



SMITH COLLEGE.

Lazarus Center

FOR CAREER DEVELOPMENT

2025-26 ANNUAL REPORT



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As we reflect on the past year, it is clear that the landscape of work is undergoing a profound transformation. From the rapid integration of generative AI to a fluctuating global economy, our students are navigating a world that demands more than just a degree—it requires significant adaptability and a resilient sense of purpose.

At the Lazarus Center, our response to these challenges has been intentional and proactive. We recognize that in a volatile market, we must prepare students with the **career agility**, resources, and networks needed to adapt to uncertain futures.

While we hosted hundreds of employer events this year, our **Future of Work Summit** stood out as a vital forum for dialogue with alums about how to enter an unpredictable market with confidence. Structured and informal networking opportunities allowed students to gain direct insights from alums, helping them build a strong network of career advocates.

Our new building, **Kathleen McCartney Hall**, is a living environment—one that invites students to explore, to connect, and to take active steps toward shaping their futures. As a hub for leadership and career development, the building reflects Smith's evolving vision: that preparing for life after college is not a single step, but an integrated, ongoing process grounded in relationships.

While the economic climate remains unpredictable, the **outcomes for our recent graduates** speak to their preparedness. Within six months of graduation, 95% of the class of 2025 was employed, in graduate or professional school, or engaged in full-time fellowship or service activities. Supported by alums providing consistent guidance via Smith Career Connect, we are seeing the direct impact of a campus-wide commitment to student success.

Thank you for your continued partnership as we work to provide our students with the stability and resources they need to move forward with confidence.

With appreciation,

Faith McClellan

DEAN OF CAREER DEVELOPMENT

FIRST-DESTINATION OUTCOMES



Almanzo Gao '25

MAJOR: ENGINEERING SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS

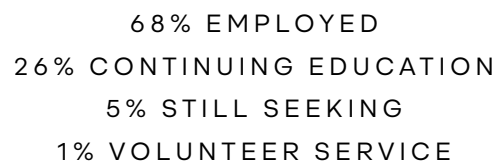
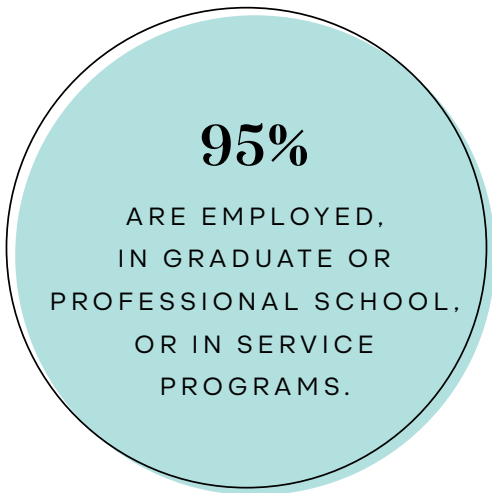
Gao is pursuing a Master of Science in Civil & Environmental Engineering at Stanford University, engaging with industry experts and actively participating in startup projects. “Smith exposed me to a broad range of disciplines, building both a solid technical foundation and an adaptive learning mindset,” Gao says. “Those tools have transferred directly to my coursework at Stanford, where I now apply them to focused problems in energy systems and sustainable resource use.”



Ally Tutay '25

MAJOR: QUANTITATIVE ECONOMICS

In her first year as an associate at Boston Consulting Group (BCG), Tutay worked on Excel models to analyze market-entry scenarios, profit-and-loss implications of transformation projects, and potential cost savings for various health policy options. “At BCG, I am able to build a deeper network of mentors within the business world, all while learning different aspects of what it means to run and grow a business,” she says.



Source: Class of 2025 First-Destination Survey, administered within six months after graduation



Scan for a list of graduate schools that matriculated class of 2025 Smithies.



Scan for a list of employers who hired class of 2025 Smithies.



Anika Raghavan '25

MAJOR: NEUROSCIENCE

Raghavan is one of 10 Smithies in the class of 2025 who earned a Fulbright award. As part of the program, she spent a year working at the Karolinska Institute—a leading medical research center in Stockholm—contributing to a neuroscience research project focused on multiple sclerosis. “This experience has reinforced my long-term goal of contributing to advances in neuroscience and improving patient outcomes through translational research,” she says.



SMITH HAS BEEN A TOP PRODUCER OF FULBRIGHT STUDENTS EVERY YEAR SINCE THE DESIGNATION BEGAN IN THE 2009-10 ACADEMIC YEAR.

McCartney Hall

WELCOME TO OUR NEW HOME



Kathleen McCartney Hall, named for Smith's 11th president, marks a new approach to student preparation by placing personal growth and agency at the heart of everyday campus life. By co-locating the Lazarus Center with the Wurtele Center for Collaborative Leadership, this student-centered hub bridges career exploration and purposeful leadership, offering a holistic environment where students can experiment with possible ways of being in the world. Inviting open areas and a living roof deck offer new spaces where students can work together. The building also strengthens connections to opportunity, featuring integrated interview suites and shared spaces that make engaging with alums and employers a natural, everyday experience. Through this collaborative setting, students confidently demystify life after college, embrace what is possible, and navigate their futures with clarity.

Special thanks to **Margaret Von Blon Wurtele '67** for her generous lead gift supporting McCartney Hall and to the many alums and friends whose gifts to the capital project and related programming helped bring this building and its mission to life.

"McCartney Hall will serve as a place where students discover possibilities for life paths of distinction and purpose. Career and leadership development, including vital opportunities for experiential learning, now have a beautiful home together on campus. We are proud to center this work so prominently as a hallmark of a Smith education."

— PRESIDENT SARAH
WILLIE-LEBRETON



Employer Engagement

The employer engagement team facilitates connections between students, alums, and employers across a diverse range of industries, increasing students' access to rewarding career opportunities. The team hosts recruitment events, skill-building workshops, career fairs, and company site visits. Many of our employer partnerships are built through strong relationships with Smith alums.

PARTNERSHIP IN ACTION

In 2019, Joseph Garner—director of research and a member of the small-cap growth portfolio management team at Emerald Advisers—reached out to the employer engagement team at the Lazarus Center to create an internship pipeline from Smith. They were looking for interns who could help them execute their investment research process at a high level and identify the growth leaders of tomorrow. In return, Emerald Advisers would provide interns with real-world experience working with seasoned investment professionals as they gain knowledge, insights, and relationships they can use as they embark on their careers.

Since establishing a partnership with Smith, Emerald Advisers staff have become a regular presence on campus—hosting information sessions about investment management and conducting interviews for their summer internship positions. “Our partnership with Smith College has provided us with access to high-quality, well-rounded liberal arts students who are well versed in fundamental economic principles and possess strong critical thinking and analytical qualities that position them to make an immediate impact,” says Garner, who is also the parent of a Smith alum.

Yuli Qin '27 (left), Maame Amoah '28 (center), and Emalyn Vogel '27 (right) are summer 2026 interns at Emerald Advisers.



453
EMPLOYERS
PARTICIPATED IN
RECRUITING
ACTIVITIES FOR
SMITH STUDENTS.

A SELECTION OF THE LAZARUS CENTER'S EMPLOYER PARTNERS

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Boston Children's Hospital | Pare Corporation |
| Compass Lexecon | Saint-Gobain Research North America |
| Deloitte | Salas O'Brien |
| Emerald Advisers | Spectrum |
| Epic | U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Massachusetts |
| Fidelity | Visa |
| M&T Bank | Weill Cornell Medicine |
| Massachusetts General Hospital | Werfen |
| Massachusetts Life Sciences Center | Woodard & Curran |
| Mizuho Greenhill | |
| Morgan Stanley | |
| Nomura Securities International | |
| Northampton Center for the Arts | |



Scan for the full list of our employer partners.

CAREER FAIRS

Smith College hosts three annual career fairs that connect students with diverse employers and opportunities. The fall semester's **Job & Internship Fair** offers broad sector exposure that helps students explore roles and secure internships, jobs, and placement in graduate school programs. The spring semester's **STEM & Health Professions Career Fair** highlights opportunities in technical fields, linking students with organizations seeking analytical and science-related skills. The virtual **Women's Colleges & Universities Career Fair** brings together students from 12 historic women's institutions and diverse recruiting organizations.



2,813

TOTAL
ONE-ON-ONE
APPOINTMENTS

86%

OF APPLICANTS WHO
MET WITH OUR
LAW SCHOOL ADVISER
WERE ACCEPTED
INTO AT LEAST ONE
LAW SCHOOL.

Source: Institutional advising records;
Law School Admission Council (LSAC)
admissions data, based on applicants
from the classes of 2021–2025

ONE-ON-ONE SUPPORT

Career advisers provide year-round personalized guidance to students and recent graduates—1,302 of them had appointments this year and many came back repeatedly! We support Smithies on a wide range of topics beginning in their first year, including exploring how academic interests can intersect with career paths; identifying transferable skills developed through coursework, extracurriculars, and experiential learning; preparing applications for internships, research roles, and jobs; learning how to network; preparing for interviews; and understanding and negotiating job offers.

We also work closely with students and alums who are pursuing graduate school. We offer guidance on timelines, help them identify programs of interest, and share individualized feedback on application drafts. This provides an extra layer to the graduate school support students receive from their faculty.

LAW SCHOOL ADVISING

This year, we formalized our law school advising program, which supports Smithies as they explore the legal field and helps them put together strong applications for law school. Throughout students' time at Smith, we provide guidance on academic preparation, resources for finding internships and volunteer roles, career treks, and opportunities to build relationships with professors and alums in the legal field. Students and recent alums also have access to individualized feedback on their application materials from Anna Silverstein, assistant director for graduate and professional school advising and our law school adviser.

The Lazarus Center also offers up to \$700 toward a Law School Admission Test prep course and practice materials.



PROOF POSITIVE

Simone Tricca '25 grew up loving museums and used their time at Smith to cultivate that interest into a career path. One key milestone was using Praxis funding to intern as a costumed historian at Old Sturbridge Village, a recreated 1830s rural New England town.

“The Lazarus Center was an invaluable resource to me,” Tricca says. “I used almost every service available.” Among them, Tricca routinely met with career advisers and utilized professional development funding. “I had support at each step along the way, and was able to benefit from the many different perspectives and approaches of the Lazarus Center staff, which helped me focus on growing my career over time,” they say.

Tricca went into the workforce after graduation—they're the lead interpreter at The Old Manse, a historic house in Massachusetts—but knew they eventually wanted to apply to graduate school, so continued to meet with career advisers via Zoom. Jason Bauer-Clapp, director of career education, met with Tricca to help them narrow down the list of potential programs and to provide feedback on application materials. “He really helped me clarify what I was trying to say about myself and my goals,” Tricca says.

In March, Tricca was accepted into their first-choice graduate program: the fully funded Winterthur Program in American Material Culture at the University of Delaware.

“My parents, who worked in museums as young people themselves but ended up leaving the field, brought me to so many museums as a kid,” says Tricca, who is the first person in their family to attend graduate school. “Beginning this program feels like the next step in a lifelong interest!”



ALUMS WITHIN
FIVE YEARS OF
GRADUATION STILL
HAVE ACCESS TO
LAZARUS CENTER
ADVISING.

FUTURE OF WORK SUMMIT

The inaugural Future of Work Summit brought accomplished alums to campus to help students better understand the intersection of industries and identify skills they'll need for successful careers. The four-hour event included a speed-networking activity, industry panels, as well as a series of roundtable discussions with alums working in business, finance, government, marketing, the arts, and STEM. This large-scale event is a testament to ongoing collaborations between the Lazarus Center and the Office of Alumnae Relations.

"The road is uncertain, it always will be, but you never have to be uncertain about who you are, about your worth, about your value, and about your dignity," says **Nicole Kenney '06**, who delivered the opening remarks and led an hour-long lunch chat about building in-demand skills and strong networks.

A through line between all of the sessions was uncertainty surrounding the rise of AI in the workplace—a topic all of the alum panelists were uniquely equipped to address. Students, no matter

what career path they're exploring, left the event invigorated and ready to harness and optimize the technology.

"For me, 'No Smithie walks alone' isn't just an encouragement, it's a commitment to how we show up for each other, both on campus and around the world," says Kenney, who is the founder and CEO of multiple companies, including It Starts With Me—a strategic communications and content strategy firm.

"For me, 'No Smithie walks alone' isn't just encouragement, it's a commitment to how we show up for each other, both on campus and around the world."

—NICOLE KENNEY '06



\$1,000
THE AMOUNT EVERY UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT HAS ACCESS TO FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCES

EXAM PREPARATION AND RESOURCES FOR GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL

Students and recent graduates who want to take a prep course for the DAT, GMAT, GRE, LSAT, or MCAT are eligible for reduced rates. In addition to the reduced rate, LSAT prep courses are eligible for reimbursement. Students also have access to a one-time MCAT exam registration fee reimbursement.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

Launched in fall 2025, the Lazarus Center Professional Development Fund provides all undergraduate students with access to \$1,000 to support conference attendance and professional development experiences during their time at Smith.

Maeve Huit '26 was one of more than 400 students who used their funding this year. Huit, a field hockey player, traveled to Bangkok in January for the 5th Global Peace Summit—an opportunity she learned about from teammate-turned-mentor **Victoria Mellow '23**.

"This experience confirmed that there are a plethora of avenues that I can explore within the humanitarian and peace-building sphere," Huit says. In addition to learning about tangible tools to utilize and actions to take, Huit practiced networking skills and was able to make connections with people from around the world. "This was my first conference and I learned so much about myself, including how to solo travel across the world and how to carry myself in conversations with new people."

Maeve Huit '26 (right) talks to another delegate at the 5th Global Peace Summit.

Grouped by professional area, Career Communities are vibrant, knowledge-sharing spaces for students exploring potential career paths. The six communities are:

- Arts, Media & Communications
- Business, Finance, Consulting & Entrepreneurship
- Education, Nonprofit & Social Impact
- Government, Law, Policy & International Affairs
- Health Professions
- STEM

891
STUDENTS
ATTENDED EVENTS
HOSTED BY
CAREER COMMUNITIES.

Staff who lead Career Communities offer one-on-one advising appointments as part of their services.



Each community offers curated resources and events that connect students with peers, alums, and industry experts.

This year, we expanded our mock interview program. We hosted seven daylong events—one per Career Community plus a special event for engineers—in which alums and employer

partners met with students one-on-one for practice interviews. For the first 20 minutes, students were asked common, industry-relevant interview questions. In the remaining 10 minutes, the alums and employer partners shared personalized feedback meant to help students in future interviews for jobs, internships, and/or fellowships.

Arts, Media & Communications



MEETING DIRECTOR CYNTHIA WADE '89

The Building a Creative Career series is a program designed to leverage the presence of visiting artists on campus by offering space for career-centric conversations. In November, we partnered with the Department of Film & Media Studies to host a student-moderated conversation with Oscar-winning and Emmy-winning director **Cynthia Wade '89**. Nearly 50 students got to talk with Wade about the challenges and rewards of a creative career. She also shared specific advice about networking and offered to continue the conversation with students virtually. Many took her up on her offer, among them: **Maya Lee '29** and **Reina Nakai '28** were hired as virtual interns, and **Desi Krasteva Gale '27** joined Wade on the set of a documentary for a day in January.

Director Cynthia Wade '89 (center) with Ciara McAuliffe '26 (left) and J'Lauren Thomas '27 (right), who moderated a conversation about creative careers.

GROWING PARTNERSHIPS

This career community has closely partnered with the Smith Office for the Arts for several years to support career treks, alum engagement, and programming. Building on this collaboration, this year we strengthened relationships across campus with the Department of Art; the Department of English Language & Literature; the Museums Concentration; the Program in Russian, East European & Eurasian Studies; Smith College Special Collections; the Theatre Department; and more.

A standout collaboration was Demystifying the Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing—a panel we co-hosted with the Poetry Concentration. This candid, wide-ranging conversation brought together writers from the Smith community and beyond who hold a Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing. Panelists included **Adrie Rose AC '22**, a poet and editor of Nine Syllables Press, and faculty member Ariel Delgado Dixon, fiction writer and lecturer in the Department of English Language & Literature.

Business, Finance, Consulting & Entrepreneurship

HOW TO HAVE A COFFEE CHAT

Career Communities partner closely with student clubs and organizations. This community in particular has strong relationships with the Smith Investment Club, the Smith Consulting Club, and the college's Forté Foundation ambassadors. Forté Foundation is a long-standing partner that offers conferences, certificates, and online learning for women interested in business careers.



This year, the Forté Foundation ambassadors developed and led a workshop called "How To Have a Coffee Chat," featuring a simulation in which two students demonstrated a networking conversation. "The financial world is notoriously small," says **Daniela Pilier '26**, a quantitative economics major who participated in the simulation. "People talk, they remember, and a reputation—good or bad—travels faster than any résumé." This event, hosted for the

first time, was important to seniors who have seen firsthand the value of creating strong networks. As a student, Pilier kept a personal spreadsheet to stay on top of her networking conversations, follow-ups, and recruiting timeline, a habit that ultimately helped her land an investment banking analyst role at Goldman Sachs.

Pilier's number one tip: Do real research before the conversation. "Not surface-level research, not just knowing someone's job title, but actually understanding the space they work in, the deals they have been part of, the trends in their sector, and what makes their path interesting or different," she says. "That kind of preparation shows respect for their time and signals that you are serious."

WALL STREET PREP

The Lazarus Center organizes skill-building workshops to provide students with technical knowledge and skills needed for finance careers. Through our longstanding partnership with Wall Street Prep, we annually host a two-day Accounting & Financial Statement Modeling seminar. This seminar bridges the gap between academics and the real world to equip students with practical knowledge to help them excel during the recruiting process and on the job.

Through Wall Street Prep, students:

- build financial models using real case studies;
- learn from former investment bankers with applied expertise in financial and valuation modeling methodologies; and
- earn an Accounting & Financial Statement Modeling credential.

Education, Nonprofit & Social Impact

PREPARING FUTURE EDUCATORS

This career community launched a new three-part career preparation series for teacher candidates in partnership with Lynn Dole, coordinator of teacher education, who teaches both the elementary and secondary sections of Clinical Internship Teaching (EDC 346). Designed to support students pursuing licensure, the class sessions focus on helping aspiring educators clarify their career interests, develop strong application materials, and confidently navigate the hiring process. Opportunities include:

- Exploring Education Careers & Developing an Effective Résumé workshop
- Successful Interviews, Cover Letters & Next Steps workshop
- Practice Interview Day with experienced educators and hiring decision-makers

Throughout the year, students engage in hands-on preparation for the education job market. They analyze real job postings, refine their résumés for roles across schools, and practice articulating their experiences and values as emerging educators.

The program intentionally prepares students for the Education Career Fair hosted by the Massachusetts Educational Recruiting Consortium in Boston, equipping them with the tools to present themselves confidently to school districts and educational organizations.

"I felt prepared for the Education Career Fair because of those workshops. Some of the exact questions they gave us were used by employers at the fair!"

—MOLLY MORSE-BELCHER '26

An education and English language & literature major



Government, Law, Policy & International Affairs

ADVICE FROM AN AMBASSADOR

Ambassador Wendy Sherman, who attended Smith College for two years in the late 1960s, led a hopeful conversation with students about careers in foreign policy. She talked about her own professional journey, including why she left Smith to finish college in Boston, where she could be more involved in political activism. Sherman began her career as a social worker, then moved into politics and ultimately a career in foreign policy, working for three presidents and ending as deputy secretary of state from 2021 to 2023. She told stories from her career, including memories from the White House Situation Room, and advised students, particularly as women, on how to carve out their own path. “Smith teaches you to raise your hand, to be there, to be present—either in front of the curtain or behind the curtain—but to be present,” Sherman says.

DOUBLE DUTY

Mia Gilmore '27 spent her first summer interning in municipal government. Conflicted about what type of internship to pursue next, and knowing she wanted to work in her hometown of Boston, Massachusetts, she turned to Heather DeLand, who leads this career community. Together, they came up with an innovative approach: Gilmore pursued—and landed—two unique internships. On Mondays and Tuesdays, she gained firsthand experience in state-level government by working in the office of Massachusetts State Senator Bill Driscoll Jr. For the rest of the week, she interned with the office of U.S. Senator Ed Markey, engaging with federal-level issues and operations. This split-week structure gave Gilmore the unique opportunity to compare the pace, culture, and responsibilities of state versus federal government, all within one summer.

“I was able to connect directly with constituents and hear how policy changes at the state and federal levels have impacted their lives,” Gilmore says. “These experiences have encouraged me to focus on a career that combines public policy with community engagement.” More specifically, Gilmore is pursuing pathways in environmental policy with a focus on sustainable agriculture.

According to DeLand, Gilmore is one of many students who are coming up with creative, localized ways to explore public service while staying grounded in their values and interests.

Mia Gilmore '27 (left) with U.S. Senator Ed Markey.



Health Professions

EXPANDING HORIZONS

This year, we continued to broaden the definition of “health professions” for Smithies by hosting a variety of specialists on campus. In the fall, students met two speech-language pathologists. **Kai Pretto AC '13** specializes in interventions for nonspeaking autistic children and supports individuals across the gender spectrum seeking gender-affirming vocal training. **Gabrielle Berkman-Levin '08** works with the Agawam Public School District to support fifth and sixth graders, often addressing language/literacy goals, speech articulation, and speech fluency.

In the spring, directors of the occupational therapy and physical therapy graduate programs at Springfield College explained the differences between the two professions and shared the myriad clinical and service-oriented career paths possible with those doctoral degrees.

All of the visiting professionals shared what their day-to-day experience is like and helped students understand how their liberal arts education could be leveraged into allied health careers.



A DAY WITH DR. DEAN

While on campus as a 2026 Smith College Medalist, **Dr. Wendy Brown Dean '87** shared her journey from Smith to medical school to her current work as an advocate, author, and journalist during classroom visits and a special colloquium. Dean is co-founder and CEO of The Moral Injury of Healthcare—a nonprofit focused on redefining and alleviating the causes of “burnout” among health care and medical professionals.

“I appreciated seeing her clear sense of purpose, strong convictions, and well-defined mission, all carefully crafted from years of experience and hundreds of conversations with other providers,” says **Clare Harned '27**, who got to spend time with Dean during Designing Your Path: Health Professions (IDP 132-03). “Our conversation felt very productive in that she helped the class think big picture about pressing structural issues in our health care system while also getting into finer detail about her own career and her very practical advice for health care workers in training.”

Dr. Wendy Brown Dean '87 was awarded the Smith College Medal at Rally Day 2026.

STEM

SCIENCE CAREERS FOR THE GREATER GOOD

The Science Careers for the Greater Good series introduces Smithies to a range of science-related careers that have a social impact. In the spring semester, **Jessamine Finch '12**—a botanist and seed ecologist—discussed her plant conservation efforts to save and protect seeds to ensure species viability in a changing ecological landscape.

“This event reinforced the importance of being flexible and adaptable,” says **Adline Dely '27**, who moderated the conversation with Finch. “Industries are constantly changing, and staying open to new possibilities helps prevent feeling stuck or limited in one path.” For Dely, plants started as a strong interest, but over the course of her time at Smith they became a more influential factor in her goals. She’s now exploring careers connected to the natural world. “Building connections with alums has been essential in helping me explore new directions and create a path toward a fulfilling career, even when I don’t always know where it will lead,” Dely says.

FILLING IN THE GAPS

In summer 2025, as part of the prestigious Jeff Ubben Posse Fellows Program, **Rae Traver-Fallick '27** earned an internship at Duolingo—the world’s leading mobile learning platform. While working with the Strategy and Business Operations team, Traver-Fallick saw firsthand the utility of SQL and Python programming for data science students interested in competitive industry roles. To help fill this gap on Smith’s campus, the STEM Career Community supported Traver-Fallick’s initiative to launch a series of workshops in conjunction with the Statistical & Data Sciences (SDS) Program and the student-run Smithies in SDS club. The five workshops were successful, supporting more than 30 students, all of whom reported confidence gains in both coding languages.



As part of the Jeff Ubben Posse Fellows Program, Rae Traver-Fallick '27 (left) was able to shadow Duolingo CEO Luis von Ahn (right) for three days over the summer.

Career treks offer students immersive, career-focused experiences through curated site visits across sectors. Each trek features Smith alums, industry professionals, and employer partners who share their career journeys and provide insider perspectives on workplace trends. Highlights from this year’s treks include:

LEGAL FIELD TREK SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Staff who work in the U.S. Attorney’s Office & District Courthouse of Massachusetts shared their career journeys and answered a slew of questions. Students got to meet assistant U.S. attorneys who are trying federal cases, as well as a federal judge, probation officers, and two FBI special agents. In the afternoon, Smithies toured Western New England University School of Law, heard students discuss precedent-setting cases during a Municipal and Land Use Law class, and met admissions staff.



In March, a group of students traveled to New York City to connect with experts working in theater, film, and television. This trek was co-sponsored by the Smith Office for the Arts, the Theatre Department, and the Department of Film & Media Studies.

NONPROFIT TREK GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Through alum panels, conversations with nonprofit leaders, a visit to a community farm, and a hands-on zine-making workshop, students explored careers in food justice, the arts, and the nonprofit sector. Many of the attendees were Smith Alliance for Justice & Equity Fellows—a program supported by the Jandon Center for Community Engagement, a co-sponsor of this trek.

PRODUCTION & PERFORMANCE TREK NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK

During a trip to Signature Theatre, the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, and the New York Public Library of the Performing Arts, students got to know six alums via panels and one-on-one conversations. They toured the theaters and workspaces and learned about essential behind-the-scenes roles in development, management, and archives as well as creative roles.

SMITH CAREER CONNECT



Smith Career Connect is an exclusive platform where students and alums engage in career conversations. **More than 2,500 alums have signed up to be informal mentors.** By sharing their experiences and having candid conversations, alums provide significant support to the next wave of working Smithies.

Chiashi Yang '28, a quantitative economics and computer science major, used the platform to reach out to **Laura Lubben '16**, who leads analytics at MarginEdge, a tech company that makes software for restaurants. "I saw that she was working in a field I'm very interested in and we were able to schedule a meeting the following week," Yang says. Yang went into that conversation hoping to learn more about Lubben's experience and her journey into data analytics, and also to pitch the idea that she could use Praxis funding to intern with Lubben this summer. It worked! Yang is spending summer 2026 as a data analytics intern working closely with Lubben and others to build an AI model that streamlines the data analytics process by generating data visualizations to support stakeholders.

"I'm passionate about working with data to uncover insights and build intuitive visualizations, and this role offers me the chance to do just that. It will help me gain experience and better prepare for a postgraduate role. Overall, I'm very excited about the opportunity to strengthen my skills, learn new ideas, and build relationships!"

— CHIASHI YANG '28
A quantitative economics and computer science major

ALUM IN ACTION

Abby Sweeney '25

HEALTHCARE INVESTMENT & CORPORATE BANKING ANALYST
AT MIZUHO | GREENHILL

It was only months after graduation before Sweeney was back on campus in an active recruitment role. Hoping to improve the number of Smithies on Wall Street, Sweeney formalized a partnership between her employer, Mizuho | Greenhill, and Smith's employer engagement team. "A Smith education uniquely prepares you for banking in ways that surpass your peers," Sweeney says. "Many, many Smithies would be very good at investment banking but just don't know where to start." To help clarify investment banking as a career path, Sweeney and her team hosted an on-campus information session in October to share opportunities at the firm and to explain what it's like to work there. In January, Sweeney hosted a virtual session to help current students prepare for internship interviews in investment banking—with any employer.

In addition to working with the Lazarus Center team, Sweeney has been able to utilize her still-strong campus connections to spread the word about her events. As a student, Sweeney was co-president of the Smithies in Business club and the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (she's an accomplished volleyball player), so it's been natural to lean on those networks—something she'll continue to do as she prepares for next year's events.

WAYS THE LAZARUS CENTER PARTNERS WITH ALUMS:

- Career Treks
- Industry Panels
- Jobs/Internships
- Job Shadowing
- Mock Interview Days
- Networking Sessions
- On-Campus Recruitment Events
- One-on-One Coffee Chats



800+
ALUM EMPLOYER
PARTNERS

Abby Sweeney '25 and her colleagues led an info session about Mizuho | Greenhill.



PRAXIS FUNDING

Praxis funding offers students up to \$4,500 to participate in a qualified unpaid summer or interterm internship. This resource makes internships accessible to all students so they can build skills and explore practical work experiences in their area of interest.

Sequoia LeBreux AC '28 used Praxis funding to intern at The Handle Factory Community Clay Center in Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts. There, she got to study glaze chemistry and development. “I had to learn about minerals and colorants—like silica, spodumene, cobalt, and different oxides—and worked with commercially available mason stains.”

In addition to the technical aspect, LeBreux learned a lot about community spaces and her own career path. “It was really impactful to witness so many artists making careers out of their art,” she says. “I love making art, but doubt my ability to pursue it monetarily. Working in the studio, I was able to experience a job in a creative environment that supports my art-making journey and makes it feel more accessible. I look forward to learning what other creative careers are out there that would also inspire me.”

SMITH IN THE WORLD

Smith in the World is an annual conference series that showcases and celebrates students’ off-campus experiential learning. Student panelists reflect on their internships, community service, and research, and share about the impact those experiences have had on their academic work and future plans. This year, more than 150 people from around the world joined our live virtual panels. Hundreds more have watched the recordings.

87%

OF SMITH STUDENTS
COMPLETE AT LEAST
ONE INTERNSHIP
BEFORE GRADUATION.



FELLOWSHIPS AS A CAREER BUILDER

Fellowships are competitive, short-term opportunities that provide recognition and funding to pursue research, language study, public service, and/or teaching. They are important career development tools because they help students grow their skill sets and professional networks. While many of these postgraduate experiences provide funding for graduate and professional studies, there are also fellowships like the Harris Social Impact Fellowship that function more like an entry-level position while also providing extraordinary opportunities for academic and leadership development.

SMITHIES EARN TWO SPOTS IN FIRST COHORT OF NEW FELLOWSHIP

This was the inaugural year for the Harris Social Impact Fellowship—an 11-month paid program for recent and soon-to-be STEM graduates who have a strong combination of quantitative skills and an interest in social issues. **Gabriela Eastwood '26**, who majored in statistical and data sciences and Italian studies, and **Katarina Flöer '26**, who majored in biological sciences and statistical and data sciences, were two of 15 students selected from nearly 800 applicants.

“Gabriela insists upon seeing data as a means, rather than an end in itself,” says Casey Bohlen, Mellon Visiting Assistant Professor in History and Public Discourse. “And because of that moral clarity, she can wield social scientific tools with both skill and humility, always aiming to enhance the dignity of ordinary people and local communities.” According to Eastwood, this fellowship is a chance to use her technical skills to offer support for projects “in places where they can do the most good.”

As fellows, Eastwood and Flöer will participate in intensive summer studies at the University of Chicago’s Harris School of Public Policy. Afterward, Eastwood will work at the research and policy center Mansueto Institute for Urban Innovation. Flöer will engage in research addressing systemic health inequities through the University of Chicago Health Lab.



Gabriela Eastwood '26, recipient of the Harris Social Impact Fellowship, hopes to build upon her experience exploring solutions to food insecurity.

BETTER TOGETHER

The Lazarus Center's mission is realized through a vast web of campus partnerships. By integrating career development into every facet of the Smith experience—from the studio to the lab—we ensure that all students have a clear, supported pathway to their future. Here are just some of our incredible campus partners:

- Accessibility Resource Center
- Ada Comstock Scholars Program
- AEMES (Achieving Excellence in Mathematics, Engineering, and Sciences)
- Athletics and Recreation at Smith
- Center for the Environment, Ecological Design, and Sustainability
- Community for Low-Income and First-Generation Students
- Conway Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center
- First Gen Out Loud
- Jandon Center for Community Engagement
- Lewis Global Studies Center
- Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship
- Office of Alumnae Relations
- Office of the Class Deans
- Office for Equity and Inclusion
- Office of Multicultural Affairs
- Office of the Provost and Dean of the Faculty
- Office of Student Affairs
- Schacht Center for Health and Wellness
- Smith College Libraries
- Smith Design Clinic
- Smith Office for the Arts
- STRIDE (Smith's Student Research in Departments Program)
- Wurtele Center for Collaborative Leadership

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

SMITH OFFICE FOR THE ARTS (SOFA)

Our enduring partnership with SOFA serves as a vital bridge to the creative economy. This collaboration continues to provide students with high-impact treks to leading cultural institutions, including theaters and museums. These immersive experiences allow Smithies to engage in one-on-one mentorship with alums who are actively shaping the future of the arts.

Together, we support Smith's mission of developing engaged global citizens and leaders to address society's challenges.

Thank you for your partnership, and we look forward to seeing you in McCartney Hall!

Photos by: Carly Renna '26, Chris Cooper / ArchExplorer, Emerald Advisers, Humanitarian Affairs Asia, Jess Scranton, Jim Gipe, Shana Sureck, and Skye Galik



Eloise Van Meter '26 (left) and Ruby Goldstein '27 (center) worked with Boston-based artist Julia Emiliani (right) to create a three-story mural in the central staircase of Kathleen McCartney Hall.



SMITH COLLEGE.