

BRENAU UNIVERSITY

ANNUAL REPORT | FALL 2022 - SUMMER 2023



SUCCESS

Brenau University promises an unwavering commitment to student success - it's our reason for being. The university's small class sizes and faculty who are credentialed experts in their field are crucial to achieving that goal. In early spring, Brenau earned 10-year reaccreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on College, the body for the accreditation of degree-granting higher education institutions.

11:1
Student-to-faculty ratio

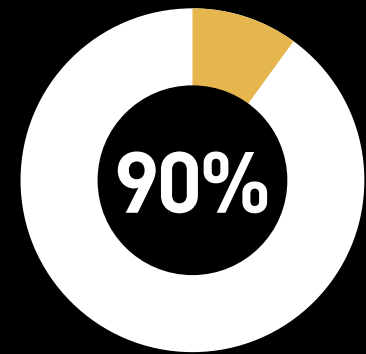
77%
Classes with fewer than 20 students

401
Faculty and adjuncts

76%
Faculty with terminal degrees

3.24
Average undergraduate GPA



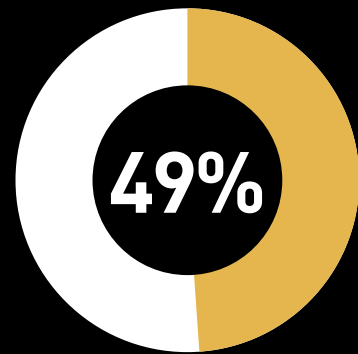


Undergraduates receive financial aid

The majority of first-time, full-time students at Brenau receive some type of financial aid, another way that the university supports students in their academic pursuits.

\$23,581.50

Average financial aid package for undergraduates



Freshmen are HOPE Scholarship-eligible

ZOË METELERKAMP

2023-24 Baxter-Bryan Scholar

Zoë Metelerkamp admittedly was surprised to be named the 2023-24 Baxter-Bryan Scholar, Brenau University's highest academic recognition, in April. She credits the support she's experienced at Brenau with helping her realize this is an honor that she deserves.

"I think on the mental side of things where it's the support, I needed to know that I have a right to go for this and that I think I deserve it and I can claim it myself," she says. "The support I've found at Brenau just opens up the doors both mentally and physically to just how much is possible."

Metelerkamp is pursuing a double major in dance and English. Her tuition, room and board at Brenau for her senior year are covered thanks to the accompanying Baxter-Bryan scholarship. As an international student from South Africa, she's found the Brenau community to be both collaborative and intimate.

"I was met with an overwhelming openness from the Brenau community to introduce me to their roots and to honor mine, to learn from each other as well as



the textbook, and to question professors as much as they question us," she says.

Metelerkamp commits herself daily to putting in the work to be successful in her education, and finds that daily commitment is returned by the faculty, staff and fellow students at Brenau.

"Every day that I came into the classroom and I committed to learning at Brenau, Brenau's community, staff, faculty – everyone from kitchen staff to professors, lecturers, classmates – all committed to supporting me and growing with me and learning with me in ways that are more than just academic," she says. "In

human kindness, human decency – those bigger lessons that we learn while we commit to degrees that we think we're all about learning."

A rising senior in The Women's College has been named a Baxter-Bryan Scholar each year since 1990. The award was established by Joe W. Baxter, who named the scholarship for his sister and Brenau alumna, Carfax Baxter, and friend Morris Bryan Jr.

The Baxter-Bryan runner-up receives the Sidney O. Smith Jr. Scholarship and finalists are named Provost Scholars.



The most important measure of the academic success of Brenau students is degree attainment. During the 2022-23 academic year, more than 750 degrees and certificates were granted.

294 Undergraduate degrees and certificates conferred. Popular degrees:

89
Bachelor of Science

70
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

40
Associate of Arts

459 Graduate degrees and certificates conferred. Popular degrees:

145
Master's degrees in health sciences

104
Master of Science

60
Doctoral degrees in education & health sciences



SUCCESS

Students' academic success also depends upon support and opportunities outside of the classroom - where the real work of challenging our students to live extraordinary lives begins. Brenau is part of a pilot program with the Sullivan Foundation to develop merit-based, mission-focused scholarships. The renamed Student Development and Engagement Office represents a broader view of student success.



SUCCESS



GROWTH

Brenau has a thriving future focused on strategic growth in academic programs and a diverse student population. Our culture of diversity is not just a reflection of our faculty, staff and students, but the nurturing of an ethos of belonging. In the area of fiscal growth, Brenau again experienced 100% giving among faculty, staff and trustees - something unheard of at other institutions.



Countries



States and U.S. territories



- Caucasian - 47%
- Black - 29%
- Asian - 3%
- Hispanic - 12%
- Other - 8%



- Female - 86%
- Male - 14%

3,000+
Students enrolled during the 2022-23 academic year

25
Average age of undergraduate student

564
Women's College enrollment

29%
Black/African-American across Brenau

12%
Hispanic/Latina across Brenau

100%
Giving participation rate for the Board of Trustees

100%
Giving participation rate for the faculty and staff for the eighth consecutive year



GROWTH

The support of individual donors and foundations – in 2022-23 Brenau added more than a dozen new funds to support students – facilitates the expansion of degree programs and other opportunities for Brenau students. The first cohort of students from the physician assistant studies program graduated in May, while the College of Business and Communication celebrated its 25th year. The Miller Institute for Global Education continued to expand the number of study abroad programs and exchanges for faculty and students.



GROWTH



ALEX HALLER
Darby Scholar

Alex Haller, a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army, says he is gaining invaluable first-hand experience as Brenau University's first Darby Scholar. Haller, who is pursuing a master's degree in clinical counseling psychology after being awarded an educational delay from the Army, has a passion for helping veterans and others who suffer from mental health issues.

Haller earned a Bachelor of Science degree in psychology and an Army commission at the University of North Georgia in May 2022. As a Darby Scholar, he has field placements at the Hall County Jail, in the local courts and with the Gainesville Police Department, which sometimes includes being dispatched with officers.

He welcomes the financial support since he is unable to work full-time due to demands of the internship and his degree program.

"I'm learning as much as I can about how the system functions that I can apply to the Army because that's where I will be for the majority of my career," Haller says. "What's working? What's not working? I think all will be very applicable in some facet to my career in the Army, because my heart is working with veterans and soldiers."

A Brenau alumna helped launch GPD's co-responder program after being hired as its first mental health clinician. The department has since hired additional alumni and also offers in-field internships to Brenau psychology students. In the co-responder model, a clinician is dispatched with officers to help de-escalate situations when mental health issues are at the core of the conflict.

"The Darby Scholars Program gives me the opportunity to see people actively in crisis and learn how mental health clinicians

use de-escalation and counseling skills to help people in crisis and get support in the community," Haller says. "It's not about fixing people's problems for them, it's finding them where they are and leading them to helping themselves."

After earning his master's degree, Haller hopes to pursue a doctorate in psychology before beginning his active-duty service as an Army psychologist.

The Darby Scholars Program was established in spring 2023 through a financial gift from the Melvin Douglas and Victoria Kay Ivester Foundation Inc. The accompanying scholarship provides financial support to master's degree students in Brenau's Lynn J. Darby School of Psychology and Adolescent Counseling who are interested in becoming front-line mental health clinicians.



MICHAEL KLEEMAN

2023 Ann Austin Johnston Outstanding Faculty Award

Michael Kleeman, professor and chair of the Interior Design Department, has been a staunch supporter of students since joining the faculty at Brenau in 2018. He has connected students with unique opportunities at the Callanwolde Fine Arts Center's Holiday House and the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Show House.

In spring, he was selected as the 2023 Ann Austin Johnston Outstanding Faculty Award recipient, Brenau's highest honor for faculty.

Kleeman also serves as internship coordinator and American Society of Interior Designers advisor. The hands-on experiences and his extensive expertise have paid dividends for his students; numerous Brenau students have won ASID Georgia's Design Excellence Student Competition in both the areas of hospitality and residential design as well as first-year projects.

Kleeman serves on numerous committees and as part of the department's work toward reaccreditation from the Council for Interior Design Accreditation.

Kleeman is a member of numerous professional, educational and honor societies. He has served as a judge for the ASID Design Excellence Competition and sits on the state board for Family, Career and Community Leaders of America. A native Georgian, he attended Georgia Tech for both his undergraduate and graduate studies in architecture.

The Ann Austin Johnston Outstanding Faculty award is made possible by Donald C. Johnston in honor of his wife and Brenau alum, Ann Austin Johnston. This award includes a plaque and a \$2,500 honorarium.



FACILITIES

Brenau's Downtown Campus was realized during a 2022-23 academic year, providing expanded space for degree programs that produce highly qualified practitioners in areas of healthcare urgently needed in communities across our region: psychology and counseling, occupational therapy and physical therapy. The Gainesville Renaissance and the Downtown Center also provide space for university and public events.



A full calendar of events during the 2022-23 academic year brought thousands of visitors to Brenau, including cultural events such as gallery shows, theater performances, and dance and music events. Brenau's College of Education honored top educators through the Masters in Teaching, and the university welcomed hundreds of middle-school students to learn about Career Paths in a partnership with the Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce.



In April, Brenau University dedicated the Schrader Athletic Center to honor President Emeritus Ed Schrader, Ph.D., who led the university from 2005-19 and led the expansion of the university's athletic program. Additionally, the basketball court inside the center is now the Ed L. Schrader Court.



MISSION

Brenau University challenges students to live extraordinary lives of personal and professional fulfillment. As students pursue undergraduate and graduate degrees or non-degree programs at Brenau campuses and online, each prepares for a lifetime of intellectual accomplishment and appreciation of artistic expression through a curriculum enriched by the liberal arts, scientific inquiry and global awareness.

VISION

Brenau University will become a nationally recognized leader by empowering individuals from diverse backgrounds and equipping them for success through transformative experiences. With an enduring commitment to serve each student, Brenau will continue to pursue excellence while meeting the changing needs of our community and the world.

STRATEGIC PLAN

GOAL 1 » Cultivate an unwavering commitment to student success

GOAL 2 » Manage growth to ensure a thriving future

GOAL 3 » Foster a culture of inclusion and belonging throughout the university community

GOAL 4 » Communicate our excellence

GOAL 5 » Promote positive experiences across the university with inspirational living and learning environments

GOAL 6 » Elevate external engagement and visibility

Learn more about Brenau University's mission, vision and strategic plan at [brenau.edu/about/mission](https://www.brenau.edu/about/mission).



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Michael H. Smith, Chair

Emilie "Emmie" Henderson Howard, WC '01, Vice Chair

Peter D. Miller, Secretary

John A. Addison, Jr.

Pierpont "Pepper" F. Brown III, MD

Amelia "Mimi" Collins

Carole Ann Carter Daniel, WC '68

Robin Smith Dudley, WC '78

Maria Ebrahimji, WC '98

Robert "Rob" L. Fowler Jr.

Melissa Currin Heard, WC '92

Melissa Cannady Howard, WC '97

M. Douglas Ivester

Anna Alexander Jacobs, WC '86

Timothy C. Knight

Emily "Sissy" Dunlap Lawson

Jill R. Mansfield, BU '15

Frank K. Norton Jr.

Hart Wilheit Payne

Gail A. Smith, WC '83

Shay English Stafford, WC '69

Michael D. Stubblefield, MD

Melissa Wendt Tymchuk, BU '21

Amy Whitley

Mary Kathryn Wells-Winsett, WC '00

Rear Admiral Patricia E. Wolfe, BU '87, retired

TRUSTEES EMERITI

C.V. Nalley III

Betty Verson Norton, WC '52

Gary Riley

Philip A. Wilheit Sr.