



New Year, New Beginning

In one of Winston Churchill's historic World War II speeches, after the battle of Egypt, which the English won, he stated, "Now is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning." So it is with the inception of a school year. Learning, knowledge and skill development are continual acts of refinement with no beginning and no end. Like the Vanderbilt Way professes, we must be committed to Vanderbilt for life, for our own edification and to serve this great institution that we love.



A new school year represents a time of renewal and rebirth. It, like spring, brings all possibilities and opportunities for our Vanderbilt community—students, staff, faculty—to reinvigorate their journeys to realize their full potential. It is also a time for all leaders of this great university to commit themselves to the advancement of the Vanderbilt Way, as a means to build and sustain belonging and inclusion.

Equity, diversity and inclusion are the foci of our office, but they are also principles that every member of our community should embed in their personal worldview and daily actions. When inclusion is truly believed and practiced, they bring along the virtues of tolerance, temperance, respect and humility. Every member of our Vanderbilt family values and recognizes all who live in our ecosystem as respected and cherished members of our community. Inclusion, belonging and respect can only be achieved by intentional acts driven by our mantra that we are "One Vanderbilt"—anchored in the conviction that we are better when we support one another, and when we all succeed, then Vanderbilt succeeds.

An office for equity, diversity and inclusion should function as the moral compass of a university, to assist in the inculcation and expression of our important governing principles. The office, along with other leaders, serves to eliminate barriers to success for underrepresented members of our community and instill the importance and value of every single student, no matter their country of origin, race, ethnicity, religion, gender identity and a host of other unique features of their identity.

The new year also is the time to review those factors and events in society—particularly those that affect our minority Vanderbilt community members. In coming months, our nation will experience changes related to the recent *Roe v. Wade* decision and continuing challenges to affirmative action and voting rights laws. We must open the doors for civil discourse to occur and at the same time stay committed to our values and principles that promote educational opportunity that allows all to fulfill their untapped ability and to develop their unique skills and talents.

I look forward to working with our entire Vanderbilt community to offer our students the world-class and world-shaping education that Vanderbilt can uniquely offer, and to being part of the discourse and engagement that will be required to confront the coming societal turbulence and challenges that America and the world are facing.

For those of you returning, welcome back! For those new to the family, welcome to Vanderbilt!

Sincerely,

André L. Churchwell, M.D.

Vice Chancellor for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion and Chief Diversity Officer



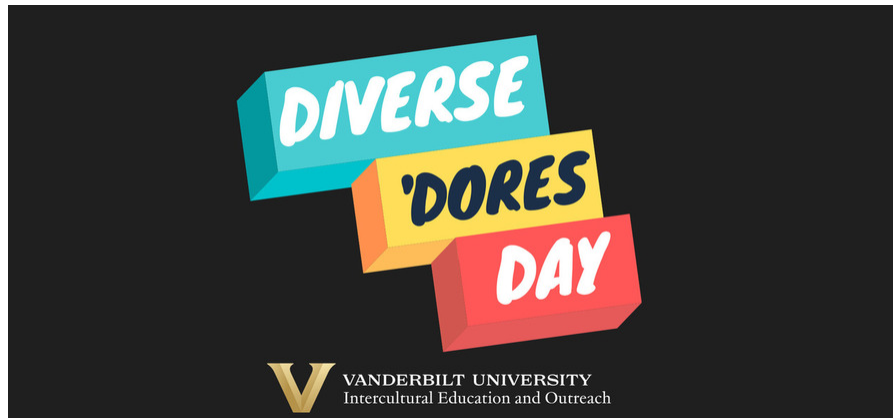
Get Connected: Upcoming Events

[9/7: Inclusive Book Group:
Nevada by Imogen Binnie](#)

[9/7: EADJ Panel on Artistic
Activism and the Power of](#)

Chancellor: Dare to grow in the year ahead

We will approach our future as one community dedicated to the lifelong realization of human potential, always remembering our motto: *Crescere aude*, Latin for “dare to grow,” writes Chancellor Daniel Diermeier in a message to the Vanderbilt community. [Read More +](#)



Diverse 'Dores Day

Join the Office for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion on Wednesday, Sept. 14, for Diverse 'Dores Day 2022. This annual event is an opportunity for students, faculty, staff and postdocs to come together on Alumni Lawn to learn more about various social justice, identity and resource centers on campus. Attendees will be able to chat with representatives from our participating offices on how they work to create a more welcome and inclusive community at Vanderbilt. This free event will offer, music, food and giveaways. Participating offices include LGBTQI Life, Women’s Center, Black Cultural Center, Student Center for Social Justice and Identity and many others. For more information, contact edi@vanderbilt.edu.



Event and program submission requests for International Education Week 2022

The Office for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion and International Student and Scholar Services will collaborate to curate weeklong events for International Education Week. Events will take place

[Collective Resistance](#)

[9/9: BCC's Black-ish Mixer](#)

[9/13: Women's Center presents Marianismo: *Jane the Virgin* and Its Impact on the Latinx Community](#)

[9/14: Diverse Dores Day](#)

[9/15: Student Center for Social Justice and Identity Block Party](#)

[9/15: Women's Center Work-Life Workshop on Role and Soul Alignment: What Is It and How Do I Get There?](#)

[9/29: Office for LGBTQI Life P.R.I.D.E. Training](#)

[9/29: Fall Staff Assembly](#)

[10:6-9: Volunteers Needed for Reunion Weekend](#)

[10/17-28: Open Enrollment](#)

[RAD Self-Defense](#)

[Unity Project launches "Unity Talks" conversation series](#)

[Be a First Friend to an international student](#)

[HR Employee Learning & Engagement experiences for 2022](#)

Continuing the Conversation

from Nov. 9 to Nov. 18, and the theme will be [Global Citizen](#). The Office for EDI and ISSS would like to invite campus partners to join the celebration and reflect on what it means to be a global citizen. If interested in participating or proposing program ideas, please complete this [form](#) by **Sept. 15**. Contact [Yu Wu](#) in the Office for EDI or [Andrea Pietrzyk](#) in ISSS for more information. [Read More +](#)



Latin American/Hispanic Heritage Month events planned

The Student Center for Social Justice and Identity is hosting a series of events to celebrate Latin American/Hispanic Heritage Month (LAHMH), which is recognized annually from Sept. 15 through Oct. 15. This celebration honors the history, cultural diversity and unique contributions of individuals and communities whose ancestry can be traced back to Spain, Mexico, Central and South America and the Caribbean. A complete calendar of events can be found [here](#).



Vanderbilt expands paid parental leave, reproductive health resources to broaden support for university community

Vanderbilt is expanding paid parental leave for Vanderbilt staff and adding a new coordinator role that will be responsible for providing



WATCH: [A Candid Conversation on Free Expression at Vanderbilt](#)



WATCH: [Facts and Evidence: Navigating the Gun Debate in America](#)



WATCH: [Understanding the Intergenerational Transmission of Poverty: How Economic Research Can Inform Policy](#)



WATCH: [This Moment in America: How to Be an Ally and Its Meaning in a Time of Social Justice](#)

Resources

Heritage Month

information, support and reproductive health resources for pregnant and parenting students, faculty, staff and postdocs. [Read More +](#)

Workshops



**ACADEMY FOR DIVERSE
EMERGING NURSE LEADERS**

Connect
With Us



Leadership program for diverse new nurse leaders and faculty launched

Vanderbilt University School of Nursing is creating the Academy for Diverse Emerging Nurse Leaders, a leadership development program for nurses new to health care leadership and academic positions who are from groups historically underrepresented in nursing. [Read More +](#)



Vanderbilt CLACX awarded \$1.7M to build Latin American curriculum, enhance language training

A pair of U.S. Department of Education grants totaling \$1.7 million awarded to Vanderbilt University's Center for Latin American, Caribbean and Latinx Studies will allow for innovation in curriculum and promotion of public awareness about Latin America. [Read More +](#)



Tennessee's abortion ban takes effect; expanded reproductive health, pregnancy and parenting resources available to university community

Tennessee's ban on abortions took effect Aug. 25. In anticipation of the ban, Vanderbilt has expanded reproductive health, pregnancy and parenting resources for students, faculty, staff and postdocs. [Read More +](#)



TERA receives \$1.7M grant to explore opportunities for increasing teacher diversity across Tennessee

Though 37 percent of Tennessee's students are people of color, only 13 percent of the state's teachers are. To work toward narrowing this representation gap, the Tennessee Education Research Alliance, a research-practice partnership between Vanderbilt Peabody College and the Tennessee Department of Education, has received a four-year, \$1.7 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Institute of Education Sciences. [Read More +](#)



Frist Center for Autism and Innovation wins NSF grant to support neurodiverse engineering students in their education, careers

Vanderbilt School of Engineering's Frist Center for Autism and Innovation, working in partnership with Fisk University, has won a \$1.9 million grant from the National Science Foundation to create a system of programs to support neurodiverse students in engineering majors and careers. [Read More +](#)



Sixteen students selected as newest cohort of Bass Military Scholars

The Bass Military Scholars Program welcomed its fourth cohort of scholars to campus this August. Among the 16 U.S. military veterans who are pursuing graduate and professional degrees across several Vanderbilt schools are a former Army Special Forces officer with tours in Syria and service at the U.S. Embassy in Egypt, a Navy officer who participated in the evacuation of U.S. citizens

from Libya, and an Army officer who completed the Nepal Army's Jungle Warfare Academy. [Read More +](#)

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