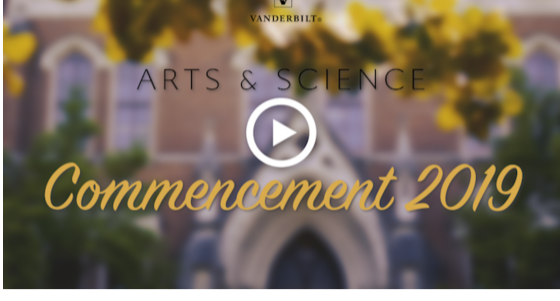


# A&S Explorer

June 2019

## Highlight: Commencement 2019



### Congratulations!

Arts and Science students gathered on Alumni Lawn the morning of May 10 to mark the end of their time here at Vanderbilt and the beginning of the next chapter in their lives. [View the full highlight reel](#) of Commencement 2019 and join us in congratulating our newest alumni!



### Dear Arts & Science community,

On May 10, I had the pleasure and the honor of congratulating the newest graduates of the College of Arts and Science at Vanderbilt's 146th commencement. The nearly 900 undergraduate and close to 200 graduate students were beaming with pride as families, friends, faculty, and staff celebrated their graduation and officially welcomed them as Vanderbilt alumni.

As I looked at these amazing students, I could see their excitement, hope, and optimism about the future ahead of them. And with good reason: armed with their Arts and Science diplomas, they are prepared to use their education to make a difference in the world.

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## Featured Stories



[Dallas couple commits \\$5M to endow inaugural Dean's Chair at Vanderbilt University's College of Arts and Science](#)



[Vanderbilt Poll: Nashville residents uneasy about growth](#)



[A&S Biology team determining how seasonal light for pregnant moms affects offspring's mental health](#)



[Psychology professor Gordon Logan elected to National Academy of Sciences](#)

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## Student Spotlight



Bill-Kande Badi never imagined he'd pursue a career in film when he traveled more than 8,500 miles from his hometown of Pretoria, South Africa, to study at Vanderbilt. But then he signed up for Cinema and Media Arts courses and "fell in love with making movies."

[READ THE FULL STORY](#)

## In the Media

**Economist:** [Depression is increasing among Americans reaching middle age](#) (Lauren Gaydosh, assistant professor of medicine, health, and society, mentioned)

**The Washington Post:** [Microbes called extremophiles might combat superbugs, biowarfare agent](#) (Seth Bordenstein, associate professor of biological sciences, quoted)

**The Guardian:** [How the news took over reality](#) (Robert Talisse, W. Alton Jones Professor of Philosophy, quoted)

**The Daily Beast:** [Joe Biden's union pitch is a throwback aimed at white men](#) (Jefferson Cowie, professor of history, quoted)

**Bloomberg:** [Nashville wants to be the next Austin, but Tennessee won't make it easy](#) (Christopher Carpenter, professor of economics, quoted)

**Real Time with Bill Maher:** [Dying of Whiteness](#) (Jonathan Metz, Frederick B. Rentschler II Professor of Sociology and Medicine, Health and Society, appeared)

## Snapshot: Finals Week

The Senior Class Fund sponsored Pups & Pops on Alumni Lawn on April 23 to help seniors de-stress during finals. Music City Pet Partners provided the pups and Las Paletas provided the pops!



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301 Kirkland Hall | Nashville, TN 37240

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