Faculty are at the heart of this university. Their cutting-edge research and discovery make important contributions to their fields, and their new and innovative courses challenge our students in important ways.

In this month’s letter, Dean Geer highlights our junior faculty, discusses their importance to the future of our College, and offers a glimpse at some of the inspiring work coming from our rising faculty stars.

At The Intersection Of Black Expressive Culture
By Emily Lordi

Emily Lordi is a professor at Vanderbilt who has written extensively on the subject of black expressive culture in the context of academia, politics, and popular culture.

Psychology alumna Sarena Martinez, BA’16, awarded prestigious 2020 Rhodes Scholarship

A&S faculty Amanda Little and Jon Meacham join Steven Pinker and Carl Zimmer on panel exploring why divisions persist in an age of abundant data

Astrophysicist postdoc plans to observe a black hole ‘symphony’ using gravitational wave astronomy

Leveraging Youth: Sociology research focuses on how to teach an old dog new tricks, and vice versa

Washington Post: Meet Miguel Wattson, the electric eel lighting his aquarium’s Christmas tree and tweeting about it (Kenneth Catania, Stevenson Professor of Biological Sciences, featured in video)

The Hechinger Report: Up to 3.6 million students should be labeled gifted, but aren’t (Gilman Whiting, associate professor of African American and diaspora studies, cited)

Nashville Post: Poll: Lee popular, voters want Forrest bust gone (The latest Vanderbilt poll is highlighted)

Tennessean: Opinion: PreP would cap and drive down HIV rates in Tennessee, but not enough people know about the drug (Jeffrey Bennett, associate professor of communication studies, authored)

The Conversation: Your big brain makes you human - count your neurons when you count your blessings (Suzana Herculano-Houzel, associate professor of psychology, authored)

New York Times: Four problems with 2016 Trump polling that could play out again in 2020 (Joshua Clinton, co-director of the Vanderbilt Poll and Abby and Jon Winkelreid Professor of Political Science, quoted)

The Black Cultural Center hosted a celebration of the African American and Pan-African holiday Kwanzaa, which celebrates family, community, and culture. Guests were treated to live music, food, fellowship, and a presentation on the seven principles of Kwanzaa.

A&S is now on social media! Follow us and don’t miss a moment!