



THE
GEORGIA COLLEGE

Blue Book

The Traditions and Key Experiences
of the Bobcat Nation



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Prize Wheel



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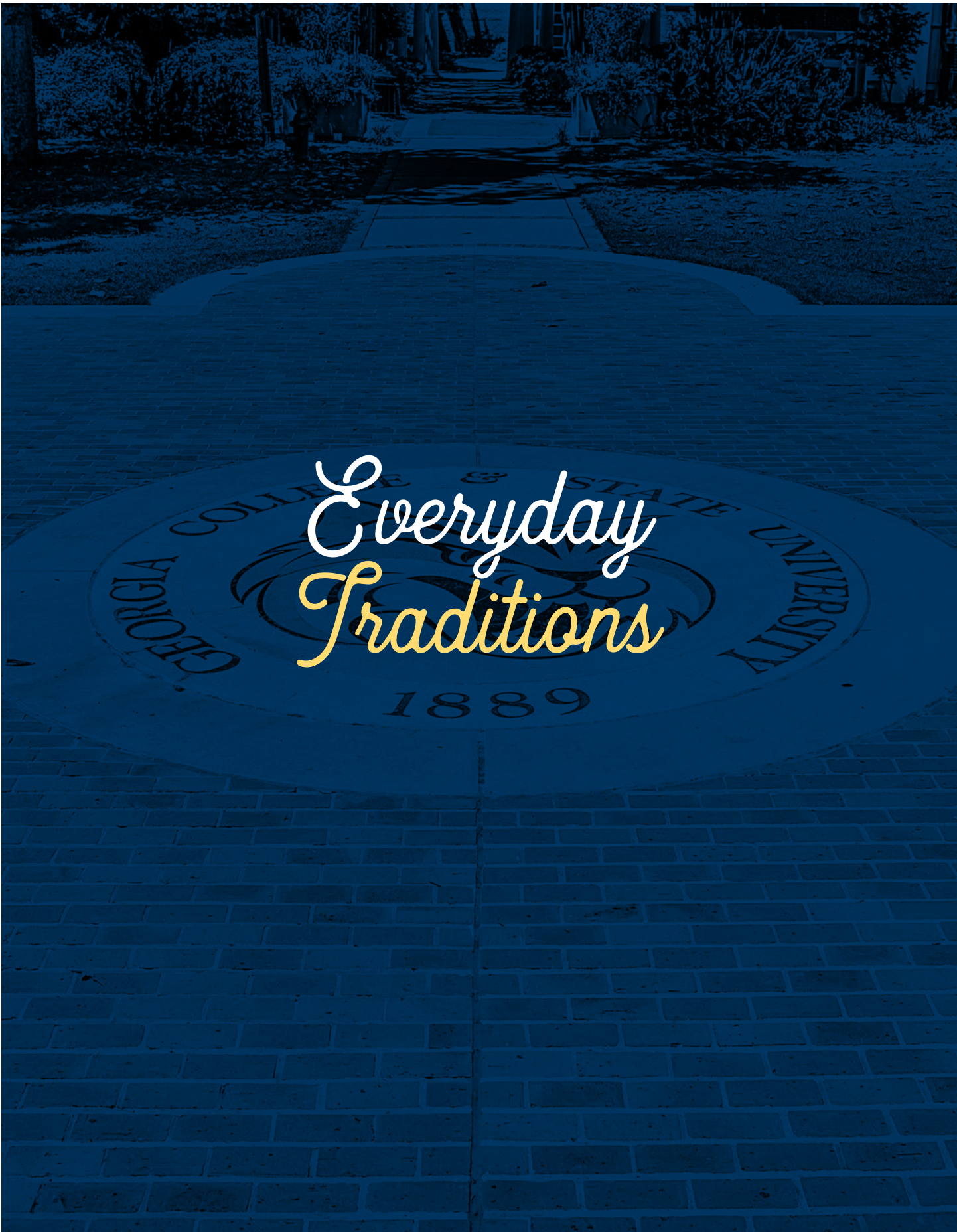
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*Everyday
Traditions*



The Bobcat Head on Front Campus

Don't step on it before you get your degree or you won't graduate on time!

The picturesque front lawn of Georgia College that is bordered by Corinthian column buildings is a popular gathering space for students, faculty, staff and alumni. Front Campus is home to leisure activities, convocations, graduations, outdoor concerts and even weddings. At the crossroads of Front Campus is the Bobcat

Head, a marble depiction of our mascot and popular place for group pictures. Periodically, our faculty teach in this beautiful outdoor classroom. The front lawn is a truly special place and is identified by our alumni as one of their favorite memories of Georgia College.

Thunder

Thunder is the official costumed mascot and goodwill ambassador of Georgia College. On the field, court, classroom or community, Thunder embodies and promotes the spirit and traditions our university cherishes. Thunder's identity is a closely guarded secret, but if you keep your eyes peeled at graduation, you might spot a set of furry paws poking out from under students' graduation regalia. Go Bobcats!





GEORGIA C

Advertisements on the gymnasium floor including:

- EMS
- RJI INC
- DJ
- Outdoor
- sodexo
- TVB
- RJI
- DJ





The Green Towel

The Green Towel serves two purposes: it is a spirit towel for athletic and other spirited university events, and a traveling towel for students, faculty, staff and alumni. The Green Towel provides a means for members of our community to outwardly express love and appreciation for Georgia College. As members of the Georgia College community travel, they take pictures with the Green Towel, boldly showing the university's logo, and submit for use across campus and in publications.. The prouf of the Green Towel demonstrates the global reach of our students, faculty, staff and alumni.





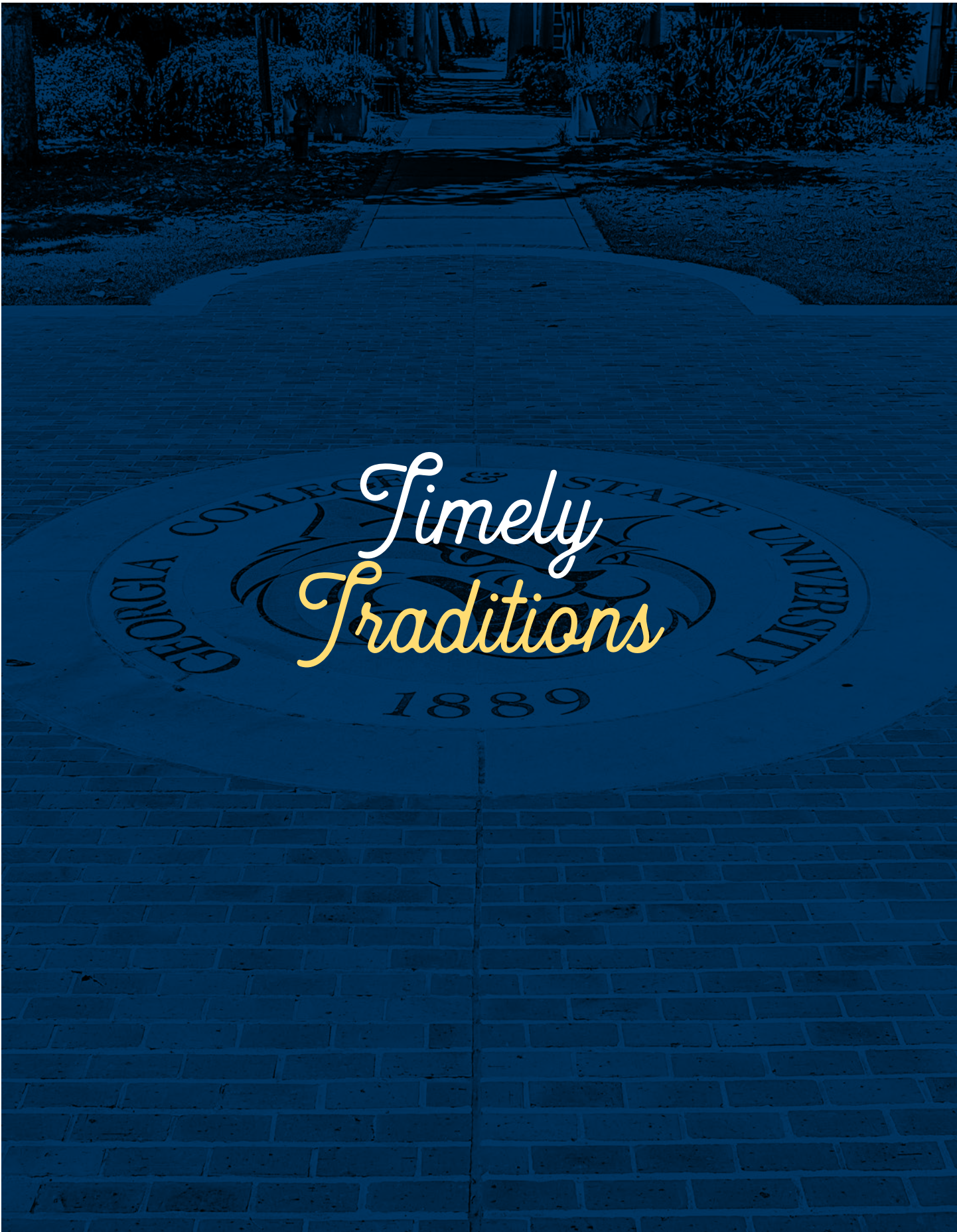
Bobcat Fridays

Show your Bobcat pride by wearing blue and green every Friday, and you might get a special thank you from Thunder!



Alma Mater/Carillon

The Georgia College Alma Mater was originally composed in 1965 by Ruth Sandiford Garrard, '65, for Professor Lucy Underwood's music class. It is played on the university carillon (musical chimes) at 11:55 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and at 12:20 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.



*Timely
Traditions*



Times Talk

A weekly discussion of current civic and social issues at Georgia College, Times Talk was instituted in 2005. Since that time faculty, students, staff and community members have shared pizza while engaging in lively dialogue about important civic issues reported in the New York Times. Times Talks are held at noon each Wednesday in the Ina Dillard Russell Library, and are free and open to the public.

SEMESTERLY Traditions



Midnight Breakfast

Each semester on the night before final exams, faculty and staff serve a full breakfast to students in the dining hall. The Campus Activities Board provides entertainment of all sorts to give students a break before the rigors of final exams. T-shirts, games and prizes are part of the occasion.



Interfaith Dinner

Held semi-annually, Interfaith Dinners celebrate the spirit of unity as different religious student organizations on campus come together to share and learn about each other's' holiday traditions over a meal.



Table Talk

Table Talk is an opportunity for students and faculty to share a meal and discuss topics from the classroom and beyond. Both students and faculty have the chance to strengthen their relationship and gain a deeper understanding of their Georgia College experience.

GC picks up the tab for a faculty member and two of their students for lunch or dinner.



Tailgate Tour

The Tailgate Tour began in 2018 and brings the Georgia College community together to celebrate all the aspects that make our campus great and experience a unique gameday environment. All students, faculty, staff, alumni and community members are welcome to come together to cheer on the Bobcats. Each sport selects one home game per season to host a Tailgate Tour. Food, games, live music, giveaways and more take place before the games.



Commencement

One of the most exciting days of a Bobcat's time at GC is commencement. Held in both May and December, this ceremony recognizes graduating students' completion of their degree(s), and is a time for celebration by family, friends, and the Georgia College community!

AUGUST

Convocation

Convocation is a student's official induction into the Georgia College family, and, in many ways, marks the beginning of their collegiate journey. New students receive their class pin – not only joining a list of Georgia College community members that stretches back 130 years, but also demonstrating their bond to their classmates and commitment to our shared principles of "Reason, Respect and Responsibility."

Class Photo

During their Weekend of Welcome, each entering class commemorates its arrival at GC by forming the digits of their class year on the GC front lawn. A photo of the entering class is taken from atop a 40-foot lift.



Weekend of Welcome

Weekend of Welcome is an immersive experience that showcases the unique and multifaceted culture of Georgia College. It is always a time to get acquainted with the Georgia College campus community, to make new connections, to get involved and to explore the different parts of campus.

SEPTEMBER



9/11 Memorial

On September 11, 2001, 19 militants associated with the Islamic extremist group al Qaeda hijacked four airplanes and carried out suicide attacks against targets in the United States. Two of the planes were flown into the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City, a third plane hit the Pentagon just outside Washington, D.C., and the fourth plane crashed in a field in Shanksville, Pennsylvania. Almost 3,000 people were killed during the 9/11 terrorist attacks, which triggered major U.S. initiatives to combat terrorism and defined the presidency of George W. Bush. Each year Georgia College hosts an event to recognize those who died in the 9/11 attack.

Scholarship Luncheon

The annual Scholarship Luncheon is hosted each year by University Advancement. The lunch provides the opportunity for scholarship recipients to connect with their donors and thank them for their generosity.



Convocation



Class Photo

OCTOBER

Clothesline Project

The Clothesline Project is an annual visual display made up of t-shirts created by members of our community who are survivors of violence, or in honor of someone who has experienced power-based interpersonal violence (PBIV). Held during one week in October on Front Campus, the installation serves as a powerful reminder of the real experiences of PBIV in our GC community.

Potato Drop

The annual Potato Drop is one of Georgia College's largest signature service activities in the fall. GC's GIVE Center has partnered with the Society of St. Andrews for over 20 years to sponsor this impactful event.

On a Saturday morning in late October, a tractor-trailer brings to campus over 20 tons of white or sweet potatoes that have been rejected by commercial markets and potato chip factories due to slight imperfections in size and shape or surface blemishes. Campus and community volunteers work to bag the potatoes which are

then given to local food banks and pantries, faith-based organizations, schools and other community non-profits. The community feeds over 130,000 individuals with Potato Drop potatoes.

The GIVE Center encourages all GC students to participate in at least one Potato Drop before they graduate.

NOVEMBER

Alumni Week

Alumni Week brings all Georgia College alumni together for a week in Milledgeville full of an array of activities, reunions and celebrations, including inductions into the Athletics Hall of Fame.

Veteran's Day Memorial

The annual Veterans Day Ceremony brings together the Milledgeville and Georgia College communities to honor the veterans who have served our country. The ceremony recognizes the service of Georgia College's student, faculty and staff veterans, and honors the Baldwin County soldiers who lost their lives in past conflicts. The ceremony is held at the Baldwin County War Memorial, located at 201 W. Hancock St.

Hanging of the Greens

Just before the Fall exam period, the Student Government Association invites the campus to GC's Front Lawn for the holiday lighting of Parks, Atkinson, Terrell, Bell and Ennis Halls. Participants enjoy refreshments and holiday music as each building is lighted in white revealing greenery and red bows on their front porches.

DECEMBER

The Nutcracker

For over 25 years, the Georgia College Department of Theatre and Dance has held an annual production of the beloved ballet, "The Nutcracker," which features dancers from both the Milledgeville-Baldwin and Georgia College communities ranging in age from 3 to adult.

JANUARY

Martin Luther King Jr. Community Breakfast

This annual celebration highlights Dr. King's teachings, vision, and commitment to the beloved community. The breakfast provides an opportunity for members of the Milledgeville, Baldwin and Georgia College communities to come together



A Night Under The Stars Gala at Alumni Weekend

FEBRUARY

Homecoming Week

One of the most exciting times on campus is the week of Homecoming. The week includes a major concert, community service event, trivia night, parade, Tent City, the Homecoming King and Queen (juniors and seniors) and Duke and Duchess (first-years and sophomores) and the Homecoming basketball game before a packed house.

The Homecoming King, Queen, Duke and Duchess are crowned at the conclusion of the basketball game. These individuals are elected by majority vote of the student population.

to reflect upon his life's work, cast vision for a unified future and engage in fellowship. Highlights of the event include keynote speakers, musical performances, and a panel comprised of young scholars from local K-12 schools and GC students. K-12 students are invited to participate in an essay or artwork competition and the winning submissions are showcased and honored at the event." The Office of Inclusive Excellence and the Cultural Center host the event each year in collaboration with partner offices across campus and within the community.

Homecoming Week (cont.)

Tent City takes place prior to the Homecoming basketball games and is a community-wide event where students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends of the university gather for tailgating. It is a great opportunity to celebrate Georgia College pride and spirit.

MARCH

International Dinner

A collaborative effort of the International Education Center (IEC), the Georgia College International Club, and the Office of University Advancement – the International Dinner invites guests to enjoy a wide selection of authentic dishes from around the world created from traditional recipes, plus a full evening of cultural presentations and performances by the students of the Georgia College International Club. Throughout the evening, guests also learn information and updates about the university's important international and global engagement initiatives.

APRIL

Bobcat Awards

The Bobcat Awards and Recognition Program is the annual awards and recognition ceremony for student leaders and student organizations across the campus.

Dance Marathon

Dance Marathon, sponsored by Georgia College Miracle, is GC's largest student-run fundraiser. Each April, hundreds of students raise funds to participate in a 12-hour frenzy of dance, games, karaoke, silent disco and personal stories from children who have been treated at the local Children's Hospital. Students also serve on the event's executive board and as Marathon committee members and event volunteers.

Georgia College Miracle has raised over a million dollars to date. All proceeds go to the Beverly Knight Olson Children's Hospital in Macon, the only pediatric hospital in Middle Georgia. Many GC faculty and staff are the parents of "miracle children" who have been treated at the Olson Children's Hospital and other Children's Medical Network hospitals.

Take Back the Night

Take Back the Night is an annual march and rally against sexual violence. Typically, Take Back the Night is held in early April during Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Take Back the Night events have been held in the United States since 1975. At Georgia College, Take Back the Night has been an annual event since 2006.



Greek Weekend

Greek Weekend is an annual event held in April within Fraternity and Sorority Life at Georgia College. Chapters across councils engage in friendly competition in events such as Tug, Greek God/Goddess, Step/Stroll Show, and Greek Sing, all in the spirit of building and celebrating community. The weekend is concluded with recognition of the academic and philanthropic activities and events held throughout the year, members receive graduation cords for their involvement with council leadership and for maintaining academic excellence.

Rites of Passage

Rites of Passage is a ceremony that celebrates the transitional and transformational cycles students experience from admission to graduation and honors the self-awareness, growth and relationships developed during their time as students.

The cycles of a student's experience at Georgia College include

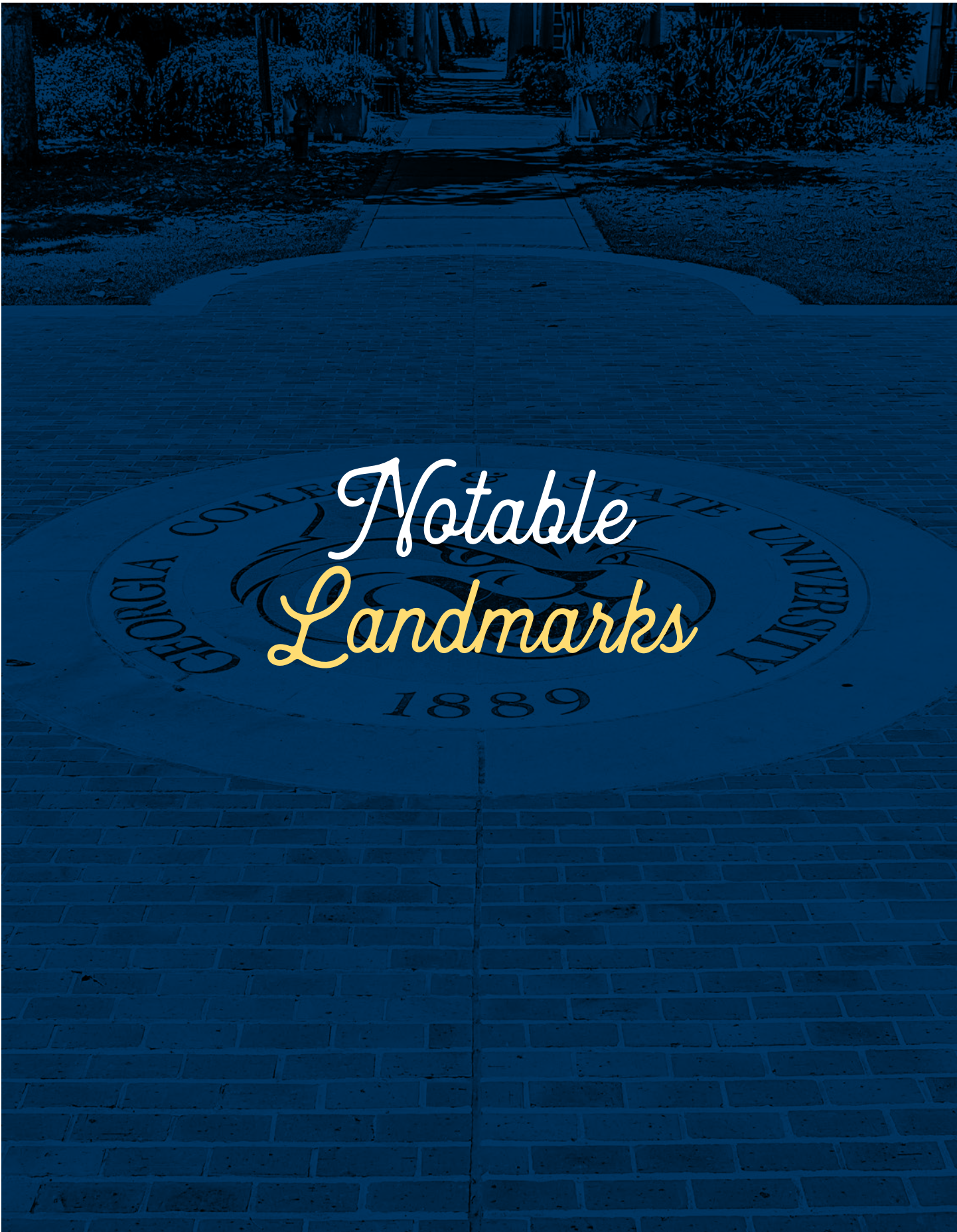
- Separation (from previous community/school/family)
- Transition (admission into Georgia College/Milledgeville, retention from year to year and connection to resources such as L.I.F.E. Mentorship Program and the Cultural Center)
- Reincorporation (student graduates/ re-enters previous community/ begins career/continues learning with new awareness of self)

Our Rites of Passage Ceremony honors that journey for students from historically racially marginalized populations that are connected to the Cultural Center.

Lavender Graduation

Lavender Graduation is held once a year to celebrate our graduating LGBTQ+ students and allies for their strength and persistence in the face of adversity, as well as their achievements and contributions to the university. The first Lavender Graduation at Georgia College was held in 2012.





*Notable
Landmarks*



The Pergola

The domed structure between Atkinson and Terrell Halls is a pergola and serves as both a Georgia College landmark and symbol. This is also the structure that is spotlighted in our official GC logo!

The pergola became a notable landmark because it once symbolized the entrance and exit of a student's time at Georgia College - students would enter campus for convocation and exit through it for commencement.



The Old Governor's Mansion

The Old Governor's Mansion, a National Historic Landmark, is used for major campus events and is open to the public for guided tours. Admission is free for Georgia College students, faculty and staff.

Completed in 1839, the Old Governor's Mansion is one of the finest examples of High Greek Revival architecture in the nation. Serving as the residence for Georgia's chief executives for over 30 years, the Mansion's history encompasses the Antebellum, Civil War and early Reconstruction phases of the state's history.

The Mansion also served as a stage on which many elements of the complex social

issues of the antebellum period were played out. Slavery and the complexity of society and gender roles are among the issues that shape the history of the building and are explored in tandem with the issues of politics.

During the Civil War, the Mansion was claimed as a "prize" in the March to the Sea, when Gen. William T. Sherman headquartered in the building on Nov. 22, 1864. Following the war, Georgia's seat of government was relocated to Atlanta, and the Mansion was abandoned. Given over to Georgia Normal & Industrial College (now Georgia College) in 1889, the Mansion served as the founding build-

ing of the institution and is the campus' most treasured structure.

Beginning in the late 1990s, an initiative began to return the Mansion to its circa 1851 splendor. Following five years of intensive historical, structural and material research, the Old Governor's Mansion began its long-awaited historic restoration in November of 2001. Funded through the Georgia General Assembly and a generous grant from the Woodruff Foundation, more than three years of painstaking work restored the original layout, colorations, lighting and appearance of the building.

The Old Governor's Mansion now serves as a historic house museum whose mission is to care for, collect, interpret and exhibit items (including artifacts, structures and gardens) that illustrate the history of the site and its inhabitants during the years the Mansion was the official residence of Georgia's governors (1839-1868). Tours focus on the history of the building, its occupants both free and enslaved and the myriad complexities of Antebellum society in Georgia and its history.

During the winter season, stop by to see the Mansion decked out in holiday decorations including a magnificent 30-foot tree.



NPHC Historical Preservation Plaza

The National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) Historical Preservation Plaza serves as a symbolic acknowledgment of the historical and cultural impact these organizations have and continue to make in the world of academia. It also serves as a bridge that links the university and the organizations shared values, to educate in the areas of community service, civility, leadership and social justice; with a shared goal to develop competent leaders that bring about positive social change in a pluralistic society. The plaza is a symbolic way to acknowledge the historical and cultural significance of the fraternal organizations that make up the (NPHC) at Georgia College: Alpha Phi Alpha, Delta Sigma Theta, Kappa Alpha Psi, Omega Psi Phi, Phi Beta Sigma, Sigma Gamma Rho, and Zeta Phi Beta.



Olympic Column

On July 13, 1996, more than 25,000 people gathered on the university front campus to celebrate the arrival of the Olympic torch as it made its way to the Centennial Olympic Games in Atlanta. The Corinthian column next to the flagpole adorned the stage on which the torch ceremony was conducted, and its flame was ignited by the Olympic torch. Today, the column stands in honor of the Olympic spirit of excellence and its flame is lit for special campus observances such as Founders' Day, Hanging of the Greens and athletic championships.



Make-a-Wish Fountain at A & S

If you have spare change, make a wish and throw it into the fountain outside the Arts and Sciences Building. The money is collected and sent to the Make-a-Wish Foundation, an organization dedicated to granting wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions.

The fountain serves as a hub for student organizations wishing to share information with their colleagues ("tabling"). It is a gathering place for receptions, orientations, fundraising events, awareness campaigns, demonstrations and many other events.



The Echo

There are three Georgia College signs signaling entrances to campus, and they are favorite places to take a pic! Speak in a loud voice toward the semicircular brick benches and be prepared to hear yourself, but in surround sound stereo!

Around August of 2021, students and their significant others began sharing love messages in stereo on the front steps of Russell Auditorium. Today, students are taking pictures and videos to record the special moment. Who will be the first couple to propose in stereo?



Sallie Ellis Davis House

The Sallie Ellis Davis House, at the corner of Clarke Street and the Centennial Center entrance drive, was the former home of a local educator who touched the lives of hundreds of African-American children. It was built in 1890 and served as the Davis' residence from 1912 until her death in 1950.

The house became one of ten sites on the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation's 2009 Places in Peril. Coinciding with this designation was Georgia College's announcement to form a partnership with the Sallie Davis Foundation – comprised of a group of her former students – to renovate the house and open it as an African-American cultural center.

The house hosts exhibits and functions and is available for reservation and use by any GC Registered Student Organization (RSO).



Heritage Hall

Heritage Hall is home of Georgia College's special collections, the Usey Leadership Gallery, and the Pat Peterson Museum Education Room. Visit to learn a little bit of GC history, including an interactive display of yearbooks past!



GEORGIA COLLEGE & STATE UNIVERSITY

Established 1889

Georgia's Public Liberal Arts University

University System of Georgia

The Georgia College Sign

There are three Georgia College signs signaling entrances to campus, and they are favorite places to take a pic! Students and their friends often take pictures during their freshmen year and return four years later to reproduce the same pic. Students are often surprised at how much they have changed. Share your pic on Instagram #GCfriends4life.

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