

# THE [WIRE]

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Issue #1

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## Mimi Alford: A Presidential Affair

“Mimi Beardsley was a Wheaton College student interested in journalism who had an opportunity of a lifetime: an internship at the White House.”



# Letter From the Editor

**Abram Buehner**

**Editor-in-Chief**

Dear Wheaton,

When I came to Wheaton in the Fall of 2019, I was incredibly excited to arrive and immediately declare my Journalism major. Shortly thereafter, I found out that there is no Journalism major. Oops! I could chalk that up to institutional failing. But in all honesty, I should ascribe the blame to my personal carelessness. Oh well.

Regardless, I've tried to make the most out of my Journalism-less college experience. I immediately got onto the Wheaton Wire's Editorial Board and started contributing as best as I could. I also took Journalism 2.0 to glean more information about the field... after skipping the regular Journalism class because it's a night course. That's my time to relax.

To be frank, despite my best intentions, most of the journalism-related experiences I've had on campus have been largely secondary in my mind. It's not a commentary on my dedication to writing, though. It's just that I've been too busy actually working in the industry outside of school to notice how journalism unfolds within it.

Currently, I'm the Senior Editor for a UK-based publisher called Lost In Cult, who I hope to work for full-time when I graduate. If you Google us, you'll see the sorts of bespoke, premium texts we produce. I love it. My work gives me such a clear sense of purpose, but I'd be lying if I said that making books for Lost In Cult wasn't at the nexus of my life right now.

The reason I even bring this up is because I'm a bit of a contradiction. I know how to run a publication like this, but I'm not especially invested in campus culture or Wheaton's journalism scene. I'd rather be spending my time working on what I've got going on outside of school. I think it's important to let you all know this so that you can hold me accountable.

I truly do want to improve the Wire and give back to Wheaton, the place which has given so much to me. Last year, the Wire was smartly overhauled, but as a staff we lacked focus and consistency. The vibes were off, the schedule was shaky, and the campus couldn't trust the Wire. People have told me as much. Things will be different this year, and not only because I have the aforementioned experience.

Most importantly, I have a lovely staff who I can rely on, who are in roles that they're passionate about. There's a sense of fun and dedication already present that is really motivating me to actually apply myself to the paper. That fires me up. After all, print culture is so important. Even in our digital era I wholeheartedly believe in the enduring value of physical media. And I wholeheartedly believe in the writers and editors around me that will help shape it on our campus. Thank you for giving us another shot.

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# An Open Letter to Michaela

## Carlos Yu

Dear President Whelan,

I'm writing this open letter in response to the dinner I attended with you and Dean Parker at your house a few weeks ago alongside other students of color. I hope to move past, what seems to me, a preoccupation with appearances and gain some transparency, or at least have a real conversation through this letter.

I remember feeling a bit nervous before I arrived at your house at 5:30PM because I didn't know the purpose of the dinner. So, I decided to rid myself of any expectations. We received a warm welcome: there was a variety of drinks, vegan chorizo and chicken burritos, churros and pudding. After we introduced ourselves, the dinner began with a discussion of why we came to Wheaton. I wasn't nervous because I was afraid of you, or because I was afraid of speaking my mind in front of a large group. Instead I was afraid because I know how these dinners go: acknowledge, validate, console. It's a bitter and insipid process that makes the attendees feel like children in need of comfort. However, you just arrived at Wheaton. I didn't, and still don't, know you that well, so who knew? Maybe this would be different.

You asked us why we came to Wheaton and as we went around the table you diligently wrote on your notepad as each student spoke. Some students went further and discussed why they stayed at Wheaton, in essence communicating what works about Wheaton. The answers ranged from preferences for a smaller institution, inexplicable intuitive connections, falling in love with the campus, to the community and the faculty. I attended Wheaton because of my scholarship. I stayed because it was a small private institution and I loved the professors. I am not the type of person that constantly searches for dissatisfaction in every corner of the institution, in fact I couldn't be any more grateful for my professors who go beyond the duty of their jobs to help me. There are plenty of other things to love at Wheaton. That said, you can love something and view it critically at the same time.



On the topic of coming and staying at Wheaton I thought of what makes students leave. I decided to stick with what I knew: Creative Writing. So I asked you, why haven't I been able to take a fiction course since my freshman year? Why are there so many courses presented on the school site that are hardly offered or no longer exist as classes? You told me that I was bringing up something important. Perhaps we didn't have time to discuss the intricacies of the issue. The next person needed to say their piece.

We then moved on to the next question which we discussed for the rest of the night: what is or are the culture(s) at Wheaton? It seemed to be the consensus among the students at the dinner that the culture of Wheaton, especially the Wheaton before Covid, was passed down through the theme houses. Multiple students expressed their disappointment, outrage, and bewilderment at the actions of Res Life over the summer.

In short, the theme houses were told to clean out their houses before the end of the last semester, the extent to which was drastically different from years past. As a result, they returned to seemingly ransacked houses. Their furniture and personal belongings thrown into garbage piles in dumpsters, or in the living room of the houses. Pictures of past alumni in the houses thrown away. Archives of art emptied and trashed. Silverware purchased with personal funds thrown away. A bookshelf of unused textbooks meant to be passed down, trashed all on the basis that they were fire hazards, or trashed because they were assumed to be purchased with school funds.

After explaining all of this, you said “well I guess we should get y’all some new silverware huh?” It was one of the first things you said that wasn’t a form of validation. It seemed like you were patronizing the students after inviting them to dinner to hear what they have to say. Perhaps you don’t like the idea of theme houses. Perhaps you find this issue trivial. I am not demanding you join us in our outrage, but at least give us your perspective.

To me, it seems like Wheaton is at an exciting moment. It has the opportunity to redefine itself, to start anew and craft its culture and its identity once more considering the current student body hardly knows this school before Covid. I expressed that it is of the utmost importance to restore the pride students have in this school, but how could a student have pride in an institution whose practices differ so greatly from its teachings? The example I cited in particular was the English department. To complete the English major one must take, among other classes, “Eng 290: Approaches to Literature and Culture” and two pre-1800 English classes.

English 290 teaches of the black scholars attempting to undiscipline Victorian studies. These scholars’ research challenge the myth that there were no black authors pre-1800s. Meanwhile the Pre-1800 classes required for the major feature only white authors. Meanwhile the classes like “The Harlem Renaissance” “Archetypes in Black Women’s Fiction” are considered non-essential to the major, “fun” classes on the periphery of the discipline. A student can take classes exclusively on white authors and white literature for four years without ever taking any of those classes. Furthermore, why are there no classes on Asian-American literature? Why are there no classes on Latin-American literature? Where is the precious diversity in the English faculty? (I know the school cannot hire any new English professors for years.) Why do I have to create an independent study just to study Asian-American literature?

For an institution that loves to spew DEI buzzwords one must ask themselves, what message does that send to its students? There is a dissonance between what the institution appears to support and what it actually practices. So I asked you, “what message does that send to your students?” To which you responded, “you are asking very important questions.” If I was searching for validation I would turn to my mother, or some other reliable source. I ask you this to see how you think, to see if we are on the same page, to have a conversation. Instead it felt like I was talking to someone that didn’t know anything but the phrases they learned at some DEI training.

I’m sure there are much more important grievances than what I’ve mentioned. I’m sure the issues I highlighted are possibly more complex and nuanced, but how would I know? I ask these questions not to scold or attack but because I genuinely want to know, because I want to work towards a solution. I’m sure there are plenty of students that want the same. So I ask you, will you have a conversation with us?

Sincerely,  
Carlos Yu

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**Want to have your perspective on campus culture published? Submit your thoughts to [thewheatonwire@gmail.com](mailto:thewheatonwire@gmail.com)!**

# Mimi Alford: A Presidential Affair

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## Nicole Janeiro & Greta Cobb

John F. Kennedy was the epitome of a politician. He came from old money, had immense charm, and was a womanizer.

Mimi Beardsley was a Wheaton College student interested in journalism who had an opportunity of a lifetime: an internship at the White House. From 1962 until JFK's tragic death they had an affair that mixed a personal relationship with their professional one. He was handsome, bold, and strangely, he acted fatherly towards her. She was kind, funny, and possessed an ethereal kind of beauty. How could JFK not like her?



After moving from New York City at eight years old, Marion Beardsley Fahnestock Alford grew up in eastern New Jersey with her four siblings and parents. Mimi was fortunate enough to live a privileged life wherein her parents sent her along with the rest of her siblings to prep school. For Mimi, attending Miss Porter's School in Farmington, Connecticut exposed her to an array of opportunities she never expected.

Once Mimi discovered that Jackie Kennedy also attended Miss Porter's, she used this connection to her advantage by requesting an interview with Jackie. Unfortunately, she was unable to secure an interview with Jackie, but she was invited for a visit to the White House where she briefly met JFK for the first time.

Approximately one year later, during her first year at Wheaton College, Mimi received a call from The White House press office with an internship offer of a lifetime. On her fourth day interning at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave, Dave Powers, one of President Kennedy's closest aides and his right-hand man, invited Mimi to go for a swim, as Mimi wrote in her book, *Once Upon a Secret*. Mimi was hesitant at first, but when Powers presented the opportunity for her to borrow a swimsuit, she was somewhat pressured into accepting the invitation.

Powers picked Mimi up from the office and guided her to the White House pool where she recognized Priscilla Wear and Jill Cowen, known for their respective code names "Fiddle and Faddle". Even though "neither did much work" according to a secret service agent, Mimi looked up to both of these women as role models, who simultaneously worked in the White House and had affairs with JFK.

President Kennedy showed up shortly after Mimi arrived at the pool, politely asking "mind if I join?" before joining Fiddle, Jill, and Mimi for a swim. Once again, JFK and Mimi had a brief exchange, this time in the White House pool. Mimi returned back to her desk in the White House self-conscious of her wet hair and for smelling heavily of chlorine until the affair orchestrator, Dave Powers, contacted her again to invite her for an after-work welcome-to-the-staff get-together in the West Sitting Hall which became a pivotal moment for Mimi.

There everyone was: Mimi, Fiddle, Jill, Dave Powers, Kenny O'Donnell, and the man of the hour, JFK in his suit plopped on the couch. As Mimi writes in her book, shortly after conversing with everyone, JFK got up to lean by Mimi's chair, asking, "would you like a tour of the residence, Mimi?" As a result of JFK's charm, Mimi didn't think twice about accepting the invitation. No one else got up. It was just the two of them. He unexpectedly took her into Mrs. Kennedy's bedroom and gradually moved closer to her.

According to the book. JFK said to her, "this is a very private room" as he initiated the sexual encounter. JFK guided her to the edge of the bed, started to unbutton her shirt, and looked at her halfway nude as he took off her underwear.

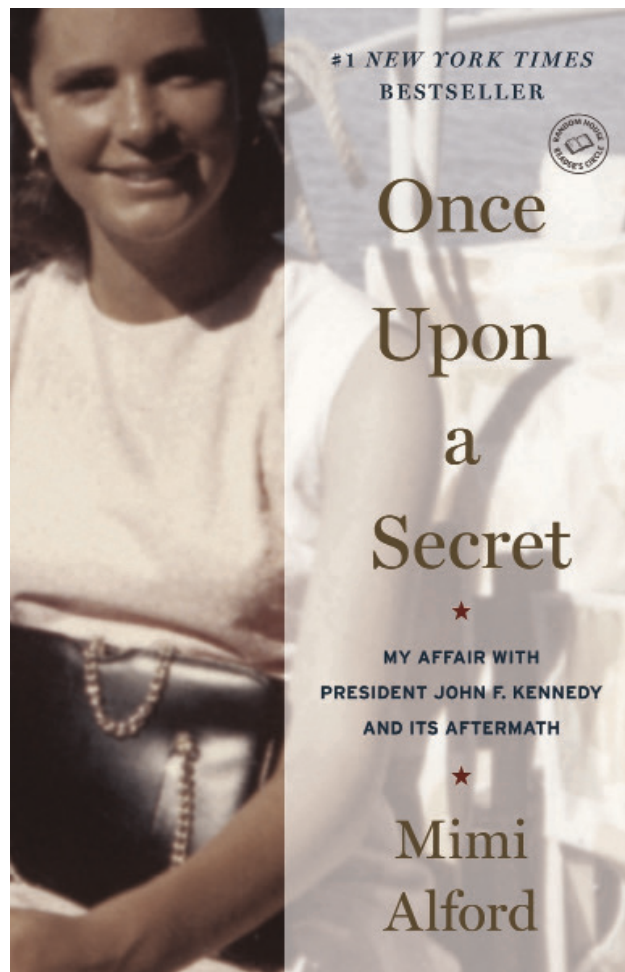
After Mimi revealed that she was a virgin mid-intercourse, JFK continuously asked Mimi, “are you okay?” for the rest of the time they spent together that night. In fact, after they were finished JFK put his pants back on and asked her if she wanted something to eat. In her book, Mimi described losing her virginity to JFK as consensual.

Following Mimi’s initial White House summer internship, she returned to Wheaton for her Sophomore year while maintaining contact with JFK. In efforts to keep their relationship under wraps, President Kennedy used the name Michael Carter to disguise himself over the phone when speaking to Mimi. Dave Powers, on the other hand, would call Mimi and make all the arrangements for her to come to the White House on weekends or during school vacations.

As her relationship with President Kennedy progressed, not only did Mimi devise a plan to convince her parents to let her drop out of Wheaton so she could continue to work for JFK on his 1964 re-election campaign, but she also met a Williams College Student on a blind date by the name of Tony Fahnestock. Once JFK found out about Mimi’s relationship with Tony, he was jokingly disgusted that Mimi chose a man from Williams and not Harvard.

In late August 1963, Tony proposed to Mimi and wedding gifts. Dave Powers was someone that could think of. In *Once Upon A Secret*, Pow- there for Mimi, even in some of JFK’s darkest dark moments in her book, both of which Pow- at the White House pool, Mimi joined JFK and Powers “look[ed] a little tense” and requested plicitly state that he wanted Mimi to give Dave tion, while President Kennedy silently watch- mentioned that she had never seen Dave so frus- account, Dave Powers told President Kennedy what she did, to which JFK half-heartedly re-

During a trip President Kennedy took to New Dave Powers. He wanted Mimi to join him and Palm Springs, California. What seemingly felt up being difficult for Mimi to come to terms Mr. Crosby’s house and sat next to the Presi- try. At first, Mimi declined the offer, but instead and stuck it under her nose. Because this expe- to another part of the house where Dave Powers wore off.



she said yes. JFK even gave her some thoughtful JFK could rely on in any circumstance you ers was a key in facilitating this affair—he was moments with her. Mimi mentions two of these ers was present. During one particular occasion Dave Powers. JFK suggested to Mimi that Dave that she help him out. Without JFK having to ex- Powers oral sex, Mimi does so without hesita- es the entire time. After this incident, Mimi trated with the President. According to Mimi’s that he should not have instructed Mimi to do plied with a simple “I know, I know.”

Mexico, Mimi was invited, on the phone, by President Kennedy at Bing Crosby’s house in like a harmless trip turned into one that ended with many years later. When Mimi arrived at dent, JFK offered her a popper (a sex drug) to of respecting her wishes, he popped the capsule rience was incredibly violating, she ran crying met her to make sure she was okay until the drug

JFK and Mimi, of course, had their own intimate relationship; but the group with all three of them was contingent on JFK and Mimi’s relationship working. The group of three would even joke around together. One of their humorous topics of discussion was Jimmy Robbins, a UPenn student whom Mimi dated briefly during her first year at Wheaton. They uttered snarky comments which Mimi relayed in the book, such as “Dave, make sure that if a guy shows up with a UPenn sweatshirt, to tell him the White House is closed.” or “You know that guy in the UPenn sweatshirt, Mr. President? We arrested him today.”

Mimi would’ve presumably never come out about this affair with JFK if not for the aftermath of the Monica Lewinsky scandal. The media was blood-hungry for stories like these. During the time that JFK was in office, paying off reporters or media outlets was more feasible for someone with as much power as President Kennedy—but now money wasn’t even enough. Sex sells, especially when it has to do with someone serving as the President of the United States. Looking back, Mimi doesn’t regret having an affair with JFK. In fact, she believes that the many years of confusion and doubt were worth it. Mimi Alford is done hiding and feeling ashamed. Between the publishing of her memoir and her second marriage, Mimi is finally at peace.

# United Kingdom Rocked at the Core: Life after Queen 6

## Elizabeth II Caden Charpentier

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Caden is currently studying abroad in London, allowing him the opportunity to offer intimate context for one of the United Kingdom's most consequential moments.

As the sun rose on the morning of Thursday, September 8, 2022, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland had no idea that a historic change at the top of its monarchy was about to take place. News of the Queen's health floated around during the morning of what would be the end to an over 70-year reign at the top of the British hierarchy. The rain started to accumulate that night as the weather resembled the mood of the majority of the British population, realizing that its only ruler since they were born was no longer on the throne.

From warm embraces to all kinds of flowers, Buckingham Palace was a place of celebration, appreciation, and sorrow during the first few days after the news broke. Football games were postponed to a later date at every level of English football, and pub trivia nights decided to take a pause as the entire United Kingdom came to grips with the loss of its longest-reigning monarch. Signs all around central London donned pictures of the Queen as Londoners, tourists, and people from all across the United Kingdom flocked to the capital of the country in a transition of its chief of state.

Few plays happened in theaters, and while the people of London tried to live life as usual, there was the realization that something was missing. Across nearly every television and radio station worldwide, the Queen and her legacy appeared in conversation and on the screen. The United Kingdom, but especially London, became the center of a historic event in world history. It was almost impossible to live daily life in London without being hit with a sign or a news anchor stating something about the Queen.

With the historic funeral now in the rearview mirror, the UK closes a chapter in its long history of monarchs, opening another to the next in line in the Royal family. For an American, it is difficult to comprehend how massive an event this was. But, just living in the midst of it happening makes you realize this is the opposite of business as usual. On the night before the Queen was laid to rest, London seemed to be on edge, waiting for an event that many thought they may never see in their lifetime. During each day leading up to the funeral on Monday September 19, people came to Green Park to lay flowers around the trees with notes showing their admiration for Her Majesty the Queen.

Citizens waited in a line that extended nearly six miles long in order to pay their respects to the Queen in Westminster Hall. Whether or not they supported the monarchy, the entire United Kingdom adored the Queen who took the throne when she was just 25 years old. It is difficult to imagine, in our United States political world at the moment, that people would have that much patience to wait fourteen hours to simply see a box for about ten seconds before going about their business.



Any American citizen can criticize the way the British live their everyday lives all they want, but after this past week, it is difficult to sit back and not appreciate the amount of love a country can show for its leader. Trying to put into words the atmosphere in and around London during a period that some are comparing to the assassination of John F. Kennedy is an insurmountable task. There were always those people that could care less about the events that transpired. But, at the end of the day, London and the entire community in the United Kingdom put their lives on pause in some way or another to recognize the life of Queen Elizabeth II in a way visitors of Britain could simply marvel at.

There are no terms of service akin to presidents of the United States. Monarchs of the UK serve their country until their very last breath. During her seventy years and 214 days on the throne, commanding up to 32 sovereign states, Queen Elizabeth II was a type of human being this world may never get the chance to witness again. Life in London moves on in the days following the funeral, as newspapers begin to ease off the coverage of the Royal Family and stores start to move back to regular hours. Despite the time of mourning coming to an end in London, the change of a monarch is a bigger deal than any American can hypothesize themselves. Living in that environment was simply a whirlwind.

# Wheaton Fashion: A Blast From the Past

## Madison Morrin

The 1960s and 70s were undeniably formative periods for women's fashion. I figured, what better place to do a case study on fashion than a historically women's liberal arts college? Enjoy this curation of scans from the Wheaton archives.

### Collar Layering

Three different ways to layer a collared shirt brought to you by Wheaton alumni:  
A vest, a soup neck sweater, and a necktie.



Frances Berena McKinney '79



Pamela Sue Hall '78



Jean Simonian '78

### Blazers

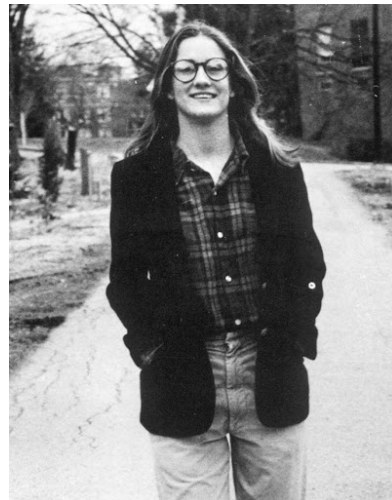
I know the business casual revival is getting some heat right now, but hear me out. If the 2010s blazer is not for you, the Diane Keaton academia-esque look may be a better fit.



Christine D'Arrigo '79



Barbara Reese '74



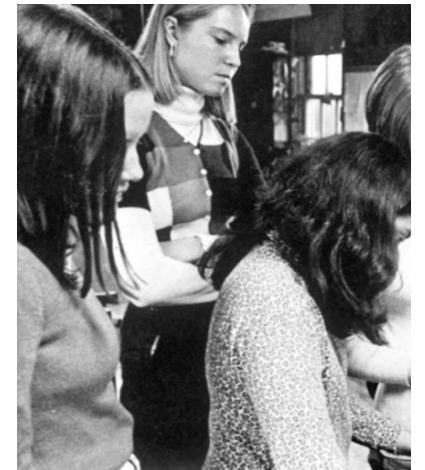
Susan Lockwood Coley '79

### Funky Patterns

Reminiscent of tops today made by UNIF, these are the originals.



Patricia Banks '74



Unknown Student '74

### Tailored Matching Sets

Clothes just are not made like they used to be. I'm obsessed with these timeless A-line silhouettes.



Beth Saltmarsh '74



Cheryl Robinson '74



# Fashion Forward: Wheaton's Current Trends

## Sanjana Mitesh Kulkarni

“Fashion is the armor to survive the reality of everyday life” – Bill Cunningham

The world has seen many fashion trends come and go, from the iconic Coco Chanel era to the early 2000s' low-rise jeans and neon colors. These trends inevitably go out of fashion as new ones storm in through celebrity wardrobes, viral TikToks or other forms of media.

Wheaton, once an all women's college, was a place of fascinating fashion research. Since fashion is so heavily influenced by current trends today, I looked for patterns around campus that could indicate some contemporary movement. Athleisure was the most common style I saw. One person I spoke with about this trend was with Avi, class of 2023. She wore “preppy athleisure,” and paired black Adidas track pants with a dark green cropped sweater. She wore black boots to finish the look.

When asked what her go-to styling choices were, she said, “I like to go with one pair of something comfortable that doesn't look so [obviously look like] sportswear that you can get it under Athleisure and pair it with something else. I like to pair it with something more casual and preppy so that I can get away with wearing something comfy while still looking half-decent most of the time.”

I interviewed students from all years and styles, some that I already knew, and others whom I had to chase after, startling them into an interview with me! One such unsuspecting Wheaton student was Olivia, a freshman. She was wearing a white-collared sweater with a sweater vest over it that she paired with a patterned midi-skirt and platform sneakers. Her look was finished with a graphic tote bag of a bicycle. This outfit is seen around Wheaton quite often, especially on lower campus. I saw numerous people wearing multiple layers of clothing, combining them together to make an outfit that has a lot going on.

Fishnet stockings with shorts, layered shirts and cardigans are quite often showstoppers during Chase lunches... but can also indicate a simple lack of time. One such student I spoke with paired a long, knitted sweater with a full-length patterned skirt, drop earrings, and flip flops. When I asked about her outfit, she remarked she slept in the sweater and earrings she was wearing, and picked the skirt as a last-minute choice since she was running late. She described her style as “unpredictable.”

Another student eating lunch in Balfour was my next subject for fashion inspiration. This student rocked a mid-blue thrifted dress along with a leather jacket and a pair of Doc Martens, a style I had seen often work in the transition to the Fall season. This was similar to most fashion choices I had seen at Wheaton: mostly thrifted outfits paired with a definitely-worth-it splurge like the aforementioned Doc Martens, Lulu-Lemon Jackets or even Air Jordans.

As I listened to Olivia talk about her outfit, I was reminded of the many other students I spoke with who wore pieces with sentimental value. Some wore statement sweaters or shoes bought by their moms, but most chose to wear jewelry given to them by their loved ones, such as rings, necklaces, or earrings. Contrary to current fashion trends, Wheaton students chose multiple, smaller jewelry pieces to complement their looks, such as small hoop earrings with matching necklaces or multiple rings with a series of small necklaces and stud earrings. However, some forgo jewelry altogether.

Overall, there were plenty of neutral-to-dark tones with very few people choosing to wear colorful shirts and lighter jackets, leaving them behind in the Summer months. There was a general sense of comfort over fashion, but a need to look well-dressed and polished, even if it was with the same basic clothes paired differently over the months-long semester. Skirts of all lengths, fishnet stockings, boots, and cardigans are all the rage on campus, with bandanas and baggy jeans making another comeback. Thrifted or not, rocking jewelry or Athleisure, Wheaton students sure do know how to show some serious personality through their clothing.



**Clockwise  
from top left:  
Iris, Abby,  
Olivia, Maddie,  
Gracie, Drew,  
Avi, Isabella**



# The National Failing of Liberal Arts Institutions

Alyssa Myers

“Are RAs volunteers? We’re not getting paid” was what I, a third-year RA, was going to angrily title this article two weeks ago when RAs still hadn’t gotten their first paycheck of the semester. Many believed that we were on the verge of rioting and quitting our role, which was a known rumor blowing through the crisp Fall air on campus. We’re not actually rioting, by the way.

Yet with the arrival of my first RA paycheck came a sort of “post-paid clarity” which led me to realize that the issue is bigger than that. Although the situation was dire and infuriating, it was hardly a reason to quit or riot. In fact, with a singular Google search, I found that “more than half of workers in the United States have experienced an issue with their paycheck at some point in their career, according to a 2017 survey from The Workforce Institute at Kronos Incorporated” as relayed by CNBC and written by Carmen Reinicke. So Wheaton RAs were literally in the majority with this problem.

But why did Res Life let this happen? Well, they didn’t really, and with assistance from the lovely Associate Director of Residential Life, Lyndsey Aguilar, I can better explain why the RAs’ paychecks were lost in the sauce for a month.

What really happened was that not all RAs had completed their paperwork necessary to receive payment, which meant that no RAs could receive payment. This was the case because, as Lyndsey relayed, “Wheaton has a policy that all of the RAs hired at the beginning of the fall get paid at the same time so there is less confusion about some people getting ‘paid more’ since their stipend would be stretched out differently.” Since the RAs had already been waiting two weeks for their first paycheck, this paperwork issue would push the first payment until a full month (four weeks) since the start of RA training, because RAs are paid in the form of a stipend which we receive on a bi-weekly schedule.

In fact, the issue was more of a communication error between the SFS office, the Dean of Students office, the Residential Life office, and the RAs than anything else. Fortunately, RAs have also been recently informed that action steps are being taken to ensure that in the future, not even day one of RA training will start until all paperwork is successfully filed and therefore, all RAs will be paid on time. But all digressions aside, we have arrived at the point in the article where I can explain my “post-paid clarity” where I realized that the issue was bigger than paperwork, bigger than antiquated SFS policies, and frankly, bigger than Wheaton altogether.

Struggles with proper compensation and communication on a small liberal arts college campus are not Wheaton-specific issues. A Forbes article from 2020 written by Michael T. Nietzel explained that “estimates are now that the national higher education workforce has decreased by at least 7% since the outbreak of Covid-19 in the country. Especially hard hit in the past two months have been private liberal arts colleges, including some of the nation’s premier small colleges.” Basically, because of Covid, small liberal arts colleges, just like Wheaton, are severely understaffed. This understaffing leads to overworking of staff, which leads to turnover within many departments, resulting in frequent miscommunications like the one that led to the Wheaton RA payment crisis.

My “moral” of the article is that if you have felt that the offices at Wheaton aren’t communicating with each other and are wildly understaffed, you’re absolutely right. It is just good to know that we are not alone in this. We are experiencing—from the first-hand student perspective—the consequences of a larger systemic issue of underfunding, understaffing, and dramatic department turnover that is hitting private liberal arts colleges especially hard in light of Covid.

As this article comes to an end, I want to encourage you, a rightfully frustrated Wheaton reader, to pop the Wheaton bubble every once and a while and take a look outside.

# Horoscopes (Unhinged)

## Moira Sankey

### Capricorn (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)

Your Hogwarts house is not your entire personality.

### Aquarius (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)

Is your shirt the right side out?  
Is your shoe tied...?  
Is your fly up...?

### Pisces (Feb. 19 to Mar. 20)

Return the pen you “accidentally” stole.

### Aries (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19)

Read something other than Walt Whitman.  
(We’re sick of hearing about him).

### Taurus (Apr. 20 to May 20)

Take a walk in the woods.

### Gemini (May 21 to Jun. 20)

Don’t lose your notes.

### Cancer (Jun. 21 to Jul. 22)

Coffee does not work as a substitute for water.

### Leo (Jul. 23 to Aug. 22)

Try not to hit your head on the library table.

### Virgo (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22)

Attempting a cartwheel is inadvisable.

### Libra (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)

This is your time to shine!

### Scorpio (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)

Fake tattoos do not work as eyeshadow.

### Sagittarius (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)

“Hamilton” track 26.



IT'S  
LIBRA  
SEASON

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Scan the QR code for a fun Mimi Alford and JFK inspired playlist.



## YOUR ART HERE!

Have a piece of poetry, flash fiction, or visual art to share?

Send it to [thewheatonwire@gmail.com](mailto:thewheatonwire@gmail.com) for a chance to be featured on our back page!