



News from Simon's Rock

JULY 2021

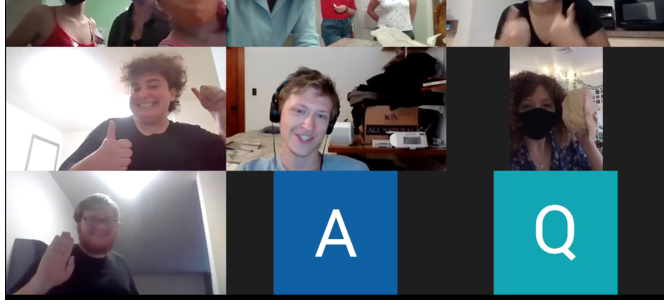


Fiscal Year Ends Strong

In 2020–2021, we asked alumni, families, and friends of Simon's Rock to support us through a challenging year like no other. Thanks to a record number of generous donors, we raised almost \$5 million for the Fund for Simon's Rock. Your support truly sustained us. Thank you for showing up and helping us keep our commitment to the next generation of Rockers!

It's a Busy Summer at Simon's Rock

This summer, we kicked off an array of [immersive in-person and online summer courses](#) for current and visiting students. And we've partnered with two Berkshire County school districts to offer area high school students access to our summer courses, where they can receive fully transferable college credits at no cost. Additionally, our time-honored creative writing program for emerging young literary scholars—the [Young Writers Workshop](#)—gets underway this month.



Later this season, high school and early college faculty from around the country will come to campus for our Summer Institute. Professional training courses derived from models developed at Simon's Rock will range from equity practices to early college pedagogy. As ever, our focus on continued leadership and innovation in the early college space has kept our small community busy!

Legendary Early College Innovator, Dr. Pat Sharpe, Retires

Since 1983, Dr. Patricia "Pat" Sharpe, Dean of Academic Affairs and Elizabeth Blodgett Hall Chair in Literature, has been an integral emissary, steward, and exemplar of the Simon's Rock mission. Pat retires this year, and we thank her for her invaluable service to Simon's Rock and the broader Bard network.



Pat received her PhD in Literature from the University of Texas at Austin and taught in India on a Fulbright grant. She then taught at the University of Michigan for ten years before joining the Simon's Rock Literature faculty. While at Simon's Rock, Pat was instrumental in designing the curriculum and selecting the founding faculty of the first Bard High School Early Colleges in New York City, which would serve as a new format for early college pedagogy. Among her myriad contributions to our institution, Pat was notably a key contributor to our defining 2011 book, *Educating Outside the Lines*. Provost John B. Weinstein noted, "[Pat] is beloved on multiple Bard network campuses, and many educators, myself very much included, are proud to say that we were hired by Pat Sharpe."

Announcing Two New Deans in Academic Affairs

Two new positions have been created to help guide the future of academic affairs at Simon's Rock, and we are thrilled to announce that long-time faculty members will fill both roles. Kristy McMorris, former Dean of Bard Academy, is our new Dean of Studies and will provide leadership and administrative oversight of students' academic experience in both the Academy and the College. Brendan Mathews has been selected as our new Dean of Faculty & Curricular Development. Brendan is a former faculty member in creative writing and literature and will oversee the development and staffing of the academic programs for the Academy and the College.



Simon's Rock Launches Open-Access Digital Journal

In 1967, Elizabeth Blodgett Hall declared, "the house of education needs overhaul." She described how Simon's Rock, then in its first year, would heed the call by transforming the "middle years" of modern education. More than 50 years on, we echo her call to rethink education. Our own [Early College Research Institute](#) recently launched the first issue of [Early College Folio](#), a digital, open-access, and peer-reviewed academic journal. The journal includes articles by faculty and staff at early colleges and other leaders within the movement. [Read the first issue.](#)

Early College Folio

The House of Education Needs Overhaul
Issue 1 | Spring 2021

From the Office of Admission: In-Person Campus Tours and Virtual Events

In-person campus tours are one of the best ways to get to know Simon's Rock, and they're available Monday through Saturday all summer! Prospective students and families are encouraged to schedule their visit to [Bard Academy](#) or [Bard College at Simon's Rock](#).



Prospective Rockers can also join a virtual "Conversation with the Provost" this month, where they'll receive updates from campus, hear insights on the year to come, and participate in a Q&A with Dr. John B. Weinstein.

- **Bard Academy at Simon's Rock:** Monday, July 19 at 8:00 p.m. ET. [Register in advance.](#)
- **Bard College at Simon's Rock:** Thursday, July 22 at 8:00 p.m. ET. [Register in advance.](#)

Coming Soon: Giving Circle for Current and New Families

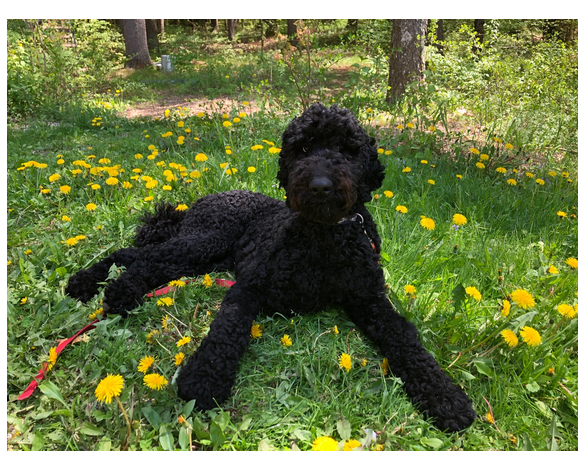
Named for the family farm on which Elizabeth Blodgett Hall founded Simon's Rock, the first early college, in 1966, the Great Pine Society will offer families of current students an opportunity to join a network of philanthropic support for Bard Academy and Bard College at Simon's Rock. The Great Pine Society will continue to advance our mission to inspire the curiosity and creativity of younger scholars. More details to come.



Pets of Simon's Rock

Meet Cookie. Cookie's humans are Chris Mollomo '88 and Jenn Frederick, Director of Marketing and Communications at Simon's Rock.

Got a cute pet pic you want to share? Send it along with your name and entering class year, your pet's name, and your contact info to Elizabeth Pecoraro, epecoraro@simons-rock.edu.



We're Hiring!

Are you—or is someone in your network—searching for a new career opportunity? We're hiring across a number of roles and departments! [Take a look at our faculty and staff job openings](#) and feel free to pass on to others [who might be interested](#).



Bard Academy
at SIMON'S ROCK



Bard College at
SIMON'S ROCK



Bard Academy and Bard College at Simon's Rock
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