Dear Vanderbilt Community,

Here, at the cusp of Black History Month and Women’s History Month, I am emboldened by the theme "Celebrating Women Who Tell Our Stories," an effort by the National Women’s History Alliance, which celebrates women from every community who have devoted their lives and talents to producing art and news, pursuing truth and reflecting society time after time.

As a Black woman, scholar, administrator and practitioner from the great state of Mississippi, my southern roots inform my appreciation of storytelling as multiple learning environments—from school, the beauty salon, the local community center and church—make me who I am. I’ve been able to adopt storytelling into my praxis, a skill that my peers have helped me understand as part of a larger strength. This realization is important as I consider the myriad storytelling traditions of Black women whose ways of knowing and being in the world are canonized, legitimized and honored. To that end, I am forever indebted to many teachers, especially my own mother, the late Gatha M. Taylor Roby, who introduced me to stories and discourses that shape both formal and informal spaces. Stories have helped me to radically imagine and hope for something beyond the rainbow, which is timely and necessary within the socio-political landscape we
This Women’s History Month, as we celebrate women who tell our stories, we are encouraged to deeply and divinely engage with the many stories—those public, hidden, sacred, and untold—and the ways they impact our lives. As such, I implore you to consider women whose stories have informed and continue to inform your personhood, and to celebrate them by saying their names in rooms and spaces where they may not have been invited. Join in celebrating with the Margaret Cuninggim Women’s Center and community partners as we feature events that highlight the varied identities of women who continue to affirm our being.

Best,
Dr. ReAnna S. Roby (she/her)
Assistant Director, Margaret Cuninggim Women’s Center

Get Connected:
Upcoming Events

3/16: Vandy Nights @ The Frist, with Jeffrey Gibson’s *The Body Electric*

3/20: Annual Antoinette Brown Lecture

3/23: Annual Crawford Lecture with Julie Lythcott-Haims

3/24: An Evening with Lydia Conklin

The Office for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion has teamed with student organization and campus partners to offer a series of events to celebrate Disability Awareness Month. Read More +

Confronting Hate: Antisemitism and Racism

Please join us on 3/28 at 7pm in the Central Library 4th floor community room for a round table discussion with Magda Teter, Westenley Alcenet, and Sophie Bjork-James moderated by Allison Schachter and presented by Jewish Studies and the Office of Undergraduate Education in the Office of the Provost. Read More +

Nominations open for Spring Staff Awards; save the date for staff assembly on May 22

Know a staff member deserving of recognition? Nominate them for a staff award through March 10. The winners will be announced at
Students from across globe come to Vanderbilt to solve humanity’s greatest challenges at CGI U

Nearly 700 higher education students representing 92 nations and 42 U.S. states gained expertise and inspiration from influential leaders to improve lives during the Clinton Global Initiative University 2023 annual meeting, hosted by Vanderbilt University March 3–5. Read More +

HR Employee Learning and Engagement to host monthly refresh: Mini-sessions for reflecting, setting goals and making progress

Join HR Employee Learning and Engagement for the Monthly Refresh mini-series. Participants are invited to collaborate in a Teams workspace to share goals, progress and resources in an environment of ongoing accountability and support. Read More +
Gain wider access to mental health support through new provider Lyra

Vanderbilt employees and their families are eligible to receive expanded support for behavioral and mental health needs through Lyra, the university’s new mental health services provider.

Read More +

Findings shared from Vanderbilt University’s first staff census

Findings from Vanderbilt University’s fall 2022 staff census provide a more complete understanding of the range of diversity among university staff. Read More +
VUSN fosters inclusivity and understanding during Diversity Month

The Vanderbilt University School of Nursing Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Office and Black Student Nurses Affinity Group are hosting Diversity Month 2023. Throughout February and March, different student-led affinity groups will bring in speakers and hold activities to promote inclusivity and an increased understanding of health equity and different cultures. Read More +

Peer Guide program offers affirming space for undergrads to discuss personal well-being

The Center for Student Wellbeing offers undergraduate students the opportunity to connect with well-versed peers in a caring, judgment-free space. The Peer Guide program is an excellent fit for undergrads looking to enhance their well-being practices. Read More +
Vanderbilt University named top producer of Fulbright U.S. students

Today, the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs named Vanderbilt University a Fulbright Top Producing Institution for U.S. Students. Read More +

‘50 Ideas, 50 Solutions in 50 Days’ to spotlight Vanderbilt staff innovation, solve workplace challenges

As part of Vanderbilt University’s ongoing efforts to enhance the staff experience, a new digital suggestion box managed by the Wond’ry, Vanderbilt’s Innovation Center, is open for ideas from creative university staff members seeking to solve issues they have experienced with systems or processes in their work. Read More +

Sign up to receive this newsletter monthly by registering here.
"Vanderbilt" and the Vanderbilt logo are registered trademarks and service marks of Vanderbilt University.

Subscribe to our email list.