ADVANCING THE UNIVERSITY
MARCH 2019

ADVANCEMENT UPDATE
JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2019

WWU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ENGAGEMENT

- Total Attendance 423 at 6 events
  - January Art Walk: Total attendees: 67
  - Governor’s Mansion Reception: Total attendees: 102
  - February Art Walk: Total attendees: 71
  - Western Engaged MIS Alumni Event: Total attendees: 32
  - WWU vs. CWU Basketball game: Total attendees: 131
  - Denver Alumni Gathering: Total attendees: 20

WWU ANNUAL GIVING

- Gifts to WWU: 2,773 gifts totaling $1,334,708
- Phonathon Report: 5,752 contacts, $68,584 total pledge amount, 977 pledges
- Bequests: 4 totaling $430,425
- Cash Donations: 1765 totaling $834,777
- Gifts in Kind: 15 totaling $16,965
- Pledges: 471 totaling $1,176,688

MARKETING METRICS
January 1 to February 28

- Twitter WWU Alumni Association: 3,211 followers, 0.1% increase, 129 engagements
- Twitter WWU Foundation: 346 followers, 0.5% increase, 51 engagements
- Facebook WWU Alumni Association: 6,881 followers, 0.6% increase, 6,288 engagements
- Facebook WWU Foundation: 788 followers, 0.7% increase, 257 engagements
- Website WWU Alumni Association: 20,208 visitors, 27% increase
- Website WWU Foundation: 3,087 visitors, 0.03% loss
Art Brings Alumni Together
January 4, 2019
February 1, 2019
Western City Center, Bellingham

January and February were dark, dreary months everywhere but at the Western City Center, which hosted two artists whose visions are bold and bright—John Tolomei in January and Jennifer Bowman in February. Jennifer offered a live demonstration for the visitors.

Reception at the Governor’s Mansion
January 31, 2019
Governor’s Mansion, Olympia

WWU Alumni, President Randhawa and his wife Uzma, noted members of the Western Foundation and Alumni Association, Sapphire and Life members, elected leaders and their guests gathered at the Governor’s Mansion to celebrate Western’s legislative successes and to highlight the warm relationship Western has with our elected officials. Western Advocates recruited legislative volunteers from the event who will serve as passionate advocates for Western in Olympia.

Alumni Enjoy Party at WWU vs. CWU Game
February 7, 2019
WWU Campus, Carver Gym

The WWU Alumni Association hosted alumni and friends for the WWU vs. CWU Men’s Basketball Game. In addition to a great game, guests enjoyed beer, wine, and hearty Southern cooking.

Denver-area Vikings Gather
February 12, 2019
Denver, Colorado

Denver-area alumni gathered at Punch Bowl Social, an upscale arcade and gaming parlor. The guests bowled, played giant Jenga, enjoyed giant Scrabble, and had a great time catching up with each other, and hearing all about Western.

Scholarship Dinner Features Flaherty
February 25, 2019
MAC Gym, WWU Campus

Scholarship dinners bring together our deserving scholarship recipients with generous donors to celebrate the spirit and impact of giving. At the February 25 dinner in MAC Gym, WWU alumna (’09) and executive director of the Chuckanut Health Foundation Heather Flaherty spoke. Sociology major Danielle Finger also spoke to the audience of 187 attendees.

Western Deepens Commitment in Poulsbo
March 7, 2019
Poulsbo, Washington

On March 7, Western sponsored a lunch hosted by Tony George (’86), CEO and President of Kitsap Bank, and President Sabah Randhawa to share the benefits of a Small Business Development Center in Poulsbo. The Whatcom County SBDC has helped small businesses raise funds for new ventures and expansion of existing businesses since 1983. Tony spoke to 45 business leaders and elected officials about the benefits of the project for development and growth on the Kitsap Peninsula. President Randhawa and CJ Seitz, director of the Whatcom SBDC, spoke about the ways in which the SBDC has benefitted Whatcom County’s economy and the benefits a SBDC would bring to the area.

Western Engaged Design Alumni Night
April 6, 2019
Seattle, WA

Western Engaged Northern California Alumni and Donor Event
April 6, 2019
Chateau Montelena, CA

Western Engaged International Business Alumni Networking
April 11, 2019
Seattle, WA

Western Engaged WWU at Wooster’s Garden
April 11, 2019
Houston, TX

Western Engaged 8th Annual Western IS Connection
April 18, 2019
Bellingham, WA

Seattle Scholarship Lunch
April 23, 2019
Renaissance Hotel, Seattle

Western Engaged Computer Science Alumni Networking
April 24, 2019
Bellevue, WA

Western Engaged Manufacturing and Supply Chain Management Alumni Networking
May 10, 2019
Bellingham, WA

Alumni Awards Dinner
May 17, 2019
WWU Campus, Bellingham

WWU Alumni Weekend
May 17-20, 2019
WWU Campus, Bellingham

SOLD OUT - Double Major: Death Cab for Cutie & ODESZA Benefit Concert
May 18, 2019
Civic Stadium, Bellingham

Give Day
May 30, 2019
Online

Graduation Celebration
June 12 & 13, 2019
WWU Campus, Bellingham

WWU Night at the Bellingham Bells
June 25, 2019
Civic Field, Bellingham
IMPACT STORIES

Sanford-Hill Piano Series Endowment Inspires Students

With free master classes, world class performances, and exposure to internationally acclaimed pianists, the Sanford-Hill Piano Series Endowment supports an exceptionally prestigious and enriching educational experience for Western’s students. Named for Sibyl Sanford—a professional artist, author, and philanthropist—and Ford Hill, her close friend of hers and WWU Music Associate Professor Emeritus of piano; the Sanford-Hill Piano Series was created in 2002. Since then, the series has brought pianists and rising stars from all around the world. Sarah Potocki (’19) says of her experience, “Throughout my college career at Western Washington University, I was given opportunities to play in master classes for pianists including Anderson & Roe piano duo, David Kadouch and Philip Fisher. Each artist was brilliant, unique and effective at providing fresh insight for my piano playing.”

The Sanford-Hill Piano Series has been added to the Cliburn Foundation’s list of presenters. The Cliburn Foundation sponsors an international piano competition, and those who compete are offered performance engagements. WWU Professor of Music Jeffery Gilliam recently attended a round of competition as an Official Guest of the Cliburn, bringing national recognition to Western and the music program.

This endowment allows for all the proceeds from concert ticket sales to fund scholarships for deserving WWU piano students. Not only does this series bring tremendous value to Western and to the greater community, it also fosters student success and helps shape the next generation of great pianists.

Potocki says, “I cannot thank Sibyl Sanford and Ford Hill enough for providing many opportunities to learn from these incredibly influential artists. I feel grateful to have studied piano under Professor Gilliam, as he was an integral part in my musical growth. The memories I have created over these last four years at Western’s Performing Arts Center will last a lifetime.”

UPCOMING EVENT HIGHLIGHT

Western Winery Tour Upcoming

On April 6, Western Foundation members and alumni will gather for lunch at the Calistoga Inn, enjoy a presentation by WWU Assistant Professor of Geology Melissa Rice, and travel to Montelena Winery for a tour and tasting. Western owns land that supplies Montelena Winery with grapes for their cabernet sauvignon. The event is hosted by Dr. Carol Francisco (’78) and Mark Brewer (’87) and his wife Susan.