

PROVIDENCE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

A CREATIVE CALLING

*A journey to writing and
illustrating a children's book*

BY MARK POMERVILLE

THY KINGDOM COME
IN CHINA

2020
FALL



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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Providence Christian College as a Reformed Christian institution is to equip students to be firmly grounded in biblical truth, thoroughly educated in the liberal arts, and fully engaged in their church, their community, and the world for the glory of God and for service to humanity.



COVID-19 Living

While classes continue to be in a virtual learning environment due to Los Angeles County Coronavirus restrictions, the Providence campus is, once again, invigorated by the presence of students. To ensure everyone's safety, important health protocols are in place for all students, faculty, and staff. These protocols include daily temperature checks, face coverings, social distancing, and testing sample populations.

Convocation 2020

To usher in the Fall 2020 semester, Providence held an outdoor convocation ceremony near the Witherspoon campus. There was great celebration and joy as returning students reunited, and first-year students began to form new friendships. Dr. David Corbin, vice president for academic affairs, delivered a timely address regarding the necessity of Christian higher education and the role Providence plays in shaping the hearts and minds of young people across our nation.





Virtual Visit Days

As coronavirus has restricted large on-campus visit days, Providence has created an online “Virtual Experience”. This unique, interactive portion of our website allows prospective students to take an online tour of our campus, ask questions of our admissions staff, and engage in personalized Zoom sessions with faculty and current students. Visit our virtual experience at www.providencecc.edu/virtual. In-person visits are also available and welcome.



Commencement Celebration

The scheduled May 2020 Commencement ceremony was postponed to October 17th, 2020, which allowed Spring 2020 graduates the opportunity to celebrate their academic accomplishments with family and friends. The ceremony was held at Prism Church in Pasadena, where Rev. Jesse Pirschel, Senior Minister at Providence Presbyterian Church (OPC) in Temecula, California, delivered a special commencement address encouraging graduates to serve their communities faithfully as they embark on a new chapter of their adult lives.

David E. Alexander, Ph.D.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF PHILOSOPHY

David Alexander has been hired into a full-time role as Associate Professor of Philosophy. Alexander comes to Providence after serving in faculty roles at Huntington University in Indiana and Calvin College in Michigan. He has also taught internationally in both India and China. In addition to various published articles on the philosophy of religion, metaphysics, and the history of religion, he has published two books: *Goodness, God, and Evil* and *Calvinism and the Problem of Evil* (with Daniel Johnson). Alexander received his bachelor's degree from Arizona State University and his master's degree and doctoral degree in philosophy from Baylor University. Alexander is married to Genevieve, who is a resident director at the College. Together they have two children, Julian and Angel. Both he and his wife believe they have been called to live amongst college students to help cultivate faith and learning communities, where Christ is King over all.



Genevieve Alexander

RESIDENT DIRECTOR

Gen Alexander moves into a full-time role as Resident Director, where she oversees the living and learning environment for Providence students. Originally from Phoenix, she comes to Providence after various stints in Indiana and Michigan. Alexander is married to Associate Professor of Philosophy, David Alexander, and they have spent the last 12 years serving and ministering to college students side by side, including planning and leading student trips to India. Outside of Providence, Alexander does wedding and engagement photography, enjoys reading theology, and spending time in God's Word.



Leti Jimenez

RESIDENT DIRECTOR

Leti Jimenez moves into a full-time role at Providence as a Resident Director, where she works alongside Gen Alexander in the Providence Village, mentoring and developing students. Born in Cuba and immigrated to the United States at the age of two, she has spent most of her life in Miami, Florida, until she and her husband moved to New York. Her husband, Paul, is also an employee of the College, serving as the Kuyper Fellow in Humanities and the Moral Sciences. Jimenez and her husband welcomed their first child, Philip, last October. In her free time, Jimenez enjoys spending time with her family and painting.



Isaiah Lin, Ph.D.

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Isaiah Lin has been hired into a full-time role as Assistant Professor of Philosophy. He successfully defended his dissertation in Philosophy from Syracuse University in October; additionally, he holds a master's degree in philosophy of religion and ethics from Biola University and a bachelor's degree in philosophy from the University of California, Santa Barbara. As an instructor, he is passionate about helping students engage the life of the mind in pursuit of the good life. Outside of academic work, Isaiah enjoys jiu-jitsu, photography, movies, and traveling in pursuit of gustatory pleasure. Isaiah is married to Aubree, a NICU nurse at Children's Hospital of Los Angeles.



FACULTY UPDATES

Dr. Scott Swanson, professor of biblical and theological studies, presented *The God of Israel as the Hope of All the Ends of the Earth: The Psalter's Missional Engagement Strategy* for the annual meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society, November 16-20. The presentation was part of the Psalms and Hebrew Poetry section, which was held virtually and followed by a live Q&A session.



Dr. Lawrence Mumford, visiting lecturer in music, has received a preliminary recording for distribution of a piece from the Janáček Philharmonic Orchestra in the Czech Republic; the piece was featured in a national composers' conference this Fall. Also, a short vocal piece written "in a time of plague," with lyrics from Habbakuk, has been expanded into a full-length choral work with a performance pending.



Alan Armes, lecturer in film and video production, was recognized for a Daytime Emmy nomination during the past season of *Access Hollywood* (NBC) where he has been one of the editors since August 2019. Additionally, he was part of an editing team that won a News and Documentary Emmy Award for Outstanding Edited Interview on the Netflix series *Oprah Winfrey Presents: When They See Us Now*. The documentary interviews exonerated men once known as the Central Park Five.



Dr. David Alexander, associate professor of philosophy, published an article entitled "Pastors, Priests, and Police: Understanding the Third Commandment" for *Mere Orthodoxy* this past summer. He is also scheduled to guest lecture on "Divine Command Theory: New Arguments For and Against" at Arizona Christian University in November.



DEAN'S LIST

Spring 2020

Students named to the **Providence Christian College** dean's list must be enrolled full-time and maintain a GPA of 3.50 or higher for the semester. ***The Spring 2020 dean's list includes:***

Breeann Andrade	Connor Lane
Paige Baker	Hannah Martinez
Iris Blanche Pon	Benjamin Moelker
Natillie Bos	Courtney Moelker
Carl Bunday	Selah-Joy Nakamura
Mackenzie Champion	Alyssa Pigao
Lindsey Clayton	Alyssa Roberts
Nicole Del Moral	Kaitlyn Robinson
Grace Diaz	Reuben Sheneni
Christine Eaton	Hannah Shenk
Mark Eaton	Kin Spencer
Sidney Economou	Micah Summers
Evan Friesen	Isaiah Torres
Aaron Gooch	Valentina Trovato
Rebecca Hernandez	Matthew Walls
Caleb Hicks	Amy Whitcher
Micaela Josipovich	Natnael Whitt
Walmer Landaverde	Calvin Willis
Emily Landaverde	Alexandra Willis

Witherspoon Scholars Program

BY PAUL JIMENEZ



WHAT IS THE WITHERSPOON SCHOLARS PROGRAM?

The Witherspoon Scholars Program is an elite liberal arts offering for ambitious and intellectually curious students. All those accepted receive a 75% tuition scholarship as well as fully-funded world travel between their Junior and Senior years.

WHAT EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES DOES IT GIVE STUDENTS?

The core of the program involves moving in chronological fashion through the Western Canon of literature, philosophy, history, and

theology. These readings are done as a cohort through monthly discussion seminars. The exclusive nature of the program ensures that students receive individualized attention from teaching faculty. Likewise, each individual student is free to pursue their own concentration of study to achieve their own particular goals.

Our current cohort of Witherspoon Scholars are enrolled in every concentration offered at Providence, from Business to Biblical and Theological Studies. The ambitions of our current students are likewise diverse. Some seek to become pastors or entrepreneurs, while others are pursuing graduate or law schools. This program is for anyone who wants a well-rounded college education and is willing to put in the hard work to receive it.

“THE SCHOLARSHIP THAT TAKES STUDENTS AROUND THE WORLD.”— WHAT DOES THAT ENTAIL?

The highlight of the Witherspoon Scholars experience is the cohort trip in the Summer between Junior and Senior year. As one progresses through the program, one will have read through numerous works written over

the course of millennia across the European continent. The cohort trip across Europe is an opportunity to encounter one's Western intellectual heritage in person and see for oneself where our history was made. Stops include Athens, Rome, Florence, London, Paris and more.

Such a trip is no mere sight-seeing tour. This trip will be led by faculty and involve guided tours and lectures. Students will return for their Senior year having walked in the footsteps of the men and women who gave shape to their education at Providence.

AS A LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE, WHY IS THIS PROGRAM SO VITAL?

The liberal arts are no longer taken seriously. This is because many so-called "liberal arts colleges" have given up on the pursuit of truth in education and instead seek to indoctrinate their students with bizarre ideological and political slogans. Given this reputation, liberal arts colleges have fallen out of favor with serious minded Christians. This is a problem that Providence is solving.



We stand by a rigorous and demanding liberal arts curriculum that progresses from the Greeks and Hebrews up to contemporary America, which produces graduates who are conversant with their Western intellectual and spiritual heritage. Such graduates are formed by disciplined immersion into truth, beauty, and goodness. The result is a capable, well-rounded, and virtuous adult equipped to succeed and lead in their chosen profession, relationships, and communities.

Ultimately, it is up to us as Christians to carry the mantle of the liberal arts. Almost all we know of the world of antiquity was transmitted to us by Christians who preserved classical literature after the collapse of Rome. In our own time, as culture continues to deteriorate, and truth itself is under assault, it is up to us to preserve our own heritage. There is nothing more vital to the survival of our churches, our communities, and our country than a rising generation of men and women who know and understand their Christian and Western heritage and faithfully persevere amidst challenging times.

Thy Kingdom Come *in China*

BY SEVANA RICHMOND

In the midst of a global pandemic, **SAMUEL FENNEMA '19** is navigating his first year as an educator in China, serving at a multi-ethnic expatriate school. After overcoming the initial culture shock last Fall, he began to feel the abundant blessings of the position he was in. What came next was completely unprecedented: a virus that gripped the world and changed its course, less than six months into his first year. Rather than be discouraged, Fennema pivoted and

ultimately adapted his class to be taught remotely for the remainder of the school year. This Fall, he is reenergized and prepared to resume in-person instruction. Fennema shared, "Most of my students attend school in person everyday. In a class size of 18, only a few are online still as they wait for their visas. I am excited for this year of teaching, always praying Thy Kingdom come."

Teaching in a classroom thousands of miles away from the familiarity of his home has given Fennema a context for the lessons he learned as a student himself. One of the classes he teaches, titled Character Development, is an introduction to Worldview and Philosophy for middle school students. In this class, Fennema carries on what he was taught at Providence by having students explore their whole self, the complexity of their identity, and how they relate to major questions of worldview.

Fennema reflected on how Providence taught him that the Reformed Worldview permeates every aspect of creation, and, now, though in a different way, he is able to pass along this same truth to his students. “My liberal arts education taught me to look at each aspect of the world critically, looking for presuppositions that are clouding my ability to see something clearly, and asking questions of context,” he said. “My classes taught me that the multicultural and diverse nature of humanity is what makes the liberal arts so beautiful and important.”

Fennema’s greatest joy as an educator, however, comes from building relationships with today’s youth. Many of the children in his class move all over the globe for their parents’ jobs. Much like a college student in a new city for a brief time, they could easily be passed over if someone does not intentionally seek to connect with them.

“When I was in college, I had many adults who took the time to invest in me,” Fennema remembers. “I want to model my life similarly, because I truly never know how long the

children will stay in my class. Relationships are the reason I was brought to Providence and especially the reason I stayed.”

When he’s not making lesson plans, Fennema spends most of his time exploring the local area. Every Tuesday evening, he attends “English Corner” at the University, where English speakers help the local Chinese students practice their conversational English. “Most of their questions are about America and always wanting to compare it to China to see which country I like better.”

Fortunately for Fennema, he also had the opportunity to get some travel in before the coronavirus travel restrictions went into effect. He was able to go all around Southeast Asia, spending a week in Thailand and later helping lead a student services trip in Laos over the Chinese New Year.

Although teaching in China has been an incredible opportunity for Fennema, he often thinks of the community he built here in Pasadena. “With how small Providence is, you build a bond with everyone around you regardless of how similar or different you are, and I am grateful for everyone I got to know while attending Providence. I really am thankful for each one of them. Most of all, I’m thankful for the professors and staff who invested in me those four years; I can never repay that time, it was all grace.”

*Due to the religious nature and location of the institution where Fennema is employed, we are unable to disclose the name of the organization.

NEW ACADEMIC STRUCTURE:

The Covid Silver Lining

by Dr. David Corbin, Vice President for Academic Affairs



MUCH LIKE ALL ASPECTS OF LIFE,

2020 has brought with it many challenges to higher education. Forced to shift to a virtual delivery platform in mid-March to close the 2019-20

academic year, and with the return to in-person instruction uncertain in the fall, Providence's faculty and administration set forth on a new plan for academics that once again proved necessity can be the mother of invention.

Many colleges and universities in California were wondering if there would be a return to in-person instruction in the fall. We wanted to give ourselves two bites at the apple; ideally, a return to in-person classes at the end of August, and, if impossible, a return for the second half of the fall semester. This required us to think through what it might mean to divide the fall semester into two eight-week terms to give our students the opportunity to return to Providence that they so greatly desired.

Yet, the more we thought through the advantages of the eight-week model, in terms of enabling students and faculty to experience

increased emphasis, preparation, breadth, and depth by focusing (whether enrolled in or teaching) two robust four-credit classes per term, the more we sensed we were on to something that might serve Providence academics well beyond responding to the challenges of Covid.

Thereafter, faculty, staff, and administration worked through five new steps that made this transformation possible:

1. Moving from a three-credit hour to a four-credit hour system for each course.
2. Adding one week to the fifteen-week fall and spring semesters to produce two sixteen-week semesters.
3. Dividing the sixteen-week fall and spring semesters into two eight-week terms. (Fall Term 1, Fall Term 2, Spring Term 1, Spring Term 2)
4. Reconfiguring the Providence Core Curriculum so that it numbered 16 four-credit classes (64 credits) in place of 24 three-credit courses. (72 credits)
5. Folding the Avodah experience into each four-credit course.



How it works is simple: every Providence student enrolls in a standard course load of two courses/eight-week term; each of these courses then meet for six hours of classroom instruction/week supplemented by a minimum two-hour Avodah experience added to each course.

The change has produced immediate results for students. Responding to the changes, third-year student Ben Moelker '22 replied, "I find myself learning and understanding the material with greater ease because I can prepare and study for two or three courses at a time rather than previous semesters when I was juggling five or six classes. And the accelerated pace enables me to process the material and make better connections across the overall coverage of a subject."

The change has also produced a greater amount of flexibility for students in determining their schedules and balancing their extra-curricular commitments, which, in turn, has

helped ease the anxiety and stress of the student body.

Some other hoped-for advantages as the new changes are implemented include increased credits dedicated to concentration course work (24 to 32 credits) and elective courses (24 to 32 credits), more streamlined and flexible curricular offerings that help in the recruitment and retention of student athletes, and, more acutely, some forward-thinking with regard to the changing higher education landscape.

Of great excitement to many parents and students is that the new curricular structure and map will allow many students to complete their bachelor's degree program in three years by taking five courses/semester for three years, in addition to an extra course in the interim two summers. This will produce a 25% saving on tuition, room, board for many families and make a Providence education that much more of an excellent investment.

A Creative Calling

A journey to writing and illustrating a children's book

by Mark Pomerville

MOST OF US CAN STILL REMEMBER OUR FAVORITE CHILDREN'S BOOK AND ITS VIVID ILLUSTRATIONS.

Whether we were eating *Green Eggs and Ham* with Dr. Seuss or befriending a spider in *Charlotte's Web*, some of our most cherished childhood moments often involve a bedtime story that we read over and over again, sometimes to the point of exhaustion. But no matter how many times we returned to our beloved book, for parents and youth alike, there was an untenable, almost magical efficacy the children's story had to excite, encourage, and inspire creativity within a reader of any age.

Such was the case with Christine J. Eaton '21, a current senior whose fondest recollections were that of reading tales that transported her to another world. From sailing the Caspian Sea aboard the Dawn Treader in C.S. Lewis' *The Chronicles of Narnia*, to performing homemade plays with Jo in Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women*, to piercing the eye of a Cyclops in Homer's *Odyssey*, Eaton was always eager

for a literary adventure, which earned her a befitting reputation among her homeschool community for being an imaginative child who loved to tell stories.

"My passion for storytelling came from frequently reading and listening to audiobooks," recalls Eaton. "Through classic literature, I fostered a crazy imagination. I remember listening and picturing every detail in my mind. Ultimately, books helped cultivate a desire in me to create stories for myself."

A native of Artesia, California, Eaton grew up in a supportive learning environment that encouraged Eaton to earnestly pursue her creative calling. Having been homeschooled for most of her life, Eaton's parents introduced her to a wide range of renowned literature, as well as art exhibits and history museums as part of her classical education in the hopes of further fostering a love for learning.

"I was homeschooled, but I was never really home," says Eaton. "My parents were always

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“Providence taught
me that I’m a Christian
before I’m an artist
and educator.”

— *Christine J. Eaton '21*





▼ *A CREATIVE CALLING: A JOURNEY TO WRITING AND ILLUSTRATING A CHILDREN'S BOOK
CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE*

taking my brother and I different places, applying a hands-on approach to education that helped shape our minds and gave us a well-rounded perspective of the world God created.”

As Eaton’s love for learning grew, so did her desire to fully explore her artistic endeavors. While other children her age eventually stopped drawing when they got older, Eaton continued experimenting with various artistic tools and resources until she discovered a deep affinity for acrylic paints, marker illustrations, and pencil sketches combined with digital art—an affinity that carried with her into college.

In September 2017, Eaton enrolled at Providence Christian College in the hope of combining her love for art and storytelling to teach and mentor young people.

“As an English and Education concentration, you learn not just how to be an educator, but

how to be a redemptive educator,” says Eaton. “At Providence, I learned how to love students as they are made in the image of God, which only influenced the art that I created.”

Throughout her years at Providence, Eaton grew both artistically and spiritually, applying what she learned in her art classes to fill the halls of the college with beautiful illustrations and paintings.

After beginning her senior year in Spring 2019, Eaton began to prepare for her capstone project. As she pondered what she would do, Eaton recalled a specific moment as a child when she was playing in the park with her friends one afternoon. She grabbed a stick and began using it to play “sword fighting” with other kids, causing one parent to remark, “You know, Christine should write a book about this.”

Little did Eaton know that this observation would stay with her all throughout her life and spark an idea that would form the basis for her

capstone: “What would happen to an ordinary stick when it meets a child’s imagination?”

Within a few months, Eaton developed this idea into her very own children’s book entitled, *It Starts with a Stick*.

Eaton’s book, which incorporates many of her own childhood memories of playing make-believe with her friends, tells the story of a young boy and his sister who discover a tree branch in the park that magically comes to life. From riding a horse in the wild west, to exploring other planets in space, to battling with pirates over buried treasure, the siblings use the stick to embark on a series of elaborate and fanatical adventures.

Combining both metered rhyme and expanded vocabulary words, as well as vibrant and captivating illustrations, Eaton created a book that she hopes will be read aloud to spark children’s imagination and love for learning.

“I wanted to make the book fun, but also be an interactive, learning experience,” says Eaton. “I put some challenging words in the text because I don’t think kids are ever too young to learn big words. When it finally comes out, I’ll include a lesson plan and activity guide so that the book is used as an instructional tool for parents and teachers.”

In September 2020, after a six-month journey of writing and illustrating *It Starts with a Stick*, Eaton began the arduous process of bringing her book to life. Rather than navigating through the unpredictable publishing world, Eaton began an online Kickstarter campaign to raise funds to cover the self-publishing and book production expenses. Within a month, she surpassed her fundraising goal, earning

\$8,720 from 160 financial backers who supported her literary endeavors.

“I am so thankful for the amount of encouragement and generosity I have received throughout the process of making this book,” says Eaton. “It has blown me away, and I have loved the ability to create and watch this project come to life.”

As Eaton reflects upon her finished work, she recalls all the influences in her life that have helped shape her artistic inspiration, namely, the strong biblical education she has received at Providence Christian College.

“Providence taught me that I’m a Christian before I’m an artist and educator,” says Eaton. “Taking classes at a school where God is at the center, I was able to see scriptural themes in all forms of creative literature— both sacred and secular. Providence helped me see that God is the ultimate author and creator. He created a full redemptive story for us so that we could be with Him for all of eternity.”

It Starts with a Stick will be presented as Eaton’s senior capstone project in December 2020. The book will be published and made available for purchase online in 2021. While *It Starts with a Stick* marks Eaton’s first venture into professional publishing, she is hopeful that this is just the beginning of her career as a children’s book author and illustrator. Above all, she hopes to honor the Lord through all of her artistic and educational pursuits.

“I think that everyone is creative because we are made in the image of God,” says Eaton. “For me, I’m called to be creative through art and through writing. In every project I make, I just want to be creative for Him and His glory.”



COMMENCE

2020

Education for
Educators of the future

by Sam Mahtani

On October 17th, 21 of the eligible 32 seniors returned to Providence and walked across the stage at the Commencement ceremony held at Prism Church in Pasadena, CA. The event was postponed from May due to the coronavirus.

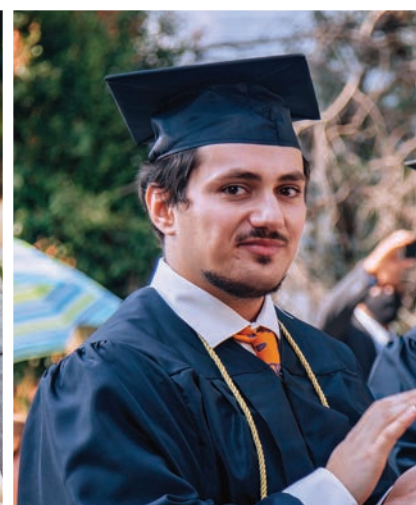
Rev. Jesse Pirschel (pictured), Senior Minister at Providence Presbyterian Church (OPC) in Temecula, California and former Providence Christian College board member, delivered the commencement address “Labor as Love”,

reminding graduates of the importance of liberal arts in pursuing the good and the true and the beautiful and to answer the questions of: “What is? Why it is, and to be in wonder of it all.” Pirschel also called graduates to pursue the goal of “Changing the World” within the area of work they go into.

Out of the seniors who graduated this year, eight were Education concentrations, and, out of those eight, all of them have gone on to a



Professor Van Spronsen (center) with Hannah Martinez (left) and Becca Hernandez (right)



teaching position or are in graduate school or working on their California Teaching Credential. Two of the Education concentration graduates included Becca Hernandez '20 from La Habra, California and Hannah Martinez '20 from Yuma, Arizona. Hernandez is now in a one-year California Teaching Credential - Multiple Subjects program at San Diego Christian College with hopes to get her M.A. in Teaching, while Martinez is in her first year teaching 3rd grade at Desert View Academy, the same school she attended from 2nd-6th grade.

As they both reflected on their time at Providence and the journey to where they are now, Hernandez and Martinez both recalled memories of impactful classes, professors, and student teaching opportunities.

Martinez, who is currently leading a classroom of 18 in-person students, said: "I feel really prepared because of the established program for Education. There are a lot of good connections, and I did internships at all different grade levels. I was exposed to different types of teaching styles and learned so many tips and tricks as well as differences between private and public schools." Hernandez added: "The classes piggyback and reinforce what I learned at Providence, so I feel prepared. A lot of my current classes feel like I've gone through them already. I'm not an expert, but the foundations laid at Providence allowed me to step into graduate school very easily."

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COMMENCEMENT 2020, *CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE*

Both students also singled out Preceptor in Education, Jan Van Spronsen. “Professor Van Spronsen mentored me a lot during my time at Providence, and I feel so prepared because of her”, said Hernandez. Martinez added: “In my class, creating an Individualized Education Program (IEP) for a student was needed, and, immediately, my class with Van Spronsen popped up, and I was able to think: here is what she taught me to do or how to respond,” said Martinez.

Of course, these graduates’ time at Providence was not just about the academic experience but also the living, learning community that makes Providence special.

Hernandez thinks back to the close-knit community she built at Providence where she was very involved, serving with student activities as a Resident Assistant and as a

Freshmen mentorship leader, all while making the college’s academic Dean’s List. “God has a funny way of revealing himself to you over time at Providence. I learned so much about myself and see things differently now. I’ve realized how to think through things differently and to understand different perspectives. I’ve learned to be thankful for every challenge and for all opportunities and to be grateful and recognize you can grow and learn through everything.”

For Martinez, coming from Arizona to California as a transfer student and figuring out her identity, while balancing friends, athletics, and academics, was a tough but fulfilling experience. “Providence is SO small and some people say that in a negative way. Yet, I often think about the things we would do, the small community that we had; it’s a place where you know everyone and are rooting for them to succeed! In retrospect, it’s a community I miss,



being able to walk down the stairs and see people I know and join them for breakfast.”

Both Martinez and Hernandez were also college athletes, balancing classes with soccer as well as student teaching opportunities! Those two worlds collided when the Women’s Soccer team went to Costa Rica on a mission trip in Fall 2019, a location that later served as a student teaching opportunity for both of them in Spring of 2020.

“I’m really thankful for my experience at Providence with soccer. It was a joy to be part of the team, and it gave way to instant friends and family at school. I also learned a lot about being part of a team, the gives and takes of being on a team at the college level. I learned so much about myself and my strengths and weaknesses and how to overcome those weaknesses,” said Hernandez. For Martinez, her soccer experience came at a crossroads in her life, where she was deciding on

transferring into Providence or not. Now, as she looks back, she reflects, “I made my best friends on that team and still talk with them all the time; even now we still talk and Facetime almost daily. The relationships made while playing the sport and growing with them is something I wouldn’t change for the world. When it came time for Costa Rica, Coach Sam, the women’s soccer coach, brought up the mission trip and the first thing I told him was that I couldn’t afford it and wouldn’t go. But Coach Sam pushed me to go, helped with fundraising, and there I learned so much about the love for soccer around the world. It is art for them and seeing their passion was incredible.”

As these two seniors depart the official graduation ceremony and head back to their respective states and next steps in their journey, they both gave a word of advice to current and future students.

For Hernandez, it was about stepping out of her comfort zone. “Providence is a place that seems comfortable, but it also is a place that pushes you out of your comfort zone if you allow it to. It can and will shape you to be the person God intended you to be if you follow him.”

For Martinez, she realized the reality of Christ’s love and her identity in Him. “You can tell there is a certain love that exists within the community here. There are people here who genuinely love Jesus and want that for you too; it’s infectious, and it has a kind of feel where they will give you every opportunity to succeed, you just have to get after it.” She added: “I *thought* I knew Jesus before I went to Providence, now I *know* I know Jesus.”





Home Court Advantage

Thanks to key athletic donors, the on-campus gymnasium has been transformed into a much needed training ground for all of our student athletes. This exciting new space is adorned with the colors of Sea Beggar nation, updated LED lighting, and a beautifully restored and refinished wood floor. The gym will be the primary practice and game facility for Women's Volleyball but will also be used by other athletic programs for indoor soccer, baseball cage work, and student life activities. Head Women's Volleyball Coach Chris Chown, who was the initiator and major lead in the

fundraising and execution of the remodel, had this to say regarding the new space: "I am incredibly grateful for the generosity of our donors to help make this dream a reality. Not only does this facility provide long term financial benefits for our program, it has proven to be an integral space for social distanced training during these times. In the end, it is so special to have an athletic facility to call our own. This gym gets loud, and we look forward to filling it with great energy as we seek to make it an intimidating place to play for any opponent."



Fall Sports Pushed to Spring 2020

Due to the coronavirus, all intercollegiate sports were moved to the Spring 2020 season, in line with adjusted NAIA national championships. While many changes have occurred in terms of official seasons for the teams, coaches and athletes are taking the opportunity to develop in other areas: individual and team mentality, tactical understanding of game play, and position-specific strength and conditioning workouts. Coaches have made creative uses of spaces on and off campus in order to provide a safe and fun environment for student-athletes to continue growing and developing in their respective sport.

Providence Weight Room and Athletic Training Room

Updated spaces in Witherspoon Hall have provided student-athletes an incredible new area for teams to train, rehabilitate, and recover. The weight room area, which previously was not on campus, now creates a private and Providence-only space for teams to work out and train together. The weight room is equipped with multiple benches and free weights, while also incorporating resistance training, to allow athletes a full range of motion and better sport-related movements. The area has also been updated with strict cleaning protocols to mitigate any potential coronavirus risk.

The athletic training room has been moved from the Providence Village to Witherspoon Hall to take advantage of a larger space, allowing more flexibility and room for athletes in the recovery process as well as a better and brighter space for athletes to meet pre-practice or post-practice needs. The room has also been updated with school colors to generate a strong Sea Beggar atmosphere.





A. MICHAEL KILEDJIAN

VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADVANCEMENT

If you have questions about gift planning, I invite you to contact me at 626.696.4058 or mkiledjian@providencecc.edu, or reach out to the helpful professionals at **Barnabas Foundation** directly toll-free at **1.888.448.3040**.



Providence Christian College is a member of the Barnabas Foundation.

Nothing Beyond *Providence*

It would be an understatement to call 2020 an outlier year. Our lives have been disrupted to the extreme by the Covid-19 pandemic. In the world of finance and probabilities, this type of event has come to be known as a “Black Swan” event; an unpredictable, improbable event with catastrophic consequences. It may even be fair to say we do not yet know the full measure of the catastrophic consequences or predictability of how or when Covid-19 will dissipate from our world. These mysteries vividly confront us with our limitations.

However, as Reformed Christians, they also point us with hope to a sovereign God, who anchors us in unassailable providence. I love how Lord’s Day 10 of the Heidelberg Catechism provides great consolation in defining God’s providence.

27. What do you understand by the providence of God? God’s providence is his almighty and ever present power, whereby, as with his hand, he still upholds heaven and earth and all creatures, and so governs them that leaf and blade, rain and drought, fruitful and barren years, food and drink, health and sickness, riches and poverty, indeed, all things, come to us not by chance, but by his fatherly hand.

28. What does it benefit us to know that God had created all things and still upholds them by his providence? We can be patient in adversity, thankful in prosperity, and, with a view to the future, we can have a firm confidence in our faithful God and Father that no creature shall separate us from his love; for all creatures are so completely in his hand that, without his will, they cannot so much as move.

When I look at our annual report and the disappointing financial and enrollment shortcomings this year that have been exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic, I’m tempted to panic, until I remind myself of God’s providence. I remind myself of the history of God’s providence; the countless events that were unforeseen, unexpected, improbable and catastrophic, yet God rebuilt, restored, and renewed with greater magnitude those things that seemed irreparable.

What we are seeking to build at Providence Christian College is a biblically faithful institution that stands for truth, spiritual truth and academic truth. We are an institution that can be trusted by parents and churches to not subvert your children to the winds of secular cultural deterioration and deception. Earlier this year, we undertook a change in our bylaws and corporate structure to further fortify and resist encroachment on our religious liberties from sex and gender perverting LGBTQ+ influences in our culture and government.

As a result of our biblically and academically faithful stand, we find ourselves more and more in a shrinking minority of colleges that stand for truth in America. We know God is capable of pulling us through the difficulties of the present time. God’s providence is not constrained only to human means, but, more often than not, God uses human means to accomplish his sovereign and perfect providence. More than ever, Providence needs your prayers and support. If you believe in our mission, this is a time to be the means of God’s providence for us.

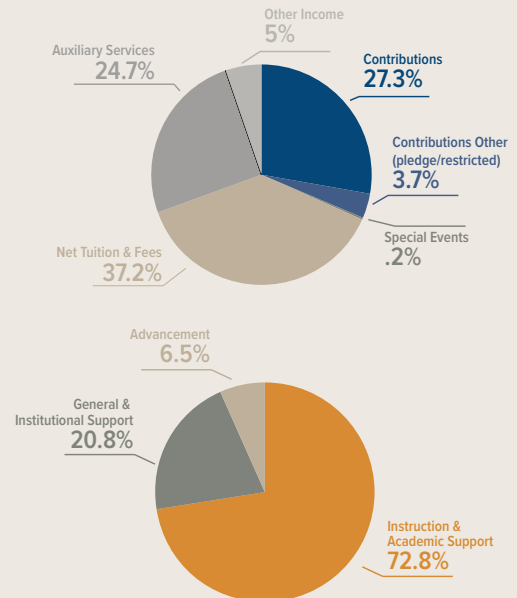
Statement of Activity

INCOME 2019-2020

Contributions	\$1,602,012	27.3%
Contributions Other (Pledge/restricted)	\$214,000	3.7%
Special Events	\$11,100	0.2%
Net Tuition & Fees	\$2,182,484	37.2%
Auxiliary Services (room & board)	\$1,447,968	24.7%
Gov't Grants & Contracts	\$106,334	
Interest Income	\$5,404	0.1%
Other Income	\$291,388	5%
Total Income	\$5,860,690	

EXPENDITURES 2019-2020

Instruction & Academic Support	\$5,377,064	72.8%
General & Institutional Support	\$1,533,509	20.8%
Advancement	\$478,083	6.5%
Total Expenses	\$7,388,656	



Fall 2020 Enrollment & Academics

GENERAL ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

Total Student Body	121
Percentage Gain (vs. '18)	-21%
Residential Students	89%
Commuter Students	11%
Student/Faculty Ratio	12 to 1

DENOMINATIONAL PROFILE

Confessionally Reformed	20%
Baptist	10%
Non-Denominational	31%
Christian Other	39%

GENDER

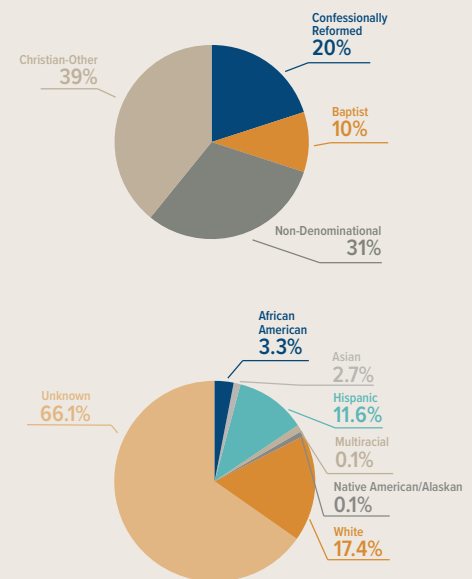
Male	53%
Female	47%

RACE/ETHNICITY

African American	3.3%
Asian	0.1%
Hispanic	11.6%
Multi-Race	0.1%
Native American/Alaskan	0.1%
Native Hwn/Pas Isl.	0.0%
White	17.4%
Non-Resident Alien	0.0%
unknown	66.1%

GEOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN

U.S. (11 States, 83% from CA)	98%
International (3 countries)	2%



2020-2021 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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MEMORIAL & HONORARY GIFTS

*Gifts received through
October 2020*

In Loving Memory Of:

Sylvester Vander Tuig

from

Michael and Kimberly Kiledjian
Peter and Sandra Nanninga

Art Arendse

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Scott and Ellen Korthuis

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In Honor Of:

Herb and Bernace Korthuis 65th Wedding Anniversary

from

Scott and Ellen Korthuis

*Providence welcomes honorary
& memorial designated gifts.
Donations and acknowledgements
for the next publication should
be sent by May 2021.*

ALUMNI UPDATES



SHELLI (CAMMENZA)

LUNDGREN '13 was married to Matthew Lundgren on December 28th, 2019 in Escondido, CA. She and her husband reside in San Marcos, and she is continuing her sixth year teaching at Calvin Christian School, while Matt gears up for tax season at his CPA firm in Solana Beach.



BILLIE SNIEDER '16 relocated to Atlanta, GA, where she began teaching science for 1st through 8th grade at Atlanta Youth Academy.



WILL SOUTHARD '17 and **SOPHIA (VAN ZONNEVELD) SOUTHARD '19** were married on June 19, 2020 in Ferndale, WA. They are both teaching at Trinity Classical School in Bellingham, WA. Will is also taking seminary classes to complete his M. Div. through Western Reformed Seminary.



AMANDA HECK '18 earned her Master of Science in Education and California teaching credential from California Baptist University. She was in the program from Fall 2018 to Summer 2020 and graduated with a 4.0 GPA. Amanda looks forward to beginning her teaching career!



BRENNAN KILEDJIAN '19 began a M. Div. degree program at Westminster Seminary California in Spring 2020 with the goal of pursuing full-time ministry.



JOSIAH VANDERVEEN '19 and his wife, Braelyn, are expecting their first child in March 2021. Josiah is in his second year of M. Div. studies at WTS Philadelphia and is also an intern at Tenth Presbyterian Church.



COLLIN VIS '19 and **REBECCA (CALL) VIS '19** welcomed their first child, Nathaniel Jedidiah, on January 2, 2020. Nathaniel was born weighing 6 lbs., 10 oz.



ALEXIS LE CLECH '20 started a new position as a 3rd grade teacher at Woodcrest Christian Day School in Riverside, CA.





PROVIDENCE
CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

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