



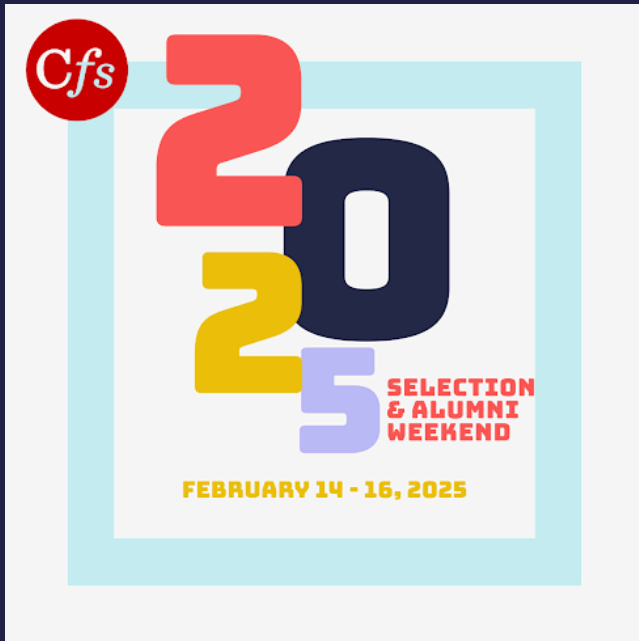
Chester Brewer <ckbrewe2@ncsu.edu>

[Caldwell Fellows] November 2024 Alumni Newsletter

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To: Theresamoon <theresamoon4406@gmail.com>

Wed, Nov 13, 2024 at 4:00 PM

# The Caldwell Fellows



## Theresa, Save the Date!

### Caldwell Fellows Selection & Alumni Weekend

**February 14 - 16, 2025**

Selection weekend continues to be THE weekend that draws our community together for meaningful engagement with the program's life: with our candidates, current Fellows, and alumni. The menu of events has expanded to meet the increasing interest in alumni engagement. Read below for details about the opportunities available during the weekend including the link to your room at the StateView Hotel, and volunteering to help with Selection. Gala tickets and Sunday brunch reservations will open in the next few weeks.

# Selection & Alumni Weekend Events

## Lodging at the StateView Hotel

Reserve your room

The State View Hotel has room blocks available for the weekend. Last year's rooms went quickly. Reserve your room using the link.

### Friday, February 14



### Alumni welcome reception

6:00 p.m. until ...

StateView Hotel bar and lounge

Join us at the StateView Hotel bar/lounge from 6:00 p.m. until ... No RSVP is needed; just come by and enjoy an informal connection as alumni arrive in Raleigh. Treat yourself to the beverage and food of your choice from the StateView bar and restaurant.



### Saturday, February 15



## Caldwell Class of 2028 selection interviews

8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Hunt Library

Breakfast and lunch provided

Join alumni partners to interview Caldwell Class of 2028 finalists. If you are interested in serving on our Selection team, please complete the short Google form linked below by November 25, and we will confirm your assignment by early December.

*\*\*Please note that the form includes all three stages of the Selection process: online application reviewers (early January), semi-finalist interviewers (February 1 at NC State), and finalist interviewers (February 15 at NC State). Please select all that apply based on your interests and availability.*

[Sign up for Selection](#)



## Caldwell Conversations with current Fellows

8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Park Alumni Center

Breakfast and lunch provided

The Alumni Conference, launched eight years ago, has taken on the name “Caldwell Conversations” and has expanded to include current Fellows. Marked by a current theme, alumni story-tellers and facilitated small group discussions, our alumni gatherings provide a re-grounding in the challenging work of servant-leadership within a community of thoughtful people. Alumni from a wide range of life experiences broaden our thinking and reflection. Please join us.

[Sign up for Caldwell Conversations](#)



Addressing the crowd at the 2024 Gala.

## Caldwell Fellows Gala

### A Night at the Museum

6:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

NC Museum of Natural Sciences

Join alumni, friends, and current Caldwell Fellows for this year’s gala - a festive evening at the NC Museum of Natural Sciences. The evening begins at 6:30. The first hour is exclusively for alumni and friends. Current Fellows and their guests will arrive at 7:30. Our evening will offer interactions with the unique space of the museum and will feature heavy hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar, music and dancing. Tickets are \$45 for alumni and friends before January 17. After January 17, tickets are \$55. Tickets can be purchased at the link below. *(Please note this is the same link to buy Breakfast tickets.)*

[Buy Gala tickets](#)

## Sunday, February 16



### Caldwell Alumni Breakfast

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Lakeside Restaurant at Park Alumni Center

Before heading home, enjoy breakfast with Fellows alumni at the Lakeside Restaurant within Park Alumni Center. Tickets are \$15 and cover the cost of the full buffet breakfast. Tickets can be purchased at the link below. *(Please note this is the same link to buy Gala tickets.)*

[Buy breakfast tickets](#)

# Call for application reviewers

On October 1, the online application for the Caldwell Fellows Class of 2028 opened for first-year students at NC State. On January 6, the application portal closes, and we turn to you for the formidable task of reviewing applications. Key to the effectiveness of our selection process is the participation of alumni and friends whose experience and belief in our mission help identify those best suited to the program.

Now is the time to let us know of your interest in any of the three stages of selection

- Online reviews (January 9 - 18)
- Semi-finalist day (Saturday, February 1, on Main Campus)
- Selection day/finalist interviews (Saturday, February 15, on Centennial Campus)

This brief interest form details the stages and timelines. Express your interest by November 25; we will contact you by early December to confirm your role.

[Volunteer for selection process](#)

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## Connect to Brightcrowd

We're excited that BrightCrowd is building momentum among our alumni community. It's a powerful tool designed to reconnect and reinvigorate our vibrant Caldwell Fellows community! This digital platform offers:

- An easy and interactive way for alumni to stay in touch with classmates
- A portal for alumni to present internship and employment opportunities relevant to current Fellows
- A vehicle to connect the five generations of Fellows
- A place for students and young alumni who are seeking guidance from older Fellows

You might think, "But I've signed up for alumni platforms before!" While that's true, NC State has identified BrightCrowd as the most effective and user-friendly platform. We need your help to make it a true success. This static network doesn't require constant updates, posts, or notifications. It seamlessly reduces the friction of other Caldwells contacting you via email, other social networks, or even text messages if you prefer.

### **Here's how to get started:**

1. Visit the BrightCrowd NC State portal: <https://ncsu.brightcrowd.com/caldwell-fellows>.
2. Complete your profile: Share your story, interests, and goals.
3. Start connecting: Explore the platform, join groups, and reach out to fellow alumni and current Fellows.

To sweeten the deal, anyone who registers for BrightCrowd between today and November 25 will be entered into a prize drawing. We will give away three prizes

- One lucky person will receive 2 tickets to the February 15 Gala (the event of the season)
- One person will receive a Caldwell Fellows sweatshirt (very in fashion)
- Three people will receive a book from our leadership library

Let's channel the spirit of connection that defines the Caldwell Fellows Program. We can make this platform an essential resource for our alumni and current Fellows. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact our support team at [ncstatealumni@ncsu.edu](mailto:ncstatealumni@ncsu.edu) or call 800-627-2586.

P.S. The more we join, the more meaningful BrightCrowd becomes—so don't wait; sign up today!

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# **A message from the Director**



Fellows conversing after a recent dinner seminar. Left to right: Brandon Tucker, Caled Alameddine, and Andres Mejia-Peña.

Citizenship. It is the theme embraced by our student dinner team for our 2024-25 monthly seminars. We approach the topic with the conviction that, amidst varying points of view, we share a world where, like it or not, our lives are connected and to be a citizen is to be aware of the responsibility we carry for the concentric circles of society - from campus, to community, to city, state and global. We have explored the challenges, privileges and responsibilities through the practice of civic discourse, a model we use for discussions based on shared agreements that engender respectful, deep listening.

Writing this column post-election, the pertinence of citizenship is particularly prescient and summons us to deep reflection. This week I have revisited a gift from Bill Nussey (Class of 1987), Jacqueline Novogratz's book, *Manifesto for a Moral Revolution*. In her words, many of us "are refusing to acquiesce to the exhausting, deadening news cycles filled with catastrophe and cynicism, seeking to make good news instead ... deliberately expanding circles of compassion ... with the quiet strength of what we have in common. Our fragile, unequal, divided, yet still beautiful world deserves a radical moral rejuvenation." For me, it comes down to the pressing work of moral clarity and courage. May we find the sources that strengthen this for each of us. May this community contribute, the best we are able. Many of us find rejuvenation in our annual weekend in February as we select a new class of Fellows and join each other in learning and celebration. We need the good and thoughtful company of one another; I hope you can join us the weekend of February 15.

Amid the other challenges faced by many of you and families of our current Fellows, has been the work of rebuilding lives since Hurricane Helene. Within the heartbreak of this catastrophe have been endless glimpses of citizenship at its best, as resilience and mutual support have flourished over what divides. I look to the future not with blind optimism but with a hard-edged hope. Every problem is an opportunity for us to act. It is the work of servant leadership.

~ *Janice*



Libby in the classroom.

## Leadership Sightings: Libby Indermaur ‘19

Libby Indermaur, Caldwell Fellow and Cornell Ph.D. student, spent a semester teaching plant pathology to incarcerated students at Cayuga Correctional Facility, an experience that profoundly impacted her view of leadership and service. Initially hesitant, she overcame the challenges of teaching without hands-on tools and found innovative ways to engage her students. “Meeting them where they are and stepping outside my elite world was very humanizing and humbling,” she reflects. Her students’ commitment—especially one who joined to better understand his mother’s passion for gardening—inspired Libby to pursue teaching as a career. This experience reinforced her belief in service as a multifaceted journey to reach underserved populations.

[Read more](#)





This year's new coaches in training. Left to right: Theresa Freeman '85, Molly Binder '09, Mark Calloway '80, Lauren Welch '04, and Susan Brooks '90.

[Learn more](#)

# Caldwell Coaching

Coaching is an approach to development that is rapidly becoming a core practice of the Caldwell Fellows. Keenly aligned with servant leadership, the active listening, emotional intelligence, support and challenge of coaching builds strong teams through strengthening individuals. For the fourth year, the Caldwell program is supporting alumni to become certified professional coaches. This year's cohort is our largest yet with alumni across four decades of the program: Molly Widmyer Binder '09, Susan Brooks '90, Theresa Freeman, '85, Mark Calloway, '80, and Lauren Welch, '04.

In addition to the one-one-one coaching Fellows across their junior year by our team of volunteer coaches, young alumni may request professional coaching. Agendas for coaching sessions are set by the coachee; all sessions are confidential. **Fellows who have graduated in the past five years may complete the form at the link below to be paired with an alumni coach.** Coaching is provided at no charge but those who wish to may make a contribution for the Caldwell Fellows Fund which supports the on-going expense of coach training.

[Request a coach](#)



A scene from the 2024 expedition to the Boundary Waters.

## The Wilderness Expedition & Legacy

The Caldwell Fellows Wilderness Expedition is a long-standing tradition that challenges students to explore leadership and personal growth through outdoor adventures. Previous leaders like Dr. Jerry Barker and Mark Wagoner profoundly shaped the program's legacy, fostering connections between students and nature. This year, Fellows embarked on a journey to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area, covering 40 miles by paddling and portaging. The trip was led by alumni Jerrica Kirkley ('06), Julia O'Brien ('20), and Thomas Harris ('16). They were shadowed by future leader Val Ryba ('24).

Thanks to everyone who has committed over time to the growth and development of the Wilderness Expedition, including donations to the Wagoner Fund, which ensures continued training for wilderness leaders.

[Read more](#)

## Caldwell Fellows Book Club

A pair of Fellows, Priya and Sean, for the past year have hosted a book group for current Fellows. Should you like to read what our students are reading, this fall the book is *Welcome to the Hyuman-Dong Bookshop* by Hwang Bo-Reum.



Anne and her husband John.

## Caldwell Fellows welcomes an alumni coordinator

Anne Stubbins Powers (1990) has joined our team in a temporary role to boost alumni engagement.

Anne started with us in August giving eight hours a week to the role of Caldwell Fellows Alumni Coordinator. Anne is one of our many alumni who help coordinate parts of the Caldwell Fellows program; she is focused on raising the profile of our alumni and deepening our structures for alumni connections.

Anne is a 1990 NCSU Caldwell Fellow graduate in Math Education and statistics. She holds a MS in Counselor Education from UNCG. Anne has a variety of work experience including working with Pat Lee at the Merit Awards office, serving as a Vice President for Training and Development at Wachovia (now Wells Fargo) and starting up the UNCG Department of Leadership and Service Learning. Her “strongest” claim to fame is serving as a Soc 501 Teaching Assistant for the famous Caldwell Fellows Class of 1993. Many of you got to know Anne last fall when she helped us compile a book of letters for Dr. Hawkins.

Anne and her husband John (Chem Eng / Caldwell Fellow '91) are huge Wolfpack fans and can be found with several of their Caldwell Fellows classmates at football tailgates (all are welcome if you are in town). She also loves traveling to new places as well as meeting and getting to know new people.

Anne will be working part-time remotely from Winston-Salem, NC. You can reach her at 336-972-4786 (cell/text), [aspowers@ncsu.edu](mailto:aspowers@ncsu.edu).

## Do you love history?

Our program has a rich, fascinating history and a small team is being assembled to capture and share it more broadly. We are seeking an alum from the past two decades who is interested in joining the team to help document program developments since leadership transitioned from Gerald Hawkins to Janice Odom. If you are interested, contact Janice at [jeodom@ncsu.edu](mailto:jeodom@ncsu.edu).



### Caldwell Fellows Program

<https://caldwellfellows.ncsu.edu/>

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