

HONORS CONGRESS

The Honor Roll

August
2021

Vol. 3, Issue 1

The Official Student Organization of the Burnett Honors College

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RSVP for events on
Knight Connect!

September 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30 August GBM 7pm - 8pm Committee Apps Open	31 August GBM 7pm - 8pm	1 <i>School Supply Drive</i> <i>Begins</i>	2	3 Back to School Bash! 3pm - 5pm Committee Apps Close @ 5pm	4
5	6	7 Project Linus Knitting Knight 5pm - 7pm	8 HonCon Fantasy League 7pm	9	10 Team Information Knight! 6pm - 7pm Native Tree Planting at Kaley Square Park 9:30 - 11am	11 HonCon: ON ICE 2pm - 3:45pm
12	13	14	15 Mentorship Kickoff 7pm - 8pm <i>School Supply Drive</i> <i>Ends</i> <i>The Honor Roll</i> <i>Submissions Close</i>	16 Mario Kart Tournament 6pm - 8pm	17	18 Support Our Troops Card Making Party 12pm - 1:30pm
19	20	21	22 Chipotle Partial Proceeds 5pm - 9pm	23 Record Painting 6pm - 7:30pm	24	25 Native Tree Plant- ing Day at D Ranch Preserve 9:30am - 12pm
26 Pajama Game Knight 9pm - 12am	27 September GBM 7pm - 8pm	28 September GBM 7pm - 8pm	29 Trivia Battle: STEM vs. Humanities 7pm - 8pm	30	1	2

meet the officers



Alik Manoogian - President

Alik is a fourth-year student majoring in Biomedical Sciences and minoring in Medical Sociology and Psychology. She was born and raised in Florida, but plans to continue pursuing a future in medicine somewhere up north after completing her undergraduate degree. Alik has been involved with Honors Congress since the start of her freshman year by becoming a member of the Volunteer Affairs Committee and later served as the Director of Volunteer Affairs. She is excited to continue working with an amazing officer board as President this year! In addition to her involvement with Honors Congress, she is the Assistant Director for Relay for Life, volunteers as a Crisis Counselor for Crisis Text Line, and works as a the lead TA for Dr. Hawthorne's Neurobiology course. A fun fact about Alik is that she became a licensed EMT last year and now works as an EMT for American Ambulance!

Brent Feldman - Vice President

Brent is a third-year student double-majoring in Biomedical Sciences and Biotechnology with a minor in Leadership Studies and a certificate in service-learning. He has spent most of his life in the Jacksonville area. He hopes to attend medical school after graduating from UCF. Brent has been involved in honors congress since his first semester and was on the fundraising committee before being elected as the director of fundraising for the 2019-2020 term. Brent is super excited to return to Honors Congress this year as VP and help bring the club to new heights. Brent has a strong interest in being involved in the community. In addition to being an Honors Congress officer, Brent is in the Knights of Distinction program, and volunteers with various community organizations in Heath and Politics. In his free time, Brent enjoys playing music, exploring Orlando with friends, cooking, and going to the gym.



Henry Bright - Treasurer

Henry is a third-year student from Columbus, Ohio majoring in Aerospace Engineering with a minor in Business. He started working with Honors Congress in his first semester at UCF as a member of the Philanthropy committee, and served as the Director of Philanthropy for 2020. Heavily plugged in to the Burnett Honors College community, he has also worked as an Honors Orientation Ambassador and is currently working as a BHC Computer Lab Monitor. (come say hi sometime!) Outside of Honors Congress, Henry is also involved with UCF club tennis and the Igknights, the student section leaders for UCF men's basketball. When not studying, you can probably find him playing tennis, disc golf, watching just about any sport, or hanging out in nature with friends. He is very excited to continue serving on this year's executive board and help Honors Congress thrive.



Janice Zou - Secretary

Janice is a third-year student from Orlando, Florida majoring in Mechanical Engineering and hoping to one day work in the aerospace or tech industry. Besides being involved in Honors Congress, she has interned at Northrop Grumman, is a CWEP intern with Lockheed Martin, is involved with First Step UCF (mentor), the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, and the Asian Pacific American Coalition. Outside of school and studying, Janice enjoys exploring new places with her friends, playing the piano, drawing, and spending time with her family.

Alex VanBennekorn - Director of Recruitment and Membership

Alex is a third-year student from Jacksonville, FL pursuing a major in Health Sciences and a minor in Spanish. He plans on attending medical school and becoming a neonatologist and eventual neonatal surgeon. He is currently a volunteer at the Winnie Palmer Hospital for Women and Babies working as a volunteer in the NICU; his favorite part of the week is his Saturday baby cuddling! He's also involved in TAing, interning, IM sports, and working a job, and loves balancing a full schedule. Alex is a Meyers-Briggs ENFP, so his favorite hobby is getting to know people, but he also loves volleyball, swimming, coffee, and music. He can't wait to welcome new members this fall!



Jasmine Barrett - Director of Academic Affairs

Jasmine is a second-year student majoring in electrical engineering with an environmental studies minor. She was born in Canada but has spent most of her life in Orlando, Florida. She hopes to focus her career on advancements within the renewable energy industry. Along with being an Honors Congress Officer, she is involved with the UCF Navigators. Her other interests include listening to music, collecting stationary, meeting new people, watching tv and cooking! Jasmine is very excited for the upcoming semester and cannot wait to see everyone at the events!

Taylor Haycock - Director of Social Affairs

Taylor is a sophomore here at UCF and is studying Political Science. She was born in Mississippi, but as a military kid, spent most of her life moving around the world! Taylor loves being the Social Director for Honors Congress because she gets to plan events that introduce her to all of UCF's incredible Honors students. This semester, she is working as a Team Leader for Honors Symposium and as a Student Assistant for the Burnett Honors College. In her free time, Taylor dances (or sleeps) and she can always find time to watch a movie!





Rachel Leiner - Director of Volunteer Affairs

Rachel is a second-year student pursuing a major in Film and minors in both Digital Media and Computer Science. She hopes to pursue a career in production and is excited to grow alongside others in Honors Congress. Going into the fall semester, Rachel can't wait to lead her members in helping the community and get to know everyone along the way. She is looking forward to working with her fellow officers as Director of Volunteer Affairs and hopes you are too!

Jake Blendermann - Director of Housing Affairs

Jake Blendermann is a second-year Health Sciences major with a minor in Psychology from Raleigh, North Carolina. After college, he hopes to go to medical school. Jake loves everything outdoors: hiking, running, kayaking, snowboarding, you name it! In addition to being an officer in Honors Congress, he is a Team Leader for Honors Symposium, Psychology TA, and is conducting independent research.



Jake Hanson - Director of Fundraising

Jake Hanson is a second-year student from Bradenton, Florida double majoring in Political Science and Journalism, with a minor in Global Sociology. He hopes to attend law school after graduating from UCF or pursue a graduate education in International Relations. A few of Jake's hobbies include spending time with friends, listening to music, and traveling. Aside from being an officer in Honors Congress, Jake is also a second-year in the LEAD Scholars Academy, a member of UCF College Democrats, and works as an Undergraduate Admissions Ambassador. He is excited to work with this year's board and meet new members this semester!

Sandra Ford - Director of Publications & Marketing

Sandra is a second-year student from Cape Coral, Florida majoring in English on the Creative Writing track, as well as working towards an Editing and Publishing Certificate. She hopes to one day be a published author and is already working towards that goal. Her experience with Honors Congress began when she was a member of the Publications Committee during her first semester at UCF. She is also a member of Writers Uknighited, is starting an internship with The Cypress Dome, and is working on an Honors Undergraduate Thesis. In her free time, Sandra likes to write, read, and play video games. She's excited to continue editing the The Honor Roll and expand it as it comes to print.



Hannah Zwick - Historian

Hannah is a third-year biomedical sciences major with a Spanish minor. She is originally from Southern Maryland and she enjoys exercising and going to the beach in her free time. She plans to attend medical school after finishing her undergraduate degree. Hannah has been involved with Honors Congress since the second semester of her freshman year and is incredibly excited to be able to be a part of the officer board again this semester. Hannah is also the Vice President of MEDLIFE on campus, volunteers in the emergency room at Cape Canaveral Hospital, and works as an RA on campus.



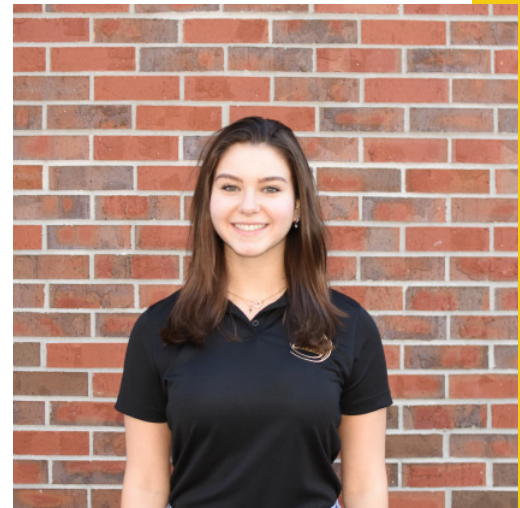
Kirsten Whaley - Director of Special Events

Kirsten is a third-year student from Jacksonville, Florida. She is currently majoring in Biology and plans to obtain her degree in both Biology and Nursing in hopes of pursuing a career as a CRNA. She has been a member of Honors Congress since her first year at UCF and served on the Special Events committee in Fall 2020. In addition to Honors Congress, Kirsten serves as the Humanitarian Relief Director for VolunteerUCF (VUCF), volunteers at Knights Pantry on campus, and is a member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. In her free time, Kirsten enjoys the beach and spending time with her friends and family. She is extremely excited to serve as captain for the Honors Congress Relay for Life team for another semester. Kirsten enjoys making new memories and meeting new people in her role as Director.



Daniela Gomez-Dugan - Director of Philanthropy

Daniela is a second-year student pursuing a computer science major with a criminal justice minor. She is originally from Puerto Rico but has lived in South Florida for the majority of her life. She is involved as an Undergraduate Learning Assistant, research volunteer with the College of Engineering & Computer Science, and recently was a Google intern this past summer. Outside of school, she enjoys watching new TV shows, listening to music, baking, and playing trivia games. She is so excited to be your team captain for our Knight-Thon team and meet you all in the Fall! #FTK



UPCOMING EVENTS

Wed. 9/1 School Supply Drive *Ends 9/15*

Want to make a difference in your community? Join Honors Congress this fall for a School Supply Drive to help provide a local title one school with necessary donations for students of all backgrounds and ages to be able to learn inside the classroom. Physical donations (list below with relevant DM point information) and monetary donations will be accepted. 100% of monetary donations will be used to purchase school supplies. Donations will be accepted from September 1st - September 15th and can be dropped off in either the tower 3 community office or the honors congress office located in the computer lab of the honors college.

Sat. 9/3 Back to School Bash! *3-5pm @ the BHC Lawn*

Welcome to UCF! Whether you are back for another semester or experiencing college for the first time, Honors Congress wants to welcome you to our first social fundraising of the semester! Meet and mingle with our officers and fellow Honors Congress members, and for an additional DM Point, enter yourself into our raffle giveaway to win a Back-to-School basket. The raffle entry also includes your vote on an officer to "dunk" with an ice water bucket! Members can donate a suggested amount of \$1 to our Venmo: @Honors-Congress. Don't miss a chance to enjoy popcorn, ice cream, and other snacks for the chance of 2 DM points!

Tue. 9/7 Project Linus Knitting *5-7pm @ the BHC Lawn*

Project Linus is a non-profit that donates homemade baby blankets to local NICU's. Join Honors Congress for an evening of learning to knit and crochet to make a baby blanket to donate to babies in the NICU!

Wed. 9/8 HonCon Fantasy League *7pm @ Tower III Lobby*

Football season is back!!! Honors Congress wants to see who really knows the NFL the best with our very own HonCon Fantasy Football League. There will be ten open slots for those that RSVP, with draft night starting at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, September 8th at the Burnett Honors College building. Bragging rights and the official HonCon Fantasy League trophy will be awarded to first place in addition to Amazon gift cards going to our top three teams. Good luck!

Fri. 9/10 Team Information Knight *6-7pm @ the BHC*

Want to learn more about Knight-thon and Relay for Life and how to get involved? Come join our Philanthropy and Special Events Directors on Friday, September 10th at 6:00 pm in room___ in the BHC! You'll have the chance to get more information on both teams, get free food, and enter a raffle for a \$15 Amazon gift card! Members can get up to 2 DM points.

Fri. 9/10 **Native Tree Planting**
9:30-11am @ Kaley Square Park

Get into the community spirit and volunteer alongside Ideas for US to restore the health of our local environment. We will be planting native trees and plants to help the ecosystem and pollinators of the area. Sign-ups are limited to the first 10 members and will close on Monday, September 6th so make sure to get your spot. If you have any questions or would like to be placed on the waitlist when the event fills up, feel free to email the Director of Volunteer Affairs at honorscongress+volunteering@gmail.com. This event is worth 2 DM points and 2 ½ volunteer hours!

Sat. 9/11 **HonCon: ON ICE**
2-3:45pm @ RDV Sportsplex Ice Den

Come cool off-- literally-- at the RDV Ice Den for some slippery ice skating with Honors Congress! After working on homework all day, let off some steam with us on Saturday, September 11th, at 6:30pm and float across the ice... who knows, maybe you'll learn to skate backwards! Members will earn 1 DM point for attending and will need to pay \$5 to reserve their spot on the ice (cash or Venmo: Honors-Congress).

Wed. 9/15 **Mentorship Kickoff Event**
7-8pm @ the BHC Conference Room

Figured out the secret to passing physics 2? Have a breathtaking resume and finally got that internship? Know tons of fun events to get involved in during your time at UCF? If this sounds like you or if you want this to be you, come join Honors Congress this fall for our

mentorship kickoff event! Pizza will be provided and members will receive 1 DM point for attendance. If you have any questions pertaining to the mentorship program, email the Director of Academic Affairs at honorscongress+academic@gmail.com.

Thu. 9/16 **Mario Kart Tournament**
6-8pm @ BHC 130-131

Don't have a car? Don't have a license? No problem! Join Honors Congress for a Mario Kart Tournament on September 16 at BHC at 6:00 PM to compete against fellow students and friends in a high-speed, action-packed series of races to determine who is the best driver of them all. Participants are encouraged to donate \$2 to benefit our KnightThon team!

Sat. 9/18 **Support Our Troops Card Making Party**
12-1:30pm @ the BHC

Come join Honors Congress in our Support our troops Card Making Party and get to know your fellow members as well as ask any questions surrounding volunteering or Honors Congress itself. Sign-ups are limited to the first 10 members and will close on Monday, September 13th so make sure to get your spot. If you have any questions or would like to be placed on the waitlist when the event fills up, feel free to email the Director of Volunteer Affairs at honorscongress+volunteering@gmail.com. This event is worth 2 DM points and 1 ½ volunteer hours!

Wed. 9/22 Chipotle Partial Proceeds 5-9pm @ Chipotle on University Blvd

Not sure what to have for dinner tonight? Look no further, come join us at Chipotle at 11680 University Blvd from 5:00-9:00 pm to help raise money for our Relay for Life Team. Make sure to show this flyer at checkout, or if ordering online, use the Chipotle app and include the code Q3N3DD6 when checking out. Please email a picture or screenshot of your receipt to honorscongress+specialevents@gmail.com to receive 1 DM point. We hope you can make it to support our team!

Thu. 9/23 Record Painting 6-7:30pm @ the BHC Garden/Lawn

First month of classes stressing you out? Join us in the BHC Garden on Thursday, September 23rd at 6:00 PM to enjoy a relaxing evening of record painting and socializing with friends! All supplies and snacks are provided - members are encouraged to donate \$2 to directly benefit our Relay for Life team!

Sat. 9/25 Native Tree Planting Day 9:30am-12pm @ D Ranch Preserve

Come join Honors Congress in helping to restore our local environment! We will be planting native trees to promote biodiversity and reforestation. Sign-ups are limited to the first 10 members and will close on Monday, September 20th so make sure to get your spot. If you have any questions or would like to be placed on the waitlist when the event fills up, feel free to email the Director of Volunteer Affairs at honorscongress+volunteering@gmail.com. This event is

worth 2 DM points and 4 volunteer hours!

Sun. 9/26 Pajama Game Knight 9pm-12am @ Tower III Lobby

It's a family game night extravaganza! Come to the Tower III lobby from 9PM-12AM on Sunday, September 26th and join in the fun. Snacks and water will be provided. Feel free to bring your own games as well, and of course, don't forget to wear your jammies.

Wed. 9/29 Trivia Battle: STEM vs. Humanities 7-8pm @ the BHC Reading Room

Is Engineering overrated? Do English majors even do anything? Is either side any good at sports? Come put your major to the test in an ultimate battle: STEM vs. Humanities! How will each sector fare against each of our six trivia categories: Art, Science, Sports, Entertainment, Geography and History. The stakes have never been higher because the winning team will receive an extra DM point, bragging rights, and the ultimate title of HonCon Trivia Masters. Oh, and did we mention there will be free pizza and drinks? Members will earn 1 DM point for attending (and have the opportunity to win another!).

so, why committees? |

from the desk of HonCon Secretary Janice Zou

HonCon has committees for the respective director, handing the choice to you! You can join one that fuels your interest or fulfills goals you have in mind with a total of 9 committees (Academic, Social, Volunteer, Housing, Fundraising, Publications & Marketing, Historian, Special Events, Philanthropy).

As a member of HonCon, you have access to leadership opportunities that give back to the Honors community as early as your freshman year! Every semester, committee positions open up for all HonCon members to apply, get more involved in the organization, and gain leadership experience under guiding wings.

Joining in as a committee member, you work hands-on with our amazing directors to make HonCon events what they are--depending on what you are looking for, you get the chance to work with a group of talented individuals, generate event ideas, help set up monthly events, and eventually run your own event from start to finish! By the end of the semester, you'll have the experience to lead a diverse team and run for directorship positions when the year ends!

Most of our directors and Executive Board have served on at least one committee prior to their current roles (many started as early as their first semester at UCF) and attribute that to their growth in passion and interest in staying involved with HonCon. From the perspective of an upperclassman, joining a committee is a great first dip into developing and honing leadership qualities that are sought after in higher-up organization positions, academics, and careers!

-Janice Zou, Secretary of Honors Congress

CREATIVE CORNER

What is Creative Corner?



Welcome to Creative Corner! This is where we will announce the month's creative prompt and showcase student submissions of the previous month's prompt. Starting this semester, you can choose to respond to the monthly theme instead!

Responses to prompts can be delivered in ANY medium: writing, visual, auditory (music), videography, etc. Please follow submission guidelines through the Honors Congress website.

Honors Congress members will be able to receive up to 2 DM points for each submission (in total, 2 artistic works that do not have to be the same medium).

If you have any questions, email honorscongress+publications@gmail.com.



PROMPT OF THE MONTH

If you could wish for anything what would it be? What would happen as a result?

THEME OF THE MONTH

Wishes, dreams, and goals

**Submissions close on
Wednesday, September 15th at
11:59pm**

— cover contest —

Want to display your artistic talent right on the front cover for all of Honors Congress to see? *The Honor Roll* will be holding a cover contest! Starting in the next issue (in time for the next GBM), one cover submitted by an Honors Congress member will be featured on the front of *The Honor Roll*.

Entries can be photography, digital art, or scanned 2D art. They can be anything but should embody Honors Congress and the BHC. Additionally, entries should not include “The Honor Roll,” “Honors Congress,” or similar text in the artwork. Visit the Honors Congress website to submit. All submissions will earn 1 DM point. Email honorscongress+publications@gmail.com with any questions.

Submissions close **Wednesday, September 15 at 11:59pm.**

Good luck and show us what you can do!

CREDITS

Publications & Marketing

Sandra Ford, *Director and Editor*

HonCon Officer Board

Alik Manoogian, *President*

Brent Feldman, *Vice President*

Henry Bright, *Treasurer*

Janice Zou, *Secretary*

Alex Vanbennekom, *Director of Recruitment & Membership*

Jasmine Barrett, *Director of Academic Affairs*

Taylor Haycock, *Director of Social Affairs*

Rachel Leiner, *Director of Volunteer Affairs*

Jake Blendermann, *Director of Housing Affairs*

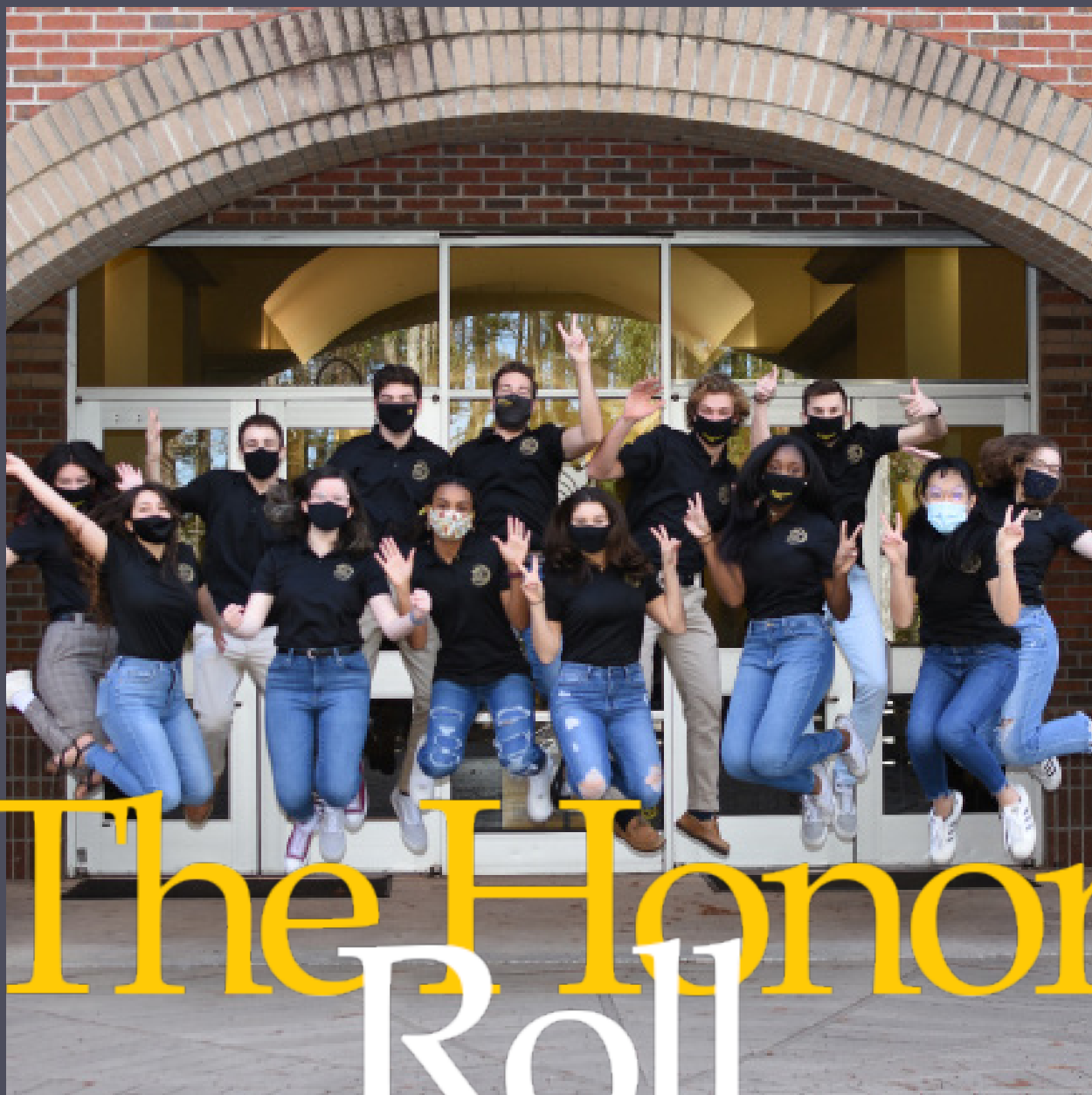
Jake Hanson, *Director of Fundraising*

Hannah Zwick, *Historian*

Kirsten Whaley, *Director of Special Events*

Daniela Gomez-Dugan, *Director of Philanthropy*





The Honor Roll

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