

# WEEKLY WESTOVER

Stay in the Loop

## SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: ADDY WEAVER

Addy is a senior from Newark, Ohio majoring in psychology and minoring in gender studies and theatre. Addy originally chose to become a psychology major because she wanted to be a therapist; however, she realizes now that there are endless career possibilities in that area of study.

In addition to performing in several musicals and plays during her time on campus, Addy was also a member in Alpha Psi Omega and Psi Chi and worked as a lab assistant and PASS leader for general psychology classes. Her extracurricular activities allowed her to form strong connections with students, and her participation in theatre was a much-needed creative outlet.

The title of Addy's thesis is "The Impact of Temporary Gender Embodiment on the Accuracy of Personality Judgment: Drag Performance as a Lens". Addy described the focus of her study as "trying to see whether drag performers are better able to perceive the personalities of others. Drag performers and students/faculty/staff from the University of Lynchburg filled out a survey where they rated the personalities of four actors serving as 'targets' and then checked for accuracy."

Addy's favorite part about Westover is taking colloquia. "When I tell my friends that I took a Wonder Woman class, they are shocked," Addy said. However, Addy's favorite Westover class Dr. Kicklighter's class on philosophical ethics.

After completing her undergraduate degree, Addy plans on going graduate school at the University of Maine to study social psychology. Addy's advice to Westover students is to cherish every moment at the University of Lynchburg and express gratitude for those moments.



# SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: LEAH ELDRED

Leah is a senior from Falls Church, Virginia majoring in psychology and minoring in sociology, human services, and history. Leah chose to study psychology because of her interest in people and how they function. Leah plans on becoming a counselor, and she explains that her minors in sociology and human services complemented her major and career aspirations.

On campus, Leah was a member of the Dance Works team, a PASS leader and a lab assistant for psychology, and was president of the Lynchburg Christian Fellowship.

The title of Leah's thesis is "The Impact of Religiosity and Personality on Resilience and Coping Strategies." "I wanted to examine the role that religiosity and personality, specifically optimism and pessimism, have on one's levels of resilience and the coping strategies that they develop," explains Leah. "I gathered together published measures for my study to examine each of these variables and found some cool results."

To Leah, the best part about being in the Society of Westover Fellows was the strong bonds and friendships that she made with others in the program during her time at Lynchburg. In addition, Leah loved the colloquia that the Westover Honors College offered because they offered such unique topics for students to study.

Leah's favorite honors class was Professor Willis' colloquium on war literature because the class was small and expanded her literary horizons and made her think about the implications and themes of war literature.

After completing her undergraduate degree, Leah will be attending the Marymount University to get a master's degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling.

One piece of advice that Leah would like to give to Westover students is to enjoy and appreciate the Westover classes and community, because "the Westover program is such a unique thing that doesn't necessarily exist elsewhere after college."



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Keep up with the Westover fellows and faculty at home by following Westover's social media accounts! Stay on the lookout for Westover's #socialmediachallenge on Instagram and Facebook to see what the Westover fellows have been up to while they are at home!

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