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WINTER 2018

DEPAUL

MAGAZINE

THE WOMEN OF DEPAUL

Meet some outstanding alumni
and faculty who are changing
the face of their industries



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WINTER 2018

DEPAUL

MAGAZINE

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Playwright **Bonnie Greer, O.B.E. (LAS '74)**, has lived in London for several decades, but her childhood on Chicago's West Side and coursework at DePaul set her up for a life of asking questions through her work and challenging cultural norms.

16 The Trillion-Dollar Question

Carolyn Leonard (BUS '64) and **Monika Black (CSH PhD '12)** come from the disparate worlds of options trading and community psychology, but by teaming up, they are helping the financial services industry understand women investors, who will control \$22 trillion dollars of investable assets by 2020.

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The humor-tinged feminist website *Reductress.com* gives its co-founder and co-editor **Sarah Pappalardo (CMN '07, LAS MA '08)** a platform for using satire to expose the way media manipulates women's insecurities for profit. She has also created an online space for women in comedy that didn't exist before.

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The women of DePaul include **Carolyn Leonard (BUS '64)** and **Monika Black (CSH PhD '12)**, who want to empower female investors and help

the financial-planning industry meet the unique needs of women.
Cover photo: Tom Evans



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The faculty of DePaul's School of Cinematic Arts (SCA) boasts an impressive roster of women filmmakers—Anuradha Rana, Dana Kupper, Susanne Suffredin and JoAnne Zielinski. In 2017, these women worked with SCA students to make three films about young adults with mental health challenges looking for stable homes.

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 Look for the **Online Extras** symbol throughout this issue to learn about extended, online-only content.



Micromotion Manager


Associate Professor Meghann Artes from the School of Cinematic Arts creates award-winning, stop-motion movies by freezing her actors in place.




Voices United in Song


Listen to music from DePaul's five a cappella student groups, which unite about 100 students from across the university in making beautiful music.


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Sweet Home Chicago

DePaul Basketball Returns to the City



Photos by Tom Evans

A long-held dream was realized with the Nov. 11 grand opening of Wintrust Arena.



When fans gathered on Nov. 11 at the brand-new Wintrust Arena at McCormick Square to watch DePaul square off against long-time rival Notre Dame in the opening game of the 2017-18 season, it was the dawn of a new era in Blue Demon basketball. One NBA scout called it the best college basketball game of the day, but for those closely involved in making this festive occasion happen, it was the fulfillment of a dream.

"It's electrifying and kind of hard to describe," said Wintrust

Arena Fundraising Committee Chair **Dan Ustian (BUS '73)**. "What a great arena and the start of something special. The feeling today is even better than we all thought it would be."

It didn't much matter that DePaul was bested 72-58 by one of the nation's top teams. DePaul Athletics Director **Jean Lenti Ponsetto (EDU '78)**, men's basketball coach Dave Leitao, women's basketball coach **Doug Bruno (LAS '73, MA '88)** and the more than 10,000 fans who filled Wintrust Arena came away with hope for the future. "This

DePaul Notches First Win at Home

On Nov. 13, DePaul scored its first win at Wintrust Arena with a 81-57 victory over the Delaware State Hornets. Tre'Darius McCallum led the way with 17 points, while Max Strus hit six of eight shots on his way to a 15-point performance. Eli Cain finished with 11 points and eight rebounds, and Devin Gage contributed 10 points and eight assists.

was the culmination of many years anticipating when that moment would come when we would once again have our own facility in the city," Ponsetto said.

Even though junior guard Eli Cain wanted to score the first basket in the new facility after scoring the final basket at Allstate Arena, it was sophomore Devin Gage who made the first field goal in Wintrust Arena. "I had to get it before Eli did," Gage said with a laugh. "We were down by five, needed a basket and the shot clock was winding down. So I drove the lane for a layup. I didn't realize it was the first basket [for DePaul] ever at Wintrust because I was in the moment. When I look back, it's pretty amazing to be a part of history."

Super-fan and donor **Joni Phillips (CSH '82)** was on her feet roaring her approval after Cain's double-pump reverse layup tied the game 22-22 four minutes before halftime. "There is such an energy in the building," she said. "It feels like home and the return of a great tradition."

"This is the beginning of a new chapter in the book of DePaul and the day everyone has been waiting for," said ex-Blue Demon **David Booth**

(CMN '03), the university's second-leading all-time scorer with 1,993 points. Booth, now director of player personnel for the New Orleans Pelicans, said, "It totally brings back memories of what it was like when I played. Seeing all these DePaul guys—**Melvon Foster (CMN '93)**, **Tommy Kleinschmidt (CMN '09)** and others—we still have that bond."

Stephen Howard (BUS '92), a well-respected college basketball analyst for ESPN, said he can't wait to see the impact Wintrust Arena will have on the community. "It's going to rejuvenate the South Loop, the city of Chicago and DePaul University. All the people I talk to from Chicago want the Blue Demons to be relevant again."

Opening day for former coach **Joey Meyer (CSH '71)** was like old home week. "It was fun to see all my former players, and it brought back a lot of great memories," he said. Meyer, who succeeded his father, the legendary Ray Meyer, as coach, guided DePaul to seven NCAA tournament appearances. "Despite the outcome Saturday, this was still one heck of a start. There's a feeling that DePaul is on its way up."



Eli Cain soars for a dunk in DePaul's season opener against Notre Dame.



The Blue Demons' state-of-the-art locker room rivals any in the NBA.

Photo by Steve Woltmann/DePaul Athletics

Future Tense

The battle for minds underpins the public education funding debate

“What should education look like if we are trying to prepare people to be active participants in a democratic society? ... Education should not be about preparing us to fit into the world as it is. Rather, it should be about preparing us to imagine and create the world as it is not yet,” said Kevin Kumashiro, keynote speaker at the College of Education’s spring forum. For some, that makes public education “scary,” he said.

Kumashiro, former dean of the School of Education at the University of San Francisco, was one of four speakers addressing democracy, justice and the struggle to control public education. He asserted that, historically, those in power want to use education to shape students’ views. Paradoxically, schools often are where revolutions begin.

“One of the major roles of education is to challenge common sense [arguments],” which leaders often use to preserve the status quo, he said. Ideas that are “common sense” in one era often are outmoded in another. “What makes social movements so powerful is that they rattle and shift public consciousness and common sense.”

Current tactics such as school voucher programs and their cousins—education savings accounts, tax-credit scholarship programs and education-expense tax credits—stem from opposition to desegregation laws in the 1960s, said Cassie Creswell, co-executive director of Raise Your Hand Action, an advocacy organization. All these programs divert tax dollars into private institutions.

“The commonality here is that all of these [programs] are shrinking the available money that could be used for public schools,” she said. It’s significant that proponents never say they want to expand funding to cover new types of educational systems, she said; they’re always cutting up the same pie



Photo by University of San Francisco

Kevin Kumashiro, former dean of the School of Education at the University of San Francisco, argues that education should prepare students to create the future they want to see.

instead of making a bigger pie to help cover private schools.

“It’s one thing to talk about the right to public education. It’s another thing to talk about how you’re going to fund it,” said Brandon Johnson, deputy political director for the Chicago Teachers Union. Austerity measures and budget cuts are “allowing the market to dictate whether my child has a science teacher or a librarian.”

Cheryl Flores (LAS MPA ’13), director of youth services and community schools for the Brighton Park (Ill.) Neighborhood Council,

joined the other speakers in urging voters to learn about the issues and get involved by calling legislators and joining action groups.

“This movement calls for bold, transformational activities that push us outside of our comfort zone,” Johnson said. “We have to codify some of this in law if we’re going to see the dramatic changes that we so desperately need.”

The College of Education organizes an issues forum each quarter. Find out about future forums at education.depaul.edu/about/events. Watch a video of this forum at bit.ly/DePaulForum.

Photo by George Hoyningen-Huene/Conde Nast Collection/Getty Images



Bobsy Goodspeed relaxes in her Lincoln Park apartment in 1934.

Life in Art

Lecture sheds light on Chicago socialite

In a picture displayed during DePaul University Art Museum’s annual lecture series “Art in Lincoln Park,” a woman lies on a sofa reading a book in her Chicago apartment, which was designed in the 1920s by renowned architect David Adler. A portrait of the woman, painted by Bernard Boutet de Monvel, hangs above the sofa. But who is the woman?

Writer Geoffrey Johnson answered the question during his lecture, “Bobsy Redivivus: The Lost World of Elizabeth Fuller Goodspeed.” Johnson wrote in a 2008 Chicago Magazine article, “Born Elizabeth Fuller in 1893, she flourished in Chicago between the two world wars when she was known as Bobsy Goodspeed, the bright star around which orbited plutocrats and politicians, painters, poets and pianists.”

Johnson explained that his fascination with Goodspeed began when he was reading Janet Malcolm’s “Two Lives: Gertrude and Alice,” an examination of how Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas survived in France during the Nazi occupation in World War II. The book briefly mentions an unnamed Chicago woman. After extensive investigating, Johnson identified her as Goodspeed.

Goodspeed grew up in Evanston, Ill., attended boarding school in Paris and continued her studies at the Art Institute of Chicago. In 1916, she married Charles Barnett “Barney” Goodspeed. She was very

active in her community, running numerous fundraisers for organizations such as the American Red Cross and Illinois Children’s Home and Aid and serving as the Arts Club of Chicago’s president from 1932 to 1940.

The Goodspeeds lived in Lincoln Park. “The role she played not only served Chicago society, but it also had a significant impact on several local fronts in art, music and literature, impacting the course of modernism in Chicago. Her home served as a gathering place for friends, a showcase of her latest artistic discoveries,” said Johnson. Stein and Toklas, whom Goodspeed previously met in Europe, stayed in her apartment numerous times between fall 1934 and spring 1935, and it was Goodspeed who introduced Thornton Wilder to Stein. Johnson said Wilder’s was “Stein’s most important literary friendship during the last decade of her life.”

After her husband died in 1947, Goodspeed married Gilbert Whipple Chapman, a wealthy New York industrialist and widower, in 1950. She relocated to New York and quickly disappeared from the public eye. Before she died in 1980 at age 87, she donated four paintings to the Art Institute of Chicago: Marc Chagall’s “The Circus Rider,” Henri Matisse’s “Interior at Nice,” Georges Braque’s “Still Life” and Pablo Picasso’s “Daniel-Henry Kahnweiler.” The latter two are dedicated in memory of her first husband, Barney.

Stories That Matter

DePaul University Trustee donates rare books

The first book in DePaul Trustee **Arnold Grisham’s (BUS ’70, MBA ’73)** collection was James Weldon Johnson’s “The Autobiography of an Ex-Coloured Man.” Given to him by **John Motley (JD ’73)** years ago, the 1927 text inspired Grisham to start his own book collection. In 2017, Grisham and his wife, **Jane Grisham (CSH ’68, LAS MA ’74)**, donated more than 500 volumes to the DePaul University Library.

The library’s special collections and archives ran the exhibit “Stories Shared: Highlights from the Arnold and Jane Grisham Collection” last summer and fall. The display showcased rare first editions, texts inscribed by the authors and galley proofs (final draft copies). Included in the Grisham Collection are a first edition of former President Barack Obama’s “Dreams from My Father” that Obama signed for Grisham in the White House and an 1895 edition of Harriet Beecher Stowe’s “Uncle Tom’s Cabin,” which is the oldest book in the collection. A rare galley proof of Toni Morrison’s “Beloved,” which includes an inscription to the Grishams, also was donated.

To view some of the titles in the collection, please visit the digital bookshelf at bit.ly/GrishamCollection.



Arnold Grisham visiting the collection last May.

Photo by Sandy Rosencrans

DePaul Inaugurates Its 12th President

Religious, civic and community leaders joined members of the DePaul community and presidents and representatives from other universities for the inauguration of A. Gabriel Esteban, PhD, as DePaul's 12th president. The Board of Trustees formally entrusted Dr. Esteban with DePaul's mission and presidential chain of office at the Nov. 19, 2017, event at Chicago's Navy Pier Grand Ballroom.

"While I am well aware of the challenges that lie ahead, I know DePaul will continue to thrive and prevail for the next 120 years and

beyond," Dr. Esteban said in his inaugural address. He cited strong partnerships with Chicago businesses and nonprofit organizations as one reason why he has confidence in DePaul's future. He also credited DePaul's faculty and staff for their dedication to the university.

He emphasized that DePaul is vitally important because of its distinctive place among U.S. institutions of higher education. "We serve students who want and need access to nationally ranked academic programs taught by



distinguished faculty who bring real-world experience to the classroom. We serve students who want an education that will prepare them not only for successful and fulfilling careers, but also for a lifetime of service to the common good," he said.

Dr. Esteban, who began his presidency July 1, previously was president of Seton Hall

University in New Jersey. He also has served as a provost and dean in addition to faculty appointments in Arkansas, Texas and the Philippines. He holds a doctorate in business administration, an MBA and a master's degree in Japanese business studies. Read Dr. Esteban's inaugural address at bit.ly/EstebanAddress.

Helmut Epp Retires

There's nothing that Helmut Epp likes better than an interesting problem and the freedom to solve it.



Helmut Epp worked at DePaul for more than 40 years.

"DePaul has always been fantastic, because it has far fewer obstacles to people doing things than most places," said Epp, who retired last June after nearly 43 years of service. In his wake lies an extraordinary array of initiatives that have transformed the university.

Epp was hired in 1974 as an associate professor of mathematics. He began tinkering with microprocessors, and one thing led to another: a new bachelor's degree in computer science led to a department of computer science and then the College of Computer Science and Telecommunications—now the College of Computing and Digital Media (CDM)—which he helmed for a decade.

He served as vice president of information services from 1996 to 1998 while remaining dean. He was named executive vice president for academic affairs in 2005 and became provost the following year, serving until 2012. Under his guidance, the College of Science and Health and the College of Communication were established, CDM grew to include three schools and more than 100 degree programs were created.

He advocated for extensive technological changes to help students, especially those who were immigrants, to navigate the university. "I could really identify with them," said Epp, who was born in the Soviet Union, immigrated to the United States from Germany at age 13 and never finished high school, although he has a doctorate in mathematics. "My background is not so dissimilar from the background of a lot of students who come here. It made me really enjoy working at DePaul."

For more about Epp's career, visit DePaul's Oral History Project, which contributed to this story, at bit.ly/DePaulOralHistory.

Thought Partners

When I spoke at Academic Convocation at the beginning of the school year, I made special mention of my wife, Josephine, which was a first for DePaul. When you are the first lay leader in the university's history, a president with a spouse is, understandably, a novelty. This edition of the magazine highlights women of DePaul, and I thought it would be fitting to share a bit more about my other half with you.

Jo and I met 38 years ago during our junior year at the University of the Philippines. I was a mathematics major, and she majored in business economics. We actually met for the very first time at the mathematics club. After graduation, Jo started working in management at a bank, and I worked as a computer programmer across the street. We always knew that we wanted to continue our education and pursued graduate studies at the University of the Philippines. Jo received a scholarship and earned a master's in economics, and I earned an MBA. Six years after we started dating, we got married.

Then I received a scholarship to pursue a master's in Japanese business studies at Chaminade University of Honolulu. Jo



moved to Hawaii with me, but she wasn't allowed to get a job due to visa restrictions. After I graduated, we returned to the Philippines. After a couple of years of working there, Jo went on to earn an MBA from the University of California, Riverside, and I completed my

doctorate in business administration at the University of California, Irvine. While working toward her MBA, Jo taught accounting classes. She also became a mother when our daughter, Ysabella, was born.

Jo worked for a few companies after graduate

school, creating predictive modeling platforms for the telecommunications, retail and advertising industries. Our daughter actually led Jo to her first fundraising experience. After learning that Ysabella's pre-K teacher was raising funds for a science laboratory for children, Jo volunteered to write a grant and then worked with the sponsor to secure funding. Her passion for fundraising continues today.

I consider Jo my thought partner. We are getting to know the DePaul community together. This past fall, we spent a day in each of DePaul's colleges and schools. We flipped pancakes for students during finals week. We got involved in the life of the St. Vincent de Paul Parish. We met parents and alumni during Family Weekend.

While Jo does not have a formal role at the university, she will be fully engaged in our community. You can expect to see her at campus events, as well as alumni receptions being planned across the country. We look forward to meeting many more alumni and friends soon.

A. Gabriel Esteban

A. Gabriel Esteban, PhD

WELCOME HOME

Graduates Reunite During Alumni Weekend 2017



Speaking at his first alumni event as DePaul's new president, A. Gabriel Esteban, PhD, recounted his family's journey from the Philippines to the United States and how that experience drew him to DePaul's mission of community service and access to education for all.



At the 25th Reunion Dinner for the Class of 1992, **Brian Schneider (BUS '92)** and guest Sylvia Muniz pose in front of an issue of The DePaulia from that reunion year. The dinner was held at The Metropolitan Club in Willis Tower.



William Ross (BUS '67, MBA '74), James Tadin (BUS '67, MBA '76), Kevin Grossman (BUS '66) and Jerry Boubin (LAS '65) show off their shiny new Fifty Year Club certificates.



Carolyn (Schaefer) McClure (LAS '67), Lydia (Kantorski) Piwowarczyk (LAS '66), Marlene (Wojkowski) Kortekaas (CSH '66) and Leonard Kortekaas (CSH '66) were inducted into the Fifty Year Club at the Reunion Luncheon.



Alberta Powell (SNL '92) and Mary Mazurek (MUS '92), both members of the 25th Reunion Committee, along with **Sana'a Hussien (JD '92), Paula Shreve (CSH '92) and Timothy Tomasik (LAS '92)**, gained insight into how DePaul students live today from two student alumni ambassadors.

TO DEPAUL

DePaul graduates from across the country rekindled and celebrated their lifelong connection to their alma mater at Alumni Weekend 2017, held Oct. 13–15. With events commemorating special reunions for the Class of 1967 and the Class of 1992, in addition to the signature Alumni Weekend Reception on Saturday night and more events throughout the weekend, alumni were reminded that they can always call DePaul home.



Mary Cummings (CSH '67), chair of the 50th Reunion Committee, and committee member **Barry Epstein (BUS '67)** joined the Fifty Year Club, which recognizes alumni who have been DePaul graduates for 50 or more years.



Velma Williams (CSH MS '54) traveled from Houston to attend the Reunion Luncheon on Friday and the Alumni Weekend Reception on Saturday night. She was joined by her three children: Marcus Williams, Janet Williams Adderley and Yvonne Williams Boyd.



DIBS made a surprise visit to the Reunion Luncheon, where he brought some Blue Demon spirit to **Joan Thiry (LAS '66)** and other alumni.



Alumni **Moises Gamez (BUS '10), Beatriz Vigil (LAS '07), Elizabeth Paturzo (CMN '07, LAS MA '12) and Diana Alfaro (LAS '07, MS '09)** reminisced about their DePaul days at the Alumni Weekend Reception, held at the Palmer House Hilton.



Alumni Board President **Michael McKeon (EDU '04)**, former President **Valerie Ruiz (CMN '09)**, Secretary **Nicole Guiffra-McQuaid (SNL '11)** and Board Member **Ahmadou Drame (LAS '11, MPA '16)** caught up with Dr. Esteban at the Palmer House Hilton on Saturday night.

FROM LONDON WITH LOVE

ALTHOUGH PLAYWRIGHT **BONNIE GREER, O.B.E. (LAS '74)**, LIVES IN LONDON, SHE HAS NOTHING BUT LOVE FOR HER CHICAGO ROOTS.

BY JAMIE MILLER

It was 1948, and Willie Mae Greer, an expectant mother, stood in her kitchen on Chicago's West Side staring at her rounded belly. She was young by any standard, nervous and excited for this life that was soon to come—the first of seven, though she had no way of knowing that yet.

"This baby better be born at the exact same time Princess Elizabeth has hers," she said to her husband, Ben, her eyes still on her stomach. He gave her a sweet but skeptical smile. She looked up. "What, Ben?" she said. "We need those diapers!"

Bonnie Greer was born 36 hours after Elizabeth, now Queen of England, gave birth to Prince Charles, also her firstborn. Unfortunately, this meant the Greers lost the competition, which promised a year's worth of free diapers for the parents of the baby born closest in time to the new prince. Willie Mae never let Bonnie forget it; after hearing

that the royal baby's nickname was "Bonnie Prince Charlie," a reference to the famous and handsome 18th-century Scottish prince, Willie Mae and Ben decided to name their baby Bonnie.

"I've been connected to Britain since birth," Greer says. "My parents needed those nappies, but I just didn't cooperate! My mom reminded me of that every year, and we always did something to recognize Prince Charles' birthday. The day I told him I was named after him, his wife laughed so hard we had to go find her some water."

Yes, Greer has since met Prince Charles and his wife, Camilla Bowles, the Duchess of Cornwall, in 2012, when they were honored guests at the British Museum. Greer was a museum board member and was there to greet the royal couple upon their arrival.

"So, Prince Charles and I, we're connected," Greer asserts.

Photo by Rick Pushinsky /eyevine/Redux

Greer's story begins in Chicago's Lawndale neighborhood, on the city's West Side. The daughter of a homemaker and a factory worker, Greer said her large family didn't have much, but they got by. Her father made sure his kids stayed out of trouble.

"Lawndale at the time was pretty gang-ridden," she says. "My father, he didn't want us to have anything to do with that. He was determined. So, he just worked, worked, worked, and he came up with the fees to send us to Catholic schools."

It was there that Greer first discovered her love of writing plays.

"I never read kids' books," she says. "They never did anything for me. I always liked reading adult books. So, I picked up this book one day, I don't remember what it was called, but there was a script in it, and I liked it. I liked that the people were talking to each other. I wanted to copy it, so I wrote a play for the class."

It turned out to be Greer's first of many plays. A precocious child, she found that writing plays was an effective way to explore the many questions she had about life.

"My mother had Alzheimer's before she died, and the only positive to that was the lack of a filter. She told me a lot about myself as a child that she might not have otherwise," Greer recalls. "Apparently, I was just constantly asking questions kids didn't usually

ask and weren't supposed to. She couldn't get me to shut up. That makes sense to me now."

Greer's first script was a school Christmas play, which was performed for the teachers, most of whom were nuns. The play portrayed the Virgin Mary as an unwed mother. One of Greer's classmates asked the teachers how this was possible, but they avoided answering the question.

"A nun leaned over to the others and said, 'How did she know this?'" Greer remembers.

Greer was only 8 years old, but that moment stayed with her. To this day, she views plays as a vehicle for inquiry. "For me, plays explore the unanswerable, or at least the questions no one will answer for you. It's important for me to do that. Someone has to, right?"

After Greer graduated from Harlan Community Academy High School on the South Side of Chicago, she enrolled at DePaul. Greer's parents couldn't afford the tuition, so she worked as a waitress at Wise Fools Pub, a Lincoln Park blues club, where local and national acts, like John Lee Hooker and Willie Dixon, played.

"You know, I don't know why I chose DePaul," she admits. "I'm not sure. I just kind of wound up there. But it's the only place I wanted to be. It took me a long time to get through because I had to work so much, but I did it—eventually."

"Apparently, I was just constantly asking questions that kids didn't usually ask and weren't supposed to. She couldn't get me to shut up. That makes sense to me now."

Greer joined members of the Black Student Union group protesting racial inequality on DePaul's campus in 1969.



Photo by DePaul University Archives and Special Collections



Photo by Scarlet Page/Camera Press/Redux

Greer participates in a panel discussion at the 2017 Henley Literary Festival, one of the U.K.'s most popular literary festivals.

At DePaul, Greer was encouraged to think critically and question norms. She decided to major in history in part because it provided a blueprint to ask questions and seek answers in the past.

"We were taught to look for patterns and how to put them together to come to a conclusion about the present or the future," Greer says. "At DePaul, [my professors] sent me on a path of respecting and loving learning, while also emphasizing the importance of going against the stream and asking the tough questions."

This encouragement led to direct action in 1969, when Greer joined other members of the Black Student Union in a teach-in protest in the office of Edward Schillinger, the dean of students.

"He was very cool about it," she says. "We came in, sat down and told him we really needed black studies. We really needed anti-war studies. We really needed these things in the curriculum. And he listened. He also knew we weren't going to let him leave because he called his family to tell them he wouldn't be home for dinner!" Individual classes were added, and eventually, programs in African and Black Diaspora Studies and Peace, Justice and Conflict Studies were launched in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences in 2003-04 and 2008-09, respectively.

Greer continued to write plays while at DePaul. Upon graduating, she decided to pursue playwriting seriously. She found an apartment close to St. Nicholas Theatre in Lincoln Park, where she studied with famed playwright David Mamet. It wasn't long before her play "1919," which told the story of the Chicago race riots of 1919, was produced by the Black Ensemble Theater, based in Uptown. Greer was praised by critics

and audiences. Bolstered by this early success, she decided to move to New York City in 1978.

"New York was the center of theatre, and I needed to put myself out there," she says.

Greer joined the Playwrights Workshop of the acclaimed Negro Ensemble Company under the direction of West Indian-American playwright Steve Carter, and she worked with other theatres, such as the Phoenix Theatre Ensemble, as well. She also studied at The Actors Studio with Academy Award-winning director Elia Kazan.

"I had so many things moving at once, but then New York just started changing."

She felt the shift profoundly. As she often did with her work, Greer followed her instincts.

"It felt like a lot of big money was coming in, and that was changing the theatre scene," Greer continues. "So, in 1985, I thought I'd go to

"For me, plays explore the unanswerable, or at least the questions no one will answer for you. It's important for me to do that."

Edinburgh Festival Fringe with a play that I'd written, and I'd meet some people there."

The visit to Scotland was successful; she made connections that eventually brought her to London, where she started writing plays for a women's theatre group. To obtain her visa, Greer taught literacy classes, using Shakespeare's works for classroom assignments.

In 1992, she joined Tricycle Theatre in London's Kilburn neighborhood. At Tricycle, she worked with director Nicholas Kent, who put her in touch with TimeOut when the magazine was in need of a theatre critic.

"I made the mistake of being a theatre critic for many, many years," she says. Greer realized that she didn't enjoy critiquing other people's plays, in part because she understood that creating public work was often a deeply personal process. Additionally, she wearied of seeing the same plays over and over, regardless of the differences in casting and approach each restaging might provide.

"As a critic, you see a lot of revivals. It's a business, so they like to do the shows they know will bring in money," Greer explains. "I had just seen everything at that point. I'm a playwright but not so much a theatergoer anymore."

Although the critic's life wasn't for her, it did lead to many other wonderful opportunities. In addition to gaining name recognition in the theatre community, Greer also had a fateful encounter with a fellow audience member at a play she was reviewing.

"I was at this play with the guy I was getting ready to break up with," she recalls. "The man in the seat in front of me turned around before the show started, and we just started talking. Six months, later, we were married. We're still married." David Hutchins, Greer's husband since 1993, is a solicitor who also teaches law.

Between her work with local theatre companies and her insightful

reviews, Greer continued to build her professional reputation. In the late 1990s, the British Broadcasting Company (BBC) contacted her about producing radio plays. Then the BBC tapped her to do a black version of their popular television program "Late Review," a talk show of pop-culture intellectuals discussing and reviewing the artistic news of the week. Greer caught the attention of the original program's producers and was asked to be a regular panelist on the show. She obliged and was on the program from 1998 to 2005.

Greer's face and name recognition were still on the rise. In 2005, she was appointed to the board of the British Museum. She continued her work as a critic and also wrote for local publications on a variety of topics. Ever her father's daughter, Greer always stayed up-to-date on current events, particularly the arts, popular culture and politics. She added political commentator and editorialist to her curriculum vitae, which eventually resulted in one of her most notorious television appearances.

It was 2008, and elections were approaching. The British National Party (BNP), an ultra-conservative political group, was gaining traction. Greer was contacted by the popular British talk show "Question Time" to serve as a panelist alongside then-BNP leader Nicholas Griffin and three other commentators. Griffin and his party routinely had been accused of fostering racist attitudes. Greer's friends warned her not to go on air, but she now had the ultimate resource at her fingertips. She

approached the prehistory experts at the British Museum and asked them about the BNP's claim to represent "indigenous British people."

"They told me that's not possible," she said. "There was an ice age in Britain, and nothing survived. So, the people here came across the Iberian Peninsula from other places. 'Indigenous,' in its truest sense, doesn't apply here."



Prince Charles honors Greer as an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (O.B.E.) at Buckingham Palace in London.

Photo by Lewis Whyld/PA Wire/Alamy Stock Photo

Backstage, Griffin tried to be friendly, but Greer had already decided it would be best to keep her distance. Little did she know that the producers would seat her right next to him during the broadcast. Griffin and Greer faced off the entire time.

"He was sitting right there, but it felt like every time he'd try to make his point, he got a little closer. It could have been my perspective, but that's what it felt like," Greer says. "He adamantly dismissed my information about the lack of indigenous people in Britain. He said, 'Let's not go too far back.' I had gotten the information from the foremost experts. He was backtracking."

Griffin scoffed at Greer's research and refused to answer her questions. She held her own, but she felt belittled. The tension in the studio seeped through the television screen, and the at-home audience absorbed the intensity. Strangers stopped Greer on the street the next day to ask if she was okay. Friends sent flowers. "It was surreal," she admits.

Greer was upset and confused by her interaction with Griffin, so she did what she always does when she needs answers that aren't easy to find—she wrote about it. This time, she immortalized the experience in an opera called "Yes."

"The critics didn't love it," she says. "I put myself, a black American woman, at the center of a play I wrote, and I was on stage. It was about my own personal experience. I think that angered a lot of people."

"But that probably means it's the kind of thing that should be done again," she adds, laughing knowingly at the thought.

After the play's run, Greer wrote the book "Obama Music." Published in 2009, it's a well-woven tapestry of reflections on her Chicago childhood, with discussion of how Obama's political career was rooted in the ethos and rhythm of the South Side. The year before, her play "Marilyn and Ella," about the friendship between Marilyn Monroe and Ella Fitzgerald, was produced in London's West Side.

In 2010, she was honored as an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (O.B.E.) in recognition of her work championing the causes of underrepresented populations through her plays and journalistic endeavors. Since then she's produced several more plays, including "The Hotel Cerise," based on Anton Chekhov's "The Cherry Orchard," and published a second memoir, "A Parallel Life," an account of her experiences prior to moving to New York. The book chronicles the profound influence her parents had and continue to have on her life, even after their passing.

"I didn't realize until I got to be older how much my parents sacrificed for my brothers and sisters and me," she says. "They didn't have much, but they made sure we had this kind of stable family life, which I feel has enabled me to go into the world and feel confident because I always have that template and stability in my mind."

In 2017, makeup brand Lancôme asked Greer to be one of the spokespeople for their "My Shade, My Power" campaign, which introduced an extended color range of their signature foundation. Not one to wear much makeup, Greer was hesitant but intrigued by what this meant for women of color, and she appreciated that none of the images would be retouched.

"I thought, well, I'd like to show women of color that I'm a real woman, and I can do this, and it's important that we're represented in every way and in every shade."

On the way to the Lancôme shoot, Greer received an unexpected phone call informing her that her beloved mother had died. "I thought about turning back and canceling, but then I realized that it was actually perfect timing to do this," she says. "My mother was one of the most glamorous people I knew. And she was certainly one of the most important people in my life. She would have loved this. It was the perfect way to honor her."

Greer is currently working on a new play about the Trump administration as told from the perspective of two black men. "It's still very new, but you'll be going along, and then all of a sudden, something will happen that the audience doesn't expect," she says. "That's how I like to do it. I like to present things one way and then make you think about it in a way that maybe you hadn't considered before."

Between plays, books, articles and television appearances, Greer has little downtime. But when asked to reflect on her career, she's puzzled.

"My career? I don't really have a career," she says. "Stuff has happened, and I've responded. But I've never been on an actual path. If I had wanted a career, I would have stayed connected to something, but I always had a feeling that there was something else coming next. I wanted to learn and absorb as much as I could. I wanted to be as many things as I could be. Do everything I didn't even know I wanted to do."

"And I did. I followed my instincts because of the education I got and the upbringing I had. I'm grateful for that. So, that's my little story."

"I put myself, a black American woman, at the center of a play I wrote, and I was on stage, and it was about my own personal experience. I think that angered a lot of people. But that probably means it's the kind of thing that should be done again."

THE TRILLION- DOLLAR QUESTION

Carolyn Leonard (BUS '64) and Monika Black (CSH PhD '12) are on a mission to help the financial services industry better understand and serve female investors.

By Marilyn Ferdinand
Photos by Tom Evans

When Carolyn Leonard and Monika Black first started meeting with executives at financial institutions to discuss how they work with their investor clientele, the women were told, “We know our clients.” When they asked, “What about cracking the code on finance and women?” the confusing response was “We know nothing about women.”

“Women are going to control \$22 trillion of investable assets by 2020. We are going to inherit, by 2050, something like \$35 trillion,” says Leonard. “We *are* the market!”

That market is the reason Leonard launched DyMynd, her “boutique financial empowerment firm,” in 2012, with Black serving as her chief strategy officer. Both women are passionate about helping women investors get the service and consideration they deserve from the advisors who handle their money, as well as better understand their own relationship with money, a task more emotionally fraught than many realize.

NECESSITY, MEET INVENTION

In 1976, Leonard had to face her relationship with money head on—she needed one! After earning her business degree from DePaul and teaching briefly, she spent more than a decade as a stay-at-home wife and mother, only to have her marriage end in divorce. She found herself wondering how she was going to pay her husband for his half of the marriage property and continue to provide a comfortable life for herself and her children. “I said, ‘Well, sweetheart, we’re going to need to take that business degree and do something,’” Leonard recalls.

Prior to her divorce, Leonard had started an indoor plant business with her friend Marsha Serlin. “Neither of us had a background in horticulture, but we decided that if we like plants, we could learn on the job,” Leonard says. The women also found the advice of informal mentors invaluable. “The men in the greenhouse were very happy to help us—PhDs who nobody ever asked questions. We were just sponges, and they were happy to tell us everything they knew about plants and trees.”



“IF YOU REALLY WANT TO HELP WOMEN OVERCOME BARRIERS, YOU’VE GOT TO HELP THEM ECONOMICALLY.”

—Monika Black (CSH PhD ’12)

Although the business was stable, it wasn’t providing Leonard with the kind of income she needed. It was time to restrategize. Many of her clients were members of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, and Leonard had traders for neighbors. Observation led Leonard to a life-changing conclusion. “It was obvious that there was a dirty secret in Chicago—that anyone could trade,” Leonard says. “The big commodity traders at that time weren’t college graduates, or very few were.” Hoping to increase her earnings substantially, Leonard left the plant business to learn how to trade stock options. (Serlin founded and is now CEO of United Scrap in Cicero, Ill.)

Leonard was moving into largely uncharted territory for women. “I learned to trade at a time when there was no book. You learned by doing, and because no one would hire a woman at that time for that career, I had to put myself in business,” she says. The price was high. To finish paying off her husband and buy her seat at the Chicago Board Options Exchange (CBOE), Leonard had to raise \$250,000—the equivalent of almost \$1.1 million today. Leonard’s mother, a stock investor herself and a strong supporter of her daughter’s ambitions, cosigned the note for her seat and loaned her money to get started.

Just as she had done with the plant business, Leonard sought out a mentor to help her learn the ropes. “He happened to be a PhD in math who came to Chicago to teach,” Leonard says, but he gave up teaching when he made his fortune as a trader. “I found him and sought him out as a mentor because I knew that, number one, he was very successful, so he knew how to trade, and number two, he was a professor, so I suspected he knew how to teach.” He was very helpful in coaching her on the basics of options trading.

Other men were not so helpful. “When I started to trade in the pit, men told me they wouldn’t trade with me because I was a woman, and worked against me by saying to other men, ‘We don’t trade with her,’” Leonard remembers.

Leonard’s moment of truth came six months after she started trading on the floor. A 25 percent move in 3M stock and nothing but buy orders meant Leonard had to start selling, even though she was short about 150,000 shares of 3M stock. “At the time I was selling all those options, I was nauseous. I did it because I knew I was never going to get another chance—either you stand up there and take your lumps, or you’re gone. At the end of the week, I had a six-figure trading account, and I had earned the respect of all the guys.”



Thus, “Carolyn Jean the Option Queen” was born. She spent 21 years building a formidable reputation as one of the first independent female market makers at the CBOE.

LOOKING FOR A FIT

Monika Black faced her own challenges growing up in the Columbus, Ohio, suburb of Upper Arlington with her parents and older brother. “The real story with my family that impacted my life greatly was that my grandparents were deaf,” Black says. “I don’t recognize myself as growing up in English-speaking culture. All my communication styles came from deaf culture—you say what you say to the person when they’re there. The formalities of hearing people took me a long time to figure out.”

Although Black may have been socially awkward in some ways as a result of her immersion in deaf culture, she gained advantages that have served her well in her current role at DyMynd. “I get the ‘metadata’ of what people say, I feel all of that,” she says. “Women have very social and normative ways of relating to money. I can see those ‘aha’ moments that people have.”

Her background as an African American in a predominantly white suburb also had an impact. “It was certainly worse for my parents at the time,” she says. The family moved to the suburbs in 1969 because Black’s mother believed that the goal of the civil rights movement was to be equal. “She doesn’t understand the word ‘no,’” Black laughs. “But because they were in survival mode as well as trying to hold onto black culture, they ended up being quite lonely.”

Black found her niche in athletics. “My parents put me in gymnastics at a very young age, and I ended up being a high jumper because I could just do really high back tucks.” She was recruited for the University of Michigan track and field team and earned All-American status four times.

Her energy, discipline and competitiveness drove Black to pursue her education. While she was earning the second of her two master’s degrees from The Ohio State University, she participated in an American Hospital Association summer enrichment program and then a one-year internship at Chicago’s Northwestern Memorial Hospital. “I got invested in the Chicago community,” she says, and stayed. She also met and married Tomer Yogeve, a business strategist.

Her education journey, however, was not over. “I was driving by DePaul, and the voice inside of me literally said, ‘You will go there one day.’” She earned her PhD in community psychology in 2012 from DePaul’s College of Science and Health, where she now serves as an instructor and adjunct professor of psychology.

BEYOND THE NUMBER

Leonard hung up her iconic pink trading jacket in 1997 and worked in real estate until the stock market tanked in 2008. Her panicked female friends came to her for advice, and a light bulb went off in her head. She contacted Yogeve to develop a business focused on women and finance and eventually brought Black, who helped create the model for DyMynd, into the business.

Leonard and Black say that money is the final frontier for women, no matter how much money they have. “If you really want to help women overcome barriers, you’ve got to help them economically,” says Black. “We’re calling for a mind shift.” That shift needs to happen not only within women, but also in the financial planning industry.



“WOMEN ARE GOING TO CONTROL \$22 TRILLION OF INVESTABLE ASSETS BY 2020. WE ARE THE MARKET.”

—Carolyn Leonard (BUS ’64)

“The industry has set up a financial plan to get you to a number,” says Leonard. “What we’ve heard, from women’s perspective, is that money is more than a number to them: It’s a means to an end.”

Black says women have an entire ecosystem of care for which they feel responsible. She illustrates this point by recalling a roundtable discussion she and Leonard held for women, called Money and Merlot. They are not against having a financial plan, but they question plans that target a number as the measure of success.

“We had a female bank CEO in the room. She says, ‘We put together a financial plan for every woman. What are you saying?’

“I said, ‘It’s the wrong number.’

“She said, ‘How do you mean?’

“We said, ‘She’s not tracking toward a number that is just about her and her family unit. She’s tracking toward impact, which can be influenced by her care networks or how many people she feels emotionally and financially responsible for, but also that inner bag lady who feels like she may outlive her money one day. You have to factor in the size of the care network and the bag lady effect, and in between those two is where she’s home. Then you build the model for that person.’”

At the core of success for women and the financial advisors with whom they work is a trusting partnership. “Three years ago, what we were hearing was ‘My concern is regulatory compliance,’” says Leonard. “My thing was, well, if financial advisors build up a trusting relationship, compliance isn’t an issue because through the conversation, you’re going to get the right result.” Slowly, the industry is changing the terms of engagement with their female clients.

MAPPING THE FUTURE

Reflecting on her alma mater, Black says, “DePaul, especially the psychology program and community psychology, was very much a coming home for me. No organization is perfect, but I’d never seen one where the mission was so carried throughout. I really valued that, because it gave me a little more freedom to be my authentic self. People are still in struggle. I want to help people out of struggle.”

Leonard says, “Being in business school, most of the time I was the only woman in a class. I think it just set me up throughout my life to understand that I might always be going into areas where I was the outlier. At the same time, I would love to see more women going into business and the business school. It affords women the opportunity to take better care of their families, and we know that when women succeed, the whole family succeeds.”



Sarah Pappalardo: Tongue Firmly in Cheek

The co-founder of satirical feminist website Reductress makes the case for insightful humor.

By Kelsey Schagemann • Photos by Ruben Cantu

On a random day last year, the headlines on the websites of several popular women's magazines included "Kate Middleton Admits She's Not Perfect, Says It's 'Just the Makeup'" (Glamour), "OMG, Funfetti Popcorn Now Exists" (Cosmopolitan), "12 Sundresses Under \$100 That Will Change Your Summer" (Elle) and "How to Drop (Subtle) Hints to Your Beau on Your Dream Engagement Ring" (InStyle). Women are frivolous, obsessed with celebrities and insecure about men, right?

Not so fast.

Over on *Reductress.com*, the satirical feminist website co-founded and co-edited by **Sarah Pappalardo** (CMN '07, LAS MA '08), women are smart, savvy and fully aware of the media machine. That's what makes Reductress articles like "Makeup Looks So Dewy Everyone Will Ask If You Have a Fever," "Is He Into You? Here Are Five Unreliable Signs" and "I Omitted 'Sorry' From My Vocabulary for a Week and Boy, Was My

Boyfriend Mad" so incisively hilarious.

"A lot of what we satirize is more of an homage than a complete takedown," Pappalardo explains. "If we were coming from a place of hate and anger, it wouldn't be funny."

The five-year-old site was started on a whim when co-founder and co-editor Beth Newell told Pappalardo that she had a "dumb" idea: What if they made a fake magazine for women? A quick Google search confirmed that no one had created such a publication, or at least not one that was still around.

"We took its execution seriously from the start," Pappalardo says. "We started building a website and contacted some friends to help write 50 to 60 initial articles." Both Pappalardo and Newell have experience doing comedy—they became friends while doing sketch comedy at New York City's Magnet Theater—and Newell had interned at The Onion News Network. The Onion, of course, is a well-known satirical news site and a useful comparison point for those unfamiliar with Reductress.

From the beginning, though, Reductress was different. "In 2013, I think a lot of people only understood satire as news satire," Pappalardo says. "We wanted to use that same level of rigor to expose the way the media talks down to women and preys on their insecurities to

sell things." The title, a mashup of "seductress" and "reductive," cleverly alludes to this agenda.

Incredible! This Woman Did Something Crazy for Her Career

The co-founders launched the site with few expectations or ambitions, but it struck a cultural nerve right away. Nine months after its initial debut in April 2013, they created a Kickstarter page to raise funds, and three months later, they introduced a new streamlined site. Current sections include "News," "Living," "Entertainment," "Love and Sex," "Womanspiration," "Print Edition," "Thoughts" and "Style." The "Print Edition" is a ruse, "with headlines that are so ridiculous we couldn't even write a story for them," Pappalardo says, but the other sections feature tongue-in-cheek articles that perfectly send up not only women's media, but also inspirational advertising and internet culture.

"As the magazines that we were initially parodying have improved, we've had to keep up with them to remain effective and current," Pappalardo explains. "We don't want to be satirizing what was happening in 1970, 1996 or even 2013."

For example, Pappalardo has seen an uptick in what she calls "pseudoinspirational marketing." This supposedly positive and uplifting form of messaging tends to be subtly demeaning: "You should love your body, it's perfect, but here's a lotion to make you look better."

Then there's the clickbait trend, which has gained traction in recent years as websites strive for more clicks, views and visitors; often, those numbers translate into advertising dollars. Clickbait headlines are sensational, trading on our natural curiosity and voyeuristic tendencies. In some instances, the story is as trivial as the headline, an OMG puff piece about a dancing cat, an actress without makeup or on-air newscaster bloopers.

But clickbait can also be manipulative and even dishonest, distorting a writer's intentions in order to generate clicks. Pappalardo remembers seeing a headline promising "you won't believe how this woman lost 44 pounds"; clicking on the link led to a genuinely heartfelt narrative about a woman's struggle with cancer. "Well-intentioned journalism can be skewed by the social media department or whoever is writing the headlines," Pappalardo notes.

On Reductress, the staff and freelance writers push this as far as they can, for example incorporating "please click this" into a recent headline about actress and writer Lena Dunham's dog. They also go for the shock factor to underline the absurdity of clickbait. Yet, sometimes those are the headlines that people actually believe. "It's always the things that you think are so ridiculous and obviously a joke that people take at face value," Pappalardo muses, pointing to a Reductress headline that went viral last summer. It started out "Wow!" and then claimed a woman challenged gender norms by naming her son after a female body part.

"The response was 'Feminists are ruining America!'" Pappalardo recalls. "People tend to project their insecurities about feminism onto our site. They want their own beliefs reinforced,

"A lot of what we satirize is more of an homage than a complete takedown. If we were coming from a place of hate and anger, it wouldn't be funny."

and they'll use whatever they can to reinforce it, even when it's satire."

Pappalardo also received a great deal of outraged feedback on the article "If Donald Trump Becomes President, I Am Moving to Alaska," which included this preposterous section: "Many threaten they will move to Canada when a bad president takes office. But to me, that's not enough. Canada is still a neighbor of the United States, and being that close it's like, I might as well be living in the U.S.!" One man wrote a 5,000-word "think piece" in response, which he emailed to Reductress; he then apologized when they explained that the article was satire.

"Comedy, at its core, is about truth, but we're living in a world right now where there are two sets of truths," Pappalardo notes wryly. "Comedy to one part of the country is not necessarily comedy to the other."

Good News! It Turns Out Women Have Something to Say About Rape Culture

Pappalardo acknowledges that Reductress humor won't tickle everyone's funny bone. But for many millennial women, the site speaks closely to their experiences. "When we're at our best, we help people articulate the things that are happening to them, whether it's being a woman in the office, dealing with microaggressions or even just the way that all women are supposed to have an opinion on Taylor Swift," Pappalardo says. "We want to give a language and a voice to what people are experiencing—specifically, we're trying to make meaningful commentary about being a woman in the world right now."

Far too often, being a woman in the world means dealing with subtle and overt sexism, sexual harassment and worse. When a male comic was banned from the Upright Citizens Brigade comedy club in New York City in summer 2016 after several women brought allegations of sexual assault, rape and harassment against him, the Reductress team watched in horror as other male comics took to social media to defend the accused.

"It was just so upsetting," Pappalardo recalls. Rather than wallow in their feelings, however, the Reductress team took action. They put out a call to their network of freelancers for pitches on "rape culture"—a sociological concept describing an environment in which sexual violence is normalized—and were quickly inundated with article suggestions.

"We could see there was more going on than this specific incident," Pappalardo says. In fact, they received enough ideas that the Reductress team decided to do a homepage takeover, where every article on the landing page was tied to themes of sexual assault and rape.

"Taking those pieces as a whole, we were able to start a conversation about all these different aspects of rape culture," Pappalardo notes. "It helped us and our readers become a bit bolder in discussing what was happening."

The team also knew they were walking a thin line. Many comedians—from Dave Chappelle to Daniel Tosh and Jim Jefferies—have been lambasted for telling rape jokes, and it's no surprise: Rape isn't funny. So how did Reductress, a site known for satirical comedy, remain inoffensive?

"There was a lot of rewriting, and then rewriting again, to make sure we got it right,"

Pappalardo says. “It came down to ensuring we were not making fun of the victim and that it felt true to all of us in the room.”

She adds, “We weren’t looking for laugh lines the way we normally do with satire. We were looking to make and clarify points.”

The homepage takeover went up on Aug. 17, 2016, with articles such as “‘Most Women Lie About Rape,’ Says Man Lying About Rape,” “How to Stop Listening to What a Woman’s Outfit Says and Start Listening to Her Mouth” and “I Anonymously Reported My Rape for the Anonymous Attention.” As those headlines indicate, the authors perceptively skewered some of the major issues around sexual assault, including biased reporting and victim blaming.

While the themed articles generated glowing feedback from the Washington Post, Mashable, Jezebel, Daily Dot and other publications, the staff was most gratified by responses from readers. “A lot of people reached out to say thank you,” Pappalardo notes. “People could point to the site and say, ‘Yes, this happened to me, and this arbitrary brand is validating my experience.’ People don’t always talk about sexual assault or rape because they think they’re the only ones it happened to or that they are at fault. We need to feel comfortable talking about these issues.”

Inspiring! Woman Stays Sane While Juggling Full-Time Job

As Reductress has evolved, the team has remained lean but mighty. Pappalardo and Newell are the only full-time staff members; they have three part-time editorial contributors, two interns, a cadre of freelance writers across the country and two editors-at-large, including Anna Drezen, who was hired as a writer at Saturday Night Live after working at Reductress. Team headquarters are a co-working space in the Flatiron District in New York City, where Pappalardo’s weekly tasks include editing and writing, reviewing pitches and developing new projects beyond the website.

One of those projects, the Mouth Time podcast, premiered in March 2016. It’s a mashup of interviews with special guests and discussions of out-there topics like non-FDA-approved makeup, the best wines to pair with a negative attitude and permanent vacations. Other recent ventures include live tapings of the podcast, satire writing workshops and “Haha, Wow!,” a monthly comedy show held live in Los Angeles and New York City.

In 2016, Pappalardo, Newell and Drezen published “How to Win at Feminism: The Definitive Guide to Having It All—And Then Some!” The book is a humorous, tongue-in-cheek take on the commercialization of feminism. “It’s basically a how-to manual on being a feminist from the point of view of a magazine that just discovered ‘feminism,’” Pappalardo says. The writing team hunkered down for three months to create the content, including sections on “Supporting Other Working Women” (which includes advice such as “make up fun nicknames for the group of women in the office... ‘girlies,’ ‘the Wednesday salad gang’ or ‘business babes’)” and “Feeling Beautiful Is the New Looking Beautiful” (“take off your inner glasses ... throw on your inner heels”).

Several top-secret projects are currently consuming much of Pappalardo’s time, which might explain why she rarely stops to reflect on her success. “There have always been fits and starts and little moments of achievement where we can sit there for a minute and be like, ‘Yeah!’ but then it’s back to work,” she says. “Every new opportunity is huge for us, and I don’t think there’s ever been a day where I’ve thought, ‘Okay, I’ve made it.’”

Instead, Pappalardo and her team keep trucking along. “I never would have been able to envision or articulate this specific career when I was younger, but at the same time, I’m doing what I wanted to do,” she muses. “We’ve created a space for women in comedy and satire that didn’t exist before, and that’s pretty cool.”



The Making of a Comedienne

After laughing herself silly in her teen years watching Comedy Central hits “Strangers with Candy” and “Upright Citizens Brigade,” Pappalardo decided improv was her future. “The minute I got my driver’s license, I signed up for classes in Boston,” she recalls. The 45-minute drive from her home in Bedford, N.H., wasn’t technically sanctioned by her parents, but Pappalardo got away with it until she blew a tire in Cambridge, Mass. “My field hockey team thought it was hilarious that I was grounded for taking an improv class,” she says.

Pappalardo, a double major in English and communication at DePaul, took on a “third major” in improv. When she wasn’t doing official coursework, Pappalardo could be found performing at renowned Chicago comedy studios The iO Theater and The Annoyance Theatre & Bar, as well as serving as a musical intern at The Second City. She also acted in plays for children and co-wrote a queer-themed serial play for a theatre in the Andersonville neighborhood.

On campus, Pappalardo founded DePaul’s first improv group—“along with the Honors Program, that was my crew”—and, since she was performing most evenings, woke up many mornings at 5 a.m. to write papers. She stayed at DePaul for a master’s in English and then headed to New York City to become a playwright. “But really I was just happy to get an underpaid copywriting job at an internet company,” Pappalardo remembers.

She was also writing plays and doing freelance blogging for extra income, plus taking improv classes at Magnet Theater for fun. “I got to know the comedy community, which was invaluable,” she says. Indeed, it was while writing and performing in a sketch group at Magnet that Pappalardo got to know Reductress co-founder and co-editor Newell, and the rest, as they say, is history.



YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Advancement Philanthropy Report (FY17)
July 1, 2016–June 30, 2017

DePaul’s growth into the **largest Catholic university** in America has been driven by a dedicated, talented faculty; state-of-the-art learning facilities; experiential and innovative educational **opportunities**; and, perhaps above all, an engaged, enthusiastic community. More than **19,600** generous donors gave a total of **\$52,666,457** to help DePaul provide a **world-class education** for all students, regardless of their means or background.

A Legacy of Gratitude

Jim Ryan (MBA '87), chair of DePaul's Board of Trustees and a member of the board since 2007, is full of gratitude to the university. "Both of my parents attended DePaul. That's where they met. I like to tell people I'm eternally grateful for DePaul because if it were not for [the university], I probably wouldn't be around," Ryan says.

Ryan credits his parents' strong work ethic and values as driving forces in his life and his successful 37-year career at W.W. Grainger, an industrial supply company based in Lake Forest, Ill., where he served as president and CEO as well as board chairman. "Both of my parents grew up in Chicago. They were both first-generation college students, which is very much a big part of the profile of students at DePaul," says Ryan. "My parents, like a lot of students at DePaul, worked to put themselves through school."

It was his family's belief in DePaul's mission that inspired Ryan and his wife, Michelle, to establish the James T. and Michelle A. Ryan Family Scholarship in 2017. The scholarship funds tuition and expenses for graduates of the Chicago Jesuit Academy, a middle school in Chicago's Austin neighborhood where Michelle is a volunteer teacher and board member. "Education will help the trajectory of these kids' lives," says Ryan. "This is a great opportunity to [make] a very positive impact."

The Ryans feel blessed in many ways and don't take their good fortune for granted. "I feel like it's a responsibility for us to give back to organizations like DePaul that have such a worthwhile and honorable mission," Ryan says. "DePaul transforms people's lives, not only by providing a high-quality education, but also by providing access to that education to people who might otherwise not have access to it."



“Coming from the Fiji Islands, I feel extremely blessed to be able to attend such a prestigious university. We may be strangers, but I will be forever grateful to all of you who make my journey through DePaul possible.”

—Victor Ma, business student
recipient of the Gerald & Jennifer Beeson “Success Through Scholarship”
Endowment in Accountancy

\$9,045,658
total amount
raised for scholarships

53
new
scholarship funds

19
endowed
scholarship
funds

34
expendable
scholarship
funds

Endowment Encourages Rising Academic Stars

“Young faculty deserve an academic home where they can pursue their research interests as well as teach.”

—Barry Epstein (BUS '67)

To foster such a home at DePaul, **Barry Epstein (BUS '67)**, a nationally recognized forensic accountant, has committed \$600,000 to establish the Dr. Barry Jay Epstein Endowed Faculty Development Fund. This fund supports rising stars as they advance in their profession through research, publications and presentations at academic conferences.

A former educator himself, Epstein recognizes that there is always a shortage of funds for activities outside of the classroom. "It is very important to the entire academic process," he says, including the additional input faculty can bring to students from these experiences.

In all, nearly \$3.64 million in faculty support was raised during the 2016-17 fiscal year. Faculty themselves generously gave nearly \$1 million to support students, facilities and other areas of need.



Gift of Art Enhances DPAM's Educational Capacity



Candida Alvarez, "Son So & So," acrylic and graphite, 2001.
Photo courtesy of the DePaul Art Museum.

DePaul's cultural and artistic impact in Chicago grew significantly thanks to one donor's generosity. Collector Chuck Thurow made a gift of 114 works by 59 Chicago artists to the DePaul Art Museum (DPAM) in August 2017. The paintings, photography, sculpture, drawings and other works from the past three decades fill an important niche in the museum's Chicago-oriented collection.

Thurow collected the artworks during his 12-year tenure as director of the Hyde Park Art Center on Chicago's South Side.

He gave the pieces to DePaul because he wanted them to be actively studied and exhibited. Some pieces are already being shown in exhibits at DPAM, around Chicago and as far away as the Prada Foundation in Milan, Italy.

"I couldn't be more pleased with how my gift to DePaul is being used," says Thurow. "By exhibiting Chicago artists and having an intellectual discussion around them, places like DePaul are absolutely essential in making the city's artistic community thrive."

A Collective Spirit of Giving



Annual giving is a collective effort of the entire DePaul community. In fiscal year 2017, DePaul was pleased to welcome 4,525 first-time donors. Alumni contributed more than \$37.5 million, staff and faculty gave nearly \$900,000, parents of current DePaul students gave more than \$253,000 and students themselves gave \$23,890. Every gift makes a real impact, no matter its size. The 14,107 donors who gave \$999 or less raised a total of \$1.4 million; 8,819 of those donors gave to scholarships.

TRUE BLUE SOCIETY

The True Blue Society recognizes individuals who make a gift to DePaul for at least three years in row, but many donors give year after year. Three donors have given for 42 consecutive years, and others aren't far behind. This unwavering support allows DePaul to help students reach their full potential.

5,595
total
True Blue Society members

997
new
True Blue Society members

nearly
\$34
million raised

Support in a Time of Need



A house fire. The loss of a family member. A natural disaster. When DePaul students experience an unexpected crisis, they may suffer financial hardships that can interrupt their education. DePaul's Student Emergency Assistance Fund (SEAF) exists to help students in distress cover the cost of rent, living expenses, transportation, medical needs and school expenses.

The SEAF came through for one undergraduate student from Florida whose family home was devastated by Hurricane Irma last summer. The cost of repairing the damage meant that her family was unable to help pay her expenses for the fall quarter. Thanks to generous donors, the SEAF was able to cover the cost of her textbooks and part of her tuition, allowing her to remain enrolled at DePaul.

"The SEAF grants assist students in financially difficult situations so that they are able to make a plan moving forward," says Ashley Knight, dean of students. Even small gifts have a meaningful impact. During the 2016-17 academic school year, 515 donors gave nearly \$69,000, enabling 29 undergraduate and graduate students in need to continue their education.

ComEd Scholarships Spark STEM, Business Careers



Longtime DePaul partner ComEd is brightening futures by providing scholarships to students in high school and college as they pursue careers in business or science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM).

ComEd scholarships are available to help students at DePaul College Prep, a Catholic high school on Chicago's North Side, advance their STEM or business education in high school all the way through completion of their bachelor's degree at DePaul. ComEd employees volunteer their time to mentor these students and keep them on track. In addition, these students can gain valuable work experience through internship opportunities that help ensure success after graduation.

"The program combines being a good neighbor with growing the next generation of leaders for ComEd and its parent company, Exelon," says Paula Conrad, ComEd's senior manager of corporate relations. "The ultimate success is that we gain some really engaged, community-minded, passionate employees. This is a different and really meaningful way for us to strengthen our long relationship with DePaul and DePaul College Prep."

"It's such a thoughtful and creative program initiated by ComEd. I see the future for kids who are interested in STEM and business as very bright," says **Mary Dempsey (JD '82)**, a DePaul Trustee and president of DePaul College Prep. "We're delighted that we can help direct those students from DePaul Prep to DePaul University and into great careers."

Meaningful Collaborations

Support from corporate and philanthropic organizations is vital to DePaul's research, programming and institutional initiatives.

567
corporate supporters

110
foundation supporters

196
other organizational contributors

Alumna's Gift Gives Basketball a Boost

Although **Heather Carmody (BUS '93, JD '99)** didn't play basketball at DePaul, she is a big fan of the program. For Carmody, it's not just about winning games. She says head women's basketball coach **Doug Bruno (LAS '73, MA '88)** "instills positive values in his players," including a strong emphasis on academics. As the first in her immediate family to graduate from college, Carmody appreciates this education-focused approach.

"The confidence, networking skills and real-life experience I gained at DePaul have shaped my life," says Carmody, a partner at Barnes & Thornburg LLP. "It makes me feel good to be able to give back."

Most recently, Carmody made a generous gift to the Wintrust Arena at McCormick Square, the new home court of DePaul Blue Demon basketball. A city dweller herself, she's thrilled that the arena is easily accessible from campus. "I'm excited that we're bringing the stadium closer to the students," Carmody says. "I think it's so important for students to have a connection to their own program."

Top-notch facilities give students a sense of pride while simultaneously enhancing the university's national exposure. "A better building allows us to recruit better players, which in turn builds better programs," Carmody asserts. "It's a snowball effect."

"I love that I can be part of this," she adds. "The enthusiasm of the student-athletes and coaches is contagious. I'm happy to contribute in any way I can."



A Gift That Lasts



The Cortelyou Heritage Society honors individuals who have demonstrated their commitment to DePaul by making an estate or planned gift to the university. Individuals who support DePaul through a planned gift ensure their legacy for future generations of students while fulfilling their financial and estate-planning goals. Gifts support scholarships, facilities, programs, faculty and other needed resources.

14
new
Cortelyou Heritage Society
members

\$32,863,613
total planned
gifts raised

132
planned
gifts



DePaul's all-star
cinema arts faculty
teach the art of
documenting life
on film.

By Kris Gallagher

Documentaries are not the cinematic equivalent of vegetables.

"They aren't always just good for you," says Susanne Suffredin, award-winning editor and a professional lecturer in the School of Cinematic Arts (SCA) in the College of Computing and Digital Media (CDM). "There are great films out there. Documentary filmmaking is filmmaking. It's about telling a story. It's about being as polished and together and as great a director, a producer, an editor as you would be on any feature film."

"I've always had a passion for documentary films," says Anuradha (Anu) Rana, assistant professor of cinema production, directing and screenwriting in SCA. A former journalist, she's won awards and acclaim pursuing stories that interest her, from female boxers to a wilderness preserve endangered by the oil reserves underneath it. "Some things you produce as an insider because you grasp the issues and some things capture your attention because they're totally different for you."

"There are many types of documentaries. There are slice-of-life documentaries, where you're capturing what's happening right now, and there are longitudinal ones, where you follow the subjects for years," says Dana Kupper, an award-winning cinematographer and a professional lecturer

in SCA. "Either way, it all goes back to your big idea. What are you trying to say?"

Last summer, SCA students shouldering cameras sought to document young adults with mental health challenges in search of stable homes. They met quirky, complex people not much older than themselves and dedicated Depaul USA staff and volunteers who were trying to help them. Along the way, they learned a lot about homelessness, filmmaking and themselves.

**"I'VE ALWAYS HAD A PASSION
FOR DOCUMENTARY FILMS."**

—Anuradha Rana, CDM faculty

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Chuck Levesque had a problem. The executive director of Depaul USA, which provides services and housing for people experiencing homelessness, needed to raise money to

Photos by Project Bluelight students and faculty

DePAUL IMDB



Anuradha Rana

Rana has produced, directed and filmed documentaries in her native India as well as in Ecuador, Japan, South Africa and the United States. She is co-director of CDM's study abroad documentary program in India and program coordinator for Diverse Voices in Docs, a professional development and mentoring program in Chicago. Her films include "Variations," "Preserves" and "For the Records." She is currently in production on "Language of Opportunity" and "Superdogs" (working title).



Dana Kupper

Kupper has worked on feature films, television shows and commercials, as well as documentaries, for more than three decades. She was a primary cinematographer for both "Stevie," which won the Documentary Cinematography Award at the 2003 Sundance Film Festival, and "Life Itself," which was about film critic Roger Ebert. Her most recent film, "Grace," will be released later this year.

build permanent supportive housing in St. Louis for young adults with chronic mental health issues. He hoped that by telling their stories, he could gain the support of civic leaders and donors. He wanted a compelling documentary.

Rana needed a project. She is both founder and director of the new MFA in documentary at DePaul. She wanted students to experience the complexity of making a film, from pre-production to the finished product.

JoAnne Zielinski, associate dean in CDM, knew an opportunity when she saw it. When staff in DePaul's Office of Mission and Values (OMV) approached her about making the documentary, she agreed. After all, she had previously produced many other projects for OMV, including other out-of-town movies. Zielinski connected Levesque and Rana, worked with Rana and Suffredin to secure grants, and worked out the logistics of shooting a film 300 miles from Chicago.

The result was not one, but three short documentaries and a dozen experienced, self-assured future filmmakers.

"By the end of the third day [of filming] I felt way more confident in my abilities," says **Katie Scheuber (CDM '17)**, who graduated the quarter after shooting wrapped in June. "It brings out the filmmaker within you."

PRE-PRODUCTION

As with a feature film, a documentary requires months of careful planning and a strong team. In fall 2016, Rana and Zielinski recruited two award-winning faculty members to their team: Kupper, cinematographer for "Stevie," which won the Documentary Cinematography Award at the Sundance Film Festival in 2003, and Suffredin, post-production supervisor for "Hoop Dreams," which won the Audience Award for Best Documentary at Sundance in 1994. Both films were produced by the legendary Chicago film collective Kartemquin Films.

"Everybody brought something different to the table," says Zielinski. "What was great about working with these seasoned professionals is they all knew how to manage the process, from story development through delivery of the final films."

From the dozens of students who applied to work on the project, the team chose 12. In spring 2017, the students familiarized themselves with the equipment and learned about the intersection of mental illness and homelessness.

"We had camera [and] sound workshops to help guide us through the equipment. Then we had a disability activist talk to us about the language we should use to address the barriers people face," says Scheuber.

The educators and several students took a two-day scouting trip to St. Louis in May to meet the clients and staff of Depaul USA and explore the locations where they would shoot.

"It was great that we ... didn't have the pressure of filming, to just get to know the subjects of the stories," says Suffredin. "Some of the students hadn't interacted before with somebody who is actively schizophrenic. The students really got a sense of empathy, and they brought it with them when we went back down [to film] in June."



"I am constantly surrounded by men in the cinematography program, so it was really nice to be surrounded by women," says student Melissa Pratt (center).

Junior Melissa Pratt did have prior experience, both with people experiencing homelessness and with documentaries. She'd taken a service immersion trip to work with people facing homelessness in East St. Louis, Ill., and had made her own documentary about a woman who previously had been homeless. She knew to expect the unexpected.

"In the pre-production class, we tried to formulate our story—the scenes we would want to get, shots we'd want to get, the topics we'd want to talk about. We'd planned out a general script for the documentary.

"And as a documentary always goes, it never really quite goes to plan."

PRODUCTION

Rana divided the students into three crews of four students each. "Each student had a very specific role to play. They were either the producer, director, cinematographer or sound producer," she explains. She, Kupper and Suffredin each followed a team as advisors.

"I hadn't done sound before, and I wasn't confident in my abilities whatsoever," Scheuber says. "But we always had a professor there to guide and challenge us."

Kupper's expertise helped students achieve complex shots that they might not have tried otherwise, like filming Joe, a client, going for an early morning run, says Zielinski. "She helped the students set up a shot out of the side of a moving van and do it safely."

As executive producer, Zielinski's role was to make sure crew members had everything they needed, from equipment to hotel reservations. For example, when the crews arrived at their hotel in June, they realized there wasn't enough space in their rooms for the equipment. Zielinski quickly booked a meeting room that became their production office, affectionately dubbed the "war room."

"JoAnne really set everybody up to win," says Kupper. "All the students had to do was just pick up the gear and go."

Well, not exactly.

"Of course, the first day we get there, our plans kind of shattered," Pratt says. "Everything was always changing, so we just shot what we could." They grabbed unexpected opportunities, abandoned unproductive lines of questioning and improvised on the fly. Every night, they'd compare notes in the war room and map out a new plan for the following day. "It's only once you're shooting that you realize how your story is going to play out," she says.

That's the crucial difference between a scripted feature film and a documentary, says Rana: "The idea is not to tell stories about other people but to allow people to tell their own story."

As a film crew, you also behave differently, says Kupper, who has more than 30 years of experience in features, documentaries, corporate films and advertising.

"In the feature world, you put on this persona of a professional. The more you can play that role, the more successful



Susanne Suffredin

Suffredin has more than 30 years of experience as an editor and filmmaker in non-fiction, narrative and commercial genres, especially long-form documentaries. She is best known as the post-production supervisor on “Hoop Dreams,” which won the Audience Award for Best Documentary at the 1994 Sundance Film Festival and was an Academy Award nominee for Best Editing. Her films include “The Calling,” “5 Girls,” “The Last Pullman Car” and “@Home.” She recently completed work as an editor on “Other People’s Children,” a web series by CDM faculty members Anna Hozian and Brad Riddell, both assistant professors of screenwriting. She is currently working on a documentary about the life of former National Basketball Association player Chris Webber.



JoAnne Zielinski

Zielinski produced the feature-length biopic “Vincent de Paul: Charity’s Saint,” which aired on Catholic TV, was dubbed in Spanish and French, and won a Certificate of Merit at the Chicago International Film Festival. She served as a casting director on Chris Parrish’s film “Thrill Ride,” which was released in theatres in December 2017 and is being distributed by Gravitas Ventures (video on demand and Blu-ray). She has produced, directed and served as casting director on narrative features and short films that have garnered over 70 film festival awards regionally, nationally and internationally. Currently she is the program administrator for CDM’s summer programs with the Chicago Housing Authority (see page 33).



To read about another award-winning CDM filmmaker, visit depaulmagazine.com.

you are,” she explains. “It’s the opposite in documentaries. You’re trying to break down the barrier between you and your subject ... It’s not fair to ask your subjects to drop their mask if you’re not willing to drop yours.”

The hardest thing for the faculty was stepping back. “They made all the mistakes I made when I was starting,” says Kupper. “Watching them miss stuff, or struggle with equipment, or make the wrong choices ... I did all that, and watching them do it was like feeling that pain all over again.”

Yet it was also exhilarating, says Suffredin. “It was great letting them step up and gain that confidence,” she says. “My favorite moment was when I stopped thinking of them as students and started thinking of them as people I was working with on a project.”

POST-PRODUCTION

“I always say, production is the dream, when all story lines seem viable. Post-production is the reality, when you have to find the pathway to the story that works,” says Suffredin. As the film editor, “you become that person who takes all those great things that were captured in production and knits them together to make that one story.”

“IT WAS LIKE DOCUMENTARY BOOT CAMP.”

—Dana Kupper, CDM faculty

Depending on deadlines, funding and the length of the film, it can take from a few months to years to create a finished product. With a fall deadline for the DePaul USA videos, the team hired **Kathleen (KeKe) Mullins (CDM MS ’13)** to edit the film. The students worked closely with Mullins throughout the summer, reviewing rough cuts and giving feedback. Students had to learn to make painful choices.

“As the editor, you’re the person who has to convince people to let go of things that they love because they don’t work for the film,” Suffredin says. “You have to edit with momentum and use the parts that are going to take you to that next level.”

DISTRIBUTION

While the films for DePaul USA had a clear destination, distribution is usually the most complicated and time-consuming part of any documentary, Rana says. Film festivals and art houses each require separate applications and deny far more entries than they accept.

Rana frequently arranges to show documentaries to groups that are connected to the individual film’s subject matter. She has spread the word about her disability-related documentaries in academic and health care circles. Her



Photo by the Chicago Housing Authority

CHA DOCUMENTARY PROGRAM EMPOWERS FUTURE FILMMAKERS

By Chaz Ebert (JD ’77)

Few programs inspire me more than those committed to empowering the voices of future filmmakers, especially female filmmakers. That is the goal of the Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) Program in Documentary Filmmaking. Held during the summer at DePaul’s School of Cinematic Arts, this five-week program kicked off in 2016 and is designed for female high school students living in CHA housing on Chicago’s South and West sides. I love how it prepares these young women to become future documentarians by instructing them on everything from aesthetics to technical skills. Professional filmmakers are among the students’ mentors as they shoot and edit their movies.

These lessons enable the students to express their views on social issues that personally concern them. Four documentaries are created each summer. Two of the films produced in 2016 were selected for local film festivals, including the Global Girls Film Festival. The wonderful documentary “Rise Up” premiered

at the 2017 Windy City International Film Festival and won the Rising Voices award.

I am pleased that this program is being sponsored by DePaul because that institution remains so very important to me. I not only received my law degree from there, but established a small grant for law students to help with incidental expenses. The CHA documentary program is but one example of DePaul’s commitment to our city and its various communities.

“The underlying motivation for the CHA documentary filmmaking program is our belief that young women can be cycle breakers in their community,” says Liliane Calfee, adjunct faculty member and director of DePaul’s program. “Film can be a powerful vehicle for social change ... Mentored by film students and award-winning filmmakers, the girls dive deep into social topics affecting their communities. Last year, they chose teen pregnancy, bullying, gun violence and single-versus dual-parent homes. Not only do they learn professional filmmaking skills, but perhaps more importantly, they realize the power of their voice.”

I went to speak to the future filmmakers. I wanted them to know that I, too, became interested in film while I was living in CHA housing. It is important to me that they look to the future to see how what they bring to the program can help change the direction of their lives. Calfee told me that she constantly reinforces that idea.

“They are our future and change can only occur if they take an active role in bringing awareness to the challenges they face. Through their films, they are able to foster positive dialogue ... As we put the focus on young women, we introduce a new voice—a largely unheard perspective—that inherently helps to humanize what have become very polarized narratives in the media,” she says.

I say amen to that.

Originally published as a blog post on July 17, 2017, this article was edited and reprinted with permission. See the original at bit.ly/EbertCHA. See all the videos at bit.ly/CHAMovies.



Katie Scheuber (CDM '17) has a passion for making films that create more awareness of marginalized communities.

works in progress—one about language and identity among a new generation of Indians and another about dogsled mushing in the upper Midwest—will be shown in community screenings, film festivals and international venues.

Some films do win awards that can lead to broader distribution through theatres, but most documentarians don't make films for the glory, she says.

"My very first short documentary, 'Ring Laila,' was about female boxers in India," she says. "A nonprofit took the film and put it on the back of a truck and traveled from village to village around northern India to show it ... I think that is my most rewarding experience."

For Scheuber, finding her confidence was its own reward. "Before, I was scared to take on production," she says. "There aren't a lot of women out there being boom operators or sound recordists, and now that may be something I'll pursue."

As for Pratt, she expects the lessons she learned to last a lifetime: "Next time when I'm filming, I'll have a little Anu in my head and Dana on my shoulder."

See the Depaul USA documentaries at bit.ly/DepaulUSA.

Club Scene

Student organizations play a crucial role in the DePaul experience for many undergraduate and graduate students. Take a look at some of the many groups on campus.

By Jacob Sabolo (LAS '12)
Photos by Tom Evans

In the Schmitt Academic Center on the Lincoln Park Campus, across from the social gathering and study area known as "The Pit," several large bulletin boards hang on the east wall. Between September and June, they're covered with flyers of all sizes and colors: baby pinks and electric blues, oranges and violets, apple greens and canary yellows, and some are simply black and white. A few of them advertise math tutors, beginner's guitar lessons, on-campus jobs and study abroad programs. Others announce upcoming guest lectures, Theatre School productions and academic conferences. The majority of them, however, are posted by student organizations to promote weekly meetings, service opportunities and

events they're hosting. In a sense, the wall of flyers is an open invitation for students to get involved with the university community.

The first DePaulian, the university's now out-of-print yearbook, featured some 20 student organizations, most of which were fraternities and sororities. That was in 1924. Today, DePaul has more than 350 student groups dedicated to recreational sports, professional development, academics, the arts, community service, technology and more. Despite the broad range of student groups, they all share the same purpose: bringing students together to share their ideas, interests and values, while also giving them the opportunity to serve communities and make lifelong friends.

FEMALE FILMMAKERS GIVE VOICE TO THE UNHEARD

Only about one in four people in the film industry in the United States is female. Yet, in the School of Cinematic Arts (SCA) in the College of Computing and Digital Media (CDM), 80 percent of the documentary courses are taught by women, and the MFA program is headed by a woman.

"Documentaries give women and people of color more of a voice," says Anuradha (Anu) Rana, assistant professor of cinema production, directing and screenwriting, who created the graduate documentary program. Because documentaries generally cost less to make, Rana says, "You don't have to wait for a big Hollywood producer to support you."

The documentary field is certainly more balanced than the world of feature films, which is where Dana Kupper entered the business as a union camera technician. Now a professional lecturer in SCA, she was the rare woman in a technical position 30 years ago.

"It's a totally testosterone-driven world, features," she says. "It was chaos, and people

were mean. You had to fight for stuff. They were always testing you."

Her experience filming documentaries for Depaul USA was the complete opposite. "At one point, I did realize that it was four women running it, and I wondered if that's why it went so smoothly."

Stars such as Meryl Streep and Oprah Winfrey are trying to diversify the industry. They are the primary donors behind The Writers Lab, a screenwriting retreat designed to increase both the number of women in the field and the number of multifaceted roles for female actors.

Anna Hozian, assistant professor of screenwriting in SCA, was one of 12 writers selected for the first lab in 2015. Industry award winners helped her refine her script, "Anchor Baby," which she hopes will begin production soon.

"The Writers Lab was a launching moment for many of us," says Hozian. "The film industry is really about personal connections."

She thinks that's partly why there are so few women in Hollywood. "We all like to

surround ourselves with people we identify with, right? The men in power positions will anoint people they identify with and it becomes perpetual."

Hozian is committed to disrupting that cycle. "I love all my students, male and female," she says. "But, there are times when I see very talented female students, and I want to help cultivate those voices."

Bringing unheard voices to the fore is why JoAnne Zielinski, associate dean of CDM, Liliane Calfee, adjunct faculty, **John Psathas (CDM MFA '11)**, assistant professor of directing, cinema production and cinematography, and **James Choi (CDM MFA '16)**, instructor, partnered with the Chicago Housing Authority to create a documentary program for teenage residents (see page 33).

"We gave them a chance to define themselves instead of being defined by the media," Calfee says. "If we give them skills, if we give them a voice, we're giving them an opportunity to really make a large ripple effect in their communities."

DePaul President A. Gabriel Esteban, PhD, and his wife, Josephine, visit students (and pets) at the 2017 Student Involvement Fair on the Lincoln Park Campus.



Act Out

Since its establishment in 2006, **Act Out** has become one of the leading LGBTQIA+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual and other identities) student groups at DePaul. Members meet regularly to discuss current issues in the LGBTQIA+ community and plan volunteer and activism opportunities in Chicago. “It’s always immeasurably rewarding to see or even hear how our work can affect an individual,” says Rutherford Manion, former president of Act Out. “It reinforces my belief that we can create real change, even if it’s one heart at a time.” Aside from holding weekly meetings, Act Out regularly hosts workshops and drag shows throughout the academic year. Members have also attended the Midwestern Bisexual Lesbian Gay Transgender Ally College Conference, an annual event that connects, educates and empowers LGBTQIA+ college students, faculty and staff. “You come out of it knowing something new about yourself and the world around you,” says Connor O’Keefe, president of Act Out. “I’m glad I get to help others have that experience.”



“It’s always immeasurably rewarding to see or even hear how our work can affect an individual.”

—Rutherford Manion, former president of Act Out



Black Student Union

Established in the 1960s, the **Black Student Union** (BSU) fosters empowerment and unity among students of African descent and provides an outlet for members to voice their opinions and implement positive change. “There’s nothing quite like the solace of being around people you know will be able to understand your unique experience as a black student,” says Kendall Sprinkle, president of the BSU. Sprinkle recently helped organize a trip to Memphis, Tenn., for Black History Month, the first trip she took with the BSU. The organization also hosts an annual fashion show that showcases local designers in the community. “The best part of the BSU is the people—that’s who keeps you motivated to improve the organization and the campus,” she says.

Chicago Food Recycle

As part of DePaul’s Community Service Association (members pictured on the right), **Chicago Food Recycle** allows students to volunteer weekly at Su Casa, a Catholic Worker home for displaced Latino families located in the South Side Back of the Yards neighborhood. Students cook and prepare meals for families and join them at the table for dinner. “I’ve had the privilege to work alongside amazing people and have gotten to foster a growing relationship with our community partners,” says Shelby Klingberg, president of Chicago Food Recycle. She recalls throwing a party for a woman living at Su Casa, and family and friends celebrating with them. When meals are already prepared for the day, Klingberg enjoys interacting with children at Su Casa. “One day I decided to bring Twister. The kids had never seen the game before, and they absolutely loved it.”

“I’ve had the privilege to work alongside amazing people and have gotten to foster a growing relationship with our community partners.”

—Shelby Klingberg, president of Chicago Food Recycle



DePaul Improv and Sketch Comedy

Comprising 30 members divided into four teams, **DePaul Improv and Sketch Comedy** (DISC) is the largest comedy group at DePaul. “Our focus is on inclusivity, teaching and providing experience for our members,” says **Alejandra Domeier** (CMN ’17), a former DISC member. “When we hold auditions, we aren’t looking for the funniest person or the person with the most experience or anyone with a particular look. We’re looking for ambitious people who can work in a team and who are willing to learn.” Every June, members participate in the Del Close Marathon in New York, a three-day improv festival named after the Chicago pioneer of longform improv. “For the whole weekend, a group of us will share hotel rooms, bounce around the city and spend hours watching improv sets. It’s a fantastic bonding trip,” she says.

DePaul Pokédemons

A relatively new student organization, **DePaul Pokédemons** helps Pokémon fans explore Chicago while playing “Pokémon GO,” a location-based augmented-reality game that users play on their smartphones. The organization also collaborates regularly with a local Pokémon League, which hosts tournaments and events for kids in the community. “After our meetings, most of the members of Pokédemons head over to the Pokémon League to help kids build card decks and teach them how to play the game,” says Matthew Verive, former president and current chancellor of Pokédemons. The organization is also planning a video game marathon, similar to DemonTHON’s 24-hour dance marathon, to raise funds for Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital and Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals.



“We have managed to create a space where black women are able to rejoice, connect and share our experiences, as well as provide access to on- and off-campus resources that a lot of students are unaware of.”

–Raven Jackson, president of S.T.R.O.N.G.



S.T.R.O.N.G.

S.T.R.O.N.G. (Sisters Together Recognizing Our Never-ending Growth) supports the mental, physical, spiritual and emotional growth of African-American women on campus. “We have managed to create a space where black women are able to rejoice, connect and share our experiences, as well as provide access to on- and off-campus resources that a lot of students are unaware of,” says Raven Jackson, president of S.T.R.O.N.G. The organization regularly organizes Get Flirty with S.T.R.O.N.G., a series of exercise classes at Flirty Girl Fitness, a women’s gym in Lincoln Park. A key component of the organization is serving Chicago communities. “The most fun I’ve had as a member is through our different service opportunities where we are able to work together,” she says. During Vincentian Service Day 2016, the organization volunteered at Rincon Family Services, a medical clinic, and helped to clean the facility.

Urban Farming Organization

Launched with the goal of educating the DePaul community about sustainable food systems, the **Urban Farming Organization** (UFO) engages in urban agriculture through hands-on, service-based experience. Members and nonmembers regularly volunteer at UFO’s community garden, located on the corner of Belden Avenue and Bissell Street on the Lincoln Park Campus, where they plant and harvest flowers, herbs and vegetables. They also sell some of their produce at the Ray Meyer Fitness and Recreation Center, as well as host an annual candle-making class. During the winter months, UFO helps maintain the greenhouse on the roof of the Monsignor Andrew J. McGowan Environmental Science and Chemistry Building. “I always find it enjoyable to be around like-minded students who really care about today’s social issues, including health and hunger,” says Allie Klawitter, treasurer of UFO. “At the end of the day, I can feel good about my own carbon footprint and impact on the environment.”



Writer’s Block

Originally intended as an opportunity for longform writers to receive feedback, the **Writer’s Block** provides a safe space for writers of all genres to create, edit and share their work. “It’s an excellent community,” says Lauren Walter, an executive board member. “We help each other develop as writers, whether through reviewing academic essays, discussing character development or recommending edits. I’m glad I have the Writer’s Block to make writing a little more social and a little less intimidating.” Members have taken trips to Chicago museums, such as the Art Institute of Chicago, for inspiration and have hosted a series of write-ins during National Novel Writing Month in November. “I don’t think I’d still be writing if I didn’t have this support network,” says Reuben Diaz, president of the Writer’s Block. “The feedback I have gotten so far has always been helpful and encouraging.”

CLASS NOTES

Log in to alumni.depaul.edu to read additional class notes and to discover the many ways to connect with other alumni and the DePaul community.

1960s



» **Julian Bauer (LAS '61)** published “The Hidden Saint: The Sixteenth Century Church in Crisis,” his fifth historical novel, in March 2017. He published his first nonfiction book, “Rock of the Apostles: A Brief History of Catholic Tradition,” in June 2017.

▪ **Robert J. Pastore (MUS '62, MM '69)** recently retired after 54 years as an instrumental music instructor and band director in Illinois public schools. He spent 40 years teaching in Burbank followed by another 14 in the North Palos School District. He also worked as a professional musician and adjudicator.

▪ **Richard H. Driehaus (BUS '65, MBA '70, DHL '02)** received the 2017 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Association for Corporate Growth in Chicago, the premier network of professionals focused on driving middle-market investment and growth.

▪ **The Hon. Patrick T. Driscoll Jr. (JD '67)**, a Cook County administrative law judge, received the 2016-17 Roz Kaplan Government Service Award from the Illinois State Bar Association Government Lawyers Committee in June 2017.

1970s

▪ **The Hon. Russell W. Hartigan (BUS '70)** was installed as president of the Illinois State Bar Association in June 2017. He is an arbitrator, lawyer and retired Cook County judge.

▪ **Howard M. Rubin (JD '71)**, a professor emeritus of DePaul's College of Law, received the Leonard Jay Schragger Award of Excellence from the Chicago Bar Foundation for his public-service-oriented career in academia.

▪ **Dennis Heitzmann (CSH '72)** retired from Pennsylvania State University's Child, Adult and Family Psychological Center, where he served as senior director for 33 years.



» **Thomas Wogan Sr. (EDU '72)** has been named the first major gifts officer of Mercy Circle, a continuing care retirement community in southwest Chicago sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy West Midwest.

▪ **Doug Bruno (LAS '73, MA '88)**, coach of DePaul's women's basketball team, was inducted into the National Italian-American Sports Hall of Fame in November 2017.

▪ **The Hon. William Maki (JD '73)** retired in August 2017 after 25 years on the bench, the last six as presiding judge of the Third Municipal District of Cook County.

▪ **Joseph M. Gagliardo (BUS '74)** was appointed to the Illinois Court of Claims in June 2017. He is the managing partner at Laner Muchin Ltd., where he previously chaired the litigation department. Gagliardo also served as the first deputy corporation counsel for the City of Chicago's Office of the Corporation Counsel.

▪ **David Gransee (BUS '74)** was promoted to senior vice president of Manitex International, an industrial products company.



» **Audrone Pavilcius Karalius (CSH '74, MS '75)** was named a member of the Chicago law firm Boodell & Domanskis LLC. She is experienced in corporate, environment and sustainability, health, safety, labor, employment and ethics law.

▪ **Joseph A. Chlapaty (MBA '76)** retired as president, CEO and chairman of the board for Advanced Drainage Systems Inc. He worked for the firm for 37 years.

▪ **Paul A. Fahey (MEd '76)** published “The Mother I Imagined, The Mom I Knew,” his memoir about his relationship with his mother during the last four decades of her life. In addition to being a professor at Allan Hancock College in Santa Maria, Calif., he is a longtime member of the Central Coast writing

community. He has won the Lillian Dean First Page competition seven times.

▪ **Peter Michielutti (BUS '78)** was appointed CFO at Bluestem Group Inc. He previously served as executive vice president, chief operating officer and CFO at Christopher & Banks.

▪ **Samuel C. Delisi (BUS '79)** joined real estate advisory firm NKF as regional director of management services at the Chicago office, where he will oversee the company's portfolio in the central region. Delisi has worked in commercial real estate in Chicago and nationally for 36 years.

1980s

▪ **Bertram L. Scott (SNL '80, DHL '09)** is chairman-elect of the American Heart Association's board of volunteer officers. He is senior vice president of population health and value-based care at Novant Health of Charlotte, N.C.

▪ **David J. Contis (BUS '81, JD '85)** joined the board of directors of Grupo Acosta Verde, which develops, owns and manages shopping centers in Mexico.

▪ **Joel Cooper (JD '81)** joined the Chicago office of Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP as a partner.

▪ **Muriel Anderson's (MUS '82)** 2014 CD “Nightlight Daylight” was chosen by Guitar Player Magazine as a top 10 CD of the decade. She released her next project, a CD/greeting card, “Eclipse,” in January 2018.

▪ **Karen Atwood (MBA '82)** was appointed to the board of directors of InstaMed Communications LLC.

▪ **Richard Pullano (JD '82)** was named president of the North Suburban Bar Association for 2017-18. He is the founding attorney of Pullano Law Offices, based in Chicago.

▪ **Paula J. Saban (MBA '82)** was named interim board chair of InvenTrust Properties Inc. She brings

COLLEGE AND SCHOOL abbreviation key

» **BUS** Driehaus College of Business
» **CDM** College of Computing and Digital Media
» **CMN** College of Communication
» **CSH** College of Science and Health
» **EDU** College of Education
» **GSD** Goodman School of Drama
» **JD** College of Law
» **LAS** College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences
» **MUS** School of Music
» **SNL** School for New Learning
» **THE** The Theatre School

Share your news with the DePaul community! We want to hear about your promotion, career move, wedding, birth announcement and other accomplishments and milestones.

Please include your name (and maiden name if applicable), along with your email, mailing address, degree(s) and year(s) of graduation.

Mail to:
DePaul University Office of Alumni Relations
ATTN: Class Notes
1 E. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604

Email:
dpalumni@depaul.edu
Fax:
312.362.5112
Online submissions:
alumni.depaul.edu

Class notes will be posted on the Alumni & Friends website and will be considered for inclusion in DePaul Magazine. DePaul reserves the right to edit class notes.

more than 25 years of financial services and banking industry experience to her leadership role.

▪ **Andrew “Andy” Black (LAS '83)** was named chief of the University of Hawaii at Manoa Department of Public Safety. Black brings more than 30 years of public service experience, including four years as a state prosecutor and 27 years as a federal agent.



» **Stephan Blandin (LAS '83, JD '86)**, principal and partner at Romanucci & Blandin LLC, was named by Leading Lawyers Magazine as among the top in his field of plaintiffs' personal injury and workers' compensation.

▪ **Michael Jon Shalbrack (JD '84, LLM '90)** received the Seely P. Forbes Memorial Award, one of the Winnebago County (Ill.) Bar Association's highest honors, in June 2017. He also celebrated his 30th year with the Rockford, Ill., firm HolmstromKennedyPC, where his practice encompasses business, estate planning, real estate and taxation law.

▪ **Lise Taylor Spacapan (JD '84, LLM '14)** was appointed general counsel and top legal advisor for Illinois Gov. Bruce Rauner.

▪ **Darnetta K. Tyus (BUS '84)** was named the deputy city manager and director of community affairs for Petersburg, Va.

▪ **Jean M. Crawley (JD '85)** was promoted to executive vice president and senior advisor to the executive chairman and CEO of the Options Clearing Corp.

▪ **Brian N. Roman (BUS '85)** was named a senior underwriter and vice president with the middle-market, asset-based lending team of MB Business Capital, in Rosemont, Ill.

▪ **Michael Marchi (MBA '86)** is the CEO of Aristech Surfaces LLC, a leading brand of surface products and design materials.

▪ **Mark Olson (MBA '86)**, executive vice president and CFO at CommScope, announced that he intends to retire from the company, effective March 31, 2018.

▪ **Jay Paul Deratany (JD '87)** is the writer and lead producer of “The CivilTty of Albert Cashier,” which had its world premiere at Chicago's Stage 773. It ran Aug. 31–Oct. 15, 2017.

▪ **Jeffrey J. Kroll (BUS '87, JD '90)** was part of the team of attorneys who won a record-breaking \$148 million verdict on behalf of a woman paralyzed in a pedestrian shelter collapse at O'Hare International Airport. The verdict represents a new Cook County personal injury record jury verdict. Kroll is a partner with Salvi, Schostok & Pritchard PC.

▪ **Christopher L. Picone (LLM '87)**, president of the Picone Advisory Group, has been named to the advisory board of K8 Ventures LLC, which is based in Chicago.

▪ **James Ryan (MBA '87)**, chair of DePaul's Board of Trustees, retired as board chairman of W.W. Grainger, effective Oct. 1, 2017. Ryan retired as the company's president and CEO in 2016.

▪ **Ken Stout (LAS '87)** was named president of Goose Island International, a new division of Chicago-based Goose Island Brewery, where he previously served as president and general manager.

▪ **Stephen Anthony (BUS '88, LAS MS '90)** joined Michigan State University as an associate athletics director.

▪ **Timothy Dahltorp (BUS '88)** joined software company Frontsteps as chief operating officer and CFO.

▪ **Paul Fina (JD '88)** joined the American Law Society's board of directors in July 2017.

▪ **Thomas Panto (BUS '88, MBA '93)** recently joined RedBarre Commercial LLC, a real estate firm in Denver, as employing broker. He will work with media and technology companies to lease and purchase office and industrial/flex space in the Denver metro area and nationwide.

▪ **William Schmidt Jr. (JD '88)** is the president and CEO of the Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation. Schmidt, a veteran health care advocacy executive with more than 25 years of experience, most recently served as the CEO of the Foundation Fighting Blindness Inc.

▪ **The Hon. Daniel Guerin (JD '89)** was elected chief judge of DuPage County's 18th Judicial Court. His term commenced Dec. 4, 2017.

▪ **William Kanter (JD '89, MBA '89)** was elected president of the North Chicago Chapter of the American Financial Education Alliance (AFEA). The AFEA is dedicated to providing financial education and increasing financial literacy within communities nationwide.

▪ **Scott A. Musil (BUS '89)** was appointed to the board of directors of HC Government Realty Trust Inc. of Sarasota, Fla. His experience includes serving as CFO of First Industrial Realty Trust Inc. and working for accounting firm Arthur Andersen & Co.

▪ **Anne Pramaggiore (JD '89, DHL '11)** was named to the board of directors of the National Safety Council.

▪ **Jeff Still (MFA THE '89)** appeared on Broadway in “Oslo,” which won the 2017 Tony Award for Best Play.

▪ **Kevin M. Turner (MBA '89)** joined Nimble, a customer relationship management software provider, as head of strategic partner development. Previously, he was one of the principals at Model Metrics, a Salesforce consultancy company.

1990s

▪ **James P. Fieweger (JD '91)** joined the Chicago office of the law firm Michael Best as a partner in the litigation practice group.

▪ **Daniel G. LeVan (MBA '91)** was named Tennessee Small Business Person of the Year for 2017. He is chief executive of ENER3: Energy Efficiency and Sustainability (EES) Consulting of Chattanooga, Tenn.

He has been a CEO and CFO with four top global companies, including AIG Central Europe, AEGON Asia and GE Capital. Most recently, he was the managing partner of EES Consulting.

▪ **Vincent J. Lombardo (MBA '91)** has been named CFO of Hospitality Staffing Solutions LLC.

▪ **James Robinson (BUS '92)** was named to Crain's 2017 Who's Who in Chicago Business. He was named president of Astellas Americas, a pharmaceutical company based in Northbrook, Ill., in 2016.

▪ **Daniel E. Sigale (MUS '92)** narrated the annual children's concert at Mount Vernon (Ill.) Music on June 12, 2017.

▪ **Sharon Carnes (CDM MS '93)** is a councilwoman in Michigan City, Ind. She works in compliance and security for NIPSCO.

▪ **William M. Long (LLM '93)** joined Polsinelli, a law firm based in Kansas City, Mo., as a shareholder in August 2017. His practice focuses on estate and tax planning for individuals with high net worth.

▪ **Mary Geregach Maloney (MEd '93)** became principal of St. John Brebeuf School in Niles, Ill., on July 1, 2017.

▪ **Josemaria Martinez (SNL '93)** joined TalentRISE, an executive search and recruitment outsourcing firm, as managing director.

▪ **Paul Rand (LAS MS '93)** was named vice president for communications at the University of Chicago.

▪ **Elizabeth Felt Wakeman (JD '93)** formed the Wakeman Law Group PC, based in Crystal Lake, Ill. The practice focuses on family law and personal injury.

▪ **Richard F. Zydorowicz (LAS '93)** is the branch manager for the Sycamore, Ill., location of First National Bank.

▪ **James Arrigo (JD '94)** joined Rathje & Woodward LLC at the firm's Wheaton, Ill., office.

▪ **Joseph F. Davoli Jr. (EDU '94)** is a 2017 New York State inductee into the North American Fiddlers Hall of Fame. He also has won two Syracuse Area Music Awards, known as SAMMys. He published a method book for fiddle and mandolin, currently in its second edition, and has a solo CD, “Game Plan.” He is a member of Ceili Rain.

▪ **Laurie Riffe (THE '94)** has been named director of artistic programming of DreamWrights Center for Community Arts in York, Penn.

▪ **Dirk von der Horst (MUS '94)** published his first book, “Jonathan's Loves, David's Laments: Gay Theology, Musical Desires, and Historical Difference,” published by Wipf and Stock.

▪ **Michael Wolf (MBA '94)** rejoined the Chicago office of Jenner & Block, where he will be part of the mergers, acquisitions and securities practices. Previously, he was corporate vice president and global chief counsel for Aon PLC.

▪ **Paul J. Young (MBA '94)** is CEO of Tekni-Plex, which develops and manufactures packaging materials, medical compounds and medical tubing. The company recently announced a \$15 million investment in a new manufacturing facility in Suzhou, China, near Shanghai.

▪ **Mark Cumba (LAS '95)**, an adjunct professor at Thomas Jefferson School of Law in San Diego, Calif., received the Edward D. Ohlbaum Professionalism

Award, which recognizes an individual whose life and practice display “sterling character and unquestioned integrity, coupled with ongoing dedication to the highest standards of the legal profession and the rule of law.”

▪ **Brent L. Paris (MST ’95)** was promoted to managing partner of Dubin Clark & Company, Inc., a private investment firm where he has worked since 2001. He currently runs the Florida office of the Boston-based company.

▪ **Alex Sukhoy (CMN ’95)** published “Date Your Career: The Longest Relationship of Your Life,” a practical, how-to book on jump-starting your career.

▪ **Charles Beach (JD ’96)** was appointed a Cook County circuit judge in the Sixth Subcircuit by Justice Mary Jane Theis and the Illinois Supreme Court. The appointment began on Sept. 15, 2017, and will conclude on Dec. 3, 2018, when the position is filled in the November 2018 General Election.

▪ **Valarie Pozen Berger (CSH MA ’96)** was a finalist for the 2018 Illinois Teacher of the Year award. She is a family and consumer science teacher at West Leyden High School in Franklin Park, Ill.

▪ **Louis M. Caruso (LAS MS ’96)**, who served the Northbrook, Ill., police department for 30 years, most recently as deputy chief, retired in July 2017.

▪ **James P. Duff (MBA ’96)** was appointed national head of banking for BMO Wealth Management’s Private Bank, which serves customers with high net worth.

▪ **Ramzi Hermiz (MBA ’96)** was named chairman of the board of directors for the Automotive Hall of Fame in Dearborn, Mich. He is president and CEO of Shiloh Industries in Plymouth, Mich.

▪ **Carrie Meghie (BUS ’96)** is a principal at Becker Ventures LLC, a family-owned real estate, hospitality and investment company based in Chicago.

▪ **Arthur Mergner (JD ’96)** is vice president, supply chain of Stepan Company. Mergner has been with the

company since 1989, and most recently served as vice president and general manager, polymers.

▪ **Craig S. Peters (MBA ’96)** was appointed CEO of J.D. Byrider, a car dealership with three locations in Indiana. He most recently served as chief operations and technology officer of Barclaycard US and has worked for HSBC and Capital One.

▪ **David M. Richter (MBA ’96, BUS MS ’15)** was named chief investment officer of GreatBanc Trust Company. He has more than 25 years of investment management experience advising personal trust and institutional clients.

▪ **Gracia M. Shiffrin (JD ’96)** received a Distinguished Alumna Award and delivered the commencement speech at Louisiana State University College of Art and Design on May 12, 2017, in Baton Rouge, La.

▪ **Frank J. Sodaro (MBA ’96)** was named senior vice president and deputy CFO of Old Republic International Corporation, based in Chicago, in June 2017.

▪ **David M. Adler (JD ’97)** has been appointed to the Illinois State Bar Association Privacy and Information Security Law Committee for 2017-18. He also presented “Trends in Cyber-Law 2017” at Cybersecurity Nexus 2017 North America in October 2017.

▪ **Christine E. Anzalone (CSH ’97)** works for Cardwell Beach, a digital marketing company based in New York, N.Y., and teaches college-level psychology, marketing and communication.

▪ **Glenn M. Fish (MBA ’97)** was named 2017 Plastics News CFO of the Year. He is CFO and executive vice president of Tekni-Plex Inc., a manufacturer of packaging materials, medical compounds and tubing.

▪ **Jesse S. Harriott (CSH MA ’97, PhD ’00)** was named global head of analytics and executive director of

the WorkHuman Research Institute for GloboForce, which provides employee recognition programs.

▪ **Kristen Pertee (CSH ’97)** and **Hassahn Liggins (CSH ’00)** co-founded Be the Miracle, a nonprofit organization that supports high-school-age Chicagoans who want to save their communities from violence and crime.



» **Frank Sommarino (BUS ’97, JD ’00)**, partner at Romanucci & Blandin LLC, was named by Leading Lawyers Magazine as among the top in his field of plaintiffs’ personal injury and workers’ compensation.

▪ **Jay Stefani (LAS ’97, JD ’04)**, managing partner of Levinson and Stefani in Chicago, was elected treasurer of the American Association for Justice’s Sole Practitioner and Small Firm Section. He will share his experiences with the section, which addresses solo and small law firm issues such as marketing, firm management and staffing.

▪ **Elizabeth Cain Diskin (JD ’98)** published her third novel, “Depth of Lies” (Thomas & Mercer), in September 2017. Her first two novels, “The Green Line” (legal thriller) and “Broken Grace” (psychological thriller), landed on Amazon best-seller lists in the U.S. and abroad.

▪ **Eva Kardaras (CSH ’98)** has been named a parent coordinator for the Proviso High School District 209 in Forest Park, Ill. She will run a new parent center at Proviso East High School, which will offer information about academic opportunities, curriculum and school resources.

ENGAGEMENTS & MARRIAGES

» **Jennifer Bunker (LAS ’06)** married Scott Skerston on Oct. 7, 2017, in La Salle, Ill. Bunker is an attorney at Reilly Law Office, and Skerston is an area superintendent at Riverstone Group.

» **Emily Prettyman (CSH ’07)** married Mark Wolfman on May 13, 2017, in Amboise, France.

» **Hannah Ronning (CSH ’08)** and Harrison Crumrine were married on Sept. 23, 2017. She is a staff nurse with the OSU James Cancer Hospital in Columbus, Ohio. He is an assistant prosecuting attorney for Richland County, Ohio.

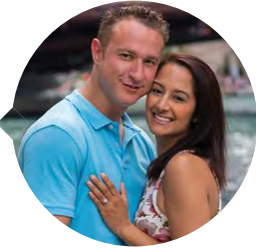
» **Bethany Butson (EDU MA ’09)** and Gunnar Crowell were married on July 29, 2017, at Whig Church in Platteville, Wis. Butson is senior data manager in the David Eccles School of Business at the University of Utah, and Crowell is director of planned giving of University of Utah Health. The couple make their home in Salt Lake City.

» **Carolina Villacis (CDM ’10)** married Danny Ryan on Oct. 14, 2017, at St. Benedict’s Parish in Chicago.

» **Bernadette Chlipala (BUS ’11)** and Ryan Orr wed on Sept. 23, 2017, at Old St. Patrick’s Church in Chicago. She is a CPA working for the Archdiocese of Chicago. He is project manager at Advance Mechanical Systems Inc.

» **Daniel Dence (MST ’11)** and Alyza Helman were married on May 20, 2017, in Braselton, Ga. The bride is a real estate agent with Douglas Elliman Real Estate. The groom is a corporate tax manager with EY. The live in New York City.

» **Lucie D. Seyhun (MED ’11)** married Warwick de Kock from Knysna, South Africa, on July 3, 2017, in Skokie, Ill. The couple are planning another wedding ceremony in Knysna in summer 2018. She is a French and Spanish teacher at Maple Middle School in Northbrook, Ill., and he is a graphic designer.



» **Elizabeth Murphy (BUS ’13)** and **Alex Moss (CDM ’11)** were engaged in May 2017. Murphy is responsible for VIP services at Lettuce Entertain You Enterprises. She also is employed by Anthropologie as a personal stylist. Moss is represented by Grossman and Jack Talent Agency, and also works for Lettuce Entertain You Enterprises. Murphy and Moss currently reside in Chicago. A 2018 wedding is planned.

» **Katelin Abbatacola (CMN ’14)** and **Brian Zmarlicki (CMN ’13)** were married on July 29, 2017, at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Chicago. She is a senior marketing associate at JLL, a commercial real estate company, and he is a commercial banking business manager at J.P. Morgan. They live in Chicago.

Spotlight

Rami Nashashibi (LAS ’97), winner of a 2017 MacArthur Fellowship—also known as a “genius grant”—says the award validates the 20 years he’s spent creating a national model for Muslim-American activism. Nashashibi is executive director of the Inner-City Muslim Action Network (IMAN), headquartered in Chicago’s Marquette Park neighborhood. The nonprofit organization



Photo by the John D. & Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

unites people across socioeconomic, racial and religious divides to address structural and systemic injustices that prevent people in marginalized communities from having a dignified quality of life.

Transferring to DePaul as a sophomore was “a very important life-transforming decision for me,” Nashashibi says. “I’ll be forever grateful for my English professors, who put me in touch with the larger human spirit, and the professors in international studies, who fed my social, political and cultural instincts around questions of social justice.” At DePaul, he explored his budding spirituality and helped form the student group United Muslims Moving Ahead, giving him experience in community organizing and negotiating techniques.

While still a student, Nashashibi co-founded IMAN to unite disconnected communities living throughout Chicago. The organization quickly evolved to help Muslim, Latino, African-American, Arab and working-class white families living on the South Side look past their differences and focus on their common needs. It is now a thriving, nationally celebrated model of a holistic community organization that fosters health, wellness and healing in inner cities.

Under his leadership, IMAN established a broad array of social services, including a no-cost primary health care clinic. Nashashibi and IMAN’s organizers persuaded the owners of corner stores to stock their shelves with fresh produce and established a farmer’s market. They created a green-construction job-training program for residents released from prison. The organization’s annual multicultural arts and social justice festival, “Takin’ It to the Streets,” draws thousands.

“Art platforms are a critical part of bringing us all together to celebrate new possibilities, to radically reimagine our communities,” says Nashashibi, noting as an example a mural that fused urban graffiti with Islamic calligraphy.

The \$625,000 MacArthur grant incentivizes creative risk-taking for the chosen “geniuses” at work. Nashashibi will use his prize for a range of projects, but first he plans to make hajj, the pilgrimage to Mecca that Muslims worldwide strive to do at least once in their lives. “I’m hoping and praying that this gives me space to refresh, to renew my creative energy and to think about what the next level is.”

▪ **Daniel Collins (THE '01)** wrote the book and lyrics for “TREVOR the Musical,” which ran Aug. 9–Sept. 17, 2017, at Writers Theatre in Glencoe, Ill. The play is based on the 1995 Academy Award-winning short film, which inspired the creation of the Trevor Project, the nation's only accredited crisis intervention and suicide prevention organization focused on saving young LGBTQ lives.

▪ **Anthony D. Defeo (JD '01)** was named president of EdjAnalytics, a leading data science company focusing on sports, health care and other markets, in June 2017. Previously he was director of football operations and analytics and the NFL liaison for the University of Michigan. He also helped

with recruiting and oversaw special programs and events, including the Michael Jordan brand launch, IMG/Rome trips, NFL/College Football Exchange, Pro Day, Senior Bowl and NFL Combine.

▪ **Elizabeth Foster-Ellis (LAS MA '01)** joined Botto Gilbert Lancaster PC. She will focus her practice in the areas of family law, family mediation and estate planning.

▪ **David B. Gorelick (CMN '01)** joined the commercial real estate brokerage Cushman & Wakefield in July 2017 as executive managing director and head of retail for the Americas.

▪ **Kevin A. Holmes (JD '01)** was appointed legal advisor to FCC Commissioner Brendan Carr, advising him on wireless and public safety issues.

▪ **Rafeh M. Masood (CDM '01, MBA '05)** was named a senior vice president and chief digital officer for BJ's Wholesale Club, based in Westborough, Mass. In the newly created role, he will drive the strategy and vision for the company's e-commerce and multichannel efforts. Previously, he was vice president of customer innovation technology at Dick's Sporting Goods.

▪ **Patricia Puetz (SNL '01, MEd '05)** was named principal of Henken Elementary School in Glenview, Ill.

▪ **Colby J. Tanner (CSH MS '01)** is now an assistant professor of biology at Misericordia University in Dallas, Penn. Tanner earned a doctorate in biology from the University of Utah in Salt Lake City.

▪ **Joe Voss (JD '01)** received the 2017 John Hensel Award from the State Bar of Michigan's Arts, Communications, Entertainment and Sports Section for significant contributions to the state's arts, entertainment or sports communities. Voss is of counsel with Leavens, Strand & Glover.

▪ **Mike Yaghmai (JD '01)** was promoted to director at Facebook Inc., where he serves as associate general counsel to the company's Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp and Oculus business units. He oversees the legal team that advises product, engineering, design, marketing and communications teams on intellectual property matters.

▪ **Douglas J. Chambers (MBA '02)** is founder and CEO of FieldLens, a mobile communication system that aims to replace calls, texts, emails and other communication typically sent between building owners, contractors, subcontractors, architects and others in a construction project. FieldLens has raised about \$12.6 million from investors and was recently acquired by New York-based WeWork.

▪ **Adam Dill (JD '02)** is an associate judge for the Sixth Judicial Circuit of Illinois.

▪ **Richard W. Evonitz (JD '02)** was elected to the board of education for Niles (Ill.) Township High School District 219 in April 2017.

▪ **Neil B. Johnston (BUS '02)** joined the Chicago office of the Siegfried Group LLP as a director. Previously, he was a senior director of financial reporting at Cenveo Inc.

▪ **Shira E. Kollins (LAS '02)** owns SpeedPro Imaging Studio in Chicago.

▪ **Patrick Kolzow (MST '02)** is the managing director at DHJJ Certified Public Accountants and Business Advisors.

▪ **Janine Mercandetti (THE '02)** directed the Greece Theatre Company's production of Disney's “The Hunchback of Notre Dame” in October 2017 at the Lyric Theatre in Rochester, N.Y.

▪ **Margaret Labno (MST '02)** joined the Property Casualty Insurers Association of America as vice president of tax and accounting policy in the policy, research and international department in 2017. Labno is a registered Certified Public Accountant and earned her Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter designation.

▪ **Margo Weitzman (LAS '02)** recently co-curated “Tensions in Renaissance Cities,” an exhibit in the Special Collections and Research Center Gallery of the Regenstein Library of the University of Chicago. The exhibit, comprising more than 130 objects, explored the cultural, intellectual, religious and social tensions of Rome, Florence, Venice, Constantinople, Geneva, London and Mexico City. In fall 2017, Weitzman started a PhD program in Italian Renaissance art history at Rutgers University.

▪ **Michael P. Yungerman (MBA '02)** was promoted to vice president and general manager of Opus Development Company in the Chicago region. Yungerman has more than 23 years of commercial real estate experience and has completed more than 21 million square

feet of industrial, office and medical projects throughout his career.

▪ **Kinan Abou-Afach (MM '03)** performed several of his compositions during “A Letter from Syria: Kinan Abou-afach & Friends” on June 24, 2017, at the Painted Bride Art Center in Philadelphia.

▪ **Johara Faradieh El Harazin (BUS '03, MBA '06)** was promoted to chief investment officer at the Illinois State Board of Investment. She most recently served as its deputy executive director.

▪ **Rashida Gray (MBA '03)** was appointed to the Komarek School District 94 Board of Education in North Riverside, Ill. She is the first African American to serve on the district's school board.

▪ **Matthew E. Lau (MBA '03)** is CFO of Regent Surgical Health. Previously, he was senior financial analyst for Paincare America and OptionCare. His finance and accounting career spans more than two decades.

▪ **Jennifer L. Lyman (MEd '03)** was named managing director in charge of operations for the Hopewell Valley Youth Chorale in Hopewell, N.J.

▪ **Tarell McCraney (THE '03)** will create, write and executive produce a television series for the Oprah Winfrey Network. The series, to be set in South Florida, will draw on events from his own adolescence.

▪ **Laurel McDowall (CDM MS '03)** joined Leapfrog as the vice president of marketing insights. McDowall most recently was senior director of insights and innovation at Cars.com in Chicago.

▪ **Natasha J. Ruse-Smith (BUS '03)**, a spa manager in Naples, Fla., was named to the 2017 “40 Under 40” list compiled by the Naples Herald.

▪ **Candice-Mari Savino (CDM '03)** was named to the 2017 Crain's Chicago Business “Tech 50” list of influencers in Chicago technology.

▪ **Ginger Shulick Porcella (LAS '03)** is the executive director and curator at the Museum of Contemporary Art Tucson in Tucson, Ariz.

▪ **Richard Veenstra (JD '03)** is the corporation counsel for the city of Aurora, Ill. Since 2010, he had been in the civil division of the DuPage County State's Attorney's Office.

▪ **Daniel Won (MM '03, MUS CER '05)** participated in numerous chamber music programs in summer 2017 as part of the 27th Annual Midsummer's Music Festival in Door County, Wis.

▪ **Christine M. S. Duffey (BUS '04)** joined SOS Security LLC as senior vice president and regional director in charge of operations in the Midwest.

▪ **Roberto Mancilla Jr. (LAS '04)** was promoted to assistant general counsel for Sears Holdings Corporation.

▪ **Natalie Petric (JD '04)** was inducted as second vice president of the Justinian Society of Lawyers. Petric serves as manager, enforcement counsel in the legal and market regulation department of CME Group.

▪ **Albert Stonitsch (LAS MS '04)** became village administrator of Woodridge, Ill., in July 2017. Previously, he served as assistant village manager of Glen Ellyn, Ill.

▪ **Tracy Townsend (LAS MA '04)** published her first novel, “The Nine,” in November 2017, under the Prometheus Books imprint. The fantasy thriller centers on a stolen book that holds powerful secrets many want to possess.

▪ **Shawn Alcaraz (CSH '05, MBA '12)** was named investor relations advisor at Zebra Technologies Corporation in Lincolnshire, Ill.

▪ **Ernest Amponsah (MBA '05)** joined the Phoenix-based private equity firm Virtua Partners as a project manager on their Quyp Development team. Amponsah has two decades of land development and acquisition experience.

▪ **Brandon K. Breaux (LAS '05)**, a visual artist who made a name for himself collaborating with Chance the Rapper, had his work featured on Bud Light limited-edition eight-packs sold in stores across Chicago and at Lollapalooza last summer.

▪ **Will Davis (THE '05)** will direct the New York premiere of “Bobby Clearly,” opening at Roundabout Theatre in March 2018.

▪ **Stamatina “Tina” Esposito (MBA '05)** was appointed to the U.S. Government Accountability Office's new Health Information Technology Advisory Committee. Esposito is currently the vice president of information and technology innovation at Advocate Health in Oak Brook, Ill.

▪ **Brian Fienhold (MBA '05)** joined the Mule Deer Foundation (MDF) as the organization's chief operating officer. Since 2015, Fienhold has served as MDF's board chairman and has been directly involved in the organization's expansion during his tenure. MDF aims to ensure the conservation of mule and black-tailed deer and their habitats.

▪ **Jennifer J. Kerns (JD '05)** was named a partner in the Chicago law firm of Anesi Ozmon Rodin Novak and Kohen Ltd. She joined Anesi Ozmon as an associate in 2013.

▪ **Robert E. Lee (EdD '05)** was named dean of the University of Central Missouri College of Education, effective July 17, 2017. Previously, Lee was the founder and executive director for the National Center for Urban Education at Illinois State University, Normal/Chicago. He also was the founder and director of Global Educators Outreach at DePaul and program coordinator for the Effective Teacher Network Program in DePaul's Center for Urban Education.

▪ **Jeff Manno (MBA '05)** has been named portfolio management leader for Greystar Real Estate Partners' newly formed Greystar

Growth and Income Fund LP. He is based in Charleston, S.C. Previously, he oversaw the company's rental housing business in the United Kingdom.

▪ **Kari M. Rollins (JD '05)** joined the New York office of Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP as a partner in the firm's privacy and cybersecurity practice.

▪ **Christopher B. Anderson (JD '06)** has joined the law firm Jones Day as a partner in its Chicago office. Previously he was with Hogan Marren Babbo & Rose Ltd. He is on the board of the Illinois Association of Health Care Attorneys and will serve as its vice president next year.

▪ **Amy Bocchetta (MEd '06)** recently published her third book, “111 Places in Chicago That You Must Not Miss.”

▪ **Juan Castaneda (THE '06)** directed the absurdist comedy “Marisol” for Chicago's Raven Theatre in October and November 2017.

▪ **Drake Diener (EDU '06)** plays professional basketball with the team Vanoli Cremona, in Italy. He co-hosted a benefit for the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America in November 2017.

▪ **Naomi Frisch (MM '06)**, currently a student at Chicago Kent School of Law, received the 2017 Sandra P. Zemm Labor Law Prize.



» **Danny Lewis (CMN '06)** was named in the Chicago Agent Magazine 2017 Who's Who list. Lewis has been the number-one agent in his office, EXIT Strategy Realty, for the past three years.

▪ **Melissa Nigro (JD '06)** was named chief of staff and director of board relations of the Northern Illinois University (NIU) Foundation, an independent nonprofit organization dedicated to raising scholarship funds for NIU students.

▪ **Jared Rothkop (JD '06)** joined Polsinelli's real estate practice group. He focuses primarily on commercial real estate transactions, specifically, acquisitions and dispositions of commercial real estate, leasing, financing and corporate structuring.

▪ **Tia Vilums Frapolli (MBA '06)** became president of the NPD Group's office supplies business in July 2017. She joined the global information company in 2011 and most recently was executive director of client development for NPD's home practice.

▪ **Amanda DeBoer Bartlett (MUS '07)** has been hired as one of the first two resident fellows for Omaha Opera's new Holland Community Opera Fellowship. She will perform in mainstage productions, offer recitals, serve on community advisory boards and educate the public in the Omaha, Neb., area about opera and the arts.

▪ **Benjamin T. Johnson (JD '07)** was promoted to partner at the Chicago-based law firm Michael Best and Friedrich. He is a member of the firm's labor and employment relations practice group.

▪ **Hannah Needham (LAS '07)** joined the Chicago law firm Ginsberg Jacobs LLC.

▪ **Elizabeth B. Paturzo (CMN '07, LAS MS '12)** worked as a site and operations manager with the Danish Refugee Council, UNHCR and I AM YOU-Humanitarian Aid to help provide better living conditions for Syrian refugees in Greece.

▪ **John D. Quinn (CDM MS '07)** is president of Merrimac Solutions, which was named 4,770 on the 2017 INC 5000 list of the fastest-growing companies in the United States. Merrimac Solutions is an enterprise

cloud infrastructure provider based in Aurora, Ill.

▪ **Alexandra B. White (BUS '07)** is half of the brother-and-sister rock duo White Mystery, based in Chicago. They played the Glenwood Avenue Arts Fest in August 2017.



» **Evan Barker (CSH '08)** won the Illinois Native Plant Society's Botanists Big Year competition, in which participants were challenged to make the most research-grade native plant identifications throughout 2016. Barker won with 877 species.

▪ **Christopher Chmelik (THE '08)** starred in “Lela & Co.” at the Steep Theatre in Chicago during summer 2017.

▪ **Geovannie Concepcion (BUS '08)** is the chief operating manager of the barbecue chain Famous Dave's of America Inc. She has primary responsibility for executing the company's store optimization and franchising efforts.

▪ **Christopher Eberle Jr. (BUS MS '08)** was appointed senior equity research analyst at Instinet LLC. He will cover the firm's software sector.

▪ **Steven Engelhardt (CDM '08)** is the chief data officer at Fi360, the nation's leading provider of fiduciary-related education and tools.

▪ **Joseph P. Hoffman (JD '08)** was named executive vice president and CFO of IFG Companies and is based in the firm's Chicago office.

▪ **Nathan Ramin (MEd '08)** received a Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching fellowship. He is spending the first half of

BIRTHS & ADOPTIONS

» **Marat Fleytlikh (BUS '05)** and **Justyna Fleytlikh (BUS '04)** welcomed their second daughter, Sophia Zoryana, on June 26, 2017. Their first daughter, Lilly, was born in 2015.



Philippa, in March 2017. Dean is currently completing his Master of Science in Human-Computer Interaction at DePaul's College of Computing and Digital Media.

» **Christina Flores (CDM '11)** and her husband, Emmanuel Espino, welcomed their son, Aldo, in June 2017. He joins older sister Olivia.



» **Michael Palzer (BUS '11)** and **Amanda (Loris) Palzer (BUS '11)** welcomed their son, Liam Nicholas, on May 22, 2017.



» **Dean Christopher (BUS '06)** and his wife, Marika, welcomed their first child, Evangelia



2018 observing education practices in New Zealand with the goal of transferring best practices to Chicago's North Lawndale College Prep, where he teaches.

■ **Tom Willerer (LAS MA '08)**, the chief product officer for Coursera, is one of the recipients of the 2017 Bay Area CIO Awards.

■ **Brandon Bailey (LAS '09)** is the head coach of the Maine Red Claws, a professional minor league basketball team based in Portland, Maine.

■ **Lisa Duarte (JD '09)** joined the Illinois American Water board of directors. Duarte is currently a partner in the government affairs group of Forde Law Offices and has extensive experience in government affairs in Illinois.

■ **David E. Dublis (Med '09)** has been an instructional technology specialist at Union High School in Grand Rapids, Mich., since 2011, where he provides e-learning support to other teachers. Previously he was a reading and drama teacher at Voise Academy High School in Chicago.

■ **Keira A. Fromm (THE MFA '09)** directed "Significant Other" at Theater Wit in Chicago in November 2017. She is the artistic associate director of Chicago's About Face Theatre.

■ **Bradley G. Gienza (MBA '09)** was named managing director and chief risk officer of Chicago-based R.J. O'Brien & Associates, a futures brokerage and clearing firm, in October 2017.

■ **Matthew Hessler (CDM '09)**, an association manager with SmithBucklin, was named one of Association Forum and USAE's "Forty Under 40" honorees as an association or nonprofit professional who demonstrates high potential for continued success in leadership roles.

■ **Tom Kleinschmidt (CMN '09)** is head boys basketball coach and director of admissions at DePaul College Prep.

■ **Courtney K. Knysch (THE '09)** appeared in "Still Dance the Stars," a world premiere play through the New Light Theatre Project and Chicago Dramatists, in August and September 2017.

■ **Michelle Kouba (JD '09)** was promoted to partner at the Chicago-based law firm Michael Best and Friedrich. She is a member of the firm's intellectual property practice group.

■ **John "Rusty" Lane (JD '09)** joined Kane Russell Coleman Logan PC as an associate. The firm handles transactional, litigation and bankruptcy matters in Texas and throughout the country.

■ **Cassie Odor (BUS '09)** launched a disruptive digital marketing company, karma digital, focused on providing startups with search engine optimization services.

■ **Ian J. Rosa (JD '09)** has joined Highline Real Estate Capital, based in Miami, as a vice president focused on acquisitions. He previously was a senior associate at Rialto Capital Management.

■ **Jillian Sheehan (MBA '09)** is now CFO of Aquilon Energy Services Inc., based in Lisle, Ill. The company develops innovative software and service solutions for the energy industry.

■ **Lela Shepherd (LAS '09)** joined the Arlington (Ill.) Department of Planning and Community Development staff as an environmental planner/conservation agent.

■ **Valerie Sherman (JD '09)** was elected to the Palatine Public Library District board of library trustees. Sherman is an attorney and fundraiser who frequently volunteers for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and the Frank Lloyd Wright Trust.



» **Michael G. Waitz (BUS '09)** was elected to the supreme board of governors of Alpha Epsilon Pi, a Jewish college social fraternity. He is the North American director of Shorashim, a nonprofit organization that builds relationships between Jews living in Israel and North America.

2010s

■ **Chris Burhans (CDM MS '10)** joined Attorneys Guaranty Fund Inc. as senior vice president and chief information officer. Burhans has more than 12 years of experience developing and managing business-critical systems security, integrated software solutions, hardware components, mobile apps and automated sales solutions.

■ **Amelia C. Drozda (MBA '10)** is director of corporate partnerships and outreach for the Big Shoulders Fund. She joined 30 other nonprofit leaders in the 2017-18 Allstate Foundation Greater Good Leadership Program, which helps nonprofit professionals develop their leadership skills.

■ **Brian Easley (LAS '10)** has joined the board of directors of the World Affairs Council of Kentucky and southern Indiana. The organization, headquartered in Louisville, is a member of the World Affairs Councils of America and Global Ties U.S. networks.

■ **Samuel Gold (MBA '10)** joined Arbor Realty Trust Inc.'s Chicago team as vice president. Gold will oversee the Freddie Mac SBL, Fannie Mae and FHA loans provided to clients in Dallas, Chicago, Milwaukee and other areas in the Midwest.

■ **Emily Lohse-Busch (MBA '10)** is the new executive director of Arch Grants, a nonprofit that holds an annual competition to fund startups and support entrepreneurial activity in St. Louis.

■ **Jim Moss (CDM '10)** has been promoted to effects artist at Optimus, a Chicago-based production and post-production house.

■ **Mark D. Plotkin (BUS '10)** was promoted to associate head coach of the men's soccer team at Colgate University in Hamilton, N.Y.

■ **Christian Shiu (LAS '10)** is now an ordained deacon of St. Therese Chinese Catholic Church in Chicago's Chinatown neighborhood. He is an active volunteer helping to support the Chinese immigrant community.

■ **Patricia A. Simon-Gustin (SNL '10)** is a member of the Naperville (Ill.) City Council.

■ **Johnnie Thomas (EdD '10)** was hired as the new superintendent of Rich Township High School District 227, overseeing three high schools serving communities south of Chicago.

■ **Nicolas Cable (LAS '11)** is a minister with the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbus, Ind.

■ **Melissa Calvillo (CSH MS '11)** is an instructor of nursing at Kansas Wesleyan University.

■ **Brian T. Clark (JD '11)** is co-founder and CEO of Ascent Technologies, a regulatory technology firm that helps firms build, manage and automate their regulatory compliance.

■ **Jackson C. Cooper (JD '11)** opened his own practice, Jackson Cooper Law PLLC, with a focus on intellectual property, technology law and assisting small businesses.

■ **Phillipe Cunningham (LAS '11)** made history by becoming one of the first openly transgender men elected to public office in the United States. Cunningham won a seat on the Minneapolis City Council. He previously served as a senior policy aide to Minneapolis Mayor Betsy Hodges, as well as a special education teacher and youth advocate.



» **Nicholas Hahn (LAS '11)** is the director of speechwriting for the U.S. Department of Education.

■ **Jennifer Tani (LAS MS '11)** was appointed to the Wheeling (Ill.) Township District 21 school board in June 2017.

■ **Jennifer Walker (JD '11)** is an associate in Plunkett Cooney's banking, bankruptcy and creditors' rights practice group. She focuses her practice on residential and commercial mortgage foreclosure litigation and collection disputes.

■ **Ashley J. Bohrer (LAS MA '12, PhD '16)** received the 2017 Junior Scholar Award from the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy for her paper "Colorblind Racism in Early Modernity: Race, Colonization and Capitalism in the Work of Francisco de Vitoria." She is a visiting assistant professor at Hamilton College in New York.

■ **Sarah Colome (LAS MS '12)** is the director of the Women's Resources Center at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

■ **Mark Dinglasan (MBA '12)** is the new executive director of CUMAC, a nonprofit food pantry that serves people in Paterson, N.J., Passaic County and the northern New Jersey area.

■ **Nickole Miller (JD '12)** has joined the faculty of the University of Baltimore School of Law as a clinical teaching fellow in the school's immigrant rights clinic.

■ **Thomas Vitogiannis (BUS '12, JD '16)** has joined Sarnoff & Baccash, where he will focus his practice on obtaining favorable ad valorem real estate taxes for properties located in and outside Illinois.

■ **Blake A. Cardenas (BUS '13)** and his father, Juan, formed the North American distribution arm of Cardenas Hats, based in Bogota, Colombia. The distribution headquarters is in Indianapolis.

■ **Andrew DeHart (CMN '13)** opened a wine shop, Pacific Northwest Wine Co., in Camas, Wash., in September 2017.

■ **Kathleen Lihanda (SNL '13)** founded the My Internship Finder app, an online-based system for

early-career professionals to find and explore opportunities, access career advice and get discovered by employers. The free app can be downloaded from the Google Play Store.

■ **Vlad Moldavskiy (BUS '13)** is a partner at Mabbly, a Chicago-based digital agency. He has been the chief growth officer for the past five years.

■ **Karina Nava (LAS '13)** is the first person to be a management fellow for the city of Elgin, Ill. Nava, a 2009 Elgin High School graduate, started her two-year fellowship on Aug. 21, 2017.

■ **Raul Palma (LAS MA '13)**, a prolific author, essayist and poet, is now a diversity fellow in the writing department of Ithaca College in Ithaca, N.Y.

■ **Marc D. Pinate (THE MFA '13)** directed the 21st annual production of "A Tucson Pastorela," at Borderlands Theater in Tucson, Ariz., in December 2017.

■ **Melissa V. Senese (CSH '13)** was named the winner of Big Break Rosemont 2017, an annual "American Idol"-style vocal competition in the Chicago area. Senese performs and writes music with several bands, including the progressive rock group Kills Again. She works in purchasing and supplier management at AbbVie in North Chicago, Ill.

■ **Caroline E. Thee (LAS '13)** joined the business and finance group Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP. A lawyer, she works out of the group's Indianapolis office.

■ **Ryne Vitug (LAS '13, JD '16)** joined the law firm Ariano Hardy Ritt Nyuli Richmond Lytle & Goettel PC, where he will focus on commercial and residential real estate and civil litigation cases. The firm serves clients in Cook, DeKalb, DuPage, Kane, Kendall and McHenry counties in Illinois.

■ **Russell T. Zimmerman (JD '13)** is now an associate attorney at Peter J. Latz & Associates LLC in Oak Park,

Ill., where he practices trust and estate law.

■ **Megan Coronado (CMN '14)** has joined the softball coaching staff at the University of Texas Arlington.

■ **Hannah E. Cushing (LAS '14)** volunteered in summer 2017 at Camp BoofTube, a summer camp in St. Louis, operated for the past 10 years by current DePaul student Jane Bufe and her family. The camp offers daily filmmaking classes for children ages 5-12.

■ **Jazzy Davenport (LAS '14)** is co-founder of "Black Girls Break Bread," a program with a mission to uplift, empower and inspire black women of all ages through the creation of safe spaces for engagement and intellectual discourse.

■ **Chris Deir (MS CDM '14)** had his animated short, "Zombie Christmas," chosen as an official selection of the Chicago Comedy Film Festival. It was also an official selection of the 2017 Dragon Con Film Festival and screened at the Weihnachts Film Festival, which took place in December 2017 in Germany's oldest cinema, Moviemento Kino, in Berlin.

■ **Katrina Dion (THE '14)** co-directed the world premiere of "PUNK," which ran Oct. 4-Nov. 5, 2017, at the Den Theatre in Chicago.

■ **Colleen Hurley (JD '14)** joined the family law practice group at Lavelle Law in Chicago. Hurley was previously a senior associate at Wakenight & Associates PC.

■ **Andrew T. Janak (MM '14)** is a graduate teaching assistant at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, responsible for hands-on teaching of undergraduate music groups and helping coordinate events put on by the Glenn Korff School of Music.

■ **Joshua D. Jones (MUS '14)**, a percussionist, was named a fellow of the EQT Orchestra Training Program for African American Musicians. Created in 2007 by the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, the

Photo by USA Basketball



With the same intensity she showed as a Blue Demon, **Samantha Quigley Smith (EDU '10, Med '12)** is capturing attention as a college women's basketball coach. She was honored as a Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference Coach of the Year for two consecutive seasons, was named the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Coach of the Year in 2016 and was a finalist for the Women's Basketball Coaches Association/United States Marine Corps National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Coach of the Year Award.

"I was a really intense coach at a young age, and when I say 'young age,' I mean five years ago," laughs Quigley Smith, who just turned 30. She's in her first season as head basketball coach for Lewis University, a NCAA Division II college in Romeoville, Ill., where she once attended basketball summer camps. She started her coaching career at the University of St. Francis in Joliet, Ill., first as assistant coach and then head women's basketball coach. Within four years, she guided the team from a losing record to two consecutive regular-season titles and the top ranking in Division II of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics.

She uses her youth to build strong relationships with her players and potential recruits. "I was a player not that long ago. They can relate to me," she says. "I think that if you do a great job of building relationships, the score's going to take care of itself." Basketball is a Quigley family tradition. Her father played for legendary coach Pat Sullivan at St. Francis. Her mother's jersey hangs in the rafters there, one of only four women's numbers that were retired. Her uncle, Brian Michalak, has coached at both St. Francis and Lewis. Her sister, **Allie Quigley (EDU '08)**, is in her 10th season in the Women's National Basketball Association. Quigley Smith says she may pursue NCAA Division I coaching someday, but for now she is content to coach at Lewis and raise her two young children. "If there's something you want to pursue in life, there should be no limitations," she says. "I knew I wanted to be a coach. I knew I wanted to have a family. I knew I wanted to stay in the Chicago area. To be doing all those things right now is great."

IN MEMORIAM

Lord, we commend to you the souls of our dearly departed. In your mercy and love, grant them eternal peace.

Alumni

Roy McGreal (BUS '39) » Bernard Shipin (BUS '49) » Doyle Gates (BUS '50) » Alexander Luke (MUS '50, MM '52) » Rosemary Di Giulio (LAS '51) » Dolores Paulikas Hagey (BUS '51) » James Williams (BUS '51, JD '60) » Walter Cummings

(BUS '53, JD '55) » Francis Perhats (LAS '53) » James Tunney (BUS '53) » Richard Durava (BUS '54, JD '67) » Edward Schmitt (BUS '54) » Dolores McWhinnie (CSH '55, MS '58) » Henry Blim (LAS '57) » Lawrence Sullivan (BUS '57) » John Smith (LAS '58, MEd '65) » Anthony Fornelli (LAW '60) » Paul Ruddy (EDU '60) » Margaret Neilson (CSH '62) » Shelly Powell (BUS '62) » Joseph Baker (CSH '63, MEd '70) » John Hourihane (BUS '63) » Catherine Shane (LAS '63) » Philip Hunniford (BUS '64, MBA '72) »

Charles Davis (BUS '66) » John Brady (LAS '67) » Anne Donnersberger (LAS MA '67) » Sharon Natanek (EDU '67) » Thomas Healey (BUS '68) » Stephen Ligda (MBA '69) » James Tome (CSH '69) » Melvin Andraschko (BUS '70) » Irene Bond (CSH '70, MS '73) » Willard Nostvick (BUS '71) » Richard Hirschenberger (CSH '72) » Herbert Goldbeck (MST '73) » Christine Ficht (EDU '74, MEd '82) » Mary McSweeney (MEd '74) » George Turner Jr. (LAS '74) » Michael Wise (BUS '74) » Raymond Holtz (BUS '75)

» William Snow (MST '75) » Robert Lynch (SNL '76) » Basil Yender (MEd '76) » John Williams (JD '77) » Thomas McNulty (SNL '78) » Evelyn Shipper (BUS '78) » Eugene Connolly (LAS MS '80) » Linda Killingsworth (CSH '80) » Joseph Baska (MBA '82) » Stephen Leonard (BUS '82) » Joseph Tomsic (CDM '83, MS '96) » Victor Butler (MBA '87) » William Johnson (MBA '88) » James Pandolfi (MBA '88) » Denis O'Malley (MBA '90) » Janet Sobun (BUS MS '92) » Kimberly Dompke (EDU '93, MEd '00) » Vernon

McGinnis (SNL '94, MA '01) » Barbara Blaine (JD '96) » Ann Todtleben (MEd '00) » Stanley Mrozinski (SNL '03) » Gerald Green (CDM MA '04) » Ryan Griffith (EDU '06) » Jason Dehn (SNL '11) » Robert Feigel (LAS '14) » Casey Cordova (MBA '16)

Friends

M. Cherif Bassiouni » Karen Davis Mayer

Editor's Note: Due to space limitations, this memorial list includes only those alumni and friends who our offices have confirmed have passed away since the previous issue was printed.

program prepares young musicians for a career in a professional orchestra.

▪ **Joe D. Keery (THE '14)**, known for his role as Steve in the Netflix series "Stranger Things," co-stars with Chance the Rapper in the film "Slice," scheduled for release in 2018.

▪ **Patrick Lavin (CDM '14)** is the new creative director at SDIRA Wealth. Lavin heads up web design for both the company and its strategic wealth advisor partners.



» **Kiandra "Kiki" Layne (THE '14)** is playing the lead role of Tish in Barry Jenkins' ("Moonlight") film adaptation of James Baldwin's novel "If Beale Street Could Talk." Film production began in October 2017.

▪ **Alexander Nezis (CMN '14)** is an audio production professional, with releases of his own music on Beatport.

▪ **Sabina Tassone (SNL '14)** and her daughter, Cecilie

Tassone, are co-founders of PraxiCut, which aims to reduce medical errors by creating safe, accessible and realistic teaching models for training residents and surgeons.

▪ **Samantha E. Vela (BUS '14)** is now a senior associate at the Siegfried Group LLP, a consulting firm focused on leadership and finances, based in Wilmington, Del.

▪ **Cearry Bagenda (CSH '15)** joined the news team at ABC affiliate WBAY-TV, in Green Bay, Wis., where she works as a multimedia journalist.

▪ **Sade Carpenter (CMN MA '15)**, deputy editor of Redeye Chicago, was named to the "Dare Mighty Things" list of 37 influential media people who are shaping the future of Chicago through print, radio and digital channels.

▪ **Laura A. Howell (MBA '15)** was named vice president of client development for C.A. Fortune, working out of the Chicago office.

▪ **Rodolfo A. Loo (CDM MS '15)** was promoted to engagement director at Isobar, a Chicago-based digital agency, in fall 2017.

▪ **Demetria Mosley (CMN MA '15)** joined the news staff of the Gaston Gazette, in Gaston, N.C. She will report on the Gaston County business

community in addition to general-assignment duties.

▪ **Katie M. Shank (JD '15)** practices with Turley & Mara Law Firm, located in San Diego, Calif. She is a member of the board of directors for inewsource Associates, an organization of young professionals who work to sustain journalistic excellence.

▪ **Chris Anderson (LAS MA '16)** is now director of executive and strategic communications at Loyola University Chicago.

▪ **Brandon Hopkins (CDM MS '16)** is the director of Aims Community College's IT service center in Greeley, Colo.

▪ **Megan A. Keilson (LAS '16)** joined Michael Saunders & Co., a real estate firm. She works out of the St. Armands Circle office in Sarasota, Fla.

▪ **Allison Kerr (MEd '16)** was selected by the Knowles Teacher Initiative as a member of its 2017 cohort of 37 teaching fellows. The five-year program supports early-career high school mathematics and science teachers.

▪ **Dan Pawlowski (CMN '16)** is the new sports editor for the Wakefield (Mass.) Daily Item.

▪ **Evan Swanson (MUS '16)** is the resident musical director at Williams Street Repertory, the in-house theatre company for the Raue Center in Crystal Lake, Ill.

▪ **Mark Tuchscherer (SNL '16)**, CEO of Geeks Chicago, was featured in Fit Small Business' "Top 10 Best Management Styles—and Which Ones to Avoid."

▪ **Carla Arroyo-Guerrero (CDM MS '17)** has been named technical coordinator at Eastlake Studio in Chicago.

▪ **Kelley Bowles (CMN MA '17)** joined WHBF-TV in Rock Island, Ill., as a multimedia journalist.

▪ **Arlene Cortez (BUS MS '17)** is now director of development for the University of Illinois at Chicago's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

▪ **Billy Garrett Jr. (BUS '17)** was honored for men's basketball at the 2016-17 BIG EAST Scholar-Athlete Sport Excellence Awards.

▪ **Magdalena Hernandez Gomez (CDM MS '17)** is an assistant editor at Cutters Studios, an international creative company that provides production, post-production and creative development services.

▪ **Rachel Hinton (CMN '17)**, former managing editor of The DePaulia, joined the Chicago Sun-Times as an urban affairs reporter. She was named one of Chicago's Future Leaders by the Chicago Network in 2016.

▪ **Deni Kamper (CMN '17)** joined the news team of KNWA-TV in Fayetteville, Ark., in July 2017.

▪ **Anthony Massino (Med '17)** is a new teacher and head varsity golf coach at Mount Carmel High School in Chicago.

▪ **Alison Ogunmokun (LAS '17)** was voted Chicago's best poet in the Chicago Reader's 2017 Readers' Poll.

▪ **Christopher Olivia (CDM MFA '17)** had his short film "Spaceman" featured at NewFilmmakers Los Angeles in November 2017.

▪ **Mariela Shaker (MUS '17)**, a violinist and native of Aleppo, Syria, performed in "Alive from Aleppo: A Night of Hope" on Sept. 17, 2017, in Toledo, Ohio. The concert benefited Toledo's Social Services for the Arab Community, as well as refugees in the United States and overseas.

▪ **Carly Shannon (JD '17)** was promoted to associate attorney at the Illinois law firm Salvi, Schostok & Pritchard PC. Shannon concentrates her legal practice on medical malpractice, personal injury and product liability cases.

▪ **Hillary Weiss (JD '17)** has been appointed an assistant public defender of the Shelby County Public Defender's Office in Memphis, Tenn.

DePaul Pride

Do you have a photo that shows your DePaul spirit? Send the image to dpalumni@depaul.edu with your name and the location where the photo was taken, and you may see yourself in a future issue of DePaul Magazine. High-resolution images only.



Lauren Richie (CSH '01, LAS MA '04) volunteering with the FEMA hurricane recovery efforts in Houston



Trish Taylor (SNL '05) in Bora Bora, French Polynesia

Discounts Just for DePaul Alumni

DePaul University and our partner businesses offer special pricing and services to alumni locally and nationwide. Discounts range from The Ray memberships to restaurants, hotels and much more! To learn more, go to discounts.depaul.edu/groups.html.

Event Recaps

Drink Tasting » There is a secret to making a great drink, and thanks to a Nov. 7 cocktail tasting at Latinicity in the heart of the Loop, some lucky alumni now know it! Alumni sampled some of the food hall and lounge's most popular drinks. Then, Latinicity bartenders led drink-making demonstrations to teach alumni how to re-create the classic cocktails at home.



Holiday Brunches » On Dec. 9, alumni and friends in Arizona, New York City, Southern California and Washington, D.C., gathered to share brunch and conversation. The holiday mood helped alumni reconnect to celebrate their common bond, as well as meet new friends.



Self-Defense Classes » In January, DePaul kicked off Self-Defense Awareness Month with two sold-out classes for women alumni at The Ray. Instructors offered participants training on situational awareness, basic verbal techniques and effective physical responses to unwanted verbal or physical confrontation to help them stay safe in almost any situation.



Upcoming Events

MARCH

- 3 Chicago Cubs Spring Training Game » Mesa, Ariz.
- 13 DePaul Opera Theatre: "The Merry Widow" » Chicago
- 19 Spanish Wine & Tapas Tasting » Chicago
- 20 Young Alumni Bowling Outing at Pinstripes » Chicago
- 21 Alumni & Friends Reception with President Esteban » Southern California
- 24 Garfield Park Conservatory Volunteer Project » Chicago

APRIL

- 4 Alumni & Friends Reception with President Esteban » Park Ridge, Ill.
- 14 Alumni University » Chicago
- 19 Alumni & Friends Reception with President Esteban » Washington, D.C.
- 21 DePaul Family Theatre: "The Cat in the Hat" » Chicago

MAY

- 5 Tea at The Drake » Chicago
- 8 Young Alumni Seminar: Perfecting the Sales Pitch » Chicago
- 10 Alumni & Friends Reception with President Esteban » New York City
- 12 Vincentian Service Day » Nationwide
- 16 Boxing Class at The Ray » Chicago
- 19 Brookfield Zoo Outing » Brookfield, Ill.
- 23 School of Music Spring Concert » Chicago

Registration dates vary. Please visit alumni.depaul.edu/events for more information.



1 East Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Looking Back Winter Wear

A Chicago winter did nothing to put a damper on the high spirits (or hair) of these lady Demons. They know the best way to face the cold is with good friends, a smile and stylish winter wear.

