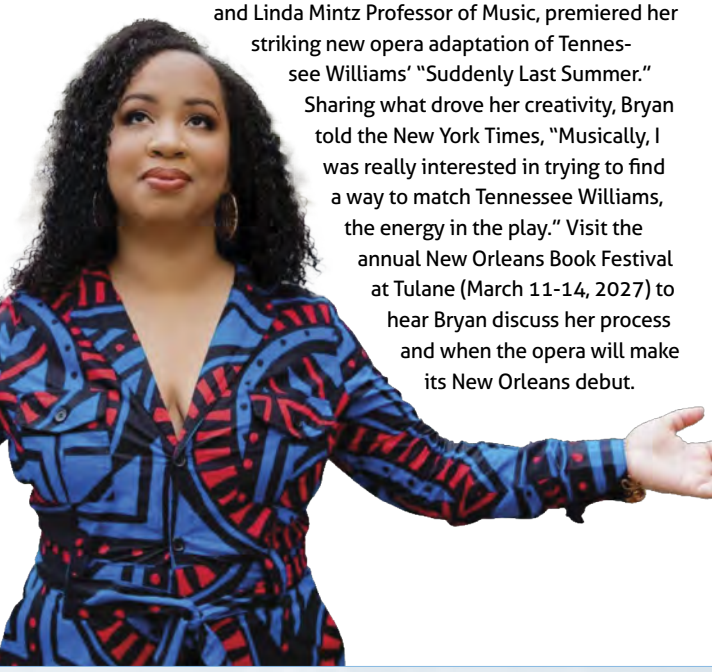
What's Next, Now

The future doesn't arrive all at once. It appears in research projects, new programs, faculty recognition, student achievements, and initiatives shaping the Tulane University School of Liberal Arts right now.

Courtney Bryan Makes a Tennessee Williams Classic Sing



COURTNEY BRYAN, MacArthur Fellow, composer-in-residence at Opera Philadelphia, and the School of Liberal Arts' Albert and Linda Mintz Professor of Music, premiered her striking new opera adaptation of Tennessee Williams' "Suddenly Last Summer." Sharing what drove her creativity, Bryan told the New York Times, "Musically, I was really interested in trying to find a way to match Tennessee Williams, the energy in the play." Visit the annual New Orleans Book Festival at Tulane (March 11-14, 2027) to hear Bryan discuss her process and when the opera will make its New Orleans debut.



Tulane's Portuguese Program receives Program of the Year Award

TULANE'S PORTUGUESE program, affectionately known as PORTulane, has earned the American Organization of Teachers of Portuguese's Program of the Year Award. Its community of 769 students, faculty, alumni, and friends stretches well beyond New Orleans. Students connect weekly with conversation partners in Brazil, while a free digital platform makes language learning more accessible. The program also embraces "ungrading," which prioritizes learning over scores, and offers service-learning opportunities. Together, these approaches are helping PORTulane rethink how languages are taught and how communities connect across borders.

SLA by the Numbers

Top 3 Majors

1. POLITICAL SCIENCE
2. COMMUNICATION
3. ECONOMICS

Top 3 Minors

1. STRATEGY, LEADERSHIP & ANALYTICS MINOR (SLAM)
2. SPANISH
3. PHILOSOPHY

Fastest Growing Majors

1. COGNITIVE STUDIES
2. MUSIC
3. DANCE

Fastest Growing Minors

1. LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES
2. HISTORY
3. ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

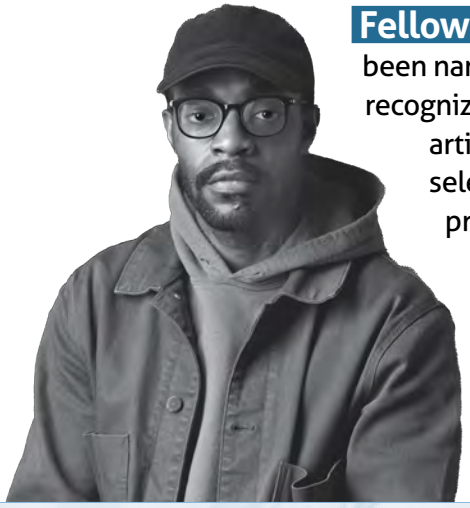
*Methodology looks at percentage growth from Spring 2020 onward, with decreasing weight the further back you go (growth from last year to this year is ranked first in the calculation)



Great Writers, Greater Conversations This year, the **Carole Barnette Boudreaux '65 Great Writers Series** brings two distinctive voices in contemporary literature to campus: acclaimed poet and novelist **Ocean Vuong** and celebrated short-story writer and novelist **George Saunders**. Vuong, author of "On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous" and "The Emperor of Gladness," will join the series November 19, 2026. Saunders, author of "Lincoln in the Bardo" and "Vigil," will follow in April 12, 2027. Both are free and open to the public. For more information on how to attend go to liberalarts.tulane.edu/cbb. ¶



Public Culture Journal Comes to Tulane For nearly four decades, Public Culture has been one of the world's leading journals of interdisciplinary scholarship in the humanities and social sciences, publishing influential work on culture, globalization, politics, and public life with a particular focus on the Global South. Now based at the Tulane Global Humanities Center, the journal is co-edited by the School of Liberal Arts Dean Brian T. Edwards and Vyjayanthi Rao, with a Senior Editorial Board comprised of Tulane faculty and prominent scholars from Columbia, Oxford, UC Berkeley, and Yale. Its arrival further establishes the Tulane and the School of Liberal Arts as key destinations for scholarship that connects ideas across disciplines and around the world. Read more on page 35. ¶



Harlan Bozeman Receives Guggenheim Fellowship Newcomb Art Department Professor of Practice Harlan Bozeman has been named a 2026 Guggenheim Fellow, one of the nation's most prestigious honors recognizing exceptional achievement in the arts and scholarship. A multimedia artist whose work explores the erasure of Black histories, Bozeman was selected based on his prior career achievements and exceptional promise. Just released, Bozeman's monograph called "Out the E," published by TBW Books, explores the path of injustice left behind by a horrifying massacre of black sharecroppers in Elaine, Arkansas a century ago. Combining historical photos with images he captured of those who still live there, he creates "a quiet but pointed gesture toward a lineage of bearing witness to the underside of American life."

$2,383,837
Total amount of research funding awarded to the School of Liberal Arts during the 25-26 cycle.
50% of all research grant applications submitted were funded for the school.

Top Service-Learning Programs or Departments

1. PHILOSOPHY
2. LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES
3. STRATEGY, LEADERSHIP AND ANALYTICS MINOR (SLAM)

Top Languages

1. SPANISH
2. FRENCH
3. HEBREW

Top 4+1 MA Programs*

1. ENGLISH
2. POLITICAL ECONOMY
3. ANTHROPOLOGY

*Fall 2026, the Department of Sociology launched a brand new 4+1 MA Program in Applied Sociology

84% of all classes attributed to the Global Perspective Core Attribute are taught in the School of Liberal Arts

What We're Reading



SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS FACULTY CONSTANTLY PUBLISH NOVELS, ARTICLES, MEMOIRS, AND MORE. HERE ARE A FEW FALL PUBLICATIONS WE RECOMMEND ADDING TO YOUR TBR LIST.

Nathaniel Rich

Professor of Practice, Environmental Studies

"Cloudthief" is a heist novel for a new era, in which the most valuable things in life are virtual, privacy is a sick joke, and security is relative. After all is lost, what remains?

Available through MCD/Farrar, Straus and Giroux and other retailers

Yuri Herrera

Professor, Spanish & Portuguese

"Aztlán, DC," a satirical short story featured in the Summer 2026 issue of BOMB Magazine, deftly contemplates a changing 21st-century American landscape as "the last gringo president on the last day of his term" hands his title to the first Mexican president of the United States.

Available at BombMagazine.org

Joel Dinerstein

Professor of English and Sizeler Family Professor of Judaic Studies

The sights and sounds of the Brooklyn streets in the 60s, 70s, and 80s — stickball, Yiddish, the food, Wel-Met summer camps — are all captured in "The Last of the Ellis Island Jews," a memoir of a lost place and time.

Available through State University of New York Press and other retailers

Beyond the Lecture Hall

IN NEW ORLEANS, the city itself becomes part of the curriculum. Through service learning, School of Liberal Arts students take what they study into the community, working alongside local partners on issues that matter across New Orleans and the Gulf South. The result is an education grounded in place — one that asks students not only to understand the world around them, but to listen, participate, and contribute to the communities they call home while at Tulane.

Question Consciousness

PHIL 2030 | Minds, Machines, & Experiences | Spring 2027

Can animals think? Can machines? Students explore questions of consciousness and artificial intelligence through direct engagement with shelter animals, connecting philosophy's oldest questions with today's newest technologies.

Produce a Festival

SLAM 3600 | Film Festivals: History, Theory & Practice | Spring 2027

Rather than studying film festivals from afar, students become the team behind the Tulane Student Film Festival, reviewing submissions, curating screenings, and producing a public event from start to finish.

Translate Care

SPAN 3060 | Spanish Grammar & Writing for the Medical Profession | Spring 2027

Students use Spanish where it matters most: helping patients navigate care, translating at Luke's House Vision Clinic, participating in health fairs, and creating educational materials for the community.

Where Students Shape the Future

The **Dean's Student Advisory Board** brings together a diverse group of undergraduates from across the School of Liberal Arts to help shape the student experience at a moment of rapid change in higher education. Meeting regularly with Dean Brian T. Edwards, board members engage in constructive conversations about issues that matter to liberal arts students — from strengthening community and connecting students with alumni and career opportunities to navigating the impact of artificial intelligence and current events on their education.

Established in 2019, the Board is also taking a more active role in creating programming and shaping how it engages with students. Members help develop events and offer feedback on the Board itself, including the recent shift from a nomination-based process to an application-based model. Just as important, the Board creates space for students with different backgrounds and perspectives to learn from one another and work collaboratively toward a stronger liberal arts experience. **Keep a look out for the application period for new members to open in March 2027** and will be announced in the school newsletters and on social media.

