained with those the needed skills. "The Provo-Orem metropolitan statistical area is predicted to need 11,050 total jobs in computer science or related jobs by 2022," Welborn says. "Many students from other Utah universities move out of state, so our program will prepare our graduates to fill this local need."

## SOCIAL WORK

With a Master in Social Work, graduates will be able to take the exam to become licensed clinical social workers (LCSW). With a bachelor's degree, they can only obtain a social service worker license, which enables them to perform case management and non-clinically based services. The LCSW designation allows them to add clinically based services and make diagnoses.

The curriculum for the master's degree will include three different concentrations: mental health, addictions, and working with the diverse populations. The full-time program is two years.

"There is a significant need for Master of Social Work graduates, particularly in Utah County," says Lars Eggertsen, associate professor of behavioral science at UVU. "We have one of the worst ratios of clinicians to clientele in the country."

Doran Williams, associate director of Wasatch Mental Health in Provo, said UVU's new program will help. "I know there is a shortage of master's level clinicians. From what I hear, there is a shortage throughout the state."

Richard Nance, director of the Utah County Department of Drug and Alcohol Prevention and Treatment, says, "Pressure on the other MSW programs in the state to produce a behavioral health workforce means that there will be an inadequate labor pool of qualified professionals to fill future job openings — especially in Utah County."

UVU's students have been asking for the advanced degree. "I would love if UVU offered an MSW program," student Brittany Dupaix said prior to the announcement. "There are so many trying to get into that program, and UVU could help our community out by making it more available to its members."

## CYBERSECURITY

Cybersecurity is a relatively new and rapidly expanding field. The U.S. Department of Labor has predicted a 37 percent job growth rate in the industry from 2012 to 2022. Robert Jorgensen, UVU's cybersecurity program director, says approximately 209,000 cybersecurity jobs in the United States were unfilled in 2015. "The job market is absolutely insane," he says.

And UVU is stepping in to help its students meet that need. Previously, UVU students were able to earn a one-year certificate in cybersecurity. The new program will build on that base with courses in penetration testing and vulnerability assessment, advanced network forensics, and reverse engineering and malware analysis. The two-year part-time program will also offer courses in cybersecurity operations, law, and ethics and privacy in cybersecurity.

"This program will prepare students for both senior technical cybersecurity positions as well as management roles," Jorgensen says.

IT professional Troy Young plans on getting his master's degree from UVU and is excited about the program. He hopes to become a chief information security officer.

"Whether my career actually goes that direction or not remains to be seen," he says. "Even if I stay in my current area of expertise — healthcare IT — security is such a huge part of it that I'm sure it will be valuable for any career path that I ultimately choose. The environment at UVU is worth the 70- to 80-minute round trip drive it takes me to get to the campus and back home."

The new degrees mean a lot to the students — and also to the University. "By expanding, it shows we are a serious university in graduate education," Bailey says. ■



THE NEW DEGREES MEAN  
A LOT TO THE STUDENTS —  
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"BY EXPANDING, IT SHOWS  
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— JIM BAILEY  
Director of graduate studies





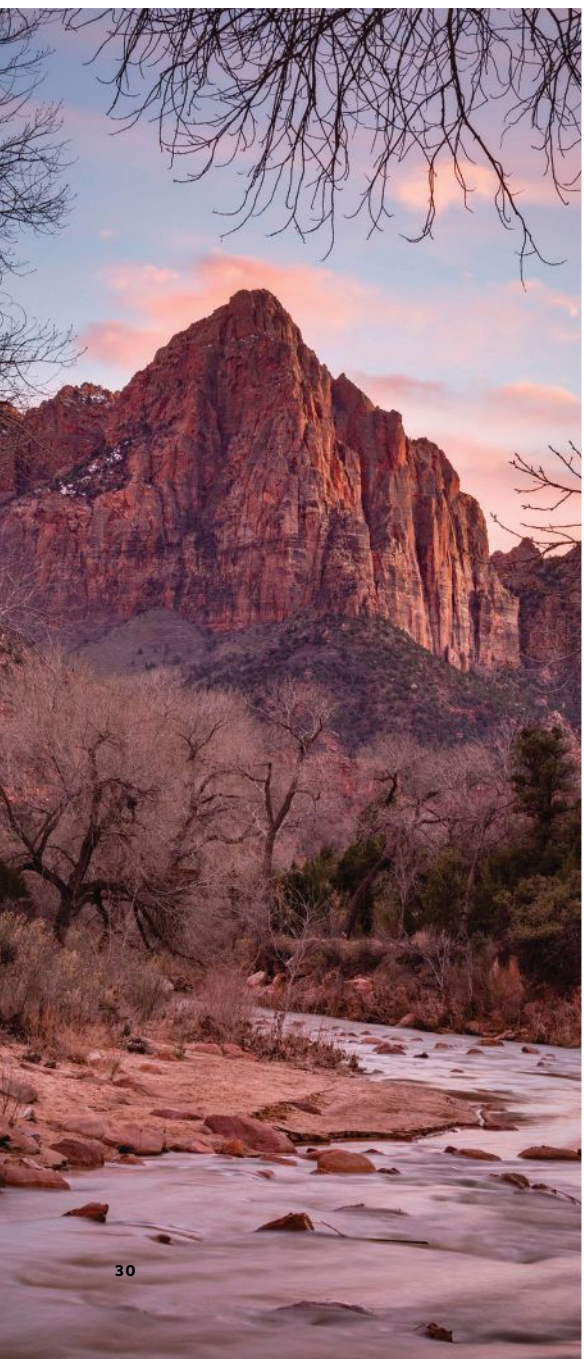
# UN- COM- -MON GROUND

by Barbara Christiansen

**U**tah's five national parks and eight national historic sites or national recreation areas are among the most photographed in the world, but to recognize the 100th anniversary of America's national parks in 2016, Utah Valley University art and design students wanted to find a new perspective to tell stories through their works.



“We wanted our students to explore and discover these spots anew.”



“There are a lot of stereotypical images, but we wanted our students to explore and discover these spots anew,” said Travis Lovell, assistant professor of photography at UVU. “We found a lot through chance, by talking to people. It provides the students that very real-life application.”

The students created “Uncommon Ground,” a book of their stories, photos, and illustrations featuring Utah’s scenic and historic areas. The book is a follow-up to “The Western Front 100 Years Later,” which UVU students produced the previous year as a commemoration of World War I.

“This book is a real benchmark for engaged learning,” says Howard Fullmer, assistant professor of illustration at UVU. “It is a prime example of what UVU students can do when they are working with a vision.”

Students were prepared to find the best stories at Bryce Canyon, Zion, Arches, Canyonlands, and Capitol Reef National Parks. But at

Capitol Reef, they became part of a different story. Representatives of the park recognized the students’ talents and asked them for help in rebranding the park and creating marketing and informational materials. Some of those are already in place, and more will come with a new visitors’ center in 2017.

Other locations the students captured in their artwork included Timpanogos Cave, Dinosaur, Cedar Breaks, Natural Bridges, Rainbow Bridge, and Hovenweep National Monuments, as well as Glen Canyon National Recreation Area and Golden Spike National Historic Site.

Students in the project represented the fields of photography, painting, illustration, graphic design, printmaking, art history, art education, and ceramics.

All proceeds from the purchase of the book will be used by other groups of students in future years to publish similar fine art collections annually.



**PHOTO CREDIT**

*Previous Page, Travis Lovell*

*Top left, Travis Lovell*

*Bottom Left, Reid Elem*

*Top Middle, Travis Lovell*

*Right Top, Lonna King*

*Right Bottom, Travis Lovell*



“This book is a real benchmark for engaged learning ... It is a prime example of what UVU students can do when they are working with a vision.”





# #Buxty Strong

By Austin Buxton  
with Layton Shumway

Photography by  
August Miller

Wolverine midfielder  
**Austin Buxton**  
inspires his team as  
he overcomes cancer

*Six months before starting his junior season, Wolverine midfielder Austin Buxton had surgery to remove cancer. In August 2016, he discovered it had returned and that chemotherapy would force him to miss the season. UVU Magazine asked Buxton to relate his experience.*

Coming into my junior year, I felt like I had solidified my position with the team. I think my starting role came strictly from putting in the work. Every single day. I can barely remember any times I missed training for anything.

I played a decent amount my freshman year, and the next year, I was called upon and earned my spot from there. But no starting spot is ever safe. It's all up in the air, and you could lose that at any moment.

In preseason, I found out my cancer had returned. The news didn't hit me at first. I tried to talk to the doctor about options — if it was even an option to wait until after the season for treatment — because I knew what a big season it was for this team. But that was kind of out of the picture. And that's when it hit me.

I owe a lot to this team for the way they handled it — the way they handled me. It was definitely a tough moment, but I had a lot of support.

*UVU faced Washington, then ranked 20th in the nation, in the season's first home game. Wolverine midfielder Paul Hoffmeister scored the game's first goal in the 14th minute, and as the team celebrated, several players pulled up their jerseys to reveal shirts reading "BUXTY #23" beneath.*

When we scored the first goal of the season at home. . . I felt so many emotions. I jumped off the bench, freaking out. I had had a feeling we were going to score an early goal like that. But when they ripped off their shirts, I couldn't even watch. I almost lost it on the bench. It was definitely a special moment.

*Though chemotherapy kept him from traveling with the team, Buxton decided to make the journey to Seattle for an early-season road game, surprising his teammates in the locker room.*

My family had bought tickets previously to go up to Seattle and watch me play. And this idea came into my head, that maybe I could go up there and surprise the team. They weren't expecting me to be there since I wasn't playing. They were so shocked — for half a second you

could see they just had no idea what was going on, like, "Wait a minute. . . this isn't right!" Their reaction was perfect.

*Despite a season-long top 25 national ranking and regular-season WAC championship, the Wolverines lost in the semifinals of the WAC Tournament and failed to secure an NCAA Tournament berth.*

It's harder than I thought it was going to be, watching from the sidelines. Especially watching them lose. There's no way to describe that. It's an awful feeling to watch your team lose and not be able to do anything about it. But they've done really well.

It's been so fun to be a part of this, from a first-year program to now. We had high expectations coming into that first year, but nobody knew how much we would achieve. No one knew we would earn an at-large bid to the NCAA Tournament in our second year. But we knew we could do it. Even watching it grow from the sidelines has been fun.

People I talk to, when they hear I play soccer for UVU, they don't really know how good we are. They don't know we've been ranked as high as 8th in the nation. I think it makes them curious, and you see that in the crowds. It's really fun to play in that kind of environment.

As for me, I received a medical redshirt for this season, so I have two years of eligibility left. The treatment went better than my doctors expected. I'm back in school now and back in training. And I'm definitely excited about the future.



## OPENING DOORS

PHILANTHROPIST  
IRA FULTON'S  
SUPPORT  
OF UVU  
RECOGNIZED  
WITH NAMING  
OF LIBRARY

TEN years ago, real estate developer and philanthropist Ira Fulton stood before the Utah State Legislature with an ambitious challenge — one that would shape the future of Utah Valley University forever.

At the time, the institution then known as Utah Valley State College was striving to secure funding from the legislature in an effort to move to full university status. While the timing for the move hadn't lined up in previous years, this time UVSC had a secret weapon: Fulton promised to lead private donation efforts if the legislature agreed to help fund the institution's university transition.

"They set the appointments down at the Capitol building, and I chewed them out till they all voted 100 percent," Fulton recalls. "And when we left there, we had a university. A university degree opens so many more doors for our young people."

Two years later, the Fultons stood with campus and community leaders to celebrate UVU's first official day as a university and to dedicate the new campus library. And this past November, in honor of the Fultons' many contributions, UVU officially named that building

the Ira A. and Mary Lou Fulton Library.

"The impact that the Fultons have had on this institution, its students, and its future cannot be overstated," UVU President Matthew S. Holland said. "The path to university status would have undoubtedly been a more difficult one to travel were it not for the Fultons. Our library stands as a symbolic representation and reminder of our university transition and, as such, it is fitting that it will bear the Fulton name. The Fultons' generosity will impact students at Utah Valley University for generations to come."

Education is a heavy focus for Fulton's philanthropic efforts. The subject was a passion of Ira's late wife Mary Lou, who worked as an educator for most of her life. In addition to providing an endowment for the library and another for ongoing support of Roots of Knowledge, Fulton contributed to UVU's Center for Constitutional Studies and established the university's first-ever endowed chair. Fittingly, it will be named the Mary Lou Fulton Endowed Chair in Education Effectiveness and Innovation, residing in the UVU School of Education.

"I want to honor my wife," Fulton says. "She had such a love for education, a love for children. She knows that my love for her is that strong."

Other schools across Utah and Arizona show proof of that love, as the Fultons have invested millions toward worthy causes, primarily those associated with education in an effort to educate tomorrow's leaders. Structures and resources at Arizona State University, Brigham Young University, and the University of Utah bear the Fulton name.

But Fulton says the opportunity to contribute to a home for Roots of Knowledge, UVU's spectacular new stained glass installation, was a special one.

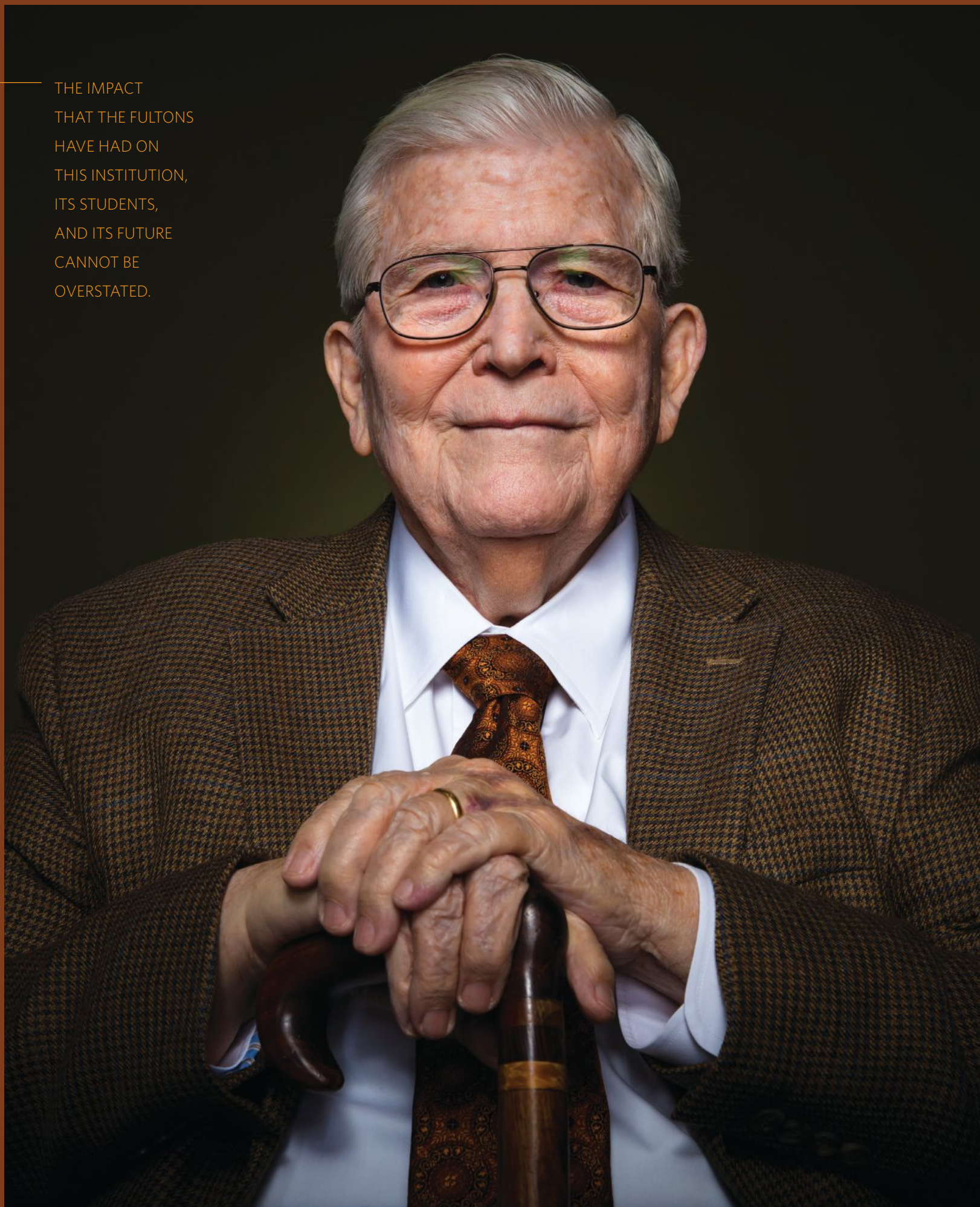
"The library is the foundation of knowledge for the university," Fulton says. "The idea of the Roots of Knowledge windows being in the library — what a combination. There is going to be no place in the world like it. It is going to be special. It's going to give the university a whole new dimension. It gives me goose bumps."

Through all his success and philanthropic efforts, Fulton's unselfish nature shines through. He says he has never forgotten the biblical parable warning against burying wealth instead of using it to benefit others.

"I've been super blessed," Fulton says. "I look at it as an opportunity. And I want young people to have a future. I want them to have as good a future as Ira."

by LAYTON SHUMWAY  
photography by AUGUST MILLER

THE IMPACT  
THAT THE FULTONS  
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CANNOT BE  
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# ALUMNI AWARDS

photography by August Miller



**Nathan Northcott**



**Andrea Jensen**



**Bret Butler**

## Distinguished Student Service Award

*Recognizes a UVU student who has notably given of himself or herself to enhance the quality of campus life and the student experience*

A native of Manila, Utah, Nathan Northcott was following a family tradition when he chose to attend UVU. "Both my older sisters came to UVU before me, and they had great experiences," he explains. Northcott has served as a UVU Foundation ambassador, an opportunity he calls "one of my most rewarding experiences." In that position, Northcott initiated a community outreach program to promote UVU to local businesses and increase student patronage and worked to bring the ambassadors together with the Student Alumni Association on the S2S student giving campaign. Northcott completed the Center for the Advancement of Leadership program and was named 2014 Male Student Leader of the Year.

## Young Alumni Award

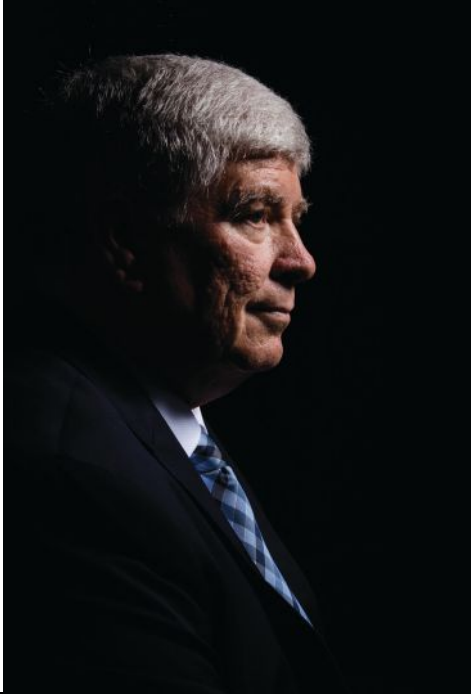
*Recognizes recent UVU graduates who continue to support the University with their time, energy, and resources*

A 2011 graduate, Andrea Jensen works as an environmental health educator for the Utah County Health Department; she served an internship at the department while attending UVU. Jensen received the Rookie of the Year award from Utah's Health Education Association and three employee awards from the department. "Because of what I learned at UVU, I've been able to get another credential I've wanted," Jensen says. "I just passed my exam to become a certified asthma educator." The president-elect of the Utah Chapter of the Society for Public Health Education, Jensen frequently speaks in UVU public health classes and is a mentor to UVU students.

## Alumni Pinnacle Award

*Honors alumni who further the purpose and mission of the UVU Alumni Association*

A 1999 graduate of UVU's Woodbury School of Business, Bret Butler cites the culture, instructors, class sizes, and fellow students as his reasons for attending the University. It was those same reasons that motivated him to become involved with the Alumni Board. As a board member, Butler was always among the first to volunteer to help out, and he became known for his steady work behind the scenes and his willingness to tackle any job. Butler is a frequent speaker at campus events and a mentor to UVU students, and he always looks for ways to give back to his alma mater. Butler is the senior solutions consultant at Verint, a provider of actionable intelligence for the business world.



**Steven K. Hortin**



**J. Brent and  
Kathryn P. Wood**



**Christopher Clark**

**Distinguished Service Award**

*Recognizes individuals who have served to further the purposes and mission of UVU through their affiliation with the University*

A certified public accountant and owner and president of the Hortin Group, Steve Hortin first got involved with UVU more than a decade ago when he decided to focus on giving back to the community. He chose the University because he saw the opportunity to leave a legacy for his children and grandchildren. Hortin played a key role in the creation and success of the University's Business and Economic Forum and consistently promotes the forum to professional groups and associations. As an original member of the advisory committee that became the Gift Planning Advisory Board, he has assisted UVU's gift-planning efforts for more than a decade.

**UVU Legacy Award**

*Recognizes alumni and friends of the University who have gone the extra mile to contribute to UVU and the Alumni Association*

Brent and Kathryn Wood became aware of the limited resources available for children with autism when one of their grandchildren was diagnosed with the disorder. They founded Clear Horizons Academy, which increases educational opportunities for children with autism. Brent, who is chair of the board and majority owner of the portable inflight entertainment company digEcor Inc., serves on UVU's Autism Resource Council. The Woods have been generous supporters of autism initiatives and scholarships at UVU. Their gift for UVU's forthcoming autism building is recognized in the naming of the Clear Horizons Academy Floor and the Hurst Wood Foundation Floor.

**Wilson W. Sorensen  
Lifetime Achievement Award**

*Honors an employee who has furthered the purposes, mission, growth, and advancement of the University*

An associate professor of theater and the theater department chair, Christopher Clark has made a profound impact on the University's theater department in particular and the School of the Arts in general. Clark is as passionate about helping students succeed as he is about his craft as an actor, director, producer, and playwright. Under his dedicated leadership, UVU students have won national championships at the prestigious Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, and he won the Kennedy Center's National Outstanding Director award in 2013. His impressive résumé includes study with the Royal Shakespeare Company, The Globe Theatre in London, and The Second City in Chicago.

## ALUMNI MESSAGE



THEY say “traditions never graduate.” Traditions are often what we remember most about our college days, besides walking at convocation – the most ancient and revered tradition in education. Whether you’re an alum or a student, there is value in knowing, remembering, and participating in university traditions.

More than the events themselves, university traditions forge relationships that endure far beyond school and build a community of alumni centered on camaraderie. That’s why we’re excited about the new UVU Traditions app. Download it and take a tour. You’ll find more than 50 traditions – many of which you may have already participated in, or perhaps helped create.

Take a moment to discover old or lost traditions, campus secrets, and the must-do UVU bucket list. The app is your college yearbook personalized. It will provide a glimpse into your own scrapbook of UVU memories and will renew your pride in your alma mater. Up for a challenge? Try to become a bronze, silver, gold, or emerald tradition keeper! Let us know which traditions were your favorite when you were a student, and tell us about traditions you participated in that are missing or lost. Use the hashtag #myuvutraditions whenever you revisit.

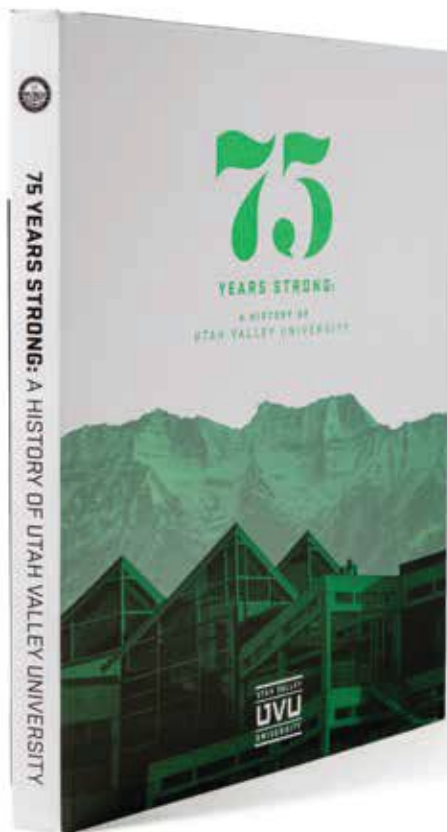
Like me, I’ll bet you cannot help but smile with family and friends when that old yearbook is pulled out. Story after story is shared, and these stories often become the legends of how traditions were born. Enjoy the UVU Traditions app and share it with your fellow alumni and students. Because traditions are timeless, you’re never too old to start becoming a tradition keeper. #myuvutraditions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin Walkenhorst".

*Kevin Walkenhorst*

*Senior Director, Alumni Relations and Annual Giving*



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# TERRY ANN HARWARD and BYRON HARWARD

## We are UVU

**TERRY ANN HARWARD.** Former UVSC student body president, first Student Alumni president, current assistant director of UVU Donor Relations. B.S. in technology management, magna cum laude, class of 1996.

**BYRON HARWARD.** Utah State Legislature, 1986-1997; advocated to move UVCC to UVSC, a 4-year institution. Owner of Code-Co Law Publishers. A.S. applied science, high honors, class of 2015.

*"Our lives have been enlarged through knowledge gained at UVU. We are most grateful for instructors who are not only knowledgeable in their fields but care deeply about student success. We are UVU!"*

Share your story at [uvualumni.org](http://uvualumni.org)

