

COLUMBIA COLLEGE



ALUMNAE
LEGACY
CIRCLE

ALUMNAE LEGACY CIRCLE ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20



A NOTE FROM THE DEAN

Dear Alumnae Legacy Circle members,

I am pleased to share with you the first ever Alumnae Legacy Circle Annual Report, which highlights your remarkable generosity during the 2019–20 fiscal year.

The ALC was founded in 2016 to recognize the 30th anniversary of co-education at Columbia College and increase female-driven philanthropy. Since its inception, this extraordinary group has brought together and elevated the voices of Columbia College alumnae. **With nearly 100 members, spanning four decades and from more than 14 states and six countries, the ALC continues to grow, support Columbia College generously and offer opportunities for engagement and connection.**

The ALC represents a powerful cohort of women dedicated to supporting Columbia College. **Since its founding, the members of the ALC have given more than \$6.5 million to the Columbia College Fund.** During the 2019–20 fiscal year, despite the challenges we faced, members of the ALC gave \$3.2 million to Columbia College, including \$2.08 million designated to the Columbia College Fund. This incredible generosity touches all areas of the College, from our need-based financial aid and internships and research stipends to the Core Curriculum and student services.

Thank you for investing in the College and supporting students for generations to come. You help make the Columbia College experience possible.

Roar, Lion(s), Roar,

James J. Valentini
Dean of Columbia College and
Vice President for Undergraduate Education

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CO-CHAIRS

Dear Alumnae Legacy Circle members,

We are pleased to share some highlights from the 2019–20 fiscal year about the Alumnae Legacy Circle, our group of incredible Columbia College alumnae, in our first Alumnae Legacy Circle Annual Report. During the past fiscal year, we welcomed 15 new members, bringing our membership up to 98 women.

Several members of the ALC were recognized for their leadership at Columbia last year. Leslie Gittess Brodsky CC'88, P: CC'23 was honored at Columbia Alumni Leaders Weekend in October as the recipient of the Columbia Alumni Medal. Anna Fang-Hamm CC'04 and Wanda M. Holland Greene CC'89, TC'91 received the John Jay Award in March. We congratulate them on these special distinctions!

Current and prospective ALC members came together in the fall and winter in New York, Los Angeles and San Francisco. In September, Co-Chair Cindy Michel CC'95 hosted a special lunch for prospective members in New York. In November, West Coast Vice Chairs Sarah Aibel CC'92, P:CC'23 and Mary Vig CC'91 hosted a reception to build community in Los Angeles at Sarah's home. In January, Anna Brockway CC'92 hosted an intimate brunch in San Francisco at The Battery.

On campus, ALC members were delighted to see Claire Shipman CC'86, SIPA'94 moderate a panel at the Core Centennial Opening Event in September. Members also attended the Dean's Scholarship Reception and She Opened the Door event in February. Although the COVID-19 pandemic prevented our planned annual spring brunch that June Lehv CC'95, DM'00, ORTHO'02 had graciously agreed to host, we look forward to connecting virtually with all of you throughout 2020 and 2021.

We're so proud that the ALC continues to support talented Columbia College students during these uncertain times. Now more than ever, the ALC is a shining example of the power of women in philanthropy. **Thank you for your generous commitment and dedication to the College.**

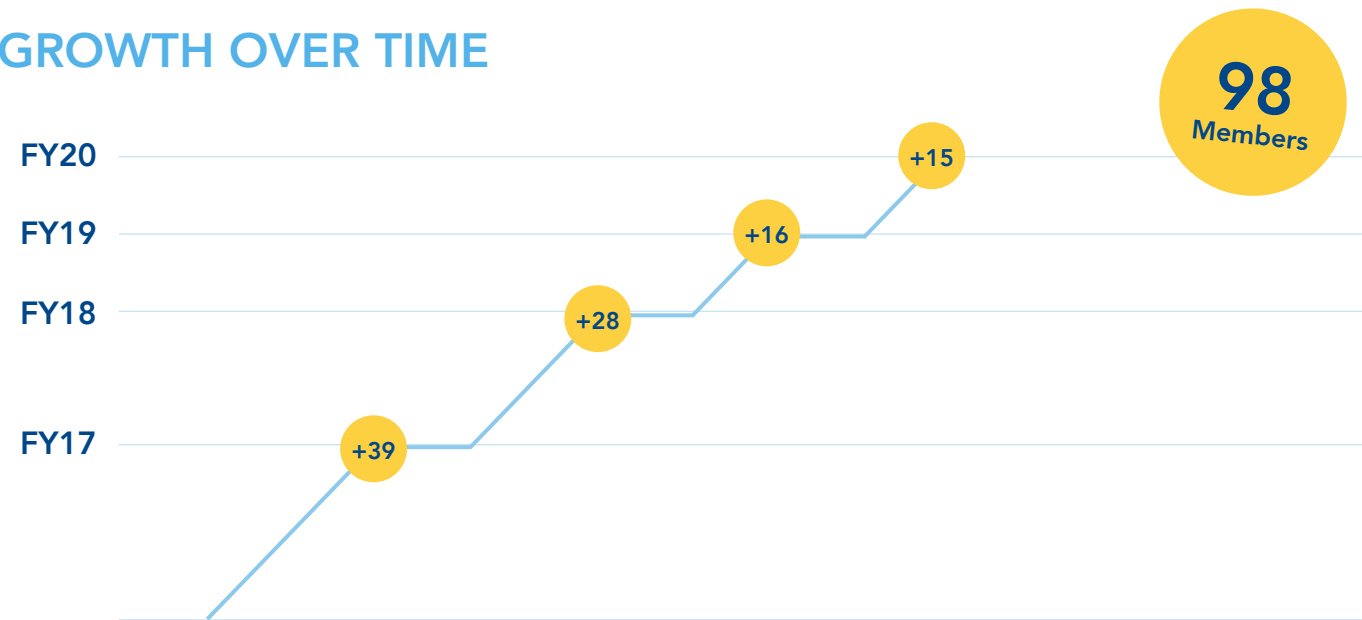
Wishing you well,

Cindy Z. Michel CC'95
Mila Tuttle CC'96, SIPA'05



ALUMNAE LEGACY CIRCLE MEMBERSHIP

GROWTH OVER TIME



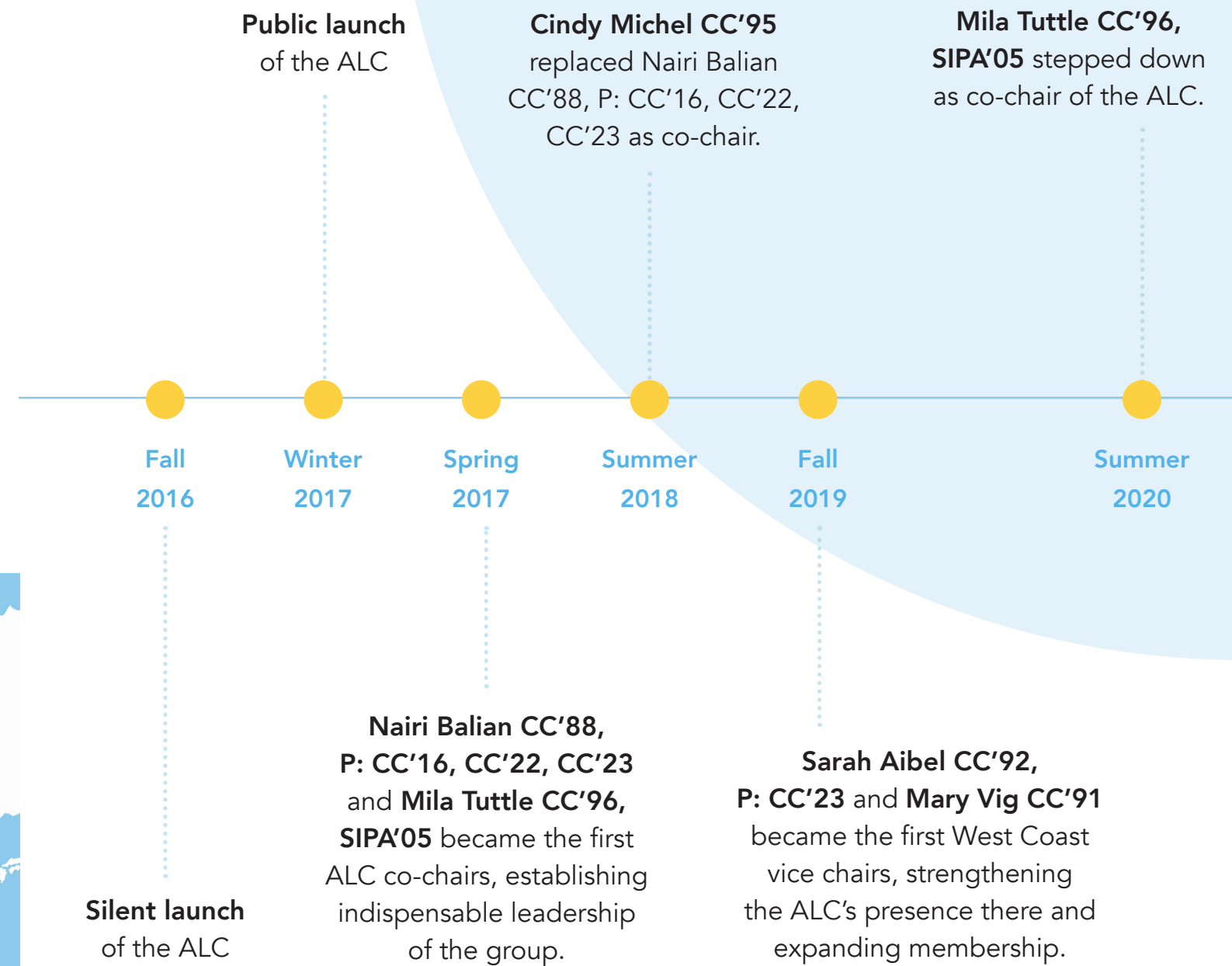
GLOBAL REACH

We're continuing to grow! The ALC has grown to a total of **98** members in **14** states and **six** countries around the world!



LEADERS OF THE ALUMNAE LEGACY CIRCLE

The Alumnae Legacy Circle has benefited from the leadership of outstanding alumnae from the very beginning. Members have stepped up to generously serve in advisory roles, driving membership and engagement. Their support and dedication has made the success of the ALC possible.



THANK YOU TO MILA TUTTLE CC'96, SIPA'05

This summer, Mila Tuttle CC'96, SIPA'05 stepped down as co-chair of the Alumnae Legacy Circle. **We extend our deepest gratitude to Mila for more than three years of extraordinary service.**

As one of the first ALC members, Mila helped start a movement of female leadership giving to the College. **As co-chair of the ALC, she worked diligently to expand the membership of the ALC and increase support of Columbia College.** With Mila's generosity and dedication, the ALC has reached nearly 100 members. She generously hosted countless events in New York City and Beverly Hills over the years — cocktails in her home with Dean James J. Valentini, tea at The Pierre, a lively brunch at Bagatelle, a reception with Professor Matthew Jones at The Crescent in Los Angeles and many more.

Mila did all of this while devotedly serving in leadership positions across the College, including on the Board of Visitors, the Fund Development Council and the Columbia College Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Mila has ensured the success of the ALC for years to come, and we are deeply grateful for the example that she has set for our community.



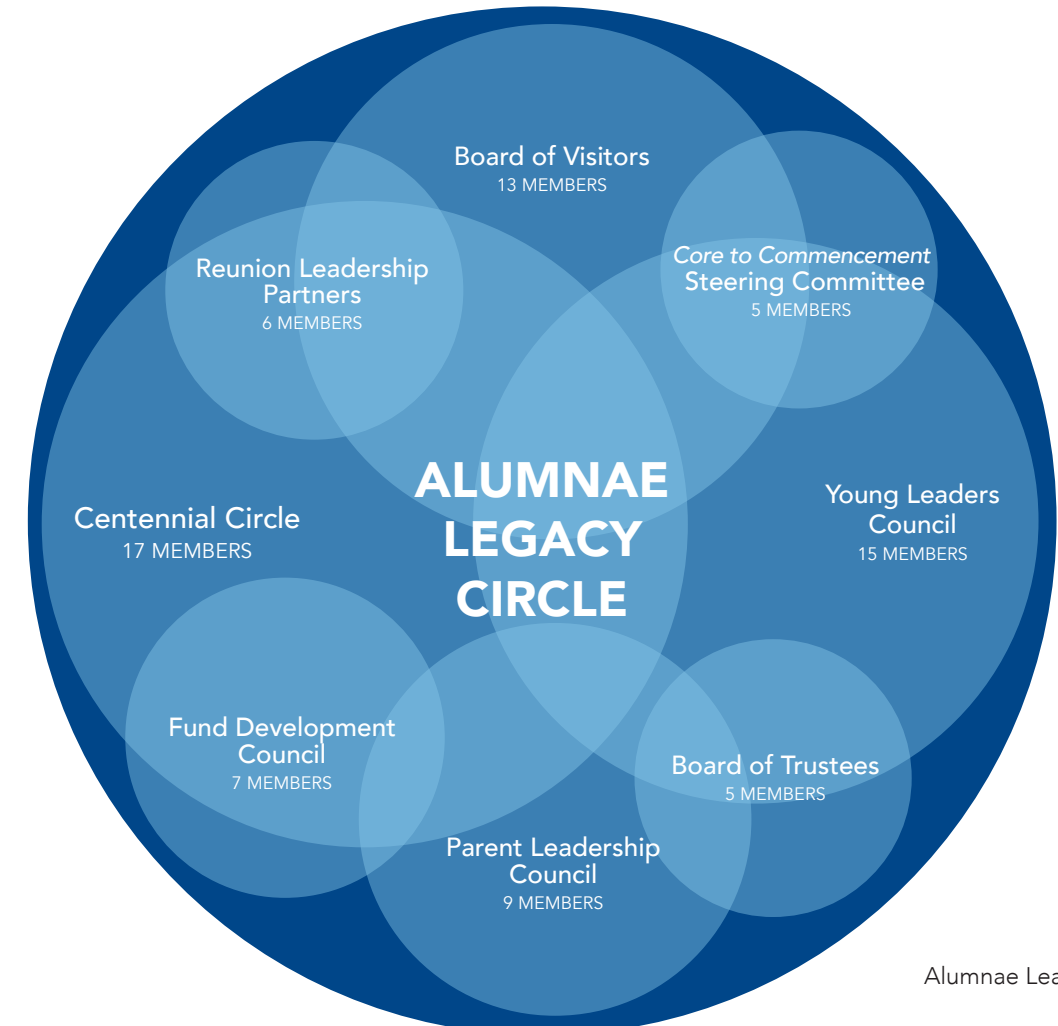
ALUMNAE LEADERS AT COLUMBIA



THE 1754 SOCIETY honors alumni and friends of Columbia who have **made plans for the University through trust, estate, or other future gifts.** Seven members of the Alumnae Legacy Circle are in the 1754 Society, including Leslie Gittess Brodsky CC'88, P: CC'23 and Sharon Yang CC'07, who joined this year.

LEADERS ACROSS COLUMBIA

Members of the Alumnae Legacy Circle play an extraordinary role in supporting Columbia. Their tireless work and generosity are reflected in the leadership roles these members fill. Their support and dedication have made the success of the ALC possible.



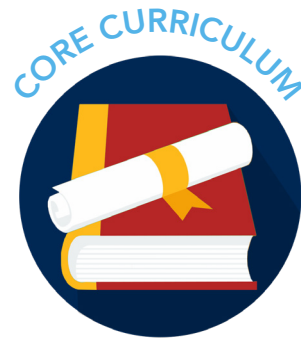
AREAS OF SUPPORT

Members of the Alumnae Legacy Circle gave a remarkable \$2.08 million to the Columbia College Fund during the 2019–20 fiscal year. These current-use contributions, of which 100 percent of the money raised is spent in the year it was raised, are vital to the College and support the immediate needs of students. **See the top areas of support:**



\$969k

For unrestricted use by Columbia College



\$531k

To recruit and retain the most talented faculty to lead the Core



\$515k

To help Columbia College offer need-based grants

Members also gave an additional \$1.12 million to other areas of Columbia College, including various current-use and endowed funds. Endowed funds provide Columbia with a reliable source of income in perpetuity. Spending from these endowed funds is typically restricted for a specified purpose, and the amount available for use by the College is based on interest accrued by the fund. Combined with the College Fund, this support helps the College do its work each year. **See the top areas of support:**



\$355k

To help Columbia College offer need-based grants



\$200k

To recruit and retain the most talented faculty to lead the Core

NAMED SCHOLARSHIPS

Alumnae Legacy Circle members funded 23 current-use and endowed Named Scholarships during the 2019–20 academic year. These scholarships help Columbia College fully meet the demonstrated need of its students, including the three highlighted below.



Nicole Kendall CC'21

2019–20 Recipient of the Esposito-Crandall Family Scholarship Fund, generously supported by Michele Ann Esposito CC'96

"I can't thank you enough for supporting my education. **My experiences each year have made me increasingly thankful to be a member of the Columbia community.**

The defining feature of my experience at Columbia has been the exceptional group of people I've met. My peers have been very similar but also vastly different from who I am. These differences have made me thankful for those who have taught me to be more open-minded and question what I know. I am excited to continue to broaden my network of people here at Columbia, as I know there is still so much more to explore."

Lake Sheffield CC'23

2019–20 Recipient of the Norman Joseph Landau Scholarship Fund, generously supported by Lisa L. Carnoy CC'89



“Columbia is a place I love deeply and take great pride in. I am a native New Yorker hailing from Bedford-Stuyvesant in Brooklyn with a love for my city and nearly everything in it. I want to have an impact on this world and plan to commit my life to the service of others through an intersection of medicine and engineering. **The impact of my financial aid package has been truly immeasurable. Higher education has given me the opportunity to reach my goals despite financial and social limitations.** I am forever grateful and indebted to all who have helped me through my journey. Thank you so much for the opportunity to learn and grow at Columbia University.”



Abdullah Hasan CC'23

2019–20 Recipient of the Jacobson Berlinski Family Scholarship Fund, generously supported by Britta W. Jacobson CC'96

“Growing up, I never envisioned myself attending an esteemed college such as Columbia; my family simply could not afford it. Both my parents immigrated to the United States in 1998 not knowing anyone, not even knowing English. **Nonetheless, they persevered for their children, for their future, instilling in me the importance of education.**

Receiving my college acceptance letter was a bittersweet moment for me. I was beyond thrilled on being accepted, but I was worried about the cost. **If it were not for generous donors, I would not be attending Columbia** pursuing a career in medicine. My time at Columbia has been beyond great and I want to thank you once again for making a difference in my life.”

MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

The generosity of members of the Alumnae Legacy Circle is profound. Their leadership support impacts all areas of Columbia College and demonstrates the collective power of female-driven philanthropy.

GERMAINE CHOE CC'95, who joined the Alumnae Legacy Circle in 2020, generously gave \$100,000 to the College Fund in support of financial aid in celebration of her 25th reunion. Her contribution was inspired by a desire to give back to Columbia College and support high-need and first-generation students. In the 2020–21 academic year, the Germaine and Michael Choe Scholarship will be awarded to four students.



NOA ARIAS CC'01 established the Yemini Fund in 2018, providing support to students pursuing unpaid or low-paid summer internships or research opportunities. So far the Yemini Fund has helped 11 students pursue enriching summer experiences, including Ashkan Vafai CC'21.

“Last summer I worked at Dr. Michael Shadlen’s computational neuroscience lab at the Mortimer B. Zuckerman Mind Brain Behavior Institute. I not only gained eye-opening exposure to the inner workings of the lab and picked up several technical skills, but I learned what it meant to be a rigorous scientist and believe I was able to cultivate the scientist in myself. **I cannot emphasize enough how appreciative I am of the funds that supported me through this experience.**” –Ashkan Vafai CC'21

2019–20

ALUMNAE LEGACY CIRCLE



CHAIRS

Cindy Z. Michel CC'95

Mila H. Tuttle CC'96, SIPA'05

WEST COAST VICE CHAIRS

Sarah Aibel CC'92, P: CC'23

Mary Elizabeth Vig CC'91

MEMBERS

Lori Alvino McGill CC'99, LAW'03

Debra C. Chow CC'01

Kelley Buechel Badishkanian CC'98, BUS'08

Jennifer Christine Chung CC'98

Maiken E. Baird CC'89

Christine Cronin-Hurst CC'84

Nairi C. Balian CC'88, P: CC'16, CC'22, CC'23

Jennifer Anglade Dahlberg CC'93, P: CC'23

Sheetal Banerjee CC'89, P: CC'24

Alexandra S. Diamond CC'91

Kyra Tirana Barry CC'87, P: CC'17

Mary Corley Dunn CC'98

Olivia R. Barry CC'17

Abigail B. Elbaum CC'92, BUS'94

Stephanie Falcone Bernik CC'89, P: CC'24

Michele Ann Esposito CC'96

Francesca Bodini CC'06, BUS'09

Elizabeth Weir Factor CC'91

Anna Brockway CC'92

Anna A. Fang-Hamm CC'04

Caitlin Prendergast Brodie CC'06

Katrina Froman CC'88

Leslie Gitess Brodsky CC'88, P: CC'23

Dorcas W. Gardner CC'90

Lisa L. Carnoy CC'89

Sarah Schragar Gitlin CC'13

Joyce Chang CC'86, P: CC'24

Michelle J. Goldberg CC'91

Leslie Chang CC'92, JRN'95

Diana Greenwald CC'11

Cynthia Chen CC'04, GSAS'14

Yael Halaas CC'92

Dehua Chen CC'92

Hilary R. Hatch CC'92

Germaine Choe CC'95

Maya Ho CC'18

Sandra H. Hoffen CC'87

Wanda M. Holland Greene CC'89, TC'91

Divonne Holmes à Court CC'87

Nina L. Hong CC'93, LAW'96

Emily Hu CC'95, PS'00

Janice Mok Ince CC'01

Britta W. Jacobson CC'96

Michelle Estilo Kaiser CC'87, PH'92, PS'97,
P: CC'20

Gail A. Katz CC'97

Alison P. Kay CC'06

Mojdeh L. Khaghan CC'88, LAW'91, P: CC'17

Sungmee M. Kim CC'97

Mary Kuo CC'92, P: CC'20, CC'21, CC'24

Kara Kupferberg CC'18, SIPA'19

Christine W. Lai CC'95

Emily Lavine CC'18

Amy H. Lee CC'94

Sunhee Lee CC'90

June Boonyasai Lehv CC'95, DM'00,
ORTHO'02

Jennifer M. Levine CC'91, P: CC'22

Pamela M. Levine CC'93

Julie Levy CC'91, P: CC'21

Tina Lin CC'91, PS'96

Donna MacPhee CC'89, P: CC'17

Karen Mahoney CC'88, P: CC'19

Samara Bernot Meshel CC'92, P: CC'18,
CC'23

Meredith Milstein Polivy CC'09, BUS'17

Caroline Puri Mitchell CC'02

Cassey Morales CC'96

Juwa Nguy CC'95

Jen Maxfield Ostfeld CC'99, JRN'00

Sumana Rao CC'08

Maria A. Rodino CC'88, P: CC'18, CC'20,
PS'22

Olivia Santoro CC'13, BUS'20

Teresa M. Saputo-Crerend CC'87, BUS'92,
P: CC'22

Claire Shipman CC'86, SIPA'94

Esther Sholes CC'91

Beth Shubin Stein CC'91, PS'96

Lara Stolman-Watzky CC'91

Elana Drell Szyfer CC'91

Michelle Tan CC'16

JoBeth Tananbaum Abecassis CC'07

Claire E. Theobald CC'88

Shazi Visram CC'99, BUS'04

Cecilia C. Wang CC'09, LAW'12

Sandy Wang CC'92, P: CC'24

Ellen Weinstein CC'93

Sherri P. Wolf CC'90, P: CC'21, CC'24

Alisa Amarosa Wood CC'01, BUS'08

Sharon Yang CC'08

Christina Ying CC'89

Nina Zipser CC'94

Anonymous CC'04

Anonymous CC'01

Anonymous CC'98

Anonymous CC'94

Anonymous CC'90

Anonymous CC'89



COLUMBIA COLLEGE ALUMNAE LEGACY CIRCLE

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