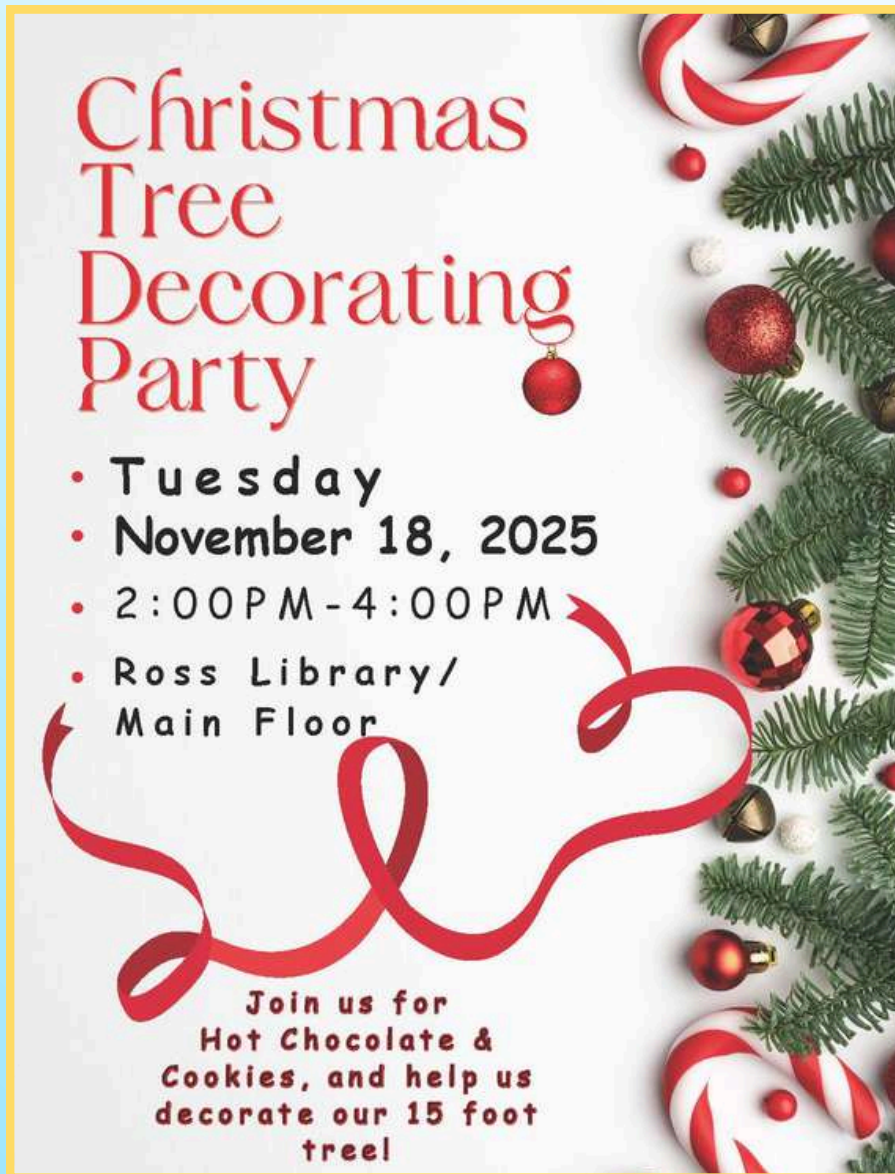


Trudy Burr

## Ross Library Annual Christmas Tree Decorating Party

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 18TH, 2-4 PM

Come help us decorate our 15 foot Christmas tree and enjoy Hot Chocolate and Cookies! Hope to See you all there!



## Trisha Stubblefield

Trisha Stubblefield attended The Society for the Study of American Women Writers Conference in Philadelphia, PA, November 5-9, 2025. She attended sessions on many writers she teaches, from Phillis Wheatley, Emily Dickinson, and Frances Ellen Watkins Harper to Willa Cather, Edith Wharton, and Natasha Trethewey. She also attended panels on teaching American women writers, networked with colleagues from across the country, and gained many new and exciting ideas for future courses and assignments! This trip was made possible by the Harmon Endowed Chair in English.

## Ashleigh Miller

Your Comet Volleyball team is on the road this weekend as they compete in the American Midwest Volleyball Conference. It is being hosted in Chesterfield, MO outside of St. Louis. We want to thank our fans, faculty, family, friends, and community here at Cottey College for all the support you've given us this season.

You make such a difference being present here on our home court and our seasons would never be the same without you and your support! GO COMETS!





## Laura Chaney

The Theatre Department recently formed a collaboration with Arrow Senior Living and their podcast of "Thoughtful Connections". Arrow Senior Living has agreed to become a sponsor of the theatre department and will be filming their podcast bi-annually in the Missouri Recital Hall.

The first podcast series was filmed on October 28 & 29 and was attended by 4 theatre courses. We hope to be able to include other departments in the spring. Additionally, theatre scenic design students will be designing the next set for the podcast in a competition which will be voted on by the residents of Arrow Senior Living. The student's design who is selected will win a gift card from the podcast chief operating officer, Amanda Tweten (a Cottey Alum).

In fact, it was Amanda who had the vision of forming this collaborative effort and bringing the podcast to Cottey. Pictured below is the set Professor Laura Chaney designed with podcast hosts, Charlie Johnson ( who has performed in years past in Cottey plays) and Elizabeth Thompson and students watching on.



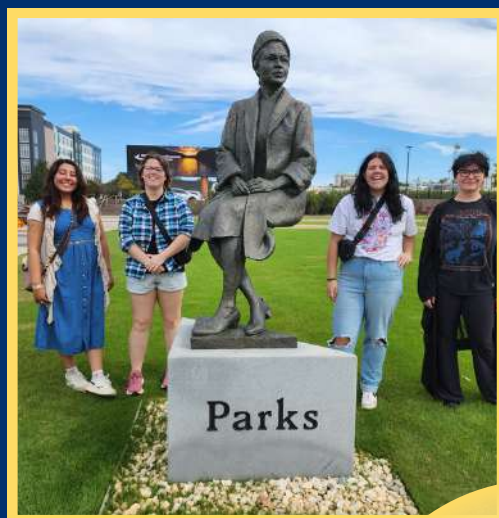
Students in the ENG 291: The Great Gatsby at 100 class traveled to Montgomery, Alabama, October 23-26, 2025, to visit sites connected to Zelda and Scott Fitzgerald, and to tour civil rights museums.

Zelda Fitzgerald was born and raised in Montgomery, and she and Scott lived there from 1931-32. The house where they lived is now an AirBnB attached to the Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald Museum, so we got to stay where the Fitzgeralds actually lived!

We had a very informative tour of the Fitzgerald Museum and were able to talk with a couple of Fitzgerald scholars who shared the personal histories of and anecdotes about the Fitzgeralds when they lived in Montgomery. We then did a driving tour of Montgomery and saw key places in Zelda and Scott's lives, including the famous Court Square Fountain where Zelda allegedly jumped in and went for a swim! (We did not follow her example!) We also went to pay homage at the old Montgomery Country Club where Zelda and Scott met. Unfortunately, a fire destroyed the club, and in its place sits a Sonic. Nevertheless, we got happy-hour-priced drinks and toasted to the couple!

We then visited the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts to see one of Zelda's paintings. Zelda was not only a writer, but she was a skilled dancer and painter as well. To conclude our Fitzgerald tour, we went to Oakwood Cemetery where we tried to find the Fitzgerald family plot (Zelda and Scott are buried in Maryland, but the cemetery includes a marker for them, as well as the graves of a number of Zelda's family members.). Alas, we had no luck, but we did get to see the grave of Hank Williams!

Since we had spent time in the class studying race in the 1920s, we devoted part of the trip to civil rights history. We visited the "Mothers of Gynecology Monument," an outdoor museum and monument dedicated to "Anarcha, Lucy, and Betsey, the enslaved experimental subjects of the so-called 'father of gynecology,' J. Marion Sims."



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We spent a significant part of Friday at The Legacy Museum, an incredible site that “tells the story of slavery in America and its legacy through interactive media, first-person narratives, world-class art, and data-rich exhibits.” From there, we went to the Freedom Rides Museum, located in the Greyhound Bus Station where the Freedom Riders were met with violence in 1961.

The Civil Rights Memorial Center was our next stop. A project of the Southern Poverty Law Center, the center “is one of Alabama’s premier civil rights sites and serves as the interpretive center for the Civil Rights Memorial, which honors the martyrs of the movement and inspires visitors to continue the march for racial equity and social justice.” We finished the day with a visit to Dr. Martin Luther King Junior’s church, the Dexter Avenue King Memorial Baptist Church. Although we did not have time to visit the Rosa Parks Museum, we did get to see several statues dedicated to Parks throughout the city.

Overall, the trip was an unforgettable experience! Not only did we get to sleep where the Fitzgeralds slept (!!), but we learned so much about their lives and work, and about civil rights history.

Thanks to Professor Theresa Spencer for traveling with us and for collaborating with us on the Fall Chamber Singers Concert! For more pictures from the trip and the concert, please visit @CotteyEnglish on Instagram and Facebook.

We are incredibly grateful for the Harmon Endowed Chair in English that made this trip possible.





# HR UPDATES

## NEW EMPLOYEES

Cody Foster, Dining Services

Makayla Bishop, Dining Services

Christopher Smoot, Flag Football

## SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

One year

Cheryl Tuepker, Custodian

Shayla Button, Custodian

## OPEN STAFF POSITIONS (IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW MEET THE QUALIFICATIONS, PLEASE SHARE AND CONSIDER APPLYING)

Assistant Vice President of Finance and Controller

Institutional Advancement Office Manager

Bowling Coach and Service Center Manager

Director of Student Accessibility and Academic Success

PM Swing Cook

Residence Hall Director and Esports Program Director (internal posting, email Maryann Mitts if interested)

