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CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

Magazine

| ON THE BORDER |



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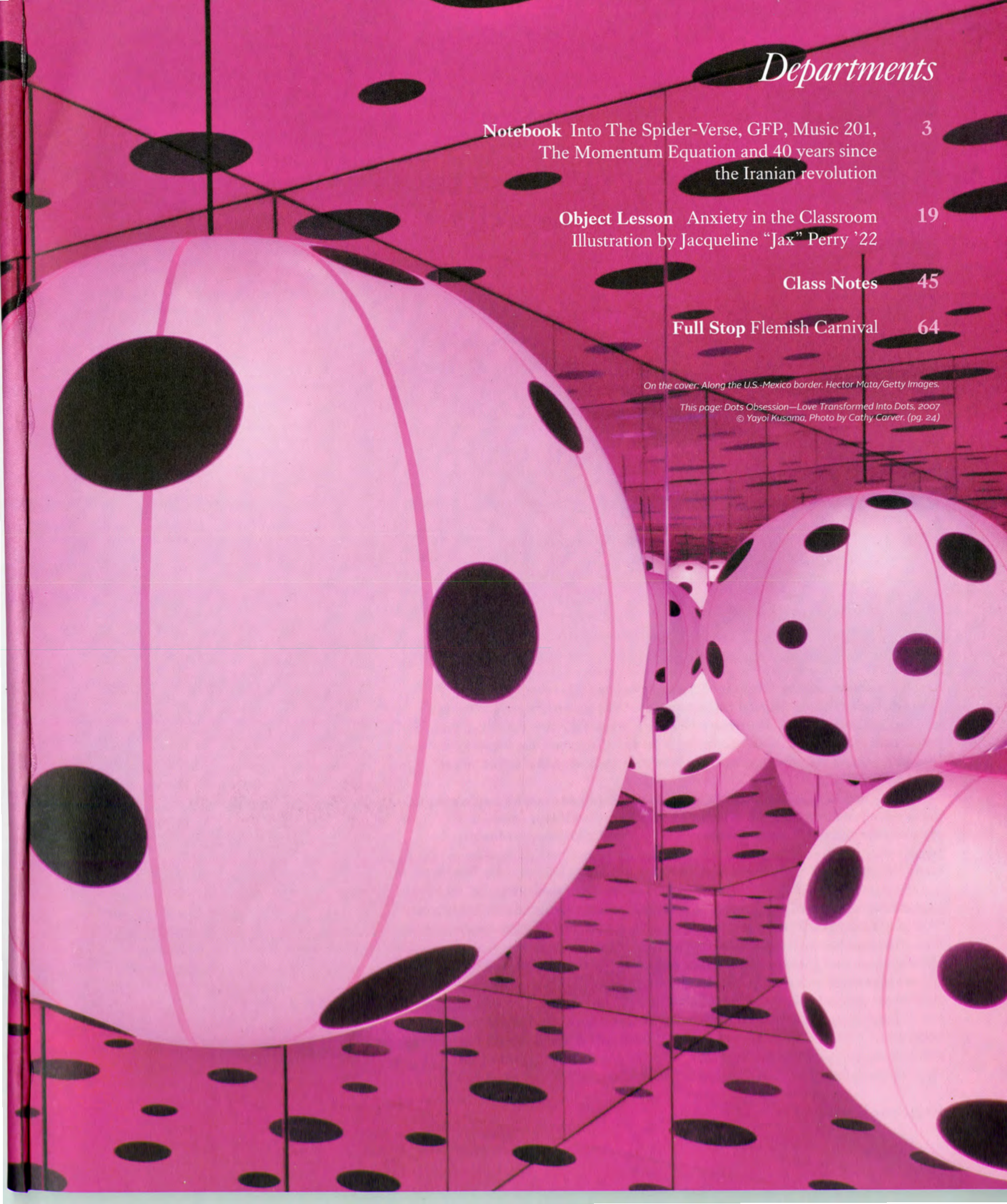
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*This page: Dots Obsession—Love Transformed Into Dots, 2007
© Yayoi Kusama, Photo by Cathy Carver. (pg. 24)*



U.S. Fulbright grants

Five Connecticut College seniors and one recent alumnus have been selected to receive Fulbright U.S. Student Program grants to teach English and conduct research abroad for an academic year.

Conn's Fulbright winners are: Lauren Baretta '18, English Teaching Assistantship to Malaysia; Alison Corey '19, English Teaching Assistantship to Vietnam; Olivia Domowitz '19, English Teaching Assistantship to Côte d'Ivoire;

Samantha Feldman '19, English Teaching Assistantship to Germany; Giselle Olaguez '19, English Teaching Assistantship to Spain; and Maddy Quirke-Shattuck '19, English Teaching Assistantship to Spain.

Conn has had 27 Fulbright winners in the past five years, and is regularly recognized as a top producer of Fulbright recipients.

"We are extremely proud of our Fulbright fellows," said Dean of the College Jefferson Singer.

"Connecticut College's success with the Fulbright program is a testament to our commitment to educate students to put the liberal arts into action as citizens in an increasingly complex global society. These Fulbright fellows are prepared to examine global issues from a community perspective and are poised to make significant contributions as they represent Connecticut College and the United States in their host communities."

NYC posse

Connecticut College will welcome a new group of Posse students from New York City in the fall of 2020, expanding a partnership with the Posse Foundation that has brought Posse Scholars from Chicago to the Conn campus for a decade.

Posse Scholars are chosen for their academic and leadership potential by the Posse Foundation and admitted to a select group of private colleges and universities that provide full scholarships along with strong mentoring and support. The Posse model is rooted in the belief that a small, diverse group of talented students—a Posse—carefully

selected and trained, can serve as a catalyst for individual and community development.

"Connecticut College has welcomed more than 100 Posse Scholars from Chicago and we couldn't be happier that Posse scholars from New York City will now be able to attend this outstanding institution as well," said Posse Foundation president and founder Deborah Bial.

Conn has welcomed a Posse of at least 10 students from Chicago each fall since 2009.

"What a wonderful way to celebrate a 10-year collaboration between Connecticut College and Posse," Bial said.

To support the launch of the Posse NYC program, the college received a \$500,000 gift from John Zeiler '74.

"As a public high school teacher in the South Bronx, I have seen firsthand what a strong commitment to equality in education—like Conn's—can do for inner-city youth," said Zeiler.

"I'm pleased to be able to support the launch of the New York City Posse Program at Connecticut College and to expand opportunities for dynamic student leaders from diverse backgrounds to access the life-changing educational experience that Conn offers."

Critical language

Four Connecticut College students are gearing up for a summer of intensive language study and cultural immersion abroad. Each of the students has received a Critical Language Scholarship from the United States Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, to study abroad for up to 10 weeks in an intensive language program.

CL scholarships cover the language program costs, including travel, room

and board. Students must demonstrate a commitment to and strong love for a language in this highly selective program.

Ann Monk '21, the founder and president of the Student Refugee Alliance at Conn, will study Arabic for nine weeks in Tangier, Morocco. Devon Rancourt '21, a Slavic studies and history double major and accomplished cellist, will study

Russian at the American University of Central Asia in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. Julia Reilly '19, a French and international relations double major and Arabic minor, will study Arabic at the Noor Majan Training Institute in Ibri, Oman. Troy Willis '20, a Slavic studies major and government and linguistics double minor, will study Russian at the KORA Russian Language Center in Vladimir, Russia.



Stephanie Mitchell

Jill Lepore delivers President's Distinguished Lecture

How has America lived up to its founders' grandest visions? That is the central question historian and author Jill Lepore explores in her latest book, *These Truths: A History of the United States*.

Lepore, who serves as the David Woods Kemper '41 Professor of American History at Harvard University, delivered the fourth annual President's Distinguished Lecture at Conn in April.

"At a moment when we are lost in an ever vanishing present, it's useful to pull out the whole long timeline of American history and try to figure out where we

stand, and maybe where we want to head," said Lepore, also a staff writer for *The New Yorker*.

Lepore's articles have also appeared in *The New York Times*, *Foreign Affairs* and *The Journal of American History*. Her book *The Secret History of Wonder Woman* won the 2015 American History Book Prize from the New York Historical Society. She has twice been named a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize.

"She is that rare kind of scholar who is as committed to addressing the general public as she is to speaking to fellow

historians," President Katherine Bergeron said. "And she has staked her career on finding, and telling, the stories of people whose histories have been forgotten or ignored."

The President's Distinguished Lecture Series was initiated in 2016, and brings notable figures from a variety of fields and backgrounds to Connecticut College each year. The guests are invited to deliver a public presentation to an audience of the College and local communities, and then engage in informal discussions and meetings with students, faculty and staff.

Music 201

What is a song?

President Katherine Bergeron asked her students this question in a songwriting class that she and her husband, Butch Rován, co-taught last fall. The course, “Music 201, On Songs and Songwriting,” explored the expressive dimensions of song through criticism, analysis and composition.

During the semester, the 16 students who took the class each wrote a song that Bergeron and Rován helped produce, and the work was turned into the recently released CD titled Music 201. The collection of songs on Music 201 reveals the unending vitality of song as an expressive medium, with its capacity to speak in so many different accents and to say so much with so little.

“This album—with a hymn, a country song, a jazz ballad and even a Chinese folk song in the mix—is a testament to the students’ boundless creativity, intelligence and originality,” Bergeron and Rován wrote in the CD’s

liner notes. Bergeron sang background vocals on some of the tracks while Rován played guitar.

For some students, the class was part of the continuum in the ever-evolving life of a musician. For others, it was the first time they had taken a songwriting course.

“I had no songwriting experience before this, so I was a little apprehensive about the coursework,” said Amanda Johnson ’19, a behavioral neuroscience major and president of the Class of 2019.

“The course gave me a unique opportunity to learn from the president of our college. I was excited to get to know President Bergeron in a more casual classroom setting and to hear about her experiences as a musician.”

Johnson took what she learned in the class and is applying it to her field of study. The song Johnson wrote for the CD is “Memories Fade,” about her grandmother, who suffers

from Alzheimer’s disease. Growing up, Johnson saw the progression of this disease slowly destroy her grandmother’s mind but also discovered that music reduced her grandmother’s anxiety levels.

“I presented on this topic at the Holleran Center’s Program in Community Action Conference,” Johnson said. “I hope to continue researching the use of music as a form of therapy for patients with Alzheimer’s and other brain diseases.”

During the class, students learned to write about songs at the same time they learned to write songs. And listening closely, one can hear the threads running through Music 201 answering the original question, “What is a song?”

“A bit of melody, a few words, some instruments. Songs can be simple. They can be complex. They are secrets we share with others or hold close to our hearts. They help us through good times and bad,” said Bergeron.



To listen to the CD,
log onto music201.digital.conncoll.edu



SAM YEH/AFP/Getty Images

A fluorescent mouse displayed inside a box during the Bio Taiwan 2003 fair at the World Trade Center in Taipei. Osamu Shimomura of Japan and U.S. duo Martin Chalfie and Roger Tsien won on October 8, 2008 the Nobel Chemistry Prize for a fluorescent protein derived from a jellyfish.

Nobel Prize-winner speaks at Commencement

This year's keynote speakers at Conn's 101st Commencement were Columbia University professors of biological sciences Marty Chalfie and Tulle Hazelrigg. Chalfie was the co-recipient of the 2008 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for the discovery and development of the green fluorescent protein, GFP. His lab uses the nematode *C. elegans* to investigate aspects of nerve cell development and function.

Hazelrigg's lab addresses questions about the propagation and differential of germ cells using *Drosophila*. Hazelrigg made her own contribution to GFP research: she was among the first to use GFP in fruit flies and to

attach GFP to other proteins. This has allowed scientists to watch where individual proteins go within a cell, one of the most common uses of the protein, and it has changed the way molecular biology is done.

Hazelrigg has told the story that she gave her husband, Chalfie, permission to cite her unpublished research in his seminal science paper "Green Fluorescent Protein as a Marker for Gene Expression" on condition that he made coffee, cooked and emptied the garbage nightly for a month.

According to Marc Zimmer, the Jean C. Tempel '65 Professor of Chemistry, and chair of the Chemistry Department,

GFP discovery has altered scientific research.

"The crystal jellyfish, *Aequorea victoria*, has about 300 photoorgans that give off pinpricks of green light. Chalfie and Hazelrigg have taken the protein responsible for that green color, green fluorescent protein, and used it to change the way science is conducted by allowing scientists to see when and where proteins are made in living organisms," Zimmer said.

"Not only has it changed the way large swaths of science are done, it has also generated the most colorful and splendid images imaginable."

Perpetual Motion

The New York Times published a series of dance photos from its archive that show “ordinary people: slow dancing, doing the Twist, moshing in the pit and moving mid-mambo.” Also included in these images are photos of choreographers and professional dancers, two of which were taken at

Connecticut College, a testament to Conn’s commitment to the arts. One of the photos from Conn featured dancers rehearsing for the American Dance Festival in 1948. The other was of José Limón, teaching a class at Conn in 1966.

According to *The New York Times*,

in this collection of images “we find not just the highest elevation of the form, but a metaphor for possibility that extends far beyond the realm of dance.”

The series was published in a special section of *The New York Times* on April 14, 2019 with commentary by Misty Copeland and an essay by Zadie Smith.



For more information, go to www.nytimes.com and keyword search “Perpetual Motion”

Left: José Limón teaching in Conn’s dance studio in Cro, 1967. Opposite page, Martha Graham directs students in Conn’s dance studio during the 1960s. Photos courtesy Linda Lear Center for Special Collections and Archives.



The Momentum Equation

Do slam dunks change the course of a basketball game?

$$M = \frac{\alpha}{\alpha + \beta} * 100$$

$$E_1 = \left(\frac{SD_t - SD_0}{\sqrt{(t - t_0)}} \right) * \sqrt{(\Delta Score^2_{team} - \Delta Score^2_{opponent})}$$

$$E = \left(\frac{r}{R} + \frac{s}{S} + \frac{b}{B} \right) * \frac{50}{3}$$

WHAT MAKES A BASKETBALL

game “explosive?” Commentators know it when they see it. But for Anil Timbil '20, a student developer at Google Cloud, the answer is in the data.

This season, Google Cloud partnered with the NCAA to provide real-time March Madness analysis, including game predictions that were featured in TV coverage of the tournament. Computer science major Timbil was one of around 30 students charged with creating these insights by crunching a decade's worth of play-by-play data that the NCAA shared with the internet giant.

“This was the perfect opportunity to combine my interest in basketball and intensive computer science and statistics studies,” said Timbil, a fan of the sport from an early age.

The “explosiveness” question first came up last January, at the Google Cloud & NCAA Hackathon at MIT. There, Timbil and team wondered whether it was possible to quantify the commentators' intangible claims of a team's explosiveness. They turned to the data to find out.

First, they focused on “whether dunks had any demonstrable effect on the energy or momentum of a team—something often assumed to be true,

but rarely (if ever) exposed with data.”

The short answer: they did.

“Dunks actually contributed to about a 15 percent increase in game acceleration—a much bigger effect than we'd anticipated,” Timbil recalled.

But as good as that insight was, it only indicated so much about a team's performance. More interesting was what this insight said about explosiveness over the course of a game.

“We wanted to tie explosiveness to some kind of measurable increase in score differential over a specific period of time,” Timbil explained—in other words, how quickly one team outscores another during a run. The students defined a run as one team scoring at least 12 points and the other at most five.

“All together, we considered explosiveness to be the product of weighted speed of scoring and opponents' stopping power, plus a weighted value for shot accuracy,” Timbil said. “Lots of points in a run is better than a short run with a slightly higher rate of points over time, but we still wanted to be sure to value faster runs as more explosive.”

The last step was using these new data methodologies to rank the explosiveness of this year's teams. These rankings became game predictions

featured in Google commercials screened during the tournament. One even featured Timbil.

The key to success in the data and statistics fields is persistence and diligence, according to one of Timbil's teachers, Associate Professor of Computer Science Christine Chung.

“The way Google is so publicly highlighting Anil's team's work during a television broadcast that reaches millions of homes indicates that it must be world-class,” Chung said. “These novel techniques for analyzing huge amounts of data to pin down a nebulous predictive factor like ‘explosiveness’ can and should be applied to other sports in the future, as well.”

This April, Timbil was also one of 35,000 attendees at the Google Cloud Next conference in San Francisco. Timbil and the other student developers received a shout-out from Google CEO Sundar Pichai during his keynote address with Timbil appearing on-screen behind Pichai sporting a Conn hoodie.

“It was really empowering to represent the college among the most competitive universities in the United States,” said Timbil, who will be continuing his data science work at a New York City internship this summer.

On the Other Side of the World

First student exchange between Ashesi University and Conn

THE ARRIVAL OF SPRING was a welcome change from the biting winter cold that had Nana Ekua Egyirba Aggrey shivering as she walked to her classes and to meet her friends at Cro. However, it meant that Aggrey's semester at Conn was nearing an end.

Aggrey is the first exchange student to spend a semester on campus from Conn's partner school Ashesi University in Berekuso, Ghana. Conn student Chanté Morris '20 spent the semester at Ashesi, bringing to fruition the first student exchange in the partnership between the two institutions, which was formalized in 2016.

Founded in 2002, Ashesi is considered among the top universities in Ghana. Its unique academic program is steeped in the liberal arts and sciences and is focused on helping students develop critical thinking, communications, technology, leadership, teamwork and innovation skills.

As a junior business major, Aggrey had the option of studying in France or at Conn—an easy choice for her.

"I wanted to experience American culture," she said.

Aggrey enjoyed Spencer Pack's "Financial Speculation and the Real Economy" course and Terry-Ann Craigie's "Economics of the Family." Most of her business courses at Ashesi focus on small businesses and the local economy, so learning about the American economy and macroeconomics was beneficial to her.

"Financial speculation is something I'm really interested in—talking about hedge funds, venture capital, tax havens," she said. "The discussions were really practical and interesting and the students contributed a lot."

In her free time, Aggrey was involved with Conn's Peggotty Investment Club, Umoja and HerCampus, and she worked with the Center for the Critical Study of Race and Ethnicity and the Office of Religious and Spiritual Programs. She also enjoyed movie screenings in Cro, spending time with friends and listening to Afrobeats, hip-hop, reggae and religious hymns.

Aggrey has returned to Ghana for her senior year at Ashesi, after which she hopes to pursue an international career in finance. She is excited to be able to better connect with Ashesi's international students—now having been an international student herself—and she hopes to see more exchanges between her two schools.

"At Ashesi, you don't just meet Ghanaians, you meet people from eastern Africa, northern Africa, southern Africa, central Africa and other parts of western Africa. I think in the U.S., Africa is often viewed as homogeneous, but it's not. People are surprised to learn that if I want to go to South Africa, I need a visa," she said.

Her time at Conn, she said, fulfilled a dream of studying abroad.

"People can live their whole lives in Ghana and never even go to a neighboring country and experience the different cultures, foods and languages. It's nice to see how people on the other side of the world are living."



Melissa Larkin '90



Getty Images

Base Jump

Inside the virtual world of Esther Li '19

ESTHER LI '19 WAS NERVOUS

as she presented her business plan to venture capitalists and answered their seemingly endless questions. And she had every reason to be—this was no class project.

Li, the 22-year-old CEO of Jump, a virtual reality startup, was seeking \$6 million in venture capital.

“I only did one roadshow—my first roadshow ever—and we got the funding,” she said.

Jump, a Beijing-based joint venture with Utah-based The Void, builds virtual reality centers that provide a full-body, fully immersive experience in a specially designed environment. Currently, the company is in the research and development phase of creating a lifelike wingsuit base jumping experience center to be built in China’s Shanghai Disneyland. This extreme sport involves jumping off a cliff in a suit with fabric between the arms and legs, resembling the body of a squirrel and functioning—or not, as is often the case—in much the same way. It’s incredibly dangerous and requires significant training, so Li’s goal is to give virtual jumpers a safe yet completely realistic alternative.

“We want everything to look and feel exactly as it would if you were

actually jumping from anywhere in the world,” she said.

The Void has built several similar attractions, including “Star Wars: Secrets of the Empire” and “Ralph Breaks VR” at Disney properties in Anaheim and Orlando, as well as in other locations in the United States. Li’s goal is to build on that success by bringing immersive VR to other markets around the world.

“We’re already established in the U.S. We’ve got to bring the brand and the reputation to the largest market and get a foothold in China,” she said.

It helps that Li is from Beijing and is a native speaker of Chinese. Still, running a global company from a campus dorm room is not without its challenges.

“You have to think creatively and you have to be prepared. You have to have a Plan A, a Plan B, a Plan C, a Plan D, a Plan E,” she said.

Li credits her team with supporting her and believing in her despite her young age. While her partners are mostly midcareer professionals, they don’t dwell on her age, she says, so she tries not to either.

“I try not to limit myself. Just because I’m young I can’t be a CEO? I can. And they think I can and they support me,” she said.

An economics major and finance and sociology double minor, she chose Conn for its small college community and support for student initiatives, both of which she says have benefited her greatly. She was granted the opportunity to take a gap year after her sophomore year to learn about the virtual reality industry. As a gamer, she is fascinated by the idea of total immersion in a virtual world.

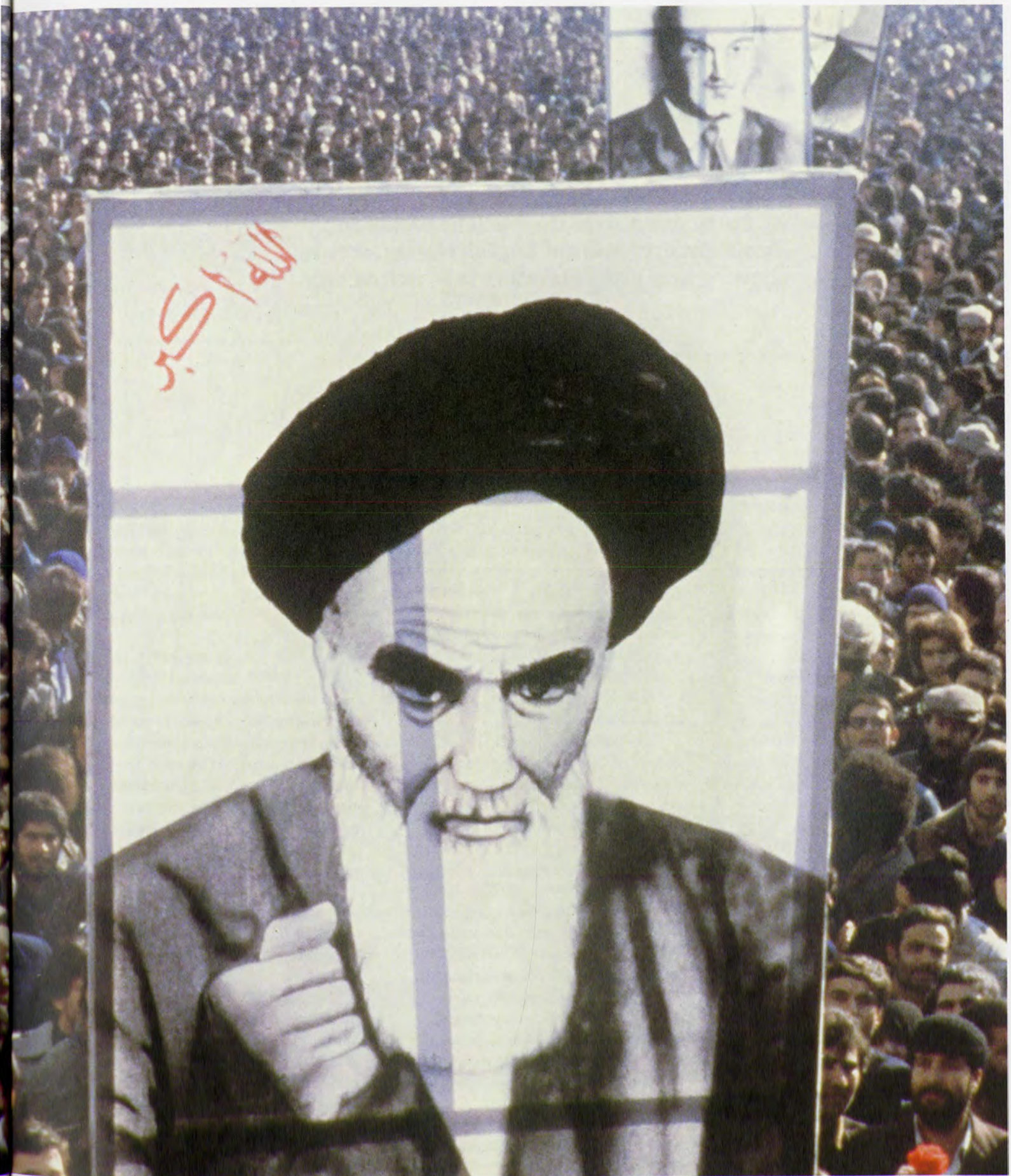
“If you read a book or watch a movie, you are always on the outside, observing. If the virtual reality technology is developed well enough, it provides a nearly 100 percent real first-person experience. You are inside a film, you are inside a book, you experience the character falling in love firsthand,” she said.

When Li returned to Conn for her junior year, she wrote her business plan for Jump with the help of her major adviser, Economics Professor Mónica López-Anuarbe, who taught her to carefully consider her audience and tailor her pitch accordingly.

“It’s really important to tell a good story,” Li said. “Data shows what you have done, but it doesn’t necessarily predict what will happen in the future. So, it’s really important to let your investors imagine with you, to let them share your dream.”



Global Genres of
Modern Iran



**Forty years after the Iranian revolution,
Assistant Professor of English Marie Ostby is
showing that Iran's literature is as rich as ever.**

WHEN MARIE OSTBY WAS FIVE

years old, her family traded the borderline oceanic climate of her native Oslo for the subtropical environs of Islamabad, Pakistan.

Ostby's father worked for the United Nations—a career that led her around the world growing up and would eventually help to forge a profound connection with the culture, art and literature of the Middle East.

"I spent seven years in Pakistan and graduated from an American high school in Islamabad, but it wasn't until I was in college that I began to really fall in love with Iran," Ostby recalls.

By then, Ostby's father was stationed in Tehran, and she spent two summers living there and working with some local AIDS awareness organizations while building Farsi language skills.

"It might sound a bit silly and romantic, but as a literature major at the time, it struck me how central literature was to everyday life there, and that was exciting to me," she says.

Ostby joined Connecticut College in 2015 as an English professor, and is also a member of the Global Islamic Studies program, which she says played a central role in bringing her to Conn.

"We've been meeting in a faculty seminar to renovate and enhance the Global Islamic Studies curriculum and to share research with each other, which has been great," she says. "Next year we have three seminars that we're opening up to the whole faculty for expanding the study of Islam and Muslims across the curriculum, one of which I'll be teaching, so I think the program is really heading in an exciting direction."

Her current book project, tentatively titled, *The Global Genres of Modern Iran: From Travelogues to Twitter*, is an ambitious research effort that will explore a range of topics relating to Iranian literature, Western misconceptions about Iran, and the transformational effect of technology and social media on Iranian writers in exile, and will expand on her long-held interest in the Iranian diaspora.

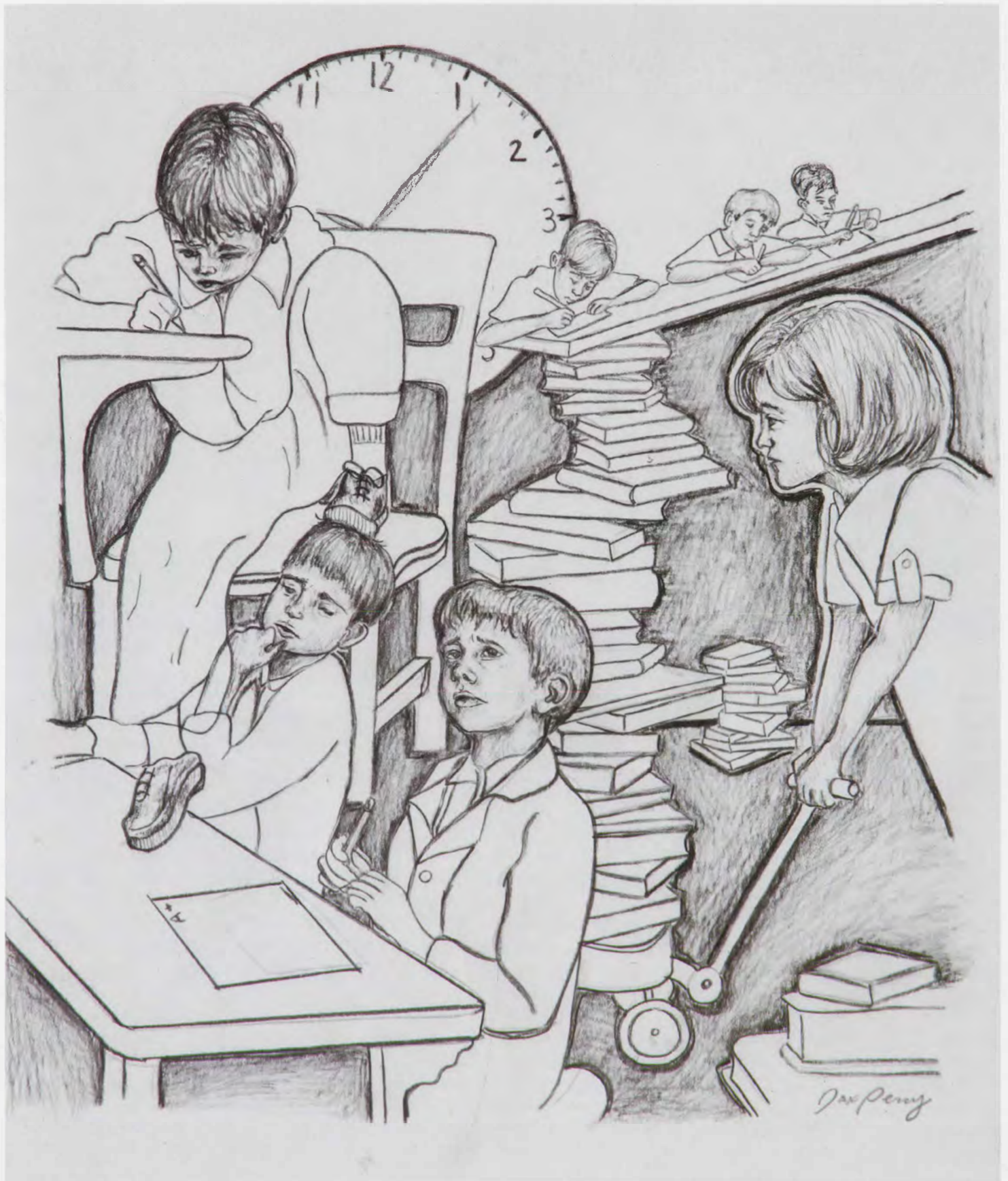
"Twitter, for example, has been fascinating to watch, because there have been Iranian American poets communicating with working poets in Iran and sharing their work that way, even though the sanctions, of course, prevent Americans from publishing in Iran through formal channels," Ostby says. "So these types of diasporic writing connections are being made every day."

Ostby hopes her book will challenge the stubborn trope so common in the literature and films Americans have been bombarded with over the past 40 years that depict a one-dimensional Iran plagued by Islamic extremism and oppression.

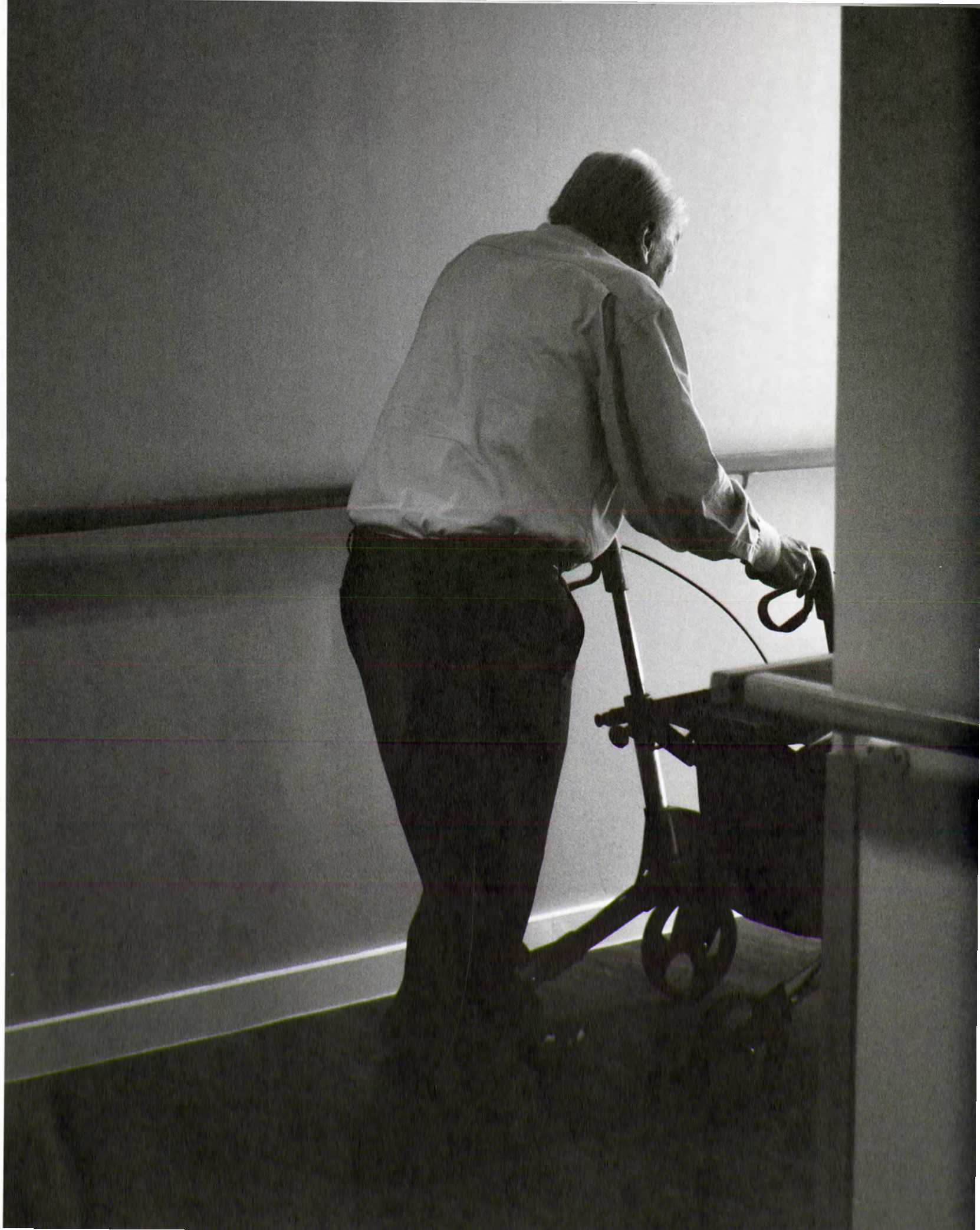
One frustrating reality that Ostby points out is that since the 1979 revolution, the dominant literary genre that Americans have relied on to shape their perceptions of Iran is memoir—specifically memoirs that focus on stories of daring escape from Iranian captivity. Ostby says the picture is far more complicated and nuanced, and that obstacles to free expression didn't suddenly manifest after the revolution.

"Many people seem to think that prior to the revolution, [in the time of] the Shah, Iran was experiencing Westernization and modernization," Ostby says.

"But it's important to remember that the Shah had a ruthless secret police force that tortured and imprisoned people at the same rates as we saw after the revolution, and dissidents, journalists and artists were just as afraid for their lives under the Shah as they were after the Ayatollah took over following the revolution."



Jacqueline “Jax” Perry ’22 created this illustration in a print workshop that focused on basic skills in solar printing which were used to create a graphic short story. Jax says it depicts the increased anxiety students face in the classroom—from lockdowns to gun violence to academic pressure. Professor of Art Timothy McDowell teaches the course.



IN THE CARE OF OTHERS

A growing trend of male caregivers is rapidly reshaping
eldercare in the United States.

BY AMY MARTIN

Mr. Billy takes his 92-year-old mother out to lunch almost every day. She anoints herself with a cocktail of perfumes and creams, selects a stylish outfit from her formidable closet, and completes her always trendy look with a statement necklace. They drive through Los Angeles, meet Billy's best friend, and enjoy the sights and the company as much as the meal.

For seven years, Billy has served as his mother's medical advocate, administrator, driver and companion. A retired, single man in his 70s, Billy isn't your typical caregiver. But Associate Professor of Economics Mónica López-Anuarbe says he is part of a growing trend that is rapidly reshaping eldercare in the United States.

A health and inequality economist who specializes in aging, López-Anuarbe studies the responsibilities, incentives and obstacles inherent in the mostly invisible work of the more than 40 million unpaid caregivers in the U.S.

In several ways, Billy is López-Anuarbe's inspiration. He is her uncle—her favorite uncle, she admits—and his charge is López-Anuarbe's grandmother, whom she describes as her “favorite human being on Earth.”

“Billy is the most patient and loving person in the world,” she says. “This is really an idyllic situation: Not all caregivers get along with their recipients, who are oftentimes much sicker than my grandma.”

AMERICANS ARE GETTING OLDER. The U.S. Census Bureau predicts that by 2030, one in five Americans will be over the age of 65. Yet even as the number of elderly increases, the number of nursing home residents is decreasing. In just 10 years, between 2000 and 2010, the nursing home population of the U.S. fell 20 percent, from 1.6 million to 1.3 million, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

“Nursing homes in Connecticut cost about \$300 to \$400 a day,” López-Anuarbe says. “It's just too expensive. A lot of people assume Medicare, the health insurance program for those 65 and older, will cover the cost of a nursing home, when in fact it covers only up to 100 days.”

The vast majority of America's elderly are cared for at home by a family member or friend. Statistically, the average caregiver is a 49-year-old woman, according to the National Alliance for Caregiving and the AARP Public Policy Institute. But men now account for 40 percent of unpaid caregivers, and their ranks are growing rapidly.

An estimated 16 million men serve as caregivers, with about half of them choosing the role and the other half taking it on out of necessity.

“The reality is changing, but policies have a lag,” López-Anuarbe says. “Outreach continues to be very feminized, and a lot of it is ineffective because men and women care differently.”

Men often lack emotional support, for example, and are much more likely to be stressed by providing personal care, like bathing, dressing and helping in the bathroom.

“They might want to know, ‘How do I bathe my mom?’ But they are less likely to seek help or training,” López-Anuarbe says.

In one recent study, López-Anuarbe and Associate Professor of Statistics Priya Kohli analyzed data from the 2011 and 2015 National Study of Caregiving to assess the emotional, financial and physical burdens on male caregivers. They found that while men who provided personal care on a daily basis were very stressed, men who provided personal care often—but not every day—reported being significantly less stressed. That indicates men could benefit considerably from even occasional breaks.

López-Anuarbe and Kohli also looked at variations in stress levels based on whether men were caring for a spouse, a parent or another family member or friend. They found that all caregivers experienced a burden in each of the three categories, but sons in particular reported the highest emotional and financial strains.

That could be in part because sons are more likely to be part of the “sandwich generation,” those taking care of the elderly while also raising children. They are also less likely than spouses to be retirement age and therefore more likely to be working outside of the home. And men, in particular, are hesitant to reveal their status as caregivers to their colleagues.

“The boss might know you have two children, but you aren't going to say ‘I'm taking care of my dad,’ even if you are doing it 60 to 70 hours a week, because you just don't want to talk about it,” López-Anuarbe says.

Caregivers shouldn't feel guilty about asking for help. In fact, López-Anuarbe's research shows that self-care and regular respite are important to help reduce stress and prevent burnout for all caregivers.

“If you aren't taking care of yourself, you can't take care of anybody else. You have to ask, ‘Is there someone who can help me clean my house? Because I have to pack the school lunches for my kids and also get my dad dressed.’ It's too much,” she says.

MOST PEOPLE AREN'T PREPARED to become caregivers. There's just so much the average person never thinks about, López-Anuarbe says.

Caregivers serve as housekeepers, companions, chauffeurs, chefs, medical advocates, nurses, treasurers and financial planners. And the commitment can last decades.

"You might end up taking care of someone for 25 years—it's not three years or three months. And unlike children, who become more independent over time, the elderly become more dependent," López-Anuarbe says.

"It's all incredibly stressful, emotionally, financially and physically."

Just as the caregiving population is becoming more male, it's also becoming more diverse. It's estimated that between 13 percent and 17 percent of all caregivers are Hispanic, for example, but for millennial caregivers, that number jumps to 32 percent.

Outreach targeting only middle-aged women is unlikely to resonate with this new generation of caregivers, so López-Anuarbe is working to change the message. She is serving as a consultant on My Place CT, a web-based resource from the State of Connecticut for the elderly and those who care for them, to make it more accessible to the full range of caregivers.

"Basically, I'm looking at it and saying, 'Have you considered LGBTQ caregivers?' or 'Listen, this sounds very feminine,'" she says.

She is also working on a bilingual website for the New London community, which has a large Hispanic population. In 2016, López-Anuarbe partnered with Maria Cruz-Saco, the Joanne Toor Cummings '50 Professor of Economics, on a study of aging and long-term care planning perceptions within the city's Hispanic community. Through focus groups and interviews, she and Cruz-Saco found these New London residents were particularly marginalized and weren't taking advantage of resources like the New London Senior Citizens Center.

"They didn't feel welcome. The supply was there, and the demand was there, but they weren't meeting," she said.

New efforts by the center to serve Hispanic elderly are working, López-Anuarbe said, and she hopes the website will be both user-friendly and practical.

"You might say, 'Okay, I need to find a dentist who speaks Spanish for my 85-year-old grandpa to change the dentures.' And boom, there it is," she says.

IF IT TAKES A VILLAGE to raise a child, as the saying goes, it just might take a country to care for elderly—and their caregivers.

The Affordable Care Act, better known as Obamacare, included several provisions to increase support for caregivers, including expanding access to health insurance, Medicaid and home- and community-based services. But López-Anuarbe believes much more needs to be done.

Better integrating long-term care into the health care system would help, but ultimately López-Anuarbe's goal is to increase the value of caregiving.

"Caregiving and teaching are very noble causes in our society, but they have been undervalued for the longest time because traditionally women have been doing this work," she says.


"If you look at home health workers or those who work in nursing homes, they have comparable or lower salaries than someone working at McDonald's. And what would you rather do? Flip a burger or change an adult diaper?"

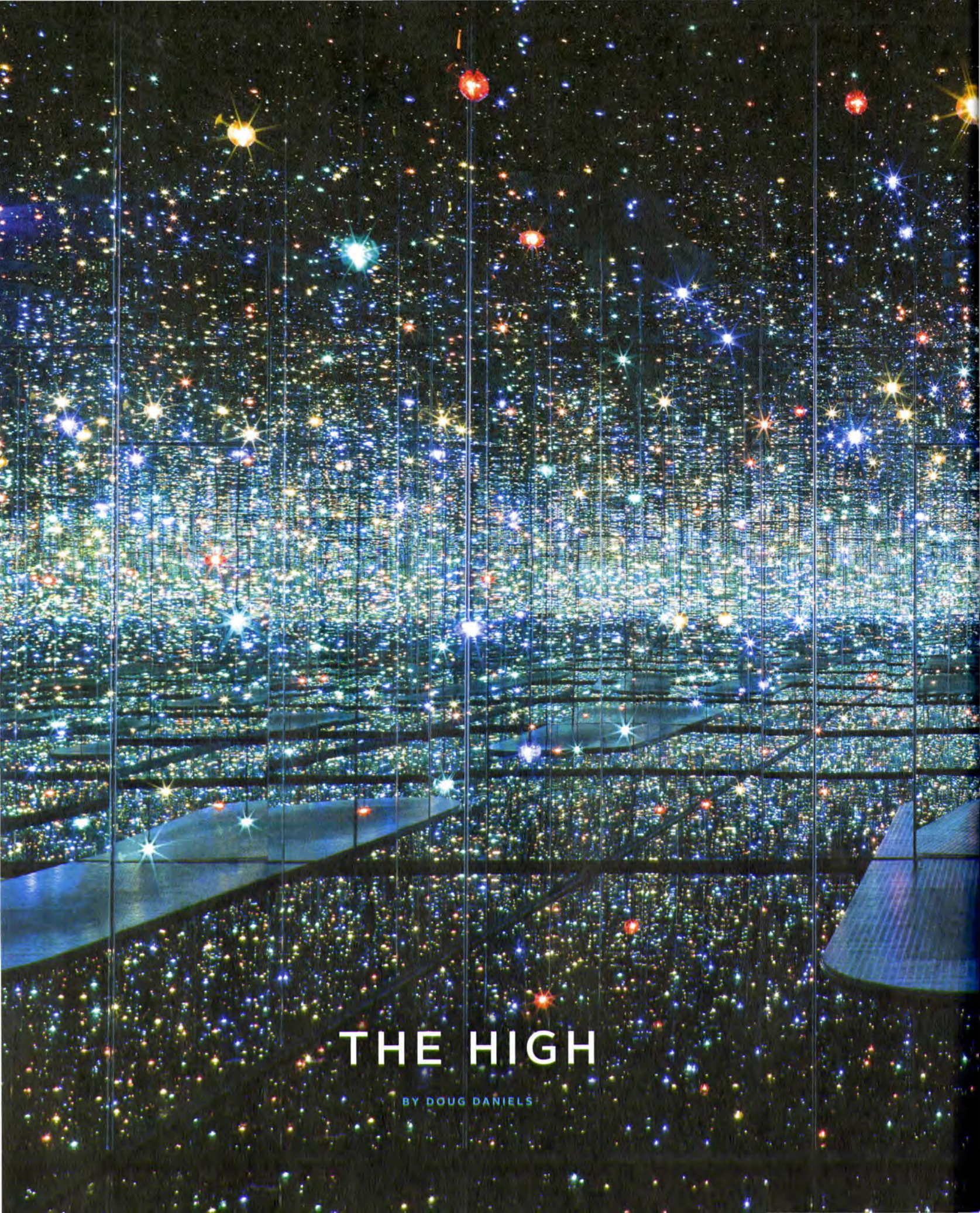
López-Anuarbe would like to see tax breaks for caregivers, paid leaves of absence from the workplace and even compensation for home-based care of family members. Currently, Medicare does not pay spouses to provide personal care for their husbands or wives, but 14 states do allow for public assistance programs, including Medicaid, to compensate spouses in certain situations. López-Anuarbe would like to see those programs expanded.

"As an economist, I always think, 'Let's talk money here.' Can't caregivers get a bread crumb every once in a while? Let me at least throw a little something at you so you don't die of frustration and your burden and go bankrupt while you are at it."

Even if the compensation is minimal and largely symbolic, López-Anuarbe thinks it could have a significant psychological impact on caregivers, as well as on the public perception of caregiving.

And the state has a vested interest in encouraging at-home care by loved ones, she adds. With an aging population and the soaring costs of facility-based care, eldercare is likely to become an even more critical economic and social issue over the next several decades.

"Our generation has to understand that if we don't value care enough, we are going to be really, really sad elderly." 



THE HIGH

BY DOUG DANIELS



Rand Suffolk '90 creates gateways for the Atlanta community to connect with its museum.

When Rand Suffolk '90 boarded his flight to Italy at age 15, it was the first time he'd ever been on a plane.

Until then, Suffolk had barely even explored the U.S., much less traveled abroad. But one afternoon, in their rural home outside of Akron, Ohio, Suffolk's father walked in and asked if he would like to move to Rome for a year or two—his father had a job offer there.

"I said, 'Sure, as long as I'm back in Ohio in time to finish my senior year of high school,'" Suffolk recalls from his spacious office at the Woodruff Arts Center in Atlanta, Georgia, where he serves as director of the High Museum of Art, arguably the most prominent institution of its kind in the Southeast.

Suffolk spent the next three years at an American school in Rome, where he became fluent in Italian and absorbed the visual beauty of the city's architecture and art, grew accustomed to the culinary and cultural riches of the country, and took pleasure in the little things, such as smoking cigarettes on the iconic Spanish Steps at the Piazza di Spagna.

The Roman lifestyle may have been a world away from the midwestern United States, but it agreed with Suffolk, and when he returned to Ohio to complete his senior year of high school, he realized he missed Italy and flew back after three weeks.

"Ohio just didn't feel like home anymore, and as a teenager, even though I wasn't overtly conscious of what a gift it was to

be in Rome and surrounded by beautiful art, there's no question that through osmosis a certain appreciation developed," Suffolk says.

But he knew he wanted to attend a liberal arts college in the U.S., and a friend's mother, who happened to be a Conn grad, suggested he meet with a dean of the college who was traveling in Rome at the time.

After the meeting, Suffolk was sold. That next fall he arrived at Conn.

Immersing himself in English courses and art history, Suffolk decided he wanted to pursue a career in university administration. But throughout graduate school his interest in art history continued to evolve into a driving passion. So after finishing his first graduate program he decided to pursue a master's in art history at Bryn Mawr College.

Suffolk's big break came when he was hired by the Hyde Collection, a hidden gem of an art museum in upstate New York, where he quickly worked his way up to director. After seven years at the Hyde, Suffolk caught the attention of the Philbrook Museum of Art, in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and was recruited to serve as its director and CEO. He was appointed director of the High in 2015 and has already transformed the Atlanta landmark into a stunning example of how art museums can truly reflect their communities, and strike the delicate balance between progress and preservation.

“For me, a big part of the attraction to this job is focusing on accessibility and creating new gateways for people to connect with their museum,” Suffolk explains, emphasizing that the museum belongs to everybody in the city, not only to art collectors and the philanthropic class.

From a cultural perspective, Atlanta has been one of the great beneficiaries of the seismic demographic changes happening more broadly throughout the country. The city has experienced a huge reverse migration of African Americans and also has vibrant LGBTQ and Latino communities, which have created tremendous opportunities for Suffolk and his team to engage the city’s full spectrum of residents—regardless of age, ethnicity, sexual orientation or socioeconomic backgrounds—in ways that the High (and most museums) traditionally hasn’t been willing or able to do.

Suffolk is quick to point out that discussing diversity in a philosophical sense holds little value if that philosophy isn’t reflected in practice.

“I also believe that museums have an important role to play in society, and that nonprofits like ours exist to make the world a better place. Our filter for doing that is, hopefully, via engagement with complex visual culture.”

Since Suffolk took over, he has translated his belief into action. Over the past two years, more than 60 percent of the museum’s exhibitions have highlighted or focused on artists of

color, gay artists or women artists. In 2015, the High averaged 15 percent nonwhite participation, 6 percentage points higher than the national average but still unacceptable to Suffolk. Within two years, that number tripled, to more than 45 percent, and last year alone nonwhite participation hit 50 percent, almost exactly representative of metro Atlanta’s 51 percent minority population.

Suffolk is determined to continue that momentum and make sure the High serves as the premier destination for community engagement for everybody in the city.

“If we’re going to reflect the audience we serve, we’d better not just talk the talk; we’d better walk the walk,” Suffolk argues.

Founded in 1905, the museum that planted the seed for the modern High was a modest facility known as the Atlanta Art Association. As the collection (and funding) grew steadily over the years and decades, major expansions and relocations were required. Today, the 312,000-square-foot museum is in itself a work of art. Initially designed by the famous architect Richard Meier and completed in 1983, the building won him the Pritzker Prize for architecture. It was expanded in 2005 with a large addition designed by renowned Italian architect (and fellow Pritzker Prize recipient) Renzo Piano.

“Both [architects] realized that they were creating spaces for the presentation of artwork, and I think the buildings have





“Every day we come to work and ask ourselves, ‘What are we going to do to change Atlanta?’” Suffolk says.

stood the test of time, even though we have done some recent architectural work to improve the flow and control the light somewhat,” Suffolk says.

Natural light. That is one of the most striking features immediately apparent to anyone entering the museum, a feature that has challenged curators over the years and required some light-mitigation measures. In the past, some critics have bemoaned the amount of space dedicated to the massive atrium—space that might otherwise have been used for galleries. But as a former Atlanta resident with a deep, 30-year fondness for the High, I still never tire of that glorious atrium and the winding ramp that climbs elegantly up the inside walls of the museum, farther and farther, depositing visitors on each level to explore the various exhibits, as the people lingering in the atrium below grow smaller and smaller.

While giving me a personal tour of the museum, Suffolk was kind enough to indulge my request to walk up the spiraling ramp instead of taking the elevator, and we discussed how he views his role as museum director in such a volatile era of politics and race relations.

“I see my role as the museum’s chief diversity officer, and we have four main pillars that inform everything we do: growth, inclusivity, collaboration and connectivity,” he ex-

plains. “I think the key for me was to change the museum from within and challenge the exclusivity that is typically associated with art and museum patronage.”

A major part of that outreach effort has involved partnering with new entities that fall outside the insulated cone of fellow cultural organizations such as the symphony or the ballet. While Suffolk says those partnerships are still essential, they now only account for about a quarter of the time the High spends on outside collaborations, with the other 75% focused on building relationships with nonprofit and community organizations that challenge the museum to think about its mission in innovative and creative ways.

He points to a few particular exhibitions and outside partnerships that address racial justice in especially relevant ways and that would have been virtually unimaginable at the High a few years ago.

The first is called *With Drawn Arms*, by Los Angeles artist Glenn Kaino, who collaborated with Olympic gold-medalist Tommie Smith. Smith, an African American, became a civil rights icon when he raised his fist in protest during the medal ceremony at the 1968 Olympics in Mexico. The gesture was intended to demonstrate solidarity with the civil rights movement, and 50 years later that sentiment continues to ripple through history in the form of NFL players who have chosen to kneel

during the national anthem to protest racial inequity and police violence. The exhibition includes a variety of drawings and sculptures, along with a collection of student drawings submitted from around the country.

Suffolk then leads me into a small screening room to watch a short film by the award-winning video artist Arthur Jafa titled *Love Is the Message, the Message Is Death*. The film stitches together a breathtaking tapestry of found footage including cell phone videos and media coverage of police brutality and street protests from across America that potently capture the country's historic and current struggles with racial injustice. The film is simultaneously mesmerizing and difficult to watch, and Suffolk is clearly quite emotional once the lights come back on in the screening room, despite having seen it multiple times.

"Every day we come to work and ask ourselves, 'What are we going to do to change Atlanta?'" Suffolk says. "What does it mean to be the place where all of Atlanta feels comfortable coming together? Where the richest of the rich can be with the poorest of the poor? Everybody from the LGBTQ rainbow can hang out with everybody from the ethnicity rainbow. Every day we work at being that place."

The astounding transformation of the museum, from the standpoint of diversity, a new dedication to showcasing local artists and the new layout of the museum, has coincided perfect-

ly with a recent reinstallation of the permanent collection, which consists of nearly 1,500 pieces, 400 of which are newly acquired.

The renovations also saw an expansion of the kids' area, comprising numerous interactive stations and games for families to engage with art and culture.

Channeling the excitement of a kid himself, Suffolk enthusiastically leads me into the kids' wing to show off all the cool new toys. The level of creativity and cleverness that went into this space is remarkable, with a blend of advanced technology to engage with and old-fashioned stations where children can simply draw.

Most of the elements in this section are so pleasantly unusual and original, they defy description. One particularly—and inexplicably—fun piece is the "noodle forest," composed of myriad dangling foam cylinders of every imaginable color, which sway and jiggle soothingly, like the dancing cloth strips of a car wash.

"You have to run through the noodle forest!" Suffolk tells me. So I do, and it's pretty great. ☺

Opening spread, pp. 26-17: *Infinity Mirrored Room – The Souls of Millions of Light Years Away*, 2013. Wood, metal, glass mirrors, plastic, acrylic panel, rubber, LED lighting system, acrylic balls and water, 113 1/4 x 163 1/2 x 163 1/2 in. Courtesy of David Zwirner, N.Y. © Yayoi Kusama

Spread on pp. 31-32: *Aftermath of Obliteration of Eternity*, 2009, at the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden. Wood, mirror, plastic, acrylic, LED, black glass, and aluminum. Collection of the artist. Courtesy of Ota Fine Arts, Tokyo/Singapore; Victoria Miro, London; David Zwirner, New York. © Yayoi Kusama. Photo by Cathy Carver

Love Song for William Meredith

Julia Alvarez, author of *How the García Girls Lost Their Accents* and *In the Time of the Butterflies*, celebrates the legacy of Pulitzer Prize-winning poet William Meredith, who taught at Conn from 1955 to 1983. In April, Conn celebrated the centennial of Meredith's birth.

BY JULIA ALVAREZ

When I landed at Connecticut College (then, “for Women”) in 1967, I was delighted to discover there was such a thing as creative writing. I don’t think that term was being used back then. More likely, the title of the course would have been “Writing Poetry,” a workshop taught by William Meredith (whom I also had never heard of). To be sure, the William Meredith I got to know would have objected to his course being called “creative writing.” He would have said that all good writing was of the creative kind.

I was a youngster in that classroom in a number of ways. First, I was a freshman (as we women were known back then), and a young one at that, 17 when I started college. I was also an immigrant, only “7 American years old,” as I dated my life in English, beginning in the summer of 1960, when we had fled the dictatorship of Trujillo and landed in New York City.

Because I wasn’t confident in my new language, I reverted to reading the language of the body: facial expressions, posture, tone of voice and so on. I watched my teachers closely, trying to understand their subtle reactions, where I stood on their measure of excellence, where I was falling short. Even here, I often ran into trouble, as I was used to effusive and expressive Latin faces. Mr. Meredith especially presented a challenge. He had a quiet, reserved manner and an odd smile, a kind of twisting/listing of his mouth to one side that I misunderstood as a smirk of disdain or disapproval.

There was a modesty to his demeanor and dress: He wore a seersucker jacket (I recall learning what seersucker was when a student described his jacket), often with a tie. He spoke in such a soft voice, I felt myself leaning in to catch his every word. Sometimes, he seemed to be daydreaming, looking out the window, while some student read her poem. I had a sense that he didn’t miss anything. His comments must have been witty (the smart kids in class snickered). I felt I was barely keeping up.

Since I couldn’t read him, I decided to read his work. I went to the library and took out two of his books, *The Open Sea* and *The Wreck of the Thresher*. I had never heard of buying poetry books—where would I even go to buy one and with what spending money? My immigrant parents were still struggling. I read and reread Mr. Meredith’s books. Back then, a carryover from childhood when we had to recite poems at school and for company, any poem I loved I committed to memory. (I loved the term in English “know by heart.”) Of all Meredith’s poems, my favorite was “The Open Sea.” Its lines were the perfect subtitles for my growing confusion and anguish as to where I belonged and who was I going to be. An immigrant kid, I felt torn apart by competing allegiances: no longer fully Dominican, nor yet American, a lonely place. “We say the sea is lonely; better say / Ourselves are lonesome creatures whom the sea / Gives neither yes or no for company.” I recited the poem over and over for company. In class now whenever he gazed out the window, a cartoon bubble blew up above his head. (“Oh, there are people, all right, settled in the sea— /

It is as populous as Maine today— / But no one who will give you the time of day.”)

Mr. Meredith introduced me to the work of a number of poets, not just dead ones. I recall Louise Bogan, Delmore Schwartz, John Berryman, Maxine Kumin, Howard Nemerov, Richard Wilbur, Muriel Rukeyser. We read a lot of Frost (“Two roads diverged in a yellow wood”), as well as Eliot’s “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock.” (“I grow old ... I grow old ... I shall wear the bottoms of my trousers rolled.” So, was the quiet, unassuming Mr. Meredith J. Alfred Prufrock? I remember wondering). The more I read, the greater my sense of my own ineptitude. English was not my mother tongue. I would never catch up.

And so, I was surprised when at the end of the semester, Mr. Meredith encouraged me to take a workshop with a young black poet who would be replacing him during his upcoming sabbatical year, June Jordan. (Someone else I had never heard of.) He also recommended I look into the Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference, a mountaintop 10-day gathering of writers, where he was on the staff. Wow! I had never heard of such a thing. A whole conference with other people who loved poetry as much as I did! Maybe I would find my tribe there.

Of course, I followed my oracle’s advice. I signed up for June Jordan’s poetry workshop as well as her course “Revolution and Literature.” (I recall another young writer—quiet, intense, supremely shy Gayl Jones—and the pride we both felt as co-winners of the department’s poetry prize.) I also applied to the

Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference, where, it turned out, many of the poets whose poems we had read in Mr. Meredith’s class were also on the staff: Maxine Kumin, Robert Hayden, John Ciardi, Archibald MacLeish. Mr. Meredith had been right on both counts. June Jordan’s workshop brought me down from the ivory tower of poetry. (Yeats’ “I must lie down where all the ladders start / In the foul rag and bone shop of the heart.”) Her poems gave me courage (“These poems / they are things that I do / in the dark/reaching for you / whoever you are /... whoever I may become”), and she encouraged me to trust my own voice with its expressive Latin roots and rhythms (I know it’s been said before / but not in this voice / of the *plátano* / and the mango, / *marimba y bongó*, / not in this *sancocho* / of *inglés* / *con español*). At Bread Loaf, I found kindred spirits on the mountain and fell in love with Robert Frost country. That same fall, right after my summer at the conference, I transferred to Middlebury College, so that when Mr. Meredith returned to Connecticut College from his sabbatical, I was already gone.

Looking back, I think inviting June Jordan, as well as other poets of color and female writers to the still-staid, all-women Connecticut College signaled Mr. Meredith’s own broadening of subject matter and adoption of a less formal style. I recall my surprise and delight reading the new poems in *Earth Walk* (1970) and *Hazard, the Painter* (1975) and discovering his versatility and ability to enter a diversity of points of view. Keats’ negative capability in action. In “Walter Jenks’ Bath,” the speaker is a black boy in Beloit contemplating himself and

Love Song for William Meredith

the universe during his nightly bath—a far stretch from the poet-professor I’d known in his seersucker jacket and tie (since replaced by love beads). Subsequent summers at Bread Loaf, he seemed looser, more radical—we were at the height of the Vietnam War—though always, Mr. Meredith’s sense of balance and propriety, his irony and kindness, kept him from the stridency of his more radical colleagues.

Our lives briefly crossed again in an indirect way. The fall of my senior year at Middlebury, to my Dominican parents’ dismay, I fell foolishly in love with a local boy—and he really was just a boy, 17 years old, a high school dropout, a folk musician. After not having any luck enlisting my Middlebury College professors in her crusade, Mami contacted Mr. Meredith, remembering how much I revered my poetry teacher, how I quoted his advice whenever I wanted my parents to let me do something they would not normally approve of—like go to a coed writers’ conference. In her letter to him, my mother explained that I would be ruining my life with an uneducated, hippy, pot-smoking folk musician, and all my talent would go to waste. (First I’d heard that my mother thought I had talent.) Would Mr. Meredith please try to talk some sense into me? Instead, William Meredith wrote her back, a letter she later showed me, after we reconciled and she forgave me for ruining my life (code for having sex with my boyfriend). It was a short, typed missive on stiff, white stationery, like a wedding invitation, in which Mr. Meredith kindly but firmly set my mother straight: Whether I would stay with poetry or

not, it was up to me and only me. We cannot steer our craft by someone else’s star. To that effect. Needless to say, Mami was not happy with this response. (“A man who asks there of his family / Or a friend or teacher gets a cold reply / Or finds him dead against that vast majority.”)

I didn’t see Mr. Meredith again until years later, in Washington, D.C. I had just won the Jenny McKean Moore Writer-in-Washington fellowship at The George Washington University and published my first book of poems, *Homecoming* (1984). As part of the fellowship, I had to give a “public reading,” and guess who showed up? Mr. Meredith! What a shock! He was in a wheelchair. It was difficult to understand his garbled speech, but his partner, Richard Harteis, filled me in on the details. Mr. Meredith had had a stroke and was having trouble recalling words and speaking. Hearing of his affliction, which must be a poet’s worst fear, I felt a stab of pity and dread. But Mr. Meredith was optimistic. He would lick this thing. (“I’m in bad health, but high spirits,” he remarked to one interviewer.) He and Richard were in D.C. for some do or other at the Library of Congress, where he had recently been Consultant in Poetry, a position later retitled Poet Laureate Consultant. They had heard I was giving a reading and decided to surprise me. Maybe because I now had more confidence in my work and in interacting with him, Mr. Meredith (“Call me William”) seemed more accessible than I’d ever remembered him. In fact, his affection and warmth were palpable, and though I had trouble understanding him, I had a ready supply

“ I followed the path because you showed me the way,
and that way led through words, and the words led to love. ”

of his own words to fill in the many blanks in his utterances. (“Error from Babel mutters in the places / Cities apart, where now we word our failures.”)

From then on, we never lost touch. Thanks to his former student and friend (and mine) and literary godchild, the poet Michael Collier, who became director of Bread Loaf in 1994, Mr. Meredith was a regular visitor when the conference was in session. I was now a writer-in-residence down the road at Middlebury College. Every time Michael alerted me, I made a point of driving up the mountain to see my dear old teacher. His speech had improved—at any rate, it was easier for me to understand him. We talked about writing, about the conference, about his travels—he spoke of trips to the former Yugoslavia as well as several to Bulgaria, southern France, all of which made me marvel at how he got around. We hugged in greeting and hugged and kissed in departure—something my 17-year-old self would not have believed possible. We exchanged letters. Usually, it was Richard who wrote back with the news; at the end in his shaky handwriting, a note from Mr. Meredith. (I never did make that transition he urged on me to “William.”) “Shame on you!” Richard chastised me in one letter. “You made an old man cry a little with your sweet note.”

“I’m speaking well now, Love, William,” Mr. Meredith closed.

In 2007, fittingly a few days after Memorial Day, I learned that Mr. Meredith had died. It might have been

Michael Collier who wrote me an email. I hope so. I would not have wanted to hear of our literary godfather’s passing from anything as impersonal as a news report. On a shelf above my writing table, I still keep the photo of Mr. Meredith and myself that someone snapped at Bread Loaf in 1994: the two of us talking, making that supreme effort at speech, at getting the words right—what he spent a lifetime doing, in poems and in his life, and which I’m now closing in on a lifetime of doing myself.

I am grateful to Michael Collier for giving me this opportunity to recall our teacher and friend. The very day I began writing this piece, I received a note from Michael saying, “Today is William’s 100th birthday.” That night I had a dream in which Mr. Meredith and I were walking together on a path in the woods. (Gone was the wheelchair!) We came to a parting of ways. Knowing how “way leads on to way,” I felt some urgency to tell him how much he meant to me. I stirred awake and jotted down the few words I recalled saying to him: *Mr. Meredith: I followed the path because you showed me the way, and that way led through words, and the words led to love.* Something to that effect. In the dream, I remember hoping my love song would detain him or elicit some reply. But true to form, Mr. Meredith was quiet, listening. He had already given me his reply in poems I still love and know by heart. ☐

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YO MAMA

Photographer Renee Cox empowers women of color by switching the script of the male gaze through her representation of the self, explains Miles Ladin '90.

Her work is often iconoclastic, yet transcends simple polemics by portraying African Americans within an aesthetic of unshakable visual power. In the early 1990s, when I met Renee Cox in a master's program at the School of Visual Arts, she was creating large photographic totems that crashed together both Christian and African iconography. Her work since then continues to affirm her own visibility in a Western culture that has historically minimized her presence.

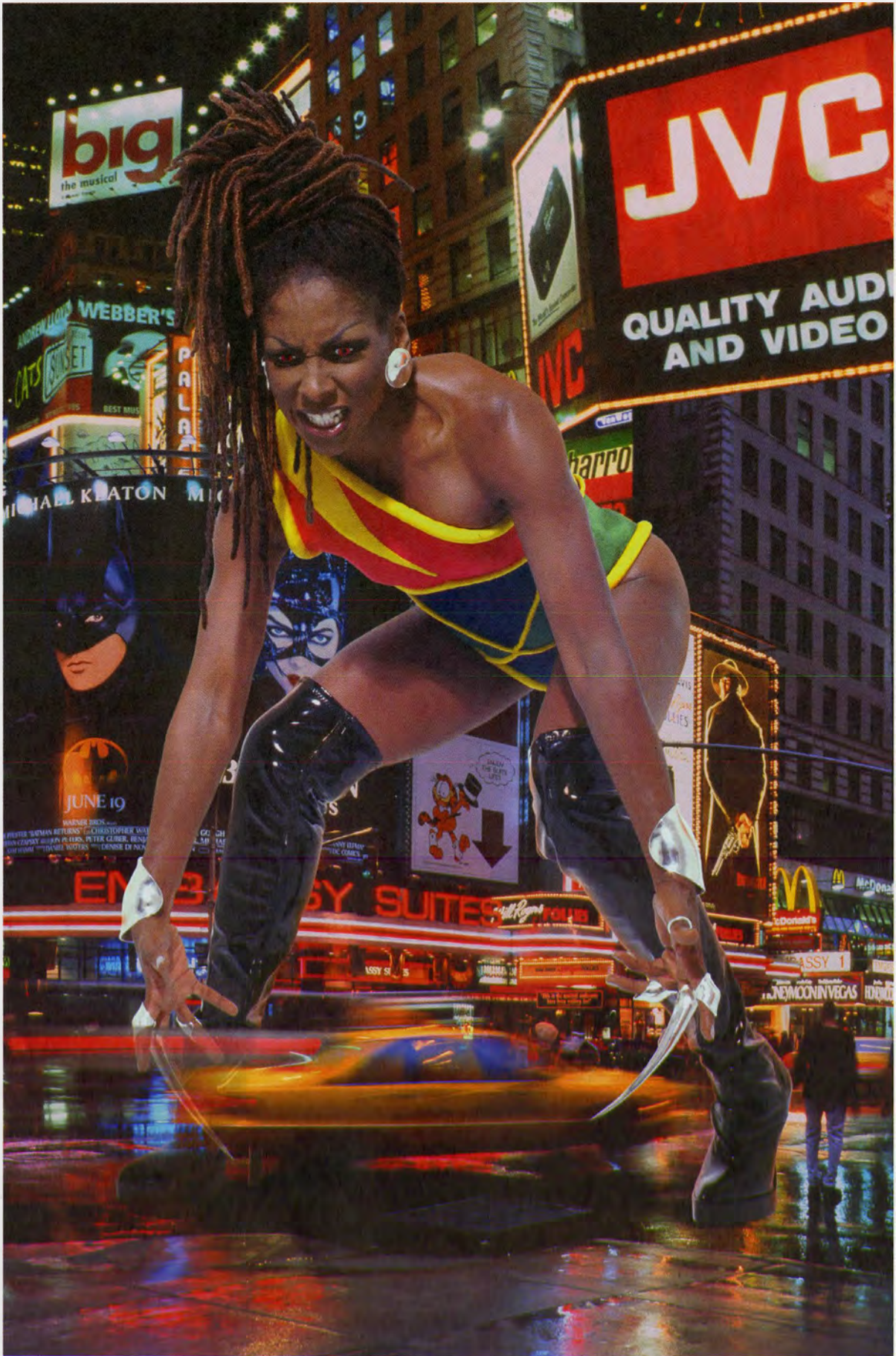
In her iconic *Yo Mama* (1993, not pictured here), a nude Cox stands tall and upright, wearing high heels and holding her young son in her arms. The portrait affirms her role of mother and includes rather than precludes her ability to simultaneously own the role of sexual being. I include this powerful image in presentations when lecturing students on the difference between a selfie and a self-portrait. This brash, life-size photograph of a maternal yet sexual Cox is an eye-opener that subverts society's expectations of motherhood.

Cox has portrayed herself as superhero, queen, Madonna, warrior and even as Jesus *herself*. In 2001, this last incarnation brought the wrath of then-New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and catapulted Cox to front page infamy. Lambasting her presumed sacrilege, Giuliani called for "decency panels" to take charge of New York City museums. Despite these pressures, Cox is as audacious as ever. Her latest body of work, *Soul Culture*, presents a kaleidoscopic assemblage of brown bodies that reference both Asian Mandalas and African culture. In this recent series, Cox continues to reimagine the visual landscape while celebrating her own brazen image.

Renee Cox visited campus for two days, funded by the Visiting Faculty in Contemporary Art Endowed Fund in conjunction with "Perspectives on Photography" taught by professors Karen Gonzalez Rice and Christopher B. Steiner.



Yo Mamadonna And Child, 1994. Archival digital ink jet print on Cotton Rag, 48 x 72



Taxi 1998. CibaChrome print



Red Coat, 2004, Color digital inkjet print on water color paper AP1, 76 x 44

| ON THE BORDER |



Travel writer Jackie Bryant '08 examines the tensions that exist along the U.S.-Mexico border, as she crisscrosses between Douglas, Arizona, and Agua Prieta, Mexico.



“What are you doing in this lane?” a Customs and Border Patrol agent at the crossing into Douglas, Arizona, yelled at us from outside the car.

This border crossing was not like the others.

“He can’t walk,” Keoki answered from behind the wheel, gesturing toward our friend Tom in the front seat next to him. “So we decided to bring him across in the car with us.” Our driver was Keoki Skinner, an American former journalist and decades-long resident of Agua Prieta, the Mexican town just across the border. Our companion was Tom Miller, a sexagenarian writer who has lived in Tucson for much of his adult life and has written extensively about both the borderlands and the Southwest.

“This lane is for people in the SENTRI program only. You and the woman in the back seat, who isn’t registered to this car, know that.” SENTRI, or Secure Electronic Network for Travelers Rapid Inspection, is a program that enables expedited crossing from Mexico into the United States for those who must do so frequently. I knew he was wrong—I didn’t have to be registered to the car—but I also knew he could do what he wanted. The rules were different here. “I’m going to have to review your status, and we’ll decide what to do with you.”

The three of us fell silent as the agent walked away. Keoki explained that a recent tactic of Customs and Border Patrol was to cycle in “green” agents from the airports—people who had no land border experience—to keep aggression and anger high. Once someone sticks around, he tends to soften and even become sympathetic to those he sees every day, so the agency tries to keep it fresh.

It felt nerve-wracking to be on the wrong side of border patrol, even as a white American woman. I wondered what the

crossing experience must be like for people who are darker—and therefore more suspicious—in the eyes of the authorities. A loss of expedited border crossing would be an inconvenience for me, but my life would go on.

“It seems I was mistaken,” the agent shouted as he approached Keoki’s car 15 minutes later. “Honestly, I didn’t really know the rules.” We let out a sigh of relief but quickly felt angry. The head agent at a border crossing didn’t know the rules?

My experience with the border is that of an outsider: I live near it, in San Diego, and I cross it frequently, but I can choose to ignore it. It’s a privilege millions don’t have, with families, jobs, schools, friends, doctors and lives scattered across this very real yet frustratingly arbitrary line.

To outsiders further afield, the border is an abstract concept that bubbles up now and then after lying dormant—although these days, it’s on the tips of tongues across the country. The same themes arise each time: cartels, NAFTA, immigration without documentation, migrant workers, the role and reach of border patrol. Less discussed are the lives left in the border’s wake.

In southeastern Arizona, tensions run high, as they do near most militarized border crossings. These tensions aren’t new. In his book, *On the Border: Portraits of America’s Southwestern Frontier*, Tom details what’s now referred to as “The Hanigan Incident.” A group of ranchers in the border town of Douglas brutally tortured and almost killed three undocumented Mexican migrants who crossed their land while trying to get to the fields to look for work. This was in 1976.

I had set out for Douglas from Tucson. Tom is unable to drive, so I took the wheel. We stopped in Bisbee, an old copper mining town that scales up and down a canyon. We descended

from the mountains into a flat, scrub-dotted desert valley with mountains at the edge of the bluebird sky.

Eventually, Tom said, “See those mountains? That whole horizon is Mexico.” It was hard to believe. Where I live, you start to see signs for Mexico almost a full hour north of it. It’s significantly less populated here, but no less an international frontier. About 20 minutes later, we approached Douglas, where we passed through cattle ranches, still with no indication we were running up against another country. By this point, we could have spit across the border.

We approached a stoplight in the center of this small town, which had a sign finally acknowledging Mexico’s proximity. It instructs motorists to turn right if they want to cross into Mexico, just a few hundred yards away. Driving past the Gadsden Hotel, where playwright and novelist Thornton Wilder once took a self-imposed exile, we landed at the aptly named Border Mart. Our friend Keoki appeared after a few minutes.

We climbed into Keoki’s old mustard-colored Volvo and creaked across the border without being stopped by Mexican authorities. Agua Prieta is a town of about 80,000—much bigger than Douglas’ 17,000. The economies of both towns are marked by their locations on the fence: Agua Prieta’s lifeblood is dominated by solar energy, narcotics, smugglers, those who work in Arizona with or without documentation, and the maquiladoras—foreign-owned factories; Douglas’ jobs are mainly in border-related law enforcement, ranching and farming. In between the two towns, a tall, perforated, rusted metal fence snakes through the desert.

As we drove around Agua Prieta, the heat and the dust seeped into every corner. I took in the architecture, which can really be better described as “narcotecture.” These days, law and order

in Agua Prieta is kept in place by the Sinaloa Cartel. El Chapo used to be the biggest name in town, before he was captured. The cartel uses Agua Prieta as both a home base and jumping off point for its American business interests. Its border-beating arsenal includes tunnels, propane-fired cannons, cutting holes in the wall, rope ladders, catapults and mules—anything to get product and people across la frontera.

The cartel’s business makes lots of money, plenty of which shows up in the houses around Agua Prieta. Among more modest concrete buildings sit gaudy temples to excess that match the waves of various trends: Spanish revival, Middle Eastern with a particular fondness for domes and minarets, and, more recently, minimalist and modern touches. All homes are heavily fortified and many sit directly at the edge of the border fence, taunting the cameras and patrol sitting mere feet away.

Back near the manned border crossing, things start to liven up. A sidewalk lining the fence was built recently, Keoki told me. Exercise apparatus and benches serve as a public park of sorts. A memorial to a young adult who was shot in the back while running from American border patrol brought us back down to earth. A moment later, we saw evidence of hope in the paintings that span the entirety of the fence. Images of the desert, Catholic saints and touching hands, not unlike those painted on the roof of the Sistine Chapel, represent a humanity that’s absent on the American side of the border. Life happens, however innocent or illicit, up until the very edge of Mexico. Conversely, the hundreds of yards leading up to the wall in Douglas are completely empty: a deserted, resentful field, stretching lengthwise for miles, indicating that whatever lies just beyond it—in this case, an entire nation—is no-man’s land.

We made one final stop in Agua Prieta before crossing back into the United States: a coffee shop across the street from a gym fronted and frequented by narcos and their wives. Cafe Justo y Mas was founded by a man originally from Chiapas who wanted to start a business that could benefit those back home, so they wouldn't feel the pull to migrate north. So far, he's been moderately successful, selling coffee on both sides of the border that supports a stable production operation back home.

At this cafe, I bumped into an American woman who told me that they hold a vigil every Tuesday night at 5:30 for migrants who die crossing the Sonoran Desert to get to the United States. This was a Tuesday, and a quick glance at my phone revealed it was 4:15—just enough time to cross and meet up with the group.

Keoki, Tom and I jumped back into the Volvo and creaked forward once again toward the border. Being in the expedited SENTRI lane meant a short wait, one that quickly went wrong once the agent grew suspicious of us. After clearing up what border patrol called a “misunderstanding” and freshly reinstalled in the United States, Keoki and Tom deposited me on a street corner a few hundred feet from the border crossing, where the vigil was assembling. They decided to hang back and catch up, as it had been 10 years since they'd last seen one another.

Around 30 people were gathered, many visiting with an American church group, each picking up a white cross. Some crosses had the names, ages, birth and death dates of men and women, stretching back decades. Some simply said, “Mujer no identificada” or “Hombre no identificado,” representing a corpse that had been found somewhere in the desert, either

without identification or in such an advanced state of decay that no determination could be made.

It was rush hour, and cars began snaking down the street and around the corner, lining up to cross back into Mexico. The vigil and its crosses followed the line—under the signs warning motorists to leave their guns and medical marijuana in the United States—dropping them one by one on the edge of the sidewalk until the crosses reached the very line where one country ends and another begins. Being in one of those cars, whether crossing into Douglas or Agua Prieta, meant you had “made it” in some sense. If you kept on the straight and narrow and were lucky, you would never become one of those white crosses.

I wandered back to Tom, Keoki and our car. We said our goodbyes and Keoki began his short trek back across the line into Agua Prieta. I stopped in Border Mart to get a bottle of water, overhearing a rancher at the cashier saying, “Those [protestors] are at it again.”

As Tom and I drove away from Douglas, we noticed a border patrol car, not a police car, sitting at a stoplight, waiting for someone to make a mistake. I continued on slowly, noticing someone with darker skin driving in a much more beat-up car behind me. I tensed up. All of a sudden, the border patrol car skidded out, lights on and siren blaring, and pulled into the lane behind us. The beat-up car pulled to the shoulder, beginning what was almost sure to be another tense encounter as Tom and I drove off into a cotton candy sunset. ■

This essay, which won first place in the travel journalism category for the San Diego press club excellence in journalism awards, first appeared in stungmagazine.com.

President Emeritus
Oakes Ames
Dies at 87





Photos courtesy the Linda Lear Center for Special Collections and Archives

Oakes Ames, an accomplished experimental nuclear physicist who served as Connecticut College's president from 1974 to 1988, died Feb. 12 at the age of 87. Ames graduated from Milton Academy in Massachusetts and went on to earn a bachelor's degree from Harvard University in 1953 and a Ph.D. in physics from The Johns Hopkins University in 1957. He arrived on campus in 1974 with his wife, Louise, and his four children, bringing to the College a refocused emphasis on the sciences, economics, career and athletics. Ames proved to be a skillful financial manager, balancing the College's budget each year and spearheading an ambitious campaign that added more than \$33 million to the College's endowment.

"His vision steered the College through the first decade of coeducation, while navigating the challenging waters of one of

the deepest recessions of the second half of the 20th century," President Katherine Bergeron wrote in a letter to the College community.

Ames also invested significantly in campus infrastructure. He oversaw the construction of Charles E. Shain Library at the heart of the campus, converted the former Palmer Library into the Blaustein Humanities Center, opened an indoor athletic complex and the ice arena now known as Dayton Arena, and renovated New London Hall and its laboratories with equipment that was at the time considered state of the art. A champion of emerging technology, Ames was at the forefront of integrating computers into the learning environment.

For more on Oakes Ames, www.conncoll.edu/oakes-ames

CC Magazine welcomes your Class Notes and submissions. Class Notes for the fall issue are due

August 1, 2019. Please contact your class correspondent, email notes to classnotes@conncoll.edu or submit Class Notes online at: conncoll.edu/news/cc-magazine

R denotes a Reunion class year. Reunion 2019 will be held May 31-June 2, 2019.

45 Correspondent: *Ann LeLievre Hermann, 239-410-0668, annlehermann26@gmail.com*
Greetings, classmates and friends; I have great news! The college sent a special letter thanking us for our support of CC's endowment, saying that our Scholarship Fund in honor of Dean Burdick "provides a foundation for this vibrant community today and leaves us secure in the knowledge that the College will be supported into the future. We are so very grateful for your support." The letter went on to relate that last year's scholarship recipient, Mathieu Vigneault '20, continues as our beneficiary this year. We certainly enjoyed hearing from Mathieu, who is a computer science and economics major from Québec, Canada, last spring, and we hope that he continues as our beneficiary next year ... perhaps graduating as we celebrate our 75th reunion! Our fund still has a market value of \$77,190 and is in a strong position to assist future students. Some classmates have been reminiscing about World War II-era memories, 75 years on: Remember the "posture pictures" that were required for graduation? I shudder to think how cooperative we were, asking no questions! Some friends who attended Wellesley and Smith in the '50s also had posture pictures taken. In trying to discover what happened to those photos, I learned that CC no longer has any in its archives but was informed that "posture portraits were taken of all students at Conn and other New England institutions between 1920 and 1960 ... meant to diagnose poor posture, aid in correcting students' futures as they entered college and prepare them for their lives beyond the institution." Interestingly, CC student Emily Green '18 drew on the posture portraits project when she composed an original dance, "Repositioning," which was performed in 2016 at the Myers Dance Studio. The dance demonstrated how much more power women now have over

their own bodies by contrasting the rigid posture that was supposedly the ideal of our earlier times with the more comfortable posturing that most women enjoy today. **Toni Fenton Tuttle** remembers Dec. 7, 1941, when she was supposed to appear on the Vox Pop radio program at the Coast Guard Academy. "We were all seated waiting for the program to begin when it was announced that because war had just been declared the program would not be aired." **Shirley Armstrong Meneice** asks if anyone remembers "RiverDay," when there were no classes and many of us went to the beach because someone called each dorm and said there would be no school that day? Well, Shirley and **Peggy Marion Schiffert** were the ones who secretly created "River Day" during senior year. Unfortunately, neither of them knew that a special speaker from New Haven had been invited to address the students that day. "Not only was the President upset, Dean Burdick was furious. She vowed to find the culprits and see that they were punished. Last I heard she was still looking!" **Marjorie McClellan Feeney** remembers having a quiet Sunday afternoon catching up on homework when someone who had a radio on asked, "Where is Pearl Harbor?" "We dealt well with food, gas and other shortages, but we were always aware of the planes overhead and potential loss of loved ones." She also reflects on the dances at Knowlton, endless bridge games, typing term papers, and class meetings and songs. I, **Ann LeLievre Hermann**, vividly remember the blackout curtains on every window, and the Friday-night entree of poached eggs floating in stewed tomatoes, presumably the best the chef could do with no remaining meat rations. In current news, **Shirley Armstrong Meneice** has been recovering from a fall at home. A trip to the emergency room and CT scan revealed a subdural hematoma that required surgery. "I am now home and regaining strength." Shirley keeps busy reading, most recently enjoying *The Sound of a Wild Snail Eating*, and attending local garden club meetings. **Florence (Murph) Murphy Gorman** has attended various family weddings, where "all the brides were beautiful, grooms handsome, and festivities lots of fun!" Murph recently caught up with **Pat Whitestone**: "We both work in our libraries and do lots of reading." Murph finds life at Cedarfield pleasant; she enjoys Sudoku, exercise classes, and attending events in the city. **Marjorie (Marge) McClellan Feeney** lives independently in

her house—still driving, gardening, stacking firewood for her woodstove, dabbling in watercolor painting, and playing cards at the senior center. "I feel very fortunate for my life." **Mariechen Wilder Smith** is adjusting to her life in assisted living, while her dog, Misty, adjusts to her new quarters with daughter Mandy. "Misty has a better life there with a big fenced-in backyard and two other dogs for company." Mariechen comments that so much is done for you in assisted living that you can get lazy, and she's trying to avoid that. She plans to get back to playing golf on the nine-hole course, and she enjoys Happy Hour and dinner with her friends. I (Ann) can vouch for being catered to throughout the day in assisted living. Meds and early mealtimes, though, keep us from having Happy Hour. Daily aquacise keeps my body moving, and duplicate bridge keeps my brain agitated. That's all for now—keep busy and stay healthy!

51 Correspondent: *Mary Beck Barrett, 23 Gables Dr., Yarmouth, ME 04096, 207-846-9142, betbebar@yahoo.com*
Hello from Tucson, Ariz., where I arrived to a very rare snowy scene. I'm sure many of you experienced similar weather, seasonal in your areas, but (almost) never here! **Phyllis Hoffman Driscoll** remains at Hilton Head, S.C.—busy as ever with daily two-mile walks, gardening, volunteering at a local food bank, playing bridge and socializing with friends made during her 36-year residence at Hilton Head. She travels to New Hampshire to see her daughter and family and to Michigan to see her son and family. Phyll is hoping for a hurricane-free year! **Joan Andrews White**, in Mystic, Conn., and I enjoyed a lengthy phone visit. She is making good progress recovering from her accident last year. Joanie regrets that her two daughters and families live far away, one in Colorado, one in California. Closer would mean more visits. **Lauralee Lutz**, living in Michigan, contacts me regularly. Her Christmas card states she is "still dancing by the light of the moon." She adds that despite "a few scares," she is doing well, continuing to successfully write and publish. I've also spoken to **Sue Askin Wolman**, who is in Baltimore. She is doing well and hopes to visit Arizona with son Paul. In my last column, I reported the sad news of the death of **Natalie (Bunny) Bowen**, which I had learned of from **Pat Roth Squire**, who had seen the notice in the *Boston Globe*. Pat recently emailed me

that not long ago she answered a phone call with the ID “Natalie Bowen,” and when Pat answered, she heard, “I’m not dead!” Maybe there were two Natalie Bowens in Fall River, Mass.? So sorry for the case of mistaken identity! Pat added that she and David have three great-grandsons.

54 ^R *Correspondent: Joanne Williams Hartley, 69 Chesterton Road, Wellesley MA 02481, 781-235-4038, cell: 617-620-9385, jodihartley69@icloud.com* Ladies, 65 years after we left our beautiful campus it remains indelible in our minds, and the names and faces of friends endure. My list of classmates has grown outdated, and I would like updated contact information. This column is only as interesting as the news you provide! **Marcia Bernstein Siegel** reports that “she always loved to work and did work she loved.” She lives in the lovely seaside village of Rockport, Mass. Many of you may remember her as the conductor of our performance of our class song. From that springboard perhaps (?), Marcia became a renowned art critic and the author of seven books on the subject. She taught performance studies and dance history at NYU for many years and has received numerous awards and honors for her work as an art critic and historian. Marcia has a passion for singing and has been a member of some select choruses over the years. She moved several years ago from NYC to Rockport, where she has continued her work to this day. Six years ago she suffered a stroke. After recuperation she went back to work, although, regrettably, she had to give up her involvement in choruses. She still writes for an online magazine in Boston and *The Hudson Review*, and is invited to speaking engagements. **Joan Negley Kelleher** and her family mourn the loss in January of her beloved husband, Herb. He will always be remembered as a founder of Southwest Airlines in Texas. **Devra Newberg Baum**



Ginger Reed Levick '59 and Gail Glidden Goodell '59

has remained in Connecticut throughout her life; she has moved from her big home to a condominium outside Hartford. Her daughter and son live in the region, and she enjoys having eight grandchildren nearby. Devra and her family follow sports and attend games at the U. of Connecticut. She lost her husband five years ago but continues to be healthy and active. **Jan Parker** lives in New York State, where she moved to a retirement home some time ago. She is very active—seven days a week!—as a volunteer in a country store. She has been a buyer there, among other roles, for many years and hopes to train some others to share the load. She stays in touch with **Ellen Moore**, who lives in the West Hartford area. **Irene Marcus Feuerstein**, who lives in NYC, lost her husband in November. They raised three children in the suburbs and moved back to the city when the children were grown. The family all live in the region and have given her 10 grandchildren. Irene has found the city a wonderful place to live, with the convenience of walking everywhere and great transportation when desired. She has volunteered at the Met and at the Museum of Modern Art for many years; art has always been a great source of pleasure for her.

56 *Correspondent: Janet Ahlborn Roberts, P.O. Box 221, East Orleans, MA 02643, Jar.jrr@comcast.net* **Marsden Williams**' has enjoyed visits from her two daughters to her home in Richmond, Va. In November, daughter Cyan and her husband attended Marsden's painting, prints and sculpture exhibit at the Branch Museum of Architecture and Design in Richmond. Daughter Marina celebrated her birthday in Richmond in February. Marsden also practices her art by gardening and enriching the landscape around her house. She enjoys symphony and chamber concerts together with her friends. The Foran family has appointed **Pat Legge Foran** to the post of “Foran Matriarch,” as she is the last Foran of her generation. Pat is also delighted to be a great-grandmother: The family welcomed Cormac James Sepulveda last June and Charles Alan Foran in October (aka Mac and Charlie, respectively). Pat has been forced to succumb to computer mastery for the pleasure of viewing the latest emails of giggling baby boys! Congratulations, Pat!

57 *Correspondent: Elaine Diamond Berman, 100 Riverside Blvd., Apt. 20C, New York, NY 10069, elainedberman@comcast.net* **Nancy Stevens**

Purdy writes, “Probably no one else in our class had this fate, but I have (unexpectedly!) become elderly, as has the nice person (Dick) who was kind enough to marry me. Going to the doctor(s) is the Outing of the Day at our house.” Nancy and Dick live in South Dartmouth, Mass., and have two wonderful sons, both also in Massachusetts, and four lovable grandchildren. She would enjoy seeing classmates who might be in this area for whatever reason: “yachting, whaling industry memorabilia, zoo, flat tire, regional history...” **Loulie Hyde Sutro** is still involved with Marin Villages, the nonprofit she founded 10 years ago to help seniors who want to stay in their own homes. “We are now county-wide with 700 members and 450 volunteers.” She also takes bridge lessons and OLLI (Other Lifelong Learning Institute) courses with her husband. They enjoyed a cruise last fall from Barcelona to Lisbon with stops at Tangiers and the Canary Islands. Two of Loulie's daughters attended CC, and her oldest, Dodie Sutro Crawford '89, is a new member of the Connecticut College Board of Trustees. Dodie recently went to a meeting from her home in San Francisco, and another trustee who lives in California gave her a ride back in their private jet! “I told her she was literally flying high now, in more ways than one!” **Elaine Manasevit Friedman** and Bob visited daughter Amanda in Florida this winter. Amanda's daughter, Madeline, is attending North Broward Preparatory School in Coconut Creek. The family was happy to get away from St. Croix, where they live, as the island is still recovering from hurricane damage. **Sue Krim Greene** did a lot of snowshoeing, walking and working out with her trainer this past winter. Sue was planning for knee surgery in April after her return from a trip to China with **Helene Zimmer-Loew**.

59 ^R *Correspondents: Marcia Fortin Sherman, 602 Red Maple Way, Clemson, SC 29631, marciasherman@bellsouth.net, and Carolyn Keefe Oakes, 3333 Warrensville Center Road, Apt. 412, Shaker Heights, OH 44122, 216-752-5384, carolynoakes07@gmail.com* **Anne Earnshaw Roche** and John report from New Zealand that they are in good health, playing tennis, hiking and more. They now limit their travels to the South Pacific. Anne pursues her musical interests as convener of a study group and by entertaining friends with piano duets weekly. **Gail Glidden Goodell** recently visited her stepdaughter in Palo Alto, Calif., where she spent time

with **Ginger Reed Levick**. They attended the memorial service for **Lynn Graves Mitchell's** husband, David. We offer condolences to Lynn on the loss of her husband. **Alice Randall Campbell** is well. She wintered in Florida. **Olga Lehovich** moved to a facility in Gaithersburg, Md., to be near her brother following her stroke. With the help of good therapy, she is able to walk again. A phone call assured she keeps her sense of humor. She sends her love to all of us. **Cecily Hamlin Wells** lives on a golf course, so she plays often. Her volunteer work includes putting on a major event to raise funds for students at Brevard College. The Wells are looking forward to a Baltic cruise. **Sally Kellogg Goodrich** enjoys her lifestyle in Vero Beach, Fla., where she is involved in golf tournaments and duplicate bridge. All her grandchildren have finished college and are working at good jobs. **Edie Berkowitz Hargreaves** reports she's still working as a "shrink" over in England, and she is planning an 80th birthday celebration in a neighborhood pub. In her spare time, she chairs a group trying to save and improve mental health services in the national system, and she has generated a good deal of interest in children's mental health services. She celebrated a very multicultural Christmas with her daughter and family by doing Irish dances and the hora! Her older daughter moved to an old farmhouse in upstate New York, where she has an art studio. **Jean Alexander Gilcrest** is in a retirement community and likes it. She plays bridge, exercises and is in a choral group. She visited her sister in Kentucky and saw her granddaughter, who was in a horse show there. Another granddaughter spent the summer running with a group of kids to raise money for children with cancer. The distance equaled 15 marathons in 49 days! **Connie Snelling McCreery** had her children and grandchildren together over the holidays. **Mims Matthew Munro** is in a new residence, where she can attend outings, classes and lectures. Her children live nearby, and she has three grandchildren in college, one in grad school, and four in high school. She plans a trip through the Panama Canal. Make your plans now to attend our 60th reunion, May 31 to June 2. Hope to see you there!

64 ^R *Correspondent:* **Patricia Arnold Onion** retired in 2008 after 34 years as a professor of English at Colby College in Waterville, Maine. She enjoys many groups: poetry writing, book club, Neighbors Driving Neighbors,



Joan Stuart Ross '64 took this picture in Oracle, Ariz., where she spent the month of February at an artist's residency.



Dianne Hyde Russell '64 and her husband, Tim

play reading (with occasional productions), and at church. Patricia and Dan also enjoy seeing their three children and five grandchildren in NYC; Albany, N.Y.; and Wayne, Maine. Son Fritz is a founder of Pluralsight, Amanda a journalist in NYC, and Alene is an aquatic ecologist for the state of New York. "Living on our lake (Flying Pond) in Maine means lots of snow in the winter and swimming in the summer." **Susan Epstein Messitte** enjoys retirement. "My husband, however, is still 'judging' and busy with international legal commitments." They travel from DC most weekends to their home in Southern Maryland. Patricia sees **Marie Birnbaum** and attended her daughter's wedding in Austin, Texas, sharing a room with CC roommate **Ellen Corroon Petersen**. Patricia's son is in Milan, Italy, on sabbatical from the presidency of Ripon College, and has a book about Spiro Agnew forthcoming. Her daughter and husband continue to run their art gallery in NYC. All grandchildren are thriving. **Platt Townsend Arnold** looks forward to thoughtful sharing with classmates at Reunion. "Academic topics of interest at Conn are scheduled for Friday afternoon, so do try to get here in time to sit in on a class or two. Our class discussion, which has been a Reunion tradition for us since 1974, is right after the Service of Remembrance on Saturday afternoon. We will come together to renew, rediscover and discover for the first time meaningful CONNecTions with our classmates. Please plan to be there!" **Marilyn Kraj Sanford** and husband Larry relocated from Tewksbury, Mass., to Palm Bay, Fla., last summer to be closer to their daughter and family. Marilyn has retained many of her tax clients and may expand her practice in the Palm Bay area. She volunteers as the PR person for the Cape Canaveral chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (the largest chapter in the U.S.) and is the financial person for

Bayside Lakes Homeowner's Association. **Adrienne Deutsch Chadwin** is retired and lives on the east coast of Florida. She's been a widow for 10 years—"which has been tough"—but keeps busy with friends and family, tennis, painting, and reading. Her two sets of twin grandchildren are the lights of her life. "I would love to hear from nearby classmates." **Dianne Hyde Russell** is profoundly grateful for the blessings of happy, healthy kids and grandkids; a great husband; and good health all around. She and Tim have sold their longtime family home in Wellesley and moved to a condo. "No shoveling, no gardening, no worrying about roof and gutters, just a lovely view over five holes of the country club course." They still have their summer home in Cataumet (Cape Cod), where their grandkids visit every summer—without their parents! "Best way to bond with the grandkids is to leave the parents at home." Now retired, the Russells have spent a few winter months in Florida, and they enjoy traveling, most recently on cruises around South America and around the Mediterranean and on a two-month winter stay in New Zealand. Dianne is involved with her church and is exploring the mind-body connection, both in Christian and Hindu traditions. She is helping with Reunion and hopes we will have big turnout. "Call all your friends and encourage their attendance. The more the merrier!" **Sarah Hackett Giles** and John have also been traveling over the past few years, including a trip to Italy with their granddaughter; to Croatia with their grandson; and to Normandy on their own. This year they plan a trip to Sweden (country of John's maternal grandparents) to celebrate their 55th anniversary. They've moved from New Hampshire to a condo in Boston and just spent their seventh winter in Florida (Sand Key, on the west coast), where **Betsy Jo Viener Spence** and Jim visited and played golf with them a few years ago.

In February, while driving to Naples, they stopped spur of the moment to see **Penny Jaekle** in Port Charlotte, who, sadly, had a very serious car accident last year. "It has taken her awhile to recover, but Penny has a great attitude and, although short, we had a nice opportunity to catch up." Sarah regrets that she'll miss Reunion but wishes everyone the very best! **Cathy Layne Frank, Kathy Archer, Eleanor Jones Wendell and Pat Kendall Boyd** spent Super Bowl Sunday at Cathy's home in South Burlington, Vt., watching and rooting for the New England Patriots. **Joan Stuart Ross** spent February at an artist's residency in Oracle, Ariz. She also visited artist colleagues and museums in Santa Fe, N.M.

65 *Correspondents: Susan Peck Hinkel, 1064 N. Main Street, Danby, VT 05739, rerob@mac.com; Pat Antell Andrews, 937 Henry Clay Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70118, pandre0615@gmail.com* **Cecilia (Sandy) Holland** is still writing, working at Pelican Bay State Prison and chasing her grandchildren. They were lucky to experience just smoke and no flames in the terrible Northern California fires last summer. **Marion Nierintz** spends her summers in Rhode Island and the rest of the year in Boston. She achieves balance and finds purpose by offering pro bono consulting to six not-for-profit teaching programs for seniors. She maintains a large network of friends and family and participates in educational and social activities. **Joan Havens** retired six years ago after spending 17 years working at the St. Albans School in Washington, DC. She spends long summers in Maine, where she and her husband will move permanently in June. Joan's not looking forward to all that moving entails but does look forward to being closer to family. Son Kip is in Portland, Maine, and daughter Kyla is a stay-at-home mom in Boston. Joan is a docent at the Smithsonian Insect Zoo, helps with gardening at a historic house in Georgetown, participates in a book club and a garden club, and enjoys hiking and boating. **Karen Darragh Newhouse** (who goes by Darra now) loves living in the city in her uptown condo in Charlotte, N.C. Both of her sons live at the beach, one in South Carolina and one in Alabama, so visiting them and their families is always a treat! She has been single for 11 years and finds she's become more political in the last three years. **Betsy Leitner Kovacs** sees **Karin Kuntsler Goldman** often in NYC. **Nancy Martin Peavy** has visited them several times. **Beth**



Left to right: Diana Neale Craig '66, Marshall Craig, Dick Swingle and Audrey Kuh Straight '69 on Martha's Vineyard

Overbeck Balkite lives in Durham, N.C. In retirement she has taken up genetic genealogy, which combines her interest in family history with her career in genetic counseling. Now, after studying it for three years, she teaches the subject at Duke U.'s Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. **Kay Karslake White** is in her class, and they have had fun getting reacquainted and talking about Conn. **Leslie Setterholm Curtis** and **Tim** visited **Patty Antell Andrews** and **Will** last fall. A highlight of their trip was a visit to Oak Alley Plantation near New Orleans. **I (Susan Peck Hinkel)** took a marvelous cruise up the Danube in December with my three sisters. It was the first time we four have traveled together without other family members. It was the Christmas Market Tour, which we thoroughly enjoyed. We spent the following five days in London taking in Christmas events and seeing *Hamilton!* My two-year term as the director of the New England Garden Clubs, a part of National Garden Clubs, is over. It was a special experience, but it will be a joy to just relax for a while!

66 *Correspondents: Carol Chaykin & Pat Dale; ccnotes66@gmail.com* **Charlotte Epstein Biegelsen** wrote that **Susan Martin Medley** had plans to visit California in March for a mini-reunion. The Biegelsen's children also like to visit California, where they still have many childhood friends. **Louise Fay Despres** was honored for excellence in foreign language education. She lives in Chicago with husband Robert and enjoys music, theater, reading, travel and photography. **Lorna Wagner Strotz** and husband **Cris** had an excellent season at their vineyard, Pickberry, in Sonoma County—a bountiful grape harvest and a surprisingly generous olive harvest, resulting in a scramble to turn all the olives into oil. When not harvesting their bounty, **Cris** creates outdoor sculptures for the vineyard, and **Lorna** continues to paint in watercolor and encaustic (aka hot



Hank and Elayne Zweifler Gardstein '67 in California

wax painting). A highlight of the last Kbers' reunion at the home of **Elizabeth Leach Welch** in September 2017 was a photo show of Lorna's prolific artwork on her phone. **Lorna** and **Cris** participated in a challenging figure-drawing workshop in Mendocino last fall, and in December they took a trip to the Galapagos, one of their bucket-list destinations. They continue to have many family gatherings at their spacious home at Pickberry. **Anne Bennett White Swingle** and husband **Dick** spent a week in Paris with **Tessa Miller Melvin** and her husband, who in turn visited the Swingles in Baltimore at Thanksgiving. In September, **Anne** and **Diana Neale Craig** were weekend guests of **Audrey Kuh Straight '69** on Martha's Vineyard. **Anne's** daughter and son (and a couple of grandkids) live in cities that are fun to visit—New York and New Orleans, respectively. Another daughter lives locally in Baltimore; **Anne** spends time helping out, ferrying children around and queuing up in the very same carpool line at the school her own children attended years ago. **Anne** calls her activities—painting, golf, bridge, French lessons and genealogy—a "textbook study in retirement," but she enjoys every minute of it. "There's something to be said for being a woman in her 70s—now we can say no with impunity, and we can do pretty much whatever we want." Please continue sending your news and photos; we love hearing from you!

67 *Correspondents: Debby Greenstein, debbyg837@verizon.net; Marcia Hunter Matthews, marciamatthews3@gmail.com* **Elayne Zweifler Gardstein** and **Hank** escaped from New York to California in January and visited the Frederick R. Weisman Art Foundation in Los Angeles. **Elayne** is writing another article about a special collection at Adelphi U. She had sent some earlier articles to Professor Willauer after Reunion and was so happy to hear from him. **Ethel Bottcher Cullinan** is heading



Marcia Hunter Matthews '67, Nancy Blumberg Austin '67 and Pat McClure '67 in Florida

to Paris to visit son Michael and his wife. Michael is a Foreign Service officer who will finish his two-year tour in France in August, so Ethel is taking advantage of the time left by getting in another visit. His next station will be Washington, DC, where **Debby Greenstein** is looking forward to seeing both Ethel and Michael and meeting his new bride. **Pat McClure** had a busy winter at her new home in Venice, Fla. In January, **Nancy Blumberg Austin** spent a weekend with her. Pat had a great time showing Nancy around Venice, and **Marcia Hunter Matthews** joined them for an afternoon looking for sharks' teeth at Manasota Key Beach. In February, **Rita York Fogal** visited Pat, and they drove down to Boca Grande to spend the day with **Linda Reichert Mann**. Pat and Rita also met **Judy Robb** in Sarasota, where they spent the afternoon at the Ringling Museum and Estate. Class correspondents **Debby Greenstein** and **Marcia Hunter Matthews** joined other snowbirds **Susan Melinette Haerle**, **Marty Kidd Cyr** and **Pat McClure** for lunch at a restaurant on the beach in Naples, Fla. After lunch, Debby, Marty and Susan went for a boat ride on the Gordon River and dinner on 5th Avenue South. Debby also reported on one of the highlights of her winter: a trip



From the Class of '67: Marty Kidd Cyr, Pat McClure, Susan Melinette Haerle, Debby Greenstein and Marcia Hunter Matthews in Florida

to West Palm Beach to tour the Downton Abbey exhibit. A big fan of the show, Debby shares that the exhibit was well done and recommends it, should it come to your area. **Ruth Berkholtz Ciriacks** and **Aaron** look forward to celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary this summer. "We've decided the best gift to ourselves would be to get our three children, their spouses, six grandchildren and one new spouse all together in the same place at the same time without it being for a sad funeral or super-busy wedding. Wish us luck!"

68 *Correspondent: Mary Clarkeson Phillips, 36 The Crossway, Delmar, NY 12054, mphill2@nycap.rr.com* **Ann Engstrom Reydel** loved our 50th reunion and regularly sees classmates **Judith Jones McGregor**, **Betty Sidor Hanley**, **Heather Marcy Cooper**, **Midge Auwerter Shepard** and **Deb Benjamin '67**. Ann has lived in Chatham, Mass., full-time since 2007. Her son, his wife and his three children live in Hingham, Mass., and Ann sees them often! **Brooke Johnson Suiter** took three trips this past year; one was a pilgrimage to the Holy Land in April with the assisting Episcopal bishop of

North Carolina and a group of lay and clergy. She visited holy sites in both Israeli and Palestinian areas and met with locals of all three faiths. Another trip was a car odyssey that included our 50th class reunion with **Suzi Gehrig Kranz**, **Ellen Leader Pike** and **Lynne Conybeare**. What fun! And in August, a trip to the White Mountains with all her children and grandchildren included a memorable visit to Storyland in North Conway, N.H. Nothing quite so exciting planned for 2019! In 2017 **Terry Reimers Byrnes** and **Jim** became Florida residents since both are fully retired from their jobs (his with Tompkins Financial and hers with Ithaca Public Education Initiative). They now live full time in Vero Beach, Fla., and love it, especially during winter. They sold their house in Ithaca, N.Y., and moved into a house in Vero Beach last June. Happily, they are both in good health and love getting outside all the time to golf, walk, bike, swim, etc. And they have a new granddaughter! Son Andrew and his wife, Camille, had a second child in January. Baby Nola joins big sister Hailey, and they are a fabulous twosome! They live in Victoria, B.C., which is much too far away, but they visit as much as they can. **Susan Sharkey Hoffman** writes that although she and Tom are on the wrong side of 70 (OK, we all are!), they continue to enjoy life with kids and grandkids. Their oldest grandchild, Cole, graduated from the U. of Tennessee, Knoxville last May. Susan and Tom continue to travel; they took a river cruise down the Rhine last summer with his sister, Mary, and loved every minute. They planned to go to Singapore in March to visit their oldest son and his family, who are there for the year for his work with Netflix. Meanwhile, they visit their shared condo in Naples, Fla., whenever they can and make biweekly visits to their son in Johnson

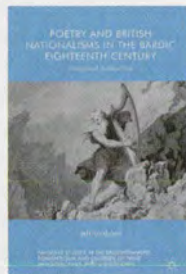


Left to right: Kay Landen '66, Jane Harris Alexander '60, Rona Shor Cherno '66, Donna Altieri '66, Helen Jinks Richards '64 and Susan Hazlehurst Milbrath '76 (camera shy: Liz Buell Labrot '55) in Denver, Colo.



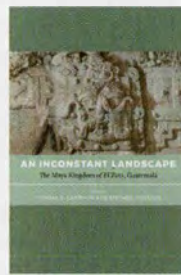
From the Class of '68: Suzanne Emery Grogins, Barbara Di Trollo Manniño, Dinny Stearns Taylor and Mary Humelsine Norment, along with Marie Krupski Hardin '71

Poetry and British Nationalisms in the Bardic Eighteenth Century: Imagined Antiquities (Palgrave Macmillan.) By Jeff Strabone, associate professor of English.



The book offers a radical new theory of the role of poetry in the rise of cultural nationalism. With equal attention to England, Scotland, and Wales, it takes an Archipelagic approach to the study of poetics, print media, and medievalism in the rise of British Romanticism. It tells the story of how poets and antiquarian editors in the British nations rediscovered forgotten archaic poetic texts and repurposed them as the foundation of a new concept of the nation, now imagined as a primarily cultural formation. It also draws on legal and ecclesiastical history in drawing a sharp contrast between early modern and Romantic antiquarianisms. Equally a work of literary criticism and history, the book offers provocative new theorizations of nationalism and Romanticism and new readings of major British poets, including Thomas Gray and Samuel Taylor Coleridge of England, Allan Ramsay of Scotland, and Evan Evans and Iolo Morganwg of Wales.

An Inconstant Landscape: The Maya Kingdom of El Zotz, Guatemala (University Press of Colorado.) Edited by Thomas G. Garrison '00 and Stephen Houston.



Presenting the results of six years of archaeological survey and excavation in and around the Maya kingdom of El Zotz, *An Inconstant Landscape* paints a complex picture of a dynamic landscape over the course of almost 2,000 years of occupation. El Zotz was a dynastic seat of the Classic period in Guatemala. Located between the renowned sites of Tikal and El Perú-Waka', it existed as a small kingdom with powerful neighbors and serves today as a test-case of political debility and strength during the height of dynastic struggles among the Classic Maya.

Murder's No Votive Confidence (Kensington.) By Christin Shanahan Brecher '90.



Nantucket candle store owner Stella Wright specializes in creating unique candles for every occasion. But someone sets the

stage for murder when a Memorial Day celebration becomes a wedding to die for ...

Jessica Sterling's candlelight-themed nuptial promises to be the perfect kick-off to the summer's first official holiday weekend. Stella's thrilled to have been chosen to provide the decorative centerpiece for the wedding ceremony: a two-foot tall scented unity candle—a symbol of the happy couple's love. But it looks like the bride-to-be's uncle won't be walking his niece down the aisle after he's found dead. The murder weapon is Stella's seemingly indestructible candle, now split in two.

When a beloved local bartender is arrested, Stella's sure a visiting police Captain running the case made a rush to justice. With superstitious brides-to-be cancelling orders and sales waxing and waning at her store, the *Wick & Flame* owner decides to do some sleuthing of her own. Abetted by a charming reporter and challenged by the town's sexiest cop, Stella's determined to shine a light on the truth and uncover a killer who's snuffing out her own flame.

The Desire Card (Fahrenheit Press.) By Lee Matthew Goldberg '00.



Any wish fulfilled for the right price.

That's the promise the organization behind *The Desire Card* gives to its elite clients - but sometimes the price may be more menacing than anyone could ever imagine. Harrison Stockton has lived an adult life of privilege and excess: a high-powered job on Wall Street fuels his fondness for alcohol and pills at the expense of a family he has no time for. Quite suddenly all of this comes crashing to a halt when he loses his job and at the same time discovers he almost certainly has only months left to live. Desperate, and with seemingly nowhere else left to turn, Harrison activates his Desire Card. What follows is a gritty and gripping quest that takes him from New York City to the slums of Mumbai and forces him to take chances, and make decisions, he never thought he'd ever have to face. When his moral descent threatens his wife and children, Harrison must decide whether to save himself at any cost, or do what's right and break his bargain with the mysterious group behind The Desire Card.

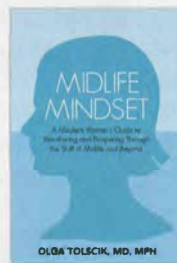
Dancing at the Castle: Growing Up in Old Saybrook. By Jane M. Gullong '67.



Dancing at the Castle, a memoir, is the story of an American girl

coming of age in the 1950s on the shore of Long Island Sound. It is set in Old Saybrook, Connecticut, where Katharine Hepburn also lived, enjoying the same view of the lighthouses at the mouth of the Connecticut River. Growing up, the author found work and love in the shoreline resorts. The book celebrates family life, boating and deep connection to place, particularly Old Saybrook with its colonial history, beautiful beach communities, and abundant water views.

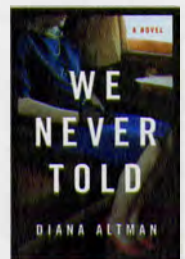
Midlife Mindset: A Modern Woman's Guide to Weathering and Prospering Through the Stuff of Midlife and Beyond (Praeclarus Press.) By Olga Tolscik '93.



Midlife Mindset serves as a guide to help bolster our own ability to cope with midlife issues, but also teaches us how to be better supporters to our fellow midlife sisters. From uncertainty about career and family choices, dealing with relationship strain or coping with loss, *Midlife Mindset* follows the lives of women navigating these complex life events. This book explores the intricate interplay between childhood experiences and current circumstances including wishes, desires and fears.

These women's stories often unfold in unexpected ways, highlighting the unique potential for healing and growth contained within each of us. The midlife women found within the pages will surprise even the most confident of readers, inspiring a renewed spirit of possibility. These stories will allow a seed of hope to take root so that transformation and growth can follow. Filled with stories of personal struggle, overcoming adversity, and striving to find one's authentic self, *Midlife Mindset* serves as a reminder that we are not alone in our midlife experiences.

We Never Told (She Writes Press.) By Diana Altman '63.



Set in an era when unwed mothers were shamed and pressured into giving their newborns away, *We Never Told* is a slice of America when the Hollywood lifestyle was at its height. That era still haunts us today, because those babies did not disappear; they grew up and went searching. Sonya is determined to unearth her glamorous mother's secret, but when she finally does, she discovers something much worse than those around her ever could have imagined.



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City, Tenn. Their older daughter lives in Denver with her family, and their youngest, Wendy, lives three miles from Susan and Tom. "We are SO LUCKY to have such wonderful children!" **Joan Pekoc Pagano** continues to operate Joan Pagano Fitness full-time, managing her personal training practice on Manhattan's Upper East Side, making regular appearances on Sirius XM's *Doctor Radio Show* on "Healthy Aging," and delivering her presentation "Are You Sitting on Your Well-Being?" which engages the audience with interactive exercise segments proven to help reduce the risks of prolonged sitting, improve posture and alleviate "tech neck." As a break from busy schedules in NYC, she and James spend as much quiet time as possible at their condo on the Gulf Coast of Florida, cruising the mangroves and quiet harbors of Pine Island Sound, near Sanibel and Captiva. She calls it their "seahab"! **Carla Meyer** has been working on the *Avatar* sequels for the last two years. There are four planned, and they've been shooting the first two simultaneously. Her job as the dialect coach is to help the actors speak English as though they were native Na'vi speakers. (That's the language of the clans of Pandora.) It's a very curious profession, but most of the time a lot of fun. She is still in California, still horseback riding, still so enormously grateful for her two years of liberal arts at Conn before heading to Carnegie Mellon. **Dinny Stearns Taylor** and Mark celebrated their 50th anniversary in June with a weekend celebration at their

home in Williamstown, Mass., attended by people who were in or at their wedding. Conn guests included **Suzanne Emery Grogins, Barbara diTrolio Mannino, Mary Humelsine Norment** and Marie Krupski Hardin '71. Unfortunately, **Karen Dunn Martin, Sue Morgan Baker** and **Dickey Wilson** were unable to attend at the last minute. But Suzanne, Karen and Sue, along with **Andy Hintlian Mendell** and **Dinny** got together for lunch on Valentine's Day. Lots of fun and great memories. Please keep your news coming; we all love to know what is happening in the lives of our friends from CC.

69 ^R *Correspondent: Judi Bamberg Mariggio, 1070 Sugar Sands Bl. #384, Riviera Beach, FL 33404 jgmariggio@bellsouth.net* **Ara Fitzgerald** and **Laurie Cameron Larkin** were delighted with the recent CD release of Entourage's *Ceremony of Dreams: Studio Sessions, 1972-1977*. "Along with Wendy Goldman Matthews '85 and Martha Moore MFA '77, we danced in the 1970s with this group of brilliant musicians led by the late Joe Clark and Wall Matthews (CC dance department accompanists)." Ara added, "About 20 years ago I asked Lesley Wise Countryman '79's mother, Kitty, what her favorite decade of life thus far had been, and she said her 60s! After a period of personal loss and demanding work, I woke up at 65, surprised to find myself in a joyful stage of life. Gratitude to my sons, Jake Appleman

(Kenyon '06), a writer and teacher, and Hale Appleman (Carnegie Mellon) an actor and singer/songwriter (*The Magicians* on SyFy). And to my partner, photographer Peter Cunningham (CC/Wesleyan Experimental Dance Group 1967-1968). We live in NYC and spend time in Lincoln, Mass., and Grand Manan Island in Canada. Stuart Pimsler MFA '78 and I edited a book of memoirs by Martha Myers and investigate publication. I retired two years ago as director of dance and theatre at Manhattanville College, serve on the boards of the American Dance Guild (Gloria McLean '70, president) and the Mystic Paper Beasts (along with CC faculty and grads David Dorfman '81 and David Jaffe '77), and continue to create and perform dance/theatre solos." In February, **Stephie Phillips** enjoyed a reunion of 24 family members, ages 10 months to 95 years, in Montecito, Calif. "And as a bonus we got to spend a few days with our grandson Jonah in Irvine (and his parents, of course, though Jonah was the main attraction). Making phone calls for the 50th reunion has been fun ... reCONNECTing with '69 classmates has been great!" With the end of their fourth year in Maine approaching, **Alice Reid Abbott** decided to remodel the kitchen, the heart of their 40-year-old house. "First a new floor was needed. The 'heart' was enveloped in plastic, the cats kept at bay with cardboard, and for over a week, we had to wade through the snow outside to get from one side of the house to the other. The removal of old wallboard revealed why we had such huge fuel bills: many voids in insulation and holes to the outside! So far, one live wire in the wall has been discovered. Insulation and new wiring will fix those problems, but we still have a long way to go." **Pam Schofield** has "a beautiful grandson, Adrian, born in March 2018." Pam and husband Walter help his mother, their daughter Analise, by taking care of him two days a week. Big transitions for **Prudy Wilson Barton** and husband Bob: "We are settling into an 1845 house with Hudson River views in the hamlet of New Hamburg, Town of Poughkeepsie. The house needs all kinds of work, but the gardens are lovely and the river view changes by the hour. Terry and **Mary Scheckman Hubka** stopped by in the fall. Since the year began, we have welcomed two babies, granddaughters Lucy and Sylvie. Both families are doing well, and we are able to see them so easily from New Hamburg (one of the reasons for the move). Still trying to find a new family for our Berkshire farm." At deadline for this column, classmates had just finished

updating entries for our 50th reunion yearbook, and we look forward to seeing you there soon! Remember, you can continue to stay CONNECTed right here!

70 *Correspondent: Myrna Chandler Goldstein, mgoldst@massmed.org* **Lucy Thomson's** travels this past year have taken her to "wonderful destinations" (Vancouver and Victoria, B.C., via ferry from Seattle; Paris; San Francisco; Boston; and Chicago) as she expanded her legal work on security and privacy issues such as election cybersecurity. In addition, Lucy is co-editor of a book on the latest technology transformation, *Internet of Things: Legal Issues, Policy, and Practical Strategies*, which was published in March. And she was elected to membership in the American Law Institute, an organization of preeminent lawyers and judges devoted to improving the law. During the summer she races her J/80 sailboat on the Chesapeake Bay, and she's been renovating a house on Martha's Vineyard on a country lane within walking distance of Vineyard Haven. Working with a renowned architect, Lucy "is having fun turning a scruffy rambler into a striking yet comfortable gathering place with panoramic view of 'lagoon pond' and past to Vineyard Haven harbor." After living full-time in Newport, R.I., for the past five years, **Karen Nielsen Bevan** now splits her time between Newport and NYC. Son Andrew has joined Stuart's financial advisory business in Manhattan, with Stuart dividing his time and still maintaining his Newport office. Karen has rediscovered her musical and charitable activities and enjoys their apartment, being back in NYC with all of its charms and seeing Andrew and old friends much more frequently. **Randy Robinson** continues as a psychologist in full-time private practice in Fresno, Calif. "I'm delighted that both my kids and my two grandkids are finally not only on the same continent but also in the same state—just

down the freeway in Southern California." Randy enjoys training Newfoundlands for working events (draft and water), which he discovered at Conn when he met Susan and Melvin Woody's Sam. "I was so grateful that Prof. Woody let Sam hang out with me that day." **Mardie McCreary's** daughter, Imani, has moved back to Durham, N.C., from Brooklyn. Mardie spends most of her time in Colorado, where she and her partner ski, hike, garden, do a little work and travel. "If you should ever need emergency care in Paris, I highly recommend the public hospital system." She paid €1,530 for multiple X-rays and surgery to repair a broken radius with plate and pins, which would have run about \$20,000 here. (She's still waiting for the BCBS reimbursement...) "Let's fix this health care system." Mardie recommends Hacienda del Sol in Costa Rica for a great yoga retreat, and is ready to host anyone who cares to explore Rocky Mountain National Park. "Onward to the ninth decade of life." And, the members of our Reunion committee remind us: Have you marked your calendar for our 50th reunion, May 29–31, 2020? This milestone will be here before we know it, and we're to start planning a fun celebration with many opportunities to reengage and reconnect. We want this to be OUR Reunion, so let's expand our planning team. We welcome your ideas. What would make this Reunion extra special for you? The following classmates are on the planning committee: Co-chairs **Martha Sloan Felch** and **Mary-Jane Atwater**, along with **Cynthia Howard Harvell**, **Gwen Goffe**, **Nancy Pierce Morgan**, **Meg Larkins Sweeting** and **Lucy Thomson**. Won't you join us? Please email Martha msfelch1@gmail.com or Mary-Jane mjatwater@gmail.com.

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 Reunion co-chairs **An-Ming Sze Truxes** and **Lois Olcott Price** are pleased to report that **Ronna Reynolds** and **Anne Maxwell Livingston** will be our 50th reunion class gift officers, and **Linda Sullivan** will serve as editor of *Koiné Gold*, our 50th yearbook. Special thanks to **Anne Sigmund Curtis** and **Judith Dern** for co-hosting the Pacific Northwest pre-50th-reunion gathering in Bellevue, Wash., on March 23, 2019, and appreciation to **Ellen Goodman Sibre** and **Lucy Eastman Tuck** for co-hosting a Virginia/Maryland gathering in Annandale, Va., on May 19, 2019. Please let An-Ming know (atruxes@gmail.com) if you are interested in co-hosting a regional gathering. An-Ming and the College can provide logistical support. **An-Ming Sze Truxes**, an expatriate Chinese raised in Saigon, returned to Vietnam in November with her brother, Tom, for the first time in more than 50 years. They landed in Saigon (now Ho Chi Minh City) and travelled north to Hanoi, traversing Mekong Delta, Danang, Hoi An, Hue, Hanoi and Ha Long Bay. After 50 years, they were surprised to find so many reminders of wartime Saigon and Hanoi. Revisiting their childhood home in Saigon was the highlight. **Inge Jackson Reist** has retired from her position as director of the Center for the History of Collecting and, while no longer engaged in day-to-day activities at the Frick, she intends to remain active in the field. **Linda Rosenzweig Baxter** has retired from a 21-year career as a judge of the Superior Court of New Jersey and has moved to the Jersey Shore, where she works part-time as a judge handling criminal cases. She is also a board member of the John F. Peto Studio Museum in Island Heights, N.J., in charge of events planning. She and Bob love boating, both power and sail, in the Barnegat Bay. **Susie Pool Moses** took a cruise to British Columbia and Alaska, where she found glaciers have receded miles since a 1978 visit, but was



Karen Nielsen Bevan '70 celebrating her 70th birthday in NYC with her husband and son



Lucy Thomson '70 racing her J/Bo sailboat on the Chesapeake Bay



Members of the Class of '71 at Pemaquid Point, Maine: Anne Willis Peck, Nancy Pedicino O'Loughlin, Amy Nolan Osborn, Tess the dog, Julie Sgarzi, Jean Macchiaroli Eggen and Lynda Brooks Crowley

fortunate to see a cream-colored spirit bear. Fascinating Haida Gwaii (formerly Queen Charlotte Islands) was isolated for so long that the islands are considered the Galapagos of the Pacific Northwest. Susie continues as president of her condo association, is active with AAUW, and enjoys cruising Puget Sound and the Gulf Islands. Daughter Lauren, mother of two energetic boys, is still in the Navy as a physician assistant stationed at Quantico, Va. Son Evan works in Seattle as an IT specialist and just adopted Suki, a Husky mix puppy. **Jennifer Harvey** continues to volunteer abroad over the winter months. This year she was in Sarajevo working with refugees and migrants. Summers find her in her garden in British Columbia. **Julie Sgarzi** hosted a Grace Smith reunion at her summer cottage in Maine that included **Terry Swayne Brooks, Lynda Brooks Crowley, Jean Macchiaroli Eggen** and husband Don, **Nancy Pedicino O'Loughlin, Anne Willis Peck,** and **Amy Nolan Osborn,** along with their much-loved House Junior, Judy Coburn Klein '69. It was a wonderful few days filled with memories, laughs, catching up and enjoying time together again! **Claudia Reese** loves living in Austin, Tex., home of her pottery business, Cera-Mix Studio. Claudia makes sculpture, dinnerware and tiles, and the local PBS station recently aired a segment on her studio and the architectural elements incorporated into her house and grounds. Son Taylor is finishing a degree at the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde

Park, N.Y. On a ski trip to Mt. Bachelor in Bend, Ore., Claudia had a too-brief airport reunion with roommate **Maurrie Brown Salenger.** In October Claudia took a round-the-world trip, visiting Hong Kong, Cambodia, Thailand, Bhutan, Nepal (Kathmandu!!), India, Egypt and Spain: "the trip of a lifetime." **Kathy Ketcham** attended CC for a year before transferring to the U. of Rochester, where she earned a BA in psychology. She remains in touch with **Margie King** and freshman roommate **Trinki Brueckner.** She has co-authored 17 books on addiction and recovery, including *The Only Life I Could Save*, about her journey with son Ben, now 12 years clean, through addiction and recovery. Kathy and husband Pat, professor of geology at Whitman College, both volunteer for Trilogy Recovery Community, a nonprofit Kathy founded 20 years ago. They have three children: Ben, a novelist and content designer/writer; Alison, a special-ed teacher; and Robyn, a speech therapist. **Gloria McLean Hiratsuka,** president of the American Dance Guild, reports on honors awarded to Professor Emeritus in Dance Martha Myers at the ADG's 60th anniversary festival in 2017. "Many CC alums were present, as well as some of the guys from Wesleyan who were part of the 1970's Movement Lab at Conn. Martha, 90, is still sharp as ever, working on her book of memoirs." Gloria was happy to see Robin Rice '72 recently in NYC and asks **Anne Kennison Parker:** "Do you remember the Yale secret society

we were invited into in 1971—a radical experiment in 'co-ed sensitivity training'?" **Kathleen (Trinki) Anderson Brueckner** has worked in several professions since graduation, including mental health, banking, education, the nonprofit sector and advocacy. She was the event manager of an independent bookstore for many years and retired after working as an ESOL teacher for adult immigrants. She is a lay worship leader in the Episcopal church, a trained facilitator for race-based discussions, and a co-founder of Barrington Interfaith Partners, a group working on racial and social justice issues. Trinki and engineer husband Tom live in Rhode Island and have four children and a grandson. Trinki plays the flute for fun and plans to attend our 50th reunion.

72 *Correspondent: Peg Muschell Jackson, 1966 Tice Valley Boulevard, Apt. 107, Walnut Creek, CA 94595, peg@pegjackson.com* In July, **Ruth Ritter Ladd** will retire from her job in the Regulatory Division of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, where was most recently the Mitigation Program Manager. She loves her work, but it's time to pass the baton. A bittersweet change: She'll miss the job but looks forward to having time and energy to do other things, like traveling with her husband, spending time with grandchildren, exploring local conservation lands, continuing her work with the Lexington Conservation Commission and who knows what else? Ruth got to see **Kathleen Cooper Vadala** in February at a beautiful musical tribute to her husband, Chris Vadala MA '73, who passed away in January. The class sends condolences to Kathleen on her loss. **Peg Muschell Jackson** spoke for the Junior League of Honolulu on strategies for improved board performance in nonprofit organizations and in Los Angeles for the Financial Executives Alliance, a First Republic Bank Affinity Group, on the topic of business continuity planning. She continues to serve as a compliance officer for Academy of Art U. in San Francisco and divides her time between homes in Walnut Creek, Calif., and Honolulu, Hawaii.

76 *Correspondents: Kenneth Kabel, 412 Midland Avenue, Rye, NY 10580, kenn616@aol.com; Susan Hazlehurst Milbrath, PO Box 3962, Greenwood Village, CO80155-3962, shmilbrath@gmail.com* **Nancy Wanich Romita** released *Functional Awareness and Yoga: An Anatomical Guide to the*



“ Being an athlete on campus has taught me so much. I am constantly learning from my coaches, my teammates, my opponents, other Conn athletes and myself. It is a large support group that fosters family-like friendships and I would not trade it for the world. ”

—Dayna McCue '20, Women's Volleyball Team

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NETWORK

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Body in Reflective Practice, her second co-authored book by Oxford University Press, in January. She is on the dance faculty at Towson U. and is director of the Alexander Technique MidAtlantic Teacher Training. **Nancy Hershatter** and husband Gerry enjoyed a musical tour of the west coast of Ireland in August, with breathtaking scenery, amazing live music every night, knowledgeable and engaging guides, and a bus driver who sang to them. **Dan Cohen** doubled down on never retiring when he started a business and bought a house in Providence with a new partner. Their venture is called Seeing with Your Heart (www.seeingwithyourheart.com) and specializes in making life more magical and fulfilling. The past year has taken them to Australia, New Zealand, Sweden, Norway and Hungary, where they presented workshops and trainings. For anyone launching their next big act and wanting to clear the resistance, Dan is taking the mystery out of talking to ancestors and calling in spirit. **Lynn Cooley** enjoys being on the CC board of trustees with wonderful alumni. "It is exciting to learn about all the amazing things happening at Conn and the outstanding leadership, led by Katherine Bergeron!" **Jon Levine** and Zava Basile are pleased to announce the birth of twin grandsons: Parker and Milo Levine on Nov. 19, 2018. **Bob Axelrod** has retired after 37 years with the Connecticut Judicial Branch, finishing as the Chief Clerk of the Meriden Superior Court. He and wife Katrina are finally going to do the traveling "we've been putting off forever." Their older son is a captain in the U.S. Army, stationed in upstate New York, and their younger son is a first lieutenant in the Marine Corps, stationed in the California desert. Bob keeps in touch with **Dan Samelson**, and he would like to "welcome Rev. **Jack Blossom** to the City of Meriden. It is good to see him again." As a non-Conn graduate, **Charlie Fitzhugh** usually doesn't submit anything, but he says he still feels closer to Conn than to the school he actually graduated from (U. of New Hampshire), "so what the heck!" He retired from the U.S. Postal Service in May 2017 and has since spent most of his time expanding his musical horizons. He made his orchestral percussion debut last summer, became a full-time church musician in October, and has been rehearsing to play solo piano for an elementary school production of *Oliver* in April, along with continuing to sing in two area choirs, which he has done for years. Charlie works two days a week as a bagger at a local supermarket so he can still



In November 2018, Ken Kabel '76 visited Morocco, where he got together with a fellow camel in the desert.



In February 2019, Ken Abel '76 visited California with his wife, Sandy, and stopped by to see Ron Gallo '76 and his wife, Andrea, at their home in Santa Barbara.



Nicholas Keen '77

see all his old postal customers. Vacations since retirement have included traveling to Nashville in August 2017 to view a solar eclipse and to Iceland last September—his first trip to Europe! We love seeing you at our reunions, Charlie, so stay in touch! **Ken Kabel** lives in Cincinnati. In 2017, he sold his manufacturing business, which makes paper boxes and air filter components. Since then, Ken and wife Carol have traveled a lot, including visits to see their younger daughter (Wesleyan '14) who moved to Bogota, Colombia, after graduation. In Bogota they rented a small apartment so they could better discover that lovely city. Their oldest daughter, Grace Kabel '12, served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Ethiopia, and Ken and Carol visited her as well. Now they are planning to spend a year in Ethiopia, where they will be volunteers. One will work for a remarkable physician and the other will be teaching English at an elementary school.

They are looking forward to this year as the bridge between business careers and retirement. Ken has enjoyed staying touch with classmates **Andrew Hemingway**, **Josie Burke**, **John Zeiler '74**, **Kacey Jones Ratterree**, **Kevin Durkin**, **Ted Romanow** and other friends through time on the Alumni Association board.

77 *Correspondent: Stuart Sadick, stuart.sadick@gmail.com* **Nicholas Keen** was glad to return to CC in 2017 for Reunion weekend after so many years away, to hang pictures at the Cummings '77 art show and to see some friendly faces again. "How good that felt—in a sense like a rebirth—as did taking an idyllic walk in the Arboretum before the long drive home." Nicholas and wife Joyce live in Rose Valley, a small southeastern Pennsylvania community that grew out of the Arts and Crafts movement. He works at Bank of America in system infrastructure design and takes art classes, participates in a weekly

figure-drawing studio and shows his work when he gets the chance. Nicholas travels whenever he can and rarely grows bored. "I still work and spend time with others who have fought John Barleycorn and lost. Life in the aftermath is different, grows good with time. Wishing everyone well."

78 *Correspondents: Laurie Heiss, P.O. Box 540, Redding Ridge, CT 06876, laurieheiss@gmail.com;*

Sue Greenberg Gold, 40 Clinton Street, Apt. PHA, Brooklyn, NY 11201 sgold51@yahoo.com

Dianne Grady Evans fondly recalled a conversation she and **Cheryl Tate Harrigan** had with former President Oakes Ames about his efforts to put CC on the map. He was full of great ideas. Dianne's son Brandon will graduate from Iowa State U. with a mathematics degree, and youngest daughter, Corinne, is a budding animator. Dianne is trying to expand her pro bono immigration work to help people (including unaccompanied minors) with their credible fear interviews. **Linda Babcock** remembered Oakes Ames for his calm, focused, engaging personality. When, as president of the CC Club of Philadelphia in 1980, she invited Ames to visit her workplace at the Academy of Natural Sciences for a club event, he was still the same! Linda continues to dance and is exploring embarking on a dance mission in Central America as a volunteer with **David Dorfman**. **Walter Sive** lives in Seattle with wife Cheryl Ellsworth, where he works independently as a finance and business analytics consultant, mostly focusing in health care. He loves getting out to the mountains or on the water and is passionate about serving on the national board of NatureBridge and chairing its regional board. Walter occasionally runs into Scott Vokey '77 and tries to make most CC gatherings. **Barry Gross** checked in from Wrightsville, Penn., where he and wife Cindi plan to celebrate their 35th anniversary in May with a trip to the Berkshires. Barry is busy with his job as sleep products manager at Wolf Furniture, a 17-store chain in Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia. **Tom Kadzis** watched the Super Bowl with **Jim Glick**; Jay Faber '79; and Mark Fiskio '79, **Gail Finnerty Fiskio** and their daughter, Emily Fiskio '17—and rooted the Patriots to a win. To prepare for the Big Game, Tracy Rando Masters '77 and Mike (Low Key) Duggan '77 reprised their *Biff and Happy* PUNDIT roles and hosted an email Super Bowl prognostication charrette, of sorts. Participants included

Tom Deedy, Gerard Beaver Morrin '79, Pablo Fitzmaurice '77, Andy Kakes Krevolin '77, Richard Kadzis '76, **Jordan Trachtenburg**, Mike Fishman '79 and Ted Gipstein '77. **Sue Greenberg Gold** and husband Steve have plans to visit New Orleans and Chicago, where their older and younger sons live, respectively. Both are successful musicians and have been playing all over their respective hometowns, touring around the globe, recording on their own and others' projects, and making their parents very proud. "Hit us up for tips on the music scene in either city!" Life in Maine continues to suit **Alison Macmillan**, new governor and all. She is still teaching gifted and talented classes at a small K-8 school, where her students care about what happens to their world. Alison spends her free time with her specialty food business (Highland Foods), sails in Penobscot Bay, enjoys an annual sojourn to PEI and celebrates her two sons. Son Stewart works in San Francisco for an environmental consulting firm, and son Mark DesMeules '11 works for a commercial solar developer in NYC. "Like my students, my sons give hope for the future of our planet." **Jane Sutter Starke** is still practicing law at Thompson Coburn in Washington D.C. but gets back to Lake Waramaug in Washington, Conn., for much-needed breaks and yoga classes. Daughter Annie just finished law school, passed the bar and is doing tax policy legislative work at a Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck. Jane's son went the private equity route and is with Campbell Lutyens in Manhattan. "Life is good and I miss my CC friends." **Seth Uram** lives in Portland, Ore., where he has been a federal prosecutor for 28 years, specializing in complex financial crimes. His daughter, Hope, is a junior at Conn. **Michael Weinik** still lives in Philadelphia and recently completed 29 years of academic medicine as a professor of physical medicine and rehabilitation at the Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple U. He is transitioning to another model of patient care while enjoying trout fishing in New England and spending time with his college graduate son. Michael occasionally sees Terry Hazard Bartolozzi '79 and husband Art, also a sports medicine physician in Philadelphia. Michael also keeps in touch with **Ross Delaney**, with whom he used to fish the Arboretum pond, the Thames River and Harkness Beach. As Dean Alice Johnson advised, they didn't let studying keep them from an education. **Lauren Smith Steers** and her husband still reside in Rye, N.Y.

She is recently retired and feels fortunate to have welcomed her third grandchild last December. Her adult kids are happy and working between New York and Kenya. For the last few years, **Fred Ross** has enjoyed the outdoors by visiting many national parks. He lives in Delray Beach and often travels back to Williamsburg/Brooklyn, as he still owns a company in NYC, but he delegates a lot of tasks so he can travel and just enjoy life. His daughter is at American U.; she did tour CC with Fred, who couldn't wrap his head around the fact that it had been 40 years since graduation! **Susan Caleb Tobiason** is cancer-free and singing in her community chorus again. In reminiscing with former colleagues, she better appreciates her R&R, reflecting on the stressful burdens of a 31-year career in social work. **Michael Richard's** second Nathan Monsarrat thriller, *A Thousand Enemies*, was published last September and is available on Amazon, B&N, etc. When not writing, he spends as much time as possible on his motorcycle, and he still lives in Hawaii. **John Rothschild** sold a business and self-published his first book, which did well enough to attract Simon & Schuster—a big surprise, since John wasn't well known. His book *Football Betting Made Easy: Secrets of a Professional Handicapper* will be followed by a book about horse racing. John has been with his wife for 32 years and they have two boys; one works with him and the other just graduated from Vanderbilt. **Jon Perry** also gets together with **Tom Roosevelt**, Tony Bowe '79 and Peter Stoops '79 for their spring South Carolina golf outing. Daughter Julia just started at Berklee School of Music. Her band, Exit 18, is finishing its first album and hopes to get it released soon. Her brother Dylan is on drums, co-wrote some of the songs and is simultaneously trying to make medical school happen in the next few years! The big excitement for **Peter Hallarman** and **Rindy Regan Hallarman** over the past two years was the marriages of their two children. Peter is retiring from practicing dermatology in June. They'll stay in Illinois for the short term but look forward to getting away for chunks of the winter. **Peter Rustin** lives in Los Angeles with Leslie White and is an attorney with Anderson, McPharlin, & Conners, a mid-size civil defense firm. He enjoys the practice of law as much as possible, given that he would rather be the drummer for Vampire Weekend. He is learning to play guitar and, with enough practice, hopes to achieve mediocrity. Peter loves L.A. and its live

music clubs, where you get to meet people like Johnny Marr, from The Smiths, or the guys from The Smithereens. Last season, Peter attended the Red Sox/Dodgers World Series Game 3 (which went 18 innings and 7 hours) with his stepson, film critic Michael Nordine. “We are still exhausted.” **Catherine D’Esopo Walters** and **Larry Walters** have started a new business, **SteadyStraps**, a B2B promotional products company that produces a custom-branded smartphone strap (www.steadystraps.com). They still live in Connecticut, although they are considering moving south. “We enjoyed Reunion last year and look forward to the next one. **Todd Bates** enjoyed a 35-year career in journalism in New Jersey, primarily as an environmental writer. He also tracked and wrote about severe weather, including Superstorm Sandy. In 2015, Todd took “early retirement” from the Asbury Park Press and became a freelance environmental, health and science writer before becoming a science communicator at Rutgers U. He and wife Andrea are the proud parents of three sons in their 20s, and Todd is happy to say he still plays a little hockey on Sunday nights at Princeton Day School.

80 *Correspondents: Connie Gemmer, 180 Glenwood Avenue, Portland, ME 04103, 207-775-7432, connie.gemmer@powereng.com; Todd G. Hudson, 17028 SE Wiley Way, Milwaukie, OR 97267, 303-819-6662* **Laura-Nicole Novick Goldman** and **Jonathan Goldman** wrote, “Alumni of the Class of 1980 gathered in Harkness Chapel in memory of our friend and classmate **Chuck Mathews** (also P’16). It was such a sad and funny time—immensely sad to say goodbye to Chuck, who always made us all smile; incredibly funny to hear friends tell stories about Chuck and his antics through the years. Chuck’s wife and their beautiful and poised children created a moving service.” Besides the Goldmans, others on hand included **Frank Diaz-Balart, David Butterworth, Doug Fisher, Cathy Sweet Heide, Lindsay Sutman Columbo, Allison Cooper Hamilton ’81, Steve McElheney, Fred Kuehndorf, Mark Longsworth ’79, Campbell Seamens, Lili Carey, Linda Elliot Bower, Josh Radin, Lucia Sandinista, Cuyler Mathews, Gail Compton Flynn, Virginia Houston Lima, Terry Wells ’77**, and many spouses, relations and members of the Connecticut College community.

81 *Correspondent: Brooke Pardue, bpardue@gmail.com Abigail Fuller Wolcott* recently retired as a first-grade teacher and is living in West Suffield, Conn. She has three grown children, all of whom live in New England. Abby enjoys hiking with friends, family, and her trusty Lab. She writes a nature column for her local newspaper and often channels what she learned from Dr. Niering years ago. She also has several other writing projects in the works, but admits self-discipline might not be her strong suit. She

hopes to catch up with **Ellie Shea** in NYC this spring. **Gretchen Kai Halpert** returned to Conn as an invited panelist (“Art in the Digital Age”) for President Bergeron’s inauguration. She enjoyed reconnecting with the campus and Arboretum, and seeing all the improvements since ’81. Gretchen retired from 25 years as a cell and molecular biologist in Providence, R.I., and now owns a distance program for learning scientific illustration (www.gretchenhalpert-distanceprogram.com) which she runs from the Finger Lakes Region of New

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York. As soon as her husband retires, they plan to return to New England. **Laurie McDevitt Boliver** recently retired as senior occupational therapist at Newport Hospital's Vanderbilt Rehabilitation Center, where she worked almost 28 years on their inpatient rehab unit. She and husband Matt recently purchased a 46-foot Nordhavn trawler with a home port on Lake Superior. They plan to sell their home, sell or donate most of their belongings, and launch *First Light* in May. Summer plans involve cruising east on the Great Lakes to pick up the Hudson River, then heading south on the intercoastal waterway to Florida and beyond. **Vanessa Stock Bristow** sends greetings from the banks of the mighty "green-grey greasy Limpopo River," where life continues to wend its way along, like the river. Despite the current nationwide angst and political unrest, their remote corner of wildlife paradise in Southwest Zimbabwe gives them hope for the future. They are focused on improving their conservation and anti-poaching strategies, and protecting wildlife for generations to come. Helping to save a four-day-old elephant calf found wandering around on its own last year was a highlight. **Siri Wright Zwemke** is looking toward retirement as she and her husband spin down their 20-plus-year-old organization. The Siamese Cat Rescue Center has rescued and placed more than 12,000 Siamese (Meezer) cats. Look for a humorous book about Siri's experiences (and "faux paws"), coming out this summer (working title, *Rescue Meeze!*). **Lynn Lesniak Needle** recently celebrated her 17th year as founder/artistic director of Art of Motion, Inc., a nonprofit conservatory and home to the Art of Motion Dance Theatre (AOMDT.org). Lynn recently premiered a new solo at Jazz at Lincoln Center entitled "The Exiled Heart" and premiered her one-woman show, *SIX SOLOS: Legend, Myth & Nature*, in NYC. She hopes to tour it in the coming year. She is proud of niece Julie Lesniak, who graduated from CC in 2017. Son Max lives and works in Chicago, earning his MBA from U. of Chicago Booth School of Business. In 2017, **Dr. Eric R. Carlson** began a sabbatical from his role as chairman of the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at the U. of Tennessee in order to attend Harvard U.'s Graduate School of Education in the Specialized Studies Program. He completed an intense one-year program on educational innovation and technology, leadership, and faculty development, with the goal of improving his

To the Editor:

I love reading about the many talented alumni featured in the CC Magazine. It is a welcome respite from the daily onslaught of negative news. The most recent Winter 2019 issue was an especially welcome surprise that sparked fond memories of my mother. As I look at the cover photo I think, "Wow, Mum would have loved this, so cool!" Trained in Italy, my mother was a seamstress and dress designer. She had a whimsical and artistic nature. The magazine cover made me think of her not just because of the unusually funky dress, boots and purse, but because of the clothespins evenly clipped onto the dress around the model, as if the dress needs to be altered. My mother was forever altering something for someone. You didn't worry if a new dress or pants were too long, too tight or just not right. Mum would come to the rescue and it would be just right. I am sure we took advantage of her skills, but she didn't seem to mind. Intrigued, I turn to the article to read about the artist, Rachel Perry (84) whose self portrait art work it is on the cover. I glance down at another of her self-portraits in which Perry is literally covered in fruit stickers. This gives me goosebumps as I flashback to a creation that I used to refer to as "Mum's sticker collage." The canvas behind this mosaic of fruit stickers was a scratched up, yellowed piece of leftover laminate which served as the sink backsplash. The collage came to life mostly during the summer months, when, after working in the yard perfecting their gardens my parents would head into the basement kitchen for meals (the upstairs kitchen was off limits to my father after yard work). In keeping with Italian tradition, dessert was always some fresh fruit. I can see my mother gently peeling off the sticker, and placing it carefully onto the next open spot. Then, just as gently, she would wash, peel, slice, and graciously serve the fruit. Slowly but surely the offensive piece of laminate disappeared, transformed into a working piece of art. I realize my mother was a recycler before her time, as she gave fruit stickers a new purpose. Over time the stickers faded, some fell off. And with time, arthritis got the best of my mother and the altering we took for granted came to an end. Perry says "I hope to make people see the world we live in a little differently." Well, she has, and I am grateful to have recalled these aspects of my mother in a new light. I'm looking forward to CC Magazine's next issue—but the bar's been set pretty high.

Thank you,
Anna Maria (Disano) Maude '84

teaching skills and gaining an understanding of faculty development. While earning his master's degree, Eric conducted research at a Harvard teaching hospital, where he had the unique opportunity to provide adaptive leadership training for five members of the faculty. **Jamie Kageleiry** lives on Martha's Vineyard, where she is the associate publisher of the weekly community newspaper, *The Martha's Vineyard Times*, and edits *Martha's Vineyard Arts & Ideas* magazine. She has two children, Hallie

and Ian. Hallie lives on Martha's Vineyard and works in the hospitality business, and Ian is in graduate school at the U. of Chicago. Jamie frequently sees great friend **Alysse Einbender**. She'd welcome getting in touch with classmates, who can reach her at jamielageleiry@gmail.com. **Janet Hinkle's** daughter, Lily, graduated from Conn in 2017, and as a legacy, Janet was able to hand her diploma to her. After 25 years in Boston, **Peter O'Connor**, a New London native, moved last summer



Left to right: John Nahill '86, Nemo Hannafin '86, Sean Fagan '87, John Derderian '86 and Mike Rosenberg '86 in Franklin, Va.



Left to right: Ed Mills '86, Nancy Northrop White '87, Jeff Nicholson '86, Akhil Garland '85, Polly Altrocchi Clark '86 and Doug Bigham '86 in Northampton, Mass.

back to Southeastern Connecticut, where he is working on his condo in Mystic, consulting part-time to local governments on real estate issues, publishing op-eds on transportation and development issues, and trying to complete his first full-length stage play. He attended Fall Weekend in October with **Deborah Newman Olins** and **Mary Goldberg Nash**, when they also went to Ocean Pizza. As president of the Northeast Association of Learning Specialists, **Suz Cole Ross** is gearing up for their 20th anniversary conference and celebration in April. She enjoys working with her students at Phillips Exeter and visiting Newberg, Ore., to snuggle her redheaded grandbaby, Cole Michael Ross, CC '39. **Chip Maguire** writes that he voted for **Brooke Perry Pardue** as a write-in candidate for President of the United States, but unfortunately her campaign didn't have the momentum required to beat Donald Trump. Go figure, she has more experience! **Kathryn Bonner Welch** retired this week after 33 years in the real estate development business in NYC. She is looking forward to traveling, volunteering more, and spending time with friends and family. Her first major retirement trip will be a drive across country with Tom, her husband of 28 years. Her three children are all graduated from college as of last May and gainfully employed: two in NYC and one in San Francisco.

84 **R** **Katharine Canfield** is living outside of Boston and working to raise funding for biomedical research at a local medical school. She and husband David share seven children, all in their 20s, and welcomed the first of the next generation in August. She feels gratitude for the gifts of this stage of life, even with its challenges, and would be happy to hear from former classmates.

87 **Correspondent: Jenifer Kahn Bakkala, 51 Wesson Terrace, Northborough, MA 01532, 508-523-8930, JKBblue@gmail.com**

Andrea Didisheim moved last year from Princeton, N.J., to Chapel Hill, N.C. Her husband works at U. of North Carolina, and she continues working as a physical therapist. Look her up if you are in the area: andreadidisheim@gmail.com. **Brad Dinerman** recently celebrated the 10th anniversary of his business, Fieldbrook Solutions, which provides IT support for small and medium-sized businesses in Massachusetts. Brad has also developed a crazy passion for wildlife photography—especially for raptors—and studies bald eagles at their nests. See some of his incredible work on his Facebook page or at www.thefieldbrookreserve.com. Speaking of birds, Brad and Davida will be empty-nesters when son Ari heads off to college in the fall. Daughter Abby is a junior at U. of Rhode Island, focusing on health and nursing. Brad loves to hear from

fellow alumni on Facebook. **Matthew Charde** is the president of EF Education First's North American business, EF Explore America. EF Education First is an international education company that focuses on language learning, educational travel, cultural exchange and academic programs. Matthew is amazed at how regularly he comes across CC alums—from recent graduates to those who have been to their 25th reunions—in both his work and travel. **Alison Cornyn** lives in Brooklyn, N.Y., with her husband and two teenage daughters. Her current project, *Incorrigibles*, recently received an art and social justice grant from the Shelley & Donald Rubin Foundation. *Incorrigibles* is a transmedia documentary that looks at youth incarceration, specifically as it concerns young women in the U.S. from the early 1900s to the present day. Alison was a TED resident and did a TED talk about this work last year, called "Rediscovering Wayward Girls."

94 **R** **Correspondent: Daniella Garran, 110 Salt Rock Road, Barnstable, MA 02630, 774-330-3188, dkgarran@gmail.com** **Maisha Yearwood** has moved from her hometown of Harlem, N.Y., to Washington Heights, where she lives with her girlfriend, "enjoying each other's company." In spring 2018, she worked as an adjunct professor at Hofstra U. teaching film majors how to write screenplays. Then she was hired as

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Class of '10 mini-reunion on Martha's Vineyard



Max Currier '10, Dave Patry '10 and Blake Marcus '10 in Iceland

a consulting producer for *Harlem Code*, a TV show in development; if it airs (likely streaming), Maisha will be a staff writer: "It's always been my goal to become a staff writer like my mom, Linda M. Yearwood." Maisha has been selling shows to networks and studios since age 24, and she is currently writing the pilot to her limited series, *9 Grams*, which is based on her play of the same name, inspired by the true experience of her three-month incarceration in Bakırköy Women's Prison in 2009, in Istanbul, Turkey. "It was a heavy experience and I'm writing the pilot based on the letters I wrote to my girlfriend daily while I was incarcerated. (Please note, I was racially profiled and placed in jail for something I did not do!) Once I'm done, the pilot and show will be heartwarming,

moving, funny and intense. I'll keep y'all posted." **Michael Dell'Angelo** was named a managing partner and elected to the executive committee of Berger Montague. Michael serves as co-chair of the firm's Commodities & Financial Instruments and Securities & Investor Protection practice groups and is active in numerous other practice groups, including the firm's Antitrust Department. Berger Montague is one of the largest and most successful plaintiff-oriented complex contingent litigation law firms in the U.S. **Karin Weaver Rohn, Kendal Culp McManus** and **Sasha Levy Griffin** connected in Washington, D.C., over Presidents Day weekend and enjoyed reminiscing about their fellow Camels.

95 *Correspondent: Stephanie Mendez, 5329 Oliver Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55419, swilson@bazoomer.com* **Elizabeth Duclos-Orsello's** recent monograph, *Modern Bonds: Redefining Community in Early Twentieth-Century St. Paul*, was published by University of Massachusetts Press in summer 2018. The work engages some of the interdisciplinary questions about theories and practice of "community" she first explored at Conn so many years ago. She continues as chair of the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies and coordinator of the American studies program at Salem State U.

00 *Correspondent: Katherine S. McDonald, 14 Kingfisher Way, Waterford, CT 06385, 860-235-5773, kste78@hotmail.com* **Lee Matthew Goldberg** is the author of *The Desire Card*, the first book in an international thriller series, out now from Fahrenheit Press. The sequel will be out later this year. He lives in NYC. Follow him at leemattthewgoldberg.com.

10 *Correspondent: Grace Astrove, gca1223@gmail.com* Last July, after an AmeriCorps term teaching gardening and sustainability at an elementary school in San Francisco, **Michael Meade** started work at the Light Vessel Spa and Love Yourself Cafe in Santa Fe, N.M. He and his brother are developing an environmental education program called "All Aboard Earth," and they are building a garden at Mandela International Magnet School this spring. Michael plays his original music regularly at local venues. **Max Currier, Dave Patry** and **Blake Marcus** recently took a backcountry off-roading trip in Iceland.



Kat Barker Bacon '14 & Wells Bacon Jr. '11 were married Sept. 15, 2018, in Seal Harbor, Maine. Back row, left to right: Trevor McGraw '11, Randy Lovelace '11, Georgia Claire '14, Conor Quilty '15, Doug Vos '11, Michele Riotta '11, Kevin O'Brien '15, Tom Bushnell '03, Will Powell '11. Third row, left to right: Natasha Sultan, Lily Plotkin '14, Julia Pielock '14, Blair West '14, Owen Wiseman '12, Seamus Joyce '11, Maia Schoenfelder '13, Delaney Vartanian '13, Kevin Ford '11, Conor Walsh '11, Anders Nielsen '12. Second row, left to right: Elise Dunn '12, Kai Bresciani '14, Emma Weeks '11, Molly Bangs '14, Lowell Abbott '14, Katie Edmondson '11, Paige Lovelace '10. Front row, left to right: Henry Friedman '12, Jamie Sharpless '11, George David '12, Julian Ferdman '11, Peter Collins '11

In Memoriam

1940s

Apphia Hack Hensley '40, died October 22, 2018
Katherine Holohan McCarthy '42, died December 16, 2018
Harriet Squires LeMoine '43, died February 28, 2019
Gellestrina DiMaggio '44, died December 21, 2018
Lorraine Hall Santangelo '45, died December 20, 2018
Theodora Cogswell Deland '46, died November 20, 2018
Ellen Hawkes Little '46, died January 30, 2019
Nancy Remmers Cook '47, died December 30, 2018
Phyllis Browne Kelly '47, died October 18, 2018
Janice Damery Miner '47, died December 9, 2018
Natalie Corwin Wintter '47, died November 27, 2018
Mary Louise Thompson Pech '48, died February 17, 2019
Patricia McGowan Wald '48, died January 12, 2019
Marilyn Watson Babich '49, died January 30, 2019
Victoria Simes Poole '49, died December 9, 2018
Marjorie Stutz Turner '49, died July 22, 2018

1950s

Joan Thompson Baker '50, died February 12, 2019
Phyllis Yuder Terker '50, died November 27, 2017
Marilyn Bartow Bialosky '51, died December 10, 2018
Anne Holland Gruger '51, died February 15, 2019
Barbara Rex Kaemmerlen '52, died November 17, 2018
Anne Dorsey Loth '53, died February 14, 2019
Carol Connor Ferris '54, died December 5, 2018
Diane Levitt Bell '55, died November 30, 2018
Constance Watrous '55, died November 10, 2018
Irma Levine Alperin '56, died December 16, 2018
Diane Willard Guertin '56, died December 24, 2018
Faith Gulick '56, died February 13, 2019
Antoinette Magaraci Foster Lansing '57,
died September 7, 2018
Diane Kirkbright Larson '56, died February 5, 2019
Dorothea Susan Badenhausen '57, died September 23, 2018

Lynne Twinem Gorman '57, died October 25, 2018
Rachel Adams Lloyd '57, died November 8, 2018
Janet Flanagan Reiner '57, died January 29, 2018
Philippa Iorio Bilotti '58, died December 19, 2018
Clara Lamson Carr Stickney '58, died January 24, 2019
Barbara Kohn Kramer '59, died February 1, 2019
Grace Hartnett Leffel '59, died December 11, 2018

1960s

June Salamy Krisch '60, died December 16, 2018
Susan Troast Winiarski '61, died January 17, 2019
Margot Lasher Brubaker '65, died December 23, 2018
Nan Shipley Warner '65, died February 23, 2019
Marilyn Schuchard Dusenbury '69, died November 12, 2018
Helen Little '69, died April 26, 2013

1970s

Deborah Steigerwalt Safford '71, died January 2, 2019
Laura Staehle Johnson '73, died February 19, 2019
Christopher Vadala MA '73, died January 17, 2019
Debra Portman Revock '74, died December 20, 2018
Alan Kane '77, died December 10, 2018
Edwin Thulin '78, died February 8, 2019

1980s

Francesca Consagra '80, died December 16, 2018
Charles Mathews '80, died January 11, 2019
Kathleen Harrington Coakley '81, died January 1, 2019
Katarina Hellsund Kendall '82, died January 29, 2019
Christine Durkin '88, died February 15, 2019

1990s

Peter Danbridge '90, died February 25, 2019
Philip Daulton '92, died December 21, 2018



Le Masque As part of a larger project focused on masks, I recently traveled to Binche, Belgium to photograph carnival which is listed by UNESCO as a Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity. The Shrove Tuesday event in the Wallonia region is focused on the local men of all ages who dress up as the medieval character Gilles. The all day parade culminates in the spectacle of hundreds of Gilles throwing oranges at the crowd to welcome Spring. —Miles Ladin '90

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The Pulitzer Prize-winning poet William Meredith, who taught at Conn from 1955 to 1983. In April, Conn celebrated the centennial of Meredith's birth. Julia Alvarez (*How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents* and *In the Time of the Butterflies*) wrote an essay about Meredith. See page 32.