

P.O. BOX 1500 STAUNTON, VA 24402-1500

Mary Baldwin University and The Commonwealth of Virginia's Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership

Our nation's only all-female corps of cadets (report date September 1, 2022)

VWIL proudly continues 27 years serving the best interests of the United States of America and the Commonwealth of Virginia. VWIL is the nation's premier college leadership development program for women, integrating academics, fitness, leadership development, ethics, and military training. The program demands of cadets a great deal beyond the ordinary, its educational value is stronger than ever, and it produces exceptional citizens and military leaders.

Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership Facts

- To date, 495 VWIL women have graduated from Mary Baldwin University; 48% of these graduates were Virginians, 40% were first-generation college students, and 56% pursued government careers at the local, state, national and international levels. Over the past 24 years of graduates, we've commissioned 178 officers and an additional 16 graduates enlisted into the U.S. armed forces; 44% commissioned are Virginians; and commissioning rate averaged 57% between 2019 and 2022. In 2022, we celebrated our largest military commissioning class 18 female officers representing 81% of their graduating class serving in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard.
- In 2022–23, the VWIL Corps is 100 women strong, including 57% minority students. No other senior military college or military academy represents such a diverse population VWIL's diversity is our strength. Mary Baldwin University's strategic plan for 2025 and beyond, calls for efforts *"to build upon VWIL and our military connections and commitment."* As of Fall 2022, VWIL has matriculated over 1,250 cadets through the VWIL Corps of Cadets.
- VWIL is a public-private partnership of the Commonwealth of Virginia and Mary Baldwin University, and was established at the request of the Commonwealth in 1995. State funding for VWIL is more modest than in the program's early years and current funding pales in comparison to Virginia Military Institute and Virginia Tech. The Virginia Corps of Cadets consists of VMI, VT, and VWIL. Historically, VWIL has represented 5% of the total Virginia Corps and 30% of the women in the Virginia Corps. The VWIL Corps marched in six gubernatorial inauguration parades since 1998. The VWIL Corps was not invited to participate in January 2022, yet the VMI Corps of Cadets and VT Corps Band did participate.
- The number of cadets receiving Virginia VWIL funding is: 2013, 56 students; 2014, 52 students; 2015, 46 students; 2016, 39 students; 2017, 39 students; 2018, 35 students; 2019, 42 students; 2020, 28 students; 2021, 28 students; and in 2022 we have 21 students from Virginia. All these cadets are, or were, Virginia residents. VWIL cadets from Virginia are not eligible for the Tuition Assistance Grant (TAG), so the designated VWIL funding provides their state-funded tuition assistance.
- The past five years, with VWIL's growing national reputation, our incoming freshmen class averages 74% out-ofstate students who do not benefit from the Virginia VWIL grant. The Commonwealth of Virginia's annual allocation in the state budget is essential and directly supports cadets with dedicated leadership programming that benefits them. Under the leadership of Brigadier General Terry Djuric (USAF, Retired), the VWIL program administrative costs have been reduced while providing quality leadership development for the growing number of VWIL cadets – women leaders who believe in diversity, truth, duty, honor.

More information: www.marybaldwin.edu/vwil

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