

FALL 2026

UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

TEMPLE



Born in
Philly.
Built for
the world.

Temple's global
campuses continue to
grow, expanding access,
opportunity and impact.



32

CONNECTIONS

Smiles in Session

Inside Temple's dental clinic at William D. Kelley Elementary School, students, faculty and staff provide quality care and compassionate treatment for North Philadelphia children and families.

TEMPLE

From AI-powered healthcare to global education, Temple is making a real impact at home and around the world. In this issue, discover how researchers are using machine learning to improve care for complex diseases, Kornberg dentists are serving children at a nearby elementary school, and Temple's Rome and Japan campuses continue to grow and thrive.

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Honors, Reimagined

A historic gift establishes Temple's Sullivan Honors College—expanding access to academic and research opportunities for high-achieving students.

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COVER PHOTOS: Ryan S. Brandenburg, CLA '14 and Betsy Manning, KLN '87, CLA '08

ENVISIONING THE FUTURE



Ryan S. Brandenburg, CIA '14

The Afterlife—the inaugural exhibit presented by the Tyler Center for Art and Creative Exchange—showcased work from 27 artists who graduated from Tyler's MFA programs in 2026. This exhibition marked a significant milestone in Temple's new partnership with the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, expanding the university's reach into Center City. It is the first in a series of annual public exhibitions featuring work by Tyler alumni.

The Afterlife; Fisher Brooks Gallery
Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts
128 Broad St.
Philadelphia, PA 19102
Aug. 1–Sept. 14

Earlier this year, Temple University formally introduced its new strategic plan, *Forward with Purpose*. For Temple, this is more than a plan. It is our roadmap that will guide our institution through the next decade as we approach our 150th anniversary in 2034.

Built around the foundational priorities of Student Success, Research in Action and Place-based Impact, *Forward with Purpose* provides us with a clear direction for becoming one of the most consequential urban research universities in the nation.

We are now nearly a year into our implementation of the strategic plan, and our progress is already evident. It is reflected right here within the pages of Temple magazine.

This issue highlights some of our institution's greatest strengths and how we are building while continuing to keep students and their success at the center of all we do.

Within these pages, you will read about Jane Creamer Sullivan, KLN '70, a dedicated alum who is helping transform our institution. Thanks to Jane's incredible generosity, next fall we will open the Jane Creamer Sullivan and Thomas J. Sullivan Honors College.

This won't be just any honors college. Defined by qualities that are distinctly Temple, it will be grounded in the concepts of a flexible, place-based curriculum, access reimaged and collaboration over competition. Its establishment is also one of the best examples of our early progress in implementing *Forward with Purpose*.



Joseph V. Labellio

You will also read about our growing global footprint, which is one of our strongest distinctions as an institution. This fall, our Japan campus opened a second location in the Tokyo area: the Hillside Center in Mizonokuchi, Kawasaki. Temple Rome, which is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year, has also started offering full, four-year degree programs.

Enrollment at both Temple Japan and Temple Rome is on the rise, and we are delighted that we can help prepare our students to succeed in an increasingly interconnected world.

I hope you'll enjoy discovering these stories. Together, we are building a stronger Temple, and I am grateful to have you with us as we continue this important work.

John Fry
President

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SMALL TALK

OWL EXPERTS ON TRENDING TOPICS

AVOID YOUR ARCH NEMESIS

According to **Maryann Hartzell**, assistant dean at Temple's School of Podiatric Medicine, determining your arch helps you find the footwear that's best for you. "Those with flat feet should stay away from high heels and instead opt for shoes with low heels or no added height. High heels place the foot in an unnatural position that can be particularly painful for people with low arches," Hartzell told **NBC News**.

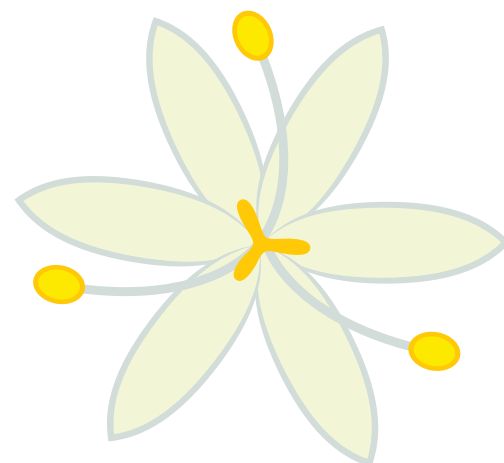


BEAR IN MIND

Is spending too much time online harming our brains? Whether there are long-term implications is a complicated question. "We do know that there are certain parts of the brain, certain connections between regions of the brain, that look like they are differentiated in people who are online more, who spend more time on social media, who are more attached to their phones," **Jason Chein**, chair of the Department of Psychology and Neuroscience, told **The Washington Post**.

SPECIAL DELIVERY

As Uber Eats bots roam Philadelphia, some consumers marvel at their ease of use while others feel torn about what this new technology means for human couriers. **Subodha Kumar**, Paul R. Anderson Distinguished Chair Professor of Statistics, Operations and Data Science, says the expected savings and ability to bypass tightening gig worker regulations are enough to keep companies like Uber Eats in the bot race with other food delivery services. "We have a good chance that this technology will be successful ... so they are not going to disappear," he told **The Philadelphia Inquirer**.



A GARDEN STATE EXCLUSIVE

Found only in New Jersey, a rare plant grows in the Pine Barrens region of the state.

Sasha Eisenman, associate professor and department chair of environmental design, discovered this new species formally called *Triantha x novacaesariensis*. "That's a kind of unique thing in that people have been documenting this plant for, you know, over 100 years, but the understanding of its identity, what it is, has not been fully realized until now," Eisenman told **NJ.com**.

"It changed where we studied. It changed how we worked. It changed where we met people."

—**Bryant Simon**, Laura H. Carnell Professor of History, on the cultural and historical impact of Starbucks in **USA Today**

NEWS

ACED IT

A cornerstone of *Forward with Purpose*, Temple University's Strategic Plan is Place-based Impact—reflecting the imperative that Temple serves as a vital, trusted partner in the city, leveraging its expertise to benefit the broader community. A new partnership with the School District of Philadelphia offers a compelling example of that work.

The College of Education and Human Development (CEHD) and the school district approved a memorandum of understanding to establish the Temple Partnership Schools Network. Based upon the nationally recognized Professional Development School model, CEHD will now work directly with two public schools located near Temple's Main and Health Sciences Center campuses, Tanner G. Duckrey School and Mary McLeod Bethune School, to create a community-embedded, practice-based learning environment that will ultimately strengthen the local schools and the entire North Philadelphia community.

"This is a true partnership," says Temple President John Fry. "Tanner G. Duckrey and Mary McLeod Bethune are two schools that are located right in our backyard, and our partnership with those schools is an example of the coordinated approach we are taking in serving the North Philadelphia community. Together with the School District of Philadelphia, we are strengthening our local schools and creating additional pathways to higher education."

Through the program, both undergraduate and graduate students will be able to pursue embedded clinical and applied learning experiences, such as teacher preparation, school counseling, school psychology, human development, and policy and organizational development. Faculty will also be able to conduct collaborative research at each school.

A+

Excellent!

Joseph V. Labolito



Joseph V. Labolito



"Thriving schools contribute to thriving neighborhoods," says Monika Williams Shealey, dean of CEHD. "The partnership demonstrates our collective responsibility to ensure all children have access to equitable educational opportunities, and educators and leaders have the resources and supports they need to support the success of their learners and engage more effectively with families."

—STEPHEN ORBANEK

Temple Partnership Schools Network

Together, Temple and the school district aim to accomplish five goals.

- Enhance pre-K-12 student success
- Advance educator preparation
- Strengthen learning for school-based professionals
- Deepen family and community engagement
- Generate research that impacts practice

"THRIVING SCHOOLS CONTRIBUTE TO THRIVING NEIGHBORHOODS."

— MONIKA WILLIAMS SHEALEY, dean of the College of Education and Human Development

125 YEARS OF PHARMACEUTICAL EXCELLENCE

This year marks a major milestone for Temple's School of Pharmacy, which began its legacy in March 1901. Since its founding, Temple Pharmacy has stood as a pillar of pharmaceutical education, innovation and service.

From hospital systems and independent pharmacies to pharmaceutical companies and government agencies, Temple Pharmacy alumni are leading the future of healthcare.

The school continues to evolve by training the next generation in precision medicine, advanced drug delivery systems and patient-first care models.

PRESCRIBING SUCCESS

In April, Temple's School of Pharmacy received a \$1 million gift from philanthropist Marvin Samson, *CST '60*, to establish the Marvin Samson Scholars Program.

Each year, over the course of four years, 10 first-year doctor of pharmacy students with demonstrated financial need will receive a \$25,000 scholarship. Recipients will be known as the "Samson Scholars." These four cohorts of Samson Scholars will then receive ongoing scholarship aid from the School of Pharmacy for their remaining three years of study.

"This gift speaks to Marvin's trust in our institution and his belief in the generations of Temple pharmacists, researchers and entrepreneurs who have made their mark on the world," says S. Suresh Madhavan, dean of the School of Pharmacy.

Additionally, Deborah and Bob Schueren, *PHR '85*, have launched a new matching gift campaign, pledging up to \$125,000 toward the Schueren Family 125th Anniversary Scholarship Fund—an endowed scholarship supporting second-year pharmacy students with demonstrated financial need. The amount of the pledge was chosen intentionally as a nod to the school's 125 years of excellence, with a combined fundraising target of \$250,000.

A DOSE OF COMPASSION

The School of Pharmacy continues to make a meaningful, life-saving impact on the community.

During COVID-19, Pharmacy faculty and alumni contributed to international guidelines for treatment. Students and faculty initiated a vaccine training program. Faculty, staff, students and alumni built and staffed pharmacy operations in the Liacouras Center mobile hospital. School of Pharmacy labs manufactured gallons of hand sanitizer for local hospitals.

In 2021, the School of Pharmacy created and staffed a temporary dispensary at Philadelphia International Airport for refugees following the evacuation of thousands from Afghanistan.

To mark the School of Pharmacy's 125th anniversary, students have challenged themselves to complete 125 acts of service, supporting the communities they serve through public health education events, volunteer immunization drives, wound care clinics, community blood pressure and diabetes screenings, and more.

—AMANDA HILL AND KATIE DUBOFF

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY THE SCHOOL OF PHARMACY



MEMORABLE MOMENTS
FROM THE SCHOOL
OF PHARMACY

1901

Temple's School of Pharmacy is founded, with W. Wallace Fritz appointed as the first dean on March 23.

1939



ACPE accredits the School of Pharmacy for the first time.

1985

Adelaide Van Titus serves as acting dean, making her the **first female dean** in the School of Pharmacy's history. She was then appointed dean in 1988.

1969

The school receives a **National Institutes of Health grant** to construct the School of Pharmacy and Allied Health building.

1947



The School of Pharmacy moves to the **Health Sciences Center**.

1990



Peter Doukas is appointed dean, beginning a tenure that spans more than 30 years. The school also introduces its **first PharmD program**.

2009



Lonnie Moulder, *PHR '80*, and Sharon Moulder, *PHR '80*, donate **\$5 million** to create the **Moulder Center for Drug Discovery Research**.

2011



The School of Pharmacy introduces **global health initiatives** such as the Guatemala Global Health Rotation pharmacy mission and the Temple Vietnam Pharmacy Mission.

125 YEARS
TO COME

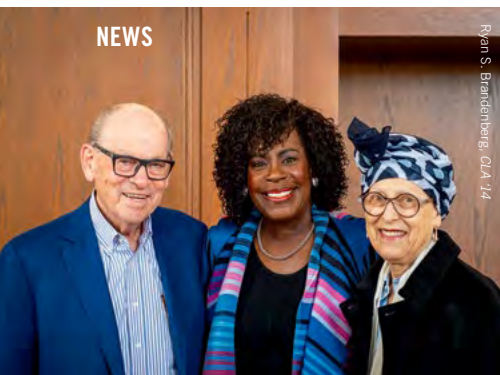
2025

The School of Pharmacy launches new graduate programs in **drug discovery, drug delivery** and **pharmacokinetics** as well as a bachelor of science program in **pharmaceutical sciences**.

2024

S. Suresh Madhavan is appointed to serve as dean.





Ryan S. Brandenburg, GLA '14



Ryan S. Brandenburg, GLA '14



Ryan S. Brandenburg, GLA '14

ANSWERING THE CALL

A historic \$1.2 million gift has created scholarships for children of Philadelphia first responders at Temple.

The Neubauer Family Foundation will provide scholarship support for dozens of students from families of employees with the Philadelphia Police Department, the SEPTA Police Department and the Philadelphia Fire Department.

“No words can ever fully express our gratitude to first responders for the incredible sacrifices they make in service to others,” says Temple President John Fry.

Beginning with the 2026-2027 academic year, Temple will select up to 10 first-year undergraduate students annually through the 2028-2029 academic year to receive scholarships of up to \$10,000 per year. The scholarships are renewable for up to four years, provided students remain in good academic standing and continue to meet eligibility requirements. Recipients will be known as “Neubauer Scholars.”

Speaking at the news conference where the gift was announced, Philadelphia Mayor Cherelle Parker expressed her gratitude.

“You have just given the City of Philadelphia a reason to say that access to economic opportunity for all is a tangible and real thing,” she says. “Thank you to the Neubauer Family for this contribution to the city. It matters.”

—MATT PETRILLO, *KLN '12*

**“THANK YOU TO
THE NEUBAUER
FAMILY FOR THIS
CONTRIBUTION
TO THE CITY.
IT MATTERS.”**

— Cherelle Parker, Philadelphia mayor

A JUST CAUSE

Richard Oller, *KLN '76, LAW '79*; his wife Amy Oller, *EDU '76*; and their children, Benjamin Oller and Rebecca Oller, have committed \$5 million to create the Oller Center for the Rule of Law within Temple University's Beasley School of Law.

The historic gift joins the Kean Family Deanship gift, also \$5 million, as the second-largest gift in Beasley's history.

“This generous gift from the Oller family represents a significant moment in Temple and Beasley's history as the Oller Center for the Rule of Law aligns perfectly with our strategic plan, *Forward with Purpose*,” says Temple President John Fry. “Students will take part in innovative new courses and pursue consequential research, becoming

exactly the type of advocates for justice that we strive to produce at Beasley. This also provides us with an important venue to further our engagement with our city and community.”

The Oller Center is intended to serve as the Philadelphia home for a new national commitment to the rule of law and the principles of American democracy. Once fully operational, it will offer resources and a physical space where scholars, policymakers and advocates can work to advance the rule of law, the institutions and ideals that support it, and the civic engagement necessary to strengthen and protect democracy. Beasley will establish a faculty chair to direct the center.

—STEPHEN ORBANEK



WELCOME TO THE NEST

Several new Owls have been appointed to key leadership positions.

Elizabeth A. Wentz joins as **senior vice president and provost**. As Temple's chief academic officer, Wentz leads a broad and complex academic enterprise that spans 17 schools and colleges; multiple domestic and international campuses; a diverse array of undergraduate, graduate and professional programs; and several academic and administrative offices that support and collaborate with the academic operation.

Richard J. Sobieray joins as **senior vice president and chief operating officer**. He brings to Temple a strong track record of leading large, complex organizations through financial and operational transformation with more than two decades of experience in higher education and academic health systems.

Evelyn Thimba joins as **vice president of enrollment management**. She oversees the Enrollment Management division including admissions, student financial services and the Registrar's Office and collaborates closely with the offices of Undergraduate Education and Student Affairs on student success.

Lonnie T. Brown Jr. joins as the **Kean Family Dean of Temple's Beasley School of Law**. In this role, he oversees a degree and program portfolio that includes Beasley's juris doctor program, seven master of law programs, a doctor of juridical science and three certificate programs. His appointment comes at a time when Beasley has significant momentum as the institution recently rose to No. 49 in the 2026 U.S. News and World Report's Best Law School rankings.

Christopher Hansen joins as **dean of the College of Engineering**. A strong advocate for access and student success, he brings a significant track record of scholarship and leadership to the position. Partnering with external entities to amplify research has been a hallmark of Hansen's career. His research expertise focuses broadly on advanced manufacturing and translating fundamental innovations into real-world applications and impact.

Heather Servaty-Seib joins as **vice provost for undergraduate education**. A champion of integrated, collaborative and student-centered approaches prioritizing retention and persistence through universitywide initiatives, she has been highly engaged in national networks, including the University Innovation Alliance.

Joshua Steele joins as **Temple's inaugural vice provost for online and digital learning and executive director of Temple Online**. A nationally recognized leader in online education, Steele leads the development, growth and stewardship of the university's online and digitally enabled academic portfolio.

—STEPHEN ORBANEK AND KIM FISCHER, *CLA '92*



Elizabeth A. Wentz



Richard J. Sobieray



Evelyn Thimba



Lonnie T. Brown Jr.



Christopher Hansen



Heather Servaty-Seib



Joshua Steele

HEARTFELT HEADLINER

Colman Domingo, a multi-Academy Award nominee and Emmy Award winner, imparted advice to the Class of 2026 in his spirited address at Temple's 139th Commencement ceremony in May.

The West Philadelphia native is himself Temple Made. He attended the university in the early 1980s and majored in journalism before pivoting to a career in theater. As an honorary degree recipient, he is celebrated for his contributions to arts and entertainment.

Throughout his speech, Domingo encouraged graduates to seek diverse and rich life experiences and reminded them that real success lies in the cultivation of one's character and integrity.

"Your softness is not a liability. Your tenderness is not weakness," he said to the several thousand attendees. "In a world that rewards sharp edges, I want you to be the velvet."

—KIKI VOLKERT

"Go out into this world as your whole self. Your Philly self. Your complicated, brilliant and unstoppable self. And when they ask you where did you learn to be this resilient, this compassionate and this ready, tell them:

'I'M TEMPLE MADE.'"

ON POINT



Joseph V. Labolito

Nikki Franke, *CPH '78, '88*, received the prestigious 2026 Pat Summitt Award, one of the NCAA's highest honors, in recognition of her lifelong commitment to developing college athletes and making a positive impact on their lives.

Temple's all-time winningest women's athletics coach, Franke amassed 898 wins during her 50 years at the helm of the women's fencing team and led the Owls to the 1991-1992 NCAA Women's Foil Team Championship. Under her leadership, the program became a fixture in top 10 national rankings, with 37 fencers earning 66 NCAA championship selections and 25 fencers earning 35 All-America honors.

Even while coaching, she continued to compete in fencing at the highest level, earning a spot on the 1976 and 1980 U.S. Olympic teams and winning the United States Fencing Association's National Foil Champion titles in 1975 and 1980.

Franke retired in 2022, having earned her doctorate and served more than 30 years as an associate professor in the College of Public Health.

"For five decades, Coach Franke not only built one of the nation's premier fencing programs, but she also shaped generations of women through mentorship, education and opportunity, leaving an indelible legacy at Temple University," says Arthur Johnson, vice president and Debbie and Stanley Lefkowitz '65 Director of Athletics.

—BRENT BAUM, *KLN '12*

Betsy Manning, KLN '87, CLA '08

BUILDING THE PHYSICIAN PIPELINE DOWN THE SHORE

One year after signing an agreement with WellSpan Health to open a regional medical school in York County, Pennsylvania, the Lewis Katz School of Medicine is establishing a new regional campus in **Atlantic City, New Jersey**, thanks to a recent agreement with AtlantiCare.

Once open, the AtlantiCare campus will become one of four principal locations for Katz, joining the Health Sciences Center in **North Philadelphia**; the St. Luke's regional campus in **Bethlehem, Pennsylvania**; and the WellSpan regional campus in **York, Pennsylvania**.

"The launch of a new regional campus with AtlantiCare, our first in South Jersey, represents an exciting milestone for the Lewis Katz School of Medicine," says Amy J. Goldberg, the Marjorie Joy Katz Dean of the Lewis Katz School of Medicine. "Our partnership with AtlantiCare expands where and how our students learn while strengthening our commitment to training physicians who serve communities across the region."

The first class of students is expected to start at the AtlantiCare campus in August 2029 with an expected graduation date of May 2033.

The targeted size for each class at the AtlantiCare campus will be 40 students, bringing total enrollment across Katz campuses to 1,200 students when all regional campuses are fully implemented. The campus is also expected to accommodate third- and fourth-year MD students rotating during spring 2027.

This new site will play a key role in helping address physician pipeline challenges in southeastern New Jersey and within the AtlantiCare health system. Based in Egg Harbor Township, New Jersey, AtlantiCare is an award-winning integrated healthcare system that serves more than one million residents across 110-plus locations in five southern New Jersey counties.

For Temple, the new campus represents another way to extend the university's impact beyond Philadelphia, bringing its mission of education, discovery and service to more communities across the region.

—STEPHEN ORBANEK



PROVIDING THE ESSENTIALS

Temple has opened the Essential Needs Hub as part of the university's commitment to supporting holistic student development. Phase one of this resource facility was completed last year, and with phase two now complete, the Hub is fully operational.

Located in the lower level of the Howard Gittis Student Center, this 26,000-square-foot centralized space offers new and expanded resources to address needs such as food, housing, transportation, clothing, mental and physical health, financial aid, technology access, and more. Hub staff and student resource navigators provide personalized guidance to individuals seeking these services.

"We designed every square foot of the Hub to make it easier for students to get help and to make seeking that help as commonplace as going to the library," says Jodi Bailey Accavallo, vice president for student affairs. "Students should know where to start, feel comfortable walking through the door and leave connected to the resources they need. Through the Hub, we're establishing an ethos of care where asking for help is a normal part of the student experience."

—MARIA KLECKO

"THROUGH THE HUB, WE'RE ESTABLISHING AN ETHOS OF CARE WHERE ASKING FOR HELP IS A NORMAL PART OF THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE."

— Jodi Bailey Accavallo, vice president for student affairs

STRENGTHENING PHILLY'S CULTURAL CORRIDOR

Temple has joined forces with three of Philadelphia's leading cultural institutions—The Philadelphia Orchestra, Ensemble Arts and Opera Philadelphia—to expand educational opportunities, strengthen arts programming, and energize and enrich the Avenue of the Arts.

The proximity created by Terra Hall, which Temple acquired in February 2025, deepens these partnerships, enhancing student access to world-class artists, performances and professional experiences.

The collaboration also supports enhanced arts education programming for pre-K-12 students, particularly within the School District of Philadelphia. It comes on the heels of Temple and its Tyler School of Art and Architecture beginning a partnership with the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts (PAFA).

“We will not accomplish our goal of creating a dynamic and vibrant environment along the Avenue of the Arts on our own,” says Temple President John Fry. “That goal will only be achieved with the help of partners like Opera Philadelphia, The Philadelphia Orchestra, Ensemble Arts and PAFA. We look forward to working with all these organizations to amplify our impact in this city.”

—STEPHEN ORBANEK



Photo by Philadelphia Orchestra & Ensemble Arts

B. O. O. K. S.
OF THE
LIBRARY COMPANY
OF
PHILADELPHIA

Founded
in 1731

Pending final approval of the merger between Temple and the Library Company of Philadelphia, the Library Company will have access to the university's extensive research support, grant-writing expertise, state-of-the-art facilities and robust administrative functions.

“I am excited as this affiliation will allow the two institutions to better advance and sustain their educational and research missions,” says Joe Lucia, dean of Temple Libraries.

As a division of Temple Libraries, the Library Company of Philadelphia at Temple University will retain its collections, staff members and identity as well as its location on 1314 Locust St. in Center City, Philadelphia.

CHECK THIS OUT

Founded in 1731 by Benjamin Franklin, the Library Company is the oldest cultural institution in the United States, and it is home to one of the most significant collections of 17th-, 18th- and 19th-century books, print materials, manuscripts and graphics in the country.

An affiliation with Temple Libraries is the latest step in its evolution since it launched as America's first subscription library in the 18th century.

“This merger of these two historic Philadelphia institutions presents an exciting opportunity,” says Jessica Chopin Roney, director of the Library Company. “I believe each has the capacity to strengthen the other.”

—STEPHEN ORBANEK

salute

SETH HERZON

“Temple is a great school because it’s big enough to have a full menu of options, and the faculty will also spend time with you and invest in your development.”

Now an organic chemist and professor at Yale University, Seth Herzon, CST ’02, initially struggled in school.

“I didn’t know how to go about learning. I’d get piles of work, go home and just be overwhelmed,” he says.

But Herzon’s transition to Valley Forge Military Academy during his senior year of high school provided the structure he needed to continue his studies. He arrived at Temple prepared to excel but unsure of what he wanted to study.

Then one professor changed his trajectory.

“I heard chatter among the students that Grant Krow’s course was just the hardest among the organic chemistry sections,” says Herzon, who got on the biochemistry track after a guidance counselor recommended it given his interest in cell biology. While others avoided the class, Herzon sought out the challenge.

“I signed up and just loved it. He had a towering command of the subject and was an incredible teacher.”

Krow invited Herzon to join his lab, and from there Herzon’s passion and aptitude for chemistry grew.

“Professor Krow was a father figure for me in science as I was starting out. I’d likely not be where I am had I not crossed paths with him.”

With Krow in mind, Herzon gifted \$50,000 to endow the Grant Krow Memorial Scholarship, which provides financial support for undergraduate or graduate students in the Chemistry Department.

That’s something—and someone—worth saluting.

—EDDY KOSIK

alumni.temple.edu

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ALUMNI NEWS

PAYING IT *FORWARD*

After starring on the court, Kia Johnson, KLN '86, continues to lift up Temple through service and leadership. Today, she serves as vice president of university partnerships for the Temple University Alumni Association, where she volunteers her time and resources while inspiring others to do the same.

DEGREE

BA, communications

CURRENT POSITION

Producer

EMPLOYER

Reuters News Agency

HOW SHE GOT HER START

KYW-TV, Westinghouse Broadcasting and WJLA-TV in Washington, D.C.

WHERE KIA SERVES

Temple University Alumni Association (TUAA)
Washington, D.C., Regional Alumni Network Owl Club

ACCOLADES

Lew Klein Alumni in the Media Award winner (2025)
First African American producer hired in North America for Reuters

BEYOND THE BUZZER

With more than 35 years of experience in the news industry, Kia has covered every U.S. presidential campaign since 1992 as well as the Winter Olympics and World Cup Soccer, among other national and international events. While a Temple student, she presented morning news segments on WRTI.

WHY SHE GIVES BACK

"Having the opportunity to wear the Temple jersey, see the country and build these relationships—it was an eye-opening experience. I always felt the responsibility to give back to Temple, a place that allowed me to represent them, attend college and receive a great education. When you give back, you lay the foundation for the people who come after you."

ON BEING A TEAM PLAYER

"My grandmother used to say, 'Many hands make light work.' If everyone chips in a little bit, one person does not have to do everything. That team thinking never leaves me."

FULL-COURT COMMITMENT

Kia played all four years on Temple's women's basketball team. Now an Owl Club member, she is an avid supporter of Temple football and men and women's basketball. She also participates in student-athlete mentoring programs.



Kia Johnson, KLN '86

"Just because you've left campus, it doesn't mean it's the end. Your degree is just the beginning. I've learned so much volunteering with the Alumni Association and connecting with other Owls. We may have 20 or 30 years between us, but Temple is the tie that binds us."

TEMPLE BEYOND

Discover more about how fellow alumni are making a difference and find ways to engage with the university community by visiting Temple Beyond, our alumni and donor news center. Explore more stories like Kia's and share your own at alumni.temple.edu/temple-beyond.

A RECORD YEAR ...

Fiscal year 2026 was a record-breaking year for Temple, with new highs in both dollars raised and the energy and enthusiasm behind our community's generosity. Explore the full impact in Temple's Fiscal Year 2026 Year in Review at alumni.temple.edu/YIR26.

“Time and time again, donors have stepped up and shown that they believe in Temple University, its mission and its ability to transform lives. I am deeply grateful to all who have supported this institution during this past year.”

—JOHN FRY, PRESIDENT

FISCAL YEAR 2026 BY THE NUMBERS

\$159
MILLION
RAISED

8,637
FIRST-TIME
DONORS

RECORD
37 DONORS
WHO MADE GIFTS OF
\$1 MILLION
OR MORE

SAVE THE DATE!

Join fellow Owls at Temple fan tailgates ahead of every home football game as well as other events throughout the year. Visit alumni.temple.edu/events for the full schedule.

OCT. 21 A RECEPTION WITH PRESIDENT FRY
IN CENTER CITY PHILADELPHIA

OCT. 24 TEMPLE WOMEN'S NETWORK
BRUNCH

NOV. 3 A RECEPTION WITH PRESIDENT FRY
IN NEW YORK CITY

NOV. 7 TEMPLE VS. NAVY TAILGATE

NOV. 14 TEMPLE VS. UAB TAILGATE

DEC. 1 GIVING TUESDAY

DEC. 4 METRO REGIONAL NETWORK:
SEASON OF CHEER

DEC. 6 GREATER PHILADELPHIA REGIONAL
NETWORK: FAMILY DAY AT SHADY
BROOK FARMS

DEC. 10 DMV REGIONAL NETWORK: SEASON
OF CHEER

JAN. 21 NORTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL
NETWORK: CHEERS TO THE NEW
YEAR

JAN. 23 LOS ANGELES AND ATLANTA
REGIONAL NETWORKS: CHEERS TO
THE NEW YEAR

FEB. 26 A RECEPTION WITH PRESIDENT FRY
IN PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

FEB. 27 ALUMNI PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

APRIL 12-17 TEMPLE MADE DAYS

TEMPLE ROME 60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

In September, Owls gathered abroad to celebrate Temple Rome's 60th anniversary. As part of the festivities, the Gallery of Art opened the *Tiny Biennale* exhibition displaying 20-by-20-centimeter works by Temple Rome alumni, faculty and local Italian artists. Other events included an aperitivo reception on the terrace, a fundraising gala dinner, a student DJ party, an Adult Study Abroad reunion and a Temple University Alumni Association trip. To find out more about Temple Rome and its 60th anniversary, visit rome.temple.edu/60.



Follow Temple University Alumni Association!

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youtube.com/@templeuniversityalumni

An aerial photograph of a rooftop garden. The garden is a large, rectangular area of green grass, bordered by a grey and white checkered tile deck. Several people are scattered across the grass, some sitting on towels or blankets, others standing. A small, round, white object, possibly a trash can, is visible on the checkered deck near the top left. The text "26 Reasons to Temple" is overlaid in a large, white, serif font, centered on the grass. The number "26" is particularly large and prominent.

26 Reasons to Temple

An aerial photograph of a large, vibrant green lawn. Several people are scattered across the grass: one person is lying on their back in the upper left, another is sitting on a red and black plaid blanket in the center, and others are standing or sitting in various spots. A checkered tile path runs along the top and bottom edges of the lawn. The overall scene is bright and sunny.

As Philadelphia celebrates the nation's
semiquincentennial, discover how Temple
is tackling today's challenges, embracing
new ideas, preparing tomorrow's leaders
and shaping what's next.

Over in 2026

STORY BY MARIA KLECKO
PHOTOGRAPHY BY RYAN S. BRANDENBERG AND LESTER HINTON
ILLUSTRATION BY MEILI CARLING, TYL '24

1 Owls are hooting about the City of Brotherly Love. Students and alumni joined and lead celebrations for America's 250th anniversary through the **Phambassadors program**.



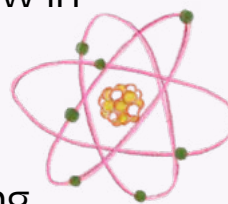
2 There's a whole class on **Kendrick Lamar**. While nodding their heads to the beats of the Pulitzer Prize-winning hip-hop artist, **students dissect his lyrics; learn his life story**; and delve into topics such as identity, social justice and violence.



3 Three students earned **prestigious Goldwater Scholarships** for the second consecutive year, marking the university's first time achieving back-to-back cohorts of this size. The scholars represent research interests in **ecology, neuroscience and computer science**, respectively.

6 The **Kosher Corner in the Morgan Hall Food Court** joined a growing list of Temple dining options catering to special diets, including **vegan, vegetarian, gluten-free and halal**.

4 Temple's **new cutting-edge scanning electron microscope** is just one of a few in the country and only the second at a university. It will **advance the region's medical and energy research** by helping scientists visualize matter at the nanoscale.



7 Public Health Beyond Borders molds global citizens. Traveling to **India** last winter and **Peru** over the summer, students worked to provide international communities with information on topics such as water quality, oral hygiene, menstrual health and more.



8
More than 3,000 people showed up on Main Campus when Temple served as the signature site for the **31st annual Greater Philadelphia Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service**, the largest event of its kind in the nation.

Landscape architecture and horticulture students cultivated 1,271 individual plants—representing 99 different taxa—for Temple's 2026 Philadelphia Flower Show exhibit, which won a **Philadelphia Horticultural Society Gold Medal**.



10
Local middle schoolers **extracted DNA from strawberries** at Temple's Saturday College. This pre-college program offers a **glimpse into life as a medical student** at the Lewis Katz School of Medicine.



11
The **Temple Jazz Orchestra** beat out the country's nine other top collegiate jazz bands to **win first place** in the **2026 National Collegiate Jazz Championship** at Lincoln Center in New York City. Over the summer, they performed on a European tour, including stops in Italy, France and Spain.



12
Period products are free. With menstrual product prices up a whopping 40% since 2020, students can access these essentials at no cost through the **Essential Needs Hub**.

13
A Temple doctoral student explored how **therapeutic beekeeping** may support **mental wellness in older adults**. Meghan Robertson, *CPH '26*, partnered with Half Mad Honey to study how this pastime could help improve mindfulness and social connection.





14

A professor was named a 2026 finalist for the **Pulitzer Prize in History**. Bench Ansfield, assistant professor of history, received the honor for their book *Born in Flames: The Business of Arson and the Remaking of the American City*.

15

Temple—including Temple Health—brings **\$11.1 billion in economic impact** to Pennsylvania by supporting nearly **52,000 jobs**, according to a recent analysis by Econsult Solutions Inc. Temple supports nearly 48,000 jobs in Philadelphia alone as **the city's fourth-largest employer**.

16

A renowned psychology professor released an update to her 2003 book on **why play matters**. Kathy Hirsh-Pasek's award-winning *Einstein Never Used Flash Cards: How Our Children Really Learn—and Why They Need to Play More and Memorize Less* now includes **a chapter on navigating digital media**.

A *Temple Made* doctor was **Olympic bound—again**—as the Team USA men's hockey team physician. Joel Boyd, *MED '84*, previously served in the same role at the 1998 Winter Games in Nagano, Japan.

18

A Temple senior cashed in on his supply chain business idea at the Fox School's Be Your Own Boss Bowl. Erez Yarden's award-winning pitch was for SourceFill, a platform that helps small brands navigate global manufacturing challenges.



19

Tyler's green hallway transforms into a red-carpet runway, where students model **bold, bewildering and beautiful handmade creations** during the Wearable Art Show, held each spring.

20

Temple students gained **hands-on industry experience** interning at the **2026 FIFA World Cup** and **PGA Championship** in Greater Philadelphia.





Nearly 1,300 trees stand tall on Main Campus, **creating shade and removing more than 800 pounds of pollution from the air** each year. Students audit every tree, verifying its size, age and species. This data is compiled into the Temple University Tree Map.

A class on the value of higher ed is taught by an actual university president. *Why Care About College?* is led by former Temple President **Richard Englert**, now chancellor.

Undergrads help change lives. At the Lewis Katz School of Medicine, **undergraduate students collaborate with faculty, graduate students and postdoctoral fellows** to better understand addiction and drug interactions and work toward new interventions.



Temple hosted one of **Philly's largest public employment fairs**. More than 1,000 job seekers attended the 19th annual Neighborhood Job Fair and Resource Village at the Aramark STAR Complex.

The AIRE Lab revolutionizes how athletic departments operate. Through the Athletic Innovation, Research and Education (AIRE) Lab, the School of Sport, Tourism and Hospitality Management and Temple Athletics are partnering to **maximize the experience, performance and well-being of college athletes**.



Engineering researchers use **bubbles to remove contaminants** from drinking water. Graduate students Md Saiful Islam and Gangadhar Andaluri created a foam that captures contaminants and allows them to be easily filtered from water without applying toxic chemicals. ■



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The Next Frontier

Temple researchers and clinicians are harnessing AI and advanced computing to accelerate discovery and shape the future of healthcare.

STORY BY **KATIE DUBOFF**
ILLUSTRATIONS BY **ANDREW COLLETTE**

More than 45 years ago, a young physician sat beside a 38-year-old woman in the intensive care unit, watching as she struggled to breathe before being placed on a ventilator. The physician delivered a diagnosis that would shape the rest of her career.

“I was new, a 27-year-old resident. I was not so eloquent in telling people things,” recalls Terry Heiman-Patterson. “And I had to tell her she had ALS, a fatal neurodegenerative disease.”

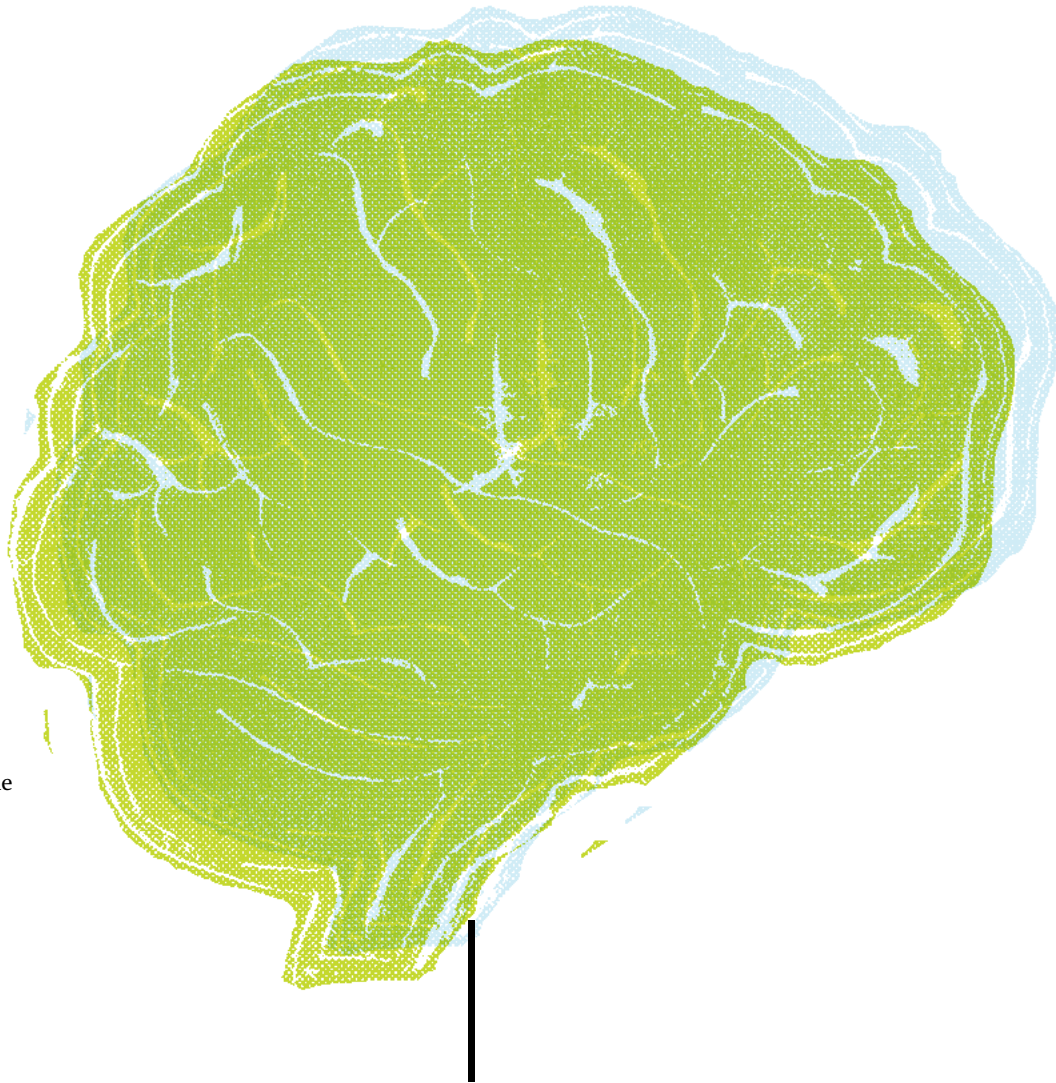
The interaction left a lasting impression on Heiman-Patterson, professor of neurology at the Lewis Katz School of Medicine.

Today, after decades spent caring for patients with the devastating disease, she is helping lead a new frontier in medicine—one that combines artificial intelligence and massive datasets to revolutionize ALS treatment.

“I still remember it. That was the moment I knew ALS would be my life’s work,” says Heiman-Patterson, who describes herself as a mission-driven clinician. “I just envision ALS as this rock, and I’m going to break it apart and just hammer at it until I make a difference.”

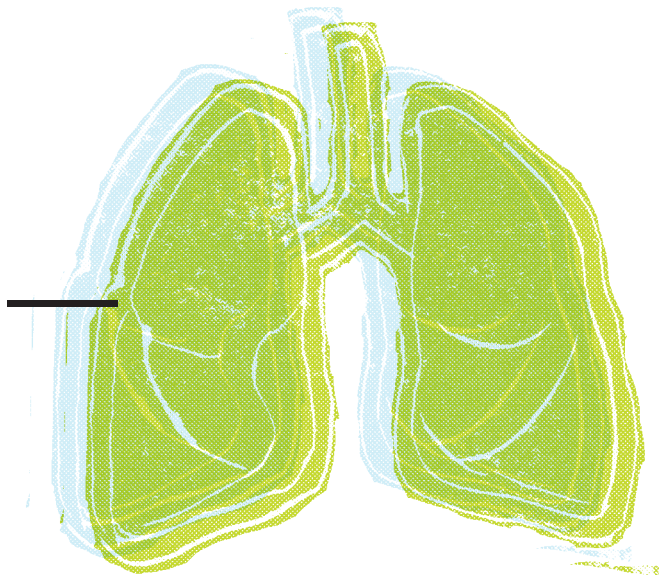
Currently, ALS—also known as Lou Gehrig’s disease in honor of the Hall of Fame New York Yankees baseball player whose diagnosis brought widespread public attention to the disease—affects more than 30,000 people in the United States. With no known cure, the average life expectancy after onset is two to five years. As ALS destroys neurons, patients lose muscle control and the ability to walk, talk, swallow and, eventually, breathe.

In her continued search for better ways to understand and treat ALS, Heiman-Patterson has turned to AI for help. In a multidisciplinary collaboration with Huanmei Wu, chair and professor in the Department of Health Services Administration and Policy and assistant dean for global engagement at the College of Public Health, Heiman-Patterson is using AI to help uncover patterns, make predictions and personalize care for ALS patients through the creation of a digital twin.



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A VIRTUAL YOU

A digital twin in healthcare is an interactive, virtual replica of a patient. It's created using large amounts of real-world health data such as medical history, genetics, lab results, symptoms and even information from wearable medical devices to better understand how a disease may progress or how a patient might respond to different treatments.

"The digital twin itself is not a new concept, but what we are focusing on—the digital twin for health—is still in its development stage," Wu says.

"Digital twins for health are especially valuable for complex and heterogeneous conditions, including cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases like heart failure, neurodegenerative diseases such as Parkinson's and Alzheimer's, and other rare diseases."

Together, Heiman-Patterson and Wu are building an AI-enabled system, with the goal of creating individualized digital representations of people living with ALS. The effort is known as the Digital Twin for Personalized Medicine (DT4PM) project.

"ALS is rapidly progressive, and we still only have disease-directed drugs that are modestly effective, and maybe add three to four months to a patient's lifespan," says Heiman-Patterson. "What will digital twins provide? If we're able to accomplish it, digital twins will enable me to model disease and improve my ability to predict needs ahead of time in a preemptive way, improving care. In addition, it will help people living with ALS to plan. All of this will lead to improved quality of life through timely interventions."

In the case of ALS, Heiman-Patterson emphasizes the heterogeneous nature of the illness. She compares the multiple implicated causes of motor neuron damage in ALS to how we think about stomachaches and hopes digital twin technology could help treat the disease in the future.

"I always say, think about a stomachache," she says. "You might have eaten something bad, somebody might have punched you in the stomach, you could have a stomach tumor, you could have an ulcer, you could have a gastrointestinal problem. But it all manifests as, 'I have a stomachache.' Similarly, with ALS, many different things could be causing damage to the motor neurons in the brain and spinal cord to damage the nervous system. It is a horrific disease."

Because it often takes more than a year to diagnose, and the disease progresses rapidly, patients can typically only participate in one clinical trial, if any. Further, since most trials are placebo-controlled, the person living with ALS may end up in the one trial on placebo and never receive medicine. Digital twins can provide two benefits. First, they can help researchers better match patients to therapies and design more personalized clinical trials. Secondly, they can provide digital twins to replace and/or reduce the size of placebo groups, enabling more patients to receive medicines.

"Until there's a cure, there's technology," says Heiman-Patterson. "The key to our ability to care for people with ALS and improve outcomes is to determine the characteristics of people that respond to a drug and then be able to select them for drug treatments. Will this work at some point? Perhaps."

Roughly 10% of cases are hereditary, and digital twinning could help predict if a person will develop the disease long before symptoms even appear and simulate its progression.

"Can we predict when somebody is going to develop disease? Or if they're going to develop disease? This is another way that digital twinning may be used," she says. "The technology will also help me know how often I should see my patients. Do I need to see them every two months, every three months?"

PLANNING FOR WHAT MATTERS MOST

Being able to make predictions would make a world of difference for patients and their families, explains Heiman-Patterson.

“This disease is a family disease. It isn’t just the person living with ALS. It affects their kids, their spouses. ALS is so disruptive and horrible for families. I tell patients to do their bucket list now before they are too fatigued as the disease progresses.”

Heiman-Patterson says she always starts with asking patients about their goals.

“I can’t even tell you how often we talk with patients about things like family weddings,” she says. “A patient who was just diagnosed wants to know if he’ll be able to walk his daughter down the aisle in six months when he’s losing the ability to walk.”

Because large datasets are needed to make accurate predictions, she notes that current ALS patients are helping to pave the way for those who follow.

“These people are the most generous people you ever want to meet,” she says. “They’ll say, ‘I want to participate to help the next generation’ despite knowing they may not personally benefit. They’ll give biospecimens, let me draw their blood, take their spinal fluid, anything to help.”

Heiman-Patterson describes the data as being deposited into a large box that needs to be analyzed. Wu then uses her expertise.

“Using knowledge and models learned from large, population-level health data, digital twin models can simulate different care options and lifestyle changes,” says Wu. “These simulations aim to help patients and clinicians better understand possible options and have a better idea of how to improve their health condition.”

The DT4PM project integrates open-access data from multiple sources, including the ALS Knowledge Portal, a comprehensive resource for ALS researchers that centralizes thousands of clinical and molecular datasets. Advanced analytics can then simulate disease progression on a patient’s digital twin, predicting important milestones, such as the need for breathing or feeding support as a patient’s muscle control declines.

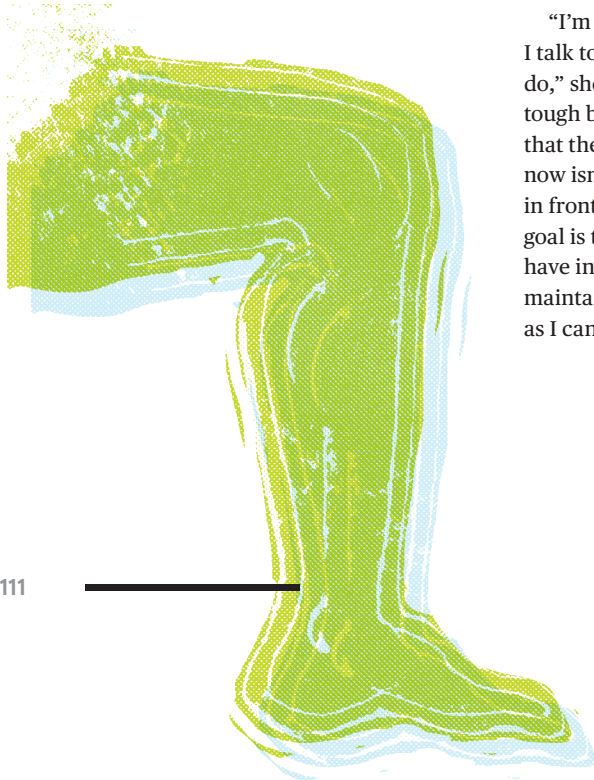
“The stars are aligned now because we have these repositories and a data portal that everybody’s putting their data in, and it’s open to anyone who wants to use it,” says Heiman-Patterson. “The whole idea is that it will be shared by scientists.”

Before digital twins can be applied to real-life situations, Heiman-Patterson says more work needs to be done to test the models and validate them against real people—and the hope is that the technology is getting close.

“The vision is there,” she says. “But we’ll need to look at what we predicted to happen and ask, is that what really happened? We also need to ensure we have the computing and server space for large datasets and the funding to keep building these large models.”

More than four decades later, that first ALS diagnosis still drives Heiman-Patterson’s work.

“I’m always really positive with patients. I talk to them about hope, and what we can do,” she says. “I know they want a cure. It’s tough because there is this unspoken reality that the immense progress we’re making now isn’t going to help the person sitting in front of me at the moment. My whole goal is to make a difference, to help patients have independence along this journey and maintain their quality of life for as long as I can.”



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HIGH-TECH, HUMAN CARE

Imagine if physicians could identify a disease years before symptoms appear or predict which treatment is most likely to work for an individual patient. Thanks to advances in artificial intelligence and advanced computing, that future is beginning to take shape.

AI and large-scale computer infrastructures are increasingly being woven into the healthcare landscape, helping clinicians analyze complex data, identify patterns and streamline administrative processes. Across Temple, researchers and clinicians are exploring how these emerging technologies can enhance patient care and safety, and they're already seeing a measurable impact on improving outcomes.

But there's no need to worry that you'll be talking to a machine instead of a doctor at your next appointment. The goal is not to replace physicians, but to support them. Ultimately, these tools may be a game changer in giving healthcare providers something increasingly difficult to find in medicine: more time to spend face-to-face with patients.

PERSONALIZED DIABETES DOSING

For patients hospitalized with diabetes, an AI-powered tool is producing measurable outcomes—a substantial reduction in dangerously low blood sugar.

Temple Health was the first and largest health system on Epic's EHR in the country to implement EndoTool Sub-Q, a predictive insulin-dosing platform for hospitalized patients. The technology continuously monitors blood sugar and uses advanced algorithms to personalize insulin recommendations based on each patient's unique health data.

At Temple University Hospital's main campus, nearly half of all inpatients have diabetes—a rate substantially higher than the national average of 12%—making effective diabetes management especially important.

Temple Health began a phased rollout of EndoTool in 2022, introducing it campus by campus before completing implementation across the health system in the fall of 2025.

Hypoglycemia, or dangerously low blood sugar, is one of the greatest risks for hospitalized diabetes patients. Since introducing EndoTool, Temple Health has documented a two to threefold reduction in hypoglycemia systemwide for those patients on the algorithm.

"This was one of our top priorities in introducing EndoTool, because hypoglycemia can be so dangerous and potentially deadly for patients," says Benjamin Slovis, chief medical information officer at Temple Health. "This is an encouraging result, and a sign that we're making a real difference."

The software analyzes patient data in real time and adjusts insulin recommendations, helping clinicians make more personalized treatment decisions while supporting them with predictive insights.

"Integrating EndoTool into our systems is really about innovation translating into measurable patient outcomes," says Slovis. "We didn't simply adopt a new technology. It is built into the clinical processes, training infrastructure and analytics systems necessary to achieve a tangible reduction in a dangerous complication of diabetes care."



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MORE ACCURATE SKIN CANCER DETECTION

Researchers at Fox Chase Cancer Center, the College of Engineering and the Katz School have developed a new method that enhances the ability of AI models to detect and diagnose skin cancer in individuals with darker skin tones.

“The biggest issue with current AI cancer detection models is that they are more effective at detecting melanoma in lighter skin tones and often have difficulty detecting it in darker skin tones. As a result, when melanoma is detected in patients with darker skin, those patients tend to be diagnosed at later stages,” says Hayan Lee, corresponding author on the study, assistant professor in the nuclear dynamics and cancer research program, and a member of the Cancer Epigenetics Institute at Fox Chase.

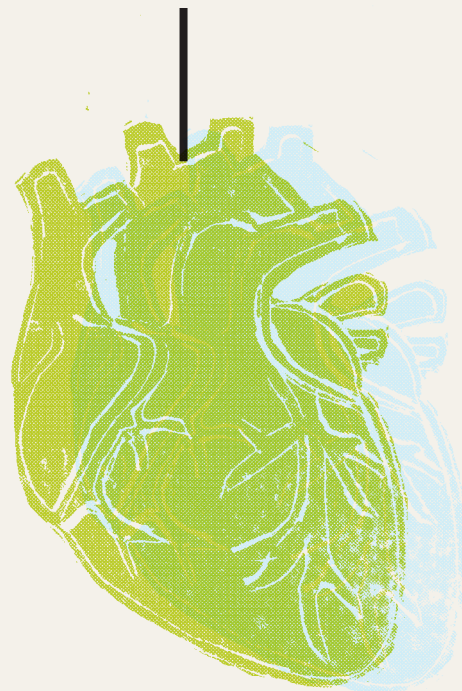
The study, “MST-AI: Skin Color Estimation in Skin Cancer Datasets,” was published in the *Journal of Imaging*, a leading peer-reviewed academic research journal.

According to the researchers, existing AI models are not as effective at detecting melanoma in dark skin because of the kinds of data used to train them. This data often comes from a limited number of locations and time periods and is frequently concentrated in a single country, failing to represent the full diversity of patients. As a result, detection methods can become biased, causing the AI tool to diagnose skin cancer more accurately in people with lighter skin tones than in people of color.

“There’s this desire to have one big model, hoping that it can work for every skin type. I think this approach may be too general,” says Lee. “It’s important to understand and lessen the errors related to detection and skin types to create fair and accurate detection tools for everyone.”

By making sure AI has data on a wider range of skin tones, this research aims to close the gap in skin cancer detection and provide earlier, more accurate diagnoses for everyone beyond one-size-fits-all solutions.

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ADVANCING DEMENTIA TREATMENT

What if we could better anticipate how Alzheimer’s evolves and guide more personalized care decisions before conditions worsen?

Xinghua Mindy Shi, associate professor of computer and information sciences at the Institute for Genomics and Evolutionary Medicine in the College of Science and Technology, is tackling this challenge. The bottleneck for her research? Computing power.

That’s about to change, thanks to Pennsylvania’s new Keystone AI + Quantum Factory. The statewide consortium—which Temple helped launch as a founding member—brings together universities, industry partners and public-sector leaders to expand access to advanced computing infrastructure for large-scale AI and quantum research.

“Some of the large-scale AI training and simulations that previously have taken us weeks can now potentially be scaled down to a couple of days or even several hours,” says Shi.

Shi’s research, “Trustworthy Agentic AI for Personalized Dementia Management,” focuses on a central challenge in dementia and Alzheimer’s disease care: The disease develops gradually, producing incomplete, inconsistent and changing signals that make it difficult to anticipate a patient’s condition. Her work aims to develop an agentic AI system capable of continuously modeling a patient’s condition over time, accounting for uncertainty and helping guide personalized care decisions.

“The Keystone AI + Quantum Factory is creating the kind of shared infrastructure that no single institution could build on its own,” says Josh Gladden, Temple’s vice president for research. “Mindy’s research demonstrates how access to advanced computing can help accelerate work on urgent challenges by supporting the scale of computing that today’s research demands.” ■

Honors, Reimagined



STORY BY STEPHEN ORBANEK

PHOTOGRAPHY BY RYAN BRANDENBERG, *CLA '14*

A historic gift from Jane Creamer Sullivan, *KLN '70*, will lead to the creation of the Jane Creamer Sullivan and Thomas J. Sullivan Honors College, opening in fall 2027.

“This is going to make a difference in the lives of so many young people, and it will impact generations.”

—Jane Creamer Sullivan, *KLN '70*

Jane Creamer Sullivan, *KLN '70*, is not shy when it comes to sharing her feelings about the word “transformational.”

“Ugh, I hate that word. David Boardman has heard me on that subject,” Sullivan says, referring to her longtime friend and dean of Klein College of Media and Communication and chief strategy officer. Boardman also recently served as interim provost.

“Someone will make a philanthropic gift to spruce up a room, and then they will call it transformational. My response has always been, ‘No, that is not a transformation, it’s just a nice thing.’”

She pauses, takes a breath and then reflects on her own recent act of philanthropy, which will do far more than just spruce up a room. A gift from Sullivan—one of the largest in Temple University’s history—will lead to the creation of the Jane Creamer Sullivan and Thomas J. Sullivan Honors College, opening in fall 2027.

“I’m still coming to terms with what this will mean for Temple,” she admits. “This is going to make a difference in the lives of so many young people, and it will impact generations. It truly is transformational. It is one of the few times that I will use that word as a descriptor.”

A DIRECT REFLECTION OF FORWARD WITH PURPOSE

Both Sullivan’s gift to Temple and the establishment of the new Honors college were approved by the university’s Board of Trustees in its meeting in April. The announcement came less than three months after the university unveiled its strategic plan, *Forward with Purpose*.

While the plan has been built around three priorities, its keystone priority is Student Success. Arguably, no singular moment has illustrated the importance of that priority quite like Sullivan’s historic commitment.

“We have always had a strong Honors Program, but this gift is key in helping raise Temple’s national profile, allowing us to further recruit students with high potential and create a high-impact Honors college that will be distinctly Temple,” Temple President John Fry says. “I fully expect that the Sullivan Honors College will further position our university as a destination for high-performing high school students.”

Elizabeth Wentz, Temple’s new senior vice president and provost, further underscores the value of this opportunity.

“The Sullivan Honors College will build upon the strong foundation that is already in place with our Honors Program,” she says. “We are going to create an Honors experience that capitalizes on our location in this vibrant city and our deeply rooted public mission. It is going to make such a difference for students launching their careers.”

The establishment of the college is long overdue.

Temple is one of only 187 universities in the United States designated as R1 research institutions by the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education, meaning they demonstrate “very high research activity.” A significant number of those institutions have a devoted, formal honors college, making the lack of one at Temple a noticeable absence from the group. And yet, Temple and its Honors Program have always punched above their weight.

Perhaps no one knows that better than Amanda Neuber, who has worked for the program for more than 20 years and took over as director in May 2021.

According to Neuber, Temple has long offered much of what can be found at a traditional honors college, but the program’s distinguishing feature is the way in which it emphasizes collaboration over competition. Previous Director Ruth Ost, who led Temple Honors for 26 years, introduced this theme, and Neuber continues to emphasize it. “When we talk to students, this is what they say they value most about their experience at Temple, and it’s what makes our Honors experience distinct. Cultivating a competition-free environment allows students up to be successful, and it releases the pressure valve,” Neuber says. “So many students have said to me that they thought Honors was going to be hyper competitive because that is what their high school experience was like, but that is not how Temple does Honors.”

Rather, Temple’s program embraces an approach that is shaped by the university’s strengths, values and character. These traits will be further emphasized once the Sullivan Honors College launches.

Currently, Temple’s Honors Program enrolls 2,112 undergraduate students, and some of the university’s most successful students have come from the program.

In recent years, Temple Honors students have garnered prestigious Fulbright, Goldwater and Truman scholarships. The university’s only Rhodes Scholar, Hazim Hardeman, *KLN '17*, also came from the Honors Program.

“That is also part of why I was so inspired to support this cause,” Sullivan says. “When I was doing research, I could see how successful Temple’s Honors Program was, and I even saw it included in some rankings. That speaks to the work already being done here. But whether it’s ranking as first or 10th or whatever, I don’t want to measure the success of the Sullivan Honors College by that. I want to provide a truly excellent experience for students, which I think is happening now. We’re going to further enhance that.”

THE RIGHT CAUSE AND THE RIGHT DONOR

When *Forward with Purpose* was first unveiled, one of the first projects outlined within the plan was the eventual launch of an Honors college. The fact that it could come to fruition in less than three months speaks to how timing is often everything.

Sullivan has long been an engaged Klein alum. She serves as co-chair of the college's Board of Visitors and has been one of the top sponsorship donors to that school's annual Lew Klein Alumni in the Media Awards event. Her family ties to the university also run deep.

Her father, Robert H. Creamer, was a founder of Temple's College of Engineering, where he worked from the late 1940s until his retirement in the early 1980s. Her husband, Thomas J. Sullivan, *ENG '95*, was also Temple Made as he graduated from the College of Engineering and holds two patents.

Sullivan and her husband, who passed away in 2024, included Temple in their will, and knew they always wanted to give back to the university in a big way. While they had anticipated further supporting Klein, that changed once Boardman approached Jane Sullivan with the prospect of creating an Honors college.

"During his tenure as interim provost, David realized that the proposal for an Honors college aligned so closely with what Tom and I had planned," Sullivan says. "I mean, the proposal literally read as if I had written it. Tom and I wanted to create scholarships to help attract and support the best students, in an effort to help elevate Temple. This gift will do all that and more. On so many levels, it is just a natural fit.

"David also helped me realize that I could be a partner in this now, instead of waiting to give through our will," Sullivan adds. "I want to help build this thing from the ground up and see the impact that it will have on students."

Since the announcement in April, Sullivan has already spent considerable time getting involved with the Honors Program. She visited during finals week, met with students and attended the program's senior celebration.



Jane Creamer Sullivan, *KLN '70* (center), joined Bryant Simon (left), Laura H. Carnell Professor of History and academic chair for the Honors Program, and Amanda Neuber (right), director of the Honors Program, at the signing of the historic gift agreement to create the Jane Creamer Sullivan and Thomas J. Sullivan Honors College.

"Jane is just the best," Neuber says. "Our visions and goals are aligned in terms of what we want for our students. We are so happy that Jane, her name and her family will represent Honors here at Temple."

Bryant Simon, Laura H. Carnell Professor of History and academic chair for the Honors Program, is equally excited about the partnership.

"She's already been so involved, and she really threads the needle nicely in terms of how she is a partner," Simon says. "While she has a clear vision for what she wants to accomplish, she also wants to listen. It is just really refreshing to work with someone like her."

"This gift is truly going to have a transformational impact here at Temple. We are deeply grateful to Jane for creating a legacy here at Temple that will benefit students for generations to come."

—David Boardman, dean of the Klein College of Media and Communication and chief strategy officer

PREPARING TO LAUNCH

Over the next year, Sullivan, Neuber, Simon and the entire Honors staff will be working closely with faculty and staff across the university to get ready for the launch of the Sullivan Honors College in fall 2027.

While the college will continue to emphasize collaboration over competition, it will also embrace a flexible, place-based curriculum and an access-driven model. It will be defined by several key other features as well. Specifically, all Temple Honors students will receive a Discovery Grant, which will provide them with at least one high-impact experience—research, internship, civic engagement or study abroad.

Students will experience the city of Philadelphia as an Honors classroom, with the program offering credit-bearing, place-based courses and projects rooted in the city's neighborhoods and institutions. All students will also be able to design their own Honors major, minor or concentration.

"As a retired journalist, I am a words person. I share Jane's view on the word 'transformational,'" Boardman says. "But, if there is ever a time where that word is appropriate, it is in this instance. This gift is truly going to have a transformational impact here at Temple. We are deeply grateful to Jane for creating a legacy here at Temple that will benefit students for generations to come." ■



Temple Honors students have earned some of the nation's most prestigious scholarships, including Hazim Hardeman, *KLN* '17 (top), the university's only Rhodes Scholar; Marcus Forst, *CST* '19 (middle), Temple's first Goldwater Scholar and Knight-Hennessy Scholar; and Diana Tiburcio, *ENG* '24, (bottom) a Goldwater Scholar.

A Temple Made Honors education

The Sullivan Honors College will embrace an approach shaped by Temple's strengths, values and character. Specifically, it will be defined by the following three distinguishing ideals and values.

Access reimagined: The Sullivan Honors College will utilize a flexible, access-driven model that redefines Honors recruitment and admissions. Unlike other universities, it will recruit talented and motivated students with high potential, not just high SAT scores. Additionally, it will offer multiple entry points, from first-year admits to transfers to current Temple students.

A flexible, place-based curriculum: The college will leverage Philadelphia and Temple's global campuses in Tokyo, Kyoto and Rome as its classrooms. Students will explore global issues through local lenses in seminar-style courses, research, service learning, and mentorship from local experts and alumni. Anchored by a community-based seminar and a self-directed senior project, students will shape their own paths to become well-rounded creators of knowledge, prepared to tackle complex challenges and drive change.

Collaboration over competition: Collaboration will be the core ethos of the Sullivan Honors College, leading to a culture where students and faculty work side by side across disciplines. Physical and intellectual spaces including housing, classrooms, hangouts and holistic advising will be intentionally designed to foster connection.





SMILES IN SESSION

Inside the North Philadelphia school where Temple is bringing dental care into the everyday lives of children and families while reducing barriers along the way.

STORY BY KHALIL BULLOCK, *KLN '18*

PHOTOGRAPHY BY RYAN S. BRANDENBERG, *CLA '14*

A mother's search for care

On a sunny Thursday morning in March, Samoy Delop held her daughter's hand tightly as they walked toward a dental appointment in North Philadelphia, hoping for help.

Just weeks earlier, the family had relocated from New York to Philadelphia. Still settling in, Delop had found part-time work on week-ends and was navigating health insurance for her family when her daughter began complaining of tooth pain. Dental care, she knew, could be expensive and without coverage in place, the uncertainty weighed heavily.

"I was worried," Delop says. "My insurance doesn't cover dental, and I know those things can get really expensive."

When she asked her daughter's school for a recommendation, staff directed her to a nearby clinic operated by Temple University's Kornberg School of Dentistry. Located within the neighborhood, the clinic was close enough for Delop to quickly schedule an appointment for the very next day, unsure of what she would find when she arrived.

To Delop's surprise, the dental appointment wasn't inside a traditional medical office at all. It was located within William D. Kelley Elementary School, a neighborhood school

where children's voices echoed across the schoolyard and colorful student artwork lined the hallways leading to the clinic, creating an atmosphere that felt bright, calm and welcoming.

Instead of a cold or unfamiliar medical office, Delop found a space embedded in the rhythm of the community around it, designed to invite rather than intimidate.

"When we walked into Kelley, they told me they would take care of everything and that I didn't have to pay for it," she says. "I wanted to break down. It felt like heaven."

In that moment, the stress she had been carrying began to lift. What started as a painful and uncertain situation became something else entirely: relief, access and the reassurance that her daughter would receive the care she needed.

Reimagining care in schools

Stories like Delop's reflect the larger problem Kornberg set out to address.

According to Amid Ismail, Laura H. Carnell Professor and Kornberg's dean, school-based health clinics, including dental services, were far more common throughout the 1960s and 1970s. Many of those programs eventually disappeared in the 1980s, leaving families to navigate dental care on their own.

In their place, fragmented solutions emerged, often limited to screenings or preventive services that required families to seek additional care elsewhere. For many, that next step never came.

"Children were being seen, but not fully treated," Ismail says. "And if parents are busy or facing challenges, that follow-up doesn't always happen."

Three years ago, Kornberg partnered with the School District of Philadelphia to bring cohesive care directly inside Kelley, located in North Philadelphia near Temple's campus.

Today, the pediatric clinic serves both Kelley students and families from surrounding North Philadelphia communities. Operated by Kornberg faculty, staff and students, the clinic features four fully equipped dental stations, including a treatment space designed specifically for children with autism and other disabilities.

The clinic at Kelley was designed to close the gap between screening students and ensuring they actually receive treatment.

"We wanted to go back to a model where care is part of the school," Ismail says. "Not something separate, but something integrated into students' daily lives."



Inside the clinic, that vision takes shape
in real time.

That sense of comfort is intentional.

By placing the clinic directly inside William D. Kelley Elementary School, many of those barriers begin to fall away. Students walk past the space every day. They see the dental team in the hallways. Over time, what might otherwise feel intimidating becomes routine.

A close-up photograph of a brick wall. The bricks are reddish-brown. A curved object, possibly a piece of fabric or a bag, is draped over the wall, featuring a blue upper section and a yellow lower section.



Rather than seeing patients during isolated visits or short-term rotations, student dentists become part of the rhythm of the school day, building relationships with children and families over time and gaining firsthand exposure to the barriers many patients face when accessing care.

Christina Cha, CST '24, a rising fourth-year dental student at Kornberg, sees that happen every day.

For Ismail, moments like those reflect the clinic's broader mission: making high-quality dental care more accessible and approachable for children and families.

Barfuss says the experience helps students see dentistry differently, not simply as treatment delivered in a chair, but as long-term community care rooted in trust and consistency.

And when additional care is needed,
families aren't left navigating the system alone.

In one case, a teenager arrived in significant pain after multiple attempts to find care elsewhere. Within days, the clinic team diagnosed the issue, coordinated follow-up treatment and helped the student return to school pain-free.



Crystal M. Edwards, *KLN '98*, principal of William D. Kelley Elementary School, has witnessed the clinic becoming a trusted resource for students and families since it opened in 2023.

“When he came in, you could tell he was hurting,” Barfuss says. “By the time we finished, he was back to being a kid.”

A new normal

Over time, consistency has helped transform dental visits from a source of anxiety into something far more familiar.

Just ask 8-year-old Jhakur Thompson.

A third grader at Kelley, Jhakur has been coming to the clinic since it first opened.

Asked to rate the experience, he gives it a 5 out of 5.

“I like it,” he says.

He remembers one visit when a loose tooth was causing discomfort. The clinic team treated the issue, and he returned to class without pain.

“It didn’t hurt,” he says. “And after, I was good.”

For Jhakur, the familiarity matters. He recognizes the faces. He trusts the people providing his care. And that trust shows up in the simplest ways, like walking into appointments without hesitation and walking out with a positive experience.

A community-centered model

The foundation of trust extends beyond the clinic itself.

To Crystal M. Edwards, *KLN '98*, principal of Kelley, the clinic reflects something much larger happening inside the school.

“We are excelling in North Philadelphia,” she says. “There’s excellence all around us every single day.”

As principal, Edwards sees the clinic as one part of a broader ecosystem designed to support students and families.

“If children need dental care, it’s here. If they need food, it’s here. If they need support, we find a way,” she says. “We are doing the human work to keep people healthy.”

Since opening in 2023, the clinic has become a trusted resource for students and families across the School District of Philadelphia, beyond William D. Kelley Elementary School.

“Everybody loves it,” she says.

Students who once approached dental visits with hesitation now greet providers in the hallway, calling out to them by name. The clinic’s presence has helped normalize care, transforming what can often be a source of fear into something students feel comfortable navigating.

Edwards still remembers waiting months for dental care as a child because her family lacked insurance.

Now, she sees something different for her students.

“They don’t have to wait,” she says.

Looking ahead, she envisions growth.

“My hope is that this expands and that other schools have the same opportunity,” she says.

At Kelley, that vision is already taking shape.

“When families walk through our doors, everything they need should be here,” Edwards says. “The dental clinic is a critical part of that vision.

“It means we have our pulse on humanity.” ■

Bringing care to rural communities

Temple University Kornberg School of Dentistry is expanding its community-based care model beyond Philadelphia with a new dental clinic and education center opening this fall in Tamaqua, Pennsylvania, bringing care to underserved rural communities while providing clinical education to future dentists.

This center will host 10 third-year and 10 fourth-year dental students who will pursue their final two years of education at the facility. While there, the students will provide comprehensive care to patients from Schuylkill as well as Carbon and Luzerne counties.

Several government agencies and private foundations have provided funding to help support operations at the clinic and education center,

including the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Tamaqua City Revitalization and Improvement Zone, and the Morgan Foundation.

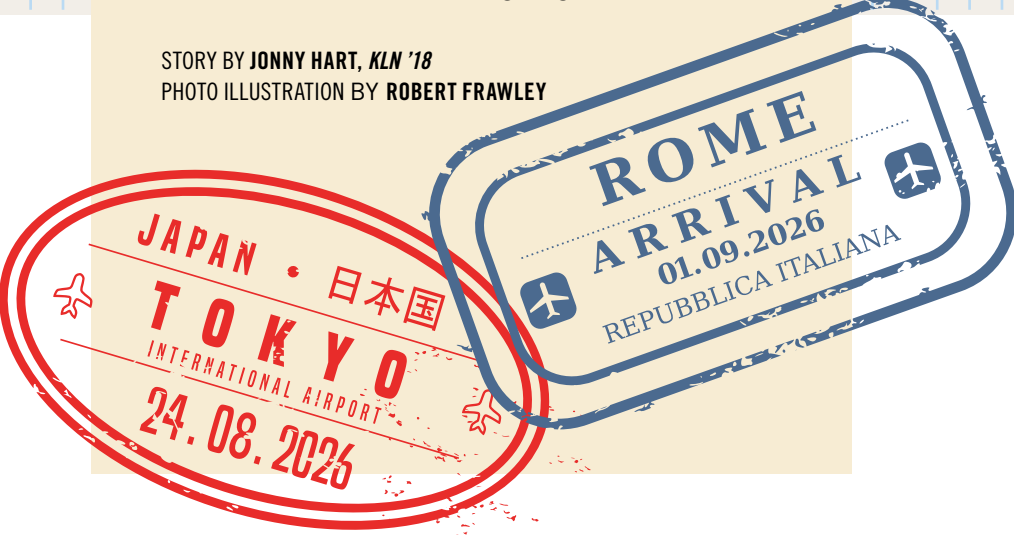




GLOBAL BY DESIGN

From Philadelphia to Japan and Rome, Temple is expanding its international reach and transforming higher education.

STORY BY JONNY HART, KLN '18
PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ROBERT FRAWLEY



Kareena Kumar gestured toward a 400-year-old marble sculpture standing 8 feet tall as students and visitors gathered around. The sculpture, crafted by the acclaimed Italian artist Bernini, depicts Apollo and Daphne, characters from Greek mythology. It stands at the center of a gallery in Rome's Galleria Borghese and is visited by more than 400,000 tourists each year.

Kumar is not a tour guide but a student at Temple University Rome giving her final presentation in a class on the history of art in Rome.

The twisting, life-sized sculpture is intended to be viewed from all angles, and



Kumar guides the audience around it in a circle while she explains its history.

The scene unfolding inside Galleria Borghese is just a small slice of what students experience at Temple Rome. In a given week, Kumar and her classmates swap their classroom for visits to the Pantheon, the Sistine Chapel or Saint Peter's Basilica.

"What other chance would you get to give a presentation about a piece of ancient Italian art while literally standing in front of it?" says Kumar, a 2026 graduate of the Fox School of Business with a degree in legal studies. "It was surreal to do something like that."

During a previous session, the class traveled to Tivoli, an ancient village carved into the hills 20 miles outside of Rome. Once a popular retreat destination for Rome's ancient elite, Tivoli features stunning gardens and villas.

"When you study these subjects in the States, oftentimes you are learning about things that are here," says Temple Rome Dean and Vice Provost for Global Engagement Emilia Zankina.

Temple Rome students visit places like Milan for fashion classes and Venice for architecture classes. Engineering students tour the Ferrari plant as part of their studies.

Amsu Yallalacheruvu, a marketing major from the Class of 2027, traveled to Warsaw, Poland, for a class on European politics. While there, she visited the headquarters of Frontex, a European Union agency that oversees border patrol and coast guard operations.

Frontex staff gave Yallalacheruvu and her classmates a tour of the agency's headquarters, guided the students around Warsaw and led discussions about the current state of the world.

"Even though we're students, they were really interested in hearing our thoughts about everything going on," says

TEMPLE ROME BY THE NUMBERS

EST. 1966
AS A STUDY ABROAD
DESTINATION
11,000+ ALUMNI

**FOUR-YEAR
DEGREES
STARTING
FALL 2026**

23 13
FULL-TIME PROGRAMS
UNDERGRADUATES

490
STUDY ABROAD
AND ENTRY-YEAR
UNDERGRADUATES
(ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-26)

RIGHT
Temple University Rome's new campus places students at the center of one of the world's most historic cities.

BELOW
At Temple University Japan, students study in Tokyo and Kyoto, experiencing two distinct sides of Japan while earning an American education.

Yallalacheruvu, a participant in the Temple Rome Entry Year Program, where incoming students spend their first year in Rome before finishing their degree at either Main Campus or Temple Japan.

"Rome is an amazing place to be for experiential learning and hands-on experiences," says Zankina, who took over as dean of Temple Rome in March 2020. "When students come here, they explore all of Europe for a low cost. They can go to Berlin, Paris, London, Barcelona and Prague. It's a well-rounded experience."

GLOBAL LESSONS IN JAPAN

Some 6,000 miles east of Rome, Ayushi Chaudhary is learning about manufacturing logistics and operations during a tour of Tokyo's Chronogate facility. The facility's proximity to the Haneda Airport in Tokyo makes it a bustling hub for commerce operations happening around the world.

Chaudhary, an international business major from the Class of 2027, is with a group of students from Temple University Japan's International Business Society. The student organization uses Tokyo's many business headquarters as functioning classrooms, allowing students to learn about global business from inside the world's most populated city.

"As someone studying international business, it's been valuable for me to see how businesses operate in Rome and in



BETSY MANNING, KJLN '87, CIA '08

Japan, where they have such different cultures and language barriers," says Chaudhary, who also studied at Temple Rome through its Entry Year Program.

"Experiencing firsthand how these businesses operate abroad, instead of just learning about it from an American classroom, will definitely help me in my career," she adds.

While studying at Temple Japan, the oldest and largest English-speaking university in the country, Chaudhary completed a year-long research project funded by Temple's Office of Research and Innovation.

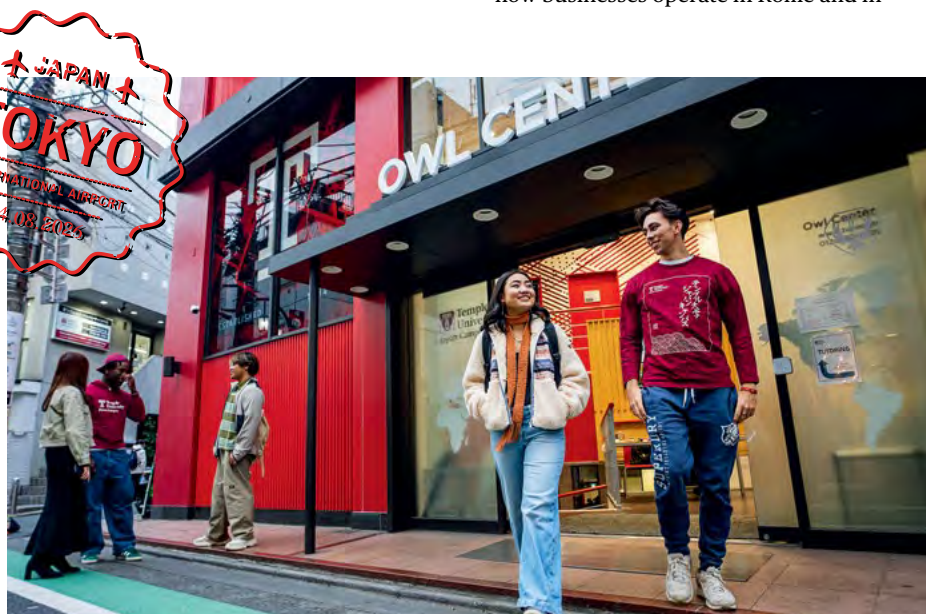
The project examined the effects of tourism on Kyoto, a smaller and more rural city located 300 miles west of Tokyo.

Kyoto is home to a second Temple Japan location that opened in 2025. The city is well-known for its blend of ancient traditions and modern innovation. Within Kyoto, visitors will find thousands of ancient temples and the international headquarters of companies like Nintendo and Kyocera.

For her research project, Chaudhary interviewed Kyoto city officials and municipal workers. She compiled her findings in a report, which is slated to be published in the Journal for Global Business and Community, a journal for undergraduate students focused on the global economy.

During one weekend of downtime, Chaudhary and friends traveled to Fuji-Q Highland, an amusement park nestled in the shadows of Mount Fuji. They rented a cabin with breathtaking views of Japan's tallest mountain.

"It was peaceful—less congestion and people," she says. "Getting that quiet



TSUBASA BERG



experience away from the big city for a weekend was a highlight of my time in Japan.”

A NEW ERA OF GROWTH

For students like Chaudhary, a semester or even an entire year abroad at Temple’s international campuses no longer feels like enough. Zankina and Matt Wilson, dean of Temple Japan, say students increasingly are asking the same question: Can I stay longer?

The growing demand is fueling a new era of growth and expansion at their campuses.

This fall, Temple Rome began offering 13 four-year bachelor’s degree programs spanning disciplines from business and communications to computer science and biology. Five more are slated for fall 2027.

Now celebrating its 60th anniversary, the Rome campus has historically been a popular place for Temple students, as well as students from 78 different colleges and universities around the U.S., to spend a semester studying abroad.

But Zankina had long wanted to bring four-year degrees to Temple Rome and enable students to graduate from its new location near Rome’s iconic Piazza di Spagna.

“I wanted to do this the moment I arrived,” she says. “I saw what existed at Temple Japan and thought, why doesn’t this exist in Rome?”

Temple Rome enrolled 318 students in spring 2026, and Zankina believes the addition of four-year degree programs could see the campus doubling its enrollment in the coming years.

“Our rapidly growing international presence is one of Temple’s greatest strengths.”

—John Fry, president

While Temple Rome transitions to the next stage of its growth, Temple Japan offers a glimpse of what the future could hold.

Enrollment at the Japan campuses has soared off the charts. Temple Japan, which has been offering four-year degrees since 1982, reached 1,000 students for the first time in 2016. This fall, it enrolled more than 1,000 new students alone, and total enrollment exceeded 4,000 for the first time.

Enrollment at the Kyoto campus has tripled since it first welcomed students one year ago, surpassing 300 students in the spring 2026 semester and enrolling more than 450 students this fall.

Temple Japan expanded once again this September with the opening of its Hillside Center. Each semester, between 800 and 1,000 students are expected to take courses at the eight-story 750,000-square-foot facility, a short distance from the Tokyo campus.

“Our rapidly growing international presence is one of our greatest strengths, bringing a Temple University education to three continents,” says Temple President

John Fry. “Our campuses in Rome and Japan are thriving, dynamic learning environments that prepare our students to succeed in an increasingly interconnected world. Their momentum reflects the growing demand for a global education.”

Twenty-three years ago, when Wilson first joined Temple Japan as its law program director, the people of Tokyo didn’t recognize the cherry and white ‘T’ logo on his shirt as he walked the city’s busy streets. But a lot has changed since then, and Temple’s global reach in 2026 is undeniable.

“Not only do people know who we are now, but they are gravitating towards us,” Wilson says. “When you see students from Philadelphia studying alongside students from nearly 100 countries, you realize this is much bigger than one campus or one city. This is Temple becoming a truly global university.” ■

YOU CAN STUDY ABROAD, TOO!

Temple’s Adult Study Abroad program is an exciting opportunity at Rome, Tokyo and Kyoto. Contact adultstudyabroad@temple.edu to learn more.

TEMPLE JAPAN BY THE NUMBERS

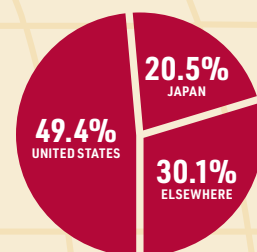
EST. 1982
AS FIRST AMERICAN
UNIVERSITY WITH A
CAMPUS IN JAPAN

270%
10-YEAR UNDERGRAD
ENROLLMENT
INCREASE
(FALL 2016–FALL 2026)

493
STUDY ABROAD
AND ENTRY-YEAR
UNDERGRADUATES
(ACADEMIC YEAR 2025–26)

4,200+
TOTAL ENROLLMENT
(FALL 2026)

100+
COUNTRIES
REPRESENTED
(FALL 2026)



COACH'S CORNER

TEMPLE BASKETBALL IS BACK.

As the Owls prepare for the 2026-2027 season, men's basketball Head Coach Adam Fisher and women's basketball Head Coach Diane Richardson share what excites them about their teams, what makes basketball in Philadelphia special and what fans can expect this year.



Photos provided by Temple Athletics

1 WHAT ARE YOU MOST LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS SEASON?

Fisher: We've put together the roster like a puzzle, adding size, versatility, length and ball handling. We return five players and have added 10 new guys. It was exciting to watch this team come together over the summer, and we're looking forward to November.

Richardson: I'm looking forward to seeing how this team comes together and builds on what we've established. We have experience returning, talented new faces, and a group with great energy and competitiveness. We've worked hard to establish a winning culture at Temple, and now the challenge is to keep raising the standard.

2 WHAT MAKES PLAYING BASKETBALL IN PHILADELPHIA—AND THE BIG 5—SO SPECIAL?

Fisher: Being part of the Big 5 is something special and unique to Philadelphia. There's such a rich tradition, and the Big 5 Classic brings all six universities together in one building with an NCAA Tournament-type atmosphere. Our first year, when we played in the championship, our student tickets sold out. That environment is what playing basketball in Philadelphia is all about.

Richardson: There's really nothing else quite like Philadelphia basketball. There is so much history, pride and tradition associated with the Big 5, and the Classic gives women's basketball another opportunity to be part of that excitement. When these Philadelphia schools compete against one another, it means something to players, alumni and fans.

3 WHAT DO YOU WANT FANS TO KNOW HEADING INTO THE 2026-2027 SEASON?

Fisher: Come with us! We're going to compete, play with toughness and represent what Temple basketball is all about. We're going to give our fans a team they can believe in and be proud of. Let's do this together!

Richardson: Come be part of what we're building. There is something special happening with women's basketball, and we want Philadelphia to experience it with us. Bring your family and friends, wear your cherry and white, and help make the Liacouras Center a true home-court advantage.

Greetings, fellow Owls!



I'm excited to welcome you to this issue of Temple magazine and to begin serving as president of the Temple University Alumni Association during its centennial year. As we mark this milestone, we're honoring a century of Owl pride while looking ahead to an even brighter future.

Like so many of you, my Temple experience shaped who I am today, personally and professionally. It challenged me to work hard, think ambitiously and make the most of every opportunity. Years later, those lessons and the relationships I built at Temple continue to guide me.

More than 385,000 alumni around the world share that experience. We represent every industry and background and are united by the resilience, determination and pride that

define Owls. Together, we can strengthen that community by supporting one another and creating new opportunities for future generations of Temple students.

As I begin this new role, I'm grateful to Amy Larovere, *KLN '83*, for her outstanding leadership and the strong foundation she has built for the Alumni Association. Her dedication and vision have positioned us well for the future, and I look forward to building on that momentum with our dedicated volunteers and staff as we continue creating meaningful opportunities for alumni to connect, give back and support Temple.

I hope to see many of you at the upcoming events that bring our Temple family together throughout the year, from football tailgates to Season of Cheer, our New Year's celebrations and *Temple Made Days* in the spring.

If it's been a while since you've visited campus, my message is simple: come back. Whether you reconnect through an event, mentorship, volunteering or a visit to campus, there's a place for you in the Temple community. Every alum who gets involved helps strengthen Temple's future.

Thank you for being part of this remarkable community. I look forward to working alongside you as we build on TUAA's first 100 years and create an even stronger future for Temple and for the generations of Owls to come.

CHRIS BORDEN, FOX '08

PRESIDENT

TEMPLE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

FUN FACTS ABOUT CHRIS



FAVORITE SPOT ON CAMPUS

Founder's Garden. "It's beautiful, peaceful and a great place to enjoy a cup of coffee and recharge."



FAVORITE ALUMNI EVENT

The alumni tailgate at football games.



FAVORITE TEMPLE MEMORY

Fourth meal at Johnson and Hardwick Halls with friends. "Grabbing burgers and ice cream at 11 p.m. wasn't great for my diet, but it was a lot of fun."



ON BEING A TEMPLE OWL

"Temple students always seem to push boundaries and strive for more. That drive has stayed with me throughout my career, and it's one of the qualities I most associate with Temple."

To learn more about Borden and his vision for TUAA, visit alumni.temple.edu/ChrisBorden

CLASS NOTES

1940s

DOROTHY BERGIN, KLN '49
is celebrating her continued work as a copy editor and writer for The Bedford Citizen, a daily online news publication serving Bedford, Massachusetts, at 97 years old. As she shares, “A Temple education can carry you a long way.”

1950s

HARRIS L. KLIGMAN, FOX '58, '63
built a global career with Woodward & Dickerson, an international commodities firm headquartered in Philadelphia. Over the course of his tenure with the company, he led the company’s Seoul, South Korea, office, overseeing Far East operations, and traveled extensively across the region, including to Indonesia, Pakistan, India, Vietnam and Thailand. Returning to Philadelphia in 1968, his responsibilities were further expanded to South America and Africa. Kligman began publishing fiction in 2020

inspired in large part by his international experiences. To date, he has published 13 novels and four children’s books.

FREDERICK LIPMAN, CLA '57
has practiced business law for 63 years, and has authored 21 books—primarily for entrepreneurs and business owners—and 57 articles. He has appeared on national television programs and lectured on business topics throughout the world.

STU WESBURY, PHR '57
was awarded an honorary doctorate of science by the University of Missouri in May 2025.

1960s

KEN GARSON, CLA '69
published a second novel, *The Werewolf File*, in 2025. His recent and earlier novel, *Liege-men* (2018), are both available on Amazon in book and e-book format.

RICHARD MILLER, CPH '62
retired from full-time employment in early 2004. He now volunteers as

an administrator for techsupportforum.com and as a moderator for sysnative.com.

PETER ZAKROFF, KLN '67, EDU '68
recently published the fourth book in his series, *101 Tales of a Middle-Class, Middle Child*. This volume continues his humorous lesson-filled glimpses, adventures and life-changing experiences as a Jewish kid from Philly.

1970s

WILLIAM BUREAU, EDU '73
co-authored *Schools as Seeds of Change*, which addresses the entrenched factory model of schools, teaching and learning that must be transformed if we are to prepare students for the rapidly emerging future.

LEE PASSARELLA, CLA '70
published *In the Deep*, now available as an e-book on Amazon and barnesandnoble.com. Set in Philadelphia in 1959, the novel explores ideas of justice and injustice on the cusp of the Civil Rights era.

STEVEN I. PRESENT, DEN '78
was recently named one of the Top 100 Doctors in the World for the Class of 2026 by the Global Summits Institute.

JORDON ROSEN, FOX '79
received the prestigious Sid Kess Award for Excellence in Continuing Education from the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA). The award was presented during the 2025 AICPA and CIMA ENGAGE Conference in Las Vegas and honors individuals who have

made outstanding contributions to tax and financial planning education.

JAY WEINER, CLA '75
has his book, *A More Dangerous Game: How a Young Sportswriter Met Patty Hearst and Landed in Federal Prison*, forthcoming this fall by the University of Minnesota Press.

MARC P. WEINGARTEN, CLA '73
gave a presentation at the 2025 Association of Personal Injury Lawyers Asbestos Conference in Manchester, England, titled “An Overview of United States Asbestos Litigation.” Weingarten is a partner in the Locks Law Firm.

MEREDITH WENZEL, TYL '73
is honored to be one of 50 women in *Tough Stuff: Women in the American Glass Studio* at the Corning Museum of Glass.

1980s

JEREMIAH DALEY, CLA '88
retired from the Pennsylvania Office of the Attorney General as executive director of the Liberty Mid-Atlantic High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area program in October 2024 after 20 years.

LEON DAVENPORT, KLN '80
has a story, “Never Alone,” in issue 18 of FARE Magazine, out now. FARE is a lifestyle publication that highlights one city per issue. Issue 18 is all about Philadelphia.

DAVID HOCH, CPH '89
celebrated the publication of his 10th book, *Management: The Misunderstood and*

KEY TO SCHOOL AND COLLEGE CODES

BYR	Boyer College of Music and Dance	KLN	Klein College of Media and Communication
CLA	College of Liberal Arts	LAW	Beasley School of Law
CPH	College of Public Health	MED	Lewis Katz School of Medicine
CST	College of Science and Technology	PHR	School of Pharmacy
DEN	Kornberg School of Dentistry	POD	School of Podiatric Medicine
EDU	College of Education and Human Development	SSW	School of Social Work
ENG	College of Engineering	TFM	School of Theater, Film and Media Arts
FOX	Fox School of Business	STH	School of Sport, Tourism and Hospitality Management
HON	Honorary Degree	TYL	Tyler School of Art and Architecture

Unappreciated Process of Skill Sets, in October. The book is aimed at high school athletic administrators.

KENT KAUFFMAN, CLA '89

recently published his fourth book, *Navigating Choppy Waters: Key Legal Issues College Faculty Need to Know*. Topics include legal risks in grading decisions, whether a syllabus constitutes a contract, intellectual property rights, defamation law as it applies to faculty, and the legal implications of tenure rejection and revocation.

DEBORAH DERRICKSON

KOSSMANN, EDU '89

won the inaugural Aurora Polaris Prize in Creative Nonfiction from Trio House Press for her memoir, *Lost Found Kept*. The book was also named one of the best memoirs of 2025.

DANIEL MCKENNA, KLN '84

is celebrating his retirement after a 32-year career as an assignment editor at 6abc Philadelphia.

ANDREW MCMASTERS, TFM '88

recently published his book *Listening without Agenda* with Manuscripts Press. For more info visit improvmindset.com.

GERALD PATNODE, FOX '80

published a new novel, *The Stirling Defense*, with Ruxton Ridge Books in 2026.

MARK POKEDOFF, KLN '84

won his eighth Sports Emmy as part of the technical team covering the 2024 Paris Olympics for NBC.

SHARON POWELL, KLN '86

received a citation from City Council honoring more than

20 years of community service and leadership. Powell is a former Comcast senior director of government and community affairs.

JANET ROBERTS, KLN '81

published *What Lies We Keep* in 2024. The novel was a finalist for the 2024 Hawthorne Prize from American Writing Awards and was awarded a Silver from Literary Titan, and has since won five awards. Roberts independently published a new novel, *Wired for Magic*, in March 2026.

FLOYD RUMOHR, TFM '88

is a finalist in the Music and Drama Education Awards 2026 Outstanding Drama Education Resource category for his book, *Stage It: Making Shakespeare Come Alive in Schools*, published by Routledge Taylor & Francis in December 2024.

ROBERT STEINBERG, LAW '81

has been honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award given by the Montgomery Bar Association at its annual business meeting.

BRYAN TATE, KLN '89

was recently elected president of the Registers of Wills and Clerks of Orphans' Court Association of Pennsylvania. He also serves on the association's Legislative Committee and as an alternate delegate to the Pennsylvania State Association of Elected County Officials.

1990s

KENNETH ATKINSON, CLA '96

was a co-editor and a contributor to two recent books, *Misusing Scripture: What are Evangelicals Doing with the Bible?* and *Essays*

on the Psalms of Solomon: Its Cultural Background, Significance, and Interpretation. He also edited *The Oxford Handbook of Josephus*, out April 2026.

LEAH CHALFEN, CLA '91

has been a high fashion couture milliner for 20 years. She also works in the field of fine furnishings for interior design.

STEPHEN F. GAMBESCIA, CLA '96

published *A Study Guide for Public Policymaking in the U.S.*, intended to give students insight on basic features of the American government relating to policymaking and public policy analysis.

ADRIENNE RALPH, TYL '99

was recently appointed director of marketing and communications for Dermatology Partners. Ralph brings more than 15 years of experience leading customer-focused marketing strategies that deliver measurable growth and engagement.

RAUL SERRANO, SSW '96

recently retired after 43 years at Temple University Hospital, where he worked in the Emergency Department and critical care units. Since retiring, he has been writing a book on the history of Philadelphia's Spring Garden community, the city's first Puerto Rican community, highlighting its cultural and historical significance.

LINDA TAPP, ENG '92

began her one-year term as president of the American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP) in July 2025. Tapp is widely recognized for her commitment to the safety profession. Her contributions have earned her several distinguished honors, including ASSP's Safety Professional of the Year Award, the Charles V. Culbertson Outstanding Volunteer Service Award and the Board of Certified Safety Professionals Lifetime Achievement Award.

LOUIS TELLER, CLA '93

was inducted into the Northeast High School Wall of Fame, and received the Northeaster of the Year Award on May 2, 2025.

ELANA VERBIN, KLN '90

returned to graduate school to become a licensed clinical social worker and is now associate director of the University of Texas Austin Integrated Health Program. Drawing upon her journalism experience, she created the Thrive at UT app to help students across all UT Systems' schools improve their well-being.

ALIAH WRIGHT, KLN '90

recently concluded a two-year book tour promoting her critically acclaimed novel, *Now You Owe Me*. The novel was named a Book of the Year finalist by Foreword Indies Magazine and has been featured in The Root, Apple News, Associated Press

Keep Temple posted!

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Editor, Temple, Bell Building, 3rd Floor, 1101 W. Montgomery Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19122



ARTISTIC VISIONARY

Lindsay Smiling

DEGREE: MFA, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts, 2003

LOCATION: Philadelphia

Photo provided by Lindsay Smiling

WORLD OF WONDER: For Lindsay Smiling, *TFM '03*, the theater has always been a place to engage with questions about identity, humanity and connection. **A LEADING ROLE:** As artistic director of Philadelphia's Wilma Theater, one of the city's most influential companies known for its award-winning productions and bold, artist-driven approach, Smiling carries that spirit of curiosity into each production and always keeps his audience close.

INTO THE LIMELIGHT: Since graduating with an MFA in acting from Temple, Smiling has proven his versatility and vision. He built his career as a performer across regional stages before joining Wilma's HotHouse Company, a resident ensemble known for experimentation and collaboration.

LEAVING A LEGACY: As an adjunct faculty member at Temple, Smiling inspires a new generation of artists, offering students straightforward advice and encouraging them to grow their craft and lean into their creativity.

—KHALIL BULLOCK, *KLN '18*

QUOTABLE:

“We want people to really engage. Even when the work is abstract, it shouldn't feel inaccessible.”

and Publishers Weekly. Wright was also recognized at ThrillerFest, the International Thriller Writers Conference in New York.

2000s

DORENE F. BALMER, CPH '06 recently published *The Long Arc of Training: Six Stories of Aspiring Doctors*, a narrative nonfiction book collecting the stories of a small group of medical students as they transitioned from school to residencies to fellowships to practicing as physicians. Balmer interviewed the students every six-12 months over the course of 12 years.

DANA CRAWFORD, EDU '04 published a book, *Healing Bias: Your Guide to Individual, Interpersonal, and Institutional Change*, with W.W. Norton. The book is a timely resource focused on healing both the collective and individual hurt we experience as we continue to see our country divided.

ADAM FABIE, CST '07 was nominated by his peers for the second consecutive year as an agency all-star in recognition of his work in energy and climate. The honor reflects his continued commitment to advancing a cleaner, more efficient, net-zero future for Baltimore residents.

DEBORAH HUDNUT, CLA '00 is founder and owner of Forget Me Not Beauty, an innovative mobile application designed to empower consumers in effectively managing their personal beauty product collections. The platform provides a streamlined solution

for tracking product usage, monitoring expiration dates and organizing inventory, ultimately helping users optimize their routines, minimize waste and make more informed purchasing decisions.

LAURA HUTCHINSON, KLN '08 has served as the morning news anchor for News 8 WTNH for the past 10 years, during which time the program has become Connecticut's No. 1 morning news show. She also highlights inspiring stories from local schools through her popular segment, "What's Right With Schools."

MICK ISKRIC, EDU '09 was recently named superintendent of schools for Abraxas Youth and Family Services, a leadership role reflecting his commitment to expanding educational opportunities for youth in specialized care settings.

PAUL KAHAN, CLA '09 received the Annual Preservation Award for publications from the Heritage Commission of Delaware County for his recent book, *Philadelphia: A Narrative History* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2025).

JEANNINE KIENZLE, KLN '01 recently relocated to Asheville, North Carolina, where she completed an herbalism program at the Blue Ridge School of Herbal Medicine followed by a seven-month mentorship. She now serves as fulfillment and admin manager at Red Moon Herbs, bringing her communications background into a new career path while embracing mountain life and sharing her vegan culinary adventures online.

TONY PHAX KING, CLA '03 is celebrating 37 years as a founding member of the nation's 10th African American fraternity, Atophi. Founded at a high school in West Philadelphia, the fraternity was the first to create a bridge between high school and college.

CARLTON A. PAYNE, EDU '00 is president-elect of the Association of Black Psychologists. He is the former director of behavioral health and retired chief psychologist for the Philadelphia Department of Prisons. Payne is writing his seventh book, and he and his wife Crystal recently celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary.

DAVID RUFINO, BYR '03 has been elected president of Boston Musicians Association, AFM Local 9-535.

SEAN SATCHELL, FOX '09 recently joined the team at C&S Wholesale Grocers as senior director of merchandising. He is excited to contribute to the company's mission by driving innovative merchandising strategies, enhancing supply chain solutions and amplifying community impact.

FRANK SCARDUZIO, FOX '01, and **JOEY LEE SPERA-SCARDUZIO, FOX '01** recently celebrated 21 years married!

SHAWN THOMAS, EDU '02 released a new book, *Capable, Chosen: Aligning Your Career with God's Plan*. The book equips readers with practical tools to navigate career decisions, overcome fear and confusion, and pursue work that reflects both their skills and their values.

VICTORIA VELAZQUEZ, EDU '00, '02 was appointed interim superintendent of the Bensalem Township School District on April 1, 2026.

VIVECA WILLIAMS-GLOVER, EDU '02 leads Fort Lee School No. 3, recently recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School for the second time in 14 years, as principal. Under her leadership, the school's community remains dedicated to the success of every student, emphasizing collaboration, celebration and intentional planning to foster a joyful and engaging learning environment.

2010s

SHAHIRAH BROWN, FOX '13 was recently honored with the Barristers' Association of Philadelphia Outstanding Young Lawyer Award. Presented by her mentor, Temple alum Charles Gibbs, the award recognizes attorneys for their leadership, service, and commitment to advancing inclusion and improving perceptions of the legal profession within the Philadelphia legal community.

STEVEN COLLINS, FOX '12 and his wife are proud owners of the original security blanket company for babies—the first in the country to hold a patent for a security blanket. Thirteen years into continuing this beloved legacy, Collins credits his success to the valuable lessons he learned from his professors at the Fox School of Business.

JOEY CONTINO, KLN '14 was recently ranked as one of the top social media influencers reshaping how young Americans receive their political news.



TRUTH TELLER

Julie K. Brown

DEGREE: BA, Klein College of Media and Communication, 1987

LOCATION: Miami

Photo provided by Julie Brown

TEMPLE TO PULITZER: Long before Julie K. Brown, *KLN* '87, earned a 2026 Pulitzer Prize Special Citation for her groundbreaking reporting, she was a Temple student commuting from Bucks County. **FINDING HER PATH:** Originally enrolled as a public relations major, Brown discovered a thrill for chasing stories while completing internships at The Mercury in Pottstown and NPR in Washington, D.C. A third internship at a PR firm proved she was a journalist at heart. She quickly switched her major to journalism and never looked back. **MAKING A DIFFERENCE:** After graduating, Brown worked for several community newspapers from South Jersey to Bucks County before joining the Philadelphia Daily News, where she covered courts and crime. **AMPLIFYING VOICES:** In 2005, she landed at the Miami Herald, where her reporting on accused sex trafficker Jeffrey Epstein exposed failures in the justice system and brought

survivors' stories to light. Brown credits Temple with preparing her for the career-defining investigation.

—MATT PETRILLO, *KLN* '12

QUOTABLE:

“Everything I did in the classroom, at my internships, every story I wrote throughout my career, all those things I did prepared me for the kind of journalism I did for the Epstein story.”

JAMIE COOPERSTEIN, *STH '12*

a lifelong Philadelphian and founder of J. Cooperstein Hospitality Consulting LLC, recently released her debut memoir, *True Hospitality*, in April, published by GFB. Written in the spirit of a beach read, the memoir offers a behind-the-scenes glimpse into her decade-long career as a concierge in two of Philadelphia's most iconic luxury properties: The Rittenhouse Hotel and Two Liberty Place.

MARK FABBI, *CLA '11*

has sold over 1,000 copies of his children's book series *Don't Eat the Trash*, which he co-created during paternity leave. The series, published in 2025, helps families navigate picky eating and promotes healthy habits through engaging storytelling for children.

CASIE GIRVIN, *BYR '17*

artistic director of Philadelphia-based Circus Opera Company, recently presented her award-winning performance *The Tire Swing* for a limited engagement in May at Christ Church Neighborhood House. She was heartened to see how much the show has continued to resonate since its premiere at the 2024 Fringe Festival.

JEFFREY HINES, *FOX '12*

is in his fourth year as managing partner of Jeffrey Hines State Farm. Hines also serves on the Board of Directors of the Oak Park River Forest Chamber of Commerce, the Board of Directors for Family Focus and the Board of Advisors for the Oak Park Liquor Control Review Board.

STEVEN JOHNSTON, *LAW '18*

has joined the Roseland, New Jersey, office of Marshall Dennehey as an associate in

the Healthcare Liability Department after five years with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

AMELIA KOVACS, *FOX '19*

founded the Pressed Bouquet Shop by Element, a flower preservation studio based in Easton, Pennsylvania. What started as a creative side project has grown into a nationwide business—they have now preserved over 16,000 wedding bouquets for brides across all 50 states.

JASMINE LYNEA, *TFM '15*

a film director and mixed media artist, recently had her short film *Della Can Fly!* selected for the BlackStar Film Festival. Lynea wrote and directed the film, which follows an elderly man on his journey to prove that his missing sister truly flew away, as family legend suggests.

GABRIEL MASSALLEY, *TYL '15*

recently launched the Status Apparel DC University-inspired Collection, a limited-edition line that reimagines college apparel through the lens of personal pride, cultural identity and lived experience. Highlights include the "SG Established" TU Owls premium crew, TU Owls premium striped jersey, Status striped socks and embroidered patches inspired by university culture.

SARAH NOVAK, *FOX '19*

has been promoted to chief of staff to the Office of the Director of Finance for the City of Philadelphia. In this position, Novak applies her combined legal and business expertise to support financial strategy, policy implementation and executive operations that advance fiscal stability and

organizational effectiveness in city government.

MARY KATE RADOMSKI, *KLN '16*

became the fourth-generation president of Montgomery County-based Frank V. Radomski & Sons Inc. last year. Only 3% of businesses make it to the fourth generation, according to the Family Business Institute.

JACOB SMOLOVER, *KLN '19*

is a line producer for Bloomberg Television in New York City, where he produces the network's flagship morning show, Bloomberg Surveillance. Smolover previously worked at MSNBC.

TAJA STEWART, *CLA '16*

has been accepted into Temple University's inaugural summer Adult Study Abroad program in Tokyo.

2020s

MOLLY BURT-WESTVIG, *TYL '24*

was a 2025 recipient of the AAF/Seebacher Prize for Fine Arts. Last summer, she spent two weeks in Salzburg, Austria, taking a video course at the Summer Arts Academy alongside other emerging artists. The AAF/Seebacher Prize supports three outstanding recent MFA graduates annually, covering tuition and lodging in a historic castle.

CHARLOTTE CHUN, *CLA '20*

a licensed psychologist, recently published *Earliest Memories: Discover the Psychology of Memory, Explore Cross-Cultural Stories, and Reconnect with Your Past*. The nonfiction book offers an accessible look at the science of memory, featuring childhood recollections from around the

world and exploring the psychology of nostalgia. She has been on a national book tour promoting her work.

PORTER CRUMPTON, *TYL '21*

joined the Metropolitan Transportation Authority in May 2025 as a transportation planner on the Operations Planning, Network Redesign/Special Projects team. He has contributed to the Queens Bus Network Redesign, one of the largest and most comprehensive bus service redesigns in the country, and is now supporting the Brooklyn Bus Network Redesign.

JACLYN GOLDEN, *CLA '20, '21*

was promoted to director of public policy for the City of Philadelphia Controller's Office in August 2025.

TASNIM HASAN, *KLN '20*

worked as a producer of *Bangladeshi Trailblazers*, a podcast highlighting inspiring Bangladeshis around the world, including entrepreneurs, artists, community builders and changemakers. She continues to elevate voices within the global Bangladeshi diaspora through storytelling and conversation.

SAM JEUNE, *SSW '24*

is celebrating her work as a co-author of *Success at a Price: Women of Color Students at a White University* and her role as a featured keynote co-speaker at the 2026 Sister of Excellence Conference at West Chester University, highlighting her contributions to scholarship and dialogue on the experiences of women of color in higher education.

For In Memoriam, visit magazine.temple.edu.

OFFICE HOURS

ERIK CORDES

PROFESSOR AND CHAIR OF BIOLOGY

When he's not teaching in the classroom, Erik Cordes can often be found on a research vessel or in a submersible thousands of feet below the surface. For more than two decades, he has explored the deep sea, working to understand and protect the sensitive habitats and organisms that call it home.

At Temple, his lab in the Bio-Life Building is one of the few in the world focused on both the science and stewardship of deep-sea ecosystems. His team uses seafloor mapping, predictive models and submersible surveys to locate and study coral communities thousands of feet below the surface.

Earlier this year, they discovered a massive deep-ocean coral reef off the coast of Argentina, believed to be among the planet's largest known reef systems. And in 2018 and 2019, Cordes and collaborators found and mapped a 200-mile-long coral reef off the coast of the Carolinas—the largest known deep-ocean coral reef on the planet.

Cordes is also pioneering conservation and restoration methods, developing techniques to repair coral reefs off the coast of Louisiana damaged by the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

The American Association for the Advancement of Science elected Erik Cordes an AAAS Fellow in 2026 for his research, exploration and conservation efforts in the deep ocean.

“We’re finding extraordinary things down there. But if we lose those habitats before we understand them, we won’t even know what we’ve lost.”

Photo provided by Erik Cordes and ROV Subastian / Schmidt Ocean Institute

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