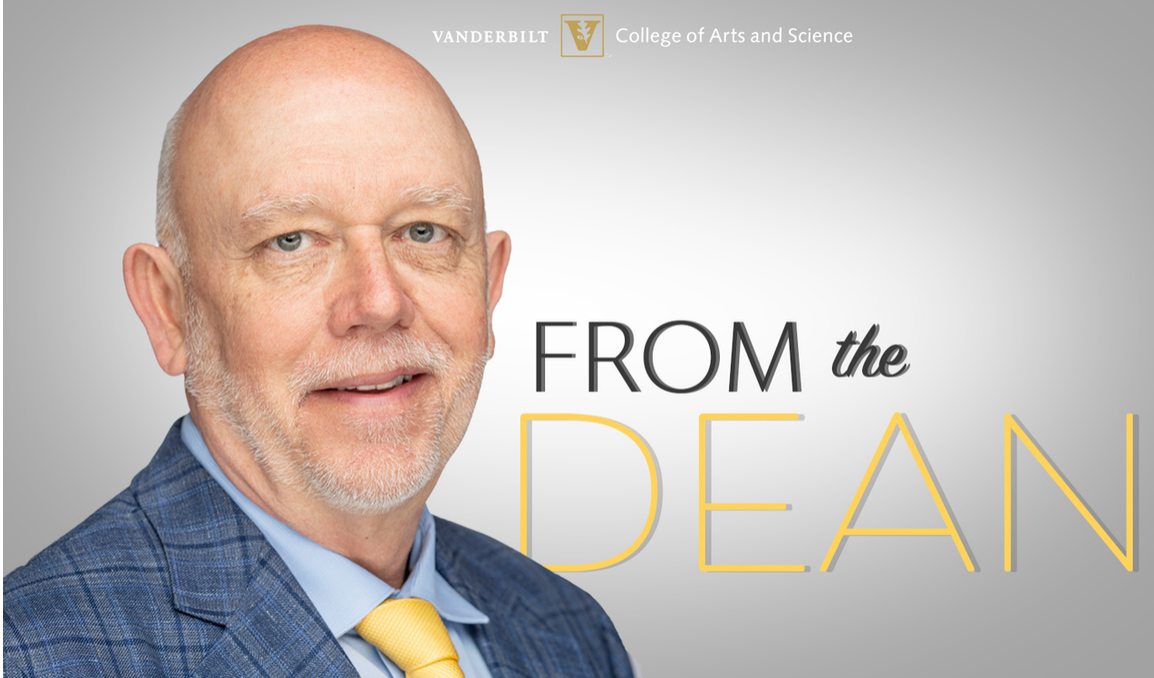


# A&S Explorer

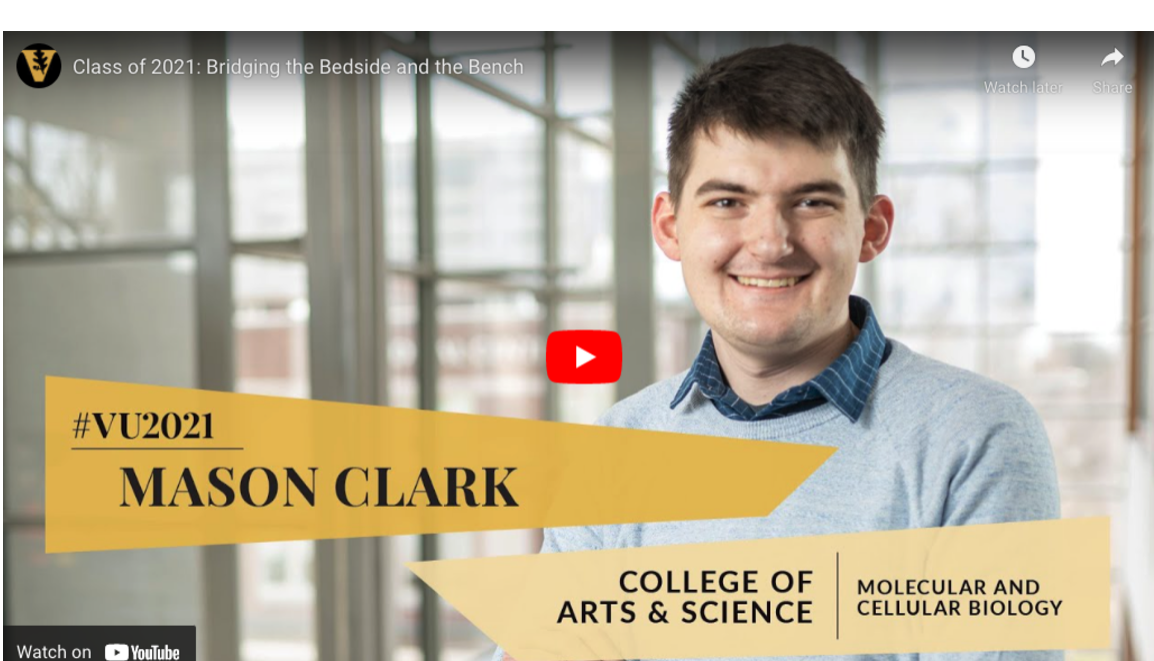
April 2021



As we wrap up the most challenging and unusual academic year in memory, we celebrate all who helped make the year a success and reflect on what we learned along the way. In this month's letter, Dean Geer expresses gratitude for the A&S community's dedication and shares the lessons learned that will guide us in the future.

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## Senior Spotlight



#VU2021 | Mason Clark

When Mason Clark was in middle school, his beloved grandmother survived a heart attack. That experience, along with the research he conducted at Vanderbilt and his work on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic, led Clark to his life's purpose: to bridge the gap between the lab bench and the bedside to improve how patients are treated.

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

## Featured Stories



[Cultural context of health is critical in responding to pandemics, new research shows](#)



[Class of 2021: A&S twins combine passions for literature, science in emerging area of narrative medicine](#)



[History professor Emily Greble named 2021 Guggenheim Fellow](#)



[Earth & Environmental Science researcher explains Pizzly bear hybrid species](#)

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## In the Media

**Health Magazine:** [What to say to people who still want to 'wait and see' before getting the COVID-19 vaccine](#)

(Jennifer Trueblood, associate professor of psychology, quoted)

**The New York Times:** [What do you call a bunch of black holes? A crush? A scream?](#)

(Kelly Holley-Bockelmann, Stevenson Chair in Physics and Astronomy, quoted)

**USA Today:** [Congress' most effective lawmakers aren't generally its household names](#)

(Alan Wiseman, Cornelius Vanderbilt Chair of Political Science, research featured)

**NBC News:** [Experts believe a contagion effect could be tied to recent mass shootings](#)

(Jonathan Metzl, Frederick B. Rentschler II Professor of Sociology and Medicine, Health and Society, quoted)

**WTVF:** [Supporting the Asian American community amid rise in hate crimes](#)

(Ben Tran, associate professor of Asian studies, interviewed)

**Variety:** [Top 50 Film Schools and Instructors From Around the World](#)

(Department of Cinema & Media Arts, named to list)

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## Snapshot



(John Russell/Vanderbilt University)

### Spring on Campus

Spring at Vanderbilt is a remarkably beautiful season, with trees and flowers in bloom everywhere. Warmer weather brings more people outside—masked and socially distanced—to enjoy all that campus has to offer.

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