

Summer 2018

# CC: Connecticut College Magazine, Summer 2018

Connecticut College

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CC

CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

*Magazine*

LOOK  
ALIVE

NO LOITERING

4 8



On the cover: Writer Sloane Crosley '00 (page 48). Photo: Miles Ladin '90

This page: Midnight Circus at Yards Park during the Street Arts Festival in May 2012 (page 22). Photo: Daniel Schwartz



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Harold Shapiro

## From the President

# A world of difference

From its founding at the turn of the 20th century as the only institution in the state dedicated to the higher education of women, Connecticut College has embraced a progressive vision of higher learning in order to prepare graduates who are ready not just to make a living but to make a difference. That is the meaning of our mission: putting the liberal arts into action.

In celebrating our 100th Commencement on Sunday, May 20, on Tempel Green, our graduating seniors, faculty, staff, and friends of the College had the opportunity to hear from Jazmine Hughes '12, a young alumna and activist whose life's work embodies the College's founding principles and mission.

Hughes is an associate editor for *The New York Times Magazine*. She has been published by *The New Yorker*, *Elle*, *Gawker*, and *The New Republic*, and she is co-creator of Writers of Color, a tool designed to introduce editors to a more diverse array of young talent. These accomplishments led *Forbes* magazine to name Hughes to its 30 Under 30 list for 2018. The College, in turn, conferred on her an honorary degree—a doctor of humane letters *honoris causa*—that speaks to her achievements as a journalist and her commitment to the animating values of this community: excellence, integrity, and justice. Hughes is the youngest ever recipient of an honorary doctorate from the College.

While the 100th Commencement afforded a natural point to look back on our history, we continue to look ahead to build the Connecticut College of the next century. In the spring, we opened the Otto and Fran Walter Commons for Global Study and Engagement, to expand opportunities for global learning for all students. And I am proud to report that the College also received two extraordinary gifts totaling \$20 million—a \$10 million grant from the Sherman Fairchild Foundation and a \$10 million gift from Nancy Marshall Athey '72 and her husband Preston Athey—to support the transformation of Palmer Auditorium and Castle Court into a new and revitalized center for performance and creative research.

These projects and others are helping to ensure that our legacy of progressive education endures into the 21st century, so that Connecticut College will continue to send graduates into the world who, like Hughes and the alumni featured in this issue, go on to make a world of difference.

**Katherine Bergeron**

Volume 26 / Number 3

VICE PRESIDENT FOR COMMUNICATIONS:  
*Pamela Dumas Serfes*  
EDITOR: *Edward Weinman*  
ART DIRECTOR: *Benjamin Parent*  
SENIOR WRITERS: *Amy Martin, Doug Daniels*  
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER: *Miles Ladin '90*  
CLASS NOTES COMPILED BY: *Sarabeth Fields*

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Editor, *CC Magazine*, Becker House,  
270 Mohegan Avenue, New London, CT 06320-4196  
Phone: 860-439-2500  
Fax: 860-439-5405  
Email: [ccmag@conncoll.edu](mailto:ccmag@conncoll.edu)

*Alumni: Send address changes to:*

**Alumni Office**  
**Connecticut College**  
**270 Mohegan Ave.**  
**New London, CT 06320-4196**

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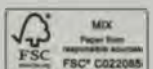
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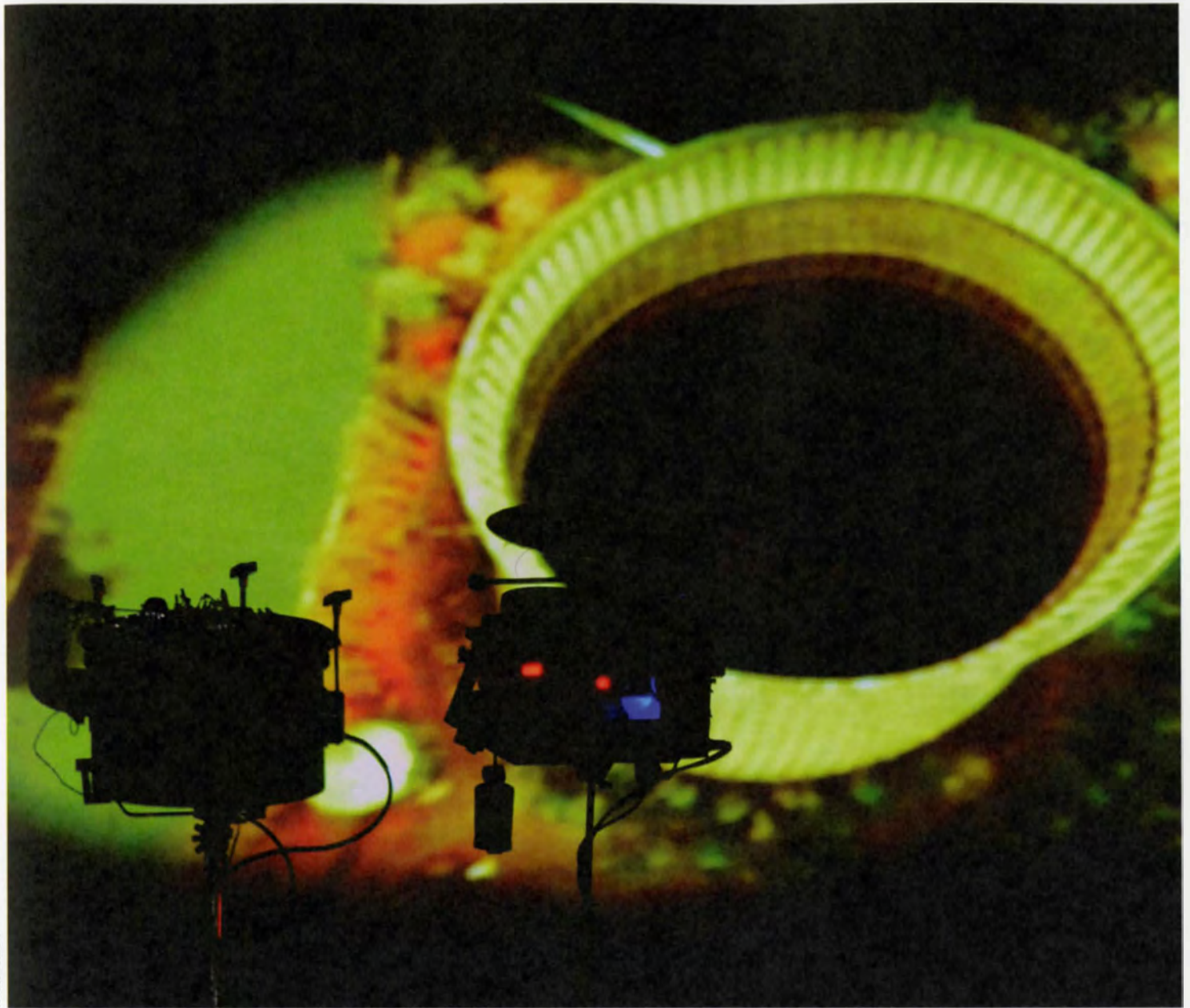
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#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We welcome your letters. The magazine publishes only letters that comment on the most recent issue's editorial content. Letters may be edited. Please include your return address, an email address (if you have one) and a daytime telephone number for verification purposes.

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A. Vincent Scarnano

## Intersections

For more than three decades, the Biennial Ammerman Arts and Technology Symposium presented by Connecticut College has provided a forum for artists and researchers from around the world to share ideas, performances and exhibitions of visual art with Conn students and faculty in a way that explores cultural issues through the lenses of art and technology.

Called “Intersections,” this year’s symposium—Conn’s 16th—had nearly 100 innovators from an eclectic mix of disciplines who focused on the theme of social justice. The symposium examined contemporary topics related to gender, race, economic inequality and the societal impact of modern technology.

“We’ve been doing this symposium a long time, and it’s important to be topical,” said Andrea Wollensak, who serves

as director of the Ammerman Center for Arts and Technology. “This year, the idea was to explore and express ideas on race, class, power and social justice.”

Beyond attending the various exhibitions, performances and discussions, students had the opportunity to work with artists and participate in installations. Several students also presented projects and received feedback from symposium participants.

## New dean of the faculty

Jeffrey Cole, associate dean of the faculty and professor of anthropology, has been named dean of the faculty at Connecticut College, effective July 1. The highest-ranking officer after the president, the dean of the faculty is responsible for providing academic leadership for the College and its faculty.

As dean of the faculty, Cole will provide leadership for the College's educational mission, support faculty development and ensure the quality of the College curriculum. The dean is responsible for overseeing all academic departments and programs; stewarding the appointment, promotion and tenure of individual faculty members; identifying new chairs and program directors; reviewing the faculty compensation program; and

administering the academic budget.

Cole joined Connecticut College in 2008 as chair of the Department of Anthropology after serving for nearly 15 years on the faculty of Dowling College. At Connecticut College, he has offered popular courses on food, drink and migration, and led students on ethnographic trips through Long Island and New York City. As chair, he worked with his department to restructure the curriculum, transform the student experience, and hire and mentor new faculty. He has served as associate dean since 2015.

He received his first bachelor's degree from Portland State University, another undergraduate degree from the University of Oslo, and a doctorate from the City University of New York. His

scholarship has focused on food and agriculture, migration, ethnicity and race. He is the author of "A New Racism in Europe: A Sicilian Ethnography" and is co-author with Sally Booth of "Dirty Work: Immigrants in Domestic Service, Agriculture, and Prostitution in Sicily." He co-edited with Pietro Saitta two special issues of the *Journal of Modern Italian Studies* and is the editor of a one-volume encyclopedia on identity, "Ethnic Groups of Europe."

He is the recipient of grants and awards from the National Science Foundation, Wenner-Gren, the Fulbright program, and the H.F. Guggenheim Foundation. He served as president (2012-14) of the Society for the Anthropology of Europe, a section of the American Anthropological Association.

## Silver stars award

The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education awarded Connecticut College with a STARS Silver rating.

"Working towards a more sustainable campus is something that we have to do in order to preserve the environment and create a more equal society," said Margaret Bounds, Conn's assistant director of sustainability.

The STARS self-reporting process takes a holistic approach to measuring an institution's sustainability performance, using both operational and qualitative data. This means that categories such as community engagement and curricular integration are as important as waste management or energy efficiency.

Though Conn has always been a leader in the field—purchasing renewable and carbon offsets starting in the 1990s, for example—its new strategic plan has put issues of environmental stewardship back into the spotlight, Bounds added.

And because "our students are going to face big challenges such as climate change when they leave college, the more we can

do here to prepare them to address those challenges, the more successful we'll be as a society."

With the support of the College's Environmental Model Committee, Bounds' office gathered operational and administrative data from across campus. Associate Professor of Botany and Suzi Oppenheimer '56 Faculty Director of the Office of Sustainability Chad Jones took on the academic side, looking at how sustainability fit into Conn's curriculum.

"As an educational institution, we have the opportunity to have a significant impact on the future through the lives and careers of our students," said Jones, who researches invasive plant species and their relationship to natural and human systems. He also stressed the importance of the STARS system's holistic approach.

"The environment, society and our economic systems interact with each other, and efforts to solve issues relating to any one of these must consider the influences and implications of the others," he said.

## Environmental engineering

Connecticut College, one of the first colleges in the country to offer a major in environmental studies, has partnered with Worcester Polytechnic Institute to offer a new dual-degree program in environmental engineering.

The innovative five-year program combines courses in chemistry, geosciences, physics and biology at Conn with engineering and design courses at WPI. Students participating in the program will earn a bachelor of arts degree in environmental engineering studies from Conn and have the option of earning an additional bachelor of science degree in environmental engineering from WPI.

The new degree requires three years of study at Conn and one year of study at WPI during the junior year. After graduating from Conn, students may transfer to WPI for a fifth year of study to pursue their bachelor of science degree.



## Twenty million dollars for the arts

Connecticut College has received two gifts totaling \$20 million for the renovation of Palmer Auditorium and Castle Court into a new and revitalized center for performance and creative research.

Funding will be provided through a \$10 million grant from the Sherman Fairchild Foundation and a \$10 million gift from Nancy Marshall Athey '72 and Preston Athey, longtime supporters of the College and its arts programs.

The transformation of the space will promote pioneering artistic production and research, attract world-renowned artists-in-residence, bring together alumni leaders in the arts and offer renewed spaces for community engagement. Central to the project is a historically informed renovation of Palmer Auditorium, the College's iconic Art Deco theater built in

1939, including a new entrance and a complete façade renewal. The project also envisions opening Castle Court, the space adjacent to the auditorium, into a natural amphitheater and outdoor classroom.

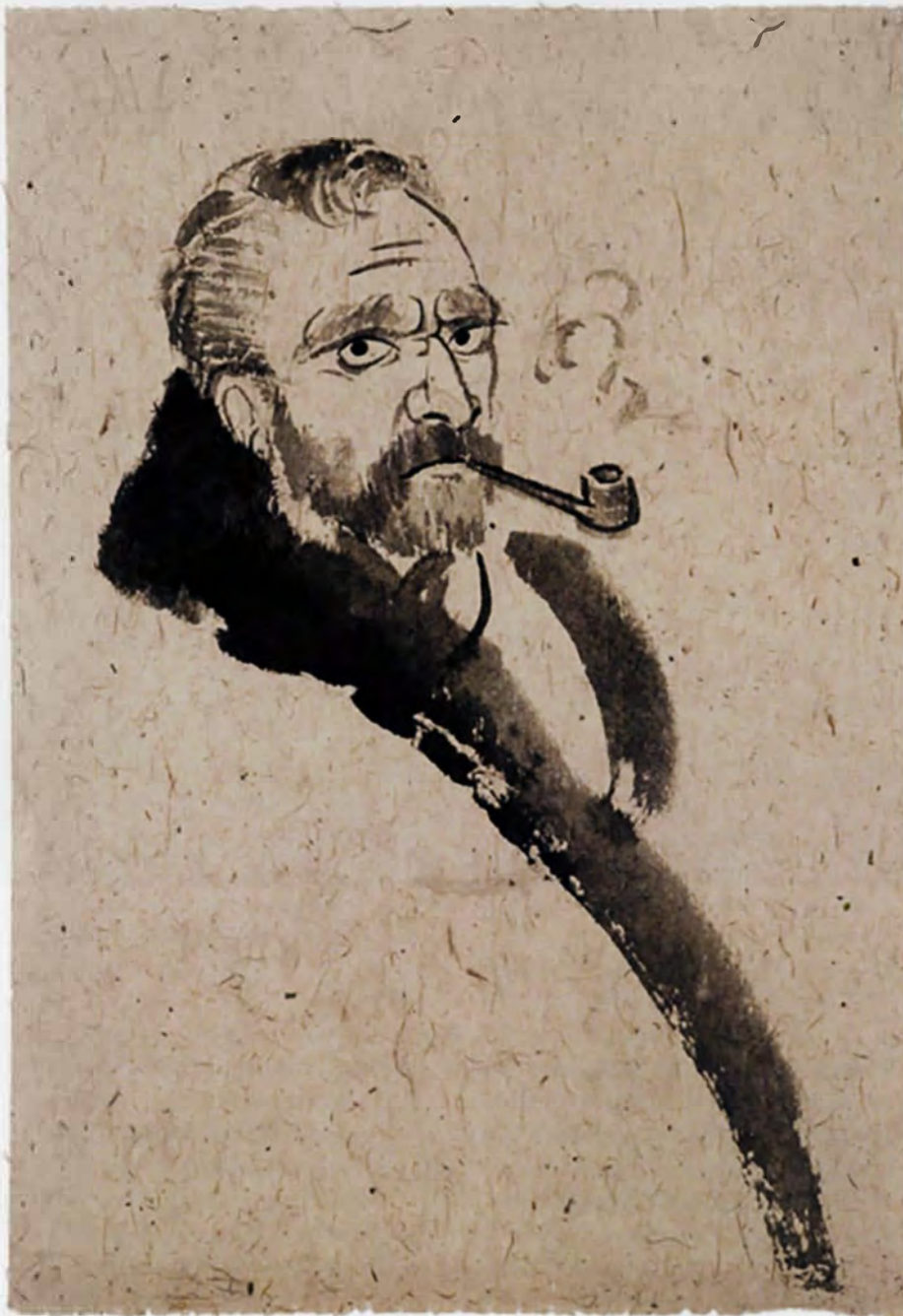
"Our strategic plan recognizes the importance of creative research as fundamental to developing imaginative and engaged citizens of the future," said Connecticut College President Katherine Bergeron. "We are so grateful to the Sherman Fairchild trustees and to Nancy and Preston for their extraordinary generosity and for making this vision a reality."

The historic Palmer Auditorium was visionary in its time—a 1,300-seat hall, designed by William Lamb, principal architect of the Empire State Building, built to serve not just the campus but also the surrounding

community. Since opening in 1939, it has featured such renowned musicians, dancers and performers as the New York Philharmonic, the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Martha Graham, José Limón, the American Dance Festival, Merce Cunningham, Paul Taylor, Alvin Ailey, Twyla Tharp, the Pilobolus dance company, Dizzy Gillespie, Yo-Yo Ma and many others.

"We are so pleased to play a part in bringing this wonderful project to fruition and to help in the reinvention of a venerable and historic building into a new center for the arts," said Nancy Marshall Athey. "With this investment, we hope to bring the greater New London community to the campus and to contribute to the College's continued preeminence in the creative and performing arts."





Vincent Van Gogh by Zhang Hongtu

## Guggenheim to Conn

You don't always have to go to a world-famous museum to see a great art exhibition. That's the message Cheryl McGinnis, chief art correspondent for Cheddar.com, eagerly relayed after visiting Connecticut College recently to see "Zhang Hongtu: Van Gogh/Bodhidharma," which ran last April in Shain Library's Charles Chu Asian Art Reading Room.

"This is a small show, but a very important show," McGinnis said. "To see it in this setting within a college campus in a library is amazing."

Zhang, a New York-based Chinese immigrant who has earned international acclaim for his work in different media, is known for challenging the Chinese government and exploring themes relating to East-West cultural divides. In this exhibition, his paintings blend van Gogh's self-portraits with the style of classical Zen portraits of Bodhidharma, the first Zen Buddhist.

Zhang's exhibition at Conn, which associate professor of Chinese Yibing Huang helped to curate, was recently featured at the Guggenheim Museum in New York City as part of its exhibition, "Art and China After 1989: Theatre of the World."

Most of the 39 ink paintings on display at the College were being shared publicly for the first time. Zhang has also created a new video installation specifically for the exhibition at Conn. The show is free and open to the public.

# 'To be and to thrive'

*An excerpt from senior speaker Nayla Tohme '18. For more on Conn's 100th Commencement, [conncoll.edu/commencement](http://conncoll.edu/commencement):*

I stand here today in utter disbelief, feeling immense gratitude to you, Conn. At a time when political tensions are rife and discriminatory conservatism grips the West, I have found in you a haven of liberalism and inclusion that allows an Arab woman, not only to *be*, but also to *thrive*...

...It's alarming and endearing to think how different we were back in our first year. Since then, some of our many individual accomplishments have included promoting reproductive health, living adventure-filled semesters abroad, starting a clothing line and managing a band. As a group, we have been active locally, organizing for social change

and working towards the prevention of sexual assault here on campus. We have acted globally, addressing pressing environmental issues around the world, and tackling the refugee crisis in the Middle East, Europe and Latin America. In all our efforts, such as our recent collection of aid for hurricane victims, we have embodied Conn's values of collaboration, justice and respect for nature.

Indeed, Conn has equipped the class of 2018 with the skills to think critically across disciplines, and with the tools to build communities that work together with integrity and compassion. We have the confidence to challenge what we cannot accept, and the creativity to imagine a different world. Conn has prepared us to be responsible citizens and the global leaders of tomorrow.

Nobel Prize novelist Toni Morrison, advises us: "*When you get these jobs that you have been so brilliantly trained for, just remember that your real job is that because you are free, you need to free somebody else. If you have some power, then your job is to empower somebody else.*"

So, fellow camels, let's carry Conn's Honor Code outside its walls starting tomorrow. Let's remain committed to acting with integrity, courage and empathy as we strive to empower those who have no voice. Let's hold on to our cultural curiosity and remember how interconnected and interdependent we all are. Let us not reduce a complex situation to a single narrative of "good or evil", of "with us or against us", but continue instead to be well informed and impartial as we advocate for social justice and equity.



Photo: © Nayla Tohme '18



Adam Campos '08

## Never let you down

A dance piece choreographed by Rachael Lieblein-Jurbala '19 is heading to one of dance's biggest stages.

The politically charged "*...and I will never, ever let you down*," created for the 2017 Connecticut College Dance Club performance on campus, has been selected to be performed at the American College Dance Association's 2018 National College Dance Festival at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., in June.

Lieblein-Jurbala says she created the dance, which was selected from more than 30 works performed at the ACDA New England Conference in February, in response to a series of remarks made about women by then-presidential candidate Donald Trump during and before the 2016 campaign.

"I was angry and frustrated that the most powerful person in our country was speaking this way about 50 percent of the population," she said. "Dance and

performance is often a great way to start conversations."

The piece, performed by five Connecticut College student dancers, Kaya Blumenthal-Rothchild '20, Grace Bradley '18, Kelli Carlson '18, Emily Green '18 and Sophia McLaughlin '20, includes prerecorded audio of women reading direct quotes from before and during the campaign. Some quotes are also spoken by the dancers during the performance.

"It's a reclamation of words spoken about women," Lieblein-Jurbala said.

Adjudicators for the ACDA New England Conference called "*...and I will never, ever let you down*," a sophisticated and relevant statement in a charged political moment that utilizes the power of both subtle and not-so-subtle gesture. It immediately and thoroughly immerses the view in the world it creates, revealing its social commentary through masterful layering."

A dance and sociology double major and scholar in the Holleran Center for Community Action and Public Policy, Lieblein-Jurbala is interested in the ways in which dance can be used to help those who have experienced trauma, and in the relationship between gender socialization and intimate violence. Last summer, she interned with the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence to develop a movement curriculum for children and teens affected by intimate partner violence.

Shani Collins-Achille, associate professor of dance and chair of the Connecticut College Dance Department, said Conn's integrative approach to dance education will be on display when Lieblein-Jurbala's piece is performed at the biggest showcase for college dance.

"The dance community will get a great sense of who we are with this very powerful, highly political piece," she said.

# Smashing stereotypes

In the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical “Carousel,” Billy Bigelow hits Julie Jordan, and 15 years later their daughter Louise asks, “Is it possible, Mama, for someone to hit you, real loud and hard, and for it not to hurt at all?” Julie answers, “Yes, dear, it is possible.”

It’s incidents like these that are making Broadway producers rethink how to produce classic musicals such as “Carousel,” “My Fair Lady” and “Kiss Me, Kate,” musicals that seem to romanticize problematic relationships between women and men.

In *The New York Times* article “The Problem With Broadway Revivals: They Revive Gender Stereotypes, Too,” Michael Paulson points to Connecticut College’s production of “Carousel,” and the modern way Conn examined the relationship between Bigelow and Jordan through the lens of domestic violence.

“In 2016, Connecticut College students met with a local domestic violence organization while rehearsing the show, and wound up getting permission to change a line so Julie appears to reject, rather than accept, the idea that being hit

hard might not hurt,” Paulson wrote.

In Conn’s production, Julie’s answer changes to, “No, dear, it’s not possible.”

The permission to alter the story came from Ted Chapin ’72, president and chief creative officer of the Rodgers & Hammerstein Organization. The local organization students worked with was Safe Futures, a New London-based nonprofit that helps people who have been affected by domestic violence. David Jaffe ’77, professor of theater and chair of the theater department, said this background work helped to inform the students about how to approach the production.

“We’re learning about that world. We’re acknowledging the troublesome issues of the play head on and are saying, ‘These are complex relationships. Let’s see if we can learn about them,’” said Jaffe, who directed Conn’s production of “Carousel.”

Conn has a history of exploring social justice through the arts and feels that a vibrant and fully integrated music and arts program serves as a powerful vehicle for advancing the social change that helps define the College’s mission.

The College’s “Spring Awakening” production is another example of how, through the arts, students explore contemporary issues. The Tony award-winning musical portrays the journey from adolescence to adulthood with a poignancy and passion that is illuminating and unforgettable. Based on the play by Frank Wedekind, the landmark musical is an electrifying fusion of morality, sexuality and rock and roll.

Professor of Dance David Dorfman ’81, who choreographed “Spring Awakening” and “Carousel,” said “theater does not exist in a vacuum but in relationship to history and the contemporary world.”

In both musicals “we had numerous conversations, some led by experts in various fields regarding topics such as domestic violence, abuse and gender representation, to help us navigate complex waters. In the end, we attempted to embody these complications and contradictions to the best of our abilities to render meaningful conversations with ourselves and audience members moving forward.”



A.T. Thomas '20

# Fiber Artist

BY AMY MARTIN

**HER CANVAS-SIZED QUILTS** aren't meant to keep you warm. They're meant to tell you a story.

Linda Martin '75 layers small pieces of synthetic and natural fabrics, each no larger than two inches, to create whimsical portraits of the famous and the unheralded. There's Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., emerging from swirls of orange and red on one side and flowing blues and greens on the other. Dr. Pearl Primus, the famed dancer and choreographer credited with bringing African dance to American audiences, is depicted with tiny figures dancing throughout her headscarf. A collage of textures and patterns—including animal print and geometric shapes—forms a strikingly lifelike image in "Manchild."

"I hide things in my quilts," Martin says, such as four stars in Dr. King's tie meant to represent his children.

"If you are in a doctor's waiting room and one of my quilts is on the wall, I want you to be able to sit there for 20 minutes and continue to find something new. I want to engage you."

These days, you are just as likely to find Martin's work in a gallery. This spring, much of her collection was on display at the Sidewalk Gallery in Norwalk, Connecticut. A rising star in the world of fiber arts, she is now getting requests to exhibit her work across the country.

Martin worked as an education administrator for the state of Connecticut for 31 years. She liked the job, and it paid the bills, but it wasn't her passion, and she remembers praying that someday her calling would reveal itself.

That moment came in 2010 when Martin went to the Hartford Stage to see "Gee's Bend," a play about women in a small community in Alabama made up mostly of descendants of former slaves who developed a unique style of quilting, creating functional masterpieces that celebrated their cultural histories and family milestones.

"My great-grandmother taught me that quilting was a way of communicating between women," Martin said. "I realized, 'I can do quilts.'"

She started out making bed quilts for family and friends, but quickly developed her own style—as she does in just about everything in life.

"I don't like to be pegged. If you put me in a group of people who look just like me, I'm going to twist my hair or wear green lipstick just so that I'm a little bit different," she says.

The more people took notice and complimented her work, the more Martin quilted. Still, it took time for her to recognize herself as an artist.

"A few years after I started, my mentor said to me, 'You are a fiber artist.' I said, 'No, I'm not an artist.' I have

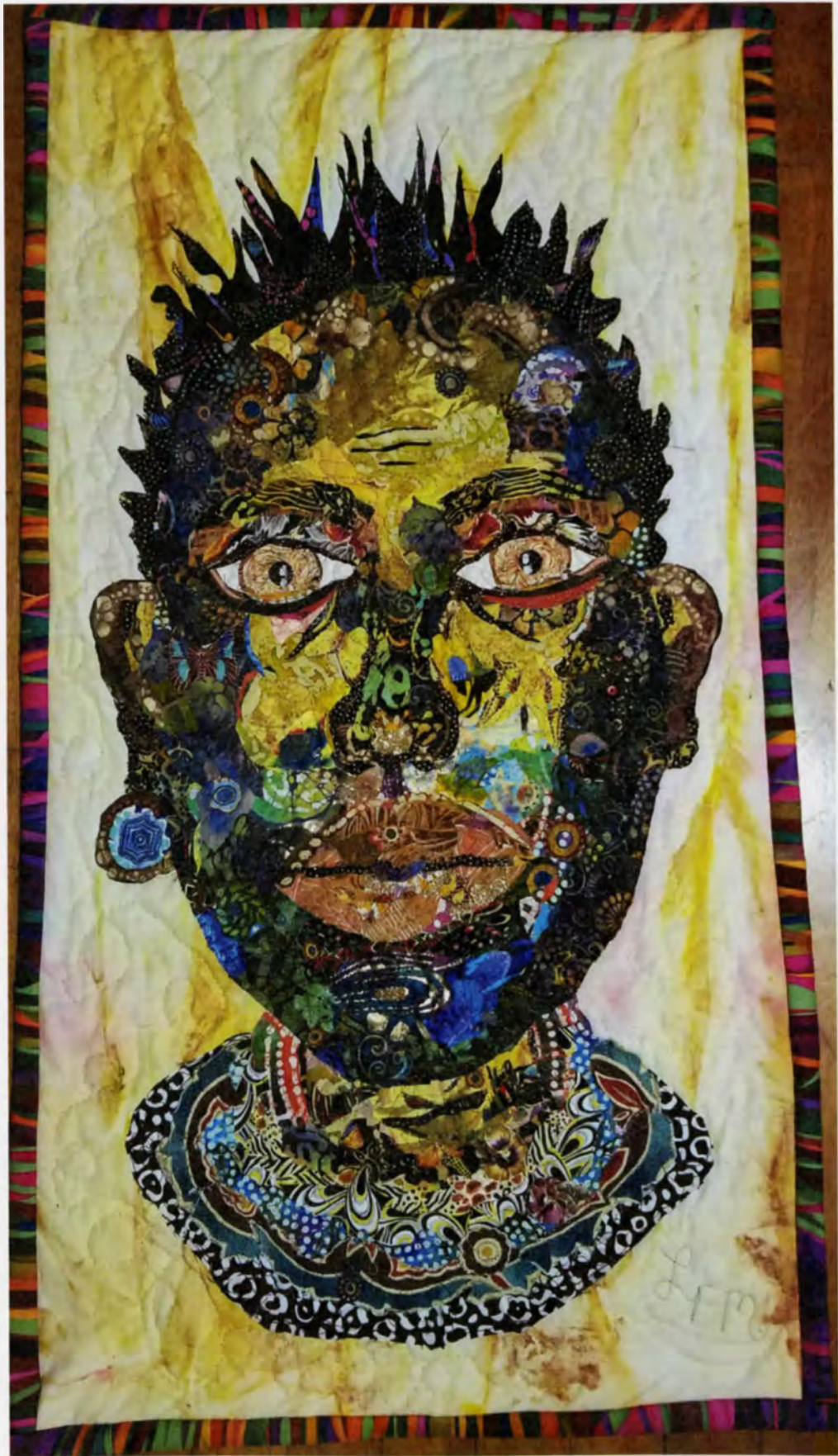
great respect for artists. I didn't think I was one."

Connecticut College, she says, is an important part of her history as an artist. Martin studied psychology, learned to express herself with writing and nurtured a love of architecture. But it wasn't always an easy time to be at the College. Martin arrived on campus with one of the first classes admitted after students demanded the College's administration take steps to diversify the student body and actively recruit underrepresented students.

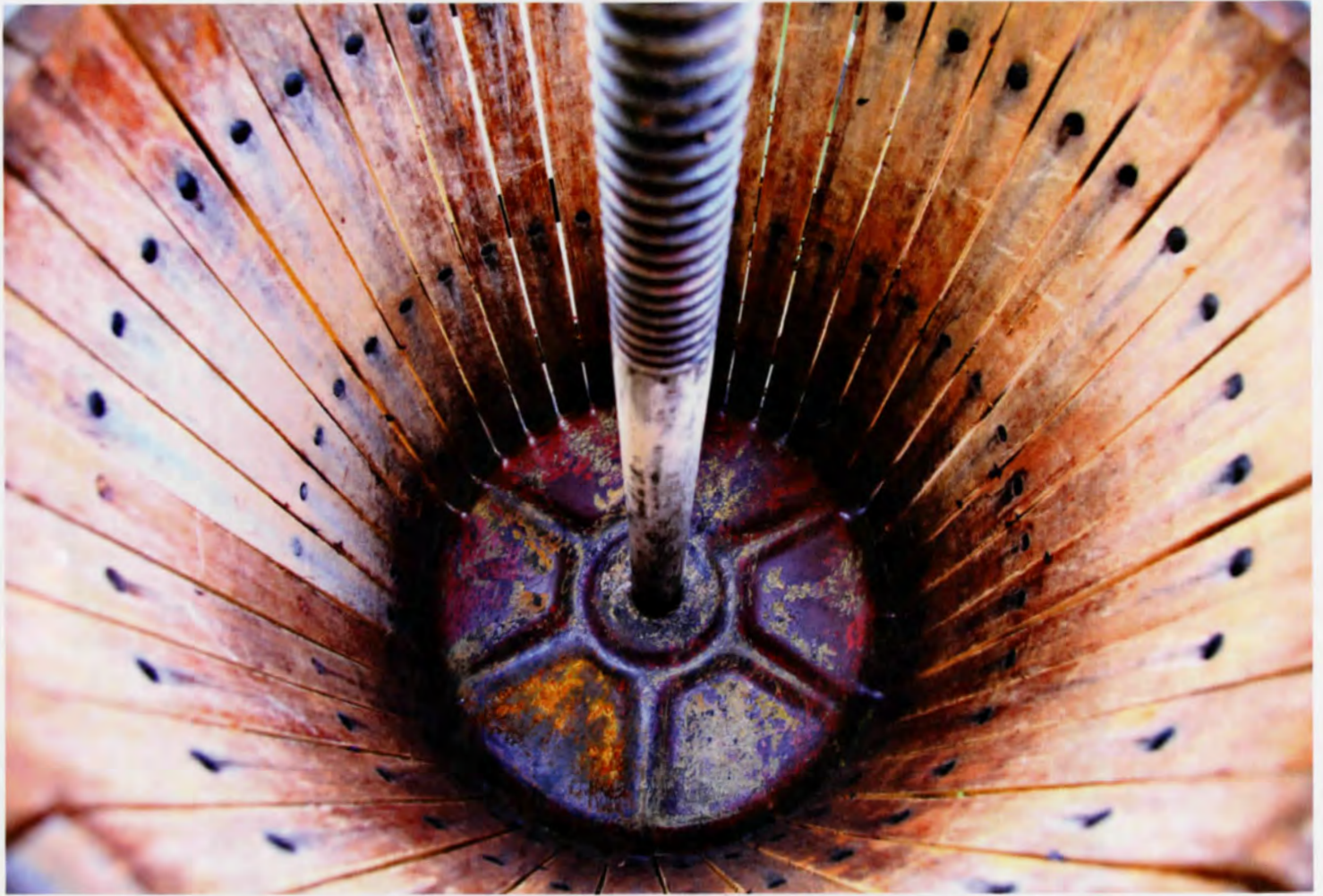
"We wore big Afros and platform shoes and lived in Blackstone dorm. We had a black student organization and started Unity House," she remembers. "When I graduated, I wanted to show who I was, that I could combine graduating from Connecticut College with being a woman of African descent. I put red and green stripes down my black gown, and I liked my Afro, so I didn't wear my mortarboard."

Martin's one regret is that she never took a class with Barkley Hendricks, the late professor emeritus of studio art. At the time, she says, she never imagined she'd be where she is today.

"Things have just blossomed," she says. "I'm now traveling the country with my work in exhibits. I don't know what this is going to become. But I'm having fun."



"Insizwa", 35" x 19", by Linda Martin



# Meet Your Maker

BY DOUG DANIELS

## AFTER A 12-HOUR DAY OF

working under the South Australian sun, Conor Quilty '15 would retire to his small shack on the Yangarra Estate Vineyard and enjoy the cool evening breeze. With no readily available Internet access, he would occasionally try to get online by using a tiny, prepaid cell phone as a Wi-Fi hotspot.

Nestled at the foot of the Mt. Lofty mountain range, Yangarra occupies prime real estate in the prestigious McLaren Vale wine region, which stretches from the rolling hills to the picturesque Gulf St. Vincent.

"That experience in Australia almost didn't seem real," Quilty fondly recalls now. "It was really beautiful there, and I had an opportunity to work with those amazing winemakers who taught me so much."

By the end of the four-month season in Australia, Quilty knew he was hooked on winemaking. So when he returned home to the U.S., the Pennsylvania native was determined to get a job at a vineyard in the up-and-coming East Coast wine industry, rather than working for a more established California vineyard.

Before long, Quilty, whose resume at 23 displayed a level of skill and experience winemakers a decade older would be proud to have, landed a job at Unionville Vineyards in New Jersey, one of the East Coast's top wineries, where he now serves as associate winemaker.

Quilty says he was initially drawn to New Jersey over better-known areas in the region, such as the Hudson Valley and Long Island wine countries, because there was a notable absence of pretentiousness and a more experimental spirit.

"When I came into this job, a very strong foundation had already been laid, but the vineyard still had an open-minded, underdog feel to it that I loved," Quilty says. "I think that's part of why we're experiencing a wine renaissance in the region."

Unionville's wines have been receiving rave reviews, and a broader reputation for high-quality New Jersey wine is beginning to overcome the stigma and lack of awareness that have traditionally posed challenges for winemakers in the state.

"People have a tendency to think of the I-95 corridor with traffic jams and smoke stacks when they think of New Jersey," Quilty explains. "But our vineyard is in the western part of the state that is defined by bucolic farmland and mountains."

Introduced to botany during his senior year of high school in an elective course, Quilty's interest in the subject quickly replaced his early ambitions of going to medical school. When he explored the botany department at Conn—which is celebrating its 100th year—he was confident he'd found his perfect college. The question was, what did he want to do with a botany degree?

The mix of hard science with the anthropological examination of how humans interact with plants fascinated Quilty. But the field of viticulture hadn't occurred to him as an area of study until his second year at Conn, when he began exploring the various practical applications of botany.

"My father is a classically trained chef and I grew up with an appreciation for and a knowledge of fine food and wine, so the idea of working within the scientific context

of wine was a true epiphany for me."

The key to winemaking, Quilty says, is recognizing what wines can and can't do well in a particular region, rather than trying to force a grape into conditions that aren't ideally suited for it, simply to meet a current trend.

"I think cooler-climate wines are more elegant and nuanced anyway than the robust, more acidic wines you find in California, which is essentially a Mediterranean-desert climate," Quilty says. "The challenge we face is combating the humidity during the summer months that can lead to mildew and fungus harming our vines," he adds.

Quilty believes it's essential to evolve, adapt and experiment as a winemaker and to avoid getting stuck in a comfort zone. And as tastes among wine drinkers change, there's a need to adjust to the market by tweaking the process and offering new takes on classic varieties such as American chardonnays, some of which in recent years have moved beyond the traditional characteristics of being buttery with heavy oak influences to more closely resemble their cleaner, crisper white Burgundy cousins from France.

For now, Quilty is enjoying his dream job and drinking as many different kinds of wine as he can. But he says if he was ever faced with the agonizing scenario of being forced to choose only one type of wine, he'd opt for a good cru Chablis because of how it balances competing characteristics, at once light but acid-driven, fruity but also able to maintain a mineral style.

"Hopefully I'll never have to make that choice," Quilty says, laughing. "The reason I got into wine in the first place is because I love drinking it!"



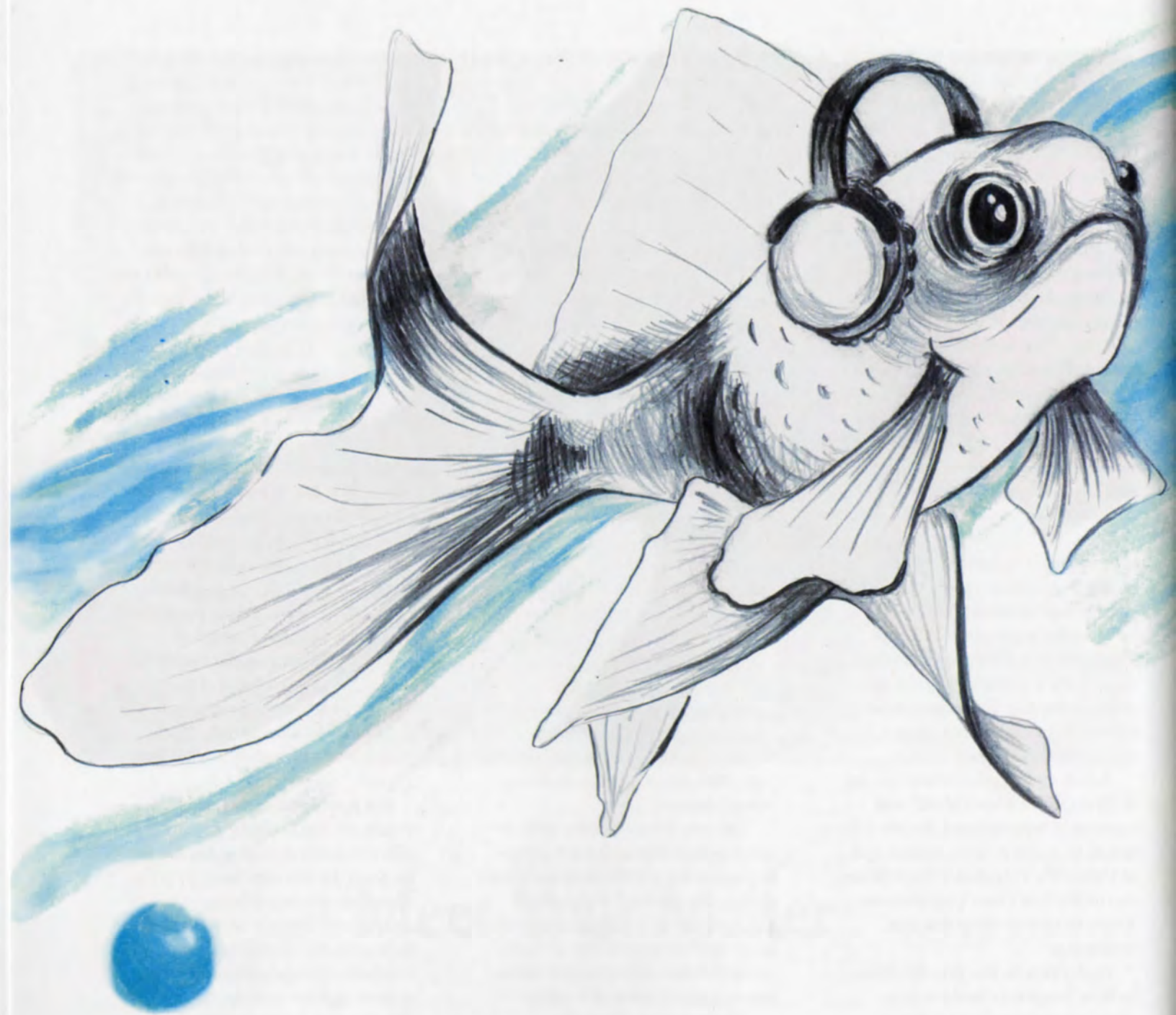


Illustration by Angel Ucci



# Life as a Goldfish

Richard Fay MA '68 has become a world-renowned expert on fish hearing. You might be surprised by how useful that is.

BY DOUG DANIELS

**THE GOLDFISH.** The shimmering fish that once represented good fortune and affluence is now presented as a dispensable trinket at county fairs and sold as a pet for kids. But the ubiquitous fish has also secured its place in an untold history of advancing research in bioacoustics, sonar technology and medicine.

Dr. Richard Fay's life's work has centered on writing this scientific history, and it all started at Conn in 1966.

Fay was alone in the lab one night experimenting on goldfish for his master's in physiological psychology—a degree offered by very few colleges at the time—when he made a discovery that would form the core of his distinguished career in experimental psychology and bioacoustics for 50 years. At the time, psychology was the only arena in which auditory behavior could be studied, but Fay had long been fascinated by the evolutionary, behavioral and physiological aspects of hearing.

While testing the fishes' near-field hearing abilities, Fay realized that the limbless cold-blooded vertebrates could be conditioned to respond to sounds in the same way Pavlov had conditioned dogs decades earlier to salivate when they heard a sound they'd learned to associate with being fed.

The method Fay employed used a very mild electrical stimulus while the fish were gently restrained in a tank of water. What he noticed was that the fish reflexively held their

breath for a couple of seconds when they felt the stimulus. He then introduced sound to the experiment, placing a speaker under the tank and playing a repetitive tone at the same time he activated the electrical current.

After repeating this a few times, Fay removed the electricity and was still able to generate the same pause in breathing by only playing the sound. The fish had been conditioned to associate that specific tone with the electrical stimulus, even in its absence, and display the same physical response.

Although Fay also went on to study oyster toadfish (one of the less outwardly beautiful inhabitants of the deep), goldfish have always been his primary research subjects. As he recalled to a conference audience in 2013, Fay first chose to experiment on goldfish out of sheer convenience.

"Originally, I used them for all the wrong reasons," Fay said. "They were a nice size of about six inches, and I could get them at Woolworth for 50 cents. It turned out they were perfect for my research, because they aren't able to make sounds like some other fish can, but they still hear."

Fay's conditioning method with goldfish opened the door for more sophisticated experimentation that examined how fish hear, how sound travels under water and what types of applications this research could have in human medicine, behavior and technology.

Fish offer insight into how vertebrate hearing has evolved over hundreds of millions of years, and how the brain processes and perceives sound. And although fish don't have outer ears, they do have inner ears and are able, Fay found through his research, to distinguish between pitch and frequency and can filter and segregate different sounds simultaneously, the way we can hear the different instruments in a symphony, for example. Without this evolutionary survival skill animals wouldn't have much use for hearing at all, since the auditory system would be rendered practically useless whenever more than one sound at a time was present.

Fay has said that this ability to segregate sounds is something scientists are trying to recreate in artificial intelligence, and the work he and his colleagues have done to better understand fish hearing may well help advance that type of research. Solving that puzzle could dramatically improve basic technology we use on a regular basis.

"Currently, if you are on the phone using a voice-activated customer service program, it will understand you when there is one, clear sound," Fay explained. "But if there's background noise, it will fail, because it can't sort out the sounds and prioritize them the way human ears can."

But long before artificial intelligence was part of our daily lives, Fay's early research showed the potential to advance technology.

In 1968, with the Cuban Missile Crisis a nagging memory, and the war in Vietnam escalating, the U.S. Navy began exploring bioacoustics in ways that could inform its research and development efforts relating to sonar technology and underwater communications. Fay was a perfect fit for this avenue of inquiry, and began doing research for the submarine base in nearby Groton while he finished his master's at Conn.

After moving on to complete his Ph.D. in experimental psychology at Princeton University, Fay got an unexpected offer from the Laboratory of Sensory Sciences in Honolulu.

By then, married to Catherine Hill Fay MA '67 and with a two-year-old son, Fay asked his wife if she'd be at all interested in moving from New Jersey to Hawaii. Five weeks later, the Fays had sold their cars and furniture, and were settled into a house with a panoramic view of Waikiki Beach. Their backyard was lush with mango and passion-fruit trees, and Fay was working with Georg von Békésy, who had won a Nobel Prize for his breakthrough research involving the cochlea and inner ear. Life was very good, but after a few years, the mainland came calling again.

So in 1974, trading the tropical environs of Hawaii for the chilled winds of Chicago, Fay joined the psychology faculty at Loyola University, where he would spend the remainder of his career until he retired in 2011, rising to become the director of the Parmlly Hearing Institute and a beloved professor.

Beginning in the early 1990s, Fay branched out beyond aquatic species exclusively, and became a co-founder and editor of the Springer Handbook for Auditory Studies, which continues to serve as an indispensable guide to the next generation of scientists, physicians, biologists and biomedical experts.

Diana Ma, a former graduate student of Fay's who founded and serves as the executive director of the Richard R. Fay Foundation, which works with scientists around the world to consolidate and share biomedical research, said Fay's legacy would be felt for generations to come.

"Dick is really the father of this type of research and his work set the foundations for ... advances in the fields of sensory biology, perception and neuroscience," Ma said. "Most of the major fields of auditory research today are built on the science Dick was responsible for throughout his career, and the Springer Handbooks are on every shelf of every person in these fields."

After devoting his life to better understanding how animals hear, Fay and his wife finally settled into retirement in Woods Hole, Massachusetts where he spent many summers conducting research at the esteemed Marine Biological Laboratory. Having made such an extraordinary impact on his graduate students over the years, Fay is now determined to impart his wisdom to young kids. He's currently working on a children's book that explains the science of hearing in more accessible terms.

The hero of the story is a goldfish.



## Object Lesson

This press is a Hohner Model D, a 500-pound German-made press, which prints 9"x12". A small printing company in New London, CT, donated the press to Conn. Students will use the press in Andrea Wollensak's ART 235, an introduction to the artist's book, a class that examines the format for exploring the interaction of text and image, narrative and sequencing, dimensional forms of the book, and the cultural roles of books and reading.

# *The* Ancient World

Firing high-tech lasers, Thomas Garrison '00 uncovers earthly secrets hidden beneath the Guatemalan rainforest.

**T**homas Garrison nearly unearthed an ancient fortress in 2010. Deep in Guatemala's thick jungle, Garrison was in the early stages of an archaeological excavation of the Maya kingdom of El Zotz, where a fortress—the likes of which had never been seen before—lay hidden under the dense brush for nearly 2,000 years.

"I was probably within about 100 feet of it and didn't see it," Garrison remembers.

The jungle would keep its secret. This time.

Garrison, an assistant professor of anthropology at Ithaca College, leads archaeological digs in Guatemala and surrounding countries to study the mysterious Maya civilization, which reached its peak around the eighth century. After the Maya's cities were seemingly abandoned around A.D. 900, the lush rainforest buried the ruins. For more than a century, researchers have been slowly uncovering these ruins and piecing together the story of one of the greatest civilizations in the ancient world.

In the dense landscape—Guatemala is said to mean "land of trees" in Mayan—it can take researchers years to map less than one square mile. But what if they could see right through the jungle?

In 2016, Garrison and colleagues from Tulane University turned to a laser-based technology called LiDAR (light detection and ranging) that allowed them to do exactly that. By firing thousands of lasers per second from an aircraft into the forest canopy below, the scientists were able to map the surface of 800 square miles of Guatemala's Petén forest.

What they discovered is changing just about everything we thought we knew about the Maya.

BY AMY MARTIN



**FIRST DEVELOPED** to measure clouds in the 1960s—and then used by NASA to map the surface of the moon in the 1970s—LiDAR technology has been gaining popularity among archaeologists, especially in tropical areas. The vast majority—a full 92 percent—of LiDAR lasers bounce off the forest canopy, but the other 8 percent penetrate the treetops and brush, reaching the earth's surface to create high-resolution maps that can detect slight changes in elevation to reveal man-made structures like buildings, roads and waterways.

“It wasn't a matter of *if* we would find something with LiDAR in Guatemala. Our only question was: *What* we will find?” Garrison says.

But the technology is expensive, and Garrison's attempts to secure a grant for the project were unsuccessful. So he and his colleagues went to the Pacunam Foundation, a Guatemalan cultural- and natural-heritage preservation organization that has been funding Garrison's El Zotz dig since 2012.

“They decided that if they were going to do it, they were going to do it big,” Garrison says.

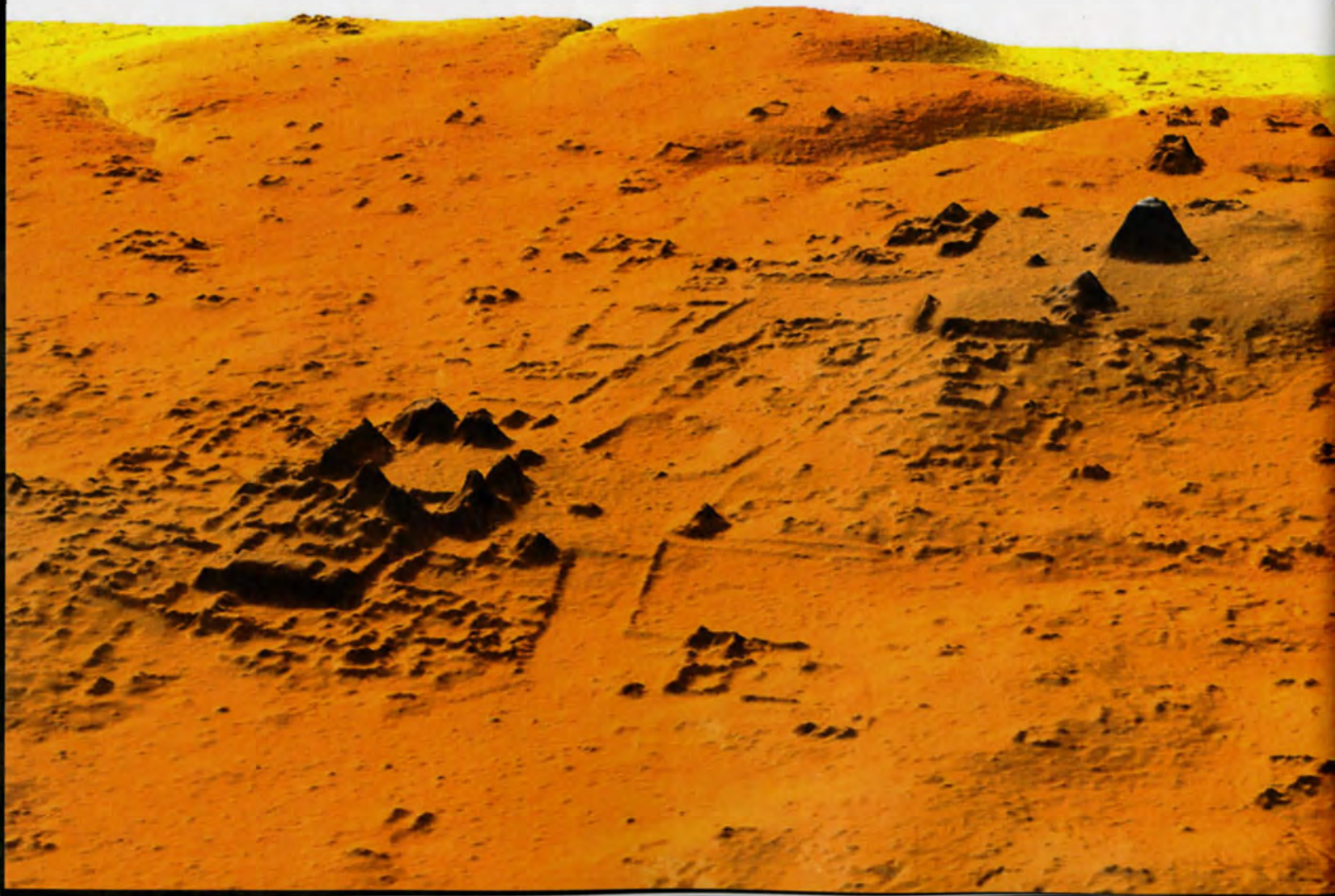
And big they went. With funding from Pacunam, Garrison and a consortium of scientists from around the world worked with the National Center for Airborne Laser Mapping to collect

data from nine archeological regions in the Maya Biosphere Reserve, in what amounts to the single largest survey in the history of Mesoamerican archaeology. The flights took place in July 2016. That November, Garrison went to the University of Houston to study the preliminary data.

“Immediately, it was clear there was an overwhelming density of new structures and settlements,” Garrison says. “I knew this was going to change how we think of the Maya.”

The final LiDAR data revealed more than 60,000 new structures, including new urban centers with large plazas, four major ceremonial centers, large palaces and, in Tikal, one of the most thoroughly studied of all Maya cities, a 90-foot-tall pyramid previously believed to be a natural hill. But it also revealed extensive roadways, intricate agricultural systems and numerous defensive structures, most of which were hidden beneath the trees and buried underground.

Known cities were up to 40 times larger than archaeologists had previously thought, in some cases encompassing what they had believed to be isolated settlements. Agricultural fields occupied large portions of the lowland seasonal swamps surrounding urban regions; in some areas, the Maya had even used drainage channels to convert wetlands into fertile farmland.



It all points to a more sophisticated and interconnected society than previously believed, a society with a much larger population, too. The new data suggests the empire supported roughly 10 million Maya, more than double previous population estimates.

"We knew they had agriculture—we'd seen some hints of fields. But now, instead of looking at individual sites, we are seeing whole swaths of land, huge patterns moving across Guatemala. We can put it all together and see how this ancient civilization functioned as a whole," Garrison says.

**"THE SURVEY** is one of the most important developments in Maya archaeology in 100 years."

The jungle—long the archaeologist's great adversary—has suddenly become an ally.

In Europe and parts of Asia and Africa, access to archaeological sites is better and conditions are more favorable to digs. But for those same reasons, people have settled and farmed around and on top of ancient settlements, making it nearly impossible to get a full picture of their size, scale and interconnectivity.

"We've been behind because of the lack of visibility and the challenges of working in the jungle," Garrison says. "Now, we've flipped the script—because of that jungle, we have one of the most well-preserved archaeological records anywhere in the world."

Complex field systems in the outskirts of ancient urban centers likely would not have survived in other conditions. And without the LiDAR data, Garrison says, it's highly possible they never would have been found in Guatemala, either.

"Even if we deforested the whole area, you could step right on them and never know what you are looking at," he says.

The LiDAR data is so precise that Garrison and his colleagues can even see which sites have been looted and the crude paths looters have cut through the jungle to reach the sites.

Safeguarding and excavating the newfound sites—before looters find them—is incredibly important to Garrison and his colleagues. They aren't sharing the exact LiDAR data, in order to protect the sites' locations, but they do hope publicizing the findings will help them secure funding for future digs. And archaeological discoveries of this magnitude are worldwide news. When Pacunam announced the LiDAR findings in February, it generated headlines from Costa Rica to Slovakia.

Garrison was interviewed by *The New York Times*, the BBC, NPR, *The Washington Post* and *The Associated Press*. He also appeared in National Geographic's one-hour special about the study, "Lost Treasure of the Maya Snake Kings," which premiered in February.

It's impressive recognition for an archaeologist still

early in his career, and it all started at Conn. Garrison, an anthropology major and scholar in the Toor Cummings Center for International Studies and the Liberal Arts, first visited the Maya region as a junior. He studied abroad in Mexico, completing an independent study project in Chiapas using a collection of Maya artifacts excavated in the 1950s. He then used CISLA funding to travel to Belize to participate in his first archeological dig.

"I was pretty much hooked on this career, so my adviser, [the late Professor of Anthropology] Harold Juli, counseled me and pointed me in the right direction."

Garrison used money he received as graduation gifts to travel to Honduras to participate in a dig that was run by Harvard professors, which, he says, "opened the door for me to go to Harvard."

He was accepted as a Ph.D. candidate in Harvard's anthropology program and, before he even took his first class, joined a team that would soon unearth a Maya mural. The significant discovery drew the attention of NASA, and Garrison had the opportunity to work with satellite imagery, setting him on a course to specialize in the application of digital technologies to the archaeological record.

"I've had a lot of things go my way," says Garrison.

**AMONG THE NEW RUINS** revealed by the LiDAR data is the illusive El Zotz fortress. It's one of a series of defensive structures that has Garrison and his colleagues rethinking the role of warfare in the development of the Maya Empire.

"We knew the Maya practiced warfare, but we hadn't seen much in the way of defensive infrastructure," Garrison says. "Now, it appears conflict may have been a lot more important to the emergence and development of Maya cities than we thought."


While Garrison is planning to excavate the El Zotz fortress, the success of the LiDAR project has him thinking about other applications for the technology, too.

"I'd love to go to Brazil, for example, and take a look at the Amazon," he says. "What's under those trees?"

Garrison is also keenly aware that what is of no use to him and his colleagues—the 92 percent of LiDAR data that maps the rainforest—is a treasure trove of information for botanists, environmental scientists and those working to combat illegal deforestation.

"It has huge implications for understanding tropical forest environments," he says.

Despite all that Garrison and his team have already learned, there is still much for researchers to analyze and thousands of new sites to excavate. The discoveries, Garrison says, have only begun.

"This data will provide a hundred years of work for many scientists." 

Left: A Lidar-generated 3D model of the Maya site of Xultun in northeast Guatemala (Courtesy of the Pacunam Foundation).





PERFORM

# Art for Everyone

( EVEN SKATEBOARDERS )

Garth Ross '93 helped transform the Kennedy Center.  
Now he's ready for Yale.

BY DOUG DANIELS



**A**s the rusty metal door creaked open and Garth Ross '93 stepped inside, he could tell this place was unique.

The entrance, unmarked and inconspicuously nestled in the shadows of a dark alley near Washington, D.C.'s newly built convention center, provided access to the vibrant underground skateboarding and arts space, known as "Fight Club," that occupied a neglected building in the Shaw neighborhood of D.C.

Fight Club was a bubbling cauldron of improvisational creative spirit, showcasing live music, visual art and independent film screenings, all centered around the core energy of the city's skateboarding culture and the diverse mix of skaters who glided, jumped and seemingly defied gravity on the various ramps and half-pipes. Ross was impressed with the ethnic, gender and generational diversity he saw, and the uninhibited commitment to free expression.

So in 2015, six years after that initial visit to the now-defunct Fight Club, Ross oversaw the construction of a temporary skateboarding park outside the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Ross, who just completed a 21-year run this spring as the Kennedy Center's vice president for community engagement, organized the 10-day festival "Finding a Line: Skateboarding, Music and Media." The festival mashed together various genres of musical performances, art and, of course, skateboarding.

The idea of exploring skateboarding at the Kennedy Center, a venue typically associated with black-tie affairs and an adherence to more traditional programming such as opera and ballet, might seem counterintuitive to some. But Ross says "Finding a Line" was actually consistent with the original intent of the center, which sought to create a venue that adapts and evolves over time to showcase new art forms as they emerge on the American cultural landscape. For Ross, exposing audiences to vastly different cultures through performance is essential for promoting positive social change and building community relationships.

"If there are big, undeniable areas of culture that are uniquely American that are not present at the Kennedy Center, then that needs to be addressed," Ross argues. "As the national cultural center, we need to make sure we provide a platform for the full breadth of American culture, particularly for something as prominent as skating culture or hip-hop."

**THIS PASSION** for creative collaboration and blending genres can be traced back to Ross' days at Connecticut College.

Initially uncertain of what he wanted to study at Conn, Ross ultimately majored in English with a music minor, and began to hone his skills as a vocal performer, singing with the College's all-male a cappella group, the Co Co Beaux. All the while, his interests in folk, pop, gospel and other kinds of music continued to build.

By the time graduation day was upon him, Ross was convinced he wanted to pursue a career as a professional musician. The question was: where?

His girlfriend at the time (now wife), Christy Halvorson Ross '93, was originally from D.C., and they decided to move there to be near her family.

"What's great about D.C. is that it has a huge music scene, but it isn't driven by the record industry like it is in New York, L.A. and Nashville," Ross says.

"I really wanted to try the life of a musician, so I was playing in five different ensembles. I was a member of the [Washington] National Cathedral Choir of Men and Boys. I was the member of a pop-vocal sextet. I had a band that I fronted. I was in two gospel choirs and performed solo as a singer-songwriter," he recounts.

"I was performing on street corners, at clubs, at festivals, in cathedrals and at arts centers like the Kennedy Center whenever I could."

After two and a half years of making his living primarily as a musician, Ross says the schedule began to wear on him. With his career edging near the point where he would have been spending a substantial amount of time touring, he stepped back and appraised his situation.

He concluded that the element of being a full-time artist he valued most was collaborating with all the different artists he had been able to work with and make music with since he'd moved to Washington. That's when Ross' interest in arts administration emerged.

To pay the bills and develop his administrative skills, Ross worked as an administrative assistant with a search firm, and his boss, aware that Ross had ambitions of working in the arts, allowed him to take long lunches every Monday so he could go on job interviews.

Less than a year later, opportunity presented itself. The Kennedy Center, under the guidance of new leadership, began to build on its legacy of diverse and inclusive programming, and prioritized expanding accessibility to the arts. This created the perfect opening for Ross to join the center as a programming

and production assistant for the newly created Millennium Stage. The performance series, which still hosts free shows every night by local, national and international performers from the worlds of dance, music and theater, has been a wildly successful community arts initiative.

When Ross arrived for his interview, he was thrilled to discover that the person in charge of hiring was not only somebody he'd come to know a bit from his experience performing at the Kennedy Center but also happened to be a Conn grad—Shelley Brown '88. Ross got the job.

"There's no question that being a Camel made an immeasurable difference in my life at that particular moment. It was phenomenal," he says.

**TO FULLY APPRECIATE** the diversity of programming at the Kennedy Center, exploring the early history of the institution is helpful.

In 1958, President Eisenhower signed legislation to create a "National Cultural Center," and it was renamed as a memorial to President John F. Kennedy after his assassination in 1963, before finally opening in 1971. The center was meant to reflect the ever-changing art and culture of every area of American society, not just the traditional forms like opera and ballet, and, in fact, looking back on the Kennedy Center's inaugural season, there were some surprising performances.

During the course of one week toward the end of the first season, the center hosted performances by Pink Floyd, Marvin Gaye and Arlo Guthrie.

"The common perception of the Kennedy Center is that it has always focused exclusively on heritage arts performances," says Ross. "But in those early years, the center hosted some really important pop culture and counterculture performers of that era."

As time went on, the National Symphony Orchestra, along with the Washington National Opera, relocated to the center, contributing to a shift in the center's audience. By the mid-1990s, Ross felt strongly that the Kennedy Center should return to its roots.

"The voice is the most ubiquitous instrument throughout various cultures, so as a vocalist I had taken this unusual journey that allowed me to sing with so many different people," Ross says. "What I noticed is that at most arts centers, programming didn't reflect the level of heterogeneity that I had seen at the grassroots levels,

and I wanted to bring that type of cross-pollination to the Kennedy Center."


Through initiatives like the center's "Performing Arts for Everyone," which included the Millennium Stage project, Ross' vision for expanded access and community involvement in the arts began to take hold, fueled by the twin forces of internal transitions at the Kennedy Center and a growing appetite among audiences for less-traditional performances. These transitions, on occasion, could be met with some resistance, Ross acknowledges.

"Fundamental change is fundamentally disruptive," Ross says. "There are so many moving parts and layers to the Kennedy Center that even if the president enthusiastically signed off on an idea, implementing it was still often difficult. Those challenges were tough, but they also shaped the work in a positive way."

**AFTER TWO DECADES**, and with more than 7,000 productions under his belt, Ross' legacy will be felt for generations at the Kennedy Center. He and his team are responsible for establishing street art and hip-hop as significant additions to the Kennedy Center's programming tapestry. The skateboarding collaboration continues to evolve, with different projects and partnerships forged throughout the city with the skating community and several municipal agencies in an effort to build parks for skateboarding and music performance spaces. And residents and visitors to D.C. will continue to enjoy free performances.

While Ross will always treasure his time at the Kennedy Center, he believes the next chapter of his life will be even more rewarding. He has been named the director of the Stephen A. Schwarzman Center at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut, a \$150 million arts and culture project that will allow him to develop the sort of diverse performances and expanded access to the arts he was renowned for in D.C., but for a whole new community.

"What's so exciting about the Schwarzman Center is that it is an entire facility devoted to the efforts of bringing diversity, equity and inclusion to a community arts and cultural space in a way that promotes more participation," Ross says.

"My job is to ensure that over time, this new center will become more and more a reflection of the community we serve, and that can go in so many different, fascinating directions." 





"Look Both Ways: Street Arts Across America," a week-long festival in D.C. to bring performances out to the community.



# Look Alive

ALICE LUDIN '00



While she's "not Angelina Jolie" famous, Sloane Crosley '00 is sometimes recognized at restaurants.

BY AMY MARTIN



**I**n the process of freezing her eggs, Sloane Crosley accidentally froze \$1,500 worth of human hormones.

In her defense, the package, which contained vials of injectable medication to stimulate egg production for women interested in preserving their eggs for fertilization at a later date, wasn't clearly labeled. Still, Crosley's pharmacist admitted that no one else had ever managed to make the same mistake.

"I was the hot coffee case of the reproductive medicine world," Crosley writes in her latest collection of essays, *Look Alive Out There*.

The intimate tale of Crosley's foray into fertility is, like all the essays appearing in *Look Alive Out There*, packed with the author's signature wit and self-deprecating humor. The new book is a return to the form that made Crosley a household name in, as her press materials boast, "really quite a lot of households."

Not that she sees it that way. *The New York Times*' best-selling author of two previous books of personal essays, *I Was Told There'd Be Cake* and *How Did You Get This Number*, released her debut novel, *The Clasp*, to critical acclaim in 2015.

"Because of the nature of essays, it doesn't feel like going back—I was writing some of them when I was working on the novel," she says. "At this point, it's in my blood. You don't want your muscles to atrophy."

Oscillating between fiction and nonfiction feels natural, and also therapeutic, she says.

"If I'm cleaning one room, and I get bored, I'll go do another project. It's like that for me with fiction and nonfiction," she says. "With fiction, you are in charge of the characters' whole world and every detail in that world. With nonfiction, so much is 'not your fault.' Your experiences, your perception, your memory—those things are done for you. It's a switch of responsibility."

## PLATO TO GOSSIP GIRL

Crosley is preparing to embark on a 20-city book tour to promote *Look Alive Out There*, and she's excited.

"I love meeting readers. It's the coolest thing. And it never gets old. Whether it's at a book signing or in a restaurant—I mean, I'm not Angelina Jolie, but occasionally I'll have a waitress who will run my credit card and notice my name and say something," she jokes.

"I love meeting booksellers, too. I also really like small hotel soaps and shampoos. Booksellers and readers and small soaps are awesome."

Ten years after the release of *I Was Told There'd Be Cake*, Crosley still writes about her life as a series of hilarious mishaps and dubious missteps. Yet she also hopes her readers see more maturity in both her storytelling and her subject matter.

"I feel confident in [*Look Alive Out There*] in a way that I haven't about the other books. It's about getting closer and closer with every step to saying exactly what you want to say."

Whether she's chasing after a stranger in a wheelchair, battling with noisy teenage neighbors or risking death on the side of a mountain in Ecuador—"a massive landform I apparently can't be bothered to Google"—Crosley's ability to capture the "humor in exasperation" is instantly relatable and undeniably entertaining.

Much of her humor shines through in the analogies that saturate Crosley's work.

"In all my books, I use a big swing of references—it's Plato and it's *Gossip Girl*," she says. "Analogies are one of the easiest and richest ways to articulate what we see in front of us."

Crosley doesn't just write in analogies—she speaks in them too. Asking her to choose her favorite essay in *Look Alive Out There* is like asking her to "choose among my vast collection of Fabergé eggs," she says.

"But it's almost like a cappuccino. If I could just skim some off the top, the really light foam, there are two or three. ... But they all represent something slightly different about what I feel like this

collection is about. Imagine it as less of a book and more of a talent show—this is the poetry, this is the juggling, this is the singing.”

## CONN DNA

If *Look Alive Out There* is a talent show, *The Clasp* is an ode to the short story. Inspired by Guy de Maupassant’s short story “The Necklace,” Crosley’s novel tells the story of three estranged college friends who reunite in their late 20s at a friend’s wedding. Each in the middle of an identity crisis of sorts, they find themselves slipping back into their old roles before a series of events leads them on an ill-fated adventure through France in search of something that—just like the necklace in de Maupassant’s story—turns out not to be real.

“I have always appreciated the short story, since I was a kid, and I thought it was unheralded. Every other art form gets a novel—opera, dance, painting—I thought the short story should get one, too,” Crosley says.

Crosley credits the “wildly influential” Blanche Boyd, Weller Professor of English and writer-in-residence, with cementing her love of short stories in college. And Conn’s influence doesn’t end there; throughout *The Clasp*, Crosley’s main characters flash back to their days at a fictional New England liberal arts college that will feel more than vaguely familiar to readers of this magazine.

“There’s a little Conn DNA in there,” Crosley says.

Some of the peripheral characters were also inspired by Crosley’s real-life college friends, but, like any good characters, they quickly took on a life of their own.

“The second you write fiction, there’s a mutation that happens,” she says. “It’s weird to remember the cue ball break of inspiration, the people who first made you create a character.”

In her essays, of course, Crosley writes about real people, examining her own complex relationships—with friends, relatives, boyfriends, neighbors and even strangers—to make pointed observations about the human condition. That can be tricky, she admits, but over time she’s developed a nuanced

approach to writing about those with whom she’s closest.

“It’s not that I’ve softened. I’ve become sharper and more sensitive,” she says. “There’s a common expression: It’s better to ask forgiveness than permission. That’s good for women in the workplace and military coups, but not for interpersonal relationships.”

## HOPE FOR A PUPPET

Crosley recalls her own experience at Conn as complicated, imperfect and, at times, redeeming. She had professors she loved—Boyd, of course, but also Haskell Professor of English and Poet-in-Residence Charles Hartman and the late Professor of Anthropology Harold Juli.

“He stepped out of central casting of what a professor is supposed to be like,” Crosley says of Juli. “I think we took a shine to each other, but I think everyone feels that way about him. You think you are the only girl at the dance, but you’re not.”

While she found her academic comfort zone at Conn, Crosley says she always felt slightly out of place despite having been elected senior class president.

“That’s a fun fact,” she says. “I don’t feel like I was a cool kid. I don’t feel like a class president person.”

After graduation, Crosley moved to New York City and worked in book publicity until 2011, when she decided to focus on writing full time. In addition to her books, she is a frequent contributor to *The New York Times*, a columnist for *The Village Voice* and the *New York Observer*, and the books columnist and a contributing editor at *Vanity Fair* and *Interview* magazine.

Crosley has even made the jump into screenwriting—she’s sold television pilots to HBO and Hulu, and Universal acquired the movie rights to *The Clasp* in 2016.

“It’s strange adapting your own work. You already did it in a way you thought the story would best be told, and now you are trying to stuff it back in the egg and hope it comes back a puppet,” she says. ☐☐

# GENERATION NEXT

From modern Arabic poetry to autonomous robotics,  
these five professors redefine the paradigm.

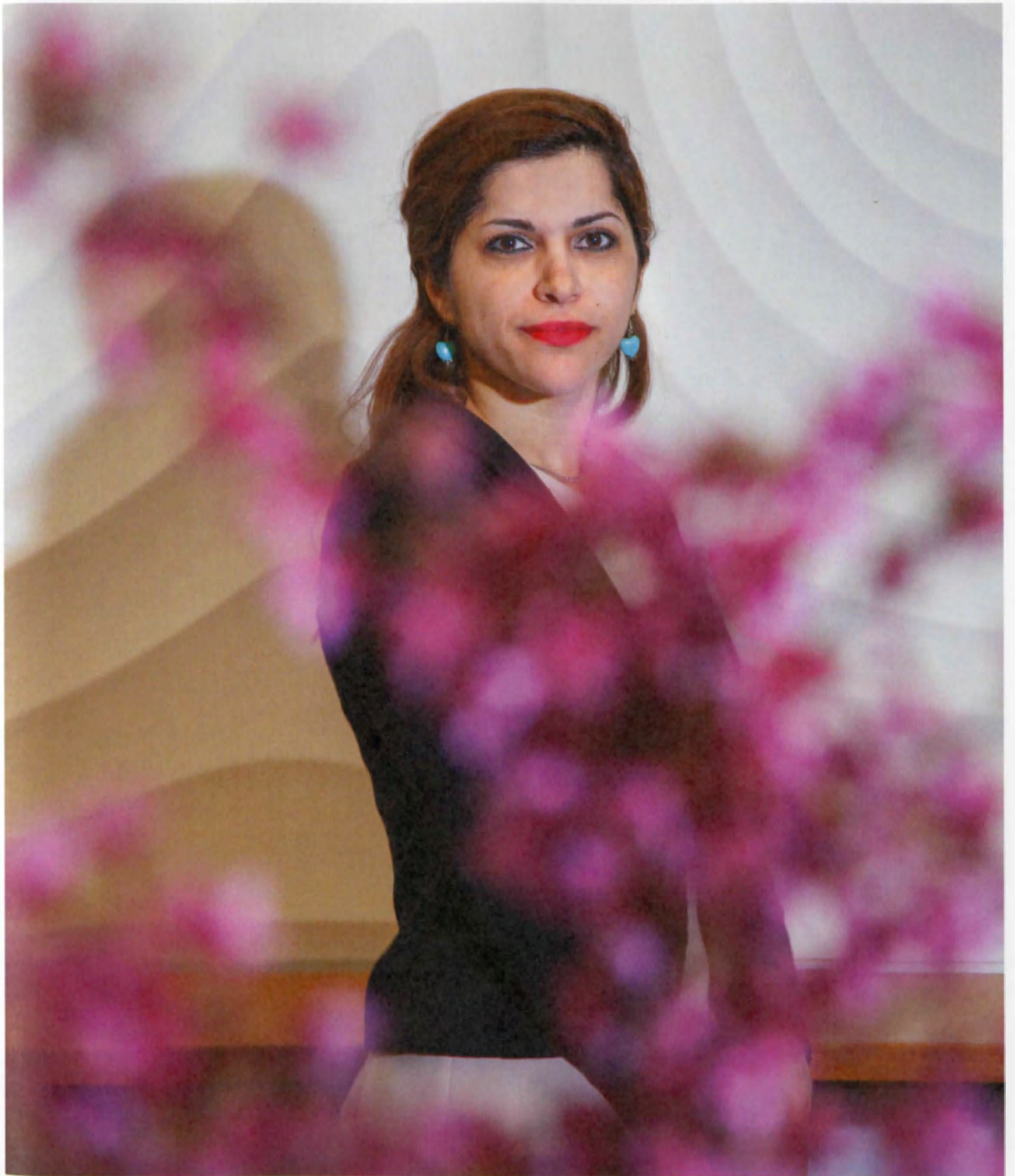
PORTRAITS BY MILES LADIN '90



Assistant professor of statistics, **Priya Kohli** specializes in covariance modeling, longitudinal/panel studies, multivariate modeling, missing data, time series, spatial statistics, and spatio-temporal modeling. Kohli has been working on RNA-sequencing methodology for studying the notch and other signaling pathways during taste bud development in axolotls, also known as the Mexican salamanders. She is also exploring the status of male caregivers in the U.S.



**William Tarimo '12** is an assistant professor of computer science who explores how technology and agile methodologies can be used to improve academic outcomes through applications in the learning and teaching processes. Tarimo is also interested in researching robotics design and control, such as autonomous robotics and generation of control instructions (e.g. gaits) through machine learning and computer vision. [wtarimo.com](http://wtarimo.com)



**Waed Athamneh** is an associate professor of Arabic studies, focusing on modern Arabic literature and 20th century Arab politics. Athamneh recently published *Modern Arabic Poetry: Revolution and Conflict*, which investigates the impact of past and contemporary Middle Eastern politics on the region's poetry. Her forthcoming book examines the plight of Syrian women refugees in Jordan. She founded and directed an immersive Arabic study abroad program at Connecticut College in summer 2012. [waedathamneh.com](http://waedathamneh.com)



As an assistant professor of gender and women's studies, **Ariella Rotramel** researches and teaches about social movements, gender and women's history, women and work, ethnic studies, queer and sexuality studies, community-based learning, and digital humanities and metaliteracy education. Rotramel is working on a book project titled *Pushing Back: Transnational Women of Color Leadership*. [ariellarotramel.com](http://ariellarotramel.com)



In Chris Barnard's artist statement, the associate professor of art (as of July) writes that he is "focusing on white supremacy's relationship to the privileged spaces of my experiences, such as private art and educational institutions. In this fraught political moment, amidst ongoing public debates about race, power, and protests against its abuse, and widening gaps in wealth and opportunity, discussions about representation—across visual culture broadly—and its relationship to justice seem more relevant than ever." [chrisbarnard.com](http://chrisbarnard.com)





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# The Majority Report

Sam Seder '88 went from stand-up comedy to hosting a political podcast and working as an MSNBC contributor. But is there anything funny about the current state of politics?

BY DOUG DANIELS AND KATE WARGO

When Sam Seder '88 told his parents that he planned to drop out of law school to become a comedian, they didn't laugh. After graduating from Conn with a degree in government, Seder spent a year traveling in Australia only to succumb to the great magnet of the family business (his father is a prominent attorney) and return to his native Massachusetts to enroll in Boston University School of Law.

Far more passionate about comedy than the law, Seder left BU and began performing stand-up in small clubs throughout the Boston area. Because of Seder's quirky material, he was welcomed by a group of young Boston comedians, some of whom, as luck would have it, turned out to be the most innovative and influential stand-up figures of their generation.

Seder's new comedic friends included the now two-time Emmy Award-winner Sarah Silverman, David Cross (*Arrested Development*), actress Janeane Garofalo, and Seder's fellow Conn alum, the prolific comedian and voice actor H. Jon Benjamin '88 (*Next Stop Wonderland* and *Archer*).

"I got lucky in comedy, in that I happened to be at the right place at the right time," Seder said.

Harnessing their creative chemistry, Seder assembled them for his first film, *Who's the Caboose*, a documentary-style spoof of the Hollywood auditioning process that he co-wrote, directed and acted in. The movie developed a cult following, if not widespread commercial release, and caught the eye of entertainment executives, which led to appearances on *Spin City* and *Sex and the City*. Seder then found himself up for the part of Courtney Thorne-Smith's brother on the pilot *According to Jim*, but it didn't especially appeal to Seder.

According to *The Boston Globe*, Seder sabotaged his opportunity to land the part as the former *Melrose Place* star's brother, and in an interview with the newspaper, he joked, "'I don't look anything like Courtney Thorne-Smith; she's blonde and good-looking,' says Seder, who's Jewish and has dark curly hair."

"I did my character in a Jackie Mason voice, and put 'If I Were a Rich Man' as my ringtone, and got all my friends to call me on the set."

Needless to say, he wasn't picked to be on *According to Jim*, which later became a massive hit.

Seder's early comedy wasn't driven by politics, but after the 9/11 attacks he became more politically vocal, making him the perfect co-host for his old friend Garofalo's radio show on the newly launched progressive radio station Air America.

Seder quickly became one of the most popular talents on Air America, known for his wit, intellect, unrivaled preparedness and ability to humorously highlight the relentless flow of absurdities, large and small, in American politics. While establishing his own radio program and podcast, "The Majority Report," he also became an effective TV personality, regularly appearing as a commentator and recurring guest host on MSNBC's prime-time show *Countdown with Keith Olbermann*. It was a role that at times, Seder joked, upset his stomach.

"I was filling in for Keith Olbermann back in 2010; I was very nervous and I got indigestion and thought that I was having a heart attack," he recalls.

"I remember thinking, 'This is going to be great for YouTube if I actually have the heart attack on air. It'll go viral.'"

**CC Magazine:** How does it make you feel to see other Conn alums in the political world, like Josh Green and Sean Spicer?

**Sam Seder:** Broadly speaking it's great. Spicer isn't necessarily the ambassador I would have chosen. I think Josh's work is great. I've also read at least one of David Grann's books.

**CC Mag:** Initially, you teamed up with H. Jon Benjamin. Did you meet him at Conn?

**Sam Seder:** I actually knew him from growing up in Worcester. We were never friends. We were enemies. Out of sheer coincidence we lived across the hall from each other at Conn. I think we both felt a little bit alienated at first and bonded because of that. But then a year or two after college we moved in together in Cambridge and we started doing comedy.

**CC Mag:** How are you able to do so many things? You're an actor, writer, producer and director.

**Sam Seder:** I never got really good at one of them. I feel like I'm talented at some things, but I got super lucky. I got in with David Cross and a bunch of talented comedians that I met through him.

**CC Mag:** How did you meet these comedians?

**Sam Seder:** I was doing stand-up at Catch a Rising Star, a famous comedy club in Boston. Jon Benjamin and I were writing stuff and performing, and Cross and his comedy group liked what we were doing. That's how I met Marc Maron, Sarah Silverman, Louis C.K. and all those comedians who would come through Catch a Rising Star.

**CC Mag:** What was your first sitcom audition like?

**Sam Seder:** I was incredibly lucky in that I got the first job I auditioned for. It was for *All-American Girl*, the Margaret Cho

sitcom. Once you have that first break everything else comes a little bit easier. I was also the flavor of the day as an actor for a while when NBC's lineup included people like Seinfeld and Sarah Silverman. Then I decided to parlay that acting stuff into writing and directing.

**CC Mag:** Is there one trait or skill that helped you to be successful on all these platforms?

**Sam Seder:** I work really hard, and that helps. Even what I do now ["The Majority Report" and contributing to MSNBC] is basically storytelling. I have a pretty good sense with how what I'm saying or communicating lands with people.

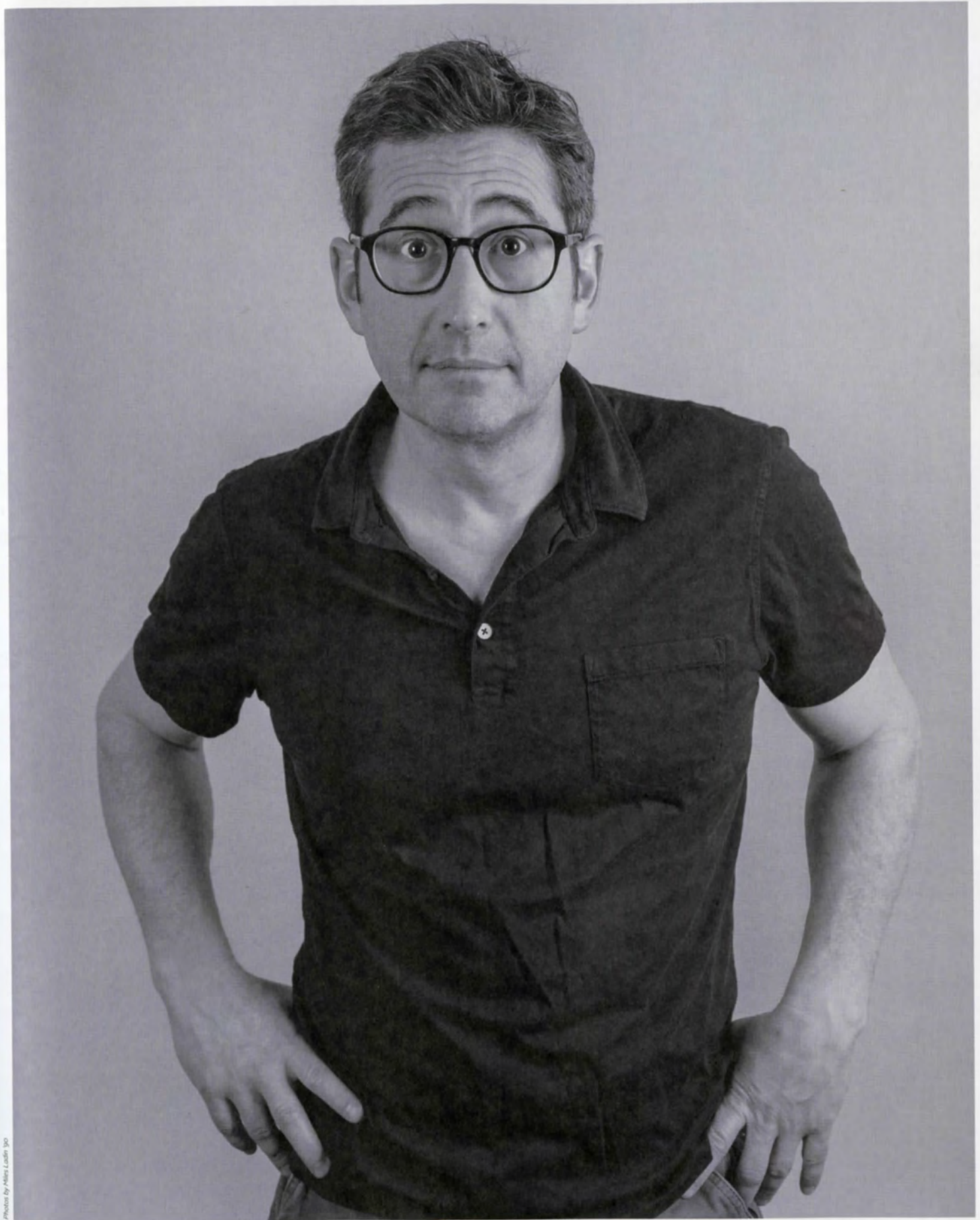
**CC Mag:** Culturally there has been a shift in how people consume the news. Do you have any thoughts on how that evolved?

**Sam Seder:** Obviously, all the advances in technology have changed how we consume the news. But what is most interesting to me in terms of politics is the function of social media. It's overused, but the ability to reach a mass audience has been democratized.

**CC Mag:** And would you say that makes social media good or bad?

**Sam Seder:** I would say both. I think there are problems with it, and I think there are advantages to it. People were having the same conversation about the phone at one point. I think that there is value in giving everybody an opportunity to basically hold society and different actors to account. But I think it's going to take a while before we build the social structures to deal with this stuff.

**CC Mag:** What can be done about the spread of misinformation online, especially from foreign powers like Russia?



Photos by Helen Lederer '90

**Sam Seder:** I would argue that far more misinformation comes from the conservative media than the Russians. I think that we have no idea what to do about it and it's going to get much, much worse because the technology is now out there to create fake audio and fake video. The problem that we have is there are no institutions that people agree are reliable enough to be arbiters. For lack of a better example, without a Walter Cronkite there are no institutions that people broadly subscribe to as being legitimate anymore, and perhaps that's with good reason.

**CC Mag:** How do you respond to someone who describes your work as fake news when it's not?

**Sam Seder:** You substantiate it. I don't consider myself a newsperson. I consider myself a political journalist. So I make arguments about politics and I present material that has for the most part been reported out by other people. I think I try over time to vet these people by measuring the validity of their reporting, and my credibility with my audience is a function of my ability to vet reporting.

**CC Mag:** You mentioned the conservative media. Does conservative talk radio have too much pull?

**Sam Seder:** I think radio is the perfect medium for reaching the conservative demographic. If you look at the counties that Donald Trump, Mitt Romney and John McCain won versus the Democrats, they're much sparser, and radio is a great medium for wide-open spaces where people are driving in their cars or where you don't see as much television. It is a great medium for rural and suburban life. And so it tends to reach their audience. Their project is to talk about what people are ignorant about and tell them that they should remain ignorant about it and they should also be fearful about it.

**CC Mag:** What role do you think comedy plays when covering President Trump?

**Sam Seder:** In some respects, he is so ham-fisted that you really need to do something sophisticated. There aren't a lot of onion layers to peel with Donald Trump. The best Trump comedy I've seen was Anthony Atamanuik on *The President Show*

because he really dug into the darkness that must lie inside of Donald Trump. I've always integrated, if not comedy, then at least humor and dark humor and satire into my politics, because it's an effective way to communicate.

**CC Mag:** How have political satirists like you or Jon Stewart changed the way the mainstream media reports on politics?

**Sam Seder:** I can tell you in 2004 when Janeane Garofalo and I started *Air America*, people in the comedy community thought we were nuts. Broadly speaking, none of the comedians that you are aware of were doing political comedy back then.


**CC Mag:** What changed that?

**Sam Seder:** I think maybe social media exposed people to politics more.

**CC Mag:** What are some of the dangers of using comedy to comment on social and cultural issues?

**Sam Seder:** I don't know if you are aware of the attempt by Mike Cernovich to get me fired from MSNBC. [MSNBC temporarily severed ties with Seder back in December after the right-wing conspiracy theorist Mike Cernovich misled the network into believing Seder had written an offensive tweet in 2009 by taking it out of context. MSNBC later admitted they had rushed to judgment, and rehired Seder.] I guess theoretically the dangers are that people can misinterpret what you're saying, or that you can confuse social media with sitting around a table with some of your close friends. I don't think anybody misconstrued what I wrote in that particular case. I think they deliberately misrepresented it.

**CC Mag:** Cernovich seemed to be engaged in a smear campaign against you. What was it like when you became the story?

**Sam Seder:** It was bizarre. I woke up one of those mornings and I was looking at my Twitter feed and so many people were talking about the story. That was very strange. It was also exciting in some ways. I learned a lot in that week. 



*THE*  
**Advocate**

## Pamela D. Zilly '75 gives \$7 million gift as she prepares to co-chair the College's forthcoming comprehensive campaign.

**F**ormer chair of Connecticut College's Board of Trustees Pamela D. Zilly '75 gave a \$7 million gift to the College. The gift was announced at the 1911 Society Leadership Reception, held last winter at the Gramercy Park Hotel in New York City.

"I am honored to give back to a place that has meant so much to me and my sister, Deborah Z. Woodworth '72. I hope this gift encourages others to do the same," said Zilly, who in June stepped down as board chair and will co-chair the College's next comprehensive campaign, along with Robert Hale '88 P'20 and Bradford T. Brown P'12 '15 '20.

President Katherine Bergeron said that the transformative gift will advance a number of important goals by making resources available for the renovation of the College Center at Crozier-Williams, providing annual support for the College's highest priorities, and establishing an endowment to support Connecticut College in perpetuity.

"Pam has been an extraordinary chair of the Board. I am deeply moved by her longstanding commitment to Connecticut College and by her great generosity. This gift will strengthen the residential

education that we offer today and in generations to come," said Bergeron.

With this commitment, one of the largest in the College's history, Zilly will make it possible for the College to achieve greater distinction by deepening the student experience and supporting a more sustainable institution—all priorities of *Building on Strength*, the College's strategic plan.

Zilly was elected to the College's Board of Trustees in 2005 and was named chair in 2012. Under her leadership, Connecticut College opened a state-of-the-art science center, built the Zachs Hillel house, created the Walter Commons for Global Study and Engagement, and reopened the Charles E. Shain Library after a transformational renovation. The College also launched Connections, a reinvention of the liberal arts. Prior to becoming chair, Zilly served as chair of the Finance Committee and led the 2012-13 Presidential Search Committee.

Zilly retired as a senior managing director in the restructuring and reorganization advisory group at The Blackstone Group L.P. in 2009. At Blackstone, Zilly provided financial advisory services to companies in need of capital or operational

restructurings, often in a bankruptcy proceeding, or to creditors of such companies. Prior to joining Blackstone in 1991, she worked for three years at Chemical Bank. Zilly began her career in investment banking at E.F. Hutton in 1977. An active supporter of the performing arts, Zilly joined the board of the American Theatre Wing in 2012, and currently serves as a vice-chair. She previously served as a trustee of the Martha's Vineyard Preservation Trust, and as a member of the business advisory board of the Tepper School of Business at Carnegie Mellon University.

Zilly majored in economics and American history at Connecticut College, graduating Phi Beta Kappa, *magna cum laude* and with distinction in the major. She was awarded the Ann Corbett DeVille Memorial Prize for Outstanding Work in American History. She went on to earn a Master of Science degree in industrial administration from the Tepper School of Business at Carnegie Mellon University.

"Now is a time to be bold in our aspirations for Connecticut College," said Zilly. "I look forward to my continued involvement in supporting the exemplary liberal arts education that the College provides."





CC Magazine welcomes your Class Notes and submissions. Class Notes for the summer issue are due **August 1, 2018**. Please contact your class correspondent, email notes to [classnotes@conncoll.edu](mailto:classnotes@conncoll.edu) or submit Class Notes online at: [conncoll.edu/news/cc-magazine](http://conncoll.edu/news/cc-magazine)

**R** denotes a Reunion class year. Reunion 2018 will be held June 1-3, 2018.

**45** Correspondent: Ann LeLievre Hermann, 239-410-0668, [annlehermann26@gmail.com](mailto:annlehermann26@gmail.com) Shirley Armstrong Meneice still lives in her Pebble Beach home, and she enjoys having retired relatives living nearby. She no longer travels long distances, but with the help of her daughter and trusty walker, she plans to attend her annual Garden Club of America meeting this spring—in San Francisco! Shirley plays bridge regularly with a group of friends. Pat Feldman Whitestone is as perky as ever; she lives at Evergreen Woods in North Branford, Conn., where she “is busier than envisioned.” She is chairperson of the Library Committee, serves on the Resident Council, contributes to the residents’ newsletter and has recently become involved in grassroots political activities. Pat attends the Yale University Women’s Organization study group programs each fall and spring and gets together with her family on Cape Cod each summer. Remember Lorraine Hall Santangelo? I didn’t, so I called her—she was a day student, or “townie,” and our paths had never really crossed. We enjoyed speaking for over an hour! Lorraine still lives in Groton, in the same home she and her husband built many years ago. Her nearby family give her a hand as needed, and she shops and goes to the movies with friends. Toni Fenton Tuttle seems to be adapting to the dramatic changes in her life caused by Hurricane Irma. She lost literally everything to hurricane damage and feels fortunate to have found a furnished condo in a nearby community. She now laughs and calls herself “Mrs. Black and White,” because everything in her new condo was completely black or white! She has been adapting, adding colorful accents and making changes to make her new environment comfortable. She is also grateful for her good health, good friends and activities that keep her busy. Now she is looking for a northern home for the summer months, preferring the northern climate to Florida’s humidi-

ty. Nancy Mayers Blitzer has lived in the same apartment in Manhattan for the past 63 years. Although her husband died 11 years ago, she knows there’s no better place where she could live. She attends the ballet and all sorts of concerts. Her two sons and their wives also live in Manhattan and are travelers who enjoy life so fully that neither one wishes to retire. Nancy says she is enjoying this new chapter of her life, which no longer includes extensive traveling. “My life has been full of blessings; it is never boring. If all else fails I can go sit on a Central Park bench and watch our wonderful world go by.” Shirley Krasne Haspel moved 12 years ago to Dallas, Tex., following the hurricane damage in New Orleans. She joined her sister there and never went back. She moved into Edgemere, a retirement community, and has never regretted it. Her three sons, seven grandchildren and four “greats” agree that she has had and still has a wonderfully satisfying life. Although she is now legally blind, friends and staff support services help keep life full and busy. Audio books keep her reading, and TV has helped turn her into a political junkie! Seriously, she considers TV to be the miracle that brings in the outside world. Shirley feels she has lived a long, blessed life and sends her best wishes to classmates. Doris McEvoy Molowa lives in New Jersey; she settled 11 years ago into a CCRC community where she enjoys independent living. Doris has a daughter in California, a son in New Jersey, a grandson in D.C. and a granddaughter in Connecticut. She still drives, plays bridge, does a lot of walking, uses the nearby exercise facilities, reads and keeps very busy! Doris feels she’s lived longer than ever expected, but as long as she feels reasonably hale and hearty and can get around, she is enjoying life as she lives it today. Now, I need your help for future columns: Please share with me all your news and gossip and fun stuff! I am happy being your class correspondent, and it pleases me that we still have a lively group of classmates—let’s flaunt ourselves here in column number one!

**49** Correspondent: Jean Muste, [jsmuste@aol.com](mailto:jsmuste@aol.com) Elizabeth Brainard Sandwick continues her parents’ tradition of volunteering. She is involved in the Junior League, a garden club and Progress Through Preservation, an organization dedicated to preserving old buildings. Daughter Victoria Sandwick Schmitt ’73 and granddaughter Eleanor Schmitt ’12 are also CC graduates. Last summer Elizabeth took them to Italy, where she had a life-changing experience in St. Peter’s



Vytautas Jaras '20 and Marie Thompson '50

Square at the Vatican. Elizabeth stays in touch with Margaret Portlock and often sees Mary Stecher Douthit. Jean Carter Bradley’s son and daughter-in-law have moved from New Haven to Poughkeepsie, where Betsy is now president of Vassar College. “The inauguration was awesome ... I stayed at the president’s house during the three-day weekend, and the rest of my family was there as well.” Jean still lives at Chester Village in Connecticut and is grateful that her health has been OK.

**50** Last fall Marie Woodbridge Thompson visited campus to attend a scholarship brunch, where she met the new Class of 1950 Scholarship recipient, Lithuanian native Vytautas Jaras '20.

**51** Correspondent: Mary Beck Barrett, [betbebar@yahoo.com](mailto:betbebar@yahoo.com) Mona Gustafson Affinito wins the champion traveler award! After her oil-painting course at the John C. Campbell Folk School in North Carolina last May and her two-week Celtic cruise in June with son Doug, she and Doug then enjoyed a two-week Smithsonian tour of India in October, which included the dazzling Festival of Lights on the Ganges River. More events included Thanksgiving at Cove Point on Lake Superior, Christmas in Williamsburg, Va., and another course at the Campbell Folk School (in watercolors). Mona has more travel in the offing, but we’ll save those adventures for next column. In the meantime, Mona is nearing completion on the first draft of *My Father’s House* (already 800 pages) and hopes to pass it to the editor soon. Mona, you are the Energizer Bunny! Bobbie Wiegand Pillote and husband Bob are settled in a new retirement cottage in Silver Spring, Md. They’ll

celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary this July. Golf and family get-togethers are in their schedule as well.

**54** *Correspondent: Joanne Williams Hartley, 69 Chesterton Road, Wellesley MA 02481, 781-235-4038, cell: 617-620-9385, jodihartley69@icloud.com* After 47 years and two homes in Cohasset, Mass., **Elizabeth Alcorn Holt** has moved to Newport, R.I. She lives in the carriage house of an old estate that has been converted into condominiums. She is a mile and a half from her daughter and close enough to her other kids that they've been enormously helpful. Elizabeth can walk to the Newport Art Museum, the wonderful Redwood Library and Athenaeum, and the International Tennis Hall of Fame, as well as the Cliff Walk and beaches. She says Newport offers much to do, without having to fight traffic in Boston to do it. **Jane Daly Crowley** still resides in her home in Wallingford, Conn., helped by loving attention from her two daughters, who live nearby. One is VP for development, PR and marketing at a nearby rehabilitation hospital that has been in Wallingford for 100 years (Jane used to volunteer there). Her other daughter works at the U. of New Haven; she sees both regularly. Jane still gets out every day to the market, a nearby Talbots and more. She is doing well and enjoying life, with the exception of some bronchitis—a result of many years of smoking. Much as she enjoyed it, she finally quit in 1994 when one daughter had a newborn and refused to let her smoke in the house! **Mary Wright Heidtke** says until I called she hadn't talked to anyone from CC since she left the school after two years. She went on to Cincinnati to pursue applied arts, got married and stayed there 25 years. After a divorce Mary moved to Winter Park, Fla., which she loves. She has a son in the area; her daughter lives in Colorado with her husband, who is minister of a log cabin church at the top of Breckenridge Mountain. Does anyone remember what dorm Mary was in? She thinks it was near the chapel; she remembers the beauty of the school and has warm memories of CC. **Barbara Blanchard** and **Dudley** are happy year-round in their lovely wooded lakeside home in Harwich, Mass. **Janice Smith Post** and **Kathryn Hull Easton** and **Peter** are here in Naples, and **Dick** and I see them often. **Cynthia Fenning Rehm** and **Jack** winter in Hobe Sound and are fine; **Cindy** says "nothing happened" to write about. In the March 1 nor'easter that walloped the east coast, **Ann Heagney Weimer** lost a tree, but fortunately it missed her house completely. She was without pow-



Ann Heagney Weimer '54 with felled tree in her yard on Cape Cod

er for two days but is thriving. The Class of '54 sends condolences to the family of **Diane Lawrence Jondari**, who passed away in Winter Springs, Fla. Her obituary stated that Diane and her father were survivors of the Hartford circus fire in 1944. She was at CC for two years, then graduated from Oberlin College, and after marriage and two children in Pittsburgh, Pa., followed her dream and became a freelance actress.

**56** *Correspondent: Janet Ahlborn Roberts, jar.jrr@comcast.net. 508-255-6281* I apologize: since August '17 your correspondent has been working through a broken rt. femur and the attending therapy while **Jim**, my husband, was staving off his demise from cancer for 18 months, until last December. Mutual support it was, but it left little time for anything else. 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! To celebrate New Year 2017, **Judy Rosoff Shore**, **Ellen Wineman Jacobs**, **Frances Freedman Jacobson** and their husbands have met in La Jolla, CA joining **Joy Shechtman Mankoff** and her husband for their 20<sup>th</sup> annual New Year's celebration. Though snatched from New York when she was first married, **JoAnn Walton Leavenworth** is dedicated to Minnesota as a great place to live. (In fact, Connecticut College is very popular among Minnesotans as either hopefuls or as graduates.) When winter weather snaps, the Leavenworths go south = 40 years of annual visits to the *Jamaica Inn*. Three '56ers have left us this winter. Each continued to live her *Koine* quote, leaving the world the better for it. **Katrina Seipp Chamberlin's** quote: "Most generous...always willing to help". A "Mainer" for life, she chaired the committee which built the South Bristol, Me. Library. And, for 30 + years she helped those in need of addiction

treatment and recovery and also ran a free practice to help women in transition. For all that, she was elected to the Psi Chi Honor Society. Of **Judy Reycroft Larson**, *Koines* says: "How far that little candle throws its beam" which perfectly described Judy's life – she was a born volunteer, blending spirit with a listening ear, supporting all age groups. She produced three all-town musicals in Carlisle, MA., raising funds for a hospital auxiliary and an elderly housing association. For all that she was granted the Carlisle *Honored Citizen Award*. **Elizabeth Ann 'Betsy' Johnson's** *Koine* quote: "I dreamt a dream! What can it mean?" What she loved most, she did: after 20+ years working in the insurance business, Betsy became her church's Finance Manager for thirty years, and where she sang in the choir and performed in its theater ensemble and also performed with the Simsbury Light Opera Company. She filled in her free time with art projects. We extend sympathy to **Paul and Joyce Bagley Reingold** for the death of their son, **Ted**, in 2017. Highly valued by his peers for an unique concept – to engage in business with a purposeful – responsible – end-game, not just sheer profit-making. Their farewell in his honor was a celebration of his life and for the creativity and for the quality of his work. **Ted** continue to work with his ideas while undergoing treatment for his illness.

**57** *Correspondent: Elaine Diamond Berman, 100 Riverside Blvd., Apt. 20C, New York, NY 10069, elainedberman@comcast.net* **Joan Sampson Schmidt** recommended the book *Code Girls*, by **Liza Mundy**, about how the Seven Sisters colleges (Connecticut, Wheaton and others) held training sessions and seminars led by the Army and Navy during the World War II. Specifically chosen women were trained in code breaking and went on to Washington during the war. **Toni Garland Marsh** always spends part of July in Massachusetts, where she visits her eldest daughter and family, eats lobster, and attends Red Sox games. Last summer she had a nice visit with **Ellen Smith**. This coming summer, her two other daughters will join the family in Massachusetts. One daughter lives in Texas and the other in North Carolina. They are visiting along with eight of **Toni's** 13 grandchildren and a new great-granddaughter. In Williamsburg, Va, where she lives, **Toni** keeps busy at the homeless drop-in day center and also a community kitchen for the poor. She stays involved in local politics, takes line dance and Zumba, and has taught pre-K Sunday School for the past 14 years.



Julie Solmssen Steedman '59 (L) and Sandy Sidman Larson '59 (R.) Sandy was visiting Julie at her home in Maine.

Our intrepid travelers, **Sue Krim Greene** and **Helene Zimmer-Loew**, went with a group to the Arctic last summer, where they did a lot of kayaking and met some Brits who later joined them in a kayaking trip to Belize during the winter. Helene made her usual trip to ski with Sue in Colorado; some of their new friends from the trip to the Arctic also visited with Sue there. Sue and Helene plan to visit the most northern part of Norway next summer. Condolences to the family of **Elaine Vardakas Rallis**, who passed away at her home in Falmouth, Maine, in February. Elaine and husband Bill lived in Farmington, Conn., for more than 50 years. She worked as an administrative assistant at the U. of Connecticut Health Center, retiring in 1996, and then assisted Bill in his architectural practice. After Bill's passing, she moved to Salisbury, Mass., to be closer to her family. She is survived by three daughters, several grandchildren and a brother. **Betty Weldon Schneider** reminisced, "A biology major at CC, Elaine had a big heart and enjoyed wherever life took her, whether it was applying her skills in biology, volunteering at a soup kitchen or working at her husband's architectural firm."

**58 Correspondent: Judith Ankarstran Carson**, P.O. Box 5028, Edwards, CO 81632, [jdcarsen@centurytel.net](mailto:jdcarsen@centurytel.net) Our 60th reunion is coming up June 1-3, and I hope that you will join us for this chance to reconnect. Although we have lost many dear friends, we still number more than 100 who are alive and kicking. To be honest, I doubted I would make it from Colorado. But then I heard so many familiar voices on a Reunion conference call (14 people were aboard, and we did not talk over each other!) that I hung up and booked



Marcia Fortin Sherman '59 in spring 2017 with Conn students who traveled to Clemson, SC to build a Habitat for Humanity house.

flights for David and me. See you there! After living in Florida for 13 years, in 2016 **Ann McCoy Morrison** moved back north and now lives with daughter Sarah and grandson in N. Chelmsford, Mass. Ann enjoys visiting son Jamie, who lives in Rogers, Ark., where he loves the lower cost of living. "My son, Alex, tragically committed suicide in 2016. There is some comfort knowing that he is relieved of his earthly suffering with mental illness." Ann celebrated her 80th birthday with a Caribbean cruise with Sarah and Jamie and a week in Florida.

**59 Correspondents: Marcia Fortin Sherman**, 602 Red Maple Way, Clemson, SC 29631, [marciasherman@bellsouth.net](mailto:marciasherman@bellsouth.net), and **Carolyn Keefe Oakes**, 3333 Warrensville Center Road, Apt 412, Shaker Heights, OH 44122, [carolynoakes@att.net](mailto:carolynoakes@att.net) **Sandy Sidman Larson** caught up with **Julie Solmssen Steedman** in Maine when Julie was east for her granddaughter's Smith graduation and to visit with friends and family. Julie told Sandy about the bike tour from Charleston to Savannah that she and her husband took last year. **KC and Pat Chambers Moore's** many travels took them to visit a son in Singapore. Another son is the Deputy Commander for Training at the Groton sub base. **Alice Randall Campbell** and her husband now spend all their time in their hometown in Massachusetts, having sold their New Hampshire place. **Lolly Espy Barton** moved to a senior complex in Pennsylvania. She's taken up playing bass in three different types of bands! **Ann Seidel Fletcher** and **Charlie** winter in California, visiting family and keeping active. **Jean Alexander Gilcrest's** choir joined others in

Scotland for concerts honoring the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. She visited Rosslyn Chapel, where her ancestors are buried. **Olga Lehovich**, though creaky with arthritis, keeps busy with friends and relatives. **Mims Matthews Munro** enjoys family and a new residential community's activities. **Connie Snelling McCreery** had grandchildren graduate from fifth grade and Wesleyan. **Ann Earnshaw Roche** and **John** traveled extensively, including a passenger freighter tour to the Marquesas and other exotic islands. Hiking and snorkeling acquainted them with the islanders. Ann convenes Music Live and reads to preschoolers. She celebrated her 80th birthday with a starlight cruise in Sydney harbor. **Gail Glidden Goodell** has spent time in Texas with her daughter, where they visited museums and caverns, even digging for mammoth bones. Grandsons had her camping in Maine and on a dino dig in Wyoming. **Carole Broer Bishop** accompanied her to Italy, Croatia and Slovenia. **Carolyn Keefe Oakes** is in her 58th year of volunteering at University Hospitals of Cleveland. CC roommate and co-correspondent **Marcia Fortin Sherman** also does some volunteering and loves retirement in the college town of Clemson, S.C. We both encourage you to contact us with what you're doing so we can keep our '59 column interesting.

**63 Correspondent: Bonnie Campbell Billings**, P.O. Box 58, Stowe, VT 05672, [bsq22@aol.com](mailto:bsq22@aol.com) These notes will reach you after our "hopefully well attended and richly rewarding" 55th reunion. I hope we are all leading full and busy lives, involved with family, friends and com-

munity. **Debbie Morris Kullby** summed it up best, responding to my plea for news: "MORE info? What we're up to?! You mean other than driving ourselves, spouses, friends and neighbors back and forth to the doctor's office?" If you are reading this, please share news about your travels, and even travails. **Diana Altman's** novel, *Queen of the Alone People*, will be published in the spring of 2019. Her short story "In the Wrong Skin" will appear in the spring issue of the *Notre Dame Review*. Another story, "A Night at the BSS" is available now in an online journal called *Trampset*. **Diana** sings in the 92nd Street Y chorus and plays squash at the Harvard Club twice a week. "Richard is fine—playing a lot of bridge and still doing architecture but not as much as he used to. We love living in NYC. I'm not sure I've ever been happier than now." **Bobette Pottle Orr** and husband **Bill** enjoyed a getaway ski week at Snowshoe Resort. They love skiing out West, "but it has become such an ordeal lugging skis and suitcases through airports ... We can drive to Snowshoe in four and a half hours, and I can even pack the kitchen sink!" **Connie Cross** gathered a group of CC classmates in September at her summer cottage on Panther Pond in Raymond, Maine. "Mostly we talked, laughed and ate lobster, but we also took in a hawk watch on a breezy hill and picked peaches from **Connie's** trees." **Pat Said Adams** continues to blog about the spiritual life at bythewaters.net and has recently published her second book, *Exodus: Our Story Too! From Slavery to the World to the Kingdom of God* (available on Amazon). "My career came after most of you retired, but it is the fulfillment of all I have experienced and learned in this life." She enjoys her seven grandchildren: four boys and three girls, ages 1 month to 17 years. After 24 years of cruising the waters of Maine, the Canadian Maritimes and Newfoundland, we (**Bonnie Campbell Billings** and husband **Joe Walters**) sold our sailboat *Deep Powder*. We hope to get back to Newfoundland this summer. Last spring we saw *Hamilton* and *Come from Away* in NYC. Both were incredible productions! And we cruised in the Greek Isles with friends on a chartered sailboat. Our two new passions, and challenges, of golf and duplicate bridge are keeping us humble! Classmate **Elana (Lanny) Brown Anderson** and husband **Bill** are responsible for introducing us to bridge and to Mexico—proof once again of the lasting impact of those Conn College bonds of friendship. I continue to play tennis and find that our small Stowe Tennis Club membership includes at least

eight CC grads. **Bill** and **Lanny** will soon be off to Dubai to visit son **Spencer**, newly assigned to U.S. Foreign Service there. **Nancy Holbrook Ayers** wrote that life in Jackson, Wyo., continues to be great. "I missed seeing **Bonnie Campbell Billings** and **Nina Henneage Helms** on the ski slopes this winter. Last summer **Carole Hunt Iwanicki** and **Roberta Slone Smith**, and their husbands, visited Jackson. We all went to a wonderful concert at the Grand Teton Music Festival and over several days had plenty of time for reminiscing. I continue to work for the U.S. Census Bureau doing surveys. It's a fascinating way to get to know the Jackson community better. **Doug** and I will head east in late May to attend Reunion. Hope to (have seen) many of you there!" **Roberta Slone Smith**, who lives on the other side of Vermont, and I meet in the middle, in Montpelier, for lunch every month or two. Husband **Steve's** recent knee replacement is keeping them off the hiking trails that they love ... for a while. **Lonnie Jones Schorer**, having been class correspondent and knowing it's like pulling hen's teeth for news, reluctantly let **Bonnie** twist her arm into writing some updates. The reluctance stems from wanting to hear news from *all of you* rather than from a few of us! Please write, especially as this is our reunion year! **Lonnie** still works for **Jane Goodall**, with her *Roots & Shoots* program for kids, with particular emphasis on the elephant and rhino ivory poaching crisis; is in her fifth year on the CC alumni board, enjoying reconnections with alumni

and the college; is chairman of the Explorers Club Washington Group; was recently contacted by UNICEF to go to Ulan Bator in Mongolia to redesign *gers* (aka yurts) for the local populace; and still ice skates with classmate **Bobette Pottle Orr**. "I've enjoyed being engaged with the college again. The campus still looks beautiful. Student life is worlds away from anything we knew." We sadly report the death of **Anne Partington Wilson** in September. Known as "AP" at the time, she was a delightful member of our freshman-year group in Knowlton. She was married for 42 years to **Hugh**, who passed away a few years ago. After years of bringing up her girls, **Anne** found her calling as a reference librarian at the Cleveland Heights–University Heights Public Library. **Anne** continued to make an impact on the library as a volunteer long after her retirement. We send condolences to her two daughters and four grandchildren.

**64** At age 74, **Louisa Barkalow** is happy to announce that she has written a script for and directed and co-starred in a 30-minute musical! She and her friend also made props and sets, and they shot the entire film in **Louisa's** living room. Called *Memoir of a King*, it's a tale about **Babar** in his later years meeting **Ganesh**. "It's about elephants in the room. **Ganesh** is a pachyderm psychiatrist. Neither of us had ever had any experience in film, acting or singing. I can only say miracles happen! Budget was about \$250, and it was six



# 1911 Society



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## Ricki Chapman McGlashan '68 Honors Her Mother with a Gift In Her Will

When I was choosing a college, almost all my friends were only looking at California

schools. But I had the benefit of my mother's stories of Connecticut College where she had gone from her home state of Michigan. Intending to go to Connecticut for just one year to broaden my horizons ... I couldn't get myself to leave, and I graduated in 1968. I got a fabulous academic and social education which has always made me feel at home all over the country. I have watched Connecticut College do nothing but improve over the years with coeducation, offerings on international studies and internships—with much broader diversity! My husband, who also has an attachment to Conn because of his many visits then, and I agree that there are few institutions positioned to make a more positive impact. I didn't designate how our gift is to be used because I don't see the College doing anything I don't want to foster. From scholarships to an improved library, the needs are real, and it feels great to contribute. I will give our bequest in honor of my mother Betty Johnson Chapman '41 who opened these and many other doors for me."

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# Rosemary Park Society

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weeks in the making. It got rave reviews, except for sound issues. We will figure that out!"

**65** *Correspondents: Susan Peck Hinkel, 1064 N. Main St, Danby, VT 05739, rerob@mac.com; Pat Antell Andrews, 937 Henry Clay Ave, New Orleans, LA 70118, pandre0615@gmail.com* Class Presidents **Marge Landsberg Goldsmith** and **Judy Trauner Stone** send greetings and good wishes to all. "We want to thank Patty and Sue for their continued responsibilities as our class correspondents. It's great to hear about all the activities, professional and social, and all the travels and the growing numbers of grandchildren. Please keep the news flowing. Hopefully we will have a strong turnout for our 55th in 2020. We look forward to another milestone!" Since retiring from the theater and dance department at Bowdoin, **June Adler Vail** has published *The Passion of Perfection: Gertrude Hits Burton's Modern Victorian Life*, available from Amazon or Maine Authors Publishing. She and husband David recently celebrated their 50th anniversary and enjoy get-togethers with their two sons and six grandchildren. June has also rendezvoused with **Margot Lasher Brubaker** and **Pam Gwynn Herrup** in the past year. **Marcia Finkelstein Greenleaf** spent the first few decades after graduating "having adventures, teaching modern dance, divorcing after a four-year marriage, completing doctoral work in health psychology, and creating my dream job of bringing hypnosis to

patients' bedsides at the Hospital of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine and Montefiore (N.Y.), directing a teaching program in medical hypnosis as an assistant professor." In 1989, Marcia presented papers at the International Society of Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis, where she met her husband, a psychiatrist who also worked with hypnosis. They became active partners in their work, teaching and writing together. He died in 2009. Marcia continue to have an active private practice and has met a wonderful companion, with whom she makes time to enjoy theater, symphony and travel. She lives and work in Manhattan. **Judy Trauner Stone** and husband **Arnold** took a fascinating trip to Sri Lanka. When not traveling, they are very busy with their 10 grandchildren and their parents. **Marge Landsberg Goldsmith** keeps active with theater, concerts, tennis and her two grandchildren. Husband **Jay** is dean emeritus at Touro College of Dental Medicine and remains involved in projects there. **Cathy Fujiwara Ryan** was busy after graduation: "I returned to Honolulu; back to NYC; married; moved to Bermuda; back to Westport, Conn.; moved to Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates; back to Westport in 2006." They have three children (son **Todd Ryan '95** married a CC classmate) and four grandchildren. Cathy volunteers at the Westport Library and serves as president of the Fairfield Women's Exchange in Southport. "I went to a ConnChords reunion several years ago and enjoyed meeting an amazing group of talented young



From left: Ros Hitch Patterson '63, Rona Shor '66, Donna Altieri '66, Kay Landen '66, Jane Harris Alexander '60, Professor Blanche McCrary Boyd, Helen Jinks Richards '64, Liz Buell Labrot '55, and Susan Hazlehurst Milbrath '76 at "College for a Day" in Denver, Colorado, January 2018.



Wally Lindburg Nicita '67 and her son Jesse at the Casting Society of America Awards.

ladies." The Class of '65 sends condolences to the family and friends of **Janet Albrecht**, who died Feb. 2. After receiving an MPH from Yale and an MBA from Boston U., Janet pursued a distinguished career in public health and health care administration; held teaching positions at UMass Medical Center, BU Medical School and Tufts School of Medicine; volunteered with numerous agencies; and maintained interests in music and photography.

**66** *Correspondents: Carol Chaykin and Pat Dale, ccnotes66@gmail.com* In January, **Eleanor Abdella Doumato**, **Christina Ferayorni Ivaldi**, **Renee Huppert Sosland**, **Alice Karmel Juda** and **Leila Mittelman Shepard** had an impromptu reunion in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. Christina was also delighted to meet and reconnect with **Carol Chaykin** at CC's 1911 Society reception in NYC in February. In March, Carol was elected to the board of Women of Reform Judaism (WRJ), an organization that has promoted Reform Jewish women's issues and leadership for more than 100 years. Carol continues to serve on the marketing and communications team of WRJ Northeast District, working as one of the editors of the district's monthly newsletter. Burlington (Mass.) Cable Access Television nominated **Ellen Kagan** for Producer of Excellence for a Special for her one-woman show, *Just What the Doctor Ordered*. The show can be viewed on YouTube by keying in the show's title. **Ann Langdon** and husband **Drew** celebrated their 50th anniversary by going to Cancun with their immediate family. Last summer **Drew** had a series of strokes, which has slowed him down. On the positive side, they had a delightful Christmas family celebration in a hotel in NYC. **Sue Leiser Frank** is happily retired, busy and living in the same Culver City (Calif.) condo that she and her ex-husband bought almost 40 years ago. (The guest room is ready for any CC alum who would like to visit.) She enjoys filling the home with her own cre-



'67 classmates Marcia Hunter Matthews, Pat McClure, Rita York Fogal and Linda Reichert Mann.

ations in fused glass, a hobby she took up 15 years ago, and she is also involved in caregiving for her significant other. When her older son, **Matthew** (Yale '95) got married in NYC in November, **Sue** stopped off in Washington, D.C., to visit **Wilma Cohen Probst** (whose husband, **Lewis Levy**, died a month after **Sue's** visit). **Sue** and **Wilma** joined **Betsy Greenberg Feinberg** for lunch at the National Gallery, and all three were so busy catching up that they forgot to take a photo! **Sue's** younger son, **Adam** (Berkeley '01), has recently moved back to L.A. from New York, and she's delighted to have him around. **Sue** regularly sees **Toni Gold** (who has moved back to L.A. from Avila Beach, Calif.) and talks with **Rona Shor**, **Marian Silber**, and **Jan Nagel Clarkson '65**. **Jane Noyes Bancroft** is adjusting to being a widow for the second time in 22 years, after husband **Monk Bancroft** passed away in December after a courageous battle with glioblastoma. **Gayle Sanders** reports sadly that **Charles Sinclair**, her husband of 39 years, died last November. On a happier note, **Gayle** continues working for the NYC Law Department as deputy chief of the Special Litigation Unit in the Tort Division; they handle high-profile, high-exposure cases and claims against NYC and its agencies, as well as against the NYC Board of Education. **Gayle's** son, **Peter Sinclair**, and daughter-in-law, **Allegra Edelman**, are both attorneys and live in the Albany area with their two children. **Jane Harris Alexander '60** and **Rona Shor** were the Connecticut College committee members who, with tremendous help from **Kay Landen**, made arrangements for Professor **Blanche McCrary Boyd** to speak at the 44th "College for a Day" in Denver. Additional CC attendees were **Donna Altieri**, **Liz Buell Labrot '55**, **Susan Hazlehurst Milbrath '76**, **Ros Hitch Patterson '63** and **Helen Jinks Richards '64**. We join all our classmates in sending sincere condolences to **Wilma Cohen Probst**, **Jane Noyes Bancroft** and **Gayle Sanders** on the loss of their husbands. Please continue sending your news. We love hearing from you!



Debby Greenstein '67 (center) with Marcia Hunter Matthews (R) and Judy Robb at the Sarasota Yacht Club.

**67** *Correspondents: Debby Greenstein, debby837@verizon.net; Marcia Hunter Matthews, marciamatthews3@gmail.com* Your class correspondents, **Debby Greenstein** and **Marcia Hunter Matthews**, had a mini-reunion at a college event at the Sarasota Yacht Club. The day was made even more special by the surprise appearance of **Judy Robb**. All three thoroughly enjoyed hearing from current students, who have opportunities we never dreamed about in the 1960s! **Debby** recently went into her local Target and discovered a T-shirt emblazoned with our class motto: We Are Family. By the time she returned to take a photo the next day, all that was left was a kid-sized T-shirt. **Debby** finds the Target connection particularly appropriate because the business was founded by the Dayton family, which has strong Connecticut College ties. **Marcia** hosted a luncheon for old friends **Linda Reichert Mann**, **Rita York Fogal** and **Pat McClure**. They all lived together in Hamilton. **Pat** is buying a house near **Marcia** in Venice, Fla., so they are hoping for more mini-reunions. **Wendy Allen** officially retired from St. Olaf on Sept. 1, but fall semester she chaired both the Norwegian and German departments, and in February she chaired the German department. She and her husband spent January term in Morocco with a group of St. Olaf students, studying Islam and the geometry of Islamic patterns. The Class of '67 congratulates **Wally Lindburg Nicita** for being awarded emeritus status from the Casting Society of America, of which she was a founding member. There were only six members in 1977, and now it's a global organization. For **Wally**, it was a meaningful acknowledgement of helping to bring professional standards and protection to the job of being a casting director. She attended the CSA awards with her son, **Jesse**, at the Beverly Hills Hilton. **Laura DeKoven Waxman** traveled with her daughter, **Rachel Waxman '95**, to India and Nepal. **Nancy Taylor Hunt** writes, "Although getting older—with



Laura DeKoven Waxman '67 and her daughter Rachel Waxman '95 at the Taj Mahal.



Nancy Taylor Hunt '67 hiking in Arizona.

all the concomitant physical woes—Ron and I continue to enjoy kayaking in Maine in the summer and hiking in Arizona in the winter. The kids (two) and grandkids (six) are busy and well, and we enjoy time with them from our Maryland base camp.”

**68** <sup>®</sup> *Correspondent: Mary Clarkson Phillips, 36 The Crossway, Delmar, NY 12054, mphill2@ny-cap.rr.com* Looking forward to seeing many of you at our 50th reunion in June! Ricki Chapman McGlashan and her family are doing well. She and Doug took an epic trip to Patagonia in January and satisfied a long-held desire to see all the unique mountains, glaciers, waterfalls, volcanoes and lakes of Chile and Argentina. Volunteering for Sustainable San Mateo County and regular road biking occupy much of Ricki’s free time. She hopes to see lots of old friends at Reunion. Helen Reynolds is still in the labor force, and will be until her brain no longer functions. She likes what she does—being an economist and college lecturer—and her energy level is pretty good. Her kids are in their 20s, so that keeps her going, too. Elizabeth Davison still enjoys her work—lots of interesting students—and she and John had a lovely Christmas with all the kids and their partners. She cooked for armies! Two of the kids have bought new houses, so John is (as usual) helping them rebuild. In December, Joan Pekoc Pagano presented a breakout session at the East Coast Leadership Summit for Women of the Channel, which hosts networking and skill building events for executive women in tech companies. Her presentation, “Moving in the Moment,” engaged the audience with interactive exercise segments to help reduce the risks of prolonged sitting, improve posture and alleviate “tech neck.” During the winter, she and

James spend time e at their condo on the Gulf Coast of Florida, cruising the mangroves and quiet harbors of Pine Island Sound, near Sanibel and Captiva. Judy Irving writes that *Dark Circle*, a personal film she made 35 years ago about the impact of nuclear weapons and power on ordinary citizens, is having a new life: It has been remastered in high definition and put online in an effort to help counter the Trump/North Korea situation. The sequences shot with survivors in Hiroshima and Nagasaki get to the heart of what a nuclear war actually means. The fact that the film is still relevant today is scary! For the link and password please be in touch: films@pelicanmedia.org. Judy looks forward to seeing everybody at our 50th reunion. Sadly, I must share the news of the passing of three of our classmates: Judith Harrigan deJong, Barbara Rein Hedman and Kathy Dowling Singh. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families during this sad time.

**69** *Correspondent: Judi Bamberg Mariggio, 1070 Sugar Sands Bl. #384, Riviera Beach, FL 33404, jgmariggio@bellsouth.net* Alice Boatwright successfully launched her second Ellie Kent mystery, *What Child Is This?*, at Third Place Books in Lake Forest Park (Wash.) in February. “The reading was well attended and a lot of fun. I was delighted to see Kathleen Kichline there, since we’ve had numerous coffee meetings to discuss writing, marketing books and life. Last May, I was in Coupeville on Whidbey Island to give a book talk for an American Association of University Women (AAUW) group at the home of Babette Gabriel Thompson. I am hard at work on the third mystery and juggling that with my responsibilities as the new president of the Puget Sound Chapter of Sisters in Crime.” Along with welcoming

a new grandson, this past year Martha Harris Walton traveled to South Africa, Easter Island and Tahiti with family, as well as to Colorado and Texas. Donna Hicks de Perez-Mera and husband Germán enjoyed a pleasant and uneventful 2017 at home in Santo Domingo, with the exception of some close calls with hurricanes. In January they spent several weeks in Miami for routine medical check-ups and a visit with very close old friends. The tropical winter weather is much milder than usual this year ... “66 degrees at dawn has us shivering but wishing it would stay that way year-round. My husband’s orchids are doing unusually well.” Joan Hosmer Smith is “proud to report that our little grassroots land trust, Groton Open Space Association, received the 2017 National Land Trust Excellence Award in the all-volunteer category at the National Land Trust Alliance Rally in Denver last October. Check out the LTA’s three-minute video on gosaonline.org. We are honoring the legacies of Dr. Niering, Dr. Goodwin and Dr. Sally Taylor.” Alice Reid Abbott spent three weeks in March enjoying her apartment in Montpelier. “My two grandsons who live in D.C. are growing up way too fast. Daughter Sally continues to work for USAID and makes an occasional trip to Africa. Daughter Laurel’s position as a general manager at Microsoft provides continual new challenges. My partner, Ed, expects to have the plane he is building airborne this summer.” After the school shooting in Florida, Ann Touseley Anderson commented, “It’s been overwhelmingly sad to have such an event take place right down the road from where I live. My daughter and niece both graduated from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, a name that is honored for saving our River of Grass, the Everglades. The school has produced many outstanding students, thanks to its remarkable faculty and staff. It’s the reason we stayed here after Hurricane Andrew in 1992, when Lynne Cooper Sitton offered my family temporary refuge following Miami’s devastation.” Sandy Bodmer-Turner has sold her company, ePublishingPartners, Inc., and officially retired. Marilyn Weast Rorick enjoyed catching up with one of her freshman roommates, Carol Hunter Thomas, over lunch. “We played a lot of bridge together when we were at Conn, and we still do in retirement. We are also both in multiple book clubs.” Your correspondent has finally “completely retired” and enjoys volunteer office work for Habitat for Humanity instead. Although caregiving responsibilities are increasing, I am fortunate that both my 98-year-old mother and nearly

93-year-old husband are in good health. Recent reconnections with elementary and high school classmates from New Rochelle, who have relocated to South Florida for at least part of the year, are proving to be joyous; I've become close friends with Priscilla Stone Cutler '68, and Giovanni and I continue to enjoy occasional evenings with John and Zoi Aponte Diamond. The Class of '69 sends condolences to the family and friends of Diane Harper, who died on March 17, 2016.

**70** *Correspondent: Myrna Chandler Goldstein, mgoldst@massmed.org*  
Chris Slye Koch, who lives in Connecticut, is now a grandmother. On Oct. 6, son David and his wife, Kate Nichols '06, welcomed son Benjamin Marsden Nichols-Koch. Baby Ben has one more connection to Conn: His great-grandmother is Frances Adams Nichols '49. In Massachusetts, Martha Sloan Felch wrote that she ended her banking career last July. She launched a nonprofit consulting practice focused on board development and governance, based on decades of nonprofit board experience. She is allowing "ample time for friends and family, volunteer projects (historic docent, hospital volunteer, women's enterprise certification volunteer and Class of '70 reunion team)." Martha also enjoys yoga, walking, cycling, golf and travel. About every six to eight weeks, she travels to D.C./Alexandria, Va., to visit daughter Sarah Felch Ettinger '07 and family, which includes granddaughter Elizabeth, born December 2016. As for the Goldsteins, our most recent book, *Vitamins and Minerals: Fact Versus Fiction*, was published in the spring and is available at Amazon.com and other locations. If you decide to check it out, let us know what you think. Now, please forward your updates.

**71** *Correspondents: Lisa McDonnell, 134 W Maple Street, Granville, OH 43023, mcdonnell@denison.edu; Lois Olcott Price, 933A Alto Street, Santa Fe, NM 87501, loprice@yahoo.com* It has been an extraordinary year for Lois Olcott Price, who has continued teaching and consulting part-time in between house-hunting trips to Santa Fe and spending a month in South Africa and Botswana. Africa was amazing, with cultural tours in South Africa and a safari in Botswana, including the Okavango Delta—long on their bucket list. Grover and Lois spent a few days in South Africa touring archeological sites, and Lois gave a lecture at the U. of Pretoria, which has a fledgling art conservation education program; they plan to invite her back to give a workshop. She

and Grover also spent a few days in Doha, Qatar, which provided a fascinating contrast. They arrived home suffering from jet and culture lag and are now happily settled in Santa Fe, closer to their children and several friends. Elizabeth (Bess) Walsh Detmold attended her 50th high school reunion in Maryland in April and enjoyed showing her Northampton High daughter, Hilary, what life was like in a girls' prep school. She and Hilary participated in a Hot Chocolate Run/Walk to fundraise for a Northampton agency that helps victims of domestic violence. Bess volunteers at a local food pantry and enjoys knitting and origami. She spent Thanksgiving with family on Williams Street in New London, right behind campus, and planned to spend Christmas in Chicago with son Todd and his partner. Ann Huckle Mallek is in her 10th year as White Hall district representative on the Albemarle County (Va.) Board of Supervisors. She, Leo (retired from 45 years as a dentist), daughter Kate and three grandkids run a farm, raising grass-fed beef and organic vegetables. Kate also runs an environmental education natural area, and daughter Laura is an IT wizard living in Mountain View, Calif. Ellen Parry still hasn't retired from her career as a freelance graphic designer but finds time to volunteer as a cook in a soup kitchen and as a reading partner in her kids' former elementary school. Lisa McDonnell traveled to Bangalore, India, for her nephew's wedding in January. The wedding celebrations lasted six days, and Lisa and her sisters enjoyed

wearing saris, spangled dancing gowns and other traditional clothing made from India's beautiful, vibrant silks. Nancy Filbin often looks back happily at our 45th reunion and is so glad she made the trip from Montana for it; she is eagerly anticipating the big 5-0. She's on the Class Parade committee and has been attending every possible parade to get ideas for our entry. "I'd love to see you!" An-Ming Sze Truxes recently sent a letter to our class detailing our efforts to find missing classmates. To help, please e-mail Lois at the address above.

**72** *Correspondent: Peg Muschell Jackson, 1621 Ptarmigan Dr., Apt. 9C, Walnut Creek, CA 94595-3684, peg@pegjackson.com* We are saddened to report that Peter Vickery passed away last year. His wife, Barbara Vickery, along with a distinguished team of ornithologists Peter recruited before his death to serve as co-authors, are working hard toward completing the book Peter had been working on when he died, *The Birds of Maine*. Publication by Princeton University Press is expected in early 2020. Gratitude goes to the several CC classmates who contributed to the *Birds of Maine* book fund at Maine Audubon to help make this possible. Classmates who wish to extend condolences and/or contribute to the fund can contact Barbara at barbaravickery@roadrunner.com. Amy Lewis Tabor reports that a mini-reunion is happening in Hawaii in early April for some members of '72 and '73. Amy promises a picture for

To join the Camel Athletics Club, contact Stephanie Schilke at (860) 439-2414 or visit [www.conncoll.edu/camelathleticsclub](http://www.conncoll.edu/camelathleticsclub)





Back, L-R: Toni Miller Carter '73, Cathy Coshal '73, (Susan) Front, L-R: Sandy Smith Nawrocki '73, Bonnie Baker Humphrey '72, myself, Heidi Peck Sullivan '72, and Mary Gardner Young '73

the next edition. Those planning to attend include Amy, Martha Cogswell LaMontagne, Suzi MacDonald Horan, Jinx Stuart Atherton, Jan Komoroski Rothhaar '73 and Linda Havens Moore '73. Norma Drab Walrath Goldstein (also MAT '75) has been in contact with Elizabeth Kennedy Gische and her husband, David, who live 20 minutes from Norma in Maryland. Norma still works full-time for a national association in higher education and travels across the country doing governance institutes for community colleges. As an English major, she still enjoys writing and research and publishes a Trustee Talk newsletter for her organization. Her grandkids are super special: The eldest, Emmy, is a film editor for *Modern Family*, her first job. Granddaughter Maggy, 20, is getting her diving certification with dad Ivan. Norma's son Todd is splicing movies for his daughter Vanessa's bat mitzvah in April; Norma's son Adam will soon complete his MBA. Husband Allen Goldstein was promoted at NIST, and Norma now expects to be in Maryland another few years before returning to their 1926 home in Seattle. Heidi Peck Sullivan had a fabulous reunion in Bend, Ore., last September, hosted by Susan Sylvester Kenney '73. Also attending were Toni Miller Carter '73, Cathy Coshal '73, Sandy Smith Nawrocki '73, Bonnie Baker Humphrey and Mary Gardner Young '73. Crindy Leahy Stormer is looking forward to a mini-reunion with some Conn buddies in September. After more than 41 years of parenthood together, Al and Penny Eisenhart Veerhoff are finally empty nesters! Twin sons Will and Jamie moved to a nearby condo in December. Another first: Everyone was present on Christmas day—all five sons, three daughters-in-law, four grandsons and their old friend Ron. They headed to Williamsburg after Christmas to celebrate Al's 80th birthday and look forward to more traveling.



Ellen Ficklen '73 in India

**73** *Correspondent: Hester Kinnicut Jacobs, P.O. Box 277, Melstone, MT 59054, djacobs@midrivers.com* Martha (Meg) Gifford writes: "My friends and colleagues laugh and roll their eyes, but I'm semiretired from law practice. I still have my law license, but after finishing a five-year project for one client, I decided not to try to replace that time and am left with advising for a few clients. Somehow the six months after making the decision more than filled up with volunteer work; my next project is to put some structure into my life and make the best use of my time." Ellen Ficklen lives just outside Washington, D.C., and teaches writing courses to graduate students at Johns Hopkins University ("Science Narratives")



Elaine Lang Cornett '75 met up with Judy Viadella '74 for a fall weekend reunion last October in Mystic. Julia Roberts couldn't make it for dinner, but Elaine's daughter Sarah was happy to be included in the party.



Bradford Peck '76 and Coach Jim Morris.

and to medical professionals at Creative Nonfiction ("Narrative Medicine"). In November 2017, she and partner Paul Zador spent several weeks in India, where this photo was taken of Ellen washing a kneeling elephant in the Banjar River. Ellen reports that Tara the elephant was «a real sweetie with an inquisitive trunk.» Ellen also notes: «This is what being 66 looks like these days!»

**75** *Correspondents: Nancy Gruver and Miriam Josephson Whitehouse, nancyg@newmoon.com, casablanca1@gwi.net* Tim Reinsch, Jane Thompson Reinsch and Elaine Lang Cornett continued their annual "meet in Maine" tradition last year, spending a lovely August evening having dinner in Portland. Tim and Jane both still work and live in Windsor, Conn. Elaine divides her time between Arlington, Va., and Friendship, Maine. A late bloomer family-wise, she is still managing two college-age kids at home.

**76** *Correspondents: Kenneth Abel and Susan Hazlehurst Milbrath, kenn616@aol.com, shmilbrath@aol.com* On successive weekends last February, Bradford Peck was on the baseball banquet circuit. He attended the Charleston RiverDogs Hot Stove Banquet at the Charleston Marriot (S.C.), where former Atlanta Braves Ryan Klesko and Andruw Jones were the guest speakers. Jones is from Curaçao, Lesser Antilles, and Klesko hails from California. Bill Murray provided entertainment, interviewing both former players for nine innings of each of their respective careers. Brad received a baseball signed by Jones, Klesko and Murray after some bantering with Mr. Murray, who is a diehard Chicago Cubs fan and part owner of the Charleston RiverDogs. Then Brad traveled to Coral Gables, Fla., to attend U. of Miami baseball coach Jim Morris' retirement banquet. Many

of Coach Morris' former players attended. Author and entertainer Roy Firestone entertained the audience. Brad was thrilled to meet Alex Cora, new manager of the Boston Red Sox: "An experience I won't forget."

**77** *Correspondent: Stuart Sadick: stuart.sadick@gmail.com* Annie Ramage Fritschner has returned to college to study for an MBA and compares it to "a 60-MPH car ride down that hill behind Harkness near the Arbo." She is part-time chaplain for palliative care for a western North Carolina hospice organization, and she still works with NGOs developing volunteer leaders who can ask for support for their favorite causes. "My health is great and the kids are fine. A full and blessed life!" **Andy Williams** claims he still hasn't figured out what to do with his life, so he builds furniture, works on boats and sails them. "Sailing has taken the place of music." Andy has his captain's license and made his first captain trip to Bermuda in November. He has accrued 20,000 miles offshore, including three transatlantic trips, and keeps an old 33-foot sloop on a mooring in Stonington Harbor. He lives just up the road from the college with his girlfriend and an Aussie shepherd, Cooper, in a little one-bedroom house in the woods. "I guess I'm still a hippie." **Tom Howland** has been retired and living in England for over a year. "So far life has been great!" He does volunteer work, plays tennis and acts in various local amateur theater productions. Last July he took a cruise down the Dalmatian coast in Croatia, and he spent two weeks in January on a tour of Colombia. He looks forward to more travel in the future. Life in upstate New York is glorious for **Mary Pomeroy Hennessy**, who has two young-adult children and a full-time therapy practice close to her home. "Wishing all the best to classmates!" **Henry Gitenstein** left Oracle after 16 years and became a global practice director for JDA Software, covering North and South America. He travels for work in the Americas and to the offices in Bangalore, India, twice a year. Wife Harriet is still at the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation giving tours and running the office. Son Eric and his wife live in Portland, Ore., where he is a chef. After winning a couple of Best in Portland Awards, Eric gave up restaurant work and started his food cart, where he serves Southwestern-style food made from locally sourced ingredients. He was named one of the 10 Best Food Carts in Portland by Travel Magazine last year. "Visit MF Tasty if you are ever in Portland." Younger son Max

has been in Oslo for five years, where he is a landscape architect and president of the Norwegian Landscape Association; he just applied for his permanent visa. "We visited him this summer to help celebrate his 30th birthday." **Brian Chertok** works in cybersecurity, "which is obviously pretty exciting these days," and feels lucky to have family close by. He and Lauri are celebrating 38 years together and are proud of their two grown children: Ben, a teacher, and Zach, a business analyst. He keeps in touch with classmates via Facebook. **Benita Goldstein** has been in Florida for eight years and is grateful to have settled in Delray Beach, "a vibrant yet quaint town." They run a vacation rental business in the downtown, where they meet people from all over, and maintain a residence in upstate New York, where they escape the heat and visit daughter Serena Goldstein, a naturopathic physician in NYC. "Let us know if you are ever in our neck of the Sunshine State." After complaining for years that "the school does a poor job of encouraging alumni engagement," **David Schonberger** has joined the alumni board in an attempt to be part of the solution. After only a few months, he is encouraged: "Many individuals are of the same mindset ... engaged and energized and intent on making a difference. The more cohesive our alumni community becomes, the more we can help each other after graduation." Over winter break, Tessa Reagan '20 interned for the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW) in D.C., analyzing research on the connections between migration, climate change and child marriage in various countries across the globe. There she met three other CC alumni in the ICRW office: Shelby Bourgault '15, Jessica Ogden '87 and Laurie Calhoun.

**81** *Correspondent: Brooke Perry Pardue, bppardue@gmail.com* **Vanessa Stock Bristow** admits to living a charmed life on the banks of the Limpopo River in Zimbabwe. She is delighted to announce that eldest son Adam has just tied the knot with his girlfriend, Touran. "We are more than ecstatic." Vanessa's "Last Born" (as expressed in Africa), Tarquin, finished his agriculture degree at Stellenbosch U. in South Africa and has rejoined them on the farm to help with irrigation projects. **Dana Friedman Kiesel** says all is well in L.A.; they frequently get together with Paul Escoll as well as others from the CC L.A. club, like Jeff Oshen '76 and Michael Tulin '77. Officially empty nesters, Dana and Paul can now pursue their passion for international travel.



Talie Ward Harris' '81 grandson



John Junda '80, Peter Simpson '81, David Evans '80, Max Moore '81, and Alexander Brash '81

They've been to Argentina, Peru and Iceland and have an upcoming trip to Hong Kong and Vietnam. Sadly, Dana lost her brother to brain cancer not long ago. "I have to say this aging thing and illness sucks. Since we don't have an alternative, I really try to stay present, do the things I love, be with the people I love and appreciate each day fully." **Robert (Rusty) Spears'** children are grown and out of the house. Emily, the oldest completed a two-year teaching assignment in Myanmar last June and started a kindergarten teaching position in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, where Rusty will visit her in May. "It will be my first time to Central Asia and the first time to an area of the Soviet Union since 1981!" Son Grant is a second-year law student at Washington and Lee and will hold a summer position at a law school at home in Irvington, Va. Youngest daughter Karen was married last July and lives in Oak Harbor, Wash. Leta Davis sent her first update since graduation: "In a nutshell, I'm making cartoons, art and sculpture. I post cartoons almost daily on Instagram @kipthe1derdog. My two boys are grown, and my husband died unexpectedly from cancer last year. I live in Sonoma and am thinking of relocating as I put a new life together." The class sends condolences to Leta and her family on their loss. **Susan Cole Ross** has had a busy year seeing students at Phillips Exeter; expanding the reach and scope of her nonprofit, the Northeast Associ-

ation of Learning Specialists, as the premier professional development resource empowering learning specialists; and taking the family to San Diego's Wild Kingdom. After more than three decades in conservation, and most recently serving as president of Connecticut Audubon, **Alexander Brash** has taken a sabbatical to enjoy life and work on several projects. He is involved in two major political campaigns, writing two books, and devoting time to fishing and travel. He lives in Greenwich, Conn., where wife Jane is in real estate and their two kids live with them, as they both work nearby in Stamford, one for NBC Sports and the other for Indeed. **Nancy Smith Klos** is a professional fine artist in Portland, Ore., where she established Klos Studios in 1990. In her studio Atelier NAN, she creates drawings, paintings, mixed media and commissions for a national clientele. In 2016 Nancy painted a portrait commission for **Liz Lee Lewandrowski**, "Liz in Florence." Nancy has offered workshops throughout the Northwest, Idaho and California. She will have work in the upcoming group show "Impressionism" at the Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, May 12–July 1. The late Barkley Hendricks was Nancy's art adviser for her four years of study in Conn's fine art department. "Barkley influenced me to take a serious look at the black experience in our culture ... I have an ongoing body of work, 'Women of Color,' a series in mixed media and oils, which I hope to show all together." **Linda Rosenthal Maness** continues in her role as development coordinator of special events in Vermont for Susan G. Komen New England, based in Manchester Center. She oversaw a successful Snowshoe for the Cure event at Stratton Mountain and is currently organizing the 26th Annual Race for the Cure, as well as a Ride for the Cure (horseback event). She frequently visits daughter Kate, an actor in NYC, along with **Nancy Lundebjerg**. She also sees **Jim Stiles '83** whenever she's in the Boston area. Son Andrew is an automotive journalist (see [CoolHunting.com](http://CoolHunting.com) and [GearPatrol.com](http://GearPatrol.com)). Linda and husband David went to Arizona in February, where they took part in the Phoenix Half Marathon (her 67th lifetime half marathon). They plan more half-marathon trips this year to Maine, New Hampshire, the Finger Lakes and Central Park. Linda's goal is 100 half marathons! **Margot Nones** lives in New York City and works at Pzena Investment Management as chief process officer. She made partner in December. Margot stays close to **Susan Baldwin Kietzman '82**, **Alice Elsbree Eckerson '82** and **Alice Bakker '82**

and enjoys regular visits to Mystic—and flying past the campus on the way to Mohegan Sun. After a career in the public sector, working on urban development and transportation issues, for the past few years **Peter O'Connor** has been an independent attorney and consultant in Boston. He sometimes sees **Emily Bloch**, when in Provincetown, and **Don Pappard**, when in New London. "He hasn't aged a day." Peter's essays on public policy and urban issues are published frequently online in *Commonwealth Magazine*, and lately he's been working on a couple of stage plays. **Talie Ward Harris'** grandson, **Walter Ward McGee Harris**, was born on March 23, weighing in at over eight pounds! His parents work at the Choate School and are thrilled with an army of babysitters. Grandparents are just thrilled, period. **Brooke Perry Pardue** recently left the employ of Congressman **John Yarmuth**, where she'd spent almost a decade as his constituent services manager. She now heads up the Louisville Parks Foundation (LPF), a nonprofit that raises money to invest in Louisville, Kentucky's public parks. She served on the board of LPF for five years prior to stepping into this role and says she is "thrilled to focus my energy on improving our cherished green space, all 13,500 acres Louisville is blessed to have!" **Lynn Lesniak Needle** received an Andrew W. Mellon Cultural Exchange Grant to teach and set repertoire in Mexico at the Universidad de Colima in March. She looks forward to touring with her company, the Art of Motion Dance Theatre, in the coming year. Lynn's niece, **Julie Lesniak '17** is enjoying a year abroad teaching elementary school in Madrid. **Shane O'Keefe** and **Elizabeth McMahon O'Keefe** celebrated 26 years of marriage last fall and are finally empty nesters, with sons Eamon in graduate school in Rotterdam and Mackey a freshman at Bowdoin College. Shane and Lisa live in the sticks of Walpole, N.H., where Lisa has been a psychotherapist in private practice for a dozen years and Shane is the municipal manager of nearby Bellows Falls/Rockingham, Vt. They see **Blake Taylor** and **W. Kurt Meinen '79** to revive their inner Camels. And Shane says he REALLY misses **Rick Gersten**. **Nancy Lundebjerg** says she still works on behalf of older people; travels ("next up: Ireland"); takes photographs ("pretty much anything and anyone is fair game"); walks the streets of NYC ("can't say I OWN them yet"); cheers on **Linda Rosenthal Maness** when she is in the city for another half marathon ("I'm a one-and-done half-marathon girl") and "mostly" takes life as it comes. She looks for-

ward to September and supporting the Louisville Parks Foundation, headed by **Brooke Perry Pardue**, while learning about bourbon ("doubt this Scotch girl will switch but you never know"). After more than three decades in conservation, and most recently serving as President of Ct. Audubon, **Alex Brash** has taken a sabbatical to enjoy life and work on several projects. He is involved in two major political campaigns, writing two books, and devoting a good bit of time to fishing and travel. He lives in Greenwich, Ct., where his wife Jane is a top gun in real estate, and their two kids live with them as they both work nearby in Stamford, one for NBC sports and the other for Indeed. At our reunion in 2016 I did have a chance to reunite with, and enjoy a dinner at Mr. G's, with **John Junda '80**, **Peter Simpson '81**, **David Evans '80**, **Max Moore '81**, and **Alexander Brash '81** (A reprise of KB 2<sup>nd</sup> floor!

**83** <sup>®</sup> *Correspondent: Claudia Gould Tielking, 6533 Mulroy Street, McLean VA 22101, [charlesbudworth@gmail.com](mailto:charlesbudworth@gmail.com)* **Julia Greenway** lives in Needham, Mass., where she paints in her studio and works at Volante Farms. Currently she is creating large vertical watercolors, pet portraits and drawings of birds. Her three children are home or nearby at college. She is fortunate to live near **Marina Armellini Janus**, **Terry Graves Windhorst**, **Blair Trippe** and **Carolyn Howard Parsons '84**. "The fun continues." Julia went to a brief but fabulous and oyster-filled gathering with **Mark Siladi '82**, who lives in New Zealand. Julia is happy to be in touch with other CC alums through social media. **Alan Samuel Cohen** enjoys life, splitting his time between Manhattan and Miami. His new book, *The Connection Challenge: How Executives Create Power and Possibility in the Age of Distraction*, came out in February and is available on Amazon. **Leslie Yager** is now an empty nester in Greenwich. Daughter **Ella** graduated from Wesleyan, works at TED.com and lives in Brooklyn (of course!). Leslie is in her fifth year running her online news site *Greenwich Free Press*. "Looking forward to Reunion!" **Charley Taylor's** book, *Opening Wednesday at a Theater or Drive-In Near You: The Shadow Cinema of the American '70s*, was published by Bloomsbury in 2017. He was scheduled to appear as an alumni author at Reunion. **Patricia Daddona** works as a senior copydesk editor at the Valley News in West Lebanon, N.H., and lives with partner **Lee Garofolo** and cat **Mickey** in Chester, Vt. She still writes songs and is looking for new

gigs in the area. Rick Zieff has thrived in show business since his days at Conn. After years in the New York theater scene, Rick moved to L.A., where he began working in TV, film and voice-over. These days, Rick is most active in animation, voicing and voice directing all kinds of projects. This year he enjoyed an Emmy Award nomination for his voice work. Rick's teenage daughter, Katie, has followed him to the microphone, voicing all kinds of fun characters! Life has been interesting for Cynthia Wells-Susla Chick, filled with travel to Russia and to the United Arab Emirates. Cynthia's interior design business takes her all over the U.S., but after 34 years in the trenches, she is slowing down and only doing a few larger projects a year. Last summer, Cynthia's stepson (age 45, with three small children) suffered a massive brain aneurysm, and Cynthia has been involved in his care and recovery. Cynthia herself survived a brain tumor 17 years ago, and this brought it all back, propelling her toward volunteer work with brain trauma patients in Florida, where she resides in the winter months. She is also on the board of the Daughters of the American Revolution Palm Beach Chapter; is a state-appointed deputy for the Veteran's Administration Medical Center; and works with the Tamasee DAR School in South Carolina, a charter school for underprivileged children. "At 57 it is the giving back that is most rewarding. While work is great, volunteer activities are the most fulfilling." Summers in Newport, R.I. are spent beaching and golfing. Jane Wickstrom is trying out life on the West Coast! After many years in NYC, she has taken a job with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in Seattle, moving there with Cal and daughter Patty. Daughter Clare visits often. Jane is also still dedicated to the international family planning cause. She recently celebrated her birthday with Glenn Harris and Sally Blinken on a trip to D.C., and Peter Mousseau attended Jane's father's funeral—"Thanks, old friends!" Judith Krigman works at the Ohio State U., teaching confocal and multiphoton microscopy as well

as writing protocols and occasionally working with the mice. She can't believe she has been in Ohio for five years, long enough to feel the pain and the shame of the Browns. Son Martin (27) is active-duty Air Force stationed at Hurlburt Field in Florida, and Samuel (26) works in manufacturing in Columbus, Ohio. Joy Jerome Turtola works full-time and is raising two wonderful kids, Cody and Andrew. Joy's own family background inspired him to become an adoptive dad. He has learned that parenting is about a journey of the heart, and that "the love they share is stronger than any type of wind that hits the sails of their family's boat." He is hoping Social Security still exits by the time he retires—11 years to go. Anne DeLaney and Chip Carver celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary in November. While they are happily "semiretired," Chip is still a high school softball coach and a coach for the William Smith College soccer team. Anne continues her passion for social work and is part of the Columbia University Global Mental Health Program advisory board. Their four children (Emma, 27; Chloe, 25; Sean, 22; and Reeve, 22) are doing well with their lives and careers. Jim Stiles and his spouse, Randy Bird, enjoyed their 20th anniversary together in September by throwing the long-promised party to celebrate their 2004 wedding. With 125 family and friends in Cambridge, including Linda Rosenthal Maness '81, Catherine Sponagle Paul and Sonia Caus Gleason '84, they solemnized the journey so far and then partied hard. Two weeks later, they recreated the ceremony and party back in their adopted South African home with another 65 friends. Pure joy from beginning to end. In 2016 Valerie Bataille was awarded the John Seifter Human Health Risk Assessment Award for the first EPA Tribal Risk Assessment. Then in 2017 she was awarded the Vivian Malone Jones Legacy Award. Valerie has dedicated her career to advancing environmental protection for federally recognized Indian tribes in New England. Her work has contributed enormously to understanding

the environmental risks these tribes face and has served as the foundation for important decisions the EPA has made to protect tribal environmental resources.

**84** Mary Ellen Pettit is a nurse practitioner who recently returned to teaching. She lives in Durham, Conn., with her youngest daughter, Bridget, and will be an empty nester in the blink of an eye. "I would love to hear from other Camels in the area; now that went quickly, didn't it?" Ebit Speers' daughter, Ellen, spent her junior semester abroad in Amman, Jordan. David and Ebit were lucky enough to visit her and travel throughout the beautiful country. "One of the highlights for me was having the chance to ride a camel!"

**87** Correspondent: Jenifer Kahn Bakkala, 51 Wesson Terrace, Northborough, MA 01532, JKBBBlue@gmail.com Lisey Good lives in Cohasset, Mass., with husband Lenny and their dog, Goose. She frequently bumps into Scott Kaplan, who also lives in town. Lisey has learned that Susan Bryant is living there also. Lisey has put her interior design business on hold in order to serve as president of the Scituate Animal Shelter, which found homes for 602 animals last year. She and Diana Zimmerman Mahaney recently reunited with Kasia Wandycz in New Haven at Kasia's mother's funeral. Although it was a sad occasion, "it was very nice to be together." Peter Twyman loves his new position as executive director of Yamba Malawi (yambamalawi.org). The organization invests in rural community and household businesses to lift families out of extreme poverty and to support vulnerable children. When not traveling to Malawi, Peter lives in New York City with his partner of 25 years, Jeff Colvin. I, Jenifer Kahn Bakkala, am serving as the president of the New England chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists, a group of about 100 members, including Denise Cross '85 and Carol McCoy '70!



Ebit Speers '84 and husband David in Jordan.



Class of '87 members Caroline Samsen Mueller (L), Diana Zimmerman Mahaney and Lisey Good.



Carol McCoy '75 (L), Denise Cross '85, and Jenifer Kahn Bakkala '87 are all members of the New England Association of Professional Genealogists.



Amy Paterson '94 (L) and Linda Colwell (R) '82



Skye Ross '10 wedding



Katey Nelson '06 and husband Marcelo Crew welcomed their baby boy, Elliot Nelson Crew, on January 27, 2018.

**90** *Correspondent: Toria Brett, 30 Washington Ave., Northampton, MA 01060, victoriabrett@comcast.net* Greer Kessel Hendricks writes: "My debut novel, *The Wife Between Us*, was published in January and became an instant New York Times best-seller. It has already sold in 31 countries and counting and has been optioned for film by Amblin Entertainment, Steven Spielberg's company!"

**93** *Correspondent: Michael Carson, 22 Fairway Lane, Pembroke, MA 02359* Sara Schloss Stave has been keeping busy. She works as a school psychologist for Southern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services and conducts preschool evaluations. She and husband Channing Stave are raising kids Stratton, 14, and Sabrina, 7. Sara also does work for Channing's company, Newristics, which utilizes heuristics to improve marketing

materials, and Sara has recruited fellow Camels Sarah Moran Goodwin '89 and Elizabeth Hamblin Naylor '01 as writers.

**94** *Correspondent: Daniella De-Filippo Garran, dkgaran@gmail.com* What do you get when you cross a Camel with a Boxer? Fellow Camels Amy Paterson and Linda Colwell '82 met and became fellow Boxers recently when the two earned MFAs in writing from Pacific University.

**00** *Correspondent: Katherine Stephenson McDonald, kste78@hotmail.com* Luke Rosen '00 and his wife Sally '02, have started a foundation to raise awareness and research funding for the very rare disease, KIF1A-Related Disorder. Their daughter Susannah was diagnosed with the incurable, untreatable disease when she was two years old. To learn more and contribute, visit [www.kif1a.org](http://www.kif1a.org).

**06** *Correspondent: Julia Jacobson, julia.jacobson@gmail.com* Elise LaPointe Kohan trained and competed in two bodybuilding competitions in May 2017. She won first place in three categories at the Old Glory Natural Classic in the Classic Bikini division, becoming a pro natural bodybuilder in the American Natural Bodybuilding Federation (ANBF). Katey Nelson and husband Marcelo Crew welcomed their baby boy, Elliot Nelson Crew, on Jan. 27. He already has a passion for camels.

**10** *Correspondent: Grace Astrove, gca1223@gmail.com* Skye Ross married Matthew Dunham in Saco, Maine, last September. Classmates in attendance included Stephanie Banim, Ashley Oldacre, Melissa Lindsay, Alexander Dana, Johanna Gregory, Tiffany Ayala, Jennifer Gross and Sara Carhart. Riordan Frost defended his dissertation on urban sustainability for his doctorate in public administration at American U., then moved to Cambridge, Mass., to start a job at the Joint Center for Housing Studies at Harvard. Ben Berkowitz was selected as a Jewish Film Institute's 2018 Filmmaker in Residence. During his residence, Ben we will be developing a narrative miniseries on the extraordinary life of explorer Peter Freuchen, based primarily on Freuchen's autobiography, *Vagrant Viking*. Courtney Smith is working in the Upper Peninsula, Mich., doing rural emergency medicine as a physician assistant. She attended her first wilderness medicine course in Big Sky, Mont., and in her free time she still plays hockey; she recently played in the largest U.S. pond hockey tournament. Whitney Greene is currently the head of veterinary services at the Buttonwood Park Zoo in New Bedford, Mass. Matthew Addison has seen his acting career flourish. He was on the Netflix show *Gypsy* last fall and on *High Maintenance* in February—marking his second appearance on an HBO show! "We were told at graduation to be brave and to relentlessly pursue our dreams ... anything and everything I did at Connecticut College has led me here."



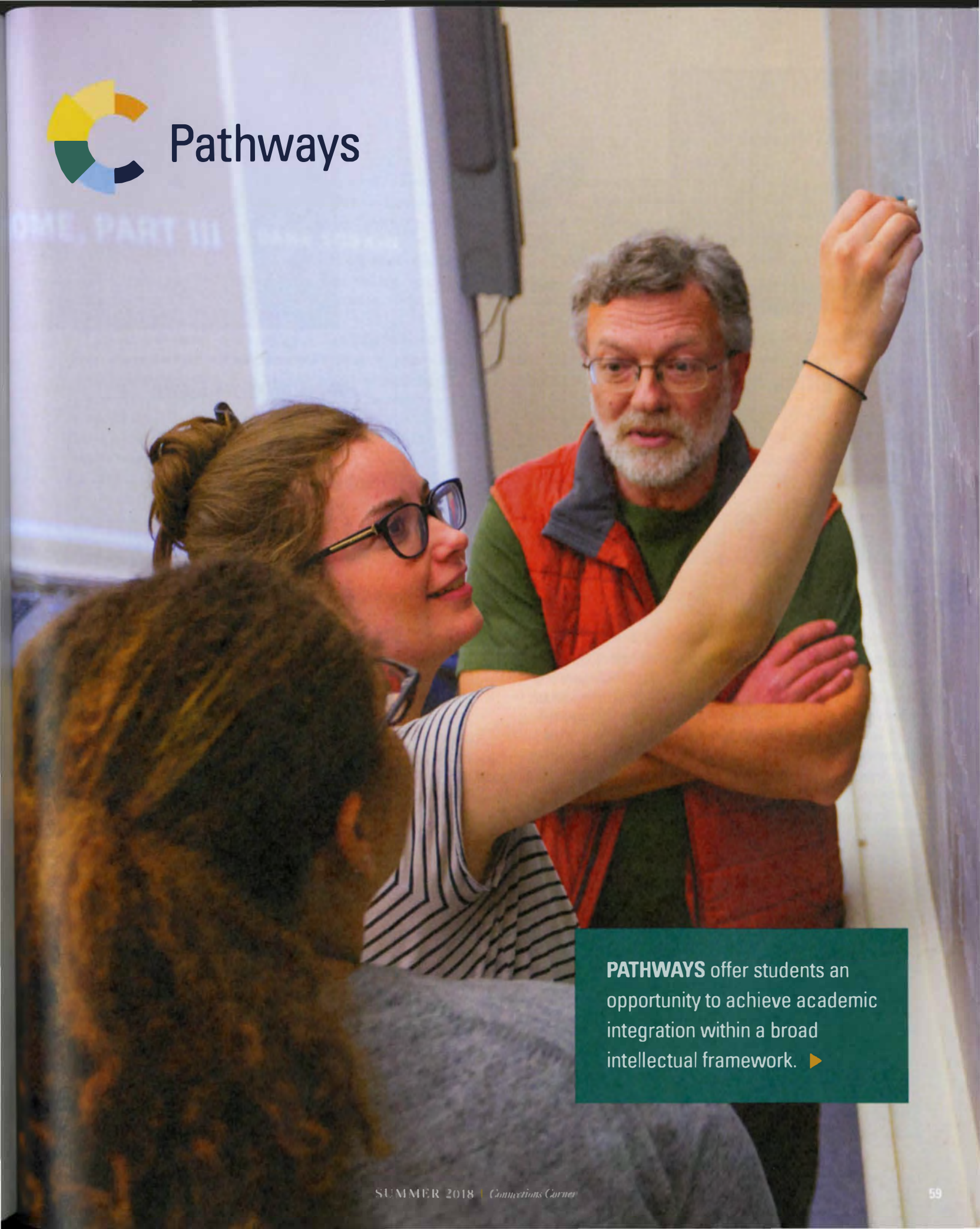
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STARTING ON YOUR PATH



## YEAR 2

Where do Pathways fit into the Connections timeline? Watch a video at: [www.conncoll.edu/connections](http://www.conncoll.edu/connections)

SHAPING YOUR ANIMATING QUESTION

*Integrative pathway*

*Focused major*

*Multiple perspectives*

**E**rin O'Brien Powers '20 has always been interested in medicine. But the behavioral neuroscience major, who hopes to pursue a career in healthcare, had never really considered the impact of food access on health until she enrolled in Connecticut College's new Public Health Pathway.

"People often associate health and medicine solely with doctors and hospitals, but there are so many different factors that determine health outcomes," she said. For example, "Our health and what we eat are directly related. But many people who live in poverty don't have access to healthy food, or, if they do, they can't afford it."

O'Brien Powers is a member of the inaugural class of Connecticut College students taking part in Connections, a new kind of curriculum that lets students integrate their interests into a meaningful educational pathway to carry them through college and into a fulfilling and effective career and life.

The cornerstone of Connections is the Integrative Pathway, a set of courses and experiences organized around a central theme. Modeled after the College's innovative centers for interdisciplinary scholarship, Pathways allow students to explore issues they are passionate about by intentionally combining their academic major with interdisciplinary study and off-campus learning through study away and/or a relevant internship. The Pathway culminates in an all-College symposium where students present the results of their integrative studies to the larger campus community.

The College officially launched Connections with the arrival of the Class of 2020. As first-year students, they completed robust first-year seminar courses and worked with a team of advisers to identify their interests and create a personalized education plan. Now sophomores, nearly 200 members of the class have enrolled in one of nine available Pathways or in one of the four center certificate programs.

"With the introduction of Pathways, we have expanded the groundbreaking educational model of our centers to a wider group of students, putting the College once again at the forefront of integrative education for the liberal arts," said Dean of the College Jefferson Singer.

"In the first year, more than 40 percent of sophomores have elected to be part of a Pathway or a center, setting us well on the path to providing this type of education for every student."

Students are enrolled in all nine of the currently available Pathways, including Bodies/ Embodiment; Cities and Schools; Entrepreneurship, Social Innovation, Value and Change; Eye of the Mind: Interrogating the Liberal Arts; Global Capitalism; Peace and Conflict; Power/ Knowledge; Public Health; and Social Justice and Sustainability. Three more Pathways—Creativity; Migration, Displacement and (Im)mobilities; and Data Analytics—are in various stages of development.

Juliet Wilson '20, a sociology major and an art history minor who hopes to pursue a career in fashion advertising, enrolled in the Bodies/Embodiment Pathway to explore

her interest in the way certain body types, sizes, races and genders are portrayed in the media. She says the gateway course for the Pathway, which she is taking this spring, has been her favorite class at the College.

“One week we are dancing Capoeira to explore our body’s movement and perception in a given space, and the next we are learning costume history and the implication clothing has on our bodies,” she said.

Associate Professor of Sociology Afshan Jafar, who coordinates the Bodies/Embodiment Pathway, compares the traditional general education “checklist” of courses to puzzle pieces that don’t fit together. With Connections, she says, students are still gathering pieces from different areas, “but those pieces are going to fit, and you are going to put this puzzle together.

“Being exposed to different perspectives and being able to find the common thread between them is an important skill,” Jafar said. “No matter what profession they choose, our graduates will be exposed to all kinds of information, and they will be able to synthesize it and make the connections that can lead to a solution.”

Every Pathway was designed to help students connect their passions and interests with internship and career opportunities, Singer said.

“The Pathways are powerful vehicles for students to see the applications of what they are learning in the classroom.”

Ted Kasper ’19, a government major, hopes to pursue a career in healthcare administration. His Public Health Pathway gateway course recently had the opportunity to meet with Dr. Michael Wagner ’81, president and CEO of Tufts Medical Center, to learn about his work and get his perspective on the social inequities of health care.

“So far in the course we have looked at everything from food deserts in New London to abandoned buildings in Detroit. I’m excited to apply my background in political science to the problems and injustices we are facing in today’s society,” he said. “By learning about these problems in the classroom, I will be better prepared to face them in the workforce and beyond.”

Victoria Teixia ’19, a biology major, is also enrolled in the Public Health Pathway. An aspiring physician, she is interning this summer at a hospital in Portugal to explore cultural differences in healthcare.

“I hope to use what I learn in the Pathway to become a better healthcare provider and advocate,” she said.

Biology Professor Martha Grossel, who coordinates the Public Health Pathway, said the goal is to help students expand their perspectives and understand the cultural, racial and economic influences in the world.

“It’s about understanding the world they live in differently. To me, that is what is so exciting—they understand things now that they didn’t just a few months ago.”

Noel Garrett, dean of academic support and director of the Academic Resource Center who coordinates the Entrepreneurship, Social Innovation, Value and Change Pathway, said he has received great feedback from students enrolled in the Pathways.

“They have provided productive, thoughtful and meaningful feedback that will help us continue to move these existing Pathways to new places, and will provide valuable input for the creation of new ones.”

As a member of the first group of students to embark on the Pathway experience, Kenneth Colombe ’20 considers himself to be an academic trailblazer of sorts. Colombe, who plans to double major in economics and statistics, is enrolled in the Entrepreneurship Pathway.

“We are brought up [to believe] that business is all about the bottom line and turning profits. I’m excited to explore how incorporating our duty to be socially conscious makes businesses more or less viable,” he said.

“Connections is the culmination of the Liberal arts—you get to weave together different classes, passions and points of view. It’s cool to know that our experience will help shape future Conn students’ curriculum for the better.”

Wilson, who plans to study and intern in New York City at the intersection of fashion, art and media, agrees.

“Knowing that I would have the opportunity to complete core curriculum classes all centered around my interests was definitely a factor in my decision to attend Connecticut College.” 🍌



## Connections Corner

updates you on the happenings around Connections, from news features and podcasts about how Conn is redefining the liberal arts to our meaningful pathways to the animating questions students ask themselves as they orchestrate their own education. Learn more at: [www.conncoll.edu/connections](http://www.conncoll.edu/connections)



## *In Memoriam*



Alice Goldstein, age 77, died peacefully on February 22, 2018 at home in Hanover, New Hampshire after a 22-month battle with cancer. She was born on January 25, 1941 and raised in Rockville Centre, New York. She was the daughter of the late David and Ruth Katz.

Alice is survived by her husband of 55 years, Martin Goldstein and her three sons, Andrew (his wife Julie), Peter (his wife Monica) and Matthew (his wife Nancy) whom she passed on her love for cooking, the outdoors and adventure. Alice, also known as Nonna, will be greatly missed by her seven adoring grandchildren Ella, Max, Miles, Annie, Kate, Molly and

Rachel. She leaves behind loving cousins, nieces and nephews and many friends. Her friends and family remember her for her kindness, energy, enthusiasm and her positive outlook on life.

Alice graduated from Connecticut College in 1962 and received her MSW from Adelphi University. After spending several years as a teacher, Alice had a successful career as a social worker. Alice and Marty raised their children in Huntington, NY, spent several years in Stamford, CT, and retired to Quechee, VT. Alice enjoyed daily walks and hikes, knitting, cooking, reading, spending time with friends, traveling, and volunteering weekly at the Quechee Library.

For those who wish to further honor her memory, donations may be made to The Quechee Library. There will be a Celebration of Life in May of 2018.

## 1930's

Thelma M. Gilkes '39, died March 10, 2017

## 1940's

Audrey M. Curtis '42, died Januar 9, 2018

Virginia E. Neiley '43, died November, 2017

Frances S. Welborn '44, died September 25, 2016

Lucille Carothers '45, died February 9, 2018

Roberta Morrow Odell '45, died July 3rd, 2017

Ethelinda Montfort '46, died January 17, 2018

Elizabeth Warden '46, died December 15, 2017

Deborah Wetzler '46, died February 24, 2017

Sally Ballard '47, died December 2, 2017

Harriet Foster '47, died February 25, 2018

Anne Kimbrough '47, died October 11, 2017

Mary Josephine Marland '47, died April 25, 2017

Marjorie L. Young '47, died December 3, 2017

## 1950's

Isabelle Oppenheim Gould '50, died September 6, 2013

Jean Willis '50, died Feb. 12, 2018

Patricia Kaplan '52, died January 19, 2018

Jean Gallup Carnaghan '53, died January, 2018

Diane Jonardi '54, died February 3, 2018

Jean H. Quandt '54, died March 14th, 2018

Alice J. Eastman '55, died March 2, 2018

Ethel E. Lipitz '55, died February 23, 2018

Janet D. Peterson '55, died December 31, 2017

Judy Reycroft Larson '56, died February 1, 2018

Elaine V. Rallis '57, died February 5, 201

Judith G. Cerel '59, died March 11, 2018

## 1960's

Maureen Kiernan '60, died February 18, 2018

Susan M. Marcell '60, died November, 2017

Hester S. Cramer '61, died February 13, 2018

M. Ronald Fishkind ALMA '62,

died February 24, 2018

Janet A. Albrecht '65, died February 2, 2018

Linden Tucker Bell '67, died July 5, 2017

Cheri Kamen Targoff '67, died March 10, 2018

Judith Dejong '68, died November 23, 2017

Barbara M. Hedman '68, died February 20, 2017

Kathleen Singh '68, died October 1, 2017

Diane M. Harper '69

## 1970's

Bonnie Barit '70, died May 10, 2010

Elizabeth J. Arthur '73, died July 2, 2017

Christina VanHorn '73, August 14, 2017

Laura Zipkin '75, died March 3, 2018

## 1980's

Daniel Fegan '85, died February 25, 2018

Bruce Sutphen '88, died February 22, 2018

## 1990's

Ann Marie Burleigh ALMA '90,

died February 26, 2018

## 2000's

Peter Coffin '01, died March 9, 2018



Miles Lubin '90

**The Cube** The iconic sculpture *Alamo* (15 x 15 x 15 feet), created in 1967 by Bernard (Tony) Rosenthal (1914-2009), is celebrating its 50th anniversary in Astor Place in New York City. Located in the East Village, *Alamo* became a focus for demonstrations, graffiti artists and pranksters. In 1972, Rosenthal's *Memorial Cube*, a half-scale "offspring" of the *Alamo*, was installed on the terrace of Cummings Arts Center, a gift of friends and family of Dene Laib Ulin '52, a gallerist in New York City who died in 1972. Like *Alamo*, *Memorial Cube* is a kinetic sculpture; if pushed, it can spin around its axis. The sculpture invites playful interaction, one of its delights. However, these interactions have not always been kind to the work: in the 1980s, students painted brightly colored squares on its surface to simulate a Rubik's Cube, a 3-D puzzle which was a craze at the time. *To watch a video about Memorial Cube, go to [ccmagazine.conncoll.edu](http://ccmagazine.conncoll.edu).* —Barbara Zabel, professor emerita of art history

*Save the Date!*

# FALL WEEKEND

== September 28-30, 2018 ==

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Professor Betty Thomson and students, 1965

Celebrate 100 Years of Botany at Conn. [botany.conncoll.edu](http://botany.conncoll.edu)