

## Featured Westover: Katie Vest

Katie Vest is a Senior Exercise Physiology major with a minor in Biology from Greensboro, North Carolina. After graduation, Katie hopes to attend graduate school to get a Doctorate in physical therapy. Since her time at Lynchburg began, Katie has been a connection leader, an orientation leader, a student research assistant, a student worker at the spiritual life center, and a senator on SGA. She currently serves as the VP of Internal Affairs on the Westover Executive board. In her free time, Katie enjoys hiking, rock climbing and doing things outside with her friends.

Katie presented her Biology research at the Virginia Academy of Sciences over the summer, as well as completed a physical therapy internship at Wake Forest Medical School.

When asked what she likes about Westover, Katie explains how it adds variety to her class schedule. She notes that the Honors Colloquia "spice up" her schedule and help keep her from getting bogged down with higher level major courses. She makes sure to point out that she is very excited for the upcoming Harry Potter Colloquium.

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## A Committee and a Calling

For Junior Westover fellow, Bea Kelly-Russo, this past summer was more than a vacation away from her classes, but an opportunity to get involved in her future career field. She returned home from her month in the Balkans to begin work with the Senate Veteran's Affairs Committee where she was a legislative intern. Bea explains that her role was a combination of administrative and legislative. She would gather constituent mail, collect Senator's signatures on cosponsor sheets for bills, and help to draft memos for meetings with Senator Jon Tester who was the ranking member of the Committee. Bea would also assist other staff members in researching an array of relevant topics, from Orthotics to Prosthetics, to other Healthcare information.

Bea explains that she chose to get involved with this committee because she is interested in working for the U.S Government, specifically as a means of helping disenfranchised groups of individuals. Bea points to her Dad as an inspiration, explaining that he spent his career doing pro bono work trying to protect the lives of those who fought for our country. Bea notes that it is important to show these people the respect they deserve by giving them access to healthcare and the resources they need to reintegrate back into society.

In addition to gaining experience through seeing the inner workings of the Legislative system, Bea says that she learned that a lot of the people working behind the scenes in politics are truly passionate about what they do. People who work on the Hill do not have high salaries, but are hoping to actually enact change.

While Bea enjoyed half priced ice cream Fridays, she also points out that she appreciated getting to work closely with people who had interesting and established careers, and were only a few years older than her.

## **Cultural Events**

-Connie Fox Exhibit Daura Gallery -AORE Challenge (details on moodle) -Time Management Workshop Hopwood Auditorium 5PM Sep 17 -Stress Management Schewell Main Lobby 10AM-4PM Sep 19 -The Stock Market Game Program 110 Schewell Hall 4:30PM Sep 19 -Peace Pole Prayer 500 Brevard St 3PM Sep 20

