

# A&S Explorer

May 2021

## Highlight



### Commencement 2020 & 2021

Vanderbilt celebrated two commencement ceremonies this month: the Class of 2020 (May 1-2) and the Class of 2021 (May 15-16). We congratulate these intrepid students for successfully completing their degrees during a global pandemic. Please join us in welcoming them to the A&S alumni family!

## Featured Stories



[Class of 2021: Soccer star builds future on the field and in medicine](#)



[Art professor Magda Campos-Pons and EADJ project win major art awards](#)



[Swimmer Brooke Ellis becomes first CSET student to achieve highest honors](#)



[A&S astronomer Stephen Taylor helps lead preparation for supermassive black hole analysis](#)

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## In the Media

**The Washington Post:** [Tips to make laundry day more gentle on the environment](#) (Jonathan Gilligan, associate professor of earth and environmental sciences, quoted)

**Health:** [What Is Agoraphobia? Netflix's 'The Woman in the Window' Sheds Light on the Anxiety Disorder](#) (Bunmi Olatunji, Gertrude Conaway Vanderbilt Professor of Psychology, quoted)

**FiveThirtyEight:** [Why Militias Are So Hard To Stop](#) (Amy Cooter, senior lecturer in sociology, quoted)

**National Geographic:** [Did the Amazon rainforest contribute to the 'Little Ice Age' of the 1600s?](#) (Tiffany Tung, associate professor of anthropology, quoted)

**Bloomberg:** [A Baby Boom Would Be Bad](#) (Amanda Little, writer-in-residence in English and communication of science and technology, authored)

**The Guardian:** ['Their stories need to be told': the true story behind The Underground Railroad](#) (Richard Blackett, professor of history, emeritus, quoted)

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## Snapshot



(John Russell/Vanderbilt University)

### Thank You!

What a year it has been. We'd like to send our heart-felt gratitude to the entire Arts & Science community—alumni, parents, faculty, students, staff, donors, and friends—for your support throughout the past year. We overcame unforeseen challenges and learned a tremendous amount, and couldn't have done it without all of you. Thank you, and have a healthy and safe summer!

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